

**DOCKETED**

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# 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Statewide Energy Efficiency Forum

## The Santa Rita Unified School District Story:

Solar-Powered, Carbon-Free Microgrids

Powered Emergency Response Centers (PERCs)



June 20 – 21, 2018

Sacramento, CA

# The City of Salinas

## The Home of Steinbeck

### “The Salad Bowl of the World”



# SRUSD at a Glance

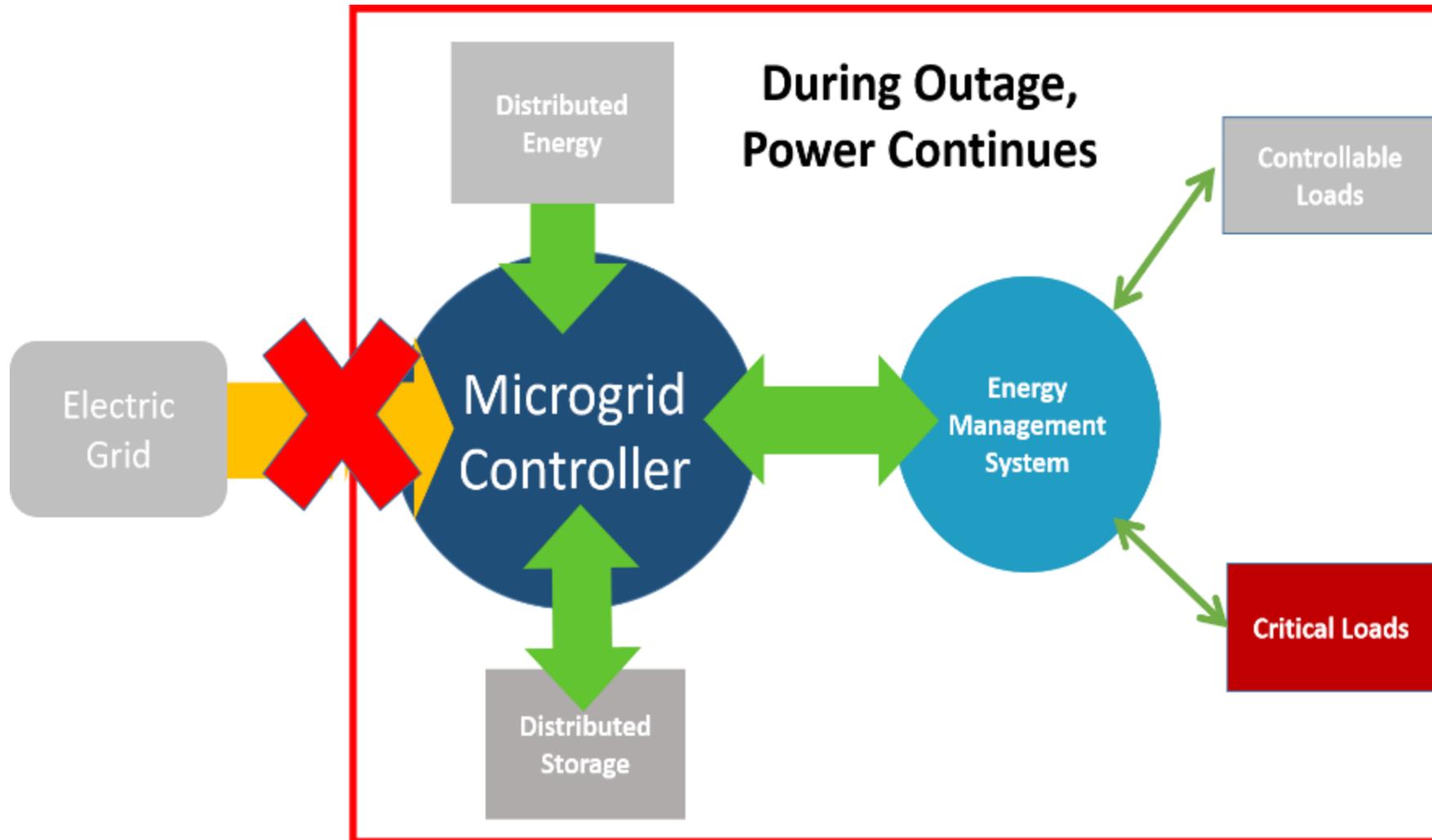
- Six school sites
  - Four elementary
  - Two middle schools
- District Office
- Serving students from Salinas and Monterey County
- Largely Hispanic student body
- Energy Consultant: EcoMotion



# Power Outage Protection Program

- SRUSD's goal was for students to “shelter in place” during power outages using new battery technology
- We wanted 7-hour battery storage for all six SRUSD campuses
- EcoMotion's initial analysis showed that the battery solution would cost ~\$5 million; SRUSD had only ~ \$750,000 in Prop 39 funds
- EcoMotion was tasked with finding a cost-effective solution to achieve our goal for Power Outage Protection

# EcoMotion's Ultimate Solution: Six, Fully Financed, Carbon-Free Microgrids



# The SRUSD Solution

- Solar is installed to cover the entire campus power bill
- Solar savings are used to pay for battery storage
- A PPA is crafted for the microgrid system that is “at parity” with our current PG&E cost
- The project consists of 1.05 MW of solarports, 1,096 kWh of battery storage, microgrid controls to island during power outages
- Prop 39 funds were used for advanced energy management system to control curtailable loads during “rainy day” scenarios

**Bolsa Knolls Middle School**



Battery to be placed within the concrete walls at the electrical switchgear

**Gavilan View Middle School**



Battery to be placed within a fenced area at the electrical switchgear

**La Joya Elementary School**



Battery to be placed in a fenced area with the electrical switchgear

**New Republic Elementary School**



Battery to be placed in a grassy area with the electrical switchgear

**Santa Rita Elementary School**



Battery to be placed within a fenced area at the electrical switchgear  
5/4/2016

**McKinnon Elementary School**



Battery to be placed in a fenced area with the electrical switchgear

# At the End of the Day...

- Ultimately, Generate Capital funds the project
- Sharp Energy Solutions is hired to serve as “Asset Manager” – bound to performance guarantees for storage
- Woman-owned MBL Energy becomes “Lead Contractor”
- Black and Veatch engineered the system
- Fully permitted with the Division of the State Architect; Interconnection with PG&E
- SRUSD slated to get exactly what it wanted with no money down! Students can now shelter in place



# Secondary Project Benefit

## PERCs: Powered Emergency Response Centers

- During prolonged outages, the campuses will be powered by solar and storage for community energy resilience
- PERCs will provide:



Cell Phone and EV/Ebus Charging



Medical and Triage support

Incident Command Centers



Emergency Sheltering



# Teachable Moments in Monterey!

- Making every student, teacher, and staff member fully aware of the carbon-free microgrids and the islanding benefit!
- “Battery-mode drills” planned for each campus
- Student curricula being developed for each grade level
- Awareness program being developed for parents and the community
  - Linking in electric transportation



# PERCs and Disaster Preparedness

- SRUSD working with City of Salinas and Monterey County officials
  - City and County officials
  - Fire Departments
  - Police Departments
- SRUSD working with American Red Cross
  - Protocols for prolonged outages
  - Turning over campuses to Red Cross





**Santa Rita**  
Union School District

## Thank You for Your Attention!

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