

# ET Summit 2025

Presented by



# What are Resilient Buildings and How can Flexible Demand and Distributed Energy Resources Increase Resiliency?

Randall Higa, PE, LEED BD+C  
Consulting Engineer  
Southern California Edison



## Agenda

- What is a resilient building?
- Why should buildings support the grid?
- How can buildings support the grid?
- How is the grid transitioning?
- What is the role of codes?
- What is the role of SCE?



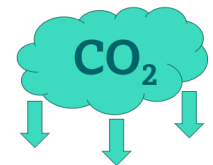
# What is a Resilient and Decarbonized Building?

## Impacts of Climate Change

- A building that can defend against the impacts of climate change such as wildfires, sea level rise, extreme weather, etc.
- Provide reliable power to buildings to keep them safe from the effects of climate change

## Causes of Climate Change

- A building that can reduce the causes of climate change by reducing GHG emissions
- Integration of buildings with the grid to support the resiliency of a decarbonized grid



# Why Should Buildings Support the Grid?



Building upgrades **improve lives** by increasing high-quality jobs, economic security, equity, health, and community resilience



**Enable fast, secure, and interactive distributed energy resources** like EVs, onsite generation, and storage



# Why Should Buildings Support the Grid?



Reduce U.S. building emissions 65% by 2035 and 90% by 2050 vs. 2005 while enabling net-zero emissions economy wide and centering equity and benefits to communities

## CROSS-CUTTING GOALS



**Equity** – Advance energy justice and benefits to disadvantaged communities

**Affordability** – Reduce energy burden and technology costs so all can benefit

**Resilience** – Increase the ability of communities to withstand and recover from stresses

## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES



### Increase building energy efficiency

Reduce on-site energy use intensity in buildings 35% by 2035 and 50% by 2050 vs. 2005



### Accelerate on-site emissions reductions

Reduce on-site GHG emissions in buildings 25% by 2035 and 75% by 2050 vs. 2005



### Transform the grid edge

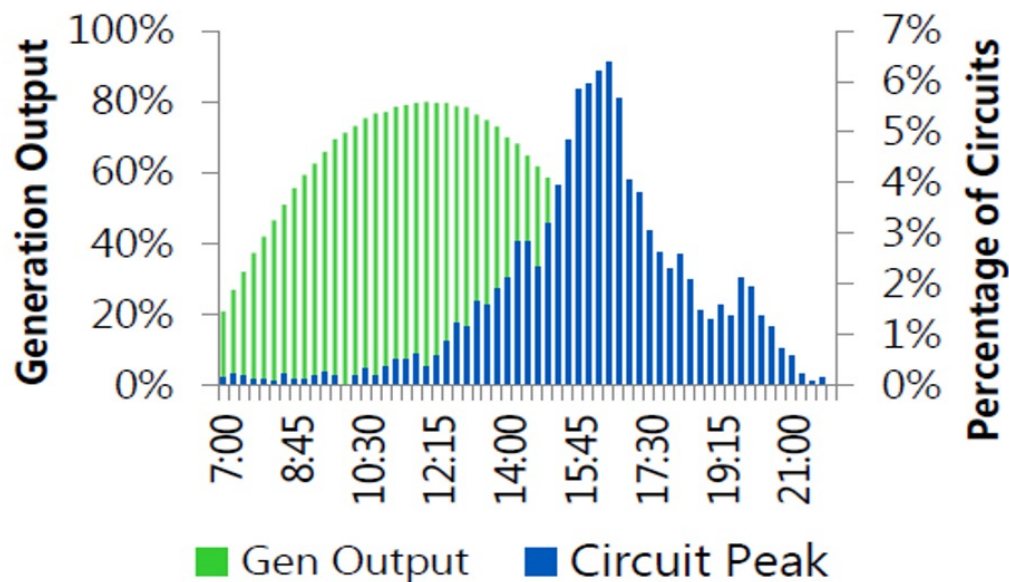
Reduce electrical infrastructure costs by tripling demand flexibility potential by 2050 vs. 2020



### Minimize embodied life cycle emissions

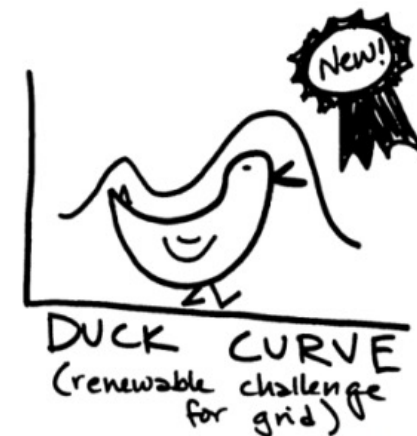
Reduce embodied emissions from building materials and construction 90% by 2050 vs. 2005

# Why Should Buildings Support the Grid?



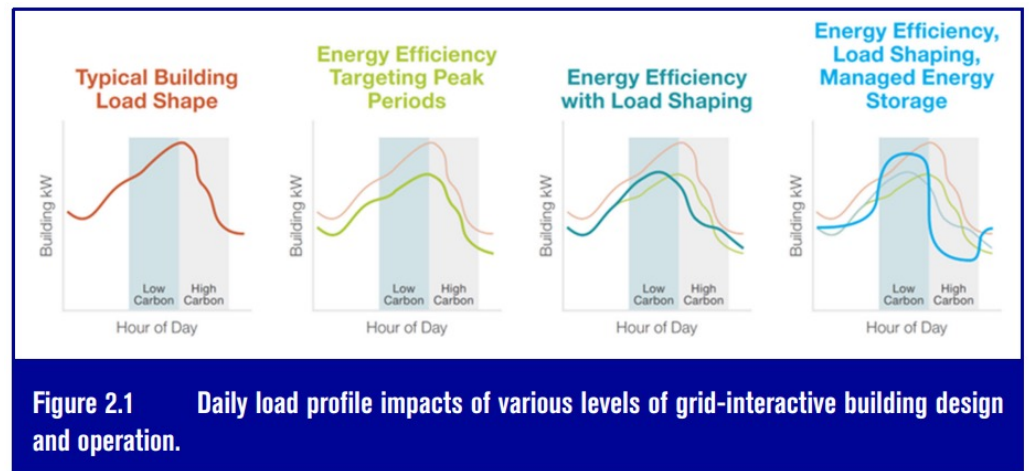
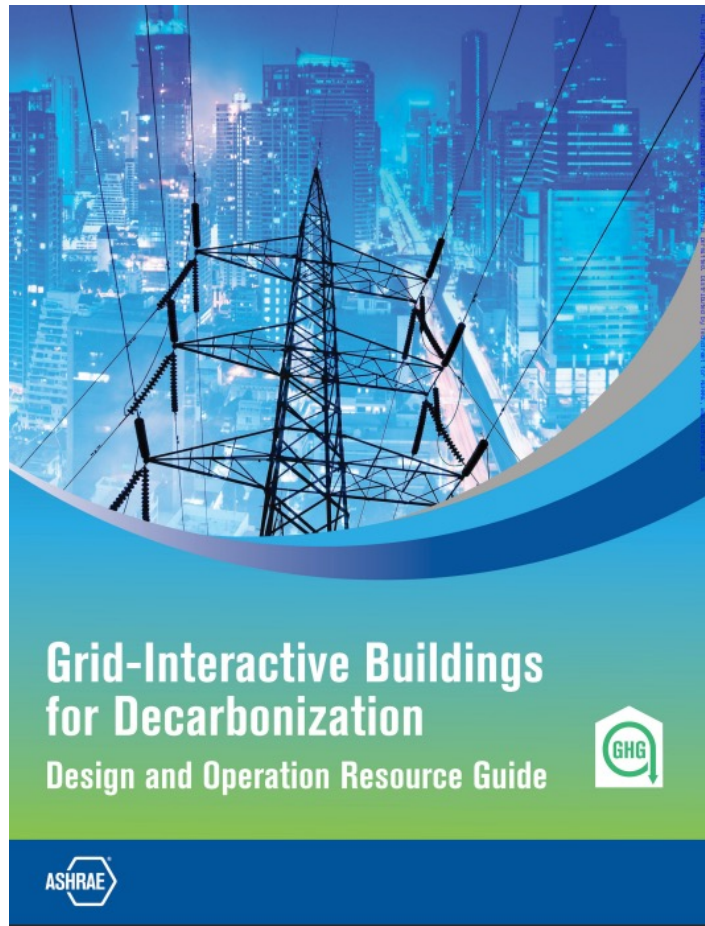
Peak time for distribution circuit load and PV do not typically coincide

The grid needs to accommodate this available power for the benefit of the customer and the grid

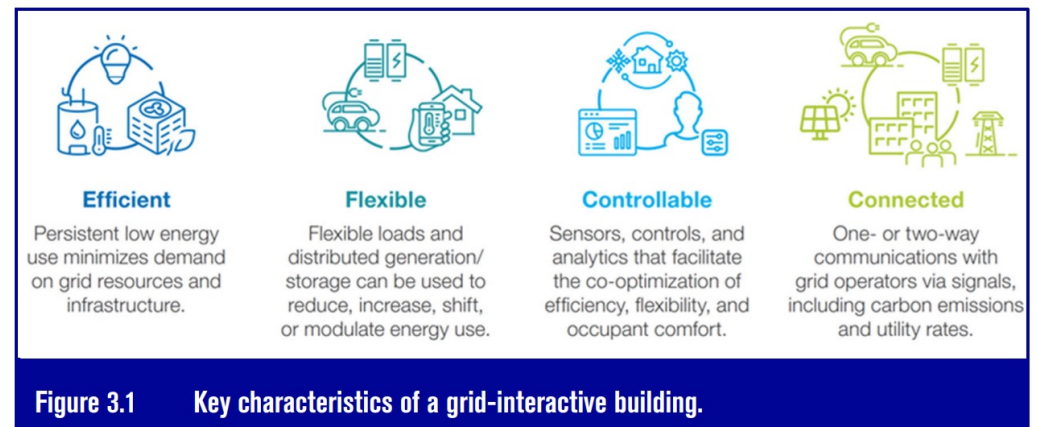


Obligatory  
Duck Curve

# How Can Buildings Support the Grid?



**Figure 2.1** Daily load profile impacts of various levels of grid-interactive building design and operation.

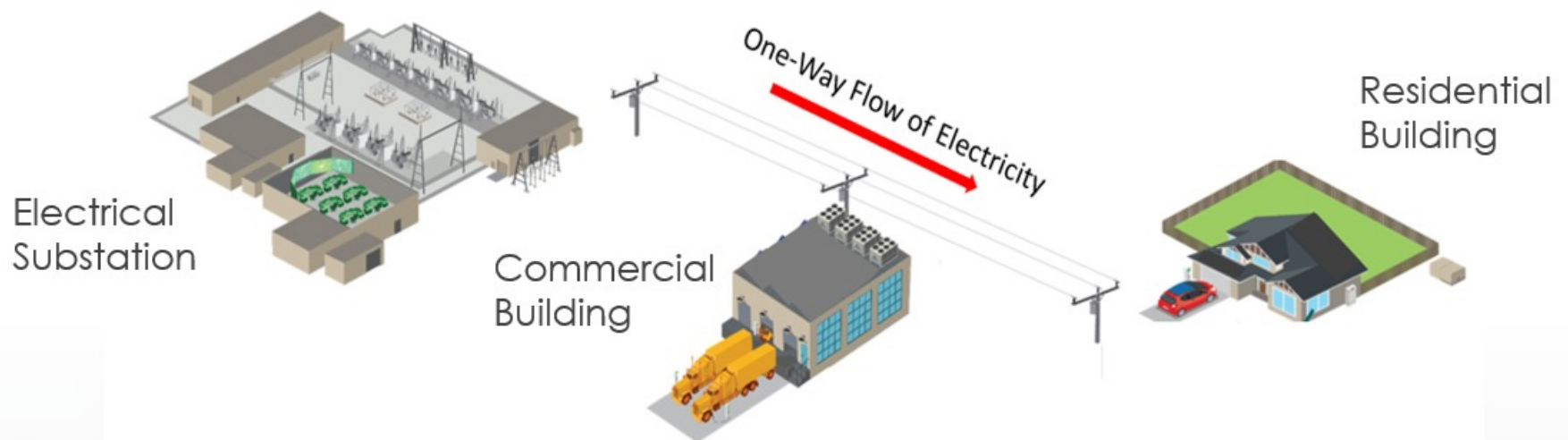


**Figure 3.1** Key characteristics of a grid-interactive building.



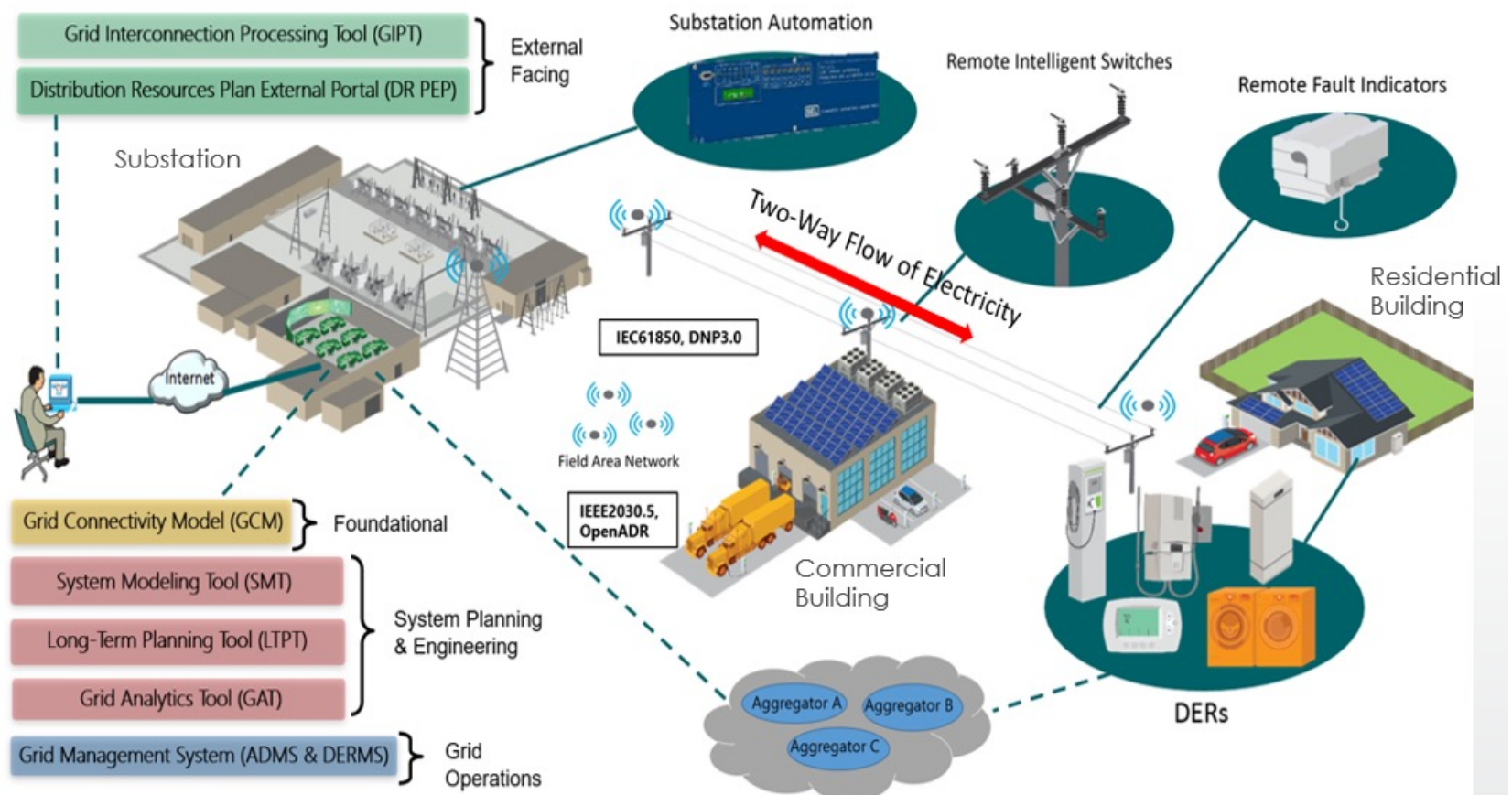
## How is the Grid Transitioning?

“Traditional” Electric Grid Intersection with Buildings



# How is the Grid Transitioning?

Future Electric Grid Intersection with Buildings with Distribution Energy Resources (DERs)

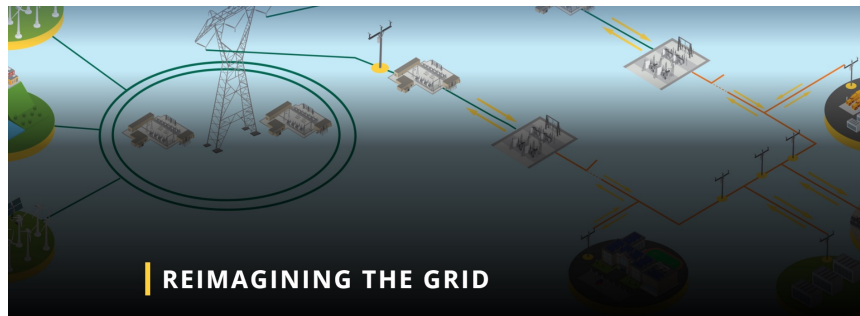


## What is the Role of Codes?

- Building energy codes purpose and scope are expanding beyond “traditional” energy efficiency to address CO<sub>2</sub> reduction and facilitate the grid’s transition
- To achieve this, building codes need to address:
  - Electrification/Electrification-ready
  - On-site generation
  - Energy storage
  - Load shifting/reduction capabilities
  - Controls that can optimize the operation of building systems in communication with the grid, pricing signals, and carbon emissions



## What is the Role of SCE?



### Reimagining the Grid

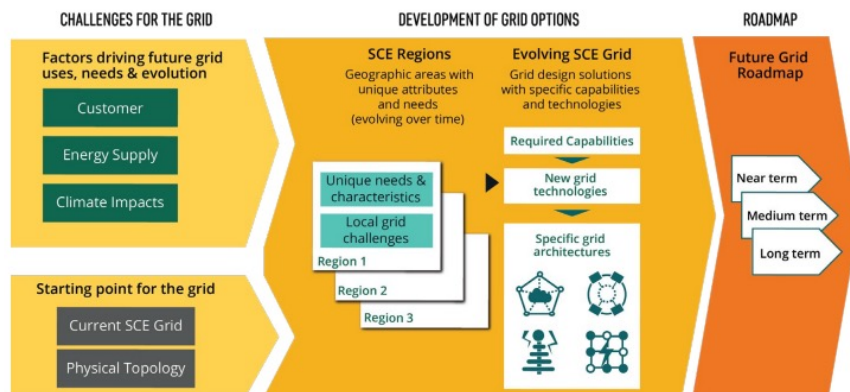
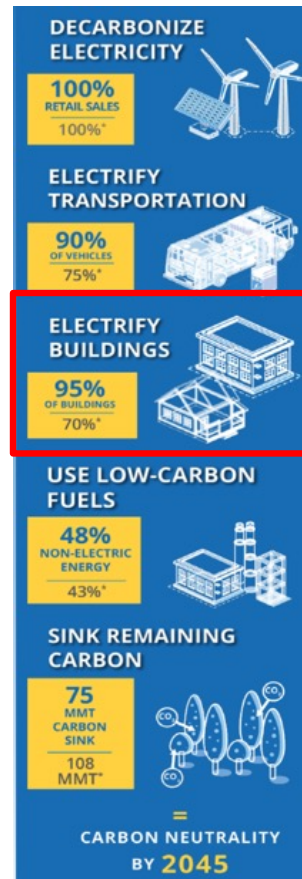


Figure 2: Overview of SCE's Reimagining the Grid methodology



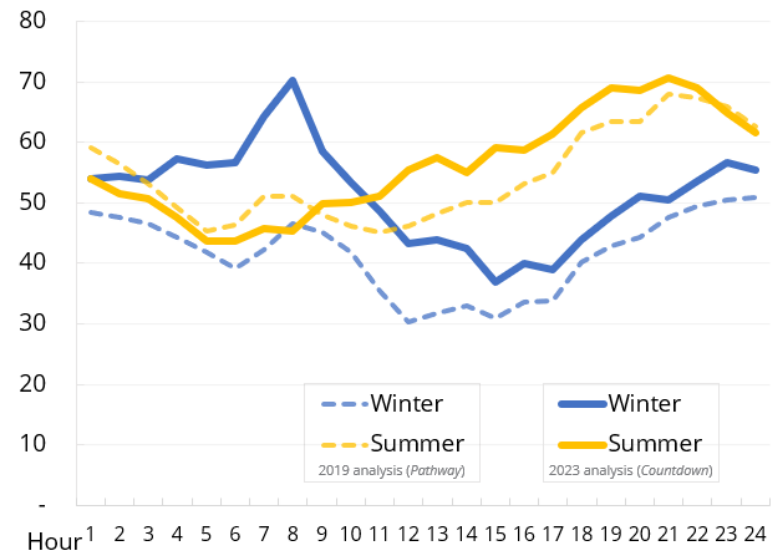
### COUNTDOWN TO 2045

REALIZING CALIFORNIA'S PATHWAY TO NET ZERO



EDISON  
INTERNATIONAL

### 2045 CAISO peak load day forecast, gigawatts (GW)





## Thank You!

**Randall Higa**

Consulting Engineer  
Southern California Edison  
[randall.higa@sce.com](mailto:randall.higa@sce.com)  
[sce.com](http://sce.com)

