



Distributed power generation systems

Distributed generation (DG) refers to electricity generation done by small-scale energy systems installed near the energy consumer. These systems are called distributed energy resources (DERs) and commonly include...

Distributed Generation generates electricity from small-scale power sources near or at the point of use. This approach to power generation often uses renewable energy sources such as solar panels or wind turbines,...

In the commercial and industrial sectors, distributed generation can include resources such as:

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Distributed generation refers to a variety of technologies that generate electricity at or near where it will be used, such as solar panels and combined heat and power. Distributed generation may serve a single structure, such as a home or business, or it may be part of a microgrid (a smaller grid that is also tied into the larger electricity delivery system), such as at a major industrial facility, a military base, or a large college campus. When connected to the electric utility''s lower voltage distribution lines, distributed generation can help support delivery of clean, reliable power to additional customers and reduce electricity losses along transmission and distribution lines.

In the residential sector, common distributed generation systems include:

The use of distributed generation units in the United States has increased for a variety of reasons, including:

Distributed generation systems are subject to a different mix of local, state, and federal policies, regulations, and markets compared with centralized generation. As policies and incentives vary widely from one place to another, the financial attractiveness of a distributed generation project also varies.

As electric utilities integrate information and communications technologies to modernize electricity delivery systems, there may be opportunities to reliably and cost-effectively increase the use of distributed generation.

Distributed generation can benefit the environment if its use reduces the amount of electricity that must be generated at centralized power plants, in turn can reduce the environmental impacts of centralized generation.



Specifically:

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