

# Engaging Customers in Smart Grid Technology

www.powershiftatlantic.com



An energy research project • Un projet de recherche sur l'énergie

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TransAlta

# **PowerShift Atlantic** Wind Integration via Load Shifting



(as of May 2014)



Across Canada, electricity generated from wind is already powering over 1.5 million homes and businesses in a clean, reliable and efficient manner. With Canada's unparalleled wind resource, there are still opportunities to do more to maximize the economic, industrial development, and environmental benefits associated with wind energy for Canada.

- The wind energy industry installed 936 MW in 2012 with new projects commissioned in British Columbia, Alberta, Ontario, Manitoba, the Northwest Territories, Quebec and Nova Scotia
- Canada will see an average of 1,500 MW of new projects commissioned annually over the next four years
- Creating 68,000 additional person-years of employment and attracting \$15 billion in new investment



## **Project Vision and Goals**

Determine if shifting patterns in energy consumption through load shifting can enable utilities to more effectively integrate renewable energy such as wind

- Is load shifting cost effective and reliable?
- How load shifting performs in sync with system balancing & forecasted wind power
- Understand the customer's role with new smart grid technology









### **End-Use Connectivity**



## NB Power and Atlantic Canada



### Typical Household Energy Usage – New Brunswick



# Virtual Power Plant – Intelligent Load Management

# **Original VPP Concept**

Currently, generation controlled and managed to meet customer demand

**Power Generated = Power Consumed (Customer Demand)** 

Integration of Wind Energy to Supply

**Conventional Generation + Wind Generation = Customer Demand** 

#### Initial Concept:

• Perform a "Wind Following" service using load shifting

#### **Research Outcomes:**

• This could cause additional system demand peaks, stressing the electrical grid further

# **Implemented VPP Design Concept**

#### Actual Requirement:

• Optimize to net system forecasted load minus net wind generation forecast

VPP will reduce strain on conventional generation and the grid as wind generation is integrated



## **The Proposed Solution**

 Shift consumer load demand to reduce effects of the variability of wind generation (intelligent load management)

• Provide a new tool to allow the SO to more easily and efficiently balance the power grid

## "SHIFTING" = INTELLIGENT LOAD MANAGEMENT



# **VIRTUAL POWER PLANT**

Intelligent Load Management – engaged customers and new technology solutions





## System Architecture



## **VPP Functions**

- Primary Function: Assist the system operator's job of balancing the grid (Load Shape Management)
  - Reduce the effects of wind generation variability on the system
- Secondary Function: Provide the equivalent of a 10 minute spinning reserve ancillary service (RTGD)

### Load Shape Management Effects (Simulated)

#### **System Level Optimization Results**



### Real Time Generation Dispatch (Example)

- **RTGD Up Operation shown below (Load Shed)**
- Same operation in opposite direction for an RTGD Down (Load • **Restore**)



#### **RTGD Load Control Plan**



### **End-Uses Implemented**



774	Residential	Commercial	No. of Devices	MW Connected	
ETS Space Heater	94		147	1.0	
		15	40	0.18	



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138	353	0.96





	27	00	1.0
Commercial ETS	27	86	4.6

### **End-Uses – Implemented Cont'd**





HVAC, Refrigeration, **Pumping stations** 

Residential	Commercial	No. of Devices	MW Connected
	25	25	5.5









Instrumented DEWH **Un** - Instrumented DEWH

189	189	0.8
741	741	2.5





# What did I just say?

- 1270 Customers across Maritimes 18MW (residential and commercial)
- Open architecture common interface (interoperability)
- Variety of end-use providers
- Variety of Aggregators
- All year round and seasonal loads

### Electric Thermal Storage In the home

#### **Existing Baseboard**

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(60% of New Brunswick homes)

#### **Electric Thermal Storage**

(Potential solution for the future)





Reduce and Shift Demand

# Electric Thermal Storage – In the Home



Énergie NB Power

### Hampton Middle School



Electric thermal storage in public buildings



Reduce and Shift Demand

### NB Power's Woodstock Office



Electric thermal storage in public buildings



Reduce and Shift Demand

### Electric Thermal Storage Storing Heat in Ceramic Bricks "off peak"





Reduce and Shift Demand

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# A Customer Project (with Technology)

# A new Partnership with new solutions





## Energy Efficiency (Reduce) and Load Shifting (Shift)

#### Customer Issue: Investment (Efficiency programs)



# Behaviour



Customer Issue: Trust



Reduce and Shift Demand

## Co-branding and "Thank You" Program



Énergie NB Power

# **PowerShift Atlantic Recognized** "Recipient of Three major awards"

Canadian Electricity Association - Sustainability Award for Economic Excellence for 2012



Canadian Wind Energy Association – RJ Templin Award for 2012 Peak Load Management Alliance (U.S. based - Denver, Colorado) 2014 award for "Innovation in Demand Response"



## **The Future**

### Bulk generation meets Distributed Energy Resources



#### **Bulk Generation**

Traditional Large Generation

Hydro, Nuclear, Fossil, Wind,

"meets"

#### **Distributed Energy Resources**

Engaged Customers with new technologies

"meets"

EE, DR, DG, EV's, HAN, WAN



Reduce and Shift Demand



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