

Electric Advisory Committee Meeting

Distribution Resource Integration

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Presentation Overview

- California energy and environmental policy drivers
- Current and expected impacts of renewable resources on the CAISO's system
- Need for flexible resources
- Operational challenges on the distribution network
- Operational challenges on the transmission network
- Potential challenges Distributed Energy Resources (DERs) need to overcome
- Meeting operational challenges with high levels of renewable resources connected to the transmission & distribution systems



California ISO by the numbers



- 60,703 MW of power plant capacity
- 50,270 MW record peak demand (July 24, 2006)
- 27,589 market transactions per day
- 26,024 circuit-miles of transmission lines
- 30 million consumers served
- 246 million megawatts of electricity delivered annually



California energy and environmental policies drive renewable integration and transmission needs

- Greenhouse gas reductions to 1990 levels by 2020
- 33% of load served by renewable generation by 2020
- Possibly 12,000 MW of distributed generation by 2020



- Less predictable load patterns rooftop solar, electric vehicles, and smart grid
- Ban on use of once-through cooling in coastal power plants affects approximately 12,000 MW of generating capacity



Summary of grid operations to manage a more complex grid

- Increased requirements for regulation up and down
- Need to manage increased intra-hour flexibility and daily ramps
 - Need to manage approximately 3,000 MW of intra-hour load-following
 - Need to manage approximately 13,000 MW of continuous up-ramp within a 3-hour time period (almost double current up-ramps)
- Non-dispatchable resources serving load varies is greater than 10,000 MW based on maximum capability of resources
- Increased frequency of over-generation conditions
- Need to comply with a frequency response obligation following a disturbance (Compliance with BAL-003-1)
- Impact of DER resources on the transmission grid is still not fully understood



Flexible resources would be dispatched to the net (red) load demand curve

Load, Wind & Solar Profiles --- Base Scenario



Non-flexible supply creates dispatch issues and potential over-generation conditions

Potential Over-generation Conditions Base Load Scenario



California ISO

Potential impacts of DERs on the distribution network

- Voltage fluctuation due to upward/downward ramps
- High voltage issues on distribution circuits
- Voltage/power factor regulation control issues
 - Greater number of operations and increase maintenance on voltage control devices
 - Current distribution interconnection codes (IEEE 1547) does not allow for active voltage regulation and/or control
- Maintaining current balance on each phase
- Reverse power flow during times of low demand
- Limited monitoring and control of DER resources



Operational challenges from the grid perspective with large scale DERs and loads

- Lack of visibility of the distribution system
- Uncontrollable nature of DER output
- Large concentration of PV can affect the frequency response and voltage profile of the system
- Forecast assumptions of "net load" seen by operators
- Variability of "combined heat and power" production due to load, natural gas prices, real-time energy prices etc.
- Predicting price responsive loads behavior to real-time prices
- Demand response variability and forecast uncertainty
- Uncertainty/assumptions associated with commercial, Industrial and residential storage



NERC has identified the following factors on bulk system reliability associated with DERs

- Need for establishing requirements to regulate voltage at the point of interconnection to the transmission grid
- Potential over-generation during minimum load periods
- Need for developing standards for DERs wishing to participate in ancillary service markets
- Need to modify DER interconnection standards to address reduced fault current, low-voltage ride-through, frequency control etc.
- Potential system protection coordination due to current flow reversal
- Disconnecting DER during under-frequency load shedding can further reduce frequency
- Need to coordinate transmission and distribution connected resources during system restoration following an outage



DER can contribute to meeting operational challenges

- Energy storage can help mitigate over-generation
- Load shifting may help mitigate the need for new conventional resources
- DERs may also benefit the system by reducing peak demand and thereby avoiding the need for transmission upgrades
- Controlled load dropping can provide spinning reserve and frequency control
- Demand response can reduce the need for conventional resources
- Electric Vehicles can provide regulation service or balancing needs
- Micro grids allows participation in ancillary services markets



Potential challenges DER need to overcome

- Controllability/Sustainability & Visibility of DERs
- Security against cyber-attacks
- Response to faults, low voltage ride through, frequency ride through (coordination with IEEE 1547)
- Uniform standards for DER wishing to participate in AS markets
- Time delay between dispatch instructions and actual response
- Coordination of Transmission/Distribution voltage control devices
- Coordination between distribution and transmission connected resources during system restoration
- Impact of DER on system load forecast
- Market design and pricing policy of DERs are not fully understood



Meeting the operational challenges with high levels of renewable resources

