

# Integrating Solar/Wind Generation into the Electric Power Grid: Benefits & Challenges

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GE Technology Center  
Bangalore, India

**Professor Saifur Rahman**  
Virginia Tech – Advanced Research Institute, USA



Virginia Tech Research Center  
Arlington, Virginia, USA



PPT slides will be available at

[www.saifurrahman.org](http://www.saifurrahman.org)


## Changing Landscape for the Electric Utility



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## Issues with Distributed Generation

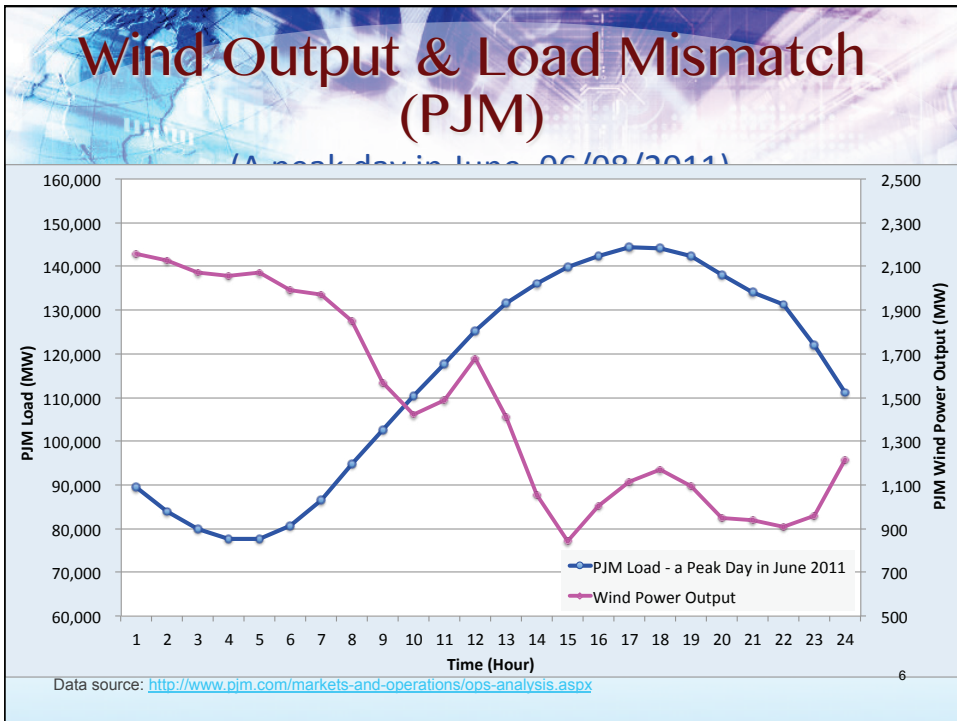
- Wind and solar are intermittent
- Hydro is space limited
- Resource is free but not always usable

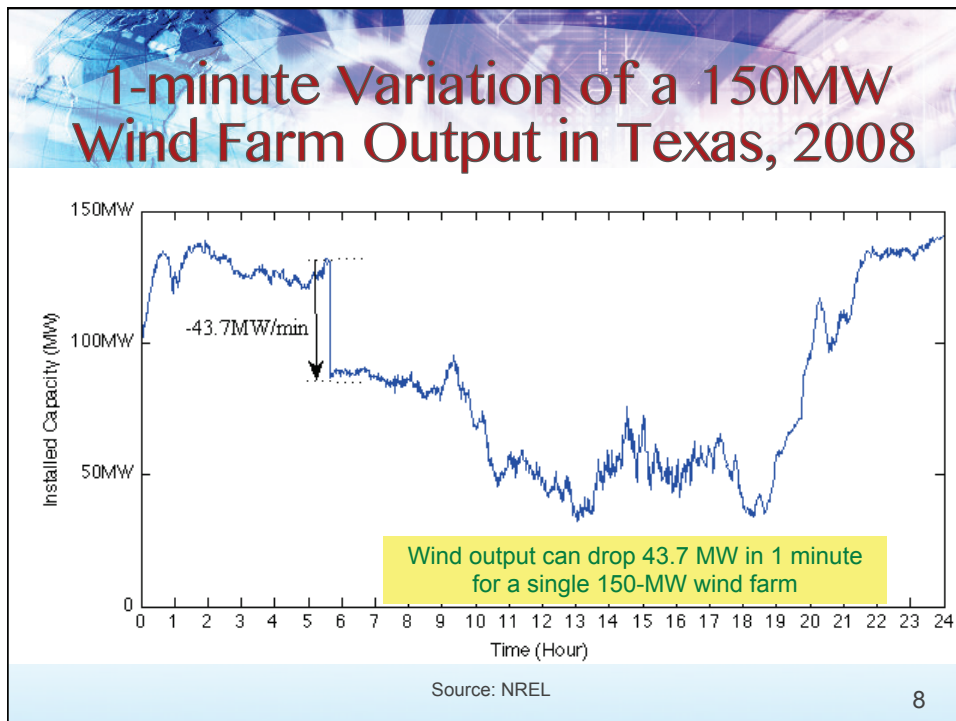
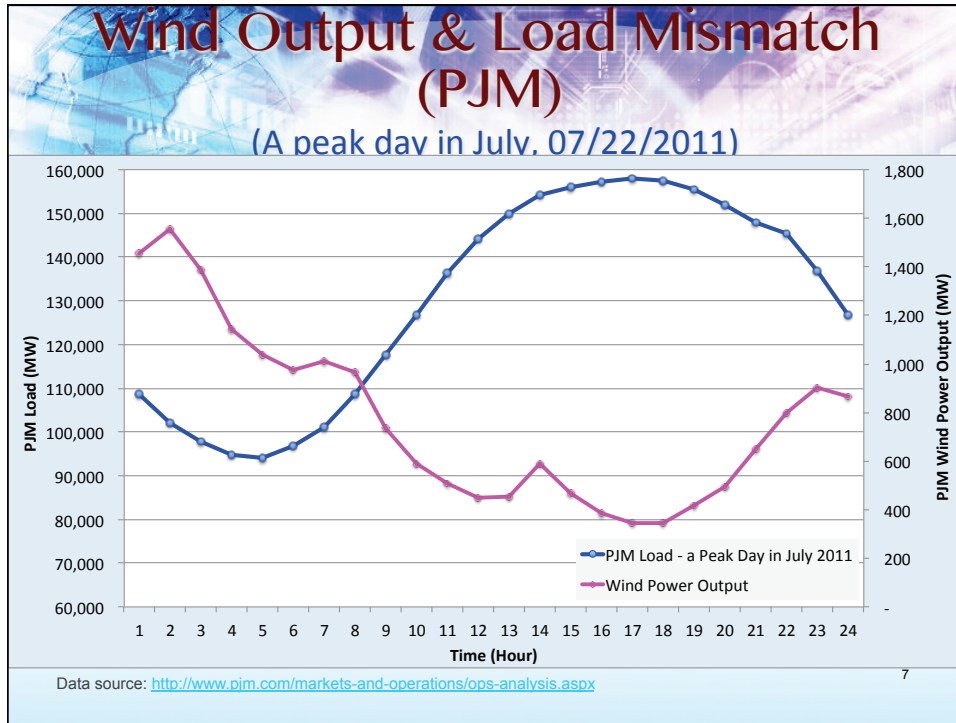


## Wind Energy

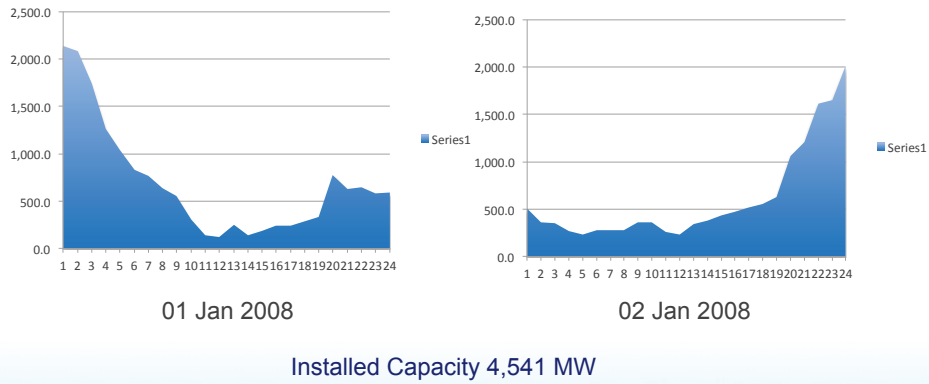
Off-shore Wind turbines, Blyth, U.K.

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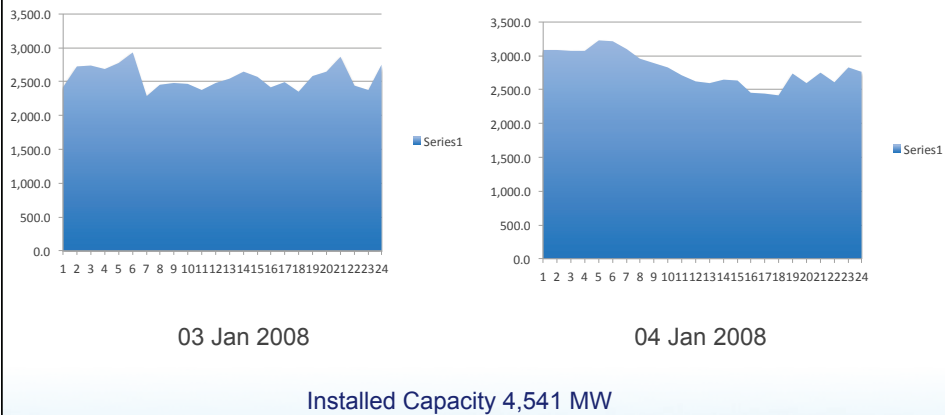


## Hourly wind power variation (MW) in Texas, USA (01 and 02 Jan 2008)



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## Hourly wind power variation (MW) in Texas, USA (03 and 04 Jan 2008)



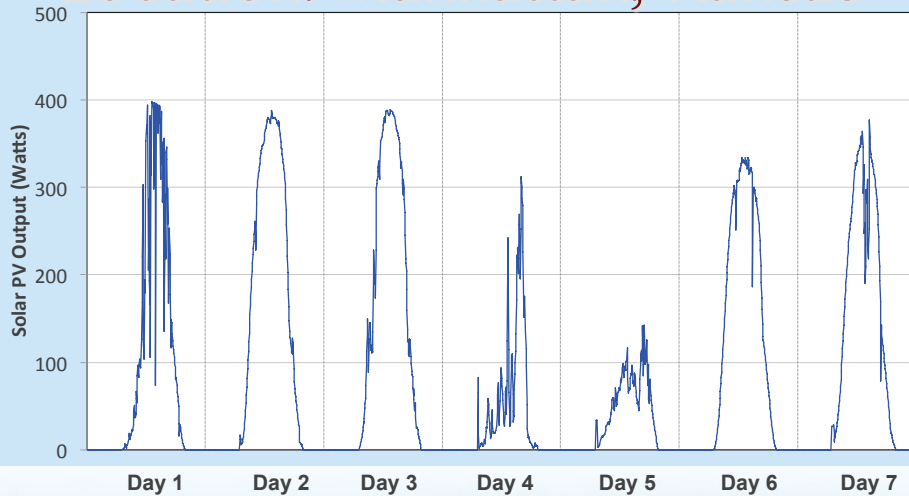
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## Roof-top Solar Photovoltaics in Virginia

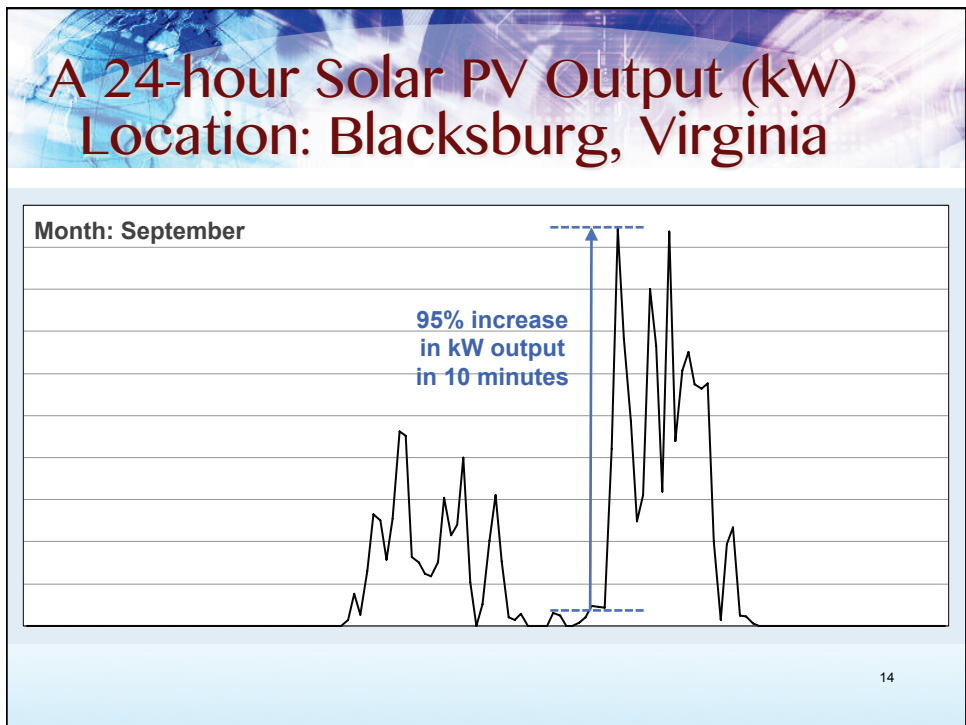
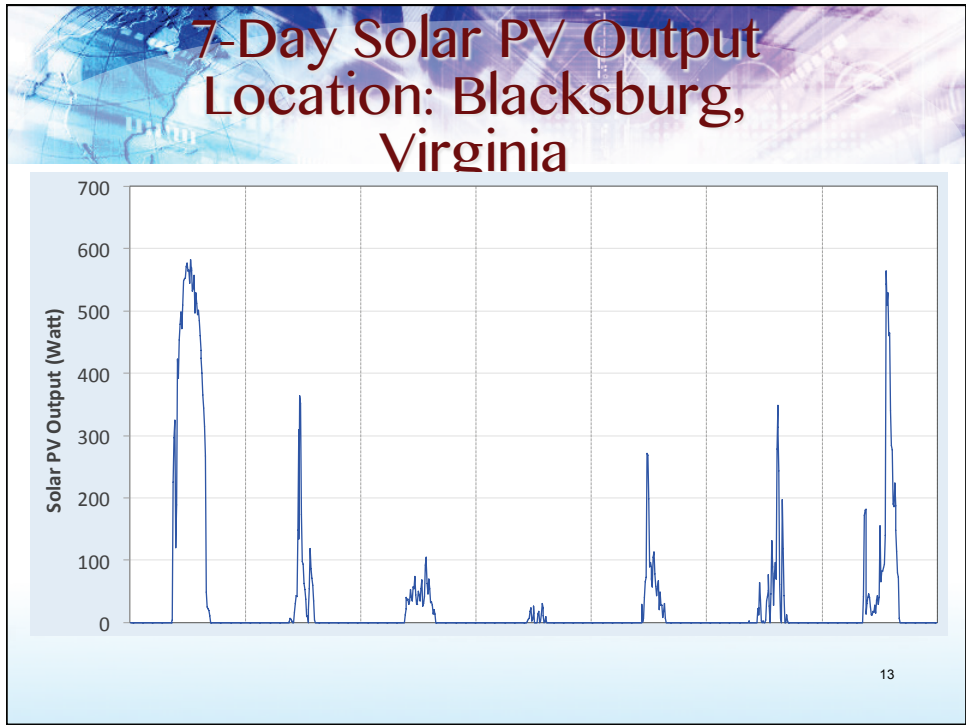


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## 7-Day Solar PV Output Location: Manhattan, Kansas



1  
2





## Is there a better way to give credit to renewables?

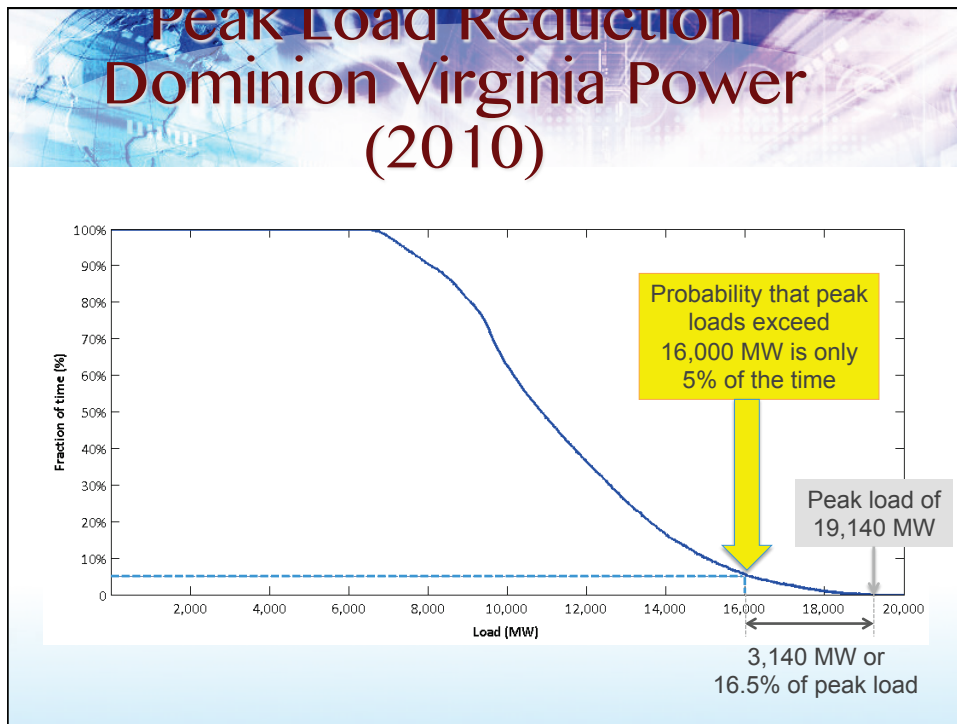
- Can the short term intermittency be absorbed by the the network?
- Storage?
  - Batteries
  - Pumped storage hydro
  - Compressed air energy storage (CAES)
- Any other options?

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## Peak Load Issue





## Demand Response

“Demand Response is a customer action to control load to meet a certain target. Here the customer chooses what load to control and for how long”.

This is different from Demand Side Management (DSM) where the load is controlled by the electric utility and the customer has no control beyond the initial consent.

## Building Energy Management Open Source Software (BEMOSS)

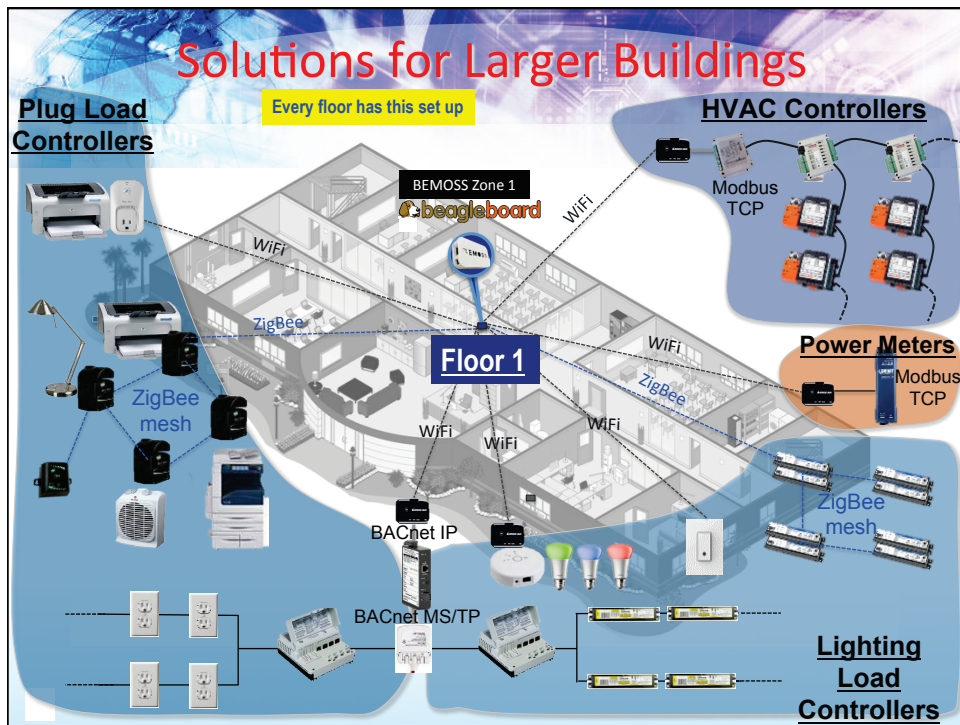
October 30, 2014

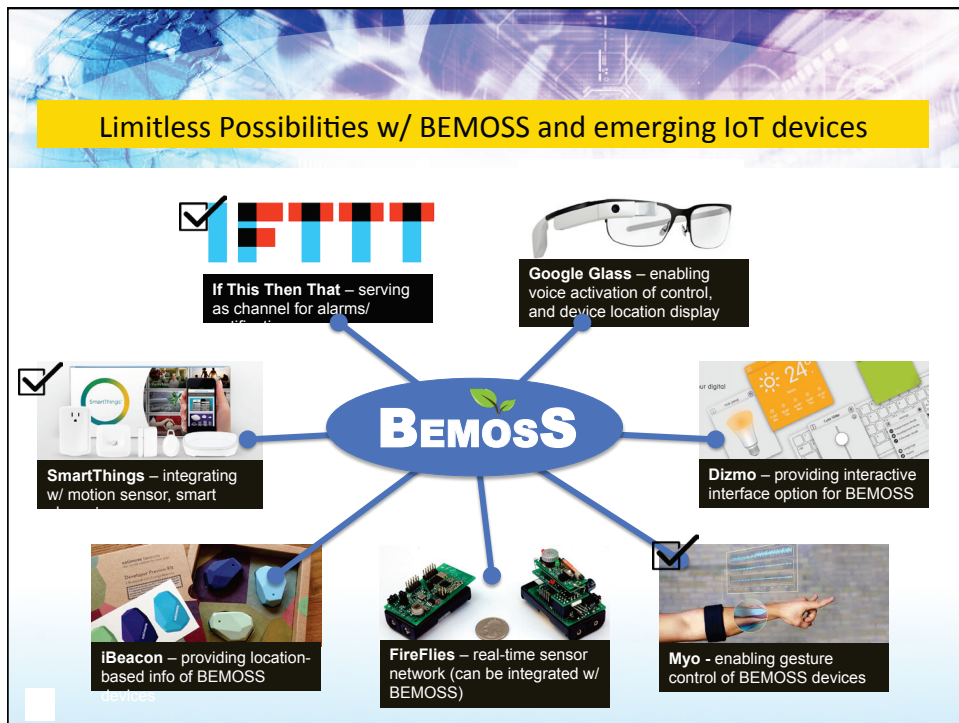
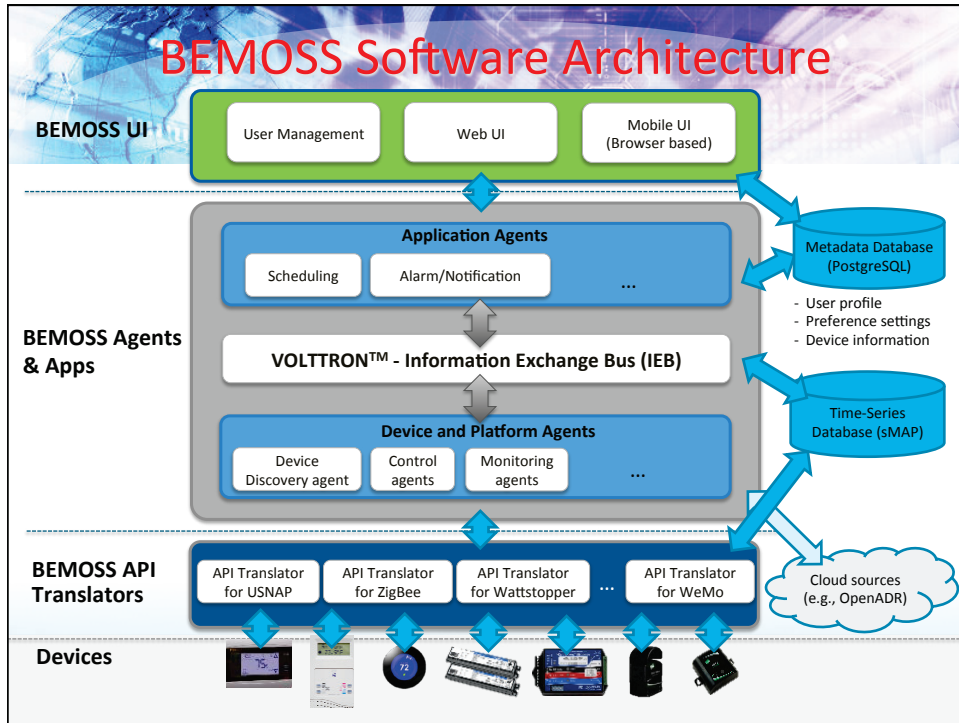
**Turnkey FOA Design Review**  
DOE BTO Office  
Washington, D.C.


**Saifur Rahman**  
([srahman@vt.edu](mailto:srahman@vt.edu))  
Virginia Tech

### As of Oct 2014, BEMOSS can automatically discover and control:

- Sensors/PowerMeters**
  - Power meter (Modbus)
  - Power meter (BACnet/Modbus)
  - Light sensor (BACnet)
  - Occupancy sensor (BACnet)
- Plug Load Controllers**
  - Plug load controller (BACnet)
  - Smart plug (ZigBee)
  - Smart plug (WiFi)
- Lighting Load Controllers**
  - Philips Hue (WiFi)
  - Light switch (WiFi)
  - Lighting load controller (BACnet)
  - Step-dimmed ballast (ZigBee)
- HVAC Load Controllers**
  - CT30 (WiFi)
  - CT50 (WiFi)
  - CT80 (ZigBee SE)
  - EXL-01610 (BACnet)
  - Nest (WiFi)
  - VAV controller (Modbus)
  - RTU (Modbus)









# What Role Can the Smart Grid Play?

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## What is a Smart Grid

"Smart grid" is a concept with many elements where monitoring and control of each element in the chain of generation, transmission, distribution and end-use allow our electricity delivery and use more efficient.




**FierceSmartGrid:** *There are many definitions of "smart grid" -- how do you define it?*

**Saifur Rahman:** "Smart grid" is a concept with many elements -- it's not a physical thing. I like to say that a smart grid starts at the generator and ends at the refrigerator.

[http://www.fiercesmartgrid.com/story/smart-grid-starting-generator-ending-refrigerator/2013-02-19?utm\\_medium=nl&utm\\_source=internal](http://www.fiercesmartgrid.com/story/smart-grid-starting-generator-ending-refrigerator/2013-02-19?utm_medium=nl&utm_source=internal)

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## This is the Electric Power Grid



Source: [www.sxc.hu](http://www.sxc.hu)

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## Difference Between a Normal Grid And a Smart Grid



Normal Phone

Smart Phone

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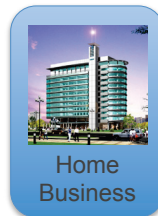
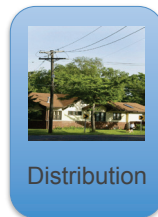
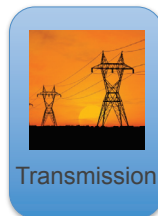
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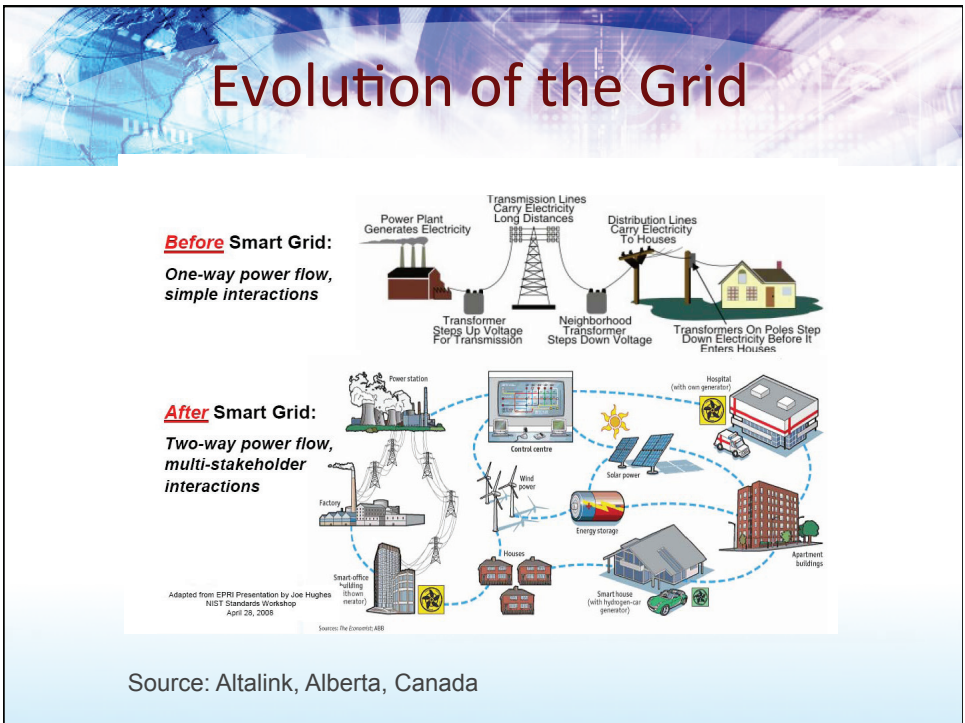
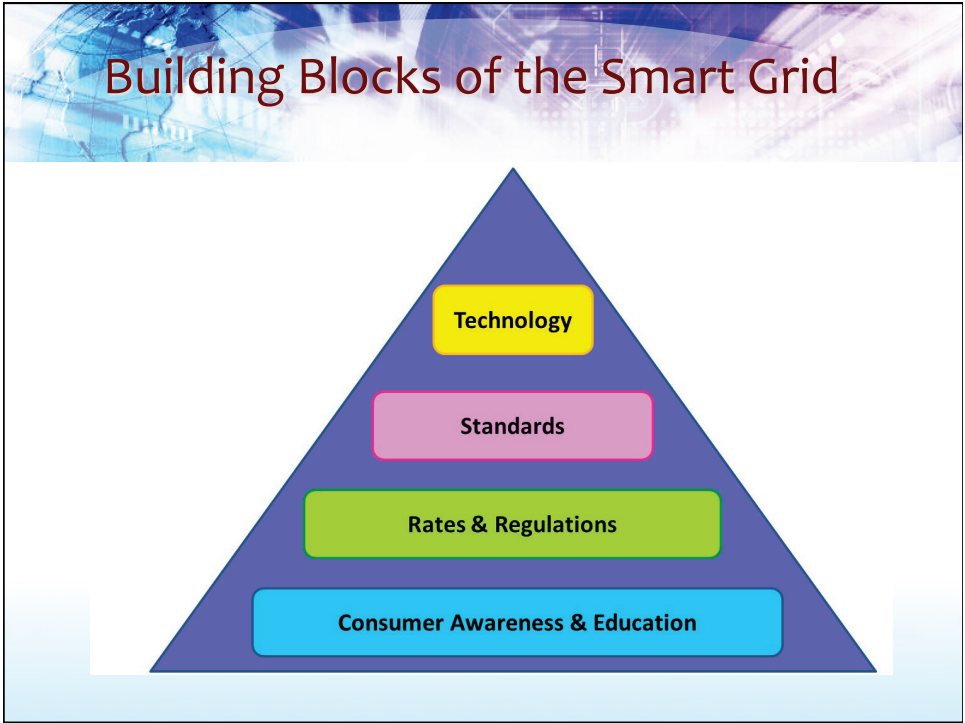
## What is the Motivation for a Smart Grid

Desire to make the grid smarter, safer, reliable and more cost-effective using advanced sensors, communication technologies and distributed computing.

## Starting and End Points of a Smart Grid

From Generator to Refrigerator



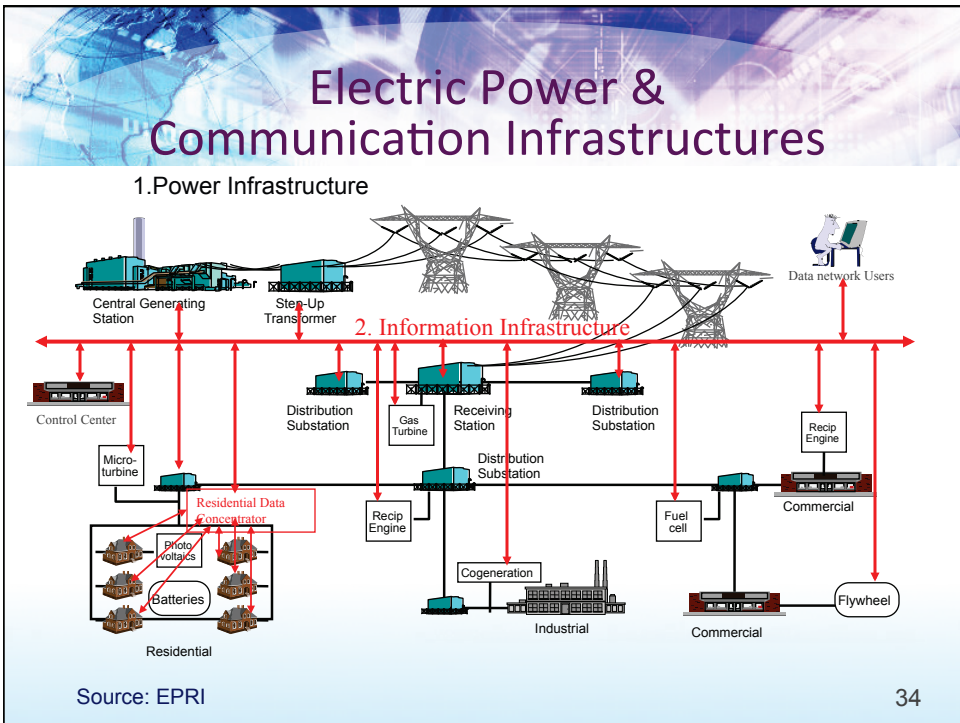






# Merging Power Flow with Information Flow: Integrated Communications

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The header of the slide features a blue and purple abstract background with a globe and technical diagrams. The title "Technical Issues" is written in a dark red, serif font.

## Technical Issues

- Renewables integration
- Demand response application
- Peak load reduction
- Remote meter reading & billing
- Transformer/Switchgear loading
- Service monitoring and recovery

12/5/14

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The header of the slide features a blue and purple abstract background with a globe and technical diagrams. The title "Technical Benefits" is written in a dark red, serif font.

## Technical Benefits

- Conservation Voltage Reduction
- Peak Load Reduction
- Faster Outage Recovery
- Renewables Integration



## Faster Recovery from Outages

Smart meters allow automated outage information notification

Distribution automation and advanced switching capability allow sectionalizing and faster distribution circuit reconfiguration to restore healthy sections to service



## Benefits of the smart grid

Peak load reduction, generator efficiency improvements and distributed generation integration are major benefits of the smart grid

Demand response can provide significant peak load reductions

A smooth load shape allows better asset utilization

# Smart Grid Information Clearinghouse



[www.sgiclearinghouse.org](http://www.sgiclearinghouse.org)

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# Thank you

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