

# SCE's Experience Distribution Volt/VAR Control:

## Irvine Smart Grid Demonstration

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Panel Session: Volt/VAR Control  
in the Era of the Smart Grid

Bryan Pham  
Manager – Automation & Communications  
Southern California Edison  
Advanced Technology



# DVVC:

Control algorithm to achieve optimal voltage and VAR control on the distribution system

## DVVC Objectives

- Meet both voltage and VAR requirements when possible.

- Minimize system average voltage, and energy usage.

- Minimize capacitor switching.

- Provide local “fail safe” backup.

The DVVC application is embedded within the new Distribution Management System's Smart Applications.



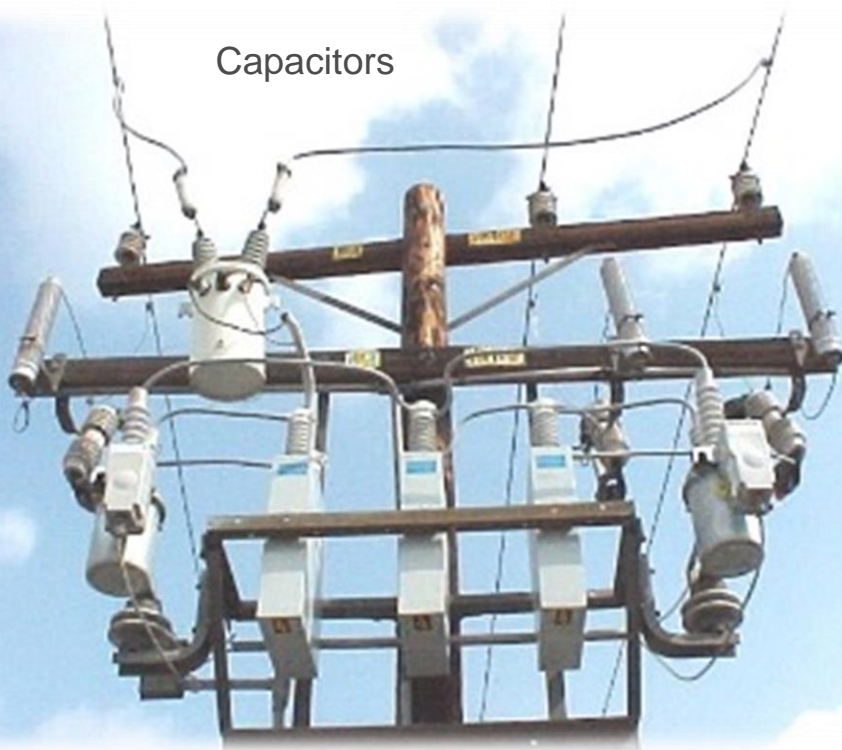
# 20+ Years of SCE Study

- 1990s: “D-CAP” demonstrated  $> 2\%$  energy savings on 2 distribution substations
- 2000s: Roll out of foundational infrastructure that enables DVVC and other advanced applications
- 2010s:
  - 2011 DMS Smart applications to include DVVC
  - ISGD demonstrates DVVC pilot with modern equipment

# INDEPENDENT STUDIES BACK RESULTS

- DOE Evaluation of CVR on national level (2010)
  - 0.5-4.0% annual energy reduction per feeder
  - 3.04% energy reduction with complete (nationwide) deployment
- Navigant, prepared for BPA (2013)
  - 2.5% “reduction in energy consumption through advanced voltage controls”

# Existing Volt/VAR Control



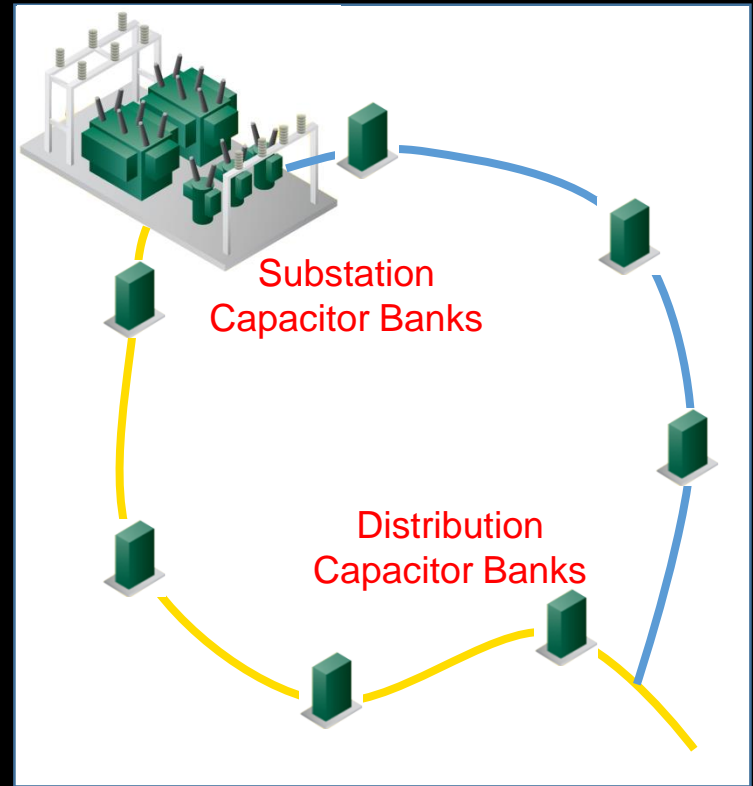
- Distribution voltage and VARs controlled with automated field & substation capacitors
- Control is automated, but each device acts autonomously
- Can lead to higher voltages and unnecessary energy consumption



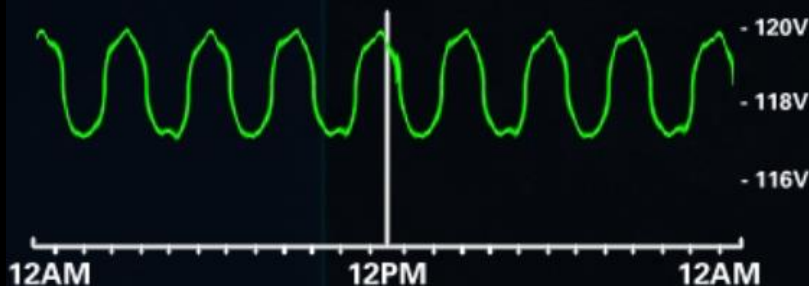
# DVVC Solution

DVVC centralizes control of field and substation capacitors to coordinate and optimize voltage and VARs across all circuits fed by a particular substation.

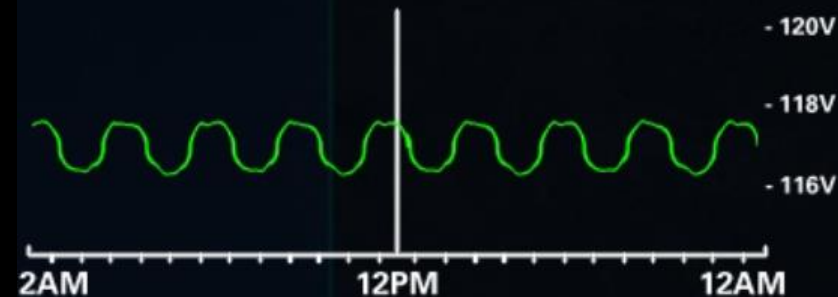
DVVC provides Conservation Voltage Reduction (CVR) – reduction of energy through reduction of average voltage.



Decentralized



Centralized





# Irvine Smart Grid Demonstration

- University of California, Irvine campus and MacArthur Substation in Newport Beach
- ARRA partnership





# ISGD Scope

## Project Domains

### Smart Energy Customer Solutions

### Next Generation Distribution System

### Interoperability & Cybersecurity

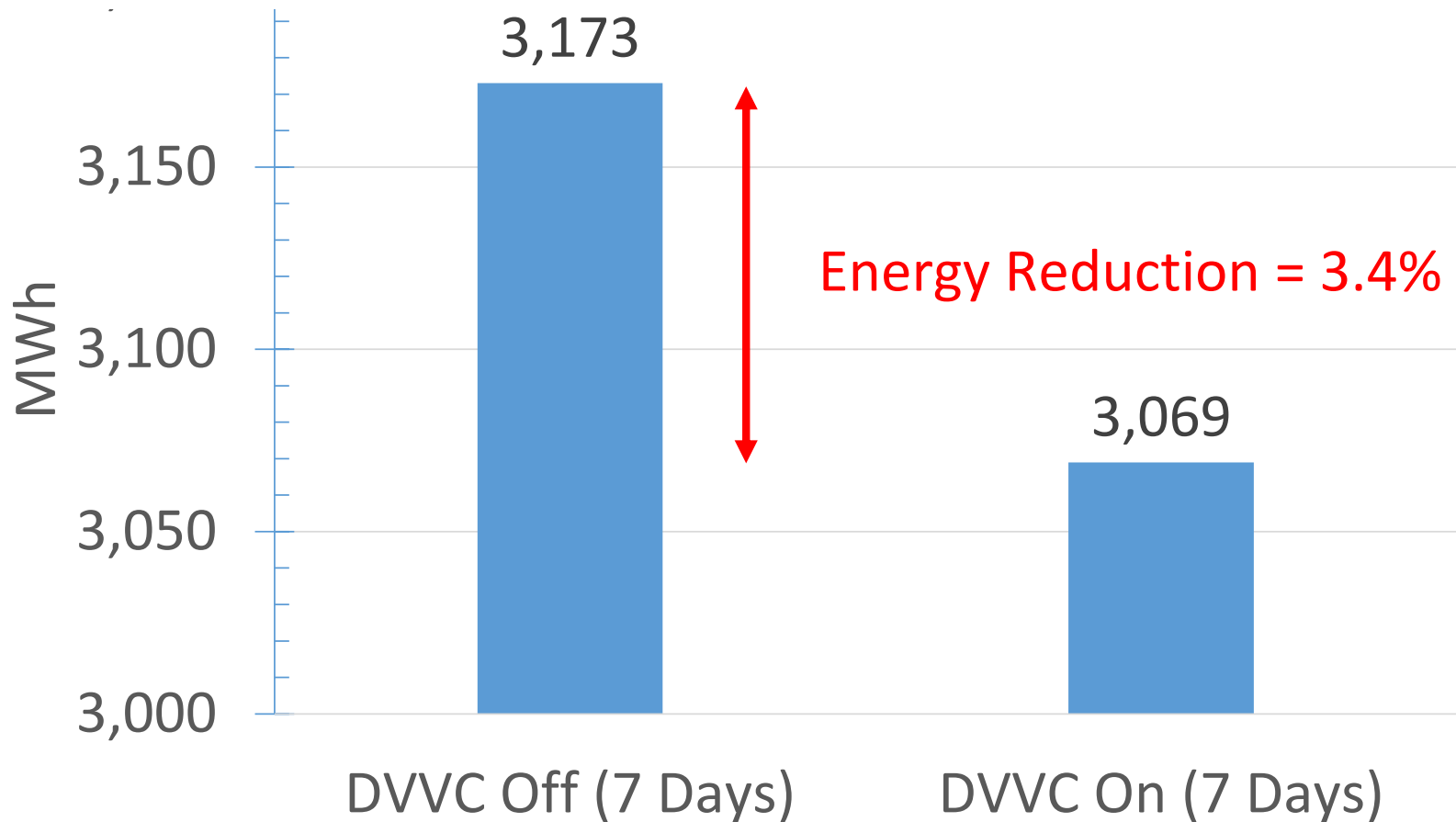
### Workforce of the Future

## Sub-projects

1. Zero Net Energy (ZNE) Homes through Smart Grid Technologies
2. Solar Shade-enabled Electric Vehicle Charging
3. Distribution Circuit Constraint Management with Energy Storage
4. **Distribution Volt/VAR Control (DVVC)**
5. Self-Healing Distribution Circuits
6. Deep Grid Situational Awareness
7. Interoperability and Cybersecurity
  1. Secure Energy Network (SENet)
  2. SA3 – IEC 61850 Substation Automation System
3. Workforce of the Future

# Sample ISGD Test Results

(8,000+ customers)



\* 10/28/2014 - 11/10/2014

- 56 MVA transformer bank serves inner operating bus
- Seven 12 kV circuits
- 14 field capacitors (900, 1200 & 1800 kVAR)
- 1 substation capacitor (6 MVAR)

# Testing for further benefits

Category	Benefit	Description	Potential Metrics
Compliance	Rule 2 voltage compliance	DVVC provides a mechanism for continuously ensuring Rule 2 compliance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• % time in/out of compliance</li> </ul>
Operational Excellence	Reduced capacitor inspections	Loss of capacitor operability will be detected in real time; inspections can become targeted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inspection costs</li> <li>• Truck roll emissions</li> </ul>
	Extended Transmission capacitor life	Transmission capacitor switching duty cycles should be reduced, extending equipment life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deferred Transmission capital investment</li> </ul>
Capacity Investments	Reduced peak demand	If peak amps are reduced, loading limits on affected circuits would be reached further in the future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deferred Distribution capacity capital investment</li> </ul>
Environmental	Reduced greenhouse gas emissions	Reduced usage should lead to reduced emissions; magnitude of the reduction will depend on future generation mix	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduced total CO<sub>2</sub> emissions</li> </ul>

# Summary

- DVVC can reduce energy consumption without affecting customer service.
- 1-4% estimated reductions: Even at 1% energy reduction \$NPV is significant.
- Cost and risk to deploy is low.
- Plan to fully deploy by 2020.

# Thank you

**Bryan Pham**  
Southern California Edison  
Advanced Technology  
Bryan.Pham@sce.com