

Power Services Policy C.4

SCPA Policy Governing Preferred Resources for Serving Multiple SCP Customers During Public Safety Power Shutoffs

The Governing Board of the Sonoma Clean Power Authority (SCPA) establishes the following requirements for electric energy resources serving more than one SCP customer account in microgrids and any situation where customers are disconnected or islanded from transmission and/or distribution service.

1. Short-term. Any backup power options that will be in use for less than 3 years are recognized as transitional. SCP creates no additional requirements for these transitional resources beyond the requirements provided by federal and state agencies.

2. Minimize the Need and Cost for Local Generation and Storage.

a. The IOU should create a baseline schedule and budget for fully repairing and hardening the transmission grid before any consideration of local generating or storage resources is made. SCP finds it unacceptable to assume that high-voltage transmission lines will be shutoff for any appreciable frequency or duration in PSPS events for a period lasting more than 3 years.

b. The IOU should minimize the number of customers affected by PSPS events through circuit segmentation, substation reconductoring, targeted undergrounding, tree management, and all other practical means before any consideration of local generating or storage resources is made.

3. Use the State's Adopted Loading Order. When using the CPUC and CAISO's adopted loading order for microgrids, some resources are naturally excluded, such as large hydropower, coal and nuclear power due to an inability to locate in the distribution grid. The remaining resources are listed here in order:

- a. Demand Response and Energy Efficiency is first. In the case of microgrids, this should also prioritize essential loads ahead of flexible loads. Electric vehicle charging and heat pump water heating are examples of flexible loads under SCP dispatch.
- b. Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) eligible resources are next. This includes solar, wind, small hydropower, geothermal, biomass and biogas. Note that SCP's governing board does not allow biomethane offsets of local natural gas use in this category.
- c. Batteries and other means of storing electricity is next.
- d. Combined Heat & Power (CHP) is next. This category is the first that

allows the use of a fossil energy resource (usually natural gas), but with the condition that waste heat is captured and put to a valuable use and that all local natural gas use is offset with biomethane.

- e. Finally, other forms of natural gas power may be considered to meet any remaining residual need. Biomethane offsets of local natural gas are prioritized above projects that do not offset local natural gas use.

For both 3(d) and 3(e), SCP's governing board makes an additional requirement. The IOU should provide detailed information about the likely number, duration and scope of PSPS events if no local natural gas powered systems were installed. In the case that the remaining shutoffs are likely to be infrequent, short in duration and otherwise cause minimal harm, SCP's governing board reserves the right to seek input from the affected community and make a determination of the best pathway.