

Distribution Grid Management Using Renewable Technology

John J. Simmins, Ph.D. Technical Executive

Al Energy Symposium October 12, 2018



EPRI's Mission

Advancing *safe*, *reliable*, *affordable* and *environmentally responsible* electricity for society through global collaboration, thought leadership and science & technology innovation





Three Key Aspects of EPRI



Independent

Objective, scientifically based results address reliability, efficiency, affordability, health, safety, and the environment

Nonprofit

Chartered to serve the public benefit

Collaborative

Bring together scientists, engineers, academic researchers, and industry experts



Our Members...

- 450+ participants in more than 30 countries
- EPRI members generate approximately 90% of the electricity in the United States
- International funding nearly 25% of EPRI's research, development, and demonstrations











International EPRI R&D Collaboration



Over 25% of EPRI Collaboration Membership is International



John J. Simmins, Ph.D.

Dr. John J. Simmins is a Technical Executive at the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI). His current research focuses in the use of augmented reality, artificial intelligence, data analytics, and visualization to improve grid resilience.

Prior to joining EPRI Dr. Simmins was with Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative where he managed the engineering and operations applications. He received his B.S. and a Ph.D. in Ceramic Science from Alfred University.





EPRI's Long-Term DR-DER-Distribution Research

- Demand Response
- Smart Functions of Inverters
- Aggregated Functions
 - Groups
 - Prediction
 - Status
 - Shed/Create Load
 - Dispatch Real/Reactive Power
- Distributed Intelligence
 - Meters
 - Smart Devices
- Neural Network Al
 - Distributed Super-Computer
 - Machine Learning



Goals:

- Ad-Hoc Microgrids
- New Business Models
- Self-Sustaining Distribution Grid
- Self-Aware Distribution Grid



The INTEGRATE Task 2 Project in a Nutshell

This project will provide and demonstrate an endto-end framework of communication, information, and computation (CIC) technologies, suited for the integration and evaluation of high penetration, clean energy technologies.



Basics of Distribution Grid Management



RESEARCH INSTITUTE

DR/DER on a Typical Distribution Feeder









Feeder Simulator Rack







The Concept of a DER Group

- By Substation
- By Circuit/Bus
- By Feeder
- By Feeder Segment (contiguous) conductor between switches)
- By Island or Microgrid (campus, industrial facility)
- By Individual Device
- By Lat/Lon Rectangle

Substation 1





Recursive Architecture

- VTN controls VENs and lower VTNs.
- Each node can be in a group.
- A node can be in multiple groups.





Ad Hoc Microgrids





New Business Models – Blockchain





New Business Models – Blockchain





New Business Models – Blockchain







Together...Shaping the Future of Electricity jsimmins@epri.com

