

Community Storage: SMUD's Energy StorageShares Program

July 17, 2025

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Automated captions are available



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Affordable, reliable, clean energy for all.



Climate Resilience and Community Health



Distributed Energy Access and Equity



Energy Storage and Flexible
Demand



Fossil Fuel Replacement



Resilient Power Project

Building the foundation for energy resilient communities.





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CleanEnergy Group TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FUND

Providing Support to Build Local Resilience



Webinar Speakers



Olivia Tym
Clean Energy Group
(Moderator)

Marriele Mango Clean Energy Group

Chris Brown
Sacramento Municipal
Utility District





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Inclusive Prosperity Capital, Community Power Coalition:

Development Support for Community Solar Paired
with Storage

July 17, 2025

Clean Energy Group is a proud member of the Community Power Coalition, selected to receive \$249.3 million through EPA's Solar for All program

Building a movement of community-based solar developers who deliver significant benefits to low-income and disadvantaged communities







Community-owned solar

To build wealth in low-income and disadvantaged communities



Affordable multifamily housing solar

Solutions in regions where community solar is not currently an option



Resident-owned community solar

For cooperatively owned manufactured home developments



Models for rural solar programs

For rural landowners and rural electric cooperative ownerships



Community solar plus storage

Encouraged to enhance grid resiliency and reliability, while maximizing potential savings



Equitable workforce development programs

To share the benefits of jobs in the solar industry

Credit: IPC, https://inclusiveprosperitycapital.org/sfa/



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What is Community Solar and Storage?

Community Solar allows multiple individuals or entities to subscribe to and benefit from a single, shared solar energy facility.

Incorporating Battery Storage can....

- Provide resilience benefits
- Reduce subscription costs



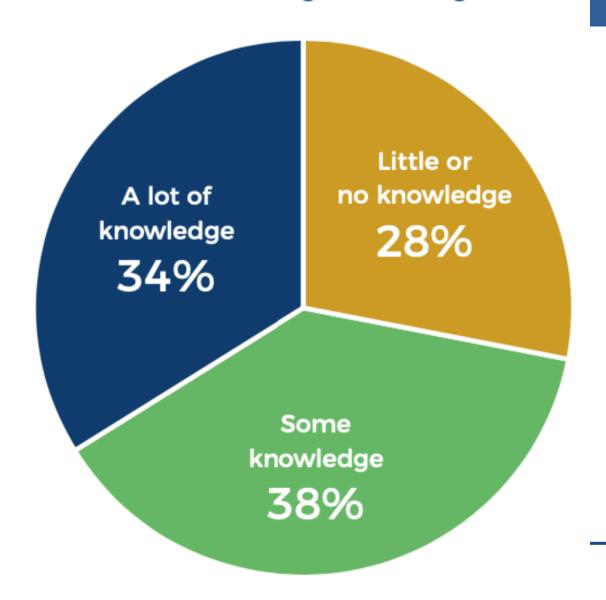
Maycroft Apartments artist rendering of the fully renovated 64-unit apartment building for low-income residents.

Photo Credit: Jubilee Housing



Level of Existing Knowledge on Solar and Storage Technologies

Barriers to Solar and Battery Storage Development





Technical Assistance Fund

Providing technical support to build local resilience.



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Clean Energy Groups: Technical Assistance Fund

- Supports the development of clean energy projects aimed at decreasing energy burdens and increasing resiliency.
- Funds preliminary technical and financial feasibility analyses.
- Pre-development feasibility analysis links organization to trusted allies who can provide independent background on solar+storage
- Vendor agnostic, no "sales pitch"
- Builds resilient power awareness and capacity in historically underserved communities.

Has awarded over **\$2 million in funding** for communities to evaluate solar+storage at essential community-serving facilities.

Community Resiliency Hub opening. Credit: Queen Shabazz, UPAI



What are the steps to develop solar+storage?

Motivation for Resilience

Project Planning

Secure Funding Solar+Storage for Community Resilience

To successfully seek funding and move towards project development, project teams need to know:

- System size,
- Cost of installation and maintenance,
- Estimated lifetime savings,
- Benefits from the system: community resilience and environmental sustainability

The Technical Assistance Fund provides project teams with a clear picture of costs, ownership structures, and financial incentives to help with decision making and fundraising.



Overcoming Economic Barriers

IPC Finance Support Could Include:

- Pre-development, including recoverable grants
- Developer Lines of Credit
- Acquisition & construction financing
- Investment Tax Credit and interconnection bridge financing
- Enabling transmission and distribution upgrades sited in low-income and disadvantaged communities
- Credit enhancements
- Co-investment with community lenders
- Grants, at the project and subscriber level



Interested in Participating? Eligible Projects...

- Serve Low-Income and Disadvantaged Communities
- Deliver at least 50% of the electricity generated from the system to multiple residential customers within the same utility territory as the facility
- Deliver at least 50% of the benefits (e.g., financial savings, renewable energy credits)
 derived from the power generated by the community solar system to multiple residential
 customers in the same utility territory as the facility
- Provide LIDAC households min. 20% household savings on cost of electricity
- Projects must not exceed 5MW



Affordable Housing: Maycroft Apartments, DC

62kW Solar, 56kWh Battery

Led by: Jubilee Housing

Backup Power: Three days

Critical Loads: Hallway and stairwell lighting, and a resiliency center that provides lighting, exhaust and floor fans, charging for phones and medical devices, refrigeration for food and medication, and a microwave

Costs: \$130,000 batteries and installation, \$197,000

solar

Funding: \$65,000 grant from PEPCO (utility)

Economic Benefits: Community solar for 100 residents -

\$40 monthly utility savings









Awareness Building



Environmental Hazards

Battery storage safety begins with proper siting to ensure the battery system is insulated from potential environmental hazards, such as extreme weather and flooding.



Temperature Controls

Some storage systems may require dedicated heating and/or cooling systems to regulate temperatures and operate properly.



Codes and Standards

Follow the most up-to-date codes and standards and implement safety best practices when installing a storage system.



Venting

Battery systems contained in enclosed areas may require venting to avoid the buildup of explosive gases during a system failure.



Awareness

Areas containing battery storage systems should be clearly marked and onsite staff should be made aware of any potential safety hazards. Warning systems should immediately alert staff and first responders of system failures.



Fire Suppression

Effective fire suppression equipment should be installed in case a fire does occur. Local and regional first responders should be informed of potential hazards and receive relevant training.



Thank You!



Marriele Mango
Senior Project Director
Clean Energy Group
Marriele@cleanegroup.org

Learn more:

https://inclusiveprosperitycapital.org/sfa/

Apply for Clean Energy Group's Technical Assistance Fund today:

www.cleanegroup.org/initiatives/technical-assistance-fund





Agenda

- Background
- SMUD StorageShares pilot program
 - Customer Participants
 - Utility Battery System
- Challenges, lessons learned, and the future



Background



What's StorageShares?

A unique solution that aggregates customer investment into energy storage to procure a larger distribution sited utility battery instead of individual customer sited batteries.

- Economies of scale
- Reduced maintenance cost
- Strategic siting of battery systems

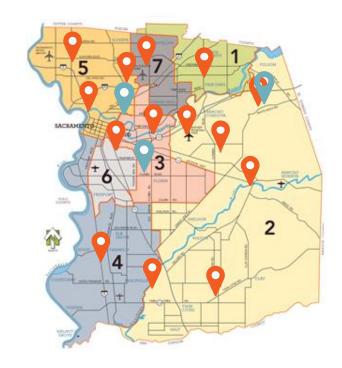
This program combines energy storage and demand charge reduction to provide participants the benefits of energy storage without the burden of battery ownership.



Customer benefit aligned with grid needs

- Customer Sattery Need Saturday Value spread across territory
- Utility
 Battery Need

 Highly locational value



*Conceptual Representation. Not based on actual location needs.



Why StorageShares?

- StorageShares enables a pathway that aligns customer investment with grid needs in a way that delivers those objectives for participants and nonparticipants alike.
- Our customers want to invest in technology that supports their decarbonization, affordability and reliability goals.
 - Aligns with our priorities



StorageShares pilot program goals

- Support and accelerate our decarbonization plans.
- Enabling electrification by maximizing infrastructure utilization.
 - Infrastructure designed and built to support peak load
 - Supports electrical vehicle (EV) adoption managing impact on grid infrastructure, location and time-based impact these resources have
 - Global supply chain challenges
 - Transformer lead times
 - Time it takes a customer to start service



SMUD StorageShares



What makes up StorageShares?

StorageShares





Customer participants

Utility Battery
System



Customer participants



StorageShares pilot details

- Customer buys shares at an upfront cost and receives a benefit over 10 years.
- We provide the customer benefit on their bill.
- We limit the number of shares offered to match the potential benefit that an actual battery could provide.
- Participant won't install a battery for demand charge reduction (no double dipping).
- We install the physical battery at a beneficial location on the grid.



StorageShares pilot details

- No maintenance or operating costs.
- No interconnection costs.
- Guaranteed performance.
- StorageShares moves with you if your business relocates.
- Doesn't require installation of battery system at your business location.
- Doesn't require perfect operation.
- Continue to receive only one bill.



Target customer

- Commercial customers with a low load factor and high demand charges.
- Customers in locations with low grid needs.
- Customers open to an alternative solution to a behind-the-meter battery system.
- Not for customers seeking back-up power.



Customer education

- Identify customer's motivation for battery storage.
- Provide education as appropriate.
- Present the benefits and costs of battery storage.
- Assess how the program aligns with customer's desire or need for a battery.

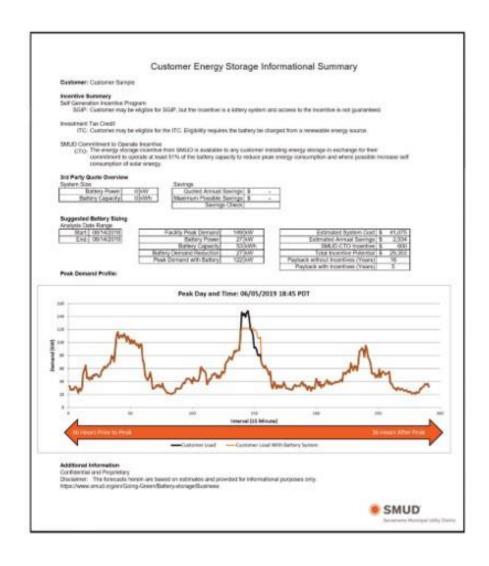


Customer evaluation process

- Conduct analysis with battery sizing tool for interested customer.
 - Determines if the customer load shape is ideal for a battery.
 - Determines the number of shares a customer is eligible for.
- Provide a summary report.



Example Summary Report



- Shows peak kW demand reduction a battery system could deliver.
- Provides the number of shares the customer is eligible for.
- Offers estimated cost information for comparing 3rd party battery project proposals.
- Lists possible incentives and tax credits available for battery system installation.



Utility Battery System



Test scenarios

Scenario 1: Natural adoption demand charge reduction

- 9 Systems Installed Each sized at 60kW // 120kWh
- Total Batteries installed 540kW // 1080kWh

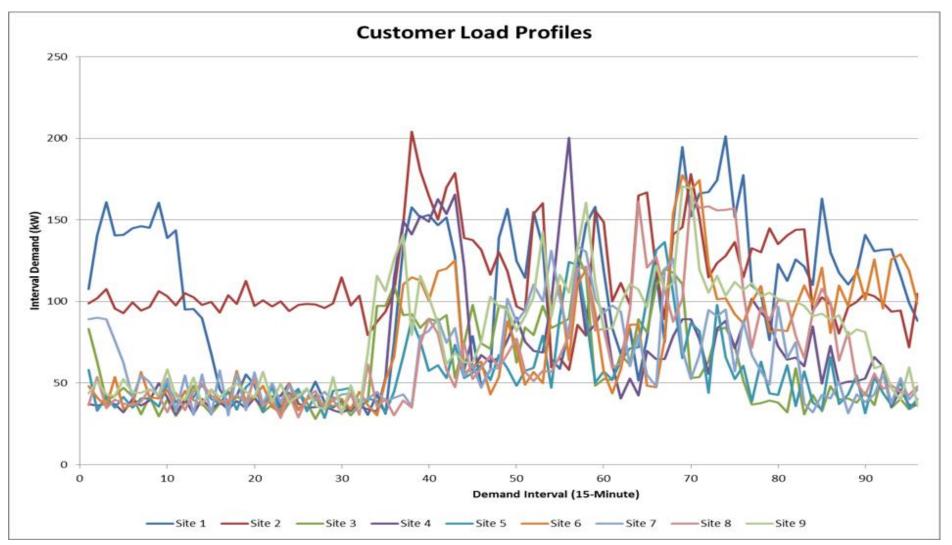
Electricity Charges				
Item	Usage	Туре	Rate	Amoun
Power Factor	0.9944			
Electricity Usage	1,346	Summer Off Peak kWh @	0.104400	140.5
Electricity Usage	321	Summer On Peak kWh @	0.135600	43.53
Electricity Usage	268	Summer Super Peak kWh @	0.196900	52.7
Electricity Usage	8,363	Winter Off Peak kWh @	0.082200	687.4
Electricity Usage	5,593	Winter On Peak kWh @	0.103900	581.1°
Site Infrastructure Charge	170	Maximum kW @	2.880000	489.6
Demand Charge	87	Summer Super Peak kW @	7.050000	76.6
System Infrastructure Fixed Charge*				109.0
Sacramento City Tax*				163.5
State Surcharge*				4.7
A) TOTAL ELECTRIC SERVICE CHARGES/CREDITS				\$2.349.0

Scenario 2: Utility driven adoption

1 System Installed – 200kW // 400kWh

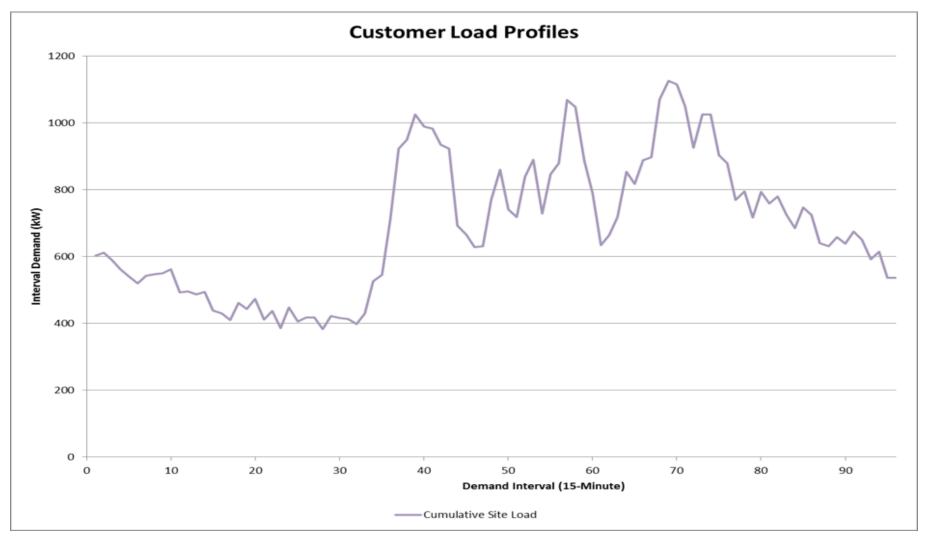


Individual customer loads



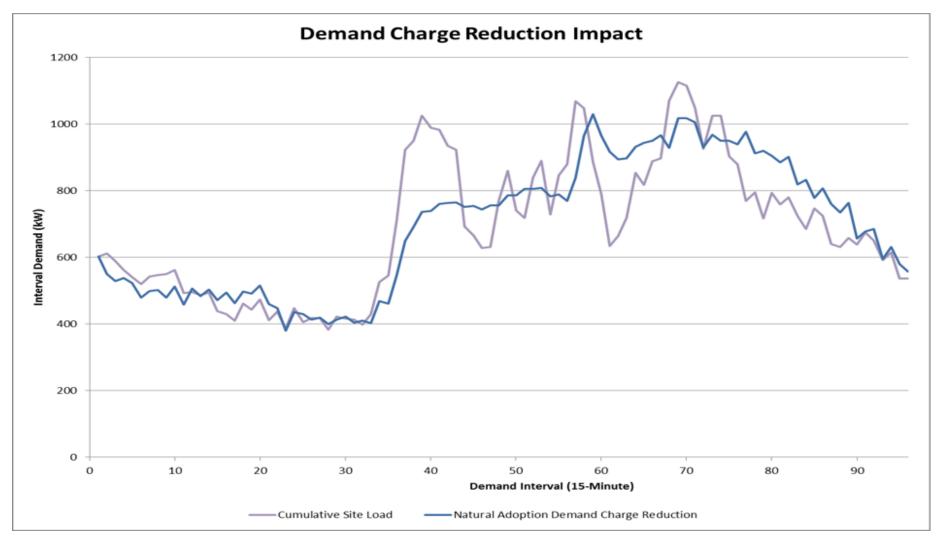


Aggregated customer loads



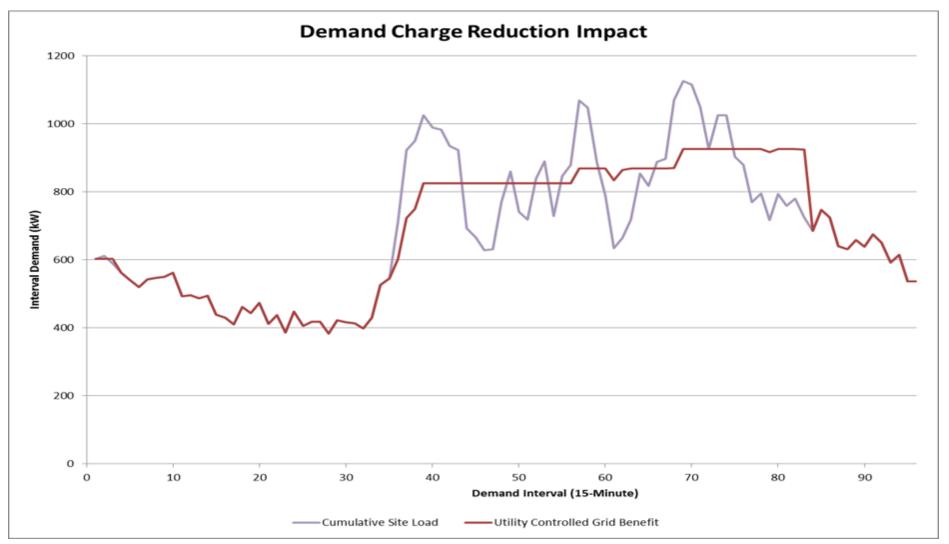


Impact of demand charge reduction (540kW)





Impact of utility control (200kW)





Scenario impact summary

Scenario 1 impact:

- Individually customers reduce a total of 441kW of retail demand charges.
- Poor alignment of 15-minute interval loads means often customer batteries are charging and discharging at the same time.
- The coincident demand reduction on the feeder is only 95kW.

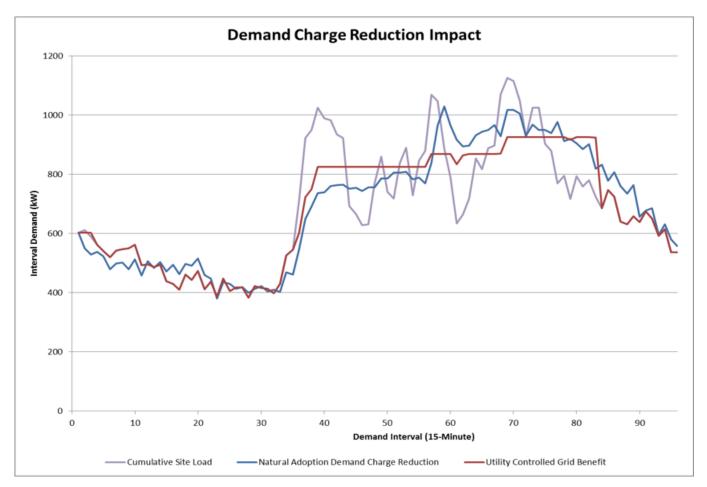
Scenario 2 impact:

- The utility-controlled battery is less than half the size of the customer natural adoption batteries.
- The utility-controlled system can reduce the peak demand by 198kW.
- More predictable load with ability to dispatch energy based on bulk or feeder demand events.



Utility control matters

Utility control of the battery can create twice the benefit with less than half of the battery capacity.





Utility benefit

- We deploy and manage a battery based on locational grid needs.
- Battery operation is independent of StorageShares offering to customer.
- Procurement benefits from economies of scale.



Utility Battery Storage installation

- 4MW battery deployed and operational.
 - 4MW creates 4,000 shares for the pilot offering.
- Location selected based on potential reconductor and line upgrade needed with 5 years of evaluation.
- Battery provides a diverse set of benefits.
 - Infrastructure support
 - Grid services
 - DERMS integration
 - Market Participation (CAISO, EIM)
 - Job training and education



Challenges, lessons learned, and the future



Challenges and lessons learned

- Pandemic changed the way companies utilized buildings and infrastructure.
 - Remote work limited investment in facilities.
 - Changed prioritization of cash investments (StorageShares in cash up front).
- C&I customers largely driven on financial benefit.
 - Battery payback remains longer than most commercial investment requirements



Future plans for the program

- StorageShares program on standby.
 - Need active battery storage adoption and utility-scale need
 - Program is designed to scale with customer demand
- The program continues to operate as a catch not fish position.
- Component of a larger behind-the-meter battery storage program portfolio.



Thank you!

Email:

Christopher.Brown@smud.org

