

Office of Electricity

DOE-OE Distribution Grid Transformation Program

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Evolution of Distribution Grids

Continued expansion of distribution energy systems, microgrids and use of DER services for distribution

Community Energy Activity



Sources: NREL Sharing the Sun Program, North Carolina DSIRE Program, EPA, and Newport Consulting research



Evolution of Distribution Grids

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DER Distribution Grid Services

DER Services include 3rd party providers and utility owned or operated DER (e.g., demand response and batteries)



Distribution Grid Transformation

Advancements in industry policy, regulation, business processes, DER service provision, and grid structure and capabilities are required to get from Stage 2 to a Stage 3 that may include a 40% load increase and upwards of 40% DER adoption





Distribution Grid Transformation

Significant gap exists between current distribution structure and capabilities and growing "40-40" needs



Distribution Grid Transformation Use Cases

- Dynamic Multi-Directional Energy Transport
- Resilient Flexible Distribution Grid Structures
- DER Orchestration for Distribution and Consumers



FY2025 Distribution Grid Transformation Topics

Objective: Provide guidance on key issues to support the transition over the next 5-10 years toward a future distribution grid that may need to integrate upwards of 40% DER adoption and a 40% load increase.



