



Development of DC Microgrids in the United States

What is a dc microgrid?

With more and more direct current (DC) technologies such as renewables, storage and end use, DC microgrid becomes attractive to deliver distributed energy to end use devices more efficiently. The emerging interest in DC microgrids requires a new set of development on standards, safety and protection, and controls.

What drives microgrid development?

The driving forces in microgrid development at the state and local levels include renewable energy requirements as reflected in renewable portfolio standards (RPS) in 29 states and Washington, DC; renewable portfolio goals in eight states; and increasing concerns regarding power system resilience due to growing extreme climate events [38,39,40].

How does government support microgrids?

Support for microgrids comes from research and development (R&D) programs at federal and state levels, software and tools, grants and funding support to incentivize demonstration projects, and tax and financial incentives for the installation of distributed energy , , , .

Why do we need microgrids?

Microgrids serve as an effective platform for integrating distributed energy resources (DERs) and achieving optimal performance in reduced costs and emissions while bolstering the resilience of the nation's electricity system.

What is a microgrid?

The term "microgrid" refers to the concept of a small number of DERs connected to a single power subsystem. DERs include both renewable and /or conventional resources . The electric grid is no longer a one-way system from the 20th-century . A constellation of distributed energy technologies is paving the way for MGs , , .

Where does microgrid development take place?

While the federal programs described above were the main engine of early U.S. microgrid research and development, there has always been significant activity at the state and local levels--often arising from self-generation projects, typically at large commercial, campus, medical, or industrial sites.

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