

## **MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE FORUM OF REGULATORS**

**DATE :** 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2025

**VENUE:** Infosys Campus Conference Hall, Bengaluru

**TIMINGS:** 11:00 AM

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS:** Appendix I

1. Chairperson, FOR/CERC, welcomed all Members of the Forum and thanked Shri Ravi Kumar, Chairperson of the Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission, and Shri Nandan Nilekani, Co-founder & Chairman of the Board, Infosys, for hosting the Special FOR meeting at the Infosys campus in Bangalore. While commending Shri Nilekani on the sprawling state-of-the-art and green campus of Infosys, he informed the Forum that, unlike other FOR meetings wherein several agenda items are discussed, this meeting had only one focus – to understand about the Digital Energy Grid (DEG) and the role of regulators in this regard.
2. He added that the Forum was not new to the concept of the DEG, as the same was also discussed with Dr. R.S. Sharma, Chair of the India Energy Stack, in the previous FOR meeting held in Delhi
3. Thereafter, Shri Nandan Nilekani, Co-founder & Chairman of the Board, Infosys, expressed his gratitude for the opportunity given to host the electricity regulators at the Infosys campus. He apprised the Forum about the India story of Aadhaar and UPI, and acknowledged the collaboration of technology and regulation as key to the success of Aadhaar and UPI. He added that this collaboration ensured that the resultant systems were modern, secure, and compliant with all regulations. He remarked that in countries such as the USA, innovation comes first, followed by regulation; in Europe, regulation precedes innovation. He further added that India has adopted a balanced approach of collaboration between regulation and innovation. He also observed that the electricity industry is quickly evolving. With rooftop solar panels, electric vehicles, and smart appliances, homes are no longer just consumers of power but also producers. This change means that electricity must be traded more frequently, prices will fluctuate according to the time of day, and regulations must

adapt. If India builds strong digital systems for electricity, it could lead the world in this sector.

4. To explain this, Shri Nilekani's team presented the evolution of the energy sector, wherein the 1970s–80s focused on infrastructure and universal access, the 1990s brought liberalisation and unbundling of utilities, the 2000s introduced smart metering and renewables, and the 2010s accelerated digitisation and consumer rights. The 2020s now focus on grid flexibility, resilience to climate change, and equitable access to clean energy.
5. Three major trends were highlighted: decentralisation, digitisation, and decarbonization. The transition from a centralised “big grid” to decentralised systems is clear through rooftop solar, microgrids, demand response, and EV-based storage. It was informed that in California, 40% of capacity is now decentralised, and rooftop solar accounts for up to 25% of peak demand. The UK has legally committed itself to achieving net zero emissions by 2050, with several cities setting earlier goals. Localised strategies are being promoted, as different regions have diverse energy potentials.
6. It was also highlighted that Data management has become a key focus area. The UK Data Act (2025) establishes a framework for secure, consent-based sharing of energy data, inspired by open banking principles. Identifying “data holders”, such as aggregators, is essential for accountability. Therefore, proper regulation guarantees privacy, responsibility, and trust in energy markets. Through DEG, electricity services can be integrated into a single platform, making them simple and transparent for both consumers and utilities. The DEG is envisioned as a platform that connects utilities, consumers, regulators, banks, and service providers, much like how UPI has transformed finance. In this matter, Infosys and the Foundation for Interoperability in Digital Economy (FIDE) have collaborated on this idea and co-published a paper with the International Energy Agency (IEA) to showcase its global potential.
7. Thereafter, presentations were made by the Infosys – FIDE team (**Annexure I, II, and III**) wherein several demos were presented. The first focused on demand response, where households can reduce electricity use during peak hours in exchange for payments. The second example demonstrated how rooftop solar adoption can be

simplified by integrating banks, vendors, DISCOMs, and subsidy systems into a unified digital process. The third example discussed EV charging, illustrating how DEG could enable any EV owner to charge at any station using any app, similar to withdrawing cash from any ATM.

8. Examples from other countries were also shared, where utilities and regulators are working on digital systems for energy. The main conclusion was that DEG must be developed in collaboration with regulators. In response to a query from the Forum Members, Shri Nilekani clarified that DEG is not the end product but a process that requires input from both technology experts and policymakers. It was further emphasised that DEG does not dictate how systems need to work, but connects the existing systems. While technology will be the base layer, the governance and policy layer will decide the success of the same. Hence, over the ensuing years, collaboration between policyholders and technical experts will be crucial to ensure that the system is fair, efficient, and beneficial for everyone.
9. Shri Nilekani further emphasised that DEG is purely voluntary, and it does not envisage the replacement of infrastructure but will, in fact, digitise infrastructure. It was unanimously agreed that digital public infrastructure has the potential to transform India's electricity sector. With the right strategy, it can lower costs, boost efficiency, increase transparency, and position India as a global leader in digital energy systems, just as Aadhaar and UPI did in their respective fields. Therefore, regulatory-based innovation (as per international best practices), including enabling rapid decentralisation, decarbonisation, increasing private investment, grid modernisation, and a regulatory sandbox, could be explored
10. In the course of stakeholder consultation conducted by Infosys and FIDE, it was brought to notice that Distribution companies (DISCOMs) had concerns about energy losses caused by static line ratings and requested dynamic, real-time solutions. Further, financial institutions offering ESG-linked loans and green mortgages highlighted the challenge of accessing reliable data to verify energy performance and sustainability claims.
11. A common issue among stakeholders is the lack of a unified, trusted data platform. In this matter, regulatory support, innovation, and collaboration are essential to realise

the full potential of digital energy systems, as strong governance frameworks will help build resilience, flexibility, and security in the evolving grid.

12. The discussion also underlined the increasing importance of demand-side flexibility in tackling India's electricity issues. Examples include electric vehicles, battery storage, and building management systems, which can be grouped and bid into wholesale markets. Unlike older demand response models that required complicated one-to-one connections, the new open network approach enables multiple participants, such as bus depots or appliance suppliers, to connect through a shared interface, making participation simpler and scalable. Since India has limited and costly natural gas supplies, utilising demand-side resources is far more cost-effective for managing peak loads than building new base load power plants. Regulators are already focusing on this matter, with States such as Maharashtra implementing demand flexibility regulations and others considering similar measures. Utilities such as Tata Power, Reliance, and Adani are testing such initiatives, and collaboration with regulators and tech providers is in progress to develop supportive frameworks for digital grids and virtual power plants.
13. The discussion also emphasised the importance of integrating technology, regulation, and local efforts to reach sustainable energy goals. Data continues to be the key driver for decentralisation, decarbonization, and digitisation; hence, cooperation among governments, utilities, businesses, and citizens will shape the success of future energy transitions. Therefore, there is a need for a regulatory sandbox to examine regulatory innovations, which can be initiated by testing new rules in smaller, virtual geographies with interoperability between jurisdictions. Therefore, new regulations could focus on flexible and scheduled RE generation, dynamic interconnection, capacity markets, modified Open access market, and energy asset tenacity.
14. At the conclusion of the meeting, it was agreed that to take the innovative idea of DEG forward, facilitative policy and regulatory interventions would be required. This also requires an appreciation of the DEG vision by the regulators and an understanding of the regulatory framework by the proponents of DEG. Accordingly, it was decided to constitute a Working Group consisting of the following members to examine the contours of DEG, assess the potential of its implementation, and suggest regulatory measures for its roll-out:

- a) Chairperson, Uttar Pradesh – Chair of the WG
  - b) Chairperson, Karnataka ERC- Member
  - c) Chairperson, Maharashtra ERC – Member
  - d) Chairperson, Kerala ERC – Member
  - e) Chairperson, West Bengal ERC – Member
  - f) Chairperson, Odisha – Member
  - g) Chairperson, Arunachal Pradesh ERC – Member
  - h) Chairperson, Tripura ERC – Member
  - i) Chairperson, Rajasthan ERC – Member
  - h) Representative(s) of Shri Nandan Nilekani / India Energy Stack Task Force –  
Special Invitee
15. On conclusion of the meeting, Joint Chief (RA), CERC thanked the Chairperson, FOR/CERC for his continued guidance to the Forum, Chairperson, Karnataka ERC and his team for hosting the FOR in Bangalore, Shri Nandan Nilekani and his team for hosting the Forum on the Infosys campus and for sharing his valuable guidance to make the DEG a reality and to all the Forum members for their active participation in the special FOR meeting as also the FOR Secretariat for their tireless efforts in organising the meeting.

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**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS OF “SPECIAL MEETING OF FORUM OF REGULATORS  
(FOR)”  
HELD ON 22<sup>ND</sup> AUGUST, 2025  
AT BENGALURU (KARNATAKA)**

| <b>S.<br/>No.</b> | <b>NAME</b>                              | <b>ERC</b>                     |
|-------------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 01.               | Shri Jishnu Barua<br>Chairperson         | CERC/FOR<br>– in Chair.        |
| 02.               | Shri R.K. Joshi<br>Chairperson           | APSERC                         |
| 03.               | Shri Kumar Sanjay Krishna<br>Chairperson | AERC                           |
| 04.               | Shri Amir Subhani<br>Chairperson         | BERC                           |
| 05.               | Shri Hemant Verma<br>Chairperson         | CSERC                          |
| 07.               | Shri Alok Tandon<br>Chairperson          | JERC for State of Goa &<br>UTs |
| 08.               | Shri P. Ravi Kumar<br>Chairperson        | KERC                           |
| 09.               | Shri T.K. Jose<br>Chairperson            | KSERC                          |
| 10.               | Shri Sanjay Kumar<br>Chairperson         | MERC                           |
| 11.               | Shri Chandan Kumar Mondal<br>Chairperson | MSERC                          |
| 12.               | Shri Benjamin L. Tlumtea<br>Chairperson  | MzERC                          |
| 13.               | Shri Pradeep Kumar Jena<br>Chairperson   | OERC                           |
| 14.               | Shri Viswajeet Khanna<br>Chairperson     | PSERC                          |
| 15.               | Dr. Rajesh Sharma<br>Chairperson         | RERC                           |
| 16.               | Shri K.B. Kunwar<br>Chairperson          | SSERC                          |
| 17.               | Shri R. Manivannan<br>Chairperson        | TNERC                          |
| 18.               | Justice Devaraju Nagarjun, Chairperson   | TSERC-online                   |

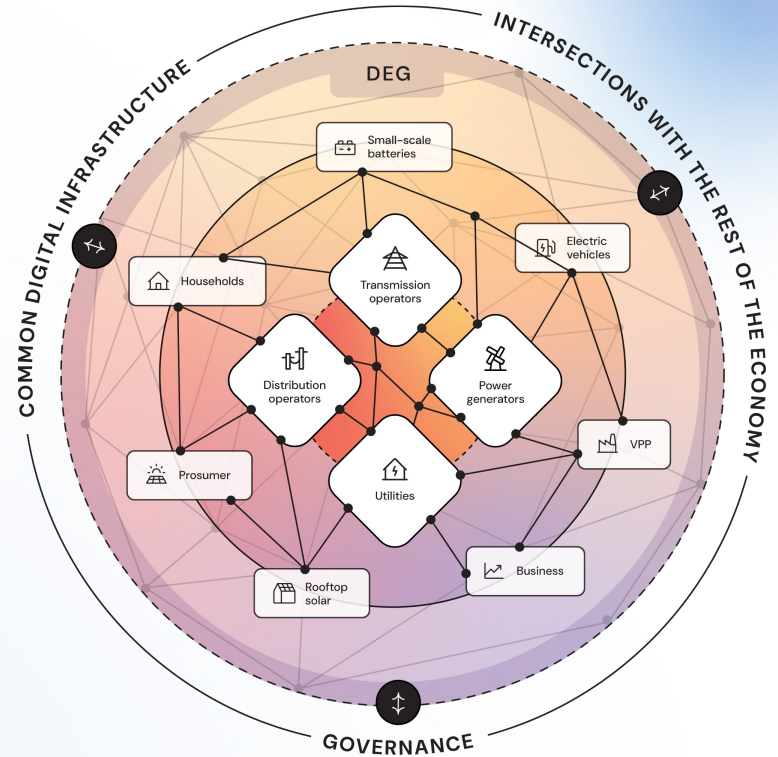
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|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 18.                     | Shri Arvind Kumar<br>Chairperson                            | UPERC    |
| 19.                     | Shri Madan Lal Prasad<br>Chairperson                        | UERC     |
| 20.                     | Dr. M.V. Rao<br>Chairperson                                 | WBERC    |
| 21.                     | Shri Mehul M. Gandhi<br>Member (L) & Chairperson I/c.       | GERC     |
| 22.                     | Shri Yashwant Singh Chogal<br>Member (Law)-cum-Chairperson  | HPERC    |
| 23.                     | Shri Gopal Srivastava<br>Member (L) Acting Chairperson      | MPERC    |
| 24.                     | Shri Ram Naresh Singh<br>Member                             | DERC     |
| 25.                     | Shri Mahendra Prasad<br>Member (L)                          | JSERC    |
| 26.                     | Shri Harpreet Singh Pruthi<br>Secretary                     | FOR/CERC |
| 27.                     | Dr. Sushanta Kumar Chatterjee<br>Chief (Regulatory Affairs) | CERC     |
| <b>SPECIAL INVITEES</b> |                                                             |          |
| 28.                     | Shri Nandan Nilekani, Co founder & Chairman of Board        | Infosys  |
|                         | Shri Ramesh Babu V<br>Member (T)                            | CERC     |
| 29.                     | Shri Harish Dudani<br>Member (L)                            | CERC     |
| 30.                     | Shri Ravinder Singh Dhillon<br>Member (F)                   | CERC     |
| 31.                     | Shri H.K. Jagadeesh<br>Member (L)                           | KERC     |
| 32.                     | Shri Jawaid Akhtar<br>Member (F)                            | KERC     |
| <b>FOR SECRETARIAT</b>  |                                                             |          |
| 33.                     | Ms. Rashmi Somasekharan Nair<br>Joint Chief (RA)            | CERC     |

| <b>OTHERS [ SPECIAL INVITEES / OBSERVER / GUESTS ]</b> |                                                               |                     |
|--------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 34.                                                    | Shri Siddeshwar N.<br>Secretary                               | KERC                |
| 35.                                                    | Dr. Umakanta Panda<br>Secretary                               | MPERC               |
| 36.                                                    | Shri Karthik Neelakandan<br>VP & Business Head                | Infosys India       |
| 37.                                                    | Shri Deepak Malhotra<br>Partner                               | Infosys India       |
| 38.                                                    | Shri Ashiss Kumar Dash<br>EVP & Global Head Energy, Utilities | Infosys India       |
| 39.                                                    | Shri Mahesh Patankar<br>Adviser                               | FIDE (MP EN System) |
| 40.                                                    | Shri Sumit Choudhury<br>Global Principal                      | FIDE                |
| 41.                                                    | Shri Anirban Sinha<br>Principal, DEG                          | FIDE                |
| 42.                                                    | Shri Siddharth Singh<br>Senior Associate                      | FIDE                |



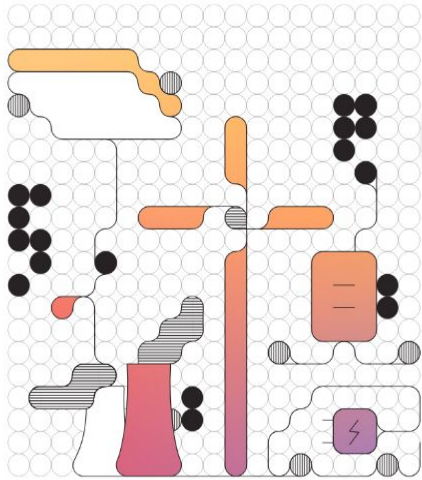
# Digital Energy Grid

For x FIDE x Infosys | 22nd August



## Digital Energy Grid

A vision for a unified energy infrastructure



Feb 2025



# DEG in action

Digital  
Energy  
Grid



Agent Gridly

● Online

Type a Message

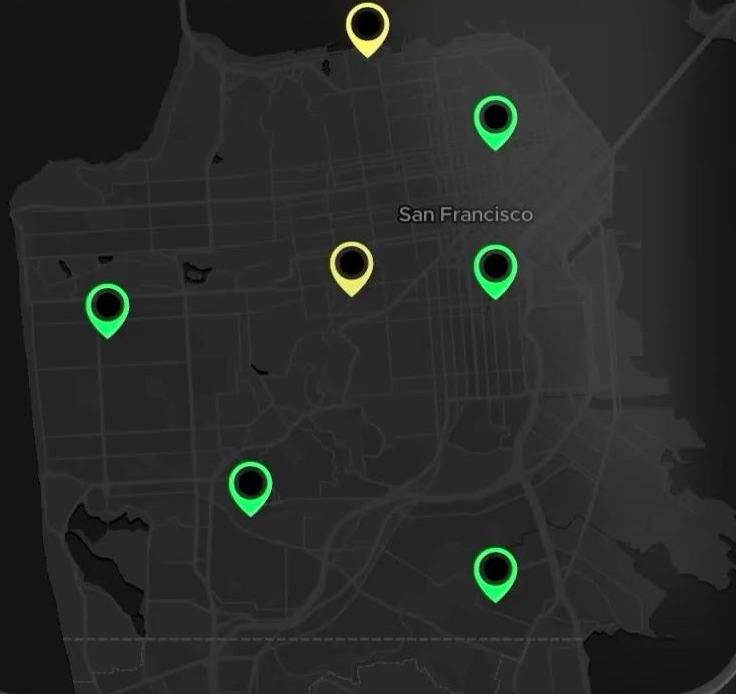


Feeders

Emergency services

Substations

Households



Feeder Summary

Audit Trail

### Central Feeder Hub

Normal

Region : NORTH

17%



Margin : 49%

880 kW

### SoMa District Feeder

Normal

Region : NORTH

17%



Margin : 49%

880 kW

### Mission District Feeder

Normal

Region : NORTH

17%



Margin : 49%

880 kW

### Marina District Feeder

Normal

Region : NORTH

17%



Margin : 49%

880 kW

### Sunset District Feeder

Normal

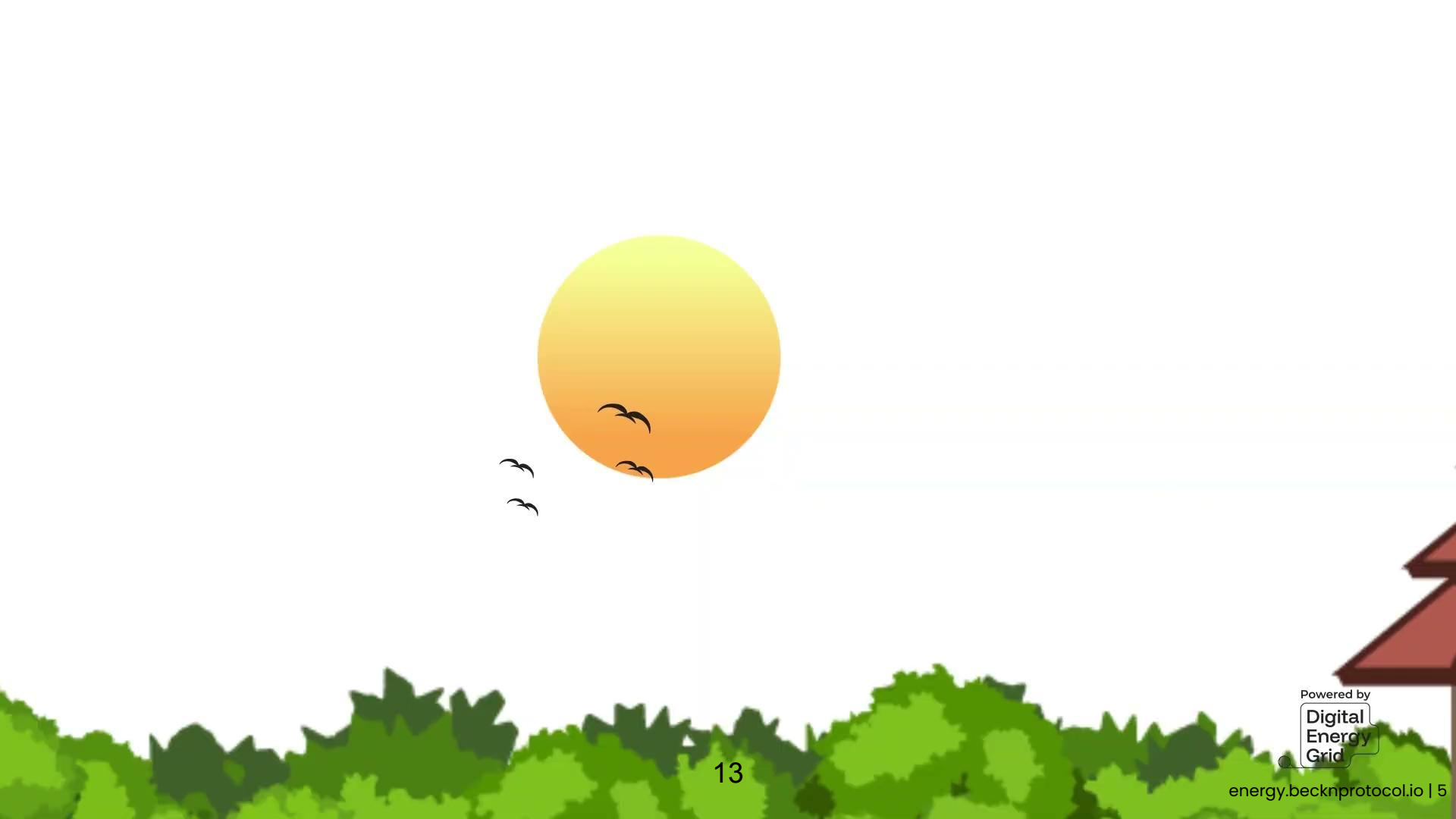
Region : NORTH

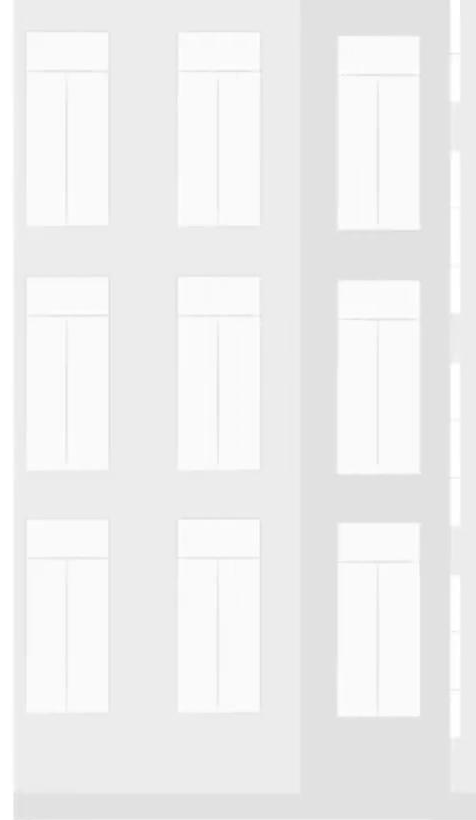
17%



Margin : 49%

880 kW







# Digital Energy Grid Demonstrations

Participating Startups



Pulse Energy

 trillectric

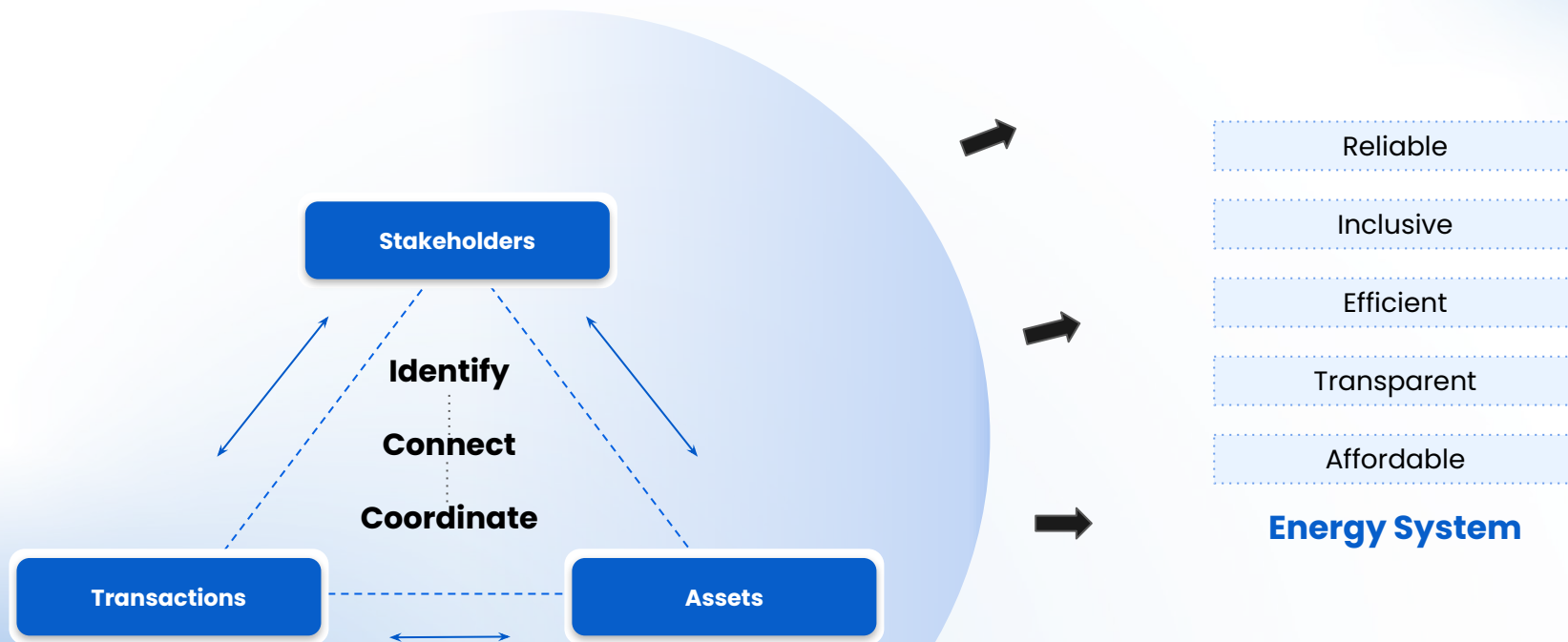


**TruePower**  
by JioThings

 **vikram**solar



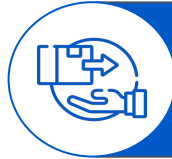
# DEG → IES: Translating Vision into India's Energy future



# Challenges of the new grid's regulators



**Rising edge renewable assets create entropy for planning mechanisms**



**Harder diurnal demand prediction causing resource adequacy issues**



**Frequent reinvention of the solution stack driving higher capex burden**



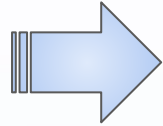
**Distributed demand-side assets (EVs, BESS) idle; untapped for grid support**



**Newer actors, markets and evolving roles add competition and new rules**

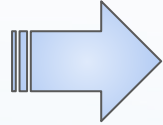
# Regulation in the world of new grid

Fixed parameters, periodic reporting, and rigid rulebooks



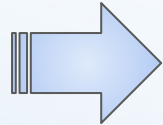
**Dynamic conditions, continuous monitoring, adaptive frameworks**

Planned capex, aggregated data, latency, missing pipelines



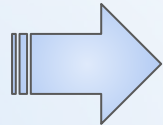
**Real-time capex signals, granular data, high-frequency streams, connected pipelines**

Annual/quarterly reports, lagging indicators



**Live dashboards, IoT sensors, transaction-level visibility requirements**

Opaque billing, contract disputes, undetected theft



**Traceable billing, smart contracts, fraud analytics, consumer trust**

# What gaps are these shifts leading to?



**Visibility and addressability of assets**



**Universal discovery and contracting mechanisms**



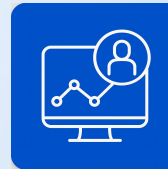
**Controlled and consented sharing of data**



**Better policy enforcement and monitoring**



**Seamless information flow**



**Real time analytics and decision making**

# What capabilities can bridge these glaring gaps?

**Lack of asset visibility,  
addressability**

**Absence of universal discovery  
and transactions**

**No common data pipeline**

**Lack of real time analytics and  
decision making from seamless  
information flow**

**Effective regulatory impact**

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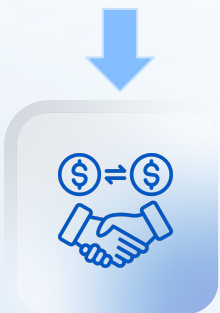
Can be solved through



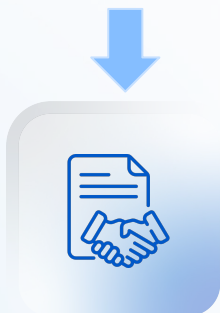
Energy  
resources



Information  
flows



Transactions



Contracts



Policies



Verifiable  
credentials

# A universal digital representation of energy



Energy Resources



Information Flows



Transactions



Contracts



Policies



Credentials



Universal Identity



Machine Readable Data



Verifiability and Portability


# The three foundational building blocks of solution



## Universal Identity


 Zip Codes


 Country Codes

 IP Addresses



## Machine Readable Data

 Electronic Health Record

 Tax Invoices

 Billing Databases

 Electronic Passport



## Verifiability and Portability

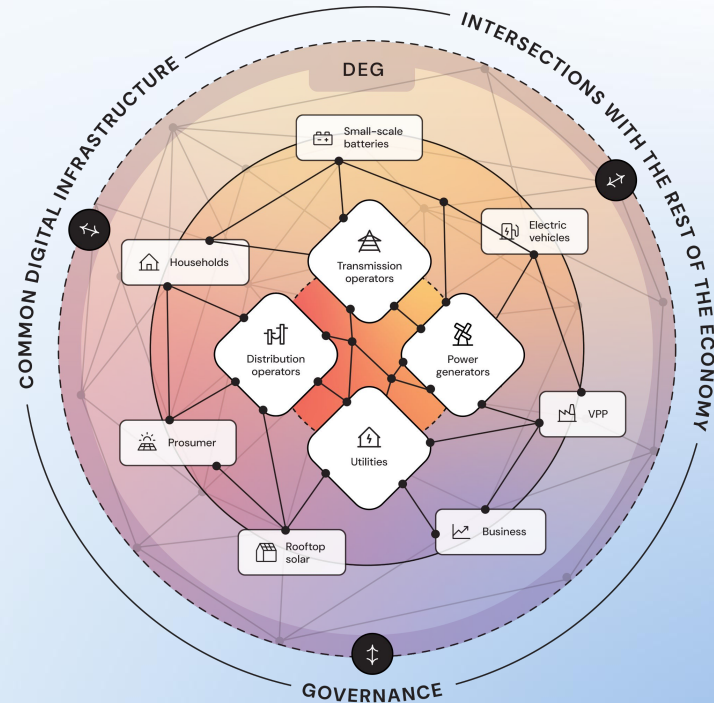
 UPI

 QR code

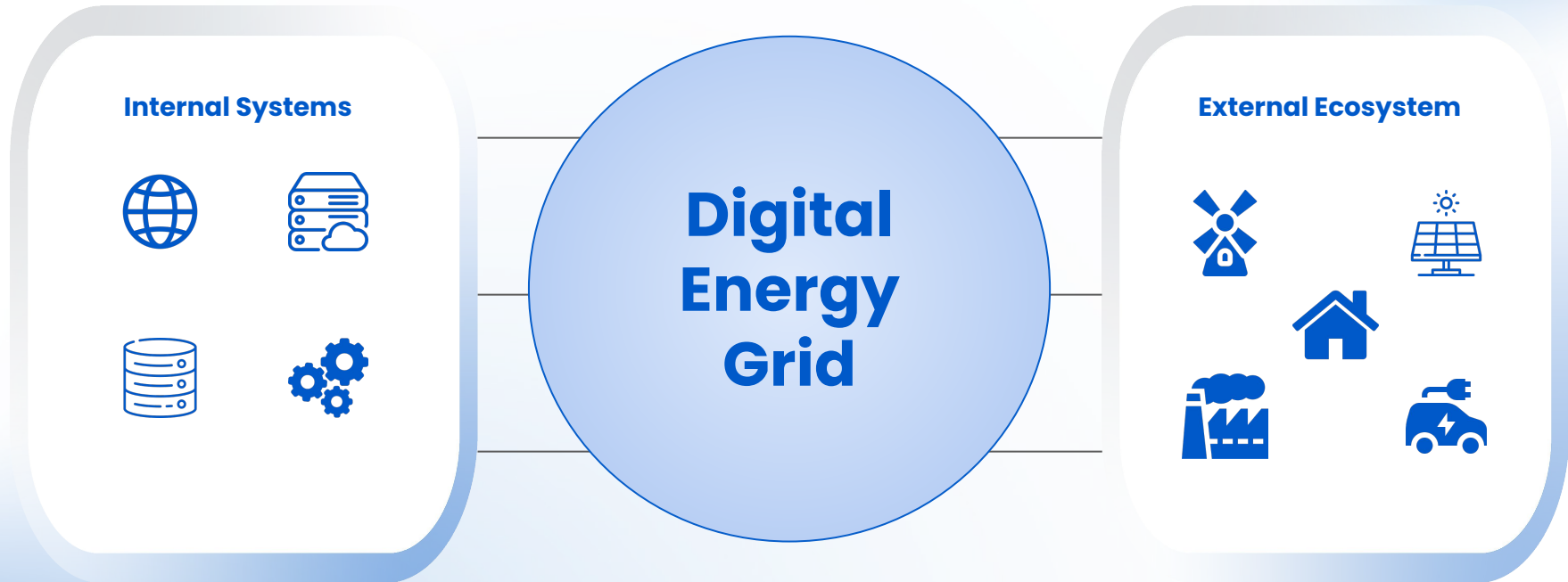
 API token



Like roads, or like the internet **Digital Energy Grid (DEG)** proposes a common infrastructure that enables the aforementioned digital needs



# DEG is not an internal IT system (nor APDRP +)



DEG is not an internal IT system, it is an **infrastructure** of interacting with the ecosystem

# DEG is not a software platform or ERP system but it builds on your ERP Investments

## DEG is not:

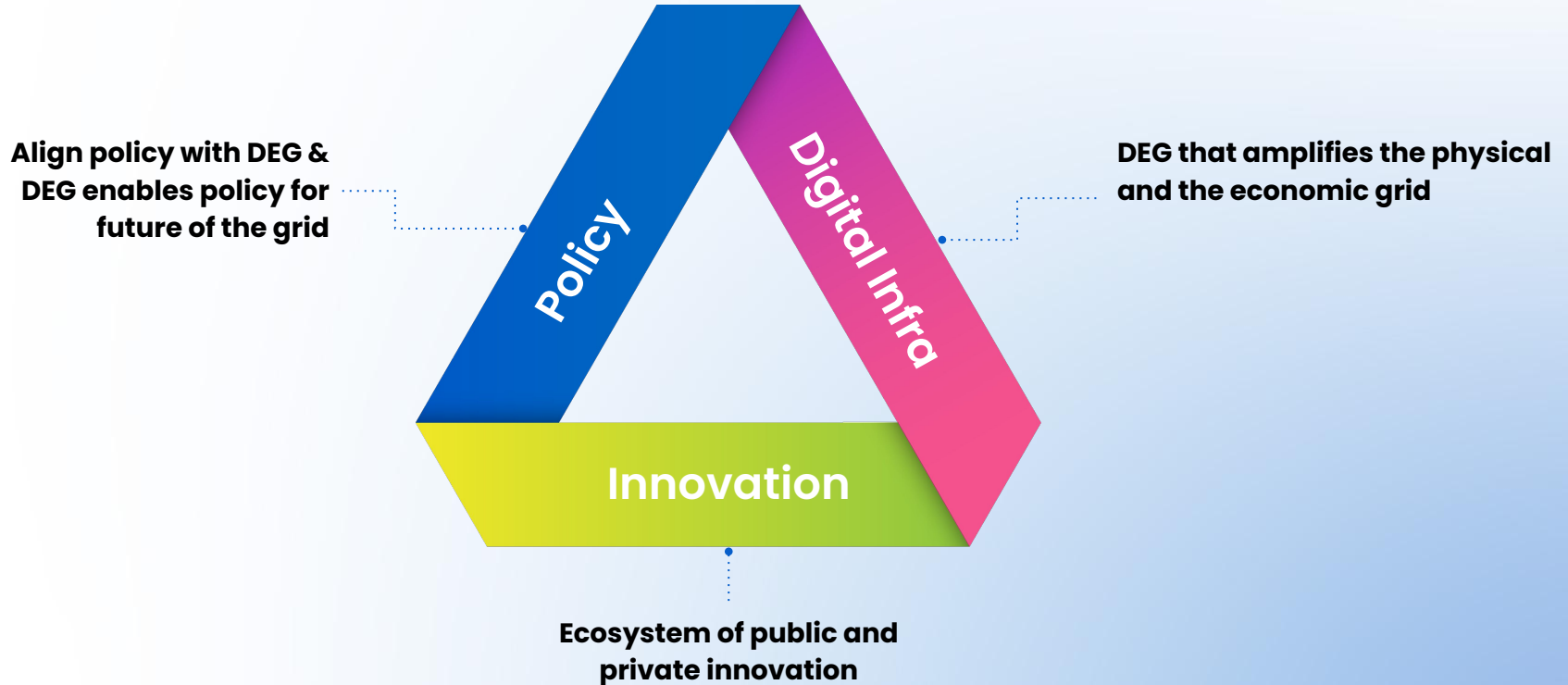
- ✗ A point-solution
- ✗ A software platform
- ✗ An ERP system
- ✗ A visibility tool
- ✗ A dashboard
- ✗ A collection of ideas
- ✗ A vision just on paper



## DEG is:

- ✓ An enabler to solve problems at scale and efficiency
- ✓ A provider of a backbone to create a visibility tool

# DEG is not only about tech or open architecture, it lies at the trinity of



# Current regulations, prospects to intervene

# Digital energy grid meets regulatory action

## Accelerate enforcement of the existing rules



Speed up compliance and monitoring by embedding rules into the digital layer

## Regulatory innovations



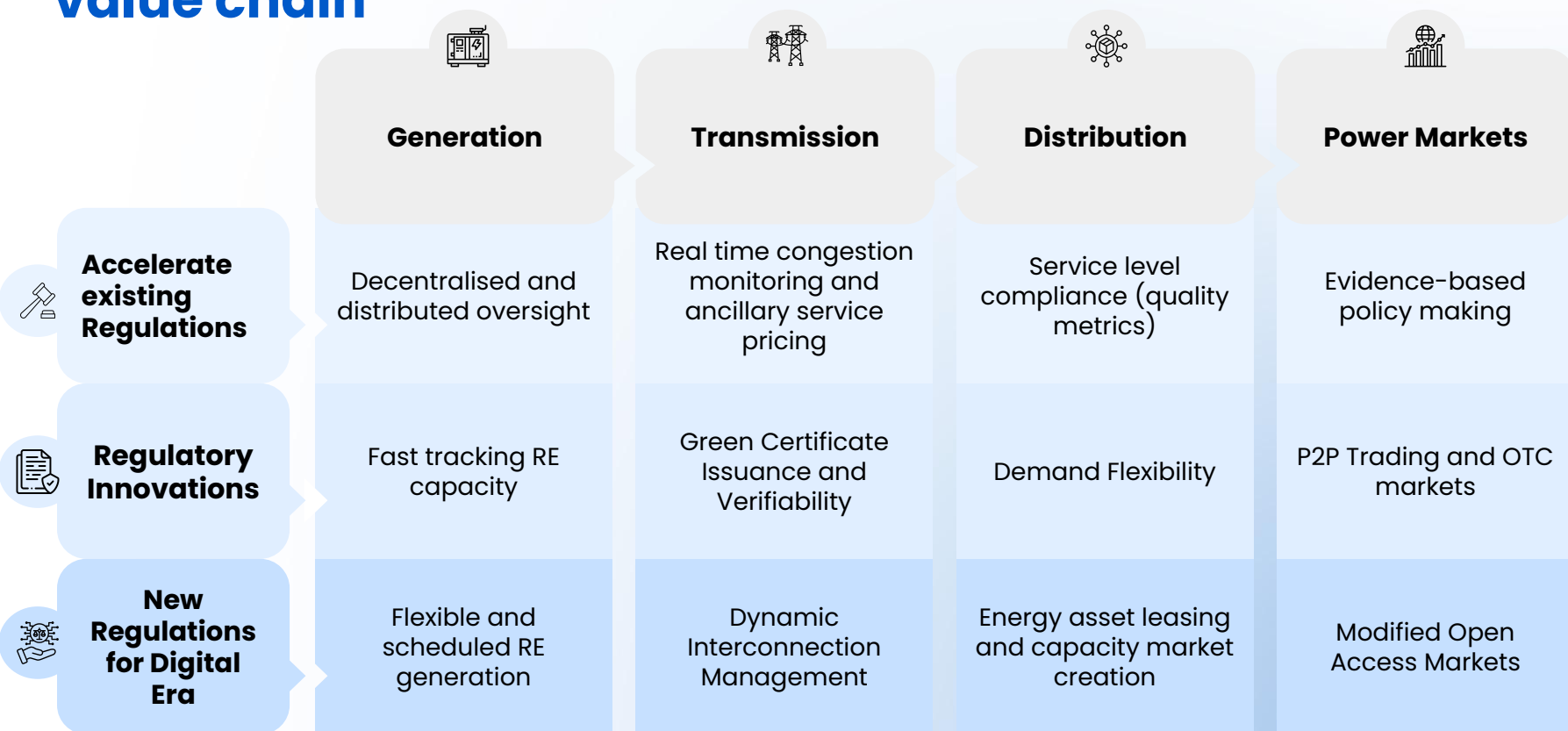
Layer new regulatory tools on existing frameworks to improve efficiency

## Create new regulations for digital grid era

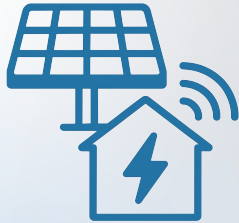


Interoperable, data-rich, decentralized energy ecosystem integration

# Structural interventions across the energy value chain



# Visibility of grid connected generation assets



**Utility / grid-connected  
generators visibility**



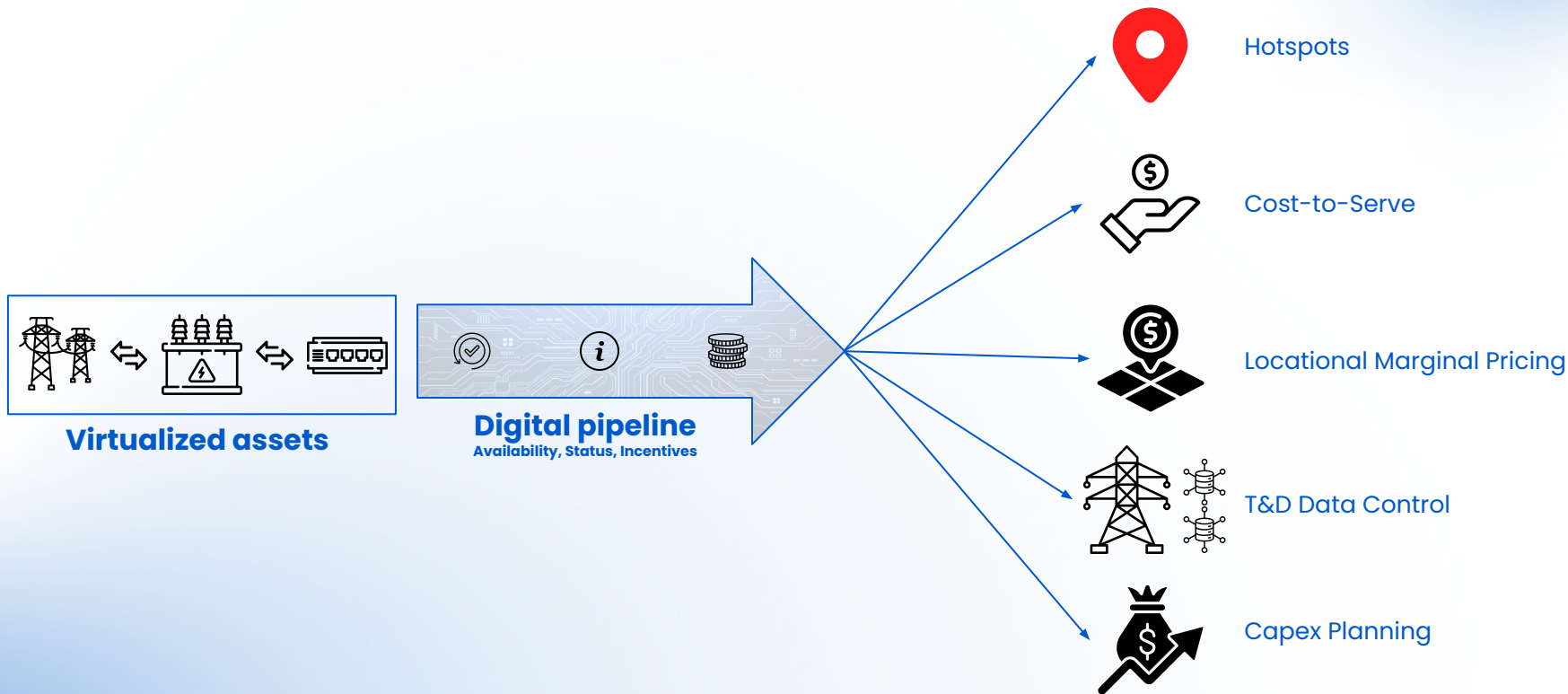
**Demand forecasting,  
scheduling and grid  
management**



**Virtualisation of  
generation assets**



# Distribution and sub-distribution assets visibility



# Solar assets buying made easy and network-wide visibility



Ecosystem Unlock

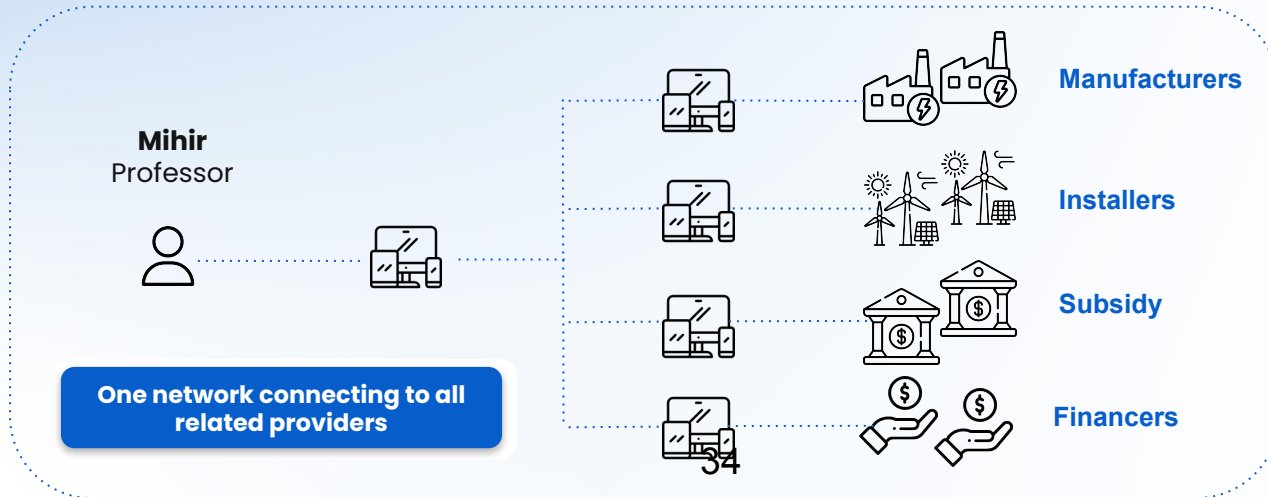
Simplifies the entire solar adoption journey. **One stop shop** for :

- ✓ Panel discovery
- ✓ Certified installer booking
- ✓ Financing options & subsidies
- ✓ DISCOM approvals
- ✓ Certified installer booking

Market unlock for Businesses

Starting with solar installation, a **lifelong engagement opportunity** with the customer

**Extend value added services:** Smart inverter, trading agent, RTC green power, VPP membership



# Flexible demand unlocking unprecedented relief for the grid

Opportunity

~25% of building and passenger EV & ~40% of industry and green hydrogen electricity demand in 2050 could be flexible

Beyond the obvious

## Innovation level:

New aggregator layer on top of the regulatory & economic grid

## Market level:

Like open banking created fintech innovations, new market-structures will be created at the edges

## Social level:

Effortless yet effective transition for consumers to be active participants

### Bulk commercial load



Data Centres



Cold storage



Water Pumping Stations

### Distributed and individual loads



EV Charging Station



Refrigerators



HVACs

### New type: District Cooling



District Cooling



Thermal Batteries

# Smart Meters powering smarter energy use with DEG



## What it is today



Monitor consumption & Support dynamic billing



**From a billing tool to an energy intelligence layer enabled by DEG**

## What can DEG Unlock



Lower trust costs by providing signed, trusted messages

Enhance grid planning and flexibility through observability

Participate in flexibility markets through connected-DER control

PDP Compliant

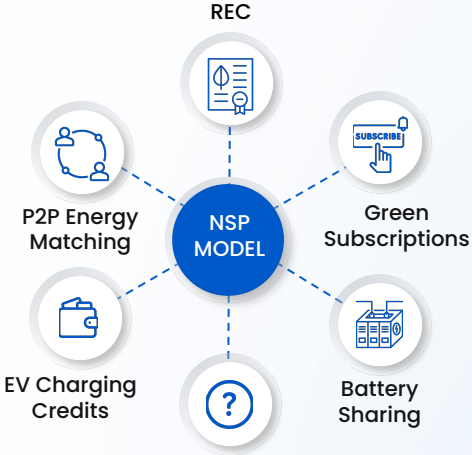
Multi-layer Security

Privacy-Preserving

Facilitate trust govt subsidy & regulatory compliance

Monitor consumption & support dynamic billing

# Utilities evolving beyond traditional roles : Network Service Provider model with DEG




**A Network Service Provider Like**


**VISA & stripe**

**Example Use Case:**

Enable green slots for charging and renewable energy pooling using NSP model

The diagram shows a car at a charging station on the left, connected by dashed arrows to a central power tower icon, which is further connected to a circular area containing icons for solar panels, wind turbines, and hydroelectric dams, representing renewable energy sources.

Intervention need for advocacy on recognition of digital energy exchanges 

Allow 2-3 more parties 

**This is India's opportunity to pioneer the global landscape of the future of grid management**

# Thank you Q&A



# Collaboration opportunities

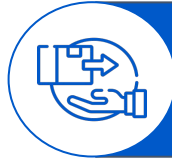




# Challenges of the new grid's regulators



Higher number of renewable assets around the edges creating entropy for the planning mechanisms



More difficult prediction of future diurnal demand leading to resource adequacy problems



The solution stack is getting reinvented multiple times increasing capex burden on the system



Distributed demand-side assets (EVs, BESS) available as potential grid support systems is lying idle and underutilized



Newer actors, markets and evolution of traditional roles creating new competition and therefore new rules

# Higher number of renewable assets around the edges creating entropy for the planning mechanisms

## Causes



**Low visibility of utility-scale assets connected centrally and at the state-level**

**Low visibility of decentralised renewable assets (granularity of data capture low - needs to get to 5 minutes interval)**

## Co-created Solutioning



**Interoperable and standardized way of communicating generation to Central and State-level grid operator (input to the IES ~ manifestation of DEG in India)**

**Transactions supported (including P2P) at central and state grid operators with better informed decisions in scheduling (includes ancillary services called as grid stabilization strategies)**

## Collaborations



**Create safe place to create thousands of transactions ~ digital twin within RE-rich and low-RE states to ascertain system benefits**

**Develop contours of new MOP Rules or FOR Model Regulations supporting market deepening**

# The solution stack (investments in the distribution and transmission assets) are getting reinvented multiple times increasing capex burden on the system



## Causes



**Lack of distribution infrastructure mapping**

**Inadequate assessments of projected CAPEX requirements**

## Co-created Solutioning



**Leveraging existing and prospective investments in the sub-distribution grids, create dynamic and digitized tool to better predict the CAPEX needs**

**Multiple transactions and approval processes at SERCs supported through a well-informed distribution sector assessments**

## Collaborations



**Create digital twin of transmission and distribution networks mandated through a regulatory process**

**Inform new MOP guidelines or CAPEX related regulations for investments in transmission and distribution infrastructure**

# Distributed demand-side assets (EVs, BESS) available as potential grid support systems is lying idle and underutilized

## Causes



**New EVs, BESS and demand-side (buildings, industrial processes) coming-up on the network**

**Demand-side assets remain outside of balancing needs of the grid**

## Co-created Solutioning



**Facilitate millions of transactions to ramp-up or ramp-down end-use consumption to meet load shape objectives**

**Leverage existing Resource Adequacy and emerging Demand Flexibility regulations**

## Collaborations



**Create digital twin of end-use level infrastructure as available assets in the system**

**Facilitate demand flexibility implementation in chosen networks and create millions of transactions including those in the tertiary ancillary services**

# FORUM OF REGULATORS ROUND-TABLE

GLOBAL REGULATORY TRENDS

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August 22, 2025



# TODAY'S TOPICS

1

**Introductions**

2

**The Emerging Landscape for Electricity**

3

**Regulatory Enablers for Decarbonization:  
Leading International Practices**

4







**What's Next for India**

A futuristic cityscape at dusk. A large wind turbine stands prominently on the right. In the center, a glowing, translucent structure resembling a power plant or data center is visible. The background features modern buildings with illuminated windows. Light trails from traffic or energy flow streak across the foreground. The overall color palette is dominated by blues and purples, creating a high-tech, digital atmosphere.




# THE EMERGING LANDSCAPE FOR ELECTRICITY

# INFOSYS IS A RECOGNIZED LEADER WITH 3 DECADES OF EXPERIENCE WORKING WITH UTILITIES AROUND THE WORLD

We are a global leader with an impeccable track record of empowering clients to navigate technology and drive business transformation

|                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  <p><b>14,000+</b><br/>Utilities Practice</p> |  <p><b>145+</b><br/>Clients</p> |  <p><b>6 of Top 10</b><br/>Utilities globally</p> |  <p><b>30</b><br/>Years of experience</p> |  <p><b>14 of Top 20</b><br/>NA Utilities</p> |  <p><b>20 +</b><br/>Development centers</p> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|



|                                                                                                 |                                                                                              |                                                                                            |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <br>Electric | <br>Water | <br>Gas |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**ACADEMIA COLLABORATION**

**Stanford ENERGY**  
Bits & Watts Initiative  
Stanford Bits & Watts, CA, USA, Advisory Member for Energy Transition

 **THE ENERGY CONSORTIUM**  
IIT MADRAS  
IIT Madras, Chennai, India, Energy Consortium

 Massachusetts Institute of Technology

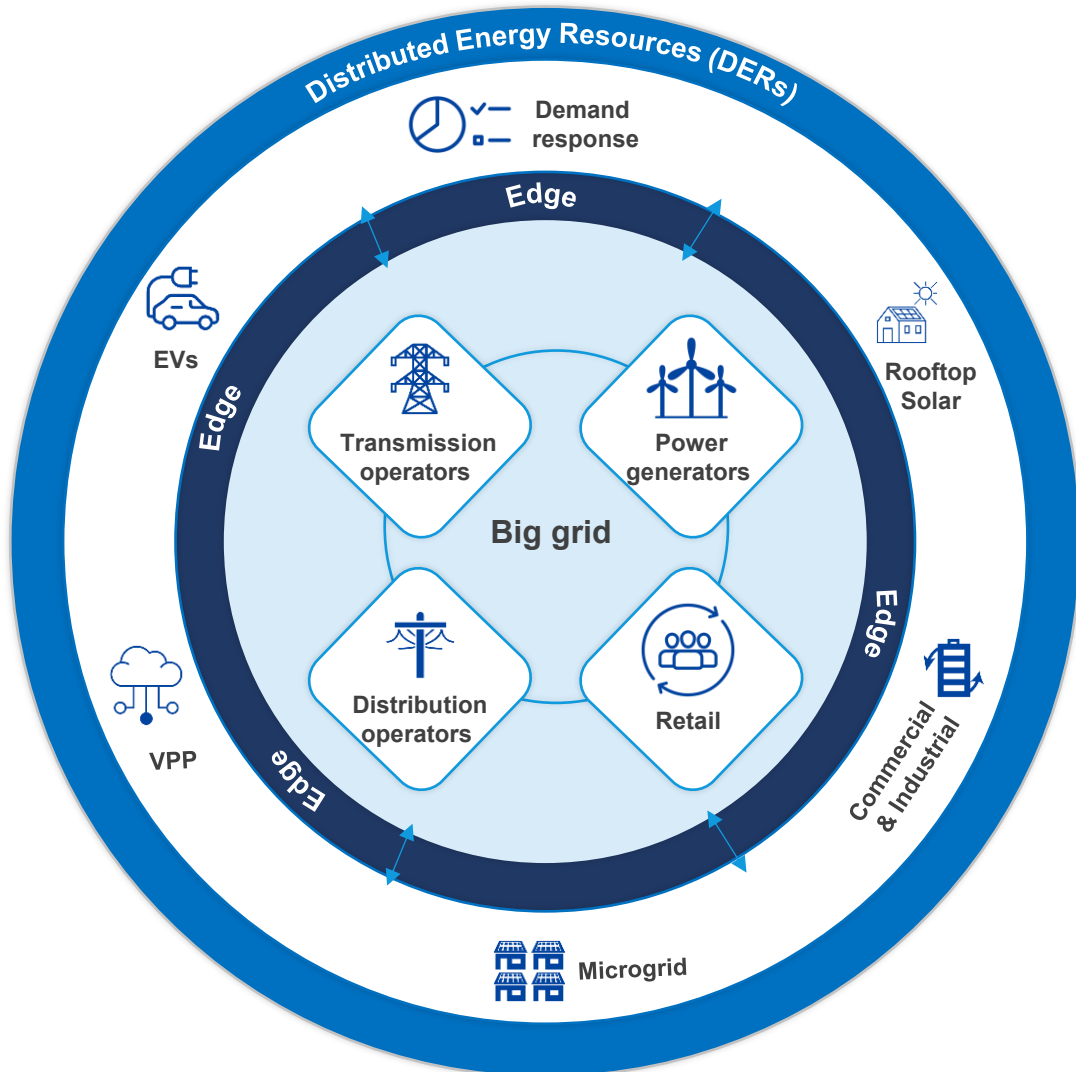
 **PURDUE UNIVERSITY**



# FROM ELECTRICITY ACCESS TO EMPOWERMENT: THE REGULATION JOURNEY



# DECENTRALIZATION IS SHIFTING CRITICAL MASS TO THE EDGE OF ENERGY SYSTEMS



**40%**

Global Power capacity represented by **decentralized energy systems** by 2030

**6x**

Energy capacity of EVs as compared to Grid batteries

**51 days**

Clean energy exceeded electricity demand in CAISO grid in California in 2024

**13GW Solar  
≈ 25% Peak  
Demand of  
CAISO Grid**

Rooftop solar in California contributes ~13 GW of capacity, meeting ~25% of peak electricity demand on the CAISO grid

# UK - INTEGRATED ENERGY SYSTEMS AT CITY / REGIONAL LEVEL ESSENTIAL FOR ENERGY TRANSITION



Energy integration links data and control systems across electricity, heat, buildings, and electric vehicles, transforming millions of signals from meters and sensors into **coordinated, real-time operational decisions.**

Optimising supply and demand across the regions and country builds **resilience, supports participation in energy flexibility markets, and accelerates progress towards Net Zero.**

UK's legally binding **Net Zero by 2050** target, with many cities aiming for 2030–2040



Rapid increase in AI and Data Centers will result in **localised spikes in energy demand growth**



**VPPs coordinating EVs/appliances** to balance grid are expanding in the UK market

The **UK Data Act** is setting a framework for **data sharing, interoperability, and governance**



Up to £16.7 billion per year could be saved by 2050 in the UK through integrated, flexible energy systems<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> **Carbon Trust.** (2021). *Flexibility in Great Britain: The value of flexibility in a decarbonised grid and system* ([Final report](#))

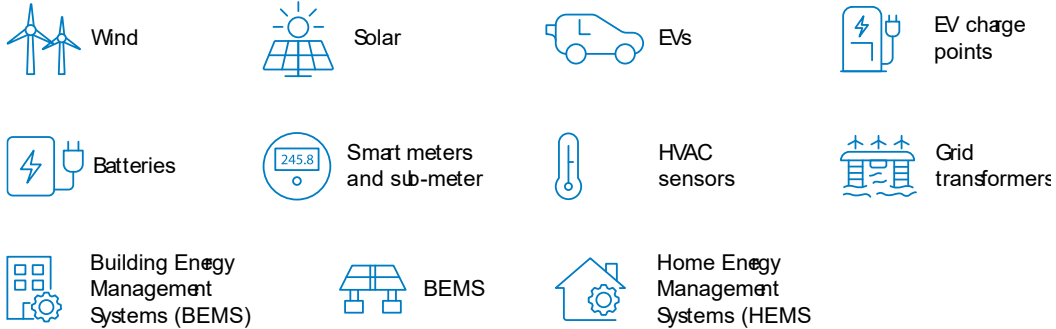
# MAIN PARTICIPANTS IN THE ENERGY TRANSITION

| LARGE ENERGY USERS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | SERVICE PROVIDERS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | REGIONAL AUTHORITIES                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | ENERGY CORE SECTOR                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | FINANCIAL SERVICES                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Industrial, commercial, data centres, public buildings, agriculture</p> <p><i>“Return on investment is always a tricky one... How am I saving on my energy? When you scrape data from all different places, there are so many caveats, it's so difficult.”</i></p> | <p>Urban and regional transport authorities, electric mobility providers, waste, water and sanitation services, district heat/cooling networks</p> <p><i>“We don't have access to granular energy and emissions data, but given our sustainability targets, it would be interesting to apply that to our route planning algorithm.”</i></p> | <p>Regional planning and development authorities, State Electricity Regulatory Commissions, State Nodal Agencies, State Pollution Control Boards, Municipalities</p> <p><i>“At the moment there's no data platform where you've got everything you need. Energy usage and fuel usage come from totally different systems”</i></p> | <p>Distribution Companies, renewable energy developers, transmission and distribution infrastructure providers, grid operators and system integrators</p> <p><i>“Cable ratings are excessive; most things are over engineered. You can't challenge engineering specifications without granular performance data.”</i></p> | <p>Commercial banks, mortgage lenders, asset managers, insurers, development banks, green finance institutions and ESG investors</p> <p><i>“Real estate portfolio energy data is extremely difficult to get hold of - we're always having to come up with proxies and estimates.”</i></p> |
| <p>Need for <b>trusted, granular, real-time energy data</b> to make WHAT operational and investment decisions.</p>                                                                                                                                                    | <p>Frustration with <b>data silos, slow access, and inconsistent quality</b> blocking efficiency and ESG reporting.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <p>Appetite for <b>actionable insights</b>, not just raw data, to unlock cost savings, revenue (e.g. flexibility markets), and compliance ease.</p>                                                                                                                                                                               | <p>Willingness to explore <b>standardised, city-level data access layers</b> to reduce integration burden.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

# TECHNOLOGIES MAKING A DIFFERENCE

The technologies, tools, and datasets driving the energy transition today span several layers, from physical infrastructure and IoT sensors to advanced analytics, AI, and shared open data platforms

## The physical assets and devices...



## ...supported by platforms and tools...

**Energy optimisation platforms**  
e.g., *AutoGrid, GridX, Kaluza*

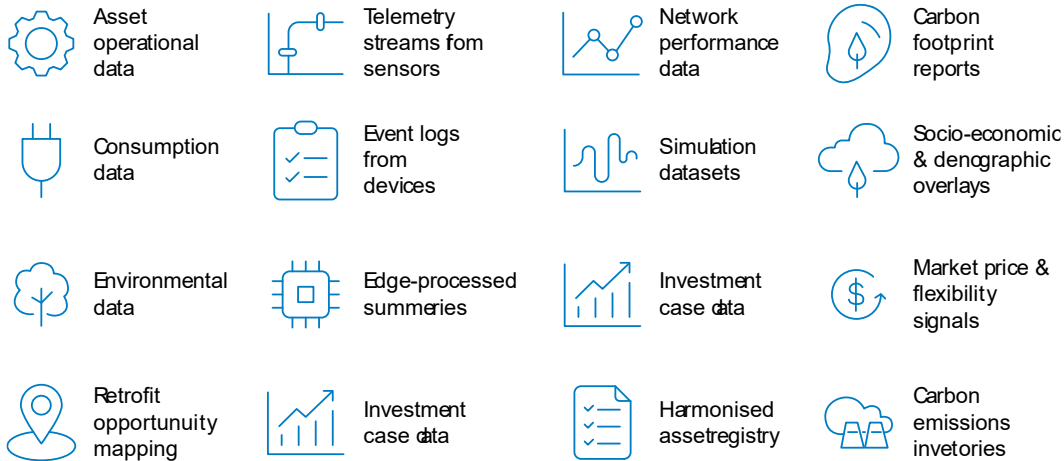
**Scenario modelling tools**  
e.g., *PLEXOS, HOMER, EnergyPLAN*

**Digital twin environments**  
e.g., *Bentley iTwin, Siemens Twin*

**Flexibility platforms**  
e.g., *KrakenFlex, EcoStruxure, GE DERM*s

**Carbon accounting tools**  
e.g., *Persefoni, Normative*

## ...with the relevant datasets...



## ...and the latest innovation

**AI/ML** for predictive maintenance and demand forecasting

**Blockchain** for energy transactions and traceability

**Cybersecurity** for grid and device protection

**Edge computing** for real-time analytics and control

# BARRIERS TO ENERGY TRANSITION GLOBALLY



## DIGITAL LAGGARDS

Only **20%** of utility companies have completed their digital transformation



## REGULATORY BASED INNOVATION

**72%** of utility leaders state innovation is driven by regulatory & compliance requirements



## POLICY SUPPORT

Regulatory framework lags emerging needs of the utility landscape



## SKILLED WORKFORCE

**4x** growth of workers to develop, construct & operate wind and solar projects



## NIMBY SYNDROME

Not In My Backyard  
In **UK > 58%** of power infrastructure decisions taken to court



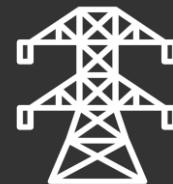
## SUPPLY CHAIN BOTTLENECKS

**120 weeks, to 210 weeks**  
– avg. lead time for large transformers due to shortage



## PERMITTING & REGULATIONS

Building offshore wind in China **3x cheaper** compared to **EU** due to efficient permitting process



## AGING GRID INFRASTRUCTURE

**> 70%** of infrastructure is more than **25 years old**



# **REGULATORY ENABLERS FOR DECARBONIZATION – LEADING INTERNATIONAL PRACTICES**

# REGULATORY ENABLERS FOR DECARBONIZATION – INTERNATIONAL PRACTICES



Enabling **decentralized energy systems** by promoting **flexible grid operations** and supporting the growth of local energy markets.



Accelerating **decarbonization** in industry and transport through stricter emissions targets, electrification incentives, and clean fuel mandates



Accelerating private **investment** in renewable generation through improved revenue predictability

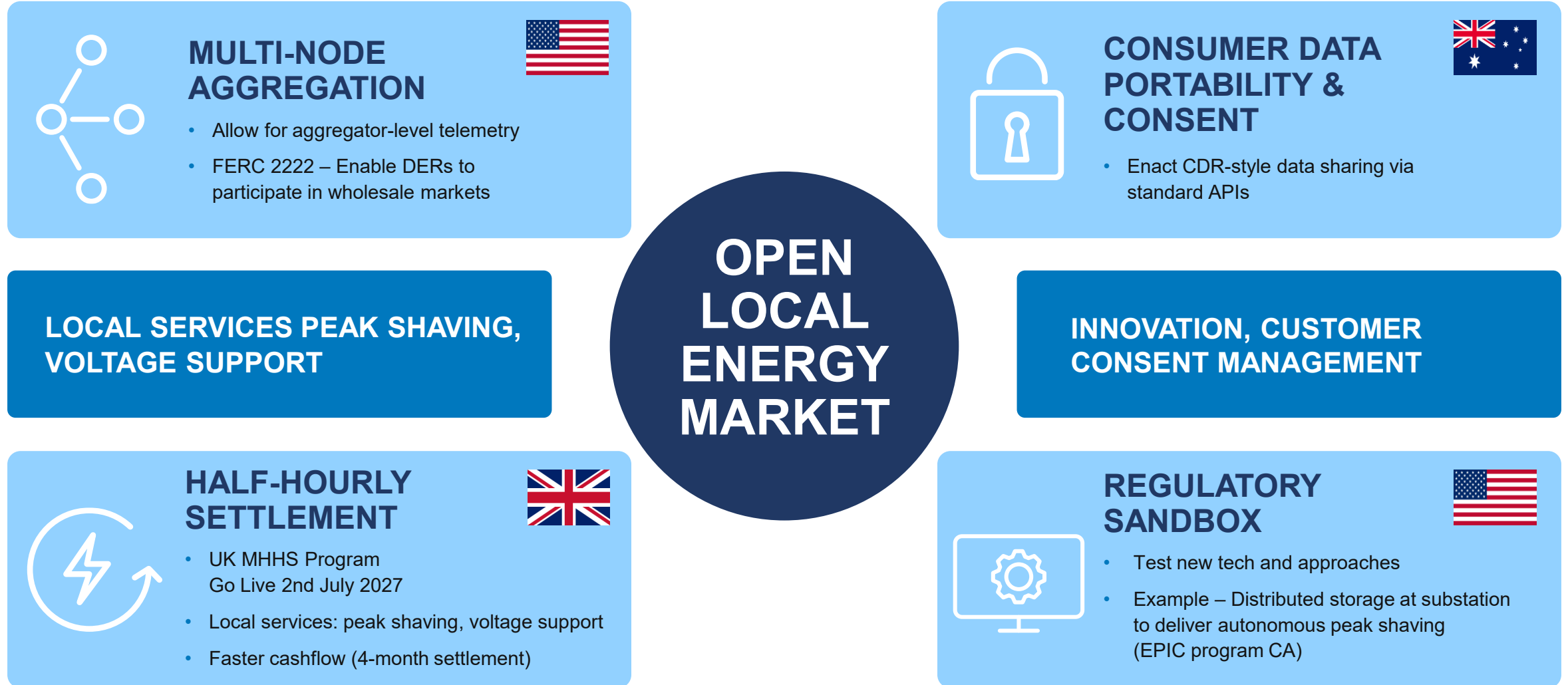


Prioritizing **grid modernization** to enhance resilience, integrate renewables, and support a more dynamic, digital energy system



# TREND #1: DECENTRALIZE ENERGY SYSTEMS

Key learnings from global best practices in operating an Open Local Energy Market



# TREND #2: ACCELERATE DECARBONIZATION

Regulations to incentivize the End User Sector



## CARBON PRICING

Best Practices:

- **Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanisms (CBAMs):** Level the playing field for domestic industries.
- **Voluntary Carbon Credits integration:** e.g. Singapore, Japan
- **Tiered Pricing Models:** Recommend different rates for developed and developing countries



*EU: Emissions Trading System + CBAM; revenue reinvestment in green infrastructure and social programs.*



*Mexico: Carbon tax + pilot ETS; revenue for public transport and energy efficiency.*



## ENERGY EFFICIENCY STANDARDS

Best Practices:

- **Public-private financing** (e.g., green bonds, tax incentives).
- Household **appliance standards and retrofit subsidies.**
- **National plans** with independent reviews.



*Germany: Loans, tax credits, building standards, industry tax breaks.*



*UK: R&D investment, energy labelling*



*Japan: Mandatory savings plans, appliance upgrade incentives.*



## FUEL STANDARDS

Best Practices:

- **Mandatory standards**
- **Harmonized testing procedures.**
- **Fuel and vehicle taxes**



*Brazil: Weight-based standards; incentives for ethanol/flex-fuel vehicles.*



*EU: CO<sub>2</sub> limits, incentives for low-emission vehicles, consumer labeling.*



## ELECTRIC VEHICLES

Best Practices:

- **Standardized chargers for all EVs.**
- **Urban planning to prioritize charger placement.**
- **Public-private partnerships using data to guide investment.**



*Norway: Tax breaks, fast chargers, lower EV ownership costs.*



*China: High charger density, government incentives, private charger support.*

# TREND #3: ACCELERATE INVESTMENTS IN RENEWABLE GENERATION

## FINANCIAL INCENTIVES AND SUBSIDIES



US: Investment Tax Credit (ITC): a federal incentive for renewable energy investments

## FEED-IN TARIFFS (FIT) AND POWER PURCHASE AGREEMENTS (PPA)



UK: Contracts for Difference (CfD) Scheme guarantees renewable producers a fixed price for electricity, via a government-backed contract.



Germany: FIT guarantees fixed payments to renewable energy producers for each unit of electricity fed into the grid



China: FIT ensures long-term price certainty to renewable developers, supporting rapid scale-up of solar and wind.

## RENEWABLE ENERGY TARGETS AND COMMITMENTS



EU: Renewable Energy Directive (EU Green Deal)

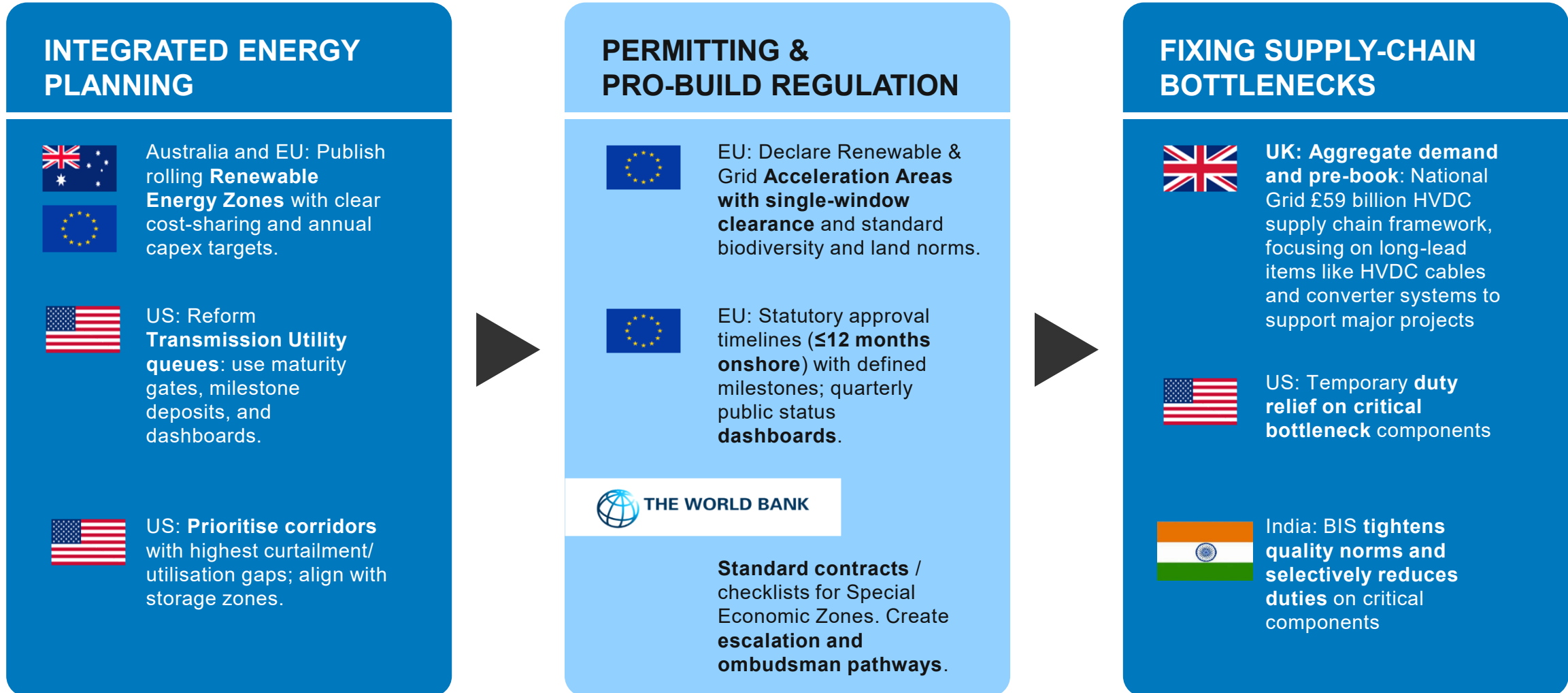


State of California, US: Renewable Portfolio Standard




## KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- Policy certainty and consistency
- Impact on market operation
- Incentivize hybrid (generation + storage) projects
- Cater to a wide spectrum of project types
- Enforce forecast obligation on generators

# TREND #4: FAST-TRACK INVESTMENT THROUGH ORCHESTRATION ACROSS DIVERSE STAKEHOLDERS



# TREND #5: MODERNIZE GRID AND BUILD RESILIENCE

| POLICIES AND REGULATIONS                          |  |  |  | Interventions that regulatory policies should encourage / enable                                                                                                                                                                               |
|---------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Smart grid technology                             | ✓                                                                                 | ✓                                                                                 | ✓                                                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Accelerate smart meter rollout, grid automation (for fault detection and load balancing) and enable dynamic pricing</li> </ul>                                                                          |
| Advanced metering infrastructure deployment       | ✓                                                                                 | ✓                                                                                 | ✓                                                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Accelerate nationwide AMI rollout and enable real-time data access for consumers and aggregators.</li> <li>Support disaggregation of behind-the-meter (BTM) loads.</li> </ul>                           |
| Demand Side Management                            | ✓                                                                                 | ✓                                                                                 | ✓                                                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use dynamic pricing (e.g., time-of-day EV tariffs), run regular flexibility tenders for peak shaving and voltage control.</li> <li>Incentivize load shifting and energy efficiency programs.</li> </ul> |
| Market Reforms and Power Trading                  |                                                                                   |                                                                                   | ✓                                                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Open markets to DERs (e.g. regional) and standardise measurement and verification (M&amp;V) protocols.</li> <li>Increase transparency in market operations and settlement.</li> </ul>                   |
| Grid Infrastructure Upgrades                      | ✓                                                                                 | ✓                                                                                 | ✓                                                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expand substation and transmission capacity and prioritize upgrades in high-curtailment corridors.</li> <li>Fund HVDC/UHVAC corridors linking REZs to demand centers.</li> </ul>                        |
| Energy storage deployment mandates and incentives | ✓                                                                                 |                                                                                   | ✓                                                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Incentivise distributed and co-located storage to support grid flexibility (e.g. with renewables).</li> <li>Support storage participation in ancillary services markets.</li> </ul>                     |
| Microgrid development                             | ✓                                                                                 |                                                                                   |                                                                                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote renewable-powered microgrids and hybrid systems (generation + storage + load) for resilience and industrial use.</li> <li>Streamline permitting and interconnection processes.</li> </ul>       |
| Distribution system planning                      |                                                                                   | ✓                                                                                 |                                                                                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mandate data-driven planning (e.g. load forecasts, DER growth, grid constraints) non-wires alternatives (e.g. storage, demand response, and energy efficiency) and transparent grid maps</li> </ul>     |

*Best practices*

Decentralized, Market-Driven Approach

Central-Local Regulatory Collaboration

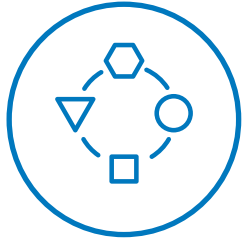
Transparency and Accountability

Clear Penalties and Guidelines

Support for Innovation and Economic Development

# WHAT'S NEXT FOR INDIA

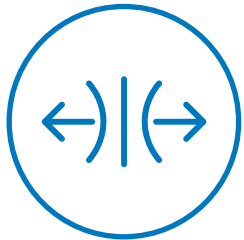
# WHAT'S NEXT FOR INDIA IN ENERGY TRANSITION



Decentralized systems need smart, **adaptive regulation**



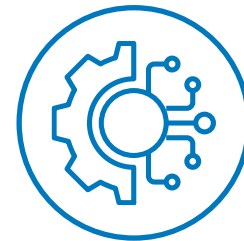
Strain from **AI / Data Center demand growth** will push regulatory boundaries



Fast change demands **flexible policy** responses



India can lead by **utilizing global practices** and building on its **digital public infrastructure**





**Digital is the backbone**—companies must be pushed to innovate

# THANK YOU

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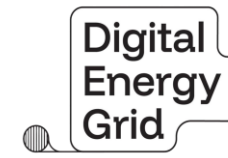
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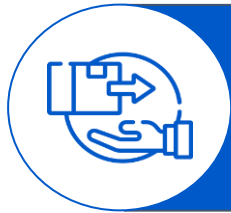


# Slides for facilitated discussion

# Challenges/Opportunities of the new grid's regulators ~ (from the morning discussion)



**Higher number of renewable assets around the edges creating entropy for the planning mechanisms**



**More difficult prediction of future diurnal demand leading to resource adequacy problems**



**The solution stack is getting reinvented multiple times increasing capex burden on the system**



**Distributed demand-side assets (EVs, BESS) available as potential grid support systems is lying idle and underutilized**



**Newer actors, markets and evolution of traditional roles creating new competition and therefore new rules**

# 1. Higher number of renewable assets around the edges creating entropy for the planning mechanisms

- Causes leading the effect:

- Low visibility of utility-scale assets connected centrally and at the state-level
- Low visibility of decentralized renewable assets (granularity of data capture low – needs to get to 5 minutes interval)

- Co-created solutioning:

- Interoperable and standardized way of communicating generation to Central and State-level grid operator (input to the IES ~ manifestation of DEG in India)
- Transactions supported (including P2P) at central and state grid operators with better informed decisions in scheduling (includes ancillary services called as grid stabilization strategies)

- Collaborations:

- Create safe place to create thousands of transactions ~ digital twin within RE-rich and low-RE states to ascertain system benefits
- Develop contours of new MOP Rules or FOR Model Regulations supporting market deepening

## 2. The solution stack (investments in the distribution and transmission assets) are getting reinvented multiple times increasing capex burden on the system

- Causes leading the effect:

- Lack of distribution infrastructure mapping
- Inadequate assessments of projected CAPEX requirements

- Co-created solutioning:

- Leveraging existing and prospective investments in the sub-distribution grids, create dynamic and digitalized tool to better predict the CAPEX needs
- Multiple transactions and approval processes at SERCs supported through a well-informed distribution sector assessments

- Collaborations:

- Create digital twin of transmission and distribution networks mandated through a regulatory process
- Inform new MOP guidelines or CAPEX related regulations for investments in transmission and distribution infrastructure

### **3. Distributed demand-side assets (EVs, BESS) available as potential grid support systems is lying idle and underutilized**

- Causes leading the effect:

- New EVs, BESS and demand-side (buildings, industrial processes) coming-up on the network
- Demand-side assets remain outside of balancing needs of the grid

- Co-created solutioning:

- Facilitate millions of transactions to ramp-up or ramp-down end-use consumption to meet load shape objectives
- Leverage existing Resource Adequacy and emerging Demand Flexibility regulations

- Collaborations:

- Create digital twin of end-use level infrastructure as available assets in the system
- Facilitate demand flexibility implementation in chosen networks and create millions of transactions including those in the tertiary ancillary services