Valuing Justice

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Overview

• Context
• Energy Transitions
• Energy Justice Framework
• Environmental Justice
• Value of DER
• Recommendations
Context

Source: www.pbs.org
Context

Reforming the Energy Vision (2013-14)

- Resilience
- Affordability
- Innovation
- Participation
- Clean
Energy Transitions

- Technical
- “Sociotechnical” Transition with Cultural and Social Dimensions
- Broad Policy Objectives
Energy Justice Framework

- Environmental Justice
- Climate Justice
- Energy Democracy
- Economic Justice
Environmental Justice

ExxonMobil Refinery in Baytown, TX (Union of Concerned Scientists 2017).
Environmental Justice

• 1990’s
• Disproportionate Burdens
• “Sacrifice Zones”
• Indirect Subsidy
• Remediation/Redistribution

Source: www.culturalorganizing.org
How should regulators value distributed energy?
Q3 2017 Action on Net Metering, Rate Design, & Solar Ownership Policies

41 States + DC took action on distributed solar policy and rate design during Q3 2017

Source: NC State Clean Energy Technology Center
Customer Credits for Monthly Net Excess Generation (NEG) Under Net Metering

No statewide distributed generation compensation rules

Statewide distributed generation compensation rules other than net metering

No statewide mandatory net metering rules, but some utilities offer net metering

State-developed mandatory net metering rules for certain utilities

Source: NC State Clean Energy Technology Center
Q3 2017 Action on DG Compensation Policies

24 States took action on net metering during Q3 2017

Source: NC State Clean Energy Technology Center
Q3 2017 Action on Distributed Solar Valuation and Rate Design Studies

19 States + DC took action on distributed solar valuation during Q3 2017

Source: NC State Clean Energy Technology Center
Value of DER Framing

• “Cost-Shift”
• Grid Destabilization
• Utility Death Spiral
• Harmful to Low-Income Communities
Value of DER Tariffs

State of Minnesota

Value > Retail

Austin Energy

Value > Retail
Value of Solar Studies

• Analysis of 16 studies
• Solar energy brings net value to grid and society
• Lower values when social benefits excluded
• Lower values when considered over shorter time horizon
Value of DER: Benefits

• Climate Change Benefits
• Reduced Public Health Threats
• Job Creation and Economic Development
EJ and VDER: Recommendations

• Avoid ahistorical analysis
• Consider social and environmental benefits over longer time horizon
• View as opportunity for remediation and equity
• Consider “avoided social costs”
• Value resilience
• Engaged research
Questions?

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