The Future of Virtual Power Plants Empowering Underserved Communities

Panelists

Ed Hamzawi, Director, Advanced Energy Solutions, SMUD

Sarah Delisle, VP, Government Affairs & Communications, Swell Energy

N. Achini Bandara, PhD, Development and Strategic Partnerships Director, GRID Alternatives







SMUD - Who is SMUD?

SMUD is your community-owned, not-for-profit electric service.

6th largest community-owned in the U.S.



75+ YearsEst. 1946

Power mix that's on average about

50% carbon-free



The most ambitious goal of any large utility in the United States ~645,000 Customers

~2,300 Employees



Rates among the lowest in CA. On average 45% lower than PG&E



SMUD - What is SMUD Trying to Achieve?



Natural gas generation repurposing

Retire 2 power plants by 2025 and retool remaining 3 to minimize emissions



Proven clean technology

Expand SMUD's renewable and battery storage resources by 3.5x

> >3,000 MW of new renewable energy & storage – equivalent to energy needs of more than 600,000 homes

Support customer resources
Growing rooftop solar and
batteries



~\$2.5 billion investment

~\$2 billion investment



New technology & business models

Pilot & scale new projects and programs

- 2x savings from energy efficiency & building electrification
- · Education & demand flexibility
- · Virtual power plants & vehicle-to-grid technology
- · New grid-scale technologies

Financial

- Pursue grants & partnerships
- Limit rate impacts to rate of inflation



Maximize community benefits

- Keep affordable rates
 & reliable power
- Improve local air quality & overall community health
- Reduce regional impacts of carbon – drought, wildfires & extreme weather
- Create regional clean tech jobs
- · Strengthen all communities
- Support under-resourced communities
- Involve our customers & community in this transition



Eliminate CO₂ from SMUD's power supply

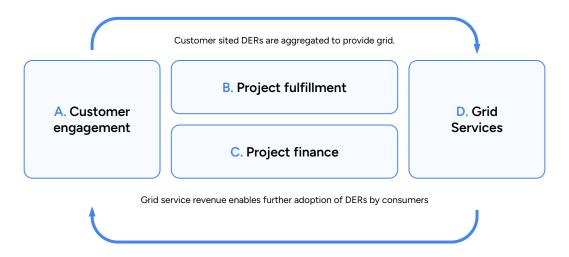




Thousands of new regional clean tech jobs



Swell Energy - Overview



- Founded in 2014, Swell Energy is a premier distributed energy resource deployment and management company
- Swell is built on three core competencies with innovative technology at the foundation
 - Project development (**DevCo**) includes customer engagement and distributed energy resource systems (DERs) sales and project fulfillment
 - Project Finance (**FinCo**) develops loan and leases products that incorporate VPP asset value
 - Grid Services (**GridCo**) builds virtual power plants (VPPs) with to enable the clean, resilient next generation electric grid.







VISION

A rapid, equitable transition to a world powered by renewable energy that benefits everyone.

MISSION

Build community-powered solutions to advance economic and environmental justice through renewable energy.



Key GRID Programs



Single-family Solar



Tribal Solar



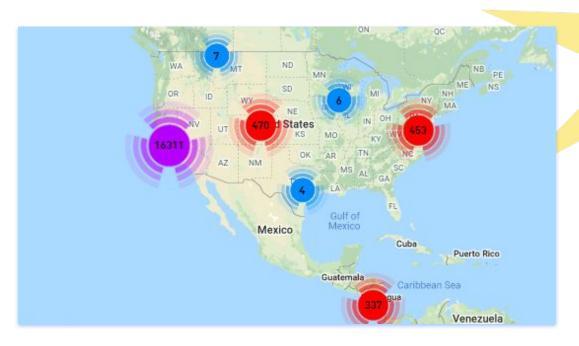
Multifamily & Community Solar



Installation Basics Training



GRID Where We Work & Our Impact





















Virtual Power Plants - What is a Virtual Power Plant?

A Virtual Power Plant is an aggregation of distributed energy resources—such as batteries, PV, EVs, smart plugs and thermostats—that can be controlled by the grid operator in place of a central power plant.

Virtual Power Plants that aggregate hundreds or thousands of batteries in partnership with customers to optimize and provide supply, manage demand, and regulate grid frequency.

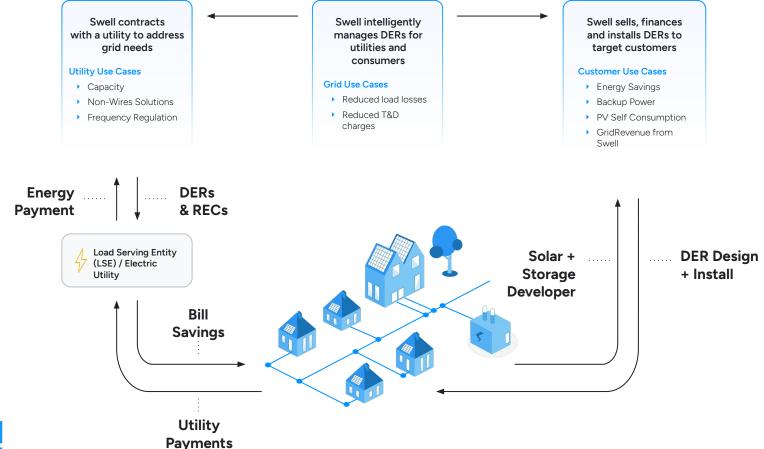
These grid services enable utilities to provide service without building new physical infrastructure. Physical connectivity is still required.





Virtual Power Plants Made Simple

- A Virtual Power Plant (VPP) is a power system that improves grid reliability and reduces dependence on fossil fuels
- By orchestrating many distributed energy resources, Swell Energy reduces grid stress and replaces aging grid infrastructure
- Customers use solar powered energy storage systems to achieve financial and back-up power objectives
- Customers also realize additional monetary value from their battery





Platform & Managed Services

Swell provides a turnkey VPP deployment & management platform that optimizes utility value while enhancing Consumer experience

Swell Energy __ DER Programs

Managed services

- Customer acquisition
- Project fulfillment
- Project finance
- Grid services

Technology platform

- Compass module
- Wave module
- GridAmp module



Energy storage



Solar panels



Smart home



EV charging

Utility Value Delivered

+

Energy procurement cost management

- Wholesale energy cost arbitrage
- Wholesale demand charge mitigation
- Capacity / RA
- Ancillary services / market participation

Grid / network cost management

- Distribution network CapEx deferral
- Integration of renewable assets / DERs
- Transmission congestion mgmt

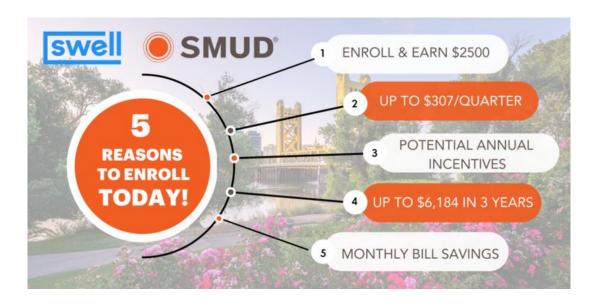
Host Consumer Value Delivered

Enhanced retail consumer experience

- Enhanced reliability& energy security
- Optimized PV self-consumption
- Energy Bill Savings
- Swell GridRevenue™



SMUD's My Energy OptimizerSM Partner+ Program



Battery(ies) Size	Quarterly Recurring Incentive	3-Year Program Value*	
1 Battery	\$76-102	\$912-1,224	
2 Batteries	\$152-205	\$1,824-2,460	
3 Batteries	\$228-307	\$2,736-3,684	



Sustainable Communities Strategy

Enhancing the quality of life for <u>all</u> of our customers and enhancing the vitality of <u>all</u> of our communities.











- Community education
- Community safety
- Infrastructure improvements
- Community events & sponsorships
- Collective impact partnerships
 Under-served community development



- · Air quality improvements
- Carbon emission reduction
- Climate readiness
- Environmental justice
- Health equity
- Tree canopy



- Digital accessibility
- Economic development
- Small business development
- Low-income programs
- Workforce development
- Technology skills training



Mobility

- Electric vehicle
- Autonomous transportation
- Public transit access
- Charging station
- Walkability
- Shared mobility access



Who are SMUD's Under-Resourced Customers?

Residential (~69,000)

- Income-Qualified (Federal Poverty Level)
 - o Low: 0-200%
 - Medium: 201 400%
- Additional considerations
 - Renters
 - Under-served

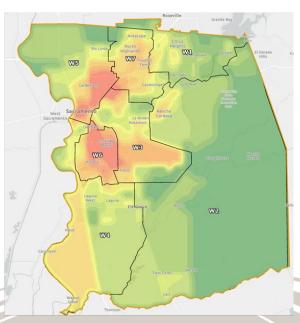
Commercial (~11,000)

- Small businesses
- Nonprofit agencies
- Community-based organizations

Barriers and Challenges

- Lack of income to afford basic necessities
- Higher energy burdens
- Poor housing conditions that is likely leading to health impacts
- Cultural / language barriers
- Do no own building and/or fleet
- Unable to afford upgrades
- Poor building conditions

SMUD's Sustainable Communities Map



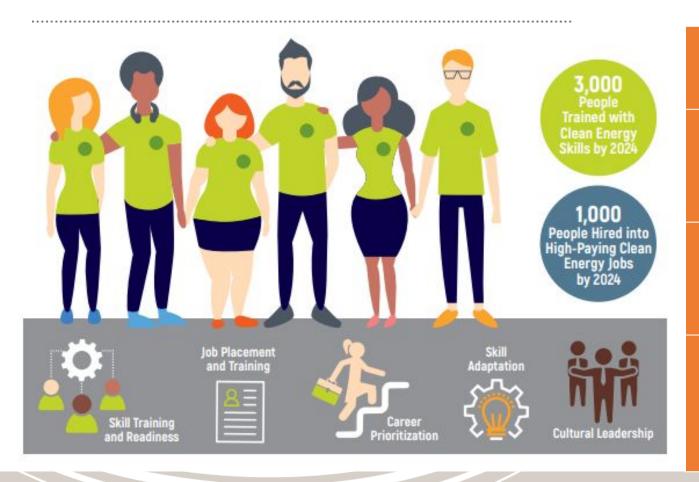


Underserved Communities - Combined goals



MEOP+ Under-resourced Communities Goal				
	Dec 31, 2023	Dec 31, 2024	Dec 31, 2025	
# of LMI Customers (cumulative)	50	100	150	

SMUD's Sustainable Communities Workforce Development



Solved Skilled Labor Deficit

Ensure Diversity of Future Green Workforce

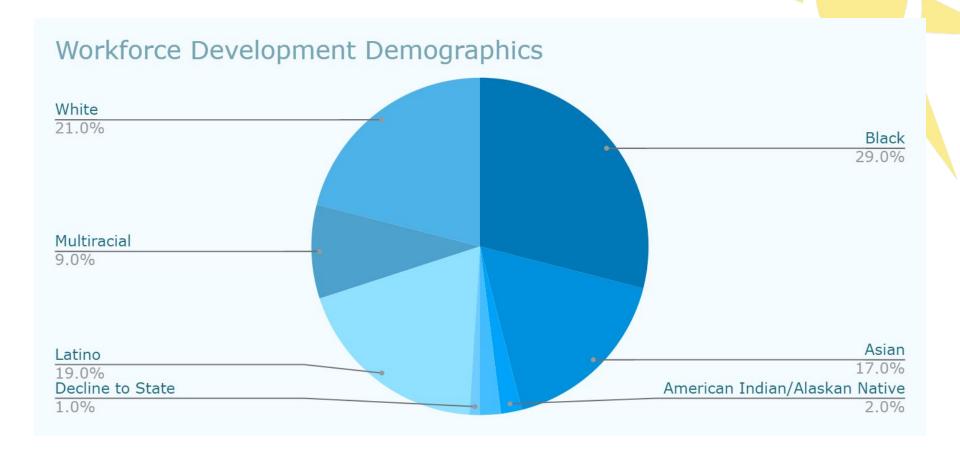
Foster a Responsive Regional Green Jobs Ecosystem

Bring Economic
Opportunities to
Under-Resourced
Communities





GRID Workforce Development Demographic Data: 2019-2023





Program Overview



Comprehensive, industry-vetted curriculum



Commercial-pace solar installation training



Competency-based, timed capstone assessments



Employment readiness workshops



OSHA-10 and CPR/First Aid certification



IN-CLASS LEARNING



HANDS-ON LABS



REAL-WORLD INSTALLATIONS

Q&A Session

For more information on the My Energy OptimizerSM Partner+ launching this summer, Stop by the Swell Energy table and speak with us

To reach our panelists:



myenergyoptimizer@smud.org

916-732-7400



Sarah Delisle

sdelisle@swellenergy.com



N. Achini Bandara

abandara@gridalternatives.org

Thank You!