

A Perspective on Future Power Grids

Jessica Lau SWC 50 Follow Up Webinar December 9, 2021

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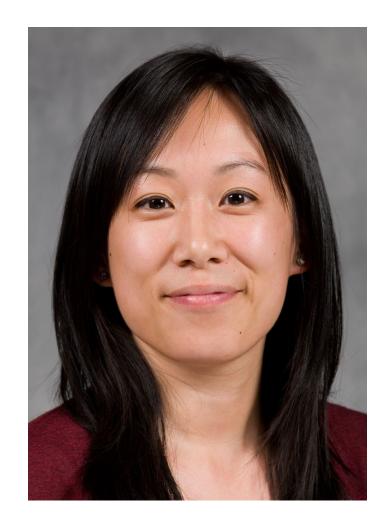
Jessica Lau

Mission:

A leader and engineer motivated by people, problem solving and creating cohesion in energy systems.

Background:

- System Planner at ISO New England
- Distribution Planner at Orange & Rockland Utilities
- Researcher at NREL



Group Manager
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National Renewable Energy Laboratory



Renewable Power

Solar

Wind

Water

Geothermal

Sustainable Transportation

Bioenergy

Vehicle Technologies

Hydrogen

Energy Efficiency

Buildings

Advanced Manufacturing

Government Energy Management

Energy Systems Integration

Grid Integration

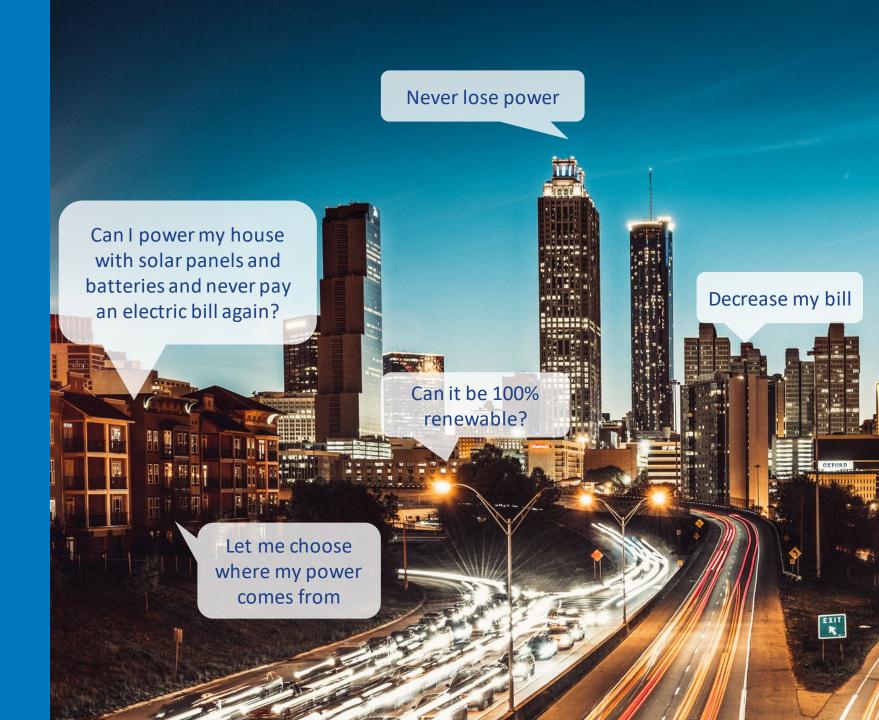
Hybrid Systems

Security and Resilience

The way it's been doesn't mean it's the way it will be.

People have evolving expectations of the grid.

Multi-objective and multivalue planning will be key to carry out people's interests.



We will use technologies flexibly and interchangeably

Multiple objectives and profound uncertainty drive our need to stay flexible with approaches and technological solutions.

Improving and developing technologies will be informed by our collective perspectives of the future grid.



Incentives can show up in many ways



Current incentives drive people to do things in unaligned ways.

Alignment in incentives and common goals will help enable solutions to deliver more effectively.



My Vision of the Future Grid



The way it has been doesn't mean it's the way it will be.

→ Change is accelerating and we need to do things differently



We will use technologies flexibly and interchangeably.

→ Technology solutions will arrive, but we will need to be open on how to use them.



Incentives can show up in many ways.

→ We will need to leverage and align many forms of incetives, like pricing, regulations, business models, and much more.



People are the center of the grid.

→ In addition to people's rights to electricity, we also need to energize people to be a part of the industry!

Thank you!

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