

APPLICATION OF THE RESEARCH PROCESS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A
MICROGRID MODULAR DESIGN FOR TRIBAL HEALTHCARE FACILITIES
IN THE NAVAJO NATION: KAYENTA HEALTH CENTER USED
AS A SUBJECT STUDY FOR EXPERIMENTAL DATA

by

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Abstract

APPLICATION OF THE RESEARCH PROCESS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A MICROGRID MODULAR DESIGN FOR TRIBAL HEALTHCARE FACILITIES IN THE NAVAJO NATION: KAYENTA HEALTH CENTER USED AS A SUBJECT STUDY FOR EXPERIMENTAL DATA

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The University of Texas at Arlington, 2018

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There exist significant challenges and opportunities for improvement the power system of healthcare facilities for American Indian and Alaska natives. This Dissertation establishes plans and methodology to include the research process in the power system design utilizing Kayenta health center, which is located in the Navajo nation, as a subject study. Information about the solar irradiance on site, the PV system performance, the power quality and the power system load demand at the facility as well as observation of the related equipment is gathered.

The Dissertation describes a seasonal experimental process related to a 100KW PV system case study at the Kayenta Health Center and is supplemented with detailed information about the power system of the facility. Detailed study of existing PV system at the Kayenta Health Center combined with modeling and simulation tools is used to discover additional information, process and methodology for the implementation of the microgrid in other tribal health care facilities at the Navajo Nation. Seasonal experimental data validated with theoretical data available for the zone, the facility, the systems and the equipment is used to develop a concept model for the actual implementation.

Targeted information about harmonics provides insight about specific features of the concept model. The concept model is adjusted such that the actual implementation of the microgrid will enhance the power quality, result in optimum power system design, produce energy savings and reduce environmental pollution.

The concept model of microgrid architecture lead to the development of a proposal for the implementation of the microgrid at Dilkon Health Center, which is a facility in the IHS New Construction Priority List. The Microgrid proposal was accepted and adopted by the management of Division of Engineering Services from Indian Health Services. The proposal basically use previous research information and the concept model and apply a procedure and cost estimates for a specific facility (Dilkon HC). The proposal include different type of language (cost vs benefits instead of highly technical) because it have the intent of convince the different stakeholders. The proposal is a necessary stage between the research and the actual implementation.

The research foundation presented can be applied for additional proposals of Microgrid implementation or power system improvements in other healthcare facilities and staff quarter projects.

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Chapter 1

Challenges and opportunities

1.1 Introduction

There exist significant challenges and opportunities for improvement the power system of healthcare facilities for American Indian and Alaska natives. Creativities, new technologies, and joint efforts among different stakeholders are needed to address tribal concerns about their environment, their wild life and their traditions while improving the electrical power system. This chapter establishes plans and methodology to include the research process in the power system design utilizing Kayenta health center, which is located in the Navajo nation, as a subject study. A microgrid modular design architecture is defined. Modeling and simulation tools combined with experimental results are proposed for future implementation of the actual microgrid. The microgrid architecture can be used for improvement the power system of existing and new healthcare facilities for American Indian and Alaska natives.

Congress recognized the importance of tribal decision-making in tribal affairs and the primacy of the nation-to-nation relationship between the United States and Tribes through the passage of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (ISDEAA, Public Law 93-638, 1975). In subsequent amendments to the ISDEAA, among other things congress authorized federally recognized Tribes the option of entering into self-governance compacts to gain more autonomy in the management and delivery of their health care programs [3].

Throughout the process of construction of new healthcare facilities and updating existing ones, the Tribes are facing significant challenges regarding the design process as well as the reliability and efficiency of the electrical power service:

1. Living conditions on the reservations have been cited as "comparable to Third World," (May 5 2004, Gallup Independent).

2. The overall percentage of American Indians living below the federal poverty line is 28.2% (2008, American Indians Census Facts).

3. About 40% of on-reservation housing is considered inadequate (2003, U.S. Commission on Civil Rights).

4. Overcrowding, substandard dwellings, and lack of utilities all increase the potential for health risk, especially in rural and remote areas where there is a lack of accessible healthcare.

5. About 55% of American Indians rely on the Indian Health Service for medical care (2006, Indian Health Facts).

6. Yet, the Indian Health Care Improvement Act only meets about 60% of their health needs (2003, U.S. Commission on Civil Rights).

7. The healthcare facilities are usually located in remote locations. In some cases, there is no electrical power service or the service is not reliable enough for a healthcare facility.

8. Most Tribes does not have the expertise in latest technologies of power systems and they rely on the support of the Indian Health Services (IHS) and private designers. In some cases, the electrical system is over design, low efficient or has power quality issues.

9. Tribes prefer to be as much independent as possible from the US government and they have specific preferences about the way they foresee the power system for the healthcare facilities. The electrical power system needs to be designed such way that it fits in Tribes concerns about their environment, their wild life or their traditions.

10. The budget available for the design and construction and upgrades of power system for healthcare facilities varies significantly among different tribes.

11. One of the top priorities of the IHS is to renew and strengthen partnerships with Tribes and Urban Indian Health Programs. Most of the time, Tribes expect IHS to perform costly changes during the design process for the power system of healthcare facilities. The facilities of the IHS network are widely dispersed among 36 states, primarily on or near Indian reservations where travel can be difficult, especially where transportation options are unavailable or limited by harsh climatic conditions. For most of these rural communities, IHS and tribal health care facilities offer the only feasible source of health care services. The IHS hospitals now average 40 years of age, almost four times older than U.S. hospitals (10.6 years of age). At the existing replacement rate, a new 2016 facility would not be replaced for 400 years. The facilities are undersized for the populations served, the magnitude of the need is enormous and the space and layout limitations impede delivery of modern health care services [27].

Reliability and efficiency of the power system declines as buildings and equipment age. There are significant challenges regarding the power quality of the facilities being mainly older electrical designs and the electrical services needed in remote locations.

The question is how is it possible to overcome all these issues all together? Is there a way to optimize the power system of a typical healthcare facility located in the Indian lands by developing a Microgrid modular design?

IHS current A/E Design Guide (2013) provides general guidance and rules for the development of design documents, specifications, and other contract documents, architectural and engineering design features, submittals, and supplemental information. However, it does not contain specific information or guidance related to the power system

reliability, efficiency and security or survivability analysis. The quality of the power system design rely mostly on the competence of the A/E design firm (which varies significantly from project to project) and the design revision process from IHS and the Tribal team. There is no research component in the A/E Design Guide [4]. IHS recognizes the need of going beyond the traditional way of providing Electrical Engineering support to the Tribes. This Chapter explores the feasibilities of deploying Microgrid (either grid tie or islanded) to improve the reliability and quality of the power supply of healthcare facilities for American Indian and Alaska natives. Since the electrical power system needs to be designed such way that it fits in Tribes concerns about their environment, their wild life or their traditions, it is necessary to combine the available latest technologies and processes, the Clean Energy resources and the new ideas into the research process in order to come up with improved and acceptable solutions. Recent development on microgrid technologies found in extensive literature search suggest that the microgrid is a good option to achieve desired goals [6], [7], [8], [13], [14]. The dissertation proposes a procedure to adopt microgrid technologies in tribal healthcare facilities to improve the power quality and efficiency of the electrical system while promoting environmental friendly energy resources. It demonstrates a complete process from initial investigation, experimental, research, practical application and proposal with information ready for design and implementation.

1.2 Facility Selection Process

1.2.1 General information

Indian health care services are provided in over 640 IHS and tribal health care facilities, located mostly in rural and isolated areas. The IHS also operates nearly 2,300 staff quarters units to support health care services in remote locations. The health care

facilities are distributed among twelve (12) different tribal areas: Alaska, Albuquerque, Bemidji, Billings, California, Great Plains, Nashville, Navajo, Oklahoma City, Phoenix, Portland, and Tucson [3]. Figure 1-1 illustrates a typical architecture of a Microgrid for tribal healthcare facilities with renewable energy sources. Since they are location dependent, it is necessary to gather data from IHS to select a typical Indian tribal healthcare facility for a target location that can potentially benefit a significant population by improving the power system. The study of the power system of the subject facility will result in improved renewable energy based power systems for upcoming new projects in the region. By means of the study, analysis and experimental results of the power system for a healthcare facility, it is expected to discover additional challenges and opportunities for the implementation of a Microgrid modular design.

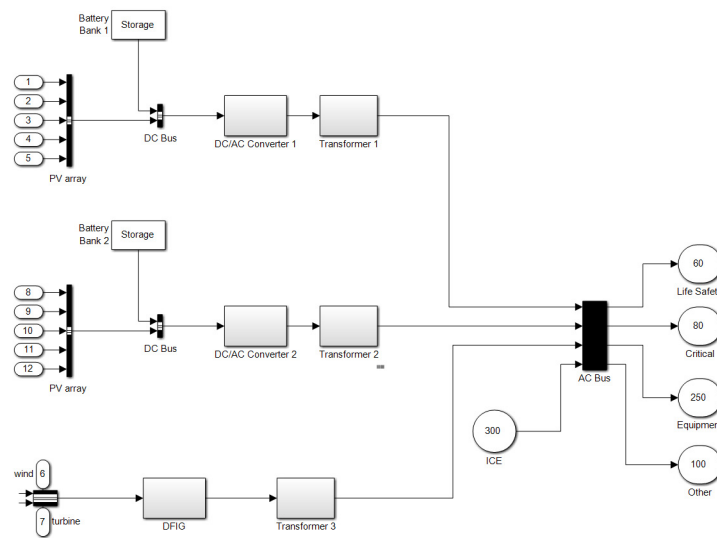


Figure 1-1 Typical Architecture for the design of a Microgrid for tribal HC facilities

1.2.2 Selecting a healthcare facility

In order to determine the best fit for a typical tribal healthcare facility, there are certain important factors that determine the power system load, applicability of renewable energy sources, complexity of the system, and usefulness of the study. The factors considered were location, healthcare services offered, power quality, whether the facility is combined with staff quarters, size of the facility, size of the electrical power system of the facility and whether the facility is new or old. Each factor received a rank (points) in terms of the way it accommodates to the solution of the target problems (previously identified by IHS for tribal HC facilities). Over fifty (50) facilities were evaluated. Table 1-1 show summary results for the higher rated facilities. From the two higher rated of this group, Kayenta HC (Navajo area) was selected for the proposed Microgrid study.

Kayenta HC is a new healthcare facility located in the northeast side of Arizona, 77 miles from the four corners point.

Table 1-1 Higher Rated Facilities

Area	Facility	Location	HC services offered	Power Quality	Combined with staff quarters	Size GSM	Size of power system	New or Old	Total points
ALB	Zuni comprehensive HC	5	5	3	5	4	4	2	28
NAV	Four Corners Regional HC	5	4	3	5	4	5	2	28
	Kayenta HC	5	5	3	5	5	3	5	31
	Pinon HC	5	4	3	4	4	4	4	28
PHX	Hopi Health Care Center Service Unit	5	5	3	5	4	4	2	28
	San Carlos Service Unit	5	5	3	5	5	3	5	31
TUC	Sells Hospital	5	5	3	3	5	5	2	28
OTHER	Choctaw HC (Nashville)	4	5	3	5	5	1	5	28

1.2.3 Existing power system in Kayenta HC

Figure 1-2 shows a simplified model of the existing electrical power system in Kayenta HC. NTUA provided two separate feeders, each one connected to a 2.5MVA, 25KV - 480/277V transformer. Each transformer feeds one side of double-ended switchgear (3000A, 480/277V). The system provides redundancy of main feeder and transformer. However, the power source comes from the same substation.

The PV system consists of Suniva optimus monocrystalline solar modules (model OPT # 265-60-4-100). There are 378 modules installed in two different roof areas of the facility. The inverter is Solectria Renewables, model PVI 100KW, 480V. The inverter output is connected to the double-ended switchgear, such that the system supplements the NTUA commercial power. In compliance with IEEE 1547 and NEC 690.61, the inverter system automatically de-energizes when there is an outage from the utility.

Five (5) diesel generators (1000KVA @ 0.8PF, 480/277V) provide emergency power for the entire facility in case of loss of power or power quality issues from the utility. The emergency power supply system (EPSS) also includes three main automatic transfer switches (ATS) to separate the loads into the different categories for healthcare facilities: critical, life safety and equipment branches.

The design is very stiff, traditional and not planned around the microgrid concept.

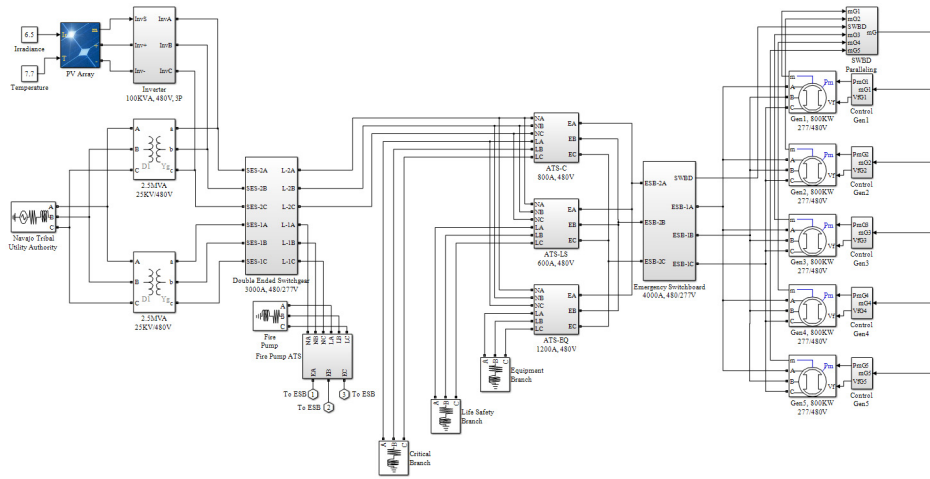


Figure 1-2 Existing configuration of electrical system in Kayenta

1.2.4 Renewable energy source data

The National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) database provides information about the amount of solar radiation received in the United States and its territories. Figure 1-3 illustrates the average daily solar radiation per year [1]. Notice that Arizona and New Mexico zone receives the highest average solar radiation throughout the year (6 to 7 kWh/m²/day). The Navajo nation, the target zone for the proposed study, is located in a region that overlaps AZ and NM.

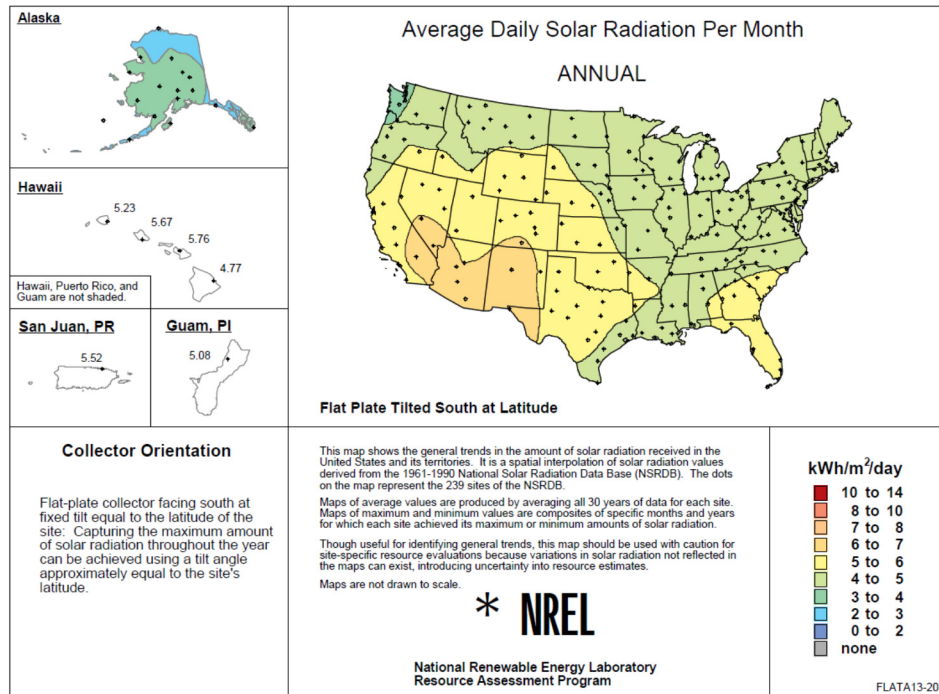


Figure 1-3 Average daily solar radiation per year

NREL database contains 30 years (1961-1990) historical environmental data, which includes solar radiation, temperature and wind speed for different locations within the US and territories. In Arizona, the data includes four locations: Flagstaff, Phoenix, Prescott and Tucson. Flagstaff is located just 23 miles west of the Navajo nation region. Based on historical data, the average wind speed per year is 6.1mph and the average temperature per year is 7.7°C in Flagstaff. There is additional historical environmental information available in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration database, which includes many different point locations within the US. The renewable energy source historical data will be used as an engineering design tool to predict the availability, behavior and operation of the power system for the Microgrid.

On April 15, 2016, the US Department of Energy (DOE) announced nearly \$4 million for projects to increase access to solar data. According to DOE, four partners will help launch the new Orange ButtonSM initiative, which will increase solar market transparency and fair pricing by establishing data standards for the industry [11].

1.2.5 Renewable Energy Technologies

Multiple laws and executive orders define requirements for the use of renewable energy in federal facilities, for example: the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (EPACT 2005) and Executive Order (EO)13693. Literature widely explains the advantages and challenges with renewable energy technologies [5], [7], [13], [14], [15]. IHS also encourages the use of renewable energy power sources for all new tribal healthcare facilities. It is typical to install Photovoltaic (PV) systems to supplement the normal power from the utility. However, other types of renewable energy sources are seldom considered to be combined together as Distributed Energy (DE) resources. As it is important to join efforts with the academia, IHS is working with University of Texas at Arlington (UTA) in the research process for Microgrid modular design to improve the power system of healthcare facilities for American Indian and Alaska natives. Figure 1-4 shows a picture (partial view) of the PV system installed in Kayenta HC. Experimental data collected from the power system of Kayenta HC, including the utility, PV system and special loads applicable for healthcare facilities (i.e. medical equipment) will be discussed in Chapters 2 and 3.



Figure 1-4 Kayenta PV System

U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) publishes data among other things about net generation from different sources, including renewable [2]. According to EIA, solar and wind are the fastest growing among all renewable energy generation types in the US. Figure 1-5 shows the increasing tendency on solar and wind renewable energy generation in the US. The wind generation increased 4.1% in Arizona and 3.7% in New Mexico from 2013 to 2014, while the solar PV generation increased 25.5% in Arizona and 32.7% in New Mexico for the same period. Arizona is the state with the second larger net generation of solar PV energy (2,538 GWh, in 2014), only overcome by California (8,336 GWh, in 2014) [2].

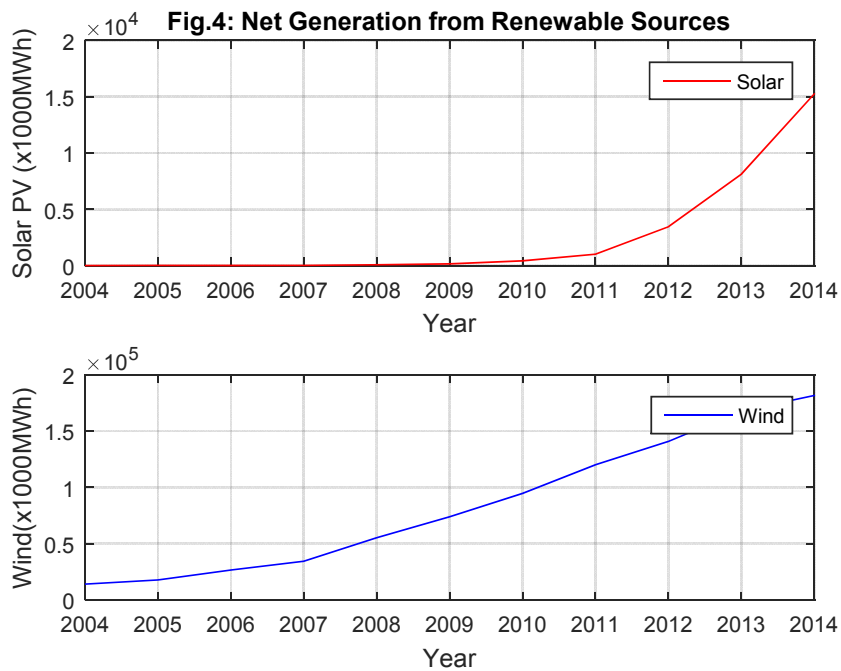


Figure 1-5 Net Generation from Renewable Sources

Due to the increasing tendency in the use of renewable energy, many universities, private organization and government entities are conducting research studies regarding renewable energy and distributed generation resources. However, there are still many challenges regarding renewable energy, for example: the scalability and timing, commercialization, substitutability, material input requirements, intermittency, energy density, and energy return on investment.

There are many different factors when considering renewable energy generation technologies [5], [7]. For tribal healthcare facilities in the Navajo area (as proposed) Photovoltaic systems and Wind turbines show advantage due to the natural energy resources available, low level of fault current, foot print availability in tribal lands, mature technology, increasing trend and environmental friendly. However, these technologies

need energy storage components and have to combine with other nonrenewable energy generation technologies in order to improve reliability of the system and increase the power system capacity.

1.2.6 Challenges and Opportunities

There are still gaps in terms of improvement the reliability and efficiency of the electrical power service in tribal healthcare facilities. It is important in the design process to perform beyond traditional ways of providing electrical engineering support to the Tribes, including addition of a wide base of knowledge, experience and tolls through the research process. Creativities, new technologies, and joint efforts among different stakeholders are needed to address Tribal concerns about their environment, their wild life and their traditions while improving the electrical power system.

As mentioned earlier, the health care facilities are located in twelve (12) different tribal areas. Due to the size, location and configuration of healthcare facilities, the climate, transportation and other factors, certain areas (e.g. Alaska) deserve separate future studies. The renewable energy resources, the power quality issues and hence the solutions for the power system improvement will vary significantly from different areas. For example, efficient Combined Heat and Power (CHP) solution alternatives would receive stronger consideration in some areas. Kayenta HC was selected as a representative healthcare facility within the Navajo area. Power systems for other areas will be considered in the future study.

Available data about natural resources demonstrates that the Navajo area (which overlaps AZ and NM) offers great opportunity to take advantage of solar PV and wind renewable energy as part of the components to be included in the Microgrid. The

accessibility, accuracy and standardization of the solar data will increase as DOE is putting efforts and resources for it.

Navajo Generating Station is a 2250-megawatt coal-fired power plant located 65 miles West of Kayenta. The Navajo Generating Station is the United States of America's third largest emitter of carbon dioxide [9]. Thus, the environmental concern in the Navajo nation also drives the applicability of renewable energy components for the microgrid. In fact, the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority (NTUA) announced in 2009 the Salt River Project as its first utility customer for an 85-megawatt wind project at the Big Boquillas Ranch and they also offers solar PV services for residential customer in remote locations [10]. Nevertheless, one of the main challenges will be the reconciliation the return on investment with the additional cost of energy storage components.

Existing literature provide background, information and tools for the modeling and simulation of PV systems [19], [20], [21], [22], energy storage components [12] and wind turbine generation [23]. The modeling and simulation tools are very useful to gather additional information about the behavior of renewable energy systems in tribal healthcare facilities. Experimental results will be obtained from the full-scale PV system installed in Kayenta HC.

1.3 The Microgrid Concept

1.3.1 Microgrid architecture

More flexible and reliable power system designs have potential around the microgrid concept. In order to balance the reliability and power system capacity against the capital investment and energy savings, energy storage components and other nonrenewable energy generation are considered. Generation technologies considered for this microgrid application in Kayenta HC are:

- Internal combustion engines (ICE, diesel 600 kW)
- Photovoltaic systems (typical 100kW modules)
- Intermediate wind turbines (100kW-250kW)
- Battery banks (typical 100kW, 100kWh)
- Flywheel energy storage (190kW nom., 225kW max).

A static switch is also necessary at the point of common coupling (PCC) between the utility and the microgrid. The static switch has the ability to interchange the mode of operation of the microgrid from grid connected to island or vice versa. Each component of the microgrid needs to be a peer-to-peer and plug-and-play to avoid disturbances among the controls and the power system protection [24].

It is important to notice that the reliability of the ICE depends on the maintenance of the units. Hence, the Navajo area (Kayenta service unit personnel) requires of proper training, documentation and support in this subject. Microgrids composed of considerable ICE capacity should perform very well handling day-to-day fluctuations in loading and typical load steps [5].

The International Electromechanical Commission (IEC) standard 61400 and manufacturer data available for intermediate wind turbines shows nominal wind speed to be 13 m/s, the cut in speed < 3 m/s, and the cut out speed 25 m/s. However, the NREL database states that the highest annual average wind speed in the zone (near Kayenta) is less than 5 m/s. Under these conditions, existing intermediate wind generation turbines would perform at very low efficiency.

Energy storage systems provide a mean to smooth the shape of the characteristic response of intermittent power generation sources. There are several advantages of energy storage systems for transmission and distribution applications listed in [25]. Lithium-ion technology battery banks and flywheel technology are more

suitable for this microgrid application. Taking field measurements of real time power system data is important for adequately sizing the energy storage systems and proper identification of strategic locations for the installation.

The propose microgrid architecture will include additional PV system modules, addition of battery banks and/or flywheel systems, and the static switch connected to intercept the main feeders at the primary side of transformer. Then, the simplified model shown in Figure 1-2 is modified accordingly and simulation results obtained.

1.3.2 Methodology and proposed studies

It is required to conduct additional studies for completeness of the microgrid research and figure out better alternatives for the feasibility of the actual implementation. Experimental results will demonstrate the behavior and efficiency of the PV system installed in Kayenta. Real time data obtained will be compared to results from equivalent PV system model built in Matlab/Simulink. Experimental results will also provide light about the power quality of the utility and the behavior of the different type of loads in the electrical system of Kayenta HC. This method will define gaps and constraints for consideration in the addition of PV modules, energy storage components and the static switch for islanded operation.

Modeling and simulation is a proven method for research and development of the microgrid concept within the power systems. However, due to certain limitations (simulation time, storage data capacity, inaccurate assumptions, complexity of real full-scale system, etc.) it is not practical to model the entire microgrid with all detailed components and possible incidents over time. Instead, some aspects of the microgrid and specific important incidents (faults, sudden load changes, power quality issues, insufficient capacity or loss of a component, etc.) which we can both understand and

quantify are feasible for modeling. Another interesting topic is the interaction between subsystems added to the microgrid.

1.4 Opportunities for Improvement

Two different categories classify the opportunities for improvement: general and technical.

1.4.1 General opportunities

- Provide better solutions for the quality of power system for healthcare facilities of the American Indian and Alaska natives.
- Increase access to solar data initiative by DOE will enhance accuracy to engineering calculations and models.
- Address environmental concern in the Navajo nation and the US government by providing power system designs with generous renewable energy components. Reduce carbon dioxide emissions from Navajo Generating Station. Consider different types of renewable energy sources combined as DE resources in the microgrid.
- Add research component in the A/E Design Guide and establish new standards for the design of power systems around the microgrid concept.

1.4.2 Technical opportunities

- Improving the PV system efficiency in Kayenta HC.
- Develop accurate models and perform simulation studies for microgrid system and components applicable for tribal healthcare facilities.
- Investigate the interaction among additional parallel inverters proposed for Kayenta HC.

The above list is not all-inclusive. As the research process continues, new opportunities for improvement will be discovered. There are many healthcare facilities with different constraints in the electrical power systems that deserve separate studies that will result in additional opportunities.

1.5 Chapter 1 Conclusions

The purpose of this work is to establish plans and methodology to include the research process in the power system design utilizing Kayenta HC as a subject study. The first step is the facility selection process, as the constraints of the power system are dependent of the geographical location. Then, renewable energy source data is obtained and different technologies considered and analyzed as DE resources in the microgrid. Next, determine existing electrical power system in the facility and define microgrid architecture. Once the possible challenges and solutions are identified, experiments and field test will be performed.

Chapter 2

Kayenta Health Center PV system case study

2.1 Introduction

A facility selection criteria was developed in order to choose a facility to conduct experiments in the electrical power system. In order to determine the best fit for a typical tribal healthcare facility, there are certain important factors that determine the power system load, applicability of renewable energy sources, complexity of the system, and usefulness of the study. These factors are determined by the problem statement outlined in Chapter 1. Each factor will receive a rank (points) in terms of the way it accommodates to the solution of the target problems. The following factors considered:

1. Location – the facility can be located in a metro, rural, or far remote zone. The location of the facility will impact the probability of having a reliable power source (vs having power quality issues) and hence the applicability for Distributed Generation and diversified renewable energy sources. The closer to the metro area the location is; the more probability of having a reliable power system. If the facility is located very remote, the process, schedule and cost of dispatching non-renewable energy sources (i.e. diesel fuel) become more complex. The ranks (points) assigned for the location are metro (3), rural (4) and far remote (5).

2. Healthcare services offered – IHS healthcare facilities are classified as Hospital, Health Center, alcohol and substance abuse program (ASAP), and Health station. The classification of facility depends on the type of services offered and contributes to the complexity of the electrical power system. If more complexity is added to the system, there will be more different type of medical equipment, mechanical systems, computers, electronic and communication systems. The complexity is not

necessary directly related to the capacity of the electrical power system. The ranks (points) assigned for classification are Hospital (5), Health Center (4), ASAP (2), and Health station (1). The reasoning for these ranks is that if a solution is found for a general case, it can be simplified and applied for a specific case.

3. Specific Power Quality issues – The specific Power Quality problems is an unknown variable at this point. In certain occasions DES receive some feedback from the facility management personnel of the tribal areas about specific issues in their electrical power systems. However, due to the diversity and complexity of the Power Quality problems, the facility management personnel seldom times are able to provide an accurate description of the issue. Moreover, the Power Quality issues vary widely from facility to facility. Precisely description of the problems for a specific facility can be achieved utilizing accurate instruments to study the power system.

Part of the process in this study includes the collection of actual data in order to be able to define accurately any Power Quality issue for the selected facility. As more data is obtained in the future for different facilities, a weight factor could be estimated for this variable. Future studies also will consider if there is a correlation between specific Power Quality issues and one or more of the factors listed here.

For the purpose of this study, a neutral value of 3 points is assigned for all the facilities, where 5 points represents that the facility have complex Power Quality problems and 0 points represents that the facility doesn't have Power Quality problems at all.

4. Whether the facility is combined with staff quarters – Healthcare facilities that are combined with quarters include an additional component of complexity. The quarters can be represented as an additional multi-residential electrical load in parallel to the healthcare facility. The ranks assigned are 5 points for combined healthcare and quarters

facilities and 3 points for just healthcare facilities. There are no points assigned for just quarters or residential facilities because it lies outside the scope of this study. However, future studies could consider power system solutions for residential tribal facilities in certain remote locations. The sky city in New Mexico is an example of a residential community without electrical energy service.

5. Size of the facility – The size of the facility is directly related with the population of Indian tribe members that impact, but not necessary with the type of healthcare services offered. The larger the size, the more tribal members impacted and hence the more relatively importance of the facility. The facilities will be classified based on the gross square meters (GSM) of construction as large ($> 10,000$ GSM), medium ($3,000 \leq \text{GSM} \leq 10,000$) or small ($\text{GSM} < 3,000$) and priority will be given to larger facilities such that the contribution of this study will benefit more tribal members. The points assigned for the size are large (5), medium (4) and small (2).

6. Size of the electrical power system of the facility – The information about the size of the power system is normally available at IHS for new facilities (built in the past 5 years) based on the design. For old facilities surveyed recently, this information is available in the facility condition report. However, it is possible to find certain old facilities that the information is not readily available or is not accurate due to project upgrades (or downgrades) to the electrical power systems.

Typical tribal healthcare facilities electrical power system sizes range from a 200 KVA to 5MVA for the normal power. However, normal power design in hospitals usually provides for redundancy and for future expansions. The range for renewable energy goes from 0 to 300KW. Therefore, a target size value of 1MVA is selected for the facility under study in this project. Priorities are assigned for facilities with a power system capacity as shown in Table 2.1.

Table 2-1 Priorities assigned based on size of the facility power system

Power System Capacity (PSC)	Priority
750 KVA ≤ PSC ≤ 1.25MVA	5 points
400 KVA ≤ PSC ≤ 750 KVA	4 points
1.25MVA ≤ PSC ≤ 2.5 MVA	3 points
PSC ≥ 2.5 MVA	1 points
PSC ≤ 400 KVA	1 points
PSC information not readily available	0 points

7. Whether the facility is new (≤ 5 years) or old (> 5 years) – The new tribal healthcare facilities have improved power systems designs as compared to the old facilities. The IHS Design Guide, the NEC, NFPA 110, the federal renewable energy mandates, the EPA regulations, LEED compliance efforts and other codes and regulations are updated over time. The new electrical equipment is also more reliable and requires less maintenance than the old equipment. Hence, the margin for improvement the power system for a new healthcare facility is reduced. It is the intention of the research component added in this study to find out solutions improvements beyond the codes and regulations. Therefore, higher priority is given to new facilities available operationally (5 points).

There are some old healthcare facilities with proposed renovation projects or that recently was performed a facility condition survey or currently under study of the power system from DES. There is additional information about the power system of these facilities which is readily available. For this type of facilities, 4 points priority is assigned. For new facilities under design or construction in the early stage and for old facilities

without much information about the power system readily available, 1 and 2 points priority respectively are assigned.

As mentioned in Chapter 1, Kayenta HC (Navajo area) was selected for the proposed experimental studies. This chapter describes an experimental process and detailed information related to a 100KW PV system case study at the Kayenta Health Center, which is located in the Navajo Nation. Information about the solar irradiance on site, the PV system performance, the power quality at the facility, and observation of the related equipment is gathered. Experimental data validate the theoretical data available for the zone, the facility, the systems and the equipment. Detailed study of existing PV system at the Navajo nation combined with modeling and simulation will lead to a good industrial pilot project from implementation and practical perspective of the microgrid in existing tribal health care facilities. A modified configuration of the existing power system is presented. The configuration provides guidance for redesign of existing healthcare facilities around the microgrid concept. Since the Kayenta Health Center is representative of the average healthcare facility in the Navajo Nation, this guidance will be useful for improvement power system of many tribal healthcare facilities. This in turn will improve the quality of the healthcare service and will benefit the living conditions of significant tribal population.

It was not found in literature articles that specifically address issues related to the power system in tribal healthcare facilities presented in [1]. The Indian Health Service (IHS) is considering a power system design around the Microgrid concept for existing or new healthcare facilities in order to improve flexibility, reliability and energy savings. Kayenta Health Center is a new hospital that began operations in July 2016. The power system at Kayenta HC is over designed, very stiff and traditional. The study of the PV system performance and the electrical load behavior is important to evaluate the

possibility of expanding renewable energy components. This chapter describes the experimental process performed at the Kayenta HC, which focused on a detailed study of the PV system and is complemented with additional examination of the Power Quality at the facility. During the latest stage of construction, the power system at Kayenta HC has been experiencing a significant number of power disturbance events, which result in operational inconvenient.

Navajo Tribal Utility Authority (NTUA) provided two separate feeders, each one connected to a 2.5MVA, 25KV - 480/277V transformer. Each transformer feeds one side of double-ended switchgear (3000A, 480/277V). The system provides redundancy of main feeder and transformer. However, the power source comes from the same substation.

The PV system consists of Suniva optimus monocrystalline solar modules (model OPT # 265-60-4-100). There are 378 modules installed in two different roof areas of the facility. The inverter is Solectria Renewables, model PVI 100KW, 480V. The inverter output is connected to the double-ended switchgear.

Five (5) diesel generators (1000KVA @ 0.8PF, 480/277V) provide emergency power for the entire facility in case of loss of power or power quality issues from the utility. The emergency power supply system (EPSS) also includes three main automatic transfer switches (ATS) to separate the loads into the different categories for healthcare facilities: critical, life safety and equipment branches [1].

Information contained in this chapter will significantly contribute to improved power system designs around the microgrid concept in tribal healthcare facilities. The simplicity of the concepts exposed and the proposed idea will facilitate the design process and implementation in industry.

2.2 Proposed Strategy

The main purpose of this study was to gather actual and useful information about the existing PV system installed in the Kayenta HC. A secondary goal was to observe and verify the Power Quality of the electrical service received from the NTUA. Proper instruments were used to study of the PV system, the Power Quality of NUTA, solar irradiance data and equipment performance (See Figure 2-1 and Figure 2-2). Experimental data collected is analyzed and extrapolated using modeling and simulation techniques in order to produce a modified configuration of the power system or prototype of the microgrid for implementation purposes. A Simulink model representing an expanded PV system was developed using Maximum Power Tracking Technique (MPPT) with Perturb & Observe technique.



Figure 2-1 Power Logger (Fluke 1735) installed in the output of the Inverter

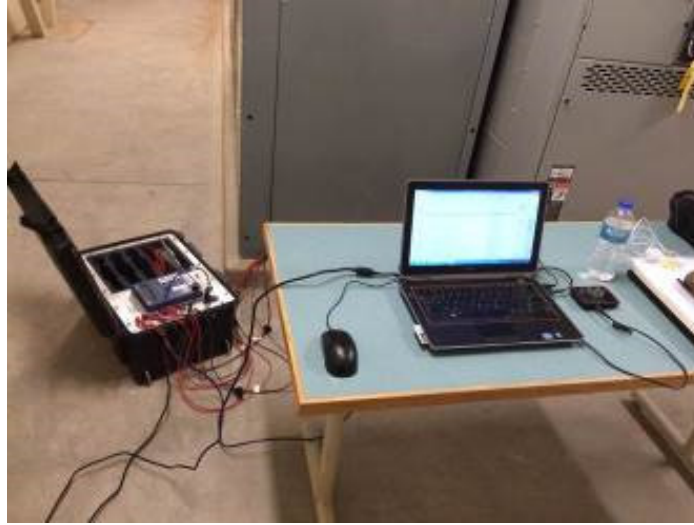


Figure 2-2 Power Quality & Revenue Meter (SEL 735) installed in SES-2

2.3 Experimental Process

2.3.1 PV System performance

A Power Logger was used to monitor the PV system performance at the Kayenta HC. The Power Logger can conduct voltage, current and power measurement to determine existing loads. The Logger is also a general-purpose power quality investigative tool that reveals the quality of voltage supply at any point in a distribution network [4]. The sampling time was preset to every five minutes to be able to record an entire week or more of PV system performance without interruption.

Figure 2-3 and Figure 2-4 illustrate the power and energy recorded during one week for the PV system. The reactive power is insignificant compared with the real power, such that the apparent power is almost equivalent to the real power. The graph shows minimum, maximum and average values. The period of performance is from July 26, 2016 at 5:13PM until August 2, 2016 at 8:03AM. During this week, there were

variances in the weather conditions reflected in the performance of the system. It can be noticed from the graph, some variances in the power and energy due to clouds and rain especially during the days July 30, July 31, August 1, and August 2. July 27 was a perfect sunny day and July 29 was mostly sunny. On July 28, 2016 about 12:45PM until 2PM the graph shows a power interruption. This interruption was due to simulation of a utility power outage (opening SES-2 main breaker) while exercising and testing the emergency generators.

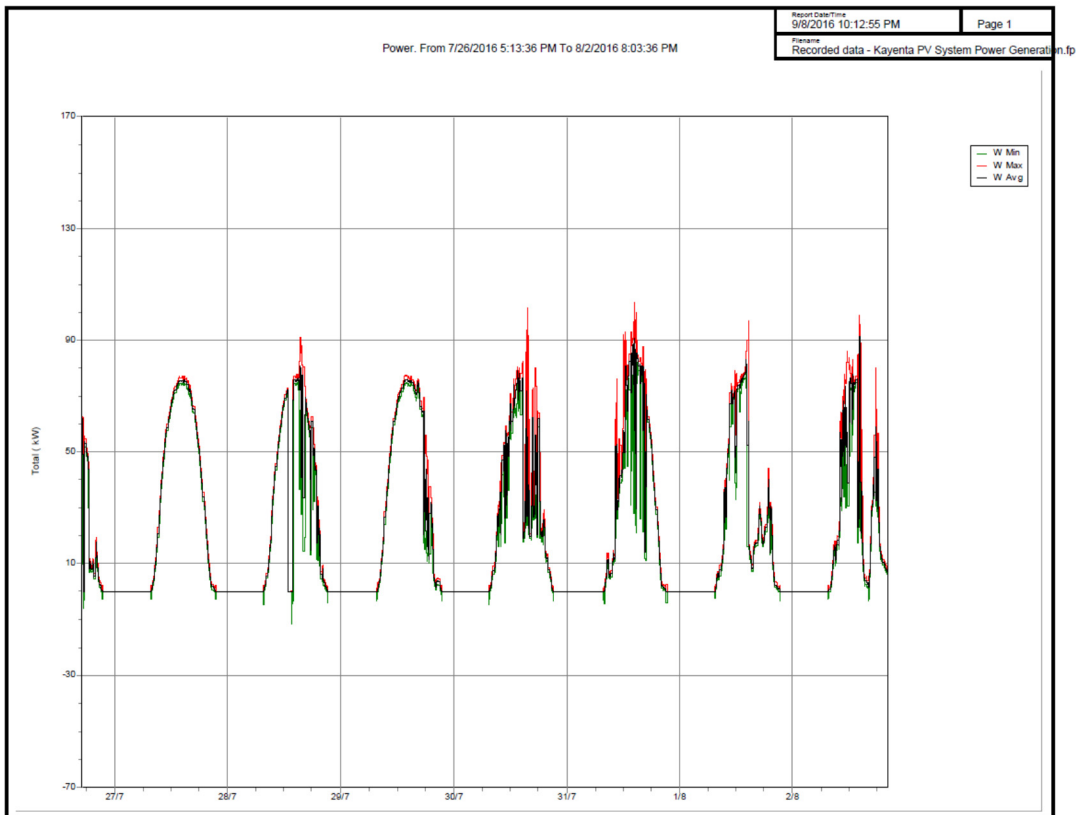


Figure 2-3 Power Delivered by PV system at Kayenta HC – one week

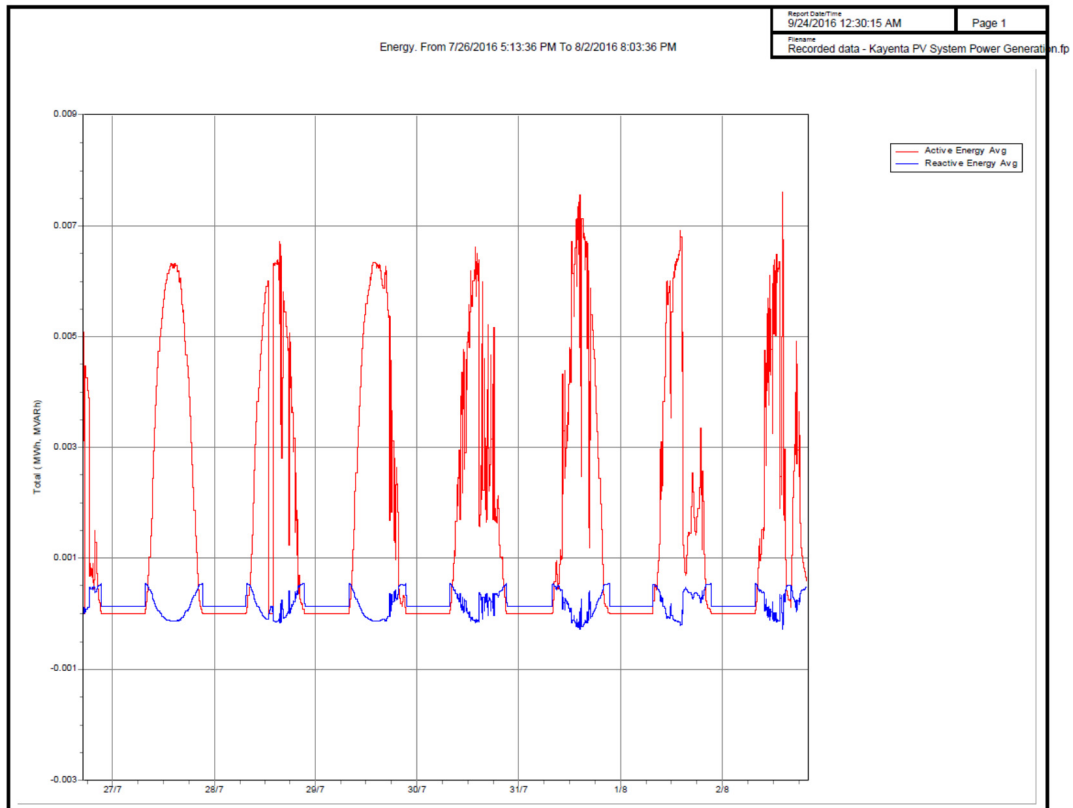


Figure 2-4 Energy Supplied by PV system at Kayenta HC – one week

2.3.2 Power Quality of NTUA

The main purpose of using power quality meter is to verify the events (voltage sag/swell/interruption, VSSI) perceived at the facility. The service unit personnel reported an average of two voltage interruptions every week. The events cause the Chillers and Air Handling Units (AHU) to shut down and the building management system could not handle automatic recovery. It was observed that at least three external events triggered the emergency generators requiring service unit personnel to take action and manually restart the HVAC equipment during the same week. Tripping of HVAC equipment due to voltage sags can be prevented in most instances by the use of a Static Transfer Switch

(STS) [9]. Applying the STS reduce the total duration of a voltage out-of-specifications to approximately 1/8 cycle and the current out-of-specifications to approximately 1/4 cycle [10].

The settings of the power quality meter were verified to match IEEE STD 1159 - Recommended Practice for Monitoring Electric Power Quality. Table 2-2 shows events recorded by the power quality meter. Recorded events include swells, momentary interruption and sustained interruptions.

The average values of Total Current Harmonic Distortion (THD) are around 30% for A, B and C phases and 50% for Neutral. The fluctuation ranges of THD currents for phases A, B, C and N respectively are 25% to 35%, 20% to 35%, 25% to 35% and 30% to 75%. Due to this observation, it was decided during the experimental process to connect the Power Logger for 24 hours to the critical load branch in order to compare with the overall THD of the facility electrical system.

Table 2-2 Events (VSSI) recorded by Power Quality & Revenue Meter

FileType	Version	Date	Time	ChartField	TimeSource
VSSI	5.17.0.2	09/29/16	21:13:39.212	#	Internal
RecNum	Date	Time	Phase	Status	
-1	1	2	14	15	
1a	1b	1c	1g	1n	Vbase-a
3	4	5	6	7	8
DeviceID	FID	TID	NOMINAL ABCG	NOMINAL N	VBASE
KAYENTA	"SEL-735-R115-V4-Z008005-D20151217"	"MAIN SWITCHGEAR"	5	5	120
Event	Date	Time	Duration	Type	Magnitude
#0001	07/26/2016	16:21:47.381	000:00:00.014	SWELL	162.6
#0002	07/26/2016	16:21:47.381	000:00:16.571	POWERLOSS	0
#0003	08/02/2016	15:05:56.329	000:00:00.046	SWELL	246.3
#0004	08/02/2016	15:06:15.210	000:01:11.273	POWERLOSS	0
#0005	08/03/2016	15:23:32.603	000:00:00.029	SWELL	246.8
#0006	08/03/2016	15:23:32.603	000:01:11.277	POWERLOSS	0
#0007	08/04/2016	16:22:38.676	000:00:16.313	POWERLOSS	0

2.3.3 Field Observations

On July 27, 2016 dirt was observed on the surface of the PV modules. The dirt is considered a factor in the overall performance of the system, since it behaves like a partial shadow, avoiding the full solar irradiation of the PV cells. Cleaning of all the PV modules was coordinated and performed on July 29, 2016.

A PV module glass was impacted during a hailstorm that occurred a few months before the experimental process. The performance of this module was questionable, such that additional voltage and current measurements were necessary. Based on these measurements, it was verified that the PV module had an acceptable performance even with the glass damaged.

2.4 Data Analysis

2.4.1 Irradiance data

The light meter was used to take manual readings of the daylight. Daylight, or the light of day, is the combination of all direct and indirect sunlight during the daytime. The brightest sunlight is 120,000 lux for direct sunlight [2]. At Earth's average distance from the Sun (about 150 million kilometers), the average intensity of solar energy reaching the top of the atmosphere directly facing the Sun is about 1,360 watts per square meter, according to measurements made by the most recent NASA satellite missions [3]. After deep analysis of the data, it was observed that the daylight measurements and theoretical irradiance curves have the same shape and are proportional. Based on the above facts and findings, the daylight readings can be normalized to obtain approximate values of actual irradiance. These values are compared with historical values listed in the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL).

Sample readings of the daylight were taken on different days. On July 28, 2016 the readings were taken from sunrise to sunset with time intervals of approximately ten (10) minutes. Hence, this data was selected for comparison. These are instantaneous readings at a specific time during the day, so further conversion is needed to match the historical data from the NREL, which is in Wh/m^2 .

Nearly all of the solar data in the National Solar Radiation Database (NSRDB) are modeled, and only 40 sites have measured solar data—none of them with a complete period of record [5]. Hence, it is important to be able to compare actual data with the historical data from NSRDB. According to [5], the hourly extraterrestrial radiation on a horizontal surface is equal to the amount of solar radiation received on a horizontal surface at the top of the atmosphere during the 60-minute period ending at the timestamp. Based on this definition, the hourly extraterrestrial radiation can be obtained by properly averaging the irradiance over one-hour periods.

Solar irradiance data corresponding to July 28 was analyzed and tested with various methods of conversion including linear interpolation, smoothing data using Gaussian Kernel, smoothing data with a median smoother and smoothing data using an adaptive method. The smoothing data using an adaptive method was selected as it shows better results for this application. Figure 2-5 shows the results of applying this method. Notice the effect of smoothing the shape of the curve.

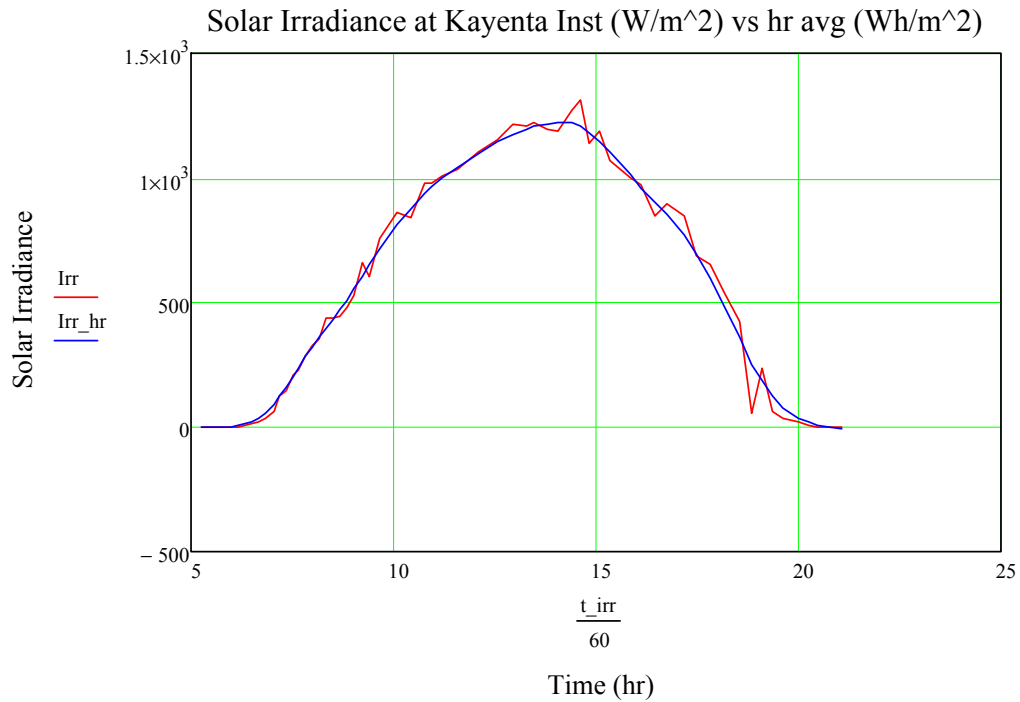


Figure 2-5 Solar Irradiance at Kayenta, Instantaneous vs hourly average

Finally, the actual data obtained, derived in the procedure and shown in Figure 2-5, is compared to the historical data from the NSRDB. It is important to point out that the data available at the NSRDB is from Flagstaff, which is located 150 miles southwest of Kayenta.

Figure 2-6 shows the results for this procedure. Notice that the actual solar irradiance data is approximately equal to the historical solar irradiance data in the zone. The PV modules at Kayenta are mounted on ENRGY Curb TPO 10-01, which provides for fixed tilt at ten degrees, and modules are oriented to the south. It has been proved that there is a correlation between the orientation, tilt, tracking and the solar photovoltaic output [11]. The actual solar irradiance curve observed in Figure 2-6 matches the magnitude and the shape of the historical solar irradiance mostly in the second half.

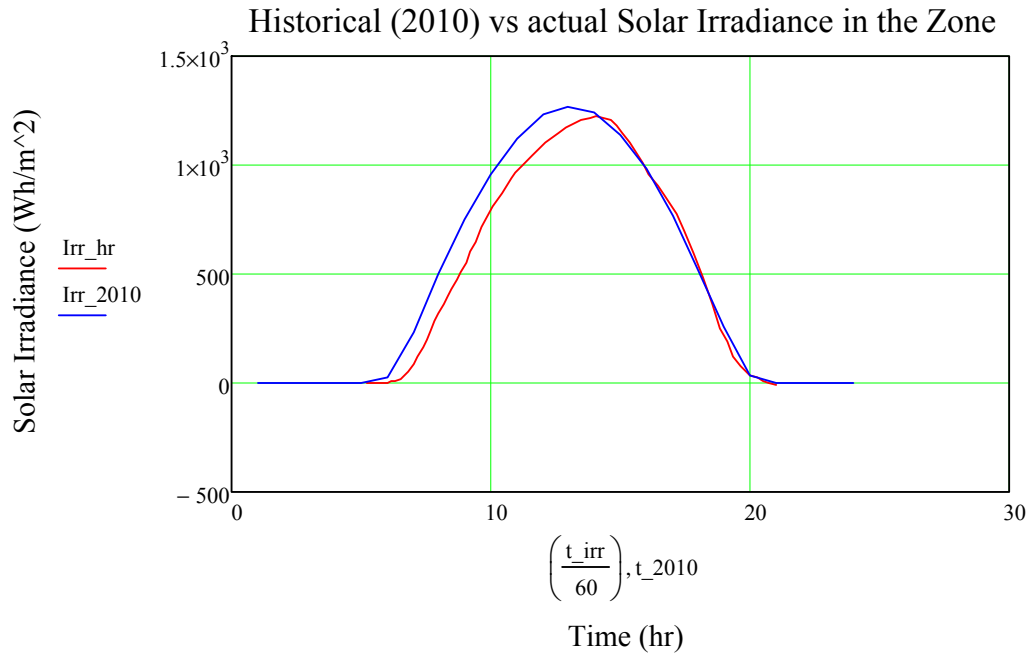


Figure 2-6 Historical (2010) vs actual Solar Irradiance in the zone

However, this method was applied to the data collected on August 1, 2016 and it was proven that it is not useful for cloudy days. Because of the data-filling methods used to accomplish the goal of serial completeness for the solar data, NSRDB meteorological data may not be suitable for climatological work. NSRDB-modeled data may introduce unexpected errors if used for applications that require accurate hourly tracking of true solar irradiance, such as photovoltaic system performance analyses [5].

2.4.2 PV System data

The dirtiness effect can be measure by comparison of the PV system performance before and after the cleaning of the PV modules. However, it is also necessary to consider in the measurements that the PV performance is proportional to

the solar irradiance. The historical solar irradiance covering the period represented before and after the cleaning is essentially the same for each day. Hence, in this particular case, it is only necessary to evaluate the power output performance before and after the cleaning of the PV modules. Although the shape of the curve is somewhat distorted due to the clouds on July 30 and 31, some improvement of the maximum power output in Figure 2-7 can be observed. The difference in the average maximum power output before and after the cleaning is 7.5KW (82.5KW - 75KW). This implies a decrease of 9% in the PV system performance due to the dirtiness. Based on the average commercial electricity rate in the zone and the existing PV system configuration, this factor represents \$1,426.00 per year of energy value [12].

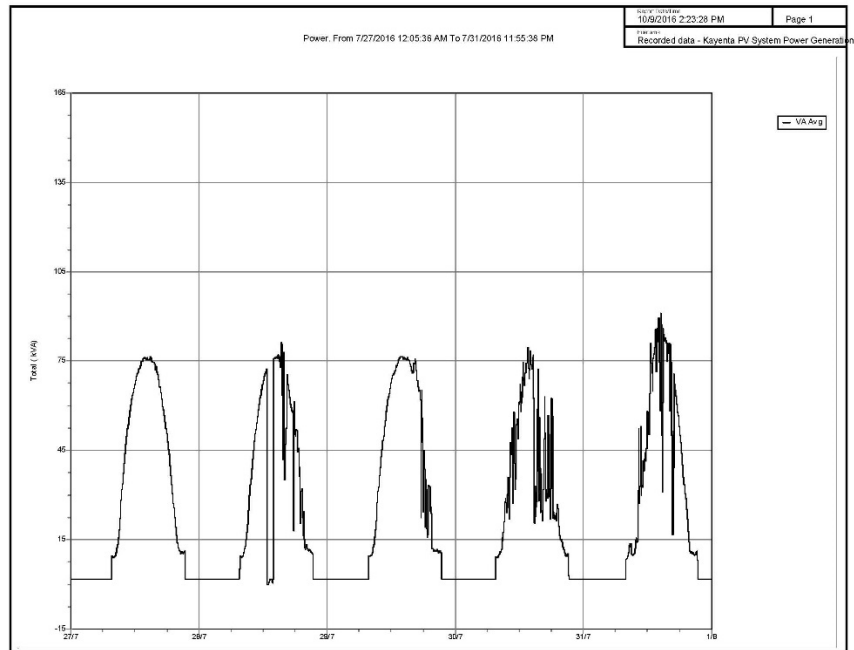


Figure 2-7 Actual PV system Power Output in Kayenta July 27 to July 31

An important factor for the Microgrid and sizing the Renewable Energy components is the electrical load demand for the facility. It is also important to study the behavior of the load demand over time. Figure 2-8 shows the power load profile recorded by Power Quality and Revenue meter at SES-2. Notice that the load profile data was selected to match the same period of the PV system power output from the Power Logger (Figure 2-7). The power demand shown on Figure 2-8 is supplied by the PV system plus the NTUA. Based on this load information, it can be determined how many additional modules can support island mode operation of the Microgrid.

A very interesting detail when comparing Figure 2-7 with Figure 2-8 is that the power demand increased significantly during the day, matching the time where the solar energy is available. The solar energy is obviously useful for peak shaving in this type of application. Even more interesting is the difference between cloudy and sunny days. It is obvious that the average solar power available during cloudy days is lower. Nevertheless, notice the peak demand during sunny days (245KVA, 275KVA, 260KVA) is higher than the peak demand during cloudy days (210KVA, 190KVA). The reason for this is that the higher electrical load in the facility are the Chillers, which operates lightly at lower temperatures during cloudy or rainy days. This is good for the usefulness of the solar power. However, this effect occurs during summer time and further study is necessary during the winter. In addition, there is a power demand average of about 120KVA during nighttime.

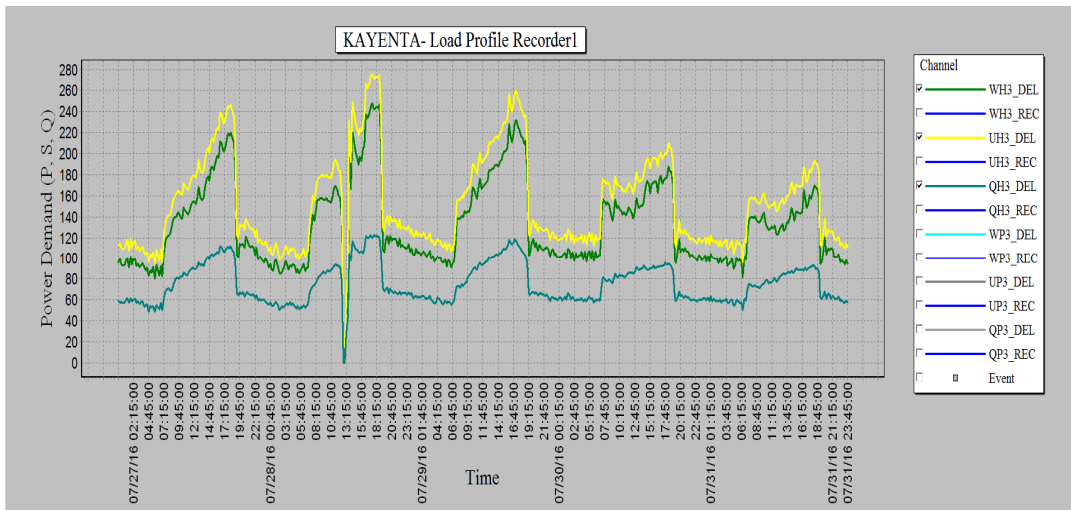


Figure 2-8 Power Load profile at SES-2, July 27 to July 31

A useful tool for planning the PV system resources including the effect of meteorological analysis is available via an interactive web platform in www.renewables.ninja. Figure 2-9 shows simulated power output performance for the existing PV system in the Kayenta HC from July 27, 2014 to July 31, 2014. On average, the simulated performance is approximate to the actual performance shown in Figure 2-7, although some variations can be noticed on July 28.

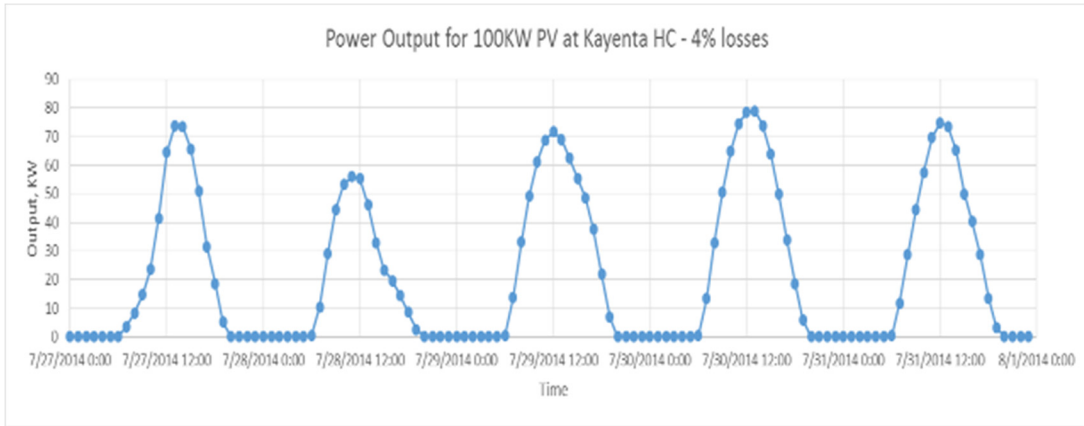


Figure 2-9 Power Output - PV system at Kayenta 7/27/14 to 7/31/14: source www.renewables.ninja

2.4.3 Inverter Efficiency data

During August 1, 2016 to August 2, 2016, sample measurements were obtained of voltage and current on a timely basis in the input and output of the inverter. The record of field measurements and the corresponding calculations demonstrated an average efficiency of 96.17%. According to the manufacturer, the inverter peak efficiency is 96.9%, while the average efficiency (California Energy Commission weighted efficiency) is 96.5% [18]. Therefore, it can be stated that the PV system losses within the inverter are almost 4%.

2.4.4 Power Quality data

The load profile #2 (LDP2) of the Power Quality and Revenue meter records aggregated voltage, current, imbalance, and THD at three (3) second intervals [19]. The voltage per phase averaged 2.89% (285V) over the nominal value (277V) and it behaves steadily, although some VSSI from the NTUA were registered. Figure 2-10 shows the current level performance.

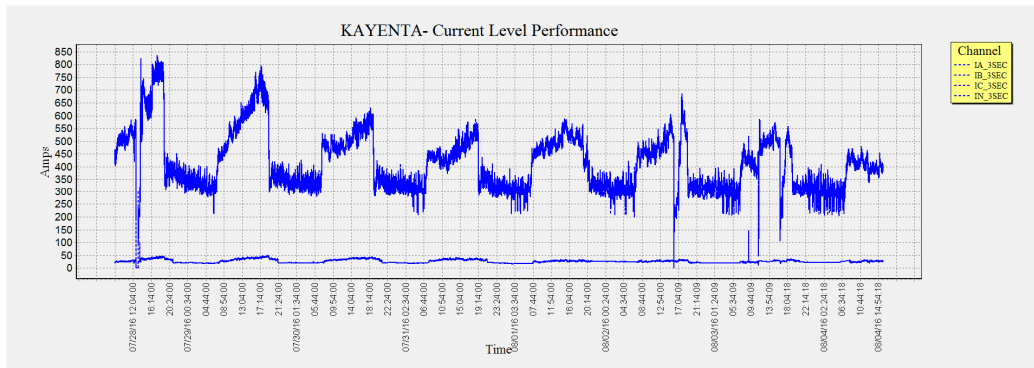


Figure 2-10 Current level performance, Kayenta HC

2.4.5 Harmonics

The Power Quality and Revenue meter displayed high content of harmonic currents, although the harmonic voltages were shown to be very low. The Power Logger was connected to the critical loads during 24 hours, while the Power Quality and Revenue meter remained in the main breaker (SES-2).

Total Harmonic Distortion (THD) current average values are 28.2%, 27%, 30.2%, 50.4% for A, B, C and N respectively. The maximum values of THD currents for phases A, B, C and N respectively are 35.8%, 35.3%, 48.2% and 91.2%. Figure 2-11 shows the THD current values measured at three (3) second intervals from August 1, 2016 to August 4, 2016. The THD current values (average and maximum) for the selected 24-hour period were very close to the values for the entire period. Figure 2-12 show the THD current values measured to the critical loads branch. The THD current average values are 14.0%, 12.5%, 14.9%, 26.6% for A, B, C and N respectively. It is not clear how these THD values at the critical branch can relate to the THD values at SES-2, but some calculations can be done with the information available. The THD is a measure of the

effective value of the harmonic components of a distorted waveform [20]. This index for current can be calculated:

$$THD = \frac{\sqrt{\sum_{h=2}^n I_h^2}}{I_1} \quad (2 - 1)$$

Where I_h is the rms value of harmonic component h of the current. The THD is related to the rms value of the current as follows:

$$I_{rms} = I_1 * \sqrt{1 + THD^2} \quad \text{or} \quad I_1 = \frac{I_{rms}}{\sqrt{1 + THD^2}} \quad (2 - 2)$$

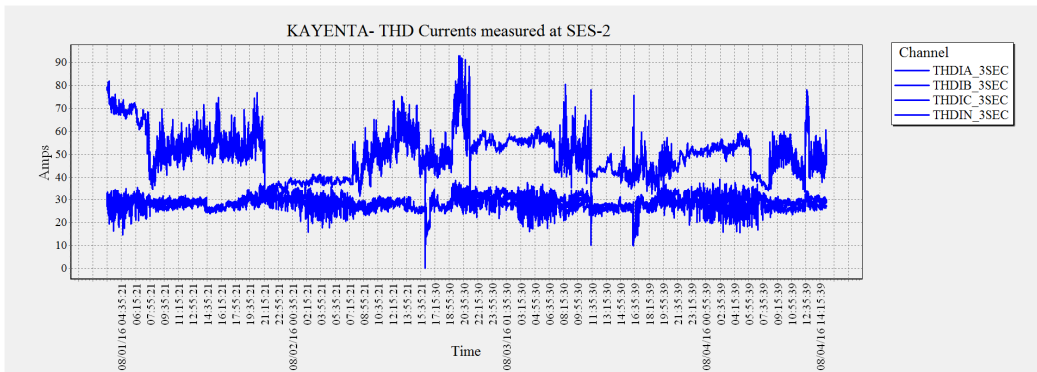


Figure 2-11 THD Currents performance, at SES-2

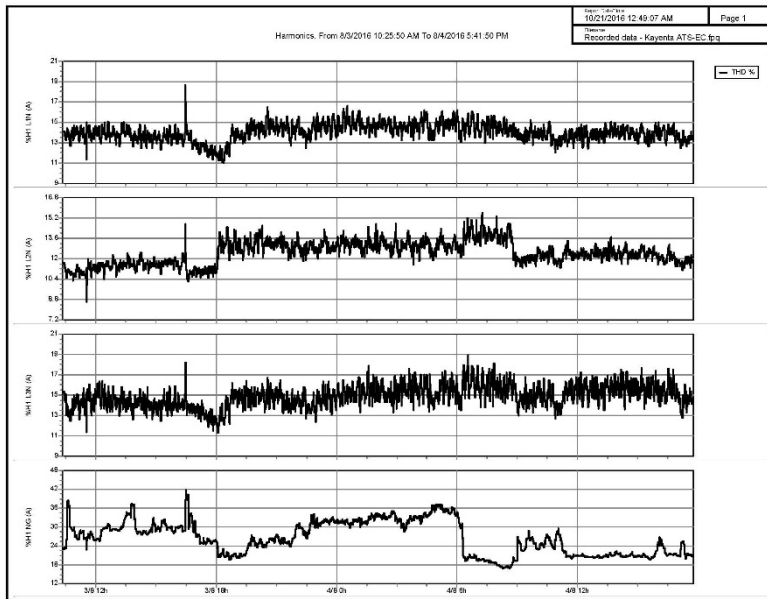


Figure 2-12 THD Currents performance, at Critical loads branch

The average rms currents and average THD are obtained from the data measured with the instruments as shown in Figure 2-13. Hence, the average fundamental component of the currents is obtained applying (2-2). By KCL, the average rms currents and average fundamental components of the currents can be obtained for the combination of LS and EQ branches. Hence, rearranging (2-2) obtain the THD for the combination of LS and EQ branches.

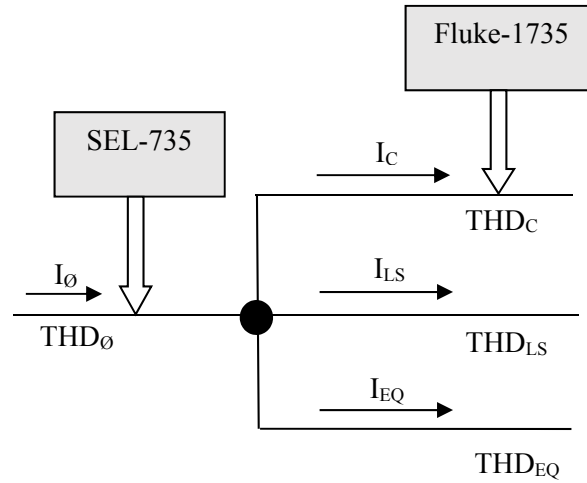


Figure 2-13 KCL for THD Calculations

IEEE Standard 519-2014 refers THD to the fundamental of the peak demand load current rather than the fundamental of the present sample. This is called total demand distortion and is given by:

$$TDD = \frac{\sqrt{\sum_{h=2}^n I_h^2}}{I_L} = \frac{THD * I_1}{I_L} \quad (2 - 3)$$

Where I_L is the peak demand load current at the fundamental frequency component measured at the point of common coupling (PCC) [20]. The Power Quality and Revenue meter recorded the peak demand currents for each phase and the neutral. Table 2-3 shows a summary of the results. The THD of the critical branch is slightly less than half of the THD of the combined LS and EQ branches for A, B and C phases and one-third for N. Most of the harmonic currents are produced in the combined LS and EQ branches. Nevertheless, which one produces more? By observation in the field, LS is the lighter load and EQ is the heavier load of all three branches. Since the THD refers to the fundamental of the present sample in each branch, without taking additional

measurements, it can be concluded that most of the harmonic currents are produced in the equipment branch.

Table 2-3 Summary of harmonic current measurements and calculations

Phase	SES-2				Critical branch				Combined LS and EQ branches			
	A	B	C	N	A	B	C	N	A	B	C	N
II (A)	368.6	370.4	355.7	23.0	71.5	60.3	52.1	15.1	297.1	310.1	303.6	8.0
Irms (A)	383	383.7	371.6	25.8	72.2	60.8	52.7	15.6	310.8	322.9	318.9	10.2
THD (%)	28.2	27.0	30.2	50.4	14.0	12.5	14.9	26.6	30.7	29.0	32.1	80.0
TDD (%)	12.7	12.6	13.0	22.8								

IEEE standard 519-2014 establishes current distortion limits for systems rated 120V through 69kV [23]. These limits increase as the ratio of I_{sc} / I_L increases, where I_{sc} is the maximum short-circuit current at PCC. I_{sc} is provided in the submittal for the short circuit and device coordination study for new healthcare facilities. Calculations show $20 < I_{sc}/I_L = 45.2 < 50$ and recommends a limit of TDD = 8.0. It is important to notice that the Kayenta HC is a single load in a remote location connected to an isolated feeder of NTUA; however, some energy savings can be achieved by reducing the harmonic currents.

2.5 Modeling Kayenta PV System

Modeling and simulation is a proven method for research and development of the PV systems [24]-[27]. The theory of PV system modeling can be combined with manufacturer datasheets of existing equipment, the data obtained experimentally and other resources in order to produce accurate simulations of different conditions and expanded systems. Literature has a lot of research regarding different techniques of

Maximum Power Point Tracking (MPPT) for the control of PV systems [29]-[34]. MPPT techniques are used to increase or to maximize the output power of photovoltaic system.

2.5.1 Mathematical Model to match Kayenta PV system

The existing PV system in Kayenta can be modeled using the ideal single-diode model (ISDM) approach, which is represented with a circuit composed of an ideal current source in parallel with an ideal diode [28]. The ISDM takes advantage of the simplicity of ideal models and has the capability of extracting accurate estimates of the model parameters, directly related to manufacturer datasheets. A complete nomenclature and description of equations is presented in [24]. Input data for the ISDM are temperature and irradiance. Temperature information is obtained from NREL historical data (during July $T_{avg}=19.1^{\circ}\text{C}$, $T_{max}=27.7^{\circ}\text{C}$, $T_{min}=10.3^{\circ}\text{C}$). Solar irradiance from experimental data during a sunny day in July can be approximated with a mathematical formula,

$$E_e(t) = \left[E_{max} - \left(\frac{t}{TF} - \sqrt{E_{max}} \right)^2 \right] \frac{W}{m^2} \quad (2 - 4)$$

Where E_{max} is the typical maximum irradiance during a day in July and TF is a time factor to adjust the data over the daylight period. Notice the irradiance is a function of time during the day.

Parameters obtained from the datasheet (Suniva Optimus OPT #265-60-4-100) are: the PV-cell temperature at STC, Irradiation at STC, PV open-circuit voltage at STC, PV short-circuit current at STC, PV voltage at the maximum power point, PV current at the maximum power point of STC, Temperature coefficient on PV current, and Temperature coefficient on PV voltage. The diode ideality factor A can be calculated from the equation,

$$\frac{e^{\left(\frac{q*V_{MPP}}{k*A*T_{CS}}\right)} - 1}{e^{\left(\frac{q*V_{OCS}}{k*A*T_{CS}}\right)} - 1} = 1 - \frac{I_{MPP}}{I_{SCS}} \quad (2 - 5)$$

The diode reverse bias saturation current (I_{SS}) is calculated and can be used to reproduce the PV cell solar module I-V characteristic and the power characteristic for verification against the datasheet. The PV photon current changes with solar irradiation and cell temperature. Keeping the change in temperature constant and applying (2-4) for the solar irradiance, the PV photon current is expressed as a function of time during the day.

$$i_{ph}(t, \Delta T) = \frac{E_e(t)}{E_{STC}} * I_{SCS} * (1 + \alpha_T * \Delta T) \quad (2 - 6)$$

The updated I-V characteristic equation can be written as a function of time during the day,

$$i_{PV}(t, \Delta T) = i_{ph}(t, \Delta T) - i_s(\Delta E_e(t), \Delta T) * \left[e^{\left(\frac{q*V_{PV}}{k*A_v*(T_{CS}+\Delta T)}\right)} - 1 \right] \quad (2 - 7)$$

Where $\Delta E_e(t) = E_e(t) - E_e(t-1)$ monitor the change in irradiance during minor periods and the value of v_{PV} is determined by the balance between the PV generation and the load. The shape and size of the load can also be represented mathematically as a function of time during the day using experimental data shown in Figure 2-8.

2.5.2 Simulation expanded Kayenta PV system in Simulink

Simulink is a widely use tool for modeling and simulation of different MPPT techniques [30]-[33]. Among the different MPPT techniques are Fractional Short Circuit Current (FSCC), Fractional Open Circuit Voltage (FOCV), Perturb & Observe (P&O) and

Incremental Conductance (IC). The Simulink library browser contains some examples of renewable energy models, which apply MPPT techniques [35]. By taking advantage of the MPPT P&O technique, a model was configured to match an expanded system. The MPPT controller automatically varies the VDC reference signal of the inverter VDC regulator in order to obtain a DC voltage, which will extract maximum power from the PV array.

The model is shown in Figure 2-14. The PV array is represented with 81 parallel strings. Each string has 14 Suniva Optimus OPT #265-60-4-100 modules connected in series. This is equivalent to adding two additional modular systems equal to the existing one (100kW) for a total of 300kW. The PV array block has two inputs that allows varying sun irradiance and temperature. The three-phase inverter is modeled using a 3-level IGBT bridge PWM-controlled. This component represents three 100kW inverters. A 300-kVA, 227V/480V three-phase transformer and STS are used to connect the inverter to the bus bar at SES-2. The facility load shown in Figure 2-8 is represented by the 300 kW load and the existing transformer that connects NTUA is 2.5MVA, 25kV/480V. The grid modeled is typical in the zone.

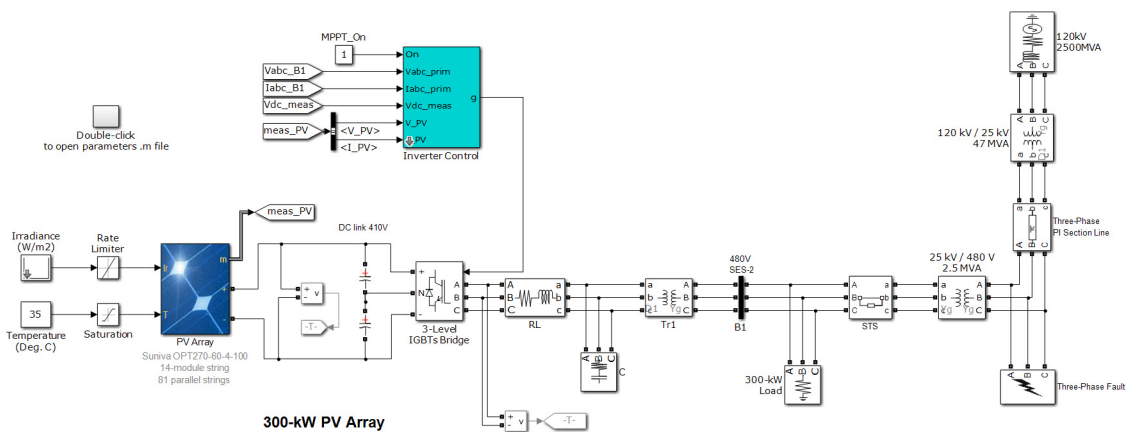


Figure 2-14 Expanded PV System model for Kayenta HC

2.5.3 Simulation Results

Several simulations were performed with the model. As a worst-case scenario, a three-phase fault was simulated very close to the facility. The initial input irradiance to the PV array model is 1000 W/m^2 and the operating temperature is 35°C . PV voltage (V_{dc_mean}) of 418 V and the power extracted (P_{dc_mean}) from the array is 294 kW are close to the expected values from the PV module manufacturer specifications. From $t=0.3 \text{ sec}$ to $t=0.7$, the solar irradiance changed from 1000 W/m^2 to 200 W/m^2 . From $t=1 \text{ sec}$ to $t=1.5 \text{ sec}$, a three phase fault is introduced. However, the STS disconnects the NTUA side in 1/4 cycle and the system quickly clears the fault by switching to islanded mode.

Settings in the Simulink environment for the simulations results are fixed-step discrete solver with automatic fixed step size, single tasking solver mode, unconstrained periodic sample time and simulation time from zero to 1.5 sec.

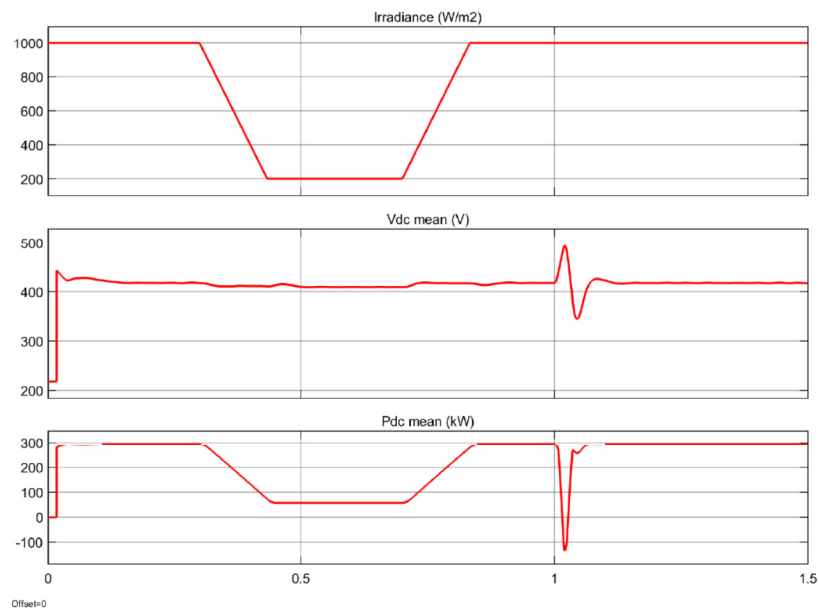


Figure 2-15 Simulation results DC side - Expanded PV System model for Kayenta HC

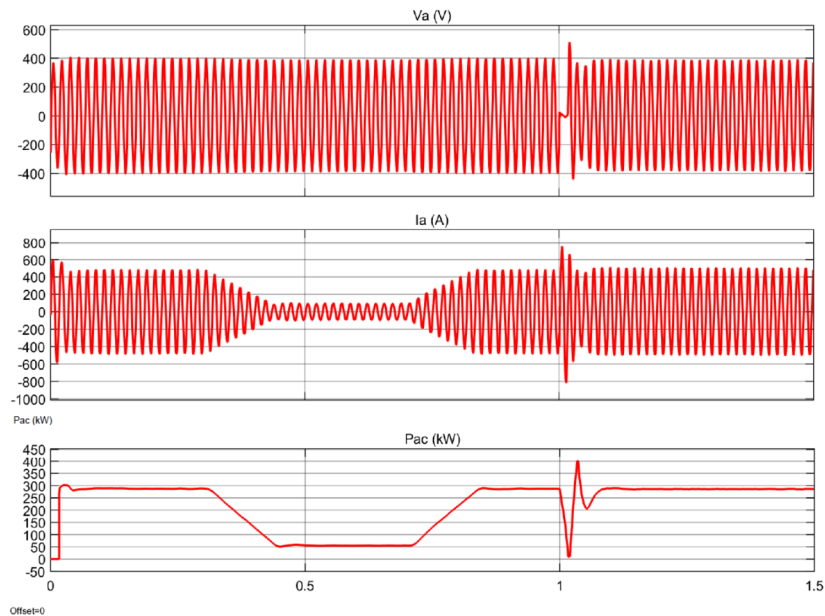


Figure 2-16 Simulation results AC side - Expanded PV System model for Kayenta HC

2.6 Modified Configuration of Existing Power System

Most of the VSSI can be prevented in most instances by the use of STS. Figure 2-17 illustrates a block diagram of modification for existing power system. It suggests additional components of PV systems, wind turbine systems or even reconnection of existing diesel generators to a new Microgrid panel that would be connected to the STS. In grid-connected mode, the renewable energy components are connected to SES-2 through the STS. In islanded mode, the renewable energy components are connected and synchronized to the emergency switchboard. The configuration would maximize the use of renewable energy during extended operation in islanded mode. Notice that proper power sensing and control system needs to be applied for the correct operation of the STS.

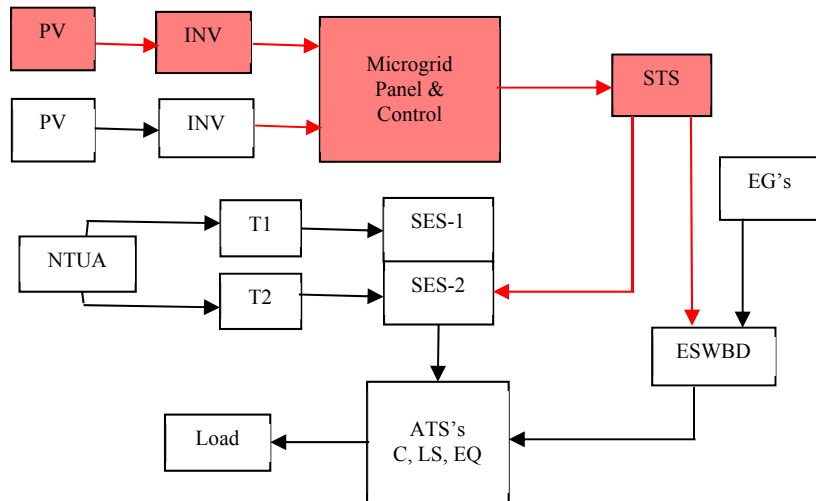


Figure 2-17 Block diagram of modified configuration existing power system, Kayenta HC

2.7 Chapter 2 Conclusion

Experimental studies performed on site at the Kayenta HC provided useful information about the actual solar irradiance in the zone, the existing PV system, Inverter efficiency, Power Quality of NTUA and Harmonics. A method to approximate solar irradiance from manual readings of the daylight was presented. Results proved that existing historical solar irradiance data in the zone and power output obtained from web platform in www.renewables.ninja are useful tools for planning the PV system resources for the Microgrid in tribal healthcare facilities. The difference in the average maximum power output performance due to the dirtiness implies a decrease of 9%. Power demand increases significantly during the day, matching the time where the solar energy is available. Peak demand during sunny days is higher than the peak demand during cloudy days because the Chillers operate lightly at lower temperatures during cloudy or rainy days.

Most of the VSSI recorded can be prevented in most instances by the use of a STS. STS application together with the design around the Microgrid concept can be considered for new tribal healthcare facilities in the zone. By strategically collocating the Fluke 735 during 24 hours in one of the three branches of the healthcare facility combined with some calculations, it was determined that most of the harmonic currents are produced in the equipment branch.

Theoretical equations were combined with experimental solar irradiance data and historical temperatures in order to produce a more accurate mathematical representation of the existing PV system. A Simulink model was used to study the interaction between a proposed expanded PV system with the existing power system around the Microgrid concept.

Chapter 3

Kayenta Health Center used as guidance for concept model for Navajo Nation

3.1 Introduction

The Kayenta Service Unit population of 20,000 is spread across a remote and sparsely populated area. Kayenta is in a traditional part of the reservation. Services are provided to 200 patients each day in continuity or walk-in clinics and in a 24 hour/day, 7 day/week emergency room. The clinic has on site lab, x-ray and pharmacy services. Current medical staff is made up of Family Practice, Pediatrics, Internal Medicine and Psychiatry specialties. Kayenta Health Center is representative of the average IHS healthcare facility in terms of location, healthcare services offered, Power Quality of electrical system, facility size and power system size. Kayenta Health Center began operations in July 2016 and have new staff quarters facilities on the same campus.

This chapter describes the wintertime experimental process and detailed information related to a 100KW PV system case study at the Kayenta Health Center, which is located in the Navajo Nation. Information about the PV system performance, the load demand of the power system at the facility, and additional field observations during wintertime supplements previous experimental data obtained during the summertime. Seasonal experimental data validated with theoretical data available for the zone, the facility, the systems and the equipment is used to develop a concept model for the actual implementation. Targeted information about harmonics provides insight about specific features of the model. Modeling and simulation tools will support the acquisition and design processes as well as the implementation of the microgrid in a tribal health care facility on the IHS New Construction Priority List. The concept model is adjusted such that the actual implementation of the microgrid will enhance the power quality, result in

the design of optimum power system, produce energy savings and reduce environmental pollution.

The Indian Health Service (IHS) has been actively researching the microgrid concept based on experimental data gathered from existing PV system at the Kayenta Health Center [1], [2]. The Kayenta Health Center is a new hospital located in the Navajo Nation that began operations in July 2016. This chapter describes the experimental process performed at the Kayenta HC during wintertime and compares that data to data obtained during summertime as well as historical data available. The information is then analyzed, extrapolated and directed to build a concept model of the microgrid. The concept model is a modular design with improved power quality, low harmonic content, code compliance and wide use of renewable energy. It is anticipated that the microgrid concept model will be used in the acquisition process for a new healthcare facility in the area.

The Navajo Tribal Utility Authority (NTUA) provided two separate feeders, each one connected to a 2.5MVA, 25KV - 480/277V transformer. Each transformer feeds one side of the double-ended switchgear (3000A, 480/277V). The PV system consists of 378 Suniva optimus monocrystalline solar modules (model OPT # 265-60-4-100) for a total power rating of 100KW. The inverter is Solectria Renewables, model PVI 100KW, 480V. Five (5) diesel generators (1000KVA @ 0.8PF, 480/277V) provide emergency power for the entire facility in case of loss of power or power quality issues from the utility. The emergency power supply system (EPSS) provides emergency power through four automatic transfer switches (ATS): ATS-LS (600A), ATS-C (800A), ATS-EQ (1200A) and ATS-EQ1G (2000A). These four ATS are fed from individual breakers connected to the bus bar energized by the main breaker SES-2. Notice that the equipment branch is

divided into two different ATS. There is a fifth ATS connected to SES-1 for non-essential equipment.

Experimental research shows most of the harmonic currents were generated in the equipment branch. Harmonic current components were found to be mainly fifth, seventh and triplen.

3.2 Experimental Data Winter Time

3.2.1 Power System Measurements

The main goal of this experimental process was to obtain wintertime power system measurements similar to those obtained during summertime. The power logger was installed in the output of the inverter to get real time performance from Monday through Friday. The Power Quality and Revenue meter was installed in the main breaker of the SES-2 side of the double-ended switchgear for the same period in order to get information about the load demand profile. This equipment can also observe and verify the Power Quality of the electrical service received from the NTUA. Some sample readings of actual light intensity were taken by the use of a light meter just to verify the solar irradiance data during a snowy day.

It was determined from the experimental research during the summer that most of the harmonic currents originated in the equipment branch of the facility electrical system. Hence, it was decided to connect the power logger in the load side of the equipment branch Automatic Transfer Switches. Additional real time measurements were obtained for one (1) hour successively in ATS-EQ and ATS-EQ1G on Friday (see Figure 3-1).

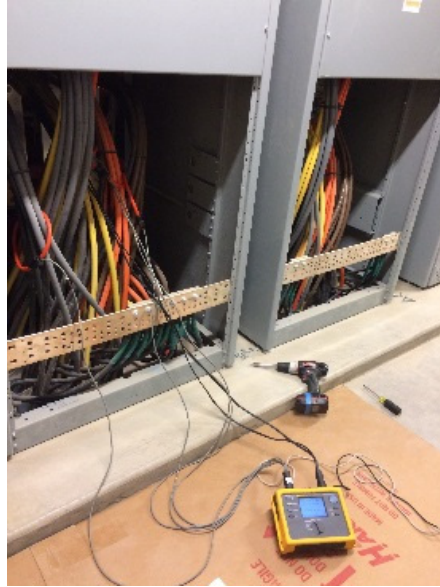


Figure 3-1 Power Logger (Fluke 1735) installed in ATS equipment branch

3.2.2 PV System performance

During summertime and wintertime, the same Power Logger with the same setting values was used to monitor the PV system performance at the Kayenta HC. Information and features about the Power Logger can be found in [3]. The period of performance is from January 23, 2017 at 8:18AM until January 27, 2017 at 11:58AM.

Figure 3-2 and Figure 3-3 illustrate respectively the total power and energy recorded during one workweek for the PV system during wintertime. The total power in Figure 3-2 shows minimum, maximum and average values. Figure 3-3 shows energy levels for reactive and real power. Monday (1/23) and Tuesday (1/24) were snowy and cloudy days, but Wednesday (1/24) was a clear and sunny day. Temperatures were in the twenties and thirties during all week.

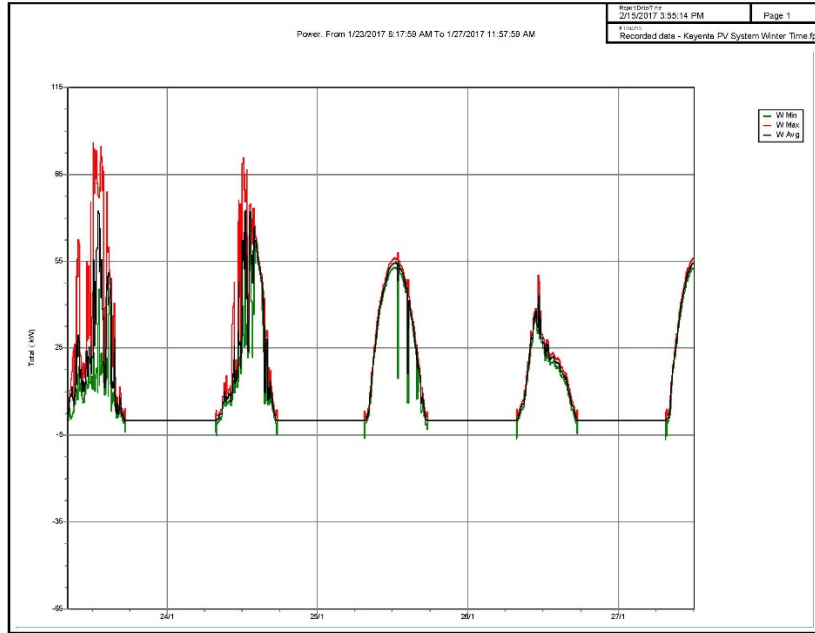


Figure 3-2 Power Delivered by PV system at Kayenta HC – one workweek

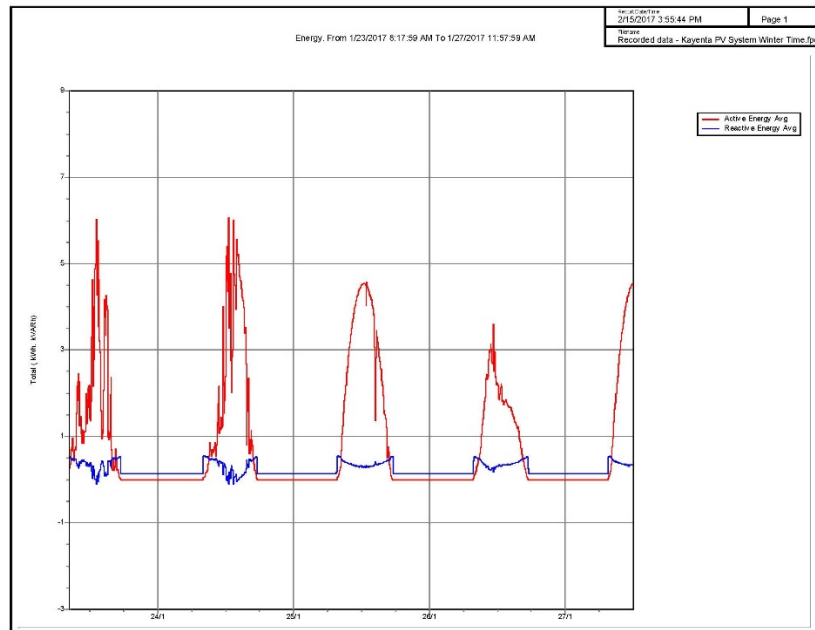


Figure 3-3 Energy supplied by PV system at Kayenta HC – one workweek

3.2.3 Power System load current data

Current load demand taken during wintertime at SES-2 for phases A, B, C and neutral are shown in Figure 3-4. Similar information obtained during summertime is shown in Figure 3-5. An increasing current demand during the day is observed in the summer, but not in the winter. This is due to the higher consumption of the Chiller systems in summertime. The current demand levels during the night shift in summertime are approximate to the current demand levels at all times during wintertime. However, the current demand range varies during wintertime as compared to summertime. Notice wintertime range enclosed mostly between 200A to 400A, but summertime range is enclosed mostly between 200A to 800A. The neutral current shows similar behavior during wintertime and summertime, increasing during the day and decreasing during night.

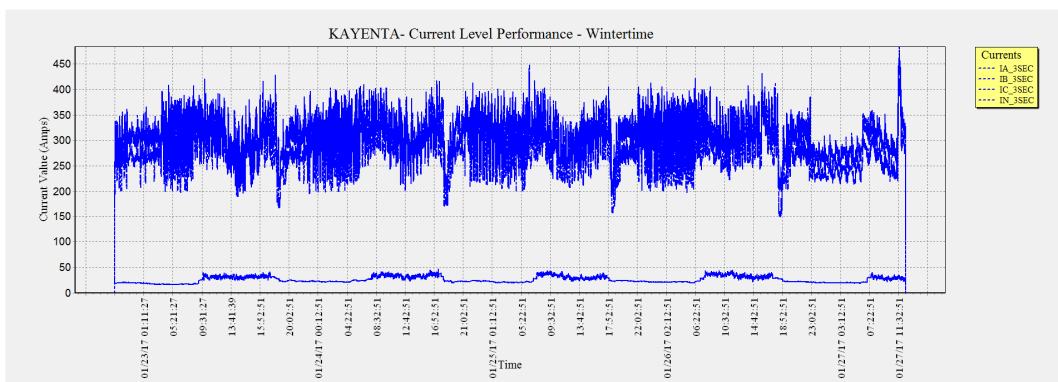


Figure 3-4 Current load demand at Kayenta HC, SES-2 – wintertime

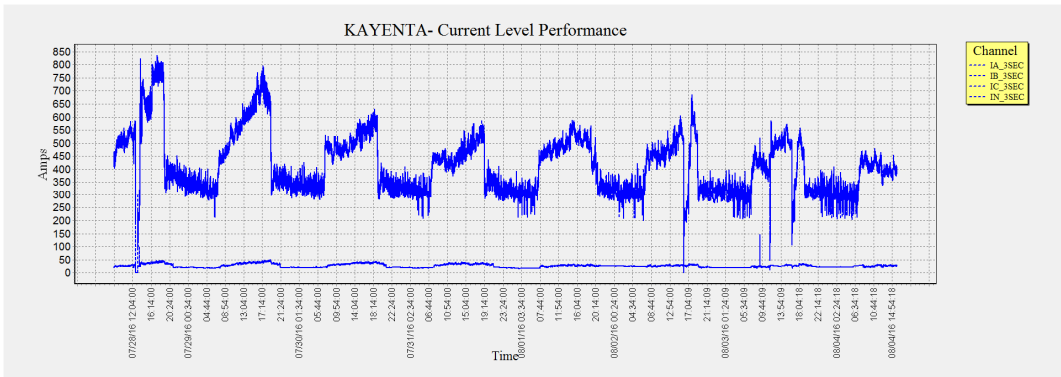


Figure 3-5 Current load demand at Kayenta HC, SES-2 – summertime

3.2.4 Field Observations

On January 23, snow was observed accumulated on the surface of the PV modules (see Figure 3-6). The modules were not cleaned because it is necessary to consider the effect in the overall performance of the system under normal conditions during wintertime. The snow behaves like a partial shadow, reducing solar irradiation on the PV cells. However, this condition will provide information about the worst-case scenario for the PV system performance.

While snowing, strong winds in the area were observed. This was such an interesting detail that it was decided to record the wind speed during this week. The data was obtained from the weather.com [4].



Figure 3-6 Snow accumulated in the PV modules

3.3 Data Analysis & Comparison

3.3.1 Irradiance data

Light intensity measurements were taken during the day on January 24, 2017. For the purpose of comparison, the measurements were converted to solar irradiance using the method established in [2]. Figure 3-7 shows comparison of the solar irradiance during a cloudy day in the summer (7/30/2016) versus the solar irradiance during a snowy day in the winter (1/24/2017). The average solar irradiance was 534.7 W/m^2 and 309.4 W/m^2 for the summer/cloudy and winter/snowy days respectively. In the summer, during a sunny day (7/28/2016) the average solar irradiance was 607.8 W/m^2 . Hence, in this case the solar irradiance is reduced by 12% due to clouds during the summer. However, the solar irradiance during a winter/snowy day is 49% less as compared to summer/sunny day. The reduction factor when comparing summer/cloudy vs. winter/snowy days is 42%. By analyzing historical data (year 2010) from the National

Renewable Energy Lab (NREL), it was found that there is a decrease of 34% in solar irradiance when comparing summer vs winter during the same period [5]. However, it was stated in [6] that the data from the NREL does not include meteorological information.

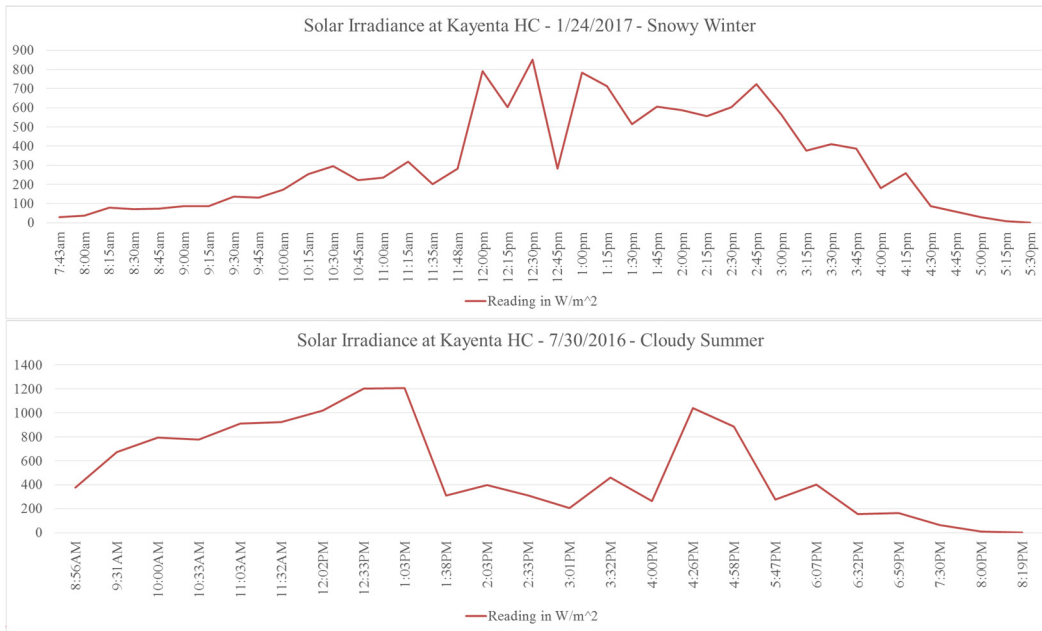


Figure 3-7 Solar irradiance comparison – Snowy/Winter vs Cloudy/Summer day

3.3.2 PV System data

The average maximum power output of the PV system during summertime was 78KW [2]. Figure 3-2 shows that during wintertime the average maximum power is 55KW. This represents a drop of 29.5% in the PV system performance during winter. Similar reductions in performance (30.8%) are observed in the energy values of Figure 3-3 as compared with results in [2].

In [2] it was demonstrated that an interactive web platform available at www.renewables.ninja [8]-[9] was a useful tool and provided similar results to the actual PV performance during summertime. Figure 3-8 shows simulated power output performance for the existing PV system in the Kayenta HC from January 23, 2014 to January 28, 2014. Notice that only January 25 corresponds to a snowy day based on the reduction in performance. Since meteorological data varies from year to year, it is difficult to predict PV performance on a day-by-day basis under bad weather circumstances. However, the mean capacity factor is calculated based on total performance during an entire month including night shifts (when there is no solar irradiation) and therefore is a more accurate number. The mean capacity factor during July 2014 is 24.1%, while the mean capacity factor during January 2014 is 16.3%. The total mean capacity factor during year 2014 is 21.9%. The mean capacity factor is a useful number for planning of PV system resources.

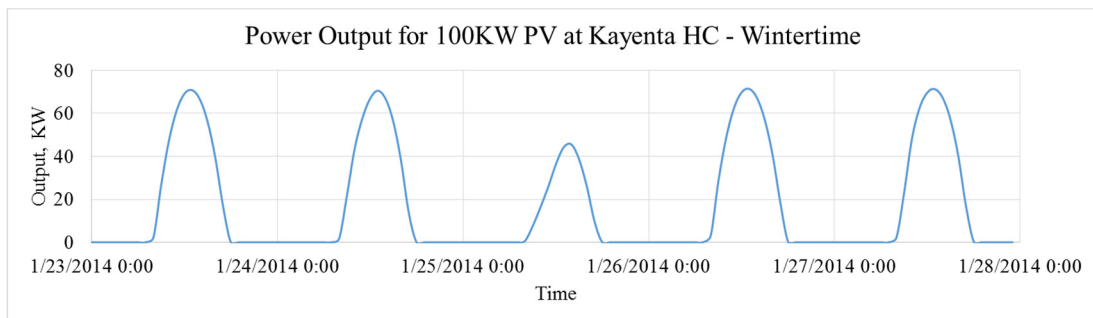


Figure 3-8 Power Output - PV system at Kayenta 1/23/14 to 1/28/14: source www.renewables.ninja

3.3.3 Power System Load Profile data

Power load profile recorded by the Power Quality and Revenue meter at SES-2 was exported to a spreadsheet for the purpose of comparison. Figure 3-9 shows the total three-phase load demand behavior over time corresponding to Wednesday thru Friday in summertime vs wintertime. Performance dates are 7/27/2016 thru 7/29/2016 during summertime and 1/25/2017 thru 1/27/2017 during wintertime. Notice that the apparent, real and reactive power demands during the winter are slightly lower than their respective demands during night shift in the summer. The most notable difference is the increased power demand during day shift in the summer. Table 3-1 summarizes the average values of power demand corresponding to Figure 3-9 when comparing wintertime vs summertime. The percentage decrease during the winter for the average real, apparent and reactive power demands are 34.7%, 35.6% and 38.8% respectively.

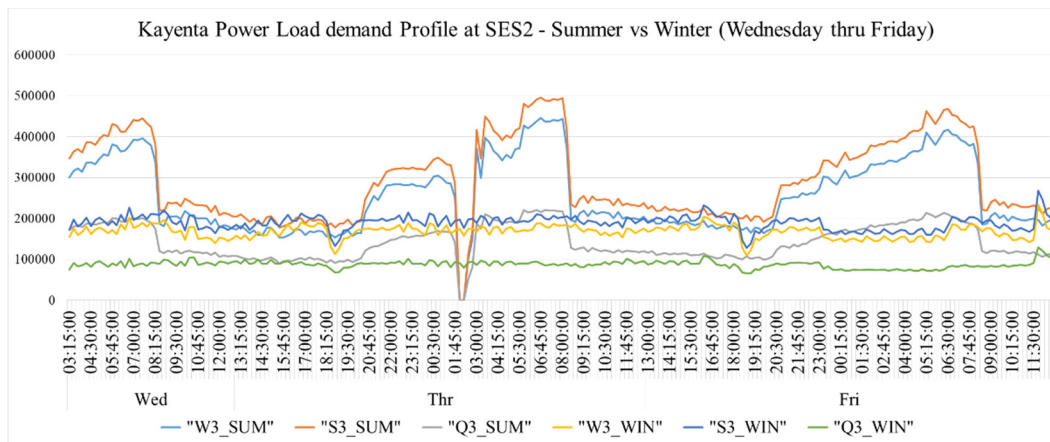


Figure 3-9 Kayenta Power Load demand at SES-2, Summer vs Winter

Table 3-1 Comparison of average values of power - Wintertime vs Summertime

Power	Summertime			Wintertime			% Decrease		
	W3Ø (KW)	S3Ø (KVA)	Q3Ø (KVAR)	W3Ø (KW)	S3Ø (KVA)	Q3Ø (KVAR)	ΔW3Ø	ΔS3Ø	ΔQ3Ø
Average	257.2	294.3	142.7	167.8	189.6	87.3	34.7%	35.6%	38.8%

3.3.4 Wind Speed data

Due to winds observed while snowing, it was decided to record the wind speed during this winter week. Actual wind speed data was obtained from the weather.com. Figure 3-10 shows wind speed recorded from January 24 thru January 29, 2017. The average wind speed during this period was 7.1 mph (3.17 m/s). The NREL provides information about Wind prospector locations, land-based wind speed at 80m [10]. Kayenta HC location results in an average wind speed range of 5-5.5 m/s at 80m. Medium size turbine generators typically require a cut in wind speeds > 3 m/s (6.7 mph) and nominal wind speed of 9.5 m/s (21 mph) to 13 m/s (29 mph). The tower height specified for these wind turbines is typically 30m and up to 48m for the larger sizes [11]. Based on this information, Kayenta location is not a good spot for wind power generation. In this location, the wind turbines would be generating an average of 14% of rated power output under normal operating conditions. However, wind speed varies much from location to location and each new healthcare facility or staff quarter needs to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

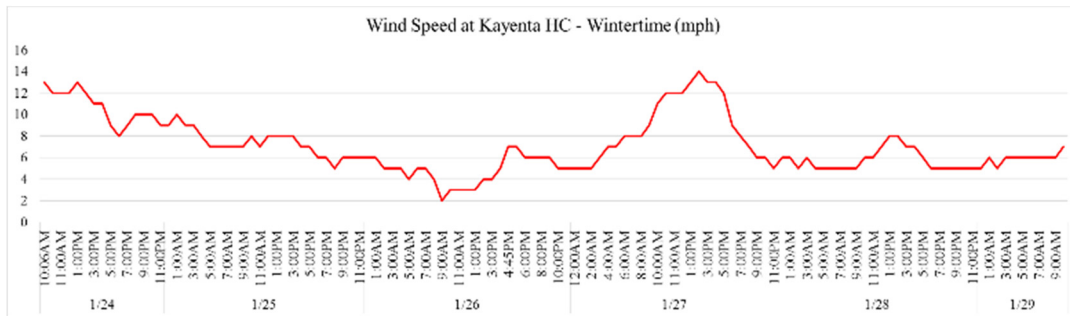


Figure 3-10 Wind speed at Kayenta HC in mph

3.3.5 Harmonics Data

Similar to the experimental process during the summer, during wintertime the Power Quality and Revenue meter displayed a high content of harmonic currents. It was noticed that harmonics fluctuations take place mostly during working hours. It was also observed that the average fluctuation range remained steady during working hours. It was proven in [2] that most of the harmonics currents comes from the equipment branch. Therefore, the Power Logger was connected Friday (1/27/2017) afternoon to the equipment branch, one (1) hour at a time to each ATS-EQ and ATS-EQ1G. In this case, equipment settings were adjusted to take readings every three (3) seconds.

Several views of the harmonic spectrum were analyzed at different times during the day and the views had similar harmonic content. The Kayenta HC typical harmonic current spectrum measured at SES-2 is shown in Figure 3-11. The graph shows harmonic components as a percentage of the fundamental. Phases A, B, and C currents have mostly fifth (14% to 17%) and seventh (6% to 7%) harmonic components. The neutral current has a high content of triplen harmonics being 50% the 3rd, 28% the 9th, and 6% the 15th although it also has fifth (12%) and seventh (7%) harmonic components.

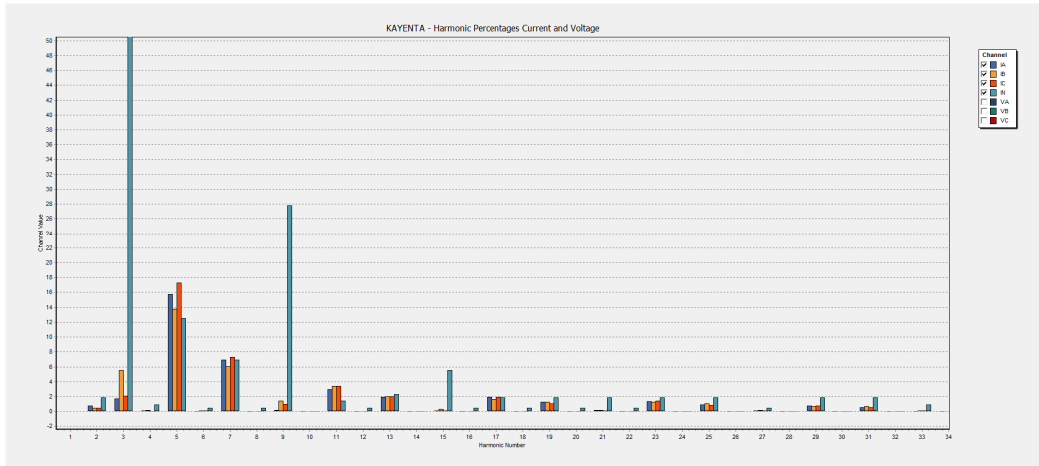


Figure 3-11 Kayenta Harmonic current spectrum at SES-2

Figure 3-12 and Figure 3-13 show the Total Harmonic Distortion (THD) currents recorded over one hour at ATS-EQ1G and ATS-EQ respectively. THD average values at ATS-EQ1G are 40.7%, 37.7%, 46.1%, and 40.9% for A, B, C and N respectively, while THD average values at ATS-EQ are 26.8%, 23.1%, 28.8%, and 23.7% for A, B, C and N respectively. Mostly, the harmonic-producing loads are located in ATS-EQ1G branch. The ATS-EQ1G contains the higher loads and serves power to the Chiller system, which runs lighter during wintertime. Therefore, the THD average values obtained at ATS-EQ1G are conservative numbers.

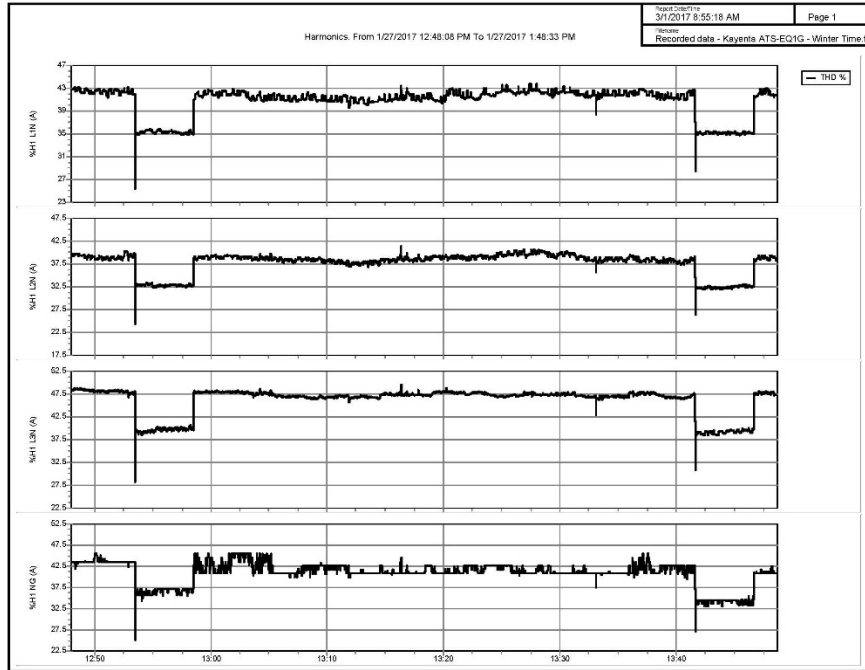


Figure 3-12 Kayenta THD current at ATS-EQ1G

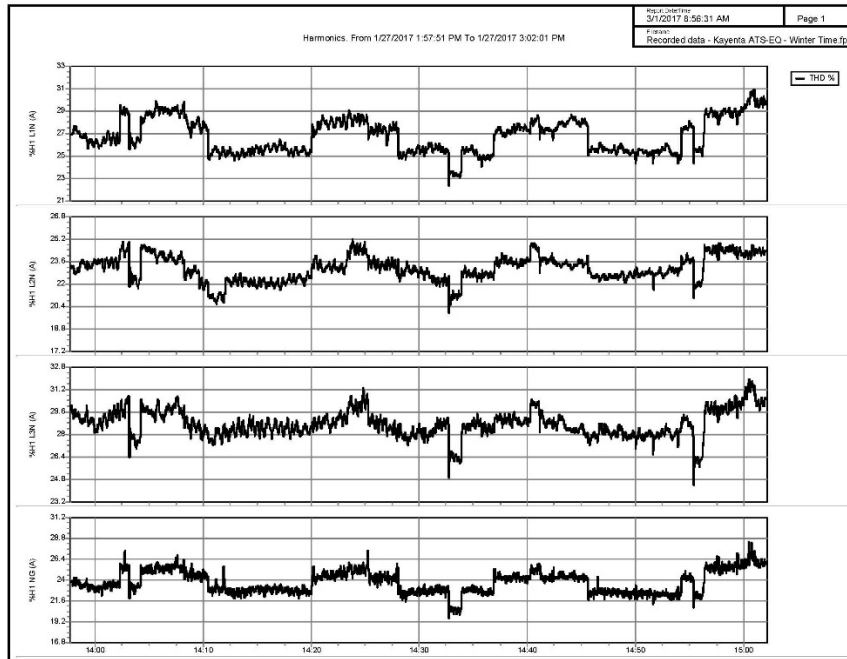


Figure 3-13 Kayenta THD current at ATS-EQ

The THD is a measure of the effective value of the harmonic components of a distorted waveform [12]. This index for current can be calculated:

$$THD = \frac{\sqrt{\sum_{h=2}^n I_h^2}}{I_1} \quad (3 - 1)$$

By applying (1) to the results of Figure 3-11, using only the fifth and seventh harmonic components, it represents 15.2% to 18.4% out of the THD for A, B and C phases. It was found in [2] that the THD at SES-2 was 27% to 30.2% during summertime for A, B and C phases. In the case of the neutral, only 13.9% out of the THD represents the fifth and seventh harmonic components. However, the triplen harmonics represents 57.6% out of the THD.

3.4 Modeling fifth and seventh Harmonic Filter

Modeling and simulation tools are very useful to obtain valuable information about the behavior of a proposed solution prior to implementation in the actual power system. Harmonic filters are widely used for mitigation of harmonic distortion in Power Systems. This type of filter takes away the harmonic current components at the end user side such that it will not pass through the utility meter. Fifth and seventh harmonic filters matching the Kayenta HC power system and load profile are modeled using Simulink.

3.4.1 Simulation fifth and seventh harmonic filters for Kayenta HC power system in Simulink

A model was configured to match the Kayenta power system's highest load based on experimental data obtained during summertime. The system load is 500KVA at 0.87PF. The Simulink model is shown in Figure 3-14. Based on experimental results

obtained, the fifth harmonic current is 17% and the seventh harmonic current is 7% of the fundamental current respectively. Blocks of current sources injected into the system are used to simulate the harmonic currents. The fifth harmonic source is a negative sequence whereas the seventh harmonic source is a positive sequence. The fifth and seventh harmonic filters power ratings (85kVAR and 35kVAR) match the magnitude of injected harmonic currents. Different scopes show measurements of voltage, current, instantaneous power and total three-phase power for the source, the system load, and the filters.

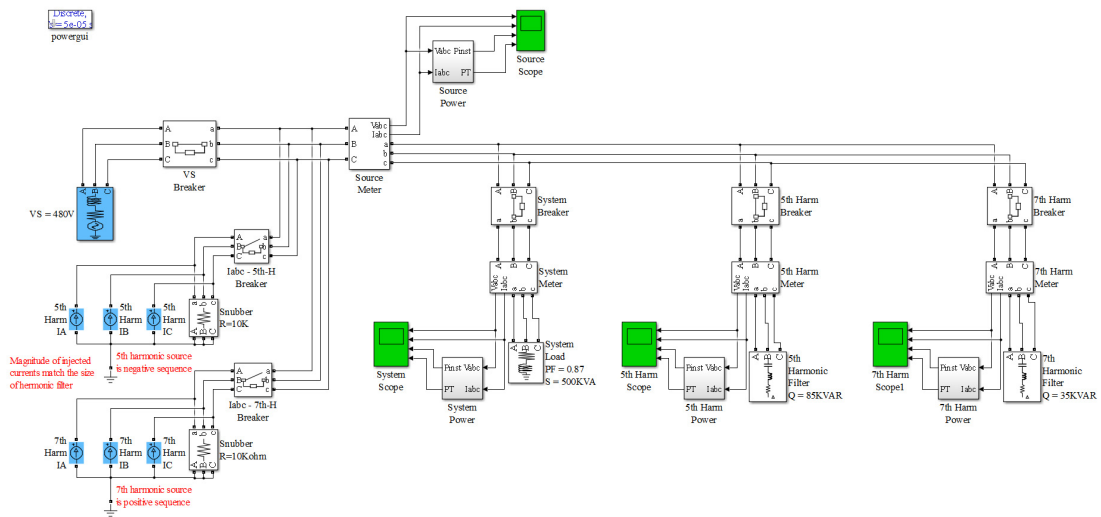


Figure 3-14 Fifth and Seventh harmonic filters model for Kayenta HC

3.4.2 Simulation Results

Several simulations were performed with the model. Figures 3-15 to 3-18 show simulation results. At three (3) cycles, the fifth and seventh harmonic currents are injected into the system. At this time, slight distortion is observed in the source current (Figure 3-15, second graph). Nevertheless, the distortion is not observed in the system load (Figure 3-16, second graph). The fifth and seventh harmonic filters absorb the

respective harmonic currents and show this content in the second graph of Figures 3-17 and 3-18. The system total three-phase power show less ripple as compared to the source total three-phase power (Figures 3-16 and 3-15, fourth graph). The filters absorbs most of the total three-phase power ripple (see fourth graph, Figures 3-17 and 3-18).

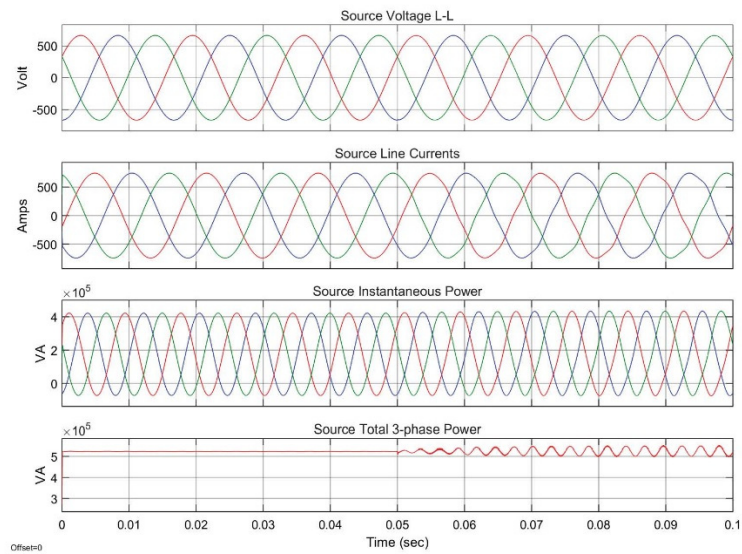


Figure 3-15 Voltage, Current, Instantaneous Power and total 3 \emptyset power at the Source, 5th and 7th harmonics injected at 3 cycles

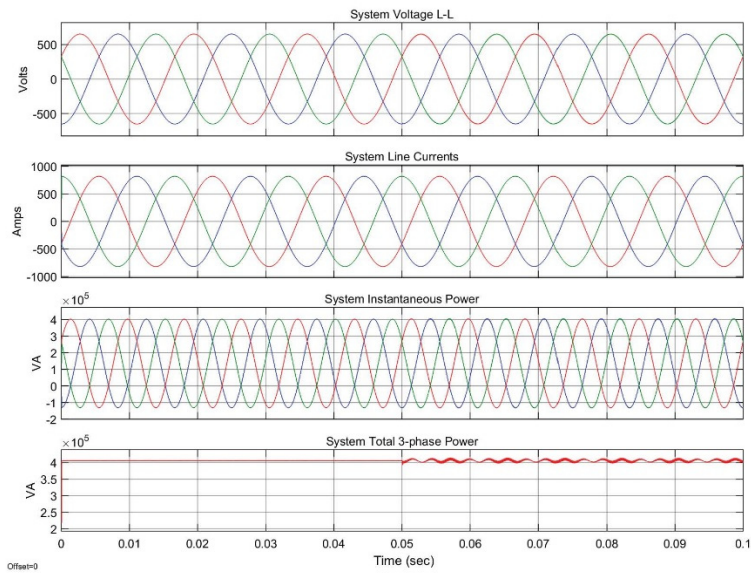


Figure 3-16 Voltage, Current, Instantaneous Power and total 3 \emptyset power at the System load, 5th and 7th harmonics injected at 3 cycles

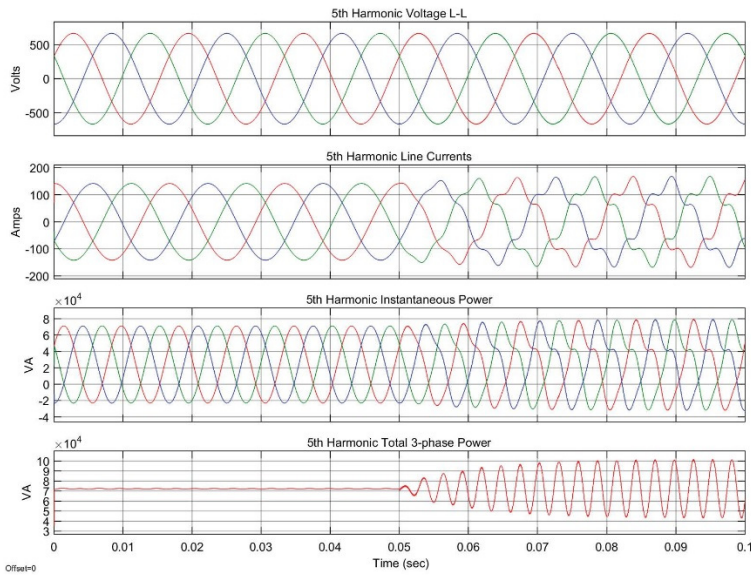


Figure 3-17 Voltage, Current, Instantaneous Power and total 3 \emptyset power at the 5th harmonic filter, 5th and 7th harmonics injected at 3 cycles

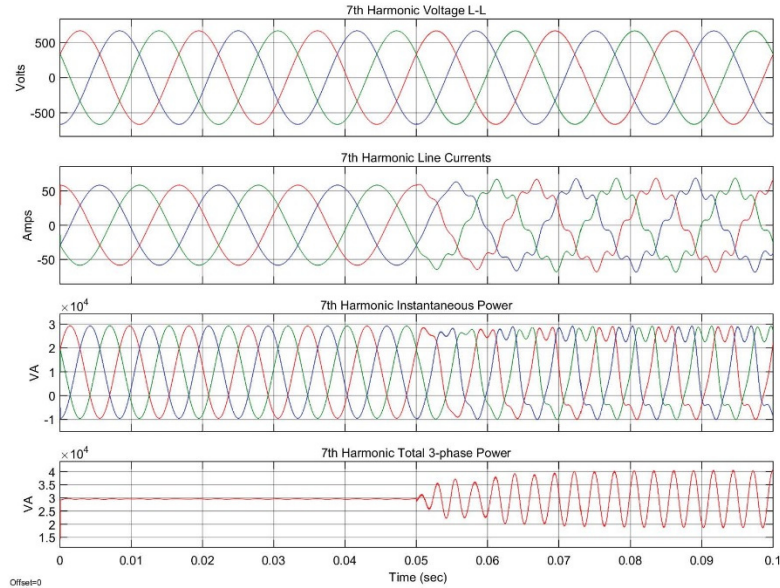


Figure 3-18 Voltage, Current, Instantaneous Power and total 3 \emptyset power at the 7th harmonic filter, 5th and 7th harmonics injected at 3 cycles

3.5 Microgrid Concept Model for Navajo Nation

The concept model is a general solution intended to be applicable for any tribal healthcare facility or staff quarter located in the Navajo Nation. It is based on seasonal experimental data collected in Kayenta HC. The concept model will be adjusted and expanded in the form of a proposal for a specific new construction tribal healthcare facility. Figure 3-19 shows a diagram configuration of the concept model for microgrid in Navajo Nation. Power system components in cyan color are typically installed and required for tribal healthcare facilities, whereas components in magenta color are new or optional for the microgrid configuration.

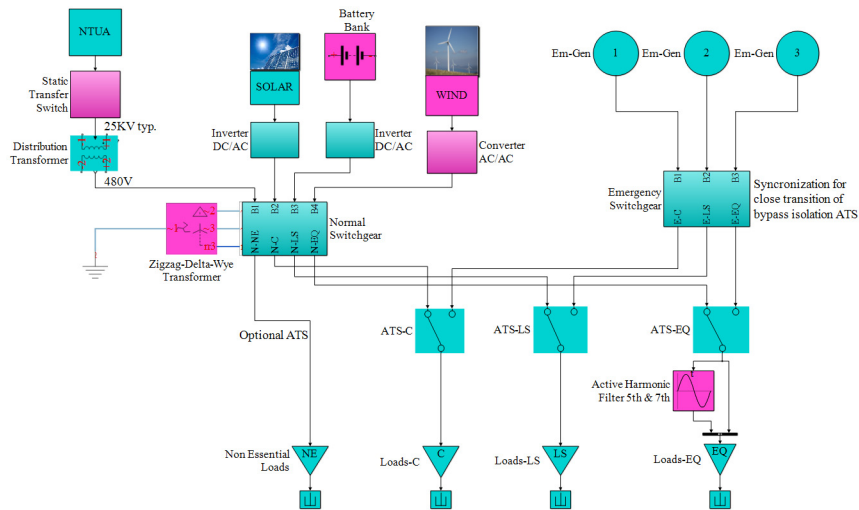


Figure 3-19 Diagram configuration of the concept model for microgrid in Navajo nation tribal healthcare facilities

3.5.1 Code compliance

For healthcare facilities where failure of the electrical equipment to perform could result in loss of human life and safety, the Emergency Power Supply Systems (EPSSs) are required and classified as level one (1). The NFPA 99 handbook explains, “It should be clearly noted that there must always be at least two independent power sources, and at least one of them must be located on-site” (6.4.1) [14]. NFPA 99 states that “dual sources of normal power shall be considered but shall not constitute an alternate source of power as described in this chapter” (6.4.1.1.1). Function of the ATSS is to make the normal power source independent from the alternate source. Hence, the microgrid for healthcare facilities is a hybrid model of traditional microgrid with distributed energy resources (DER) combined with code required reliable alternate power sources. At least three emergency generators with appropriate capacity are indicated in order to improve reliability of the alternate power source.

3.5.2 Improved Power Quality

The application of the static transfer switch (STS) depends on the sizing and capacity of the combined DER. Whenever the combined DER can supply enough power to meet 100% of the healthcare facility electrical loads, the static transfer switch will operate in case of a power disruption or poor quality of NTUA. In such cases, DER will provide redundancy to NTUA and the microgrid will enhance the power quality and continuous operation of equipment. The STS function can be combined with load shedding and proper operation of the inverter to prioritize the microgrid over the alternate source. In remote locations where there is no access to the NTUA or the cost of accessing the NTUA is prohibited, a prime power generator will replace the blocks of NTUA and distribution transformer and the static transfer switch will not be necessary.

By providing adequate capacity of DER combined with energy storage, the system will have a smooth transition from NTUA power disruption to islanded mode to alternate power source connection by means of bypass isolation ATSS.

3.5.3 Low harmonic system

The effects of any harmonic currents on neutral conductors and equipment is a very important factor required to be considered in the design of the distribution system (NFPA 99, 6.4.1.1.1.2) [14]. A zigzag transformer is connected through a breaker to the normal power switchgear bus bar. In addition, an active harmonic filter for fifth and seventh components is connected to the load side of the equipment branch ATS. It is necessary to coordinate proper sizing and capacity of the harmonic filter and zigzag transformer. Low harmonic systems result in the design of optimum power system, reduce unnecessary equipment oversizing, and produce energy savings.

3.5.4 Renewable energy

Solar PV systems and Wind turbine systems are considered in the concept model for the Navajo Nation. Wind turbine technology is optional and is evaluated on a case-by-case basis, since feasibility depends on the natural resources available at the project location. Solar PV systems are applicable in most cases in the Navajo Nation. The energy storage component will stabilize the power supplied by the DER. This is an optional feature based on the DES goals for system performance and budget constraints for the specific project. Renewable energy technologies will produce energy savings and reduce environmental pollution.

3.5.5 Modular design

The normal power switchgear shall include spaces and/or spare breakers to connect additional modules of DER in the future. String inverters are used especially when the PV panels are located in parking carport roof or far from the electrical room. Due to the smaller size of the String inverters, they are distributed through intermediate electrical panels connected to the normal power switchgear. Smart inverters with virtual oscillator control technology will respond faster to sudden load fluctuations [15]. The microgrid controller will ensure peak performance, stability, reliability and flexibility for future upgrades of the microgrid.

3.5 Chapter 3 Conclusion

The optimum case for solar irradiance is the summer/sunny day. Solar irradiance is reduced by 12% due to clouds during the summer, while during a winter/snowy day is reduced by 49%. Historical data (2010) from the NREL shows a decrease of 34% in solar

irradiance when comparing summer vs. winter during the same period. The average maximum power output of the PV system is reduced by 30% during wintertime with respect to summertime. Nevertheless, the load demand of Kayenta HC during wintertime is reduced by 35%. The mean capacity factor is a useful number for planning of PV system resources.

Additional research is necessary for a detailed study about STS function combined with load shedding and proper operation of the inverter to prioritize the microgrid over the alternate source. The inverter system needs to comply with IEEE 1547 and NEC 690.61 and de-energizes when there is an outage from the utility. Nevertheless, the STS operates very fast compared to the system ATs and proper device coordination is necessary.

Fifth and seventh harmonic filters for the phase currents and zigzag transformers for triplen harmonics in the neutral currents will solve most of the harmonic problems and will ensure harmonic currents to be within current distortion limits established in IEEE Standard 519-2014. In Kayenta (or proposed similar facility within the Navajo Nation), the better location for the zigzag transformer is in the load side of ATS-EQ1G. In addition, some energy savings can be achieved by reducing the harmonic currents. Modeling and simulation of fifth and seven harmonic filters demonstrated a feasible solution for this condition, which is typical for tribal healthcare facilities.

A concept model of microgrid for tribal healthcare facilities in the Navajo nation was developed. The model is a power system modular design with improved power quality, low harmonic system, code compliance and wide use of renewable energy. The concept model contains the necessary features in order to develop a business proposal with different options.

Chapter 4

Proposal for Dilkon health center in the Navajo Nation based on Microgrid concept model

4.1 Executive Summary

The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE's) Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability defines a "microgrid" as a group of "interconnected loads and distributed energy resources within clearly defined electrical boundaries that acts as a single controllable entity with respect to the grid." A microgrid can connect and disconnect from the national power grid to enable it to operate in both grid-connected or "island-mode". The DOE has identified a number of benefits and challenges to microgrids:

Microgrid Benefits

- Enables grid modernization
- Integrates multiple Smart Grid Technologies
- Enhances integration of distributed and renewable energy sources
- Meets end-user needs by ensuring energy supply for critical loads, controlling power quality and reliability at the local level
- Promotes customer participation through demand side management
- Supports the microgrid by handling sensitive loads and supplying ancillary loads to the bulk power system

Microgrid Technical Challenges

- Reliable Operations and Control
- Energy Storage
- Component Designs and Compatibility
- Analytical Tools

- Reliability
- Communications

Because of the demonstrated benefits, the Indian Health Service (IHS) has been exploring all aspects of the microgrid concept for use at its new healthcare facilities, including ways to overcome the technical challenges cited above. The IHS' Division of Engineering Services (DES) has been gathering experimental data from existing photovoltaic (PV) systems, solar radiation, and electrical power systems at Kayenta Healthcare Center and Alternative Rural Hospital in Arizona.

The findings from this on-going research process have been assembled into a series of three (3) technical documents that are discussed in this proposal, and the data obtained from the Kayenta facility is summarized herein and utilized to predict performance of the anticipated power systems at a new IHS facility to be constructed for the Navajo Nation in Dilkon, Arizona (about to commence under design). As this proposal discusses, the ultimate goal of the IHS is to utilize microgrid technology to improve the electrical power quality at all new IHS healthcare facilities, as well as to explore and maximize the use of renewable energy resources to achieve energy savings.

Multiple options and sub-options were analyzed and compared based on benefit versus cost. The Expanded solar PV system (500 kW) with the battery bank of 500kW/200kWh (Option III.b in Table 4-6) is recommended as the best alternative for a combination of energy savings and power quality solutions versus the necessary investment. This system requires an initial investment of \$1,929,890.

4.2 Background

The Indian Health Service (IHS) has been actively researching the microgrid concept using experimental data gathered from the existing photovoltaic (PV) system, solar

radiation and electrical power system and equipment at the Kayenta Health Center (HC). The research process was documented in a sequence of three (3) papers as stated below,

1. *Challenges and Opportunities: Microgrid Modular Design for Tribal Healthcare Facilities*
 - a) Presented in North American Power Symposium (conference), Denver CO, Sept 18-20, 2016.
 - b) Published in IEEE Xplore Digital Library, November 21, 2016.
2. *Microgrid Modular Design for Tribal Healthcare Facilities: Kayenta Health Center PV system case study*
 - a) Presented in Industrial & Commercial Power System Conference, Niagara Falls, Ontario, CA, May 8-11, 2017.
 - b) Published in IEEE Xplore Digital Library, June 12, 2017.
3. *Microgrid Modular Design for Tribal Healthcare Facilities: Kayenta Health Center used as guidance for concept model for Navajo Nation*
 - a) Presented in Industrial Applications Society Annual Meeting 2017, Cincinnati, OH, October 2-5, 2017.
 - b) Published in IEEE Xplore Digital Library, November 09, 2017.

The research process provided valuable insight about the concept, advantages, challenges, feasibility, and requirements for the implementation of microgrid technology in IHS healthcare facilities and/or staff quarters. The experimental results discovered useful data related to the behavior of the PV system as well as the power system of a typical healthcare facility located within the Navajo Nation. Since the research was targeted to the Navajo Nation, the Dilkon HC is selected as the first facility to be considered for microgrid implementation. Dilkon happens to be located 87 miles east of

Flagstaff. Flagstaff was the nearest city that contains historical data from the National Renewable Energy Lab (NREL) used for comparison with actual experimental data recorded at Kayenta HC. Dilkon latitude (35.385° N) is almost the same as Flagstaff (35.2° N), which provides a good correlation for the solar irradiation resources data.

The Kayenta HC and Ft. Yuma HC (currently under construction) provides some insight about the sizing of the power and the renewable energy systems for the Dilkon HC. The Kayenta HC was the subject study for experimental research documented in the three papers noted above. The Ft. Yuma HC is being built with a significant solar power system in an effort to get closer to the net zero energy building concept. Table 4-1 shows size comparison for the three (3) facilities. The Kayenta HC actual emergency load was 30.8% of the design load, while the normal power load (emergency plus remaining) was around 19.8% of the design load.

Table 4-1 Size comparison of existing facilities with Dilkon HC

Facility	Kayenta HC	Ft. Yuma HC	Dilkon HC
Size (GSM)	16,878	7,088	14,307
Normal power load (KVA)	3,530 (700 actual exp.)	1,594	1,575
Emergency load (KVA)	1,623 (500 actual exp.)		
PV system (KW)	100	300	TBD
Source	Actual design	Actual design	Site selection and evaluation report (August 2016), DHC RFP 4-25-2017

4.3 Purpose

The purpose of this proposal is to explore the feasibility and cost effectiveness of implementing microgrid technology in an IHS healthcare facility. The microgrid

technology is intended to improve the electrical power system of the healthcare facility in terms of power quality, renewable energy resources, and energy savings. The proposal will provide reliable information related to the research foundation, the process, the options, and the associated costs for implementation. The information provided shall facilitate the decision making of IHS management (and/or Tribal authorities) and the acquisition process for an improved power system in the healthcare facility. This proposal will extrapolate data from the Kayenta HC power system to predict performance of the expected power system at the Dilkon HC and suggest different options for improvement. Based on information from the research, an optimum power system design is proposed for the Dilkon HC in lieu of a traditional power system design (similar to the Kayenta HC) which requires overrating of electrical equipment and thereby increasing construction cost.

The Dilkon HC design is being managed by the Winslow Indian Health Care Center (WIHCC), as authorized by the Navajo Nation, under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (Public Law 93-638, Title V Construction Project Agreement TVCPA). This basically means that IHS disburses government funds under the terms and conditions of the TVCPA, and the WIHCC uses the funds to manage the design of the Dilkon healthcare facility. Hence, the information contained in this proposal can be provided to WIHCC for their consideration to incorporate into the design process. WIHCC will make the final decision whether or not to require their A/E firm to apply any features of the microgrid technology or power system improvement opportunity.

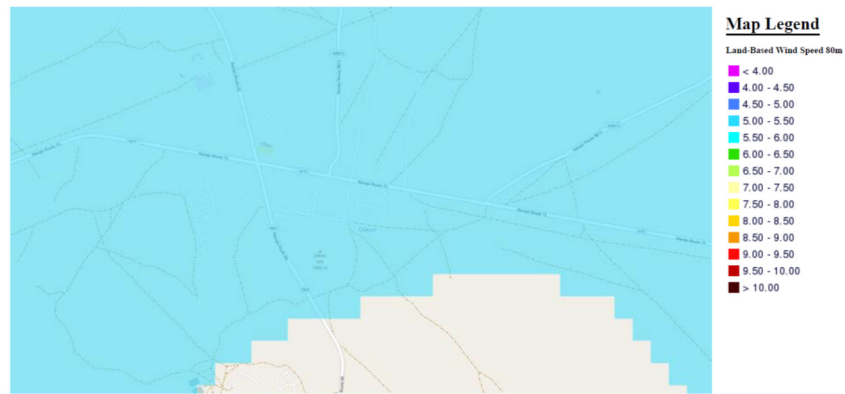
4.4 Renewable Energy Resources

Based on the research conducted, the renewable energy resources under consideration for the application of the microgrid technology in the Navajo Nation are solar photovoltaic and wind turbine power generation systems.

4.4.1 Review wind power feasibility

The NREL provides information about Wind Prospector locations, land-based wind speed at 80m [1]. The Dilkon HC location results in an average wind speed range of 5-5.5 m/s at 80m (see Figure 4-1). Medium size turbine generators typically require a cut-off in wind speeds > 3 m/s (6.7 mph) and nominal wind speed of 9.5 m/s (21 mph) to 13 m/s (29 mph). The tower height specified for these wind turbines is typically 30m and up to 48m for the larger sizes. In this location, the wind turbines would be generating an average of 14% of rated power output under normal operating conditions.

Dilkon, AZ Wind prospector check



Land-Based Wind Speed 80m marked 5.0-5.5 (m/s) in the Legend

Land-Based Wind Speed 80m
Source: undefined
License: undefined

Land-Based Wind Speed - 80m

This resource layer displays the predicted mean annual wind speeds at an 80 meter height, presented at a spatial resolution of 2.5 kilometers that is interpolated to a finer scale. Areas with annual average wind speeds around 6.5 meters per second and greater at an 80-m height are generally considered to have a wind resource suitable for wind development. Utility scale, land based wind turbines are typically installed between 80 and 100 meters high.

Sources:

Wind Resource estimates developed by [AWS Truepower, LLC](#).



Figure 4-1 Dilkon HC Wind Prospector check

Figure 4-2 shows a wind turbine system performance check for the Dilkon HC location using the Renewables.ninja interactive website [2]. In this example, the wind turbine system Vestas V27 225 (30m tower, 225kW capacity) is used for the run. The total mean capacity factor is 15.2%.

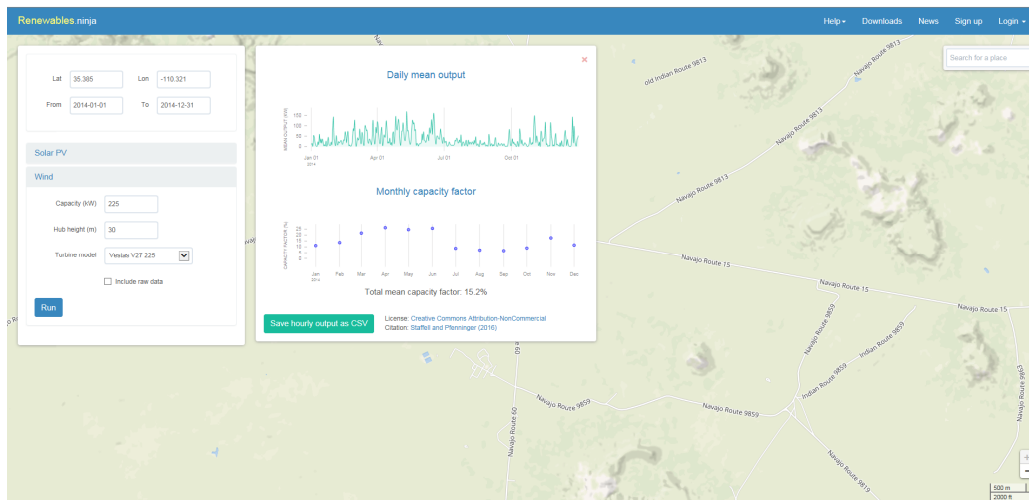


Figure 4-2 Dilkon HC wind turbine system performance check

4.4.2 Review of solar power feasibility

The National Solar Radiation Database (NSRDB) of the NREL contains a Data Viewer with information about solar radiation in America [3]. Figure 4-3 shows a run from the NSRDB Data Viewer for the Dilkon HC specific location. The entire area is under the range of 7.0 to 7.5 kWh/sq. m/day. For reference, Kayenta HC location is under the range of 6.5 to 7.0 kWh/sq. m/day. Therefore, the Dilkon location is better than Kayenta in terms of the solar radiation resources available.

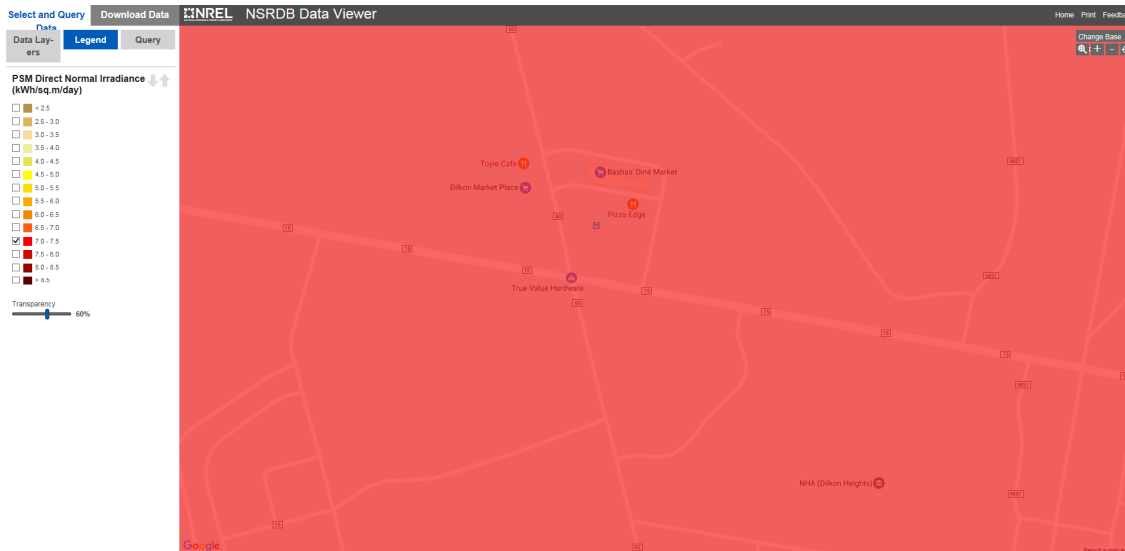


Figure 4-3 Dilkon HC location solar irradiance resources check

Figure 4-4 shows a PV system performance check for the Dilkon HC location using the Renewables.ninja interactive website [4]. In this example, a PV system is selected with 4% system loss, 10 degrees tilt, 180 degrees azimuth and 225kW capacity for the run. The total mean capacity factor is 22.2%. Notice that the performance of the PV system is higher than that of the wind turbine system.

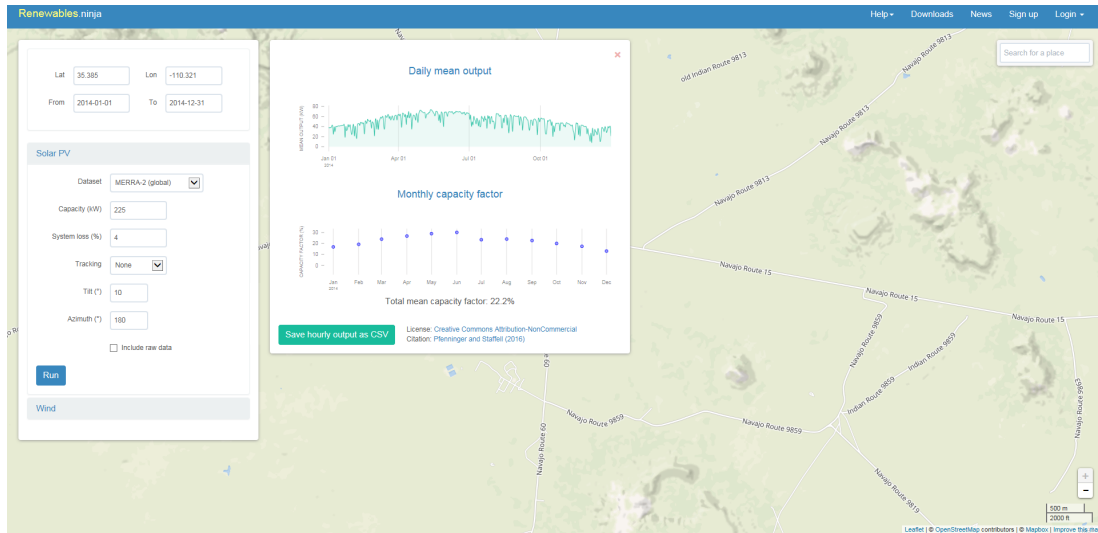


Figure 4-4 Dilkon HC PV system performance check

Based on the initial check, it is verified that Dilkon HC location is not suitable for wind power generation development. Wind turbines would perform poorly. The total mean capacity factor of PV solar system in Dilkon is 7% over the equivalent rated system of a wind turbine generator system. In addition, wind turbine generators contain mechanical moving parts that require more maintenance as compared to a PV solar system.

4.5 Dilkon HC options for power system and microgrid configuration

Based on the initial check, the general configuration of the concept model is adjusted by deleting the wind energy resources. The Dilkon HC specific concept model for the microgrid is shown in Figure 4-5.

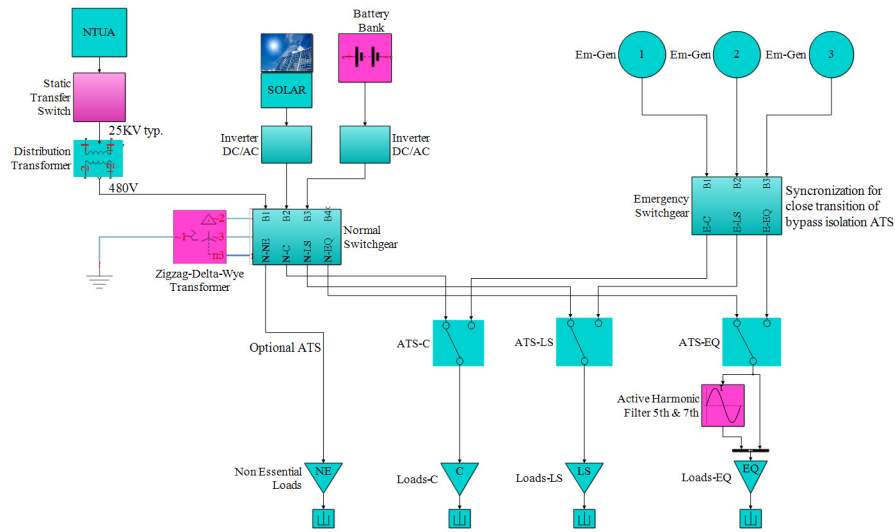


Figure 4-5 Dilkon HC microgrid concept model

Power system components in cyan color are typically installed and required for IHS healthcare facilities, whereas components in magenta color are new or optional for the microgrid configuration. Different features and options can be deduced from the Dilkon HC microgrid concept model. A description of the different features of the microgrid concept model contained or implied in Figure 4-5 follows:

4.5.1 Active Filters and Zigzag transformer

The Active Filters and Zigzag transformer are not part of the microgrid concept. Instead, this equipment is incorporated as part of the regular power system design for the facility. This option is included as an alternative because the research process discovered a high content of harmonics at Kayenta. The purpose of this additional equipment is to significantly reduce the harmonics content of the facility power system. Designing a low harmonic power system is considered a very important factor and strongly recommended by NFPA 99 [5]. Also, the design would comply with IEEE

standard 519-2014 regarding the current distortion limits [6]. Another advantage includes some energy savings.

The extra equipment implies additional costs. However, it can be used as a strategy for optimizing the power system design instead of the traditional over-sizing of equipment as was the case in the Kayenta HC.

4.5.2 Augmented PV system

The augmented PV system can significantly contribute to the next generation of goals for IHS healthcare facilities enhancing the ability to achieve LEED Platinum certification, net zero energy, and carbon neutrality. The solar PV system array can qualify for incentives and assistance as the DOE Office of Indian Energy directs efforts toward grants and programs that assist tribes in the implementation of energy development which include hospitals. Solar PV systems are used normally for new healthcare facilities in the zone as part of the efforts to reach energy saving goals. The latest IHS project, Ft. Yuma (currently under construction), includes a 300KW PV system with string inverters localized close to the PV module arrays on the parking carports and on the roof.

This option contemplates the provision of additional capacity for the PV system that can produce net zero energy at the Dilkon HC as opposed to the IHS requirement of 7.5% of the annual energy load. In simple terms, it adds more PV modules to increase the renewable energy capacity and evaluate the additional costs and energy savings. If the main focus goes toward power quality improvement, this option can be combined with the energy storage system option. In such a case the PV system can be derated accordingly.

4.5.3 Energy storage system (battery bank)

The energy storage system is a preferred feature in cases where the power quality of the electrical system is poor, common to remote locations like Kayenta and Dilkon. It is possible to use the battery bank for loads that must run without interruption, such as critical systems and equipment in the healthcare facility. The battery bank can be combined with a static transfer switch, solar PV system, and a microgrid controller if it is desired to be able to operate the microgrid in islanded mode for improvement of power quality purposes. It is difficult to assess the value of power quality in monetary terms, but the power system must be reliable for healthcare facilities where failure of the electrical equipment to perform could result in harm and loss of human life.

Another option is to combine the battery bank and charge controller with the PV system. Experimental results at the Kayenta HC demonstrated that none of the voltage sag, swell and interruptions (VSSI) events occurred during night shift. Also, the load was significantly lower during night shift. Hence, the battery bank combined with the PV system can target power quality issues.

However, solar PV systems have a much higher return on investment when batteries are omitted. The battery bank, static transfer switch, and microgrid controller (or charge controller) increase the initial investment and O&M expenses considerably.

4.5.4 Microgrid Controller

The microgrid controller is not directly illustrated in Figure 4-5, but it is the brain that allows all different components of the microgrid to interact with each other and function effectively and efficiently. The microgrid controller is designed to manage, automate, communicate, and control the distributed power generation plant and loads that use renewable and non-renewable energy resources. The PV control and monitoring feature

provides information about the status of the PV array and is able to schedule and control the amount of power it is producing. Features of the microgrid controller are more cost effective in applications with diversified energy sources. The microgrid controller adds cost to the system.

4.5.5 Static Transfer Switch

Voltage sag, swell, and interruption (VSSI) are undesired power quality disruptions or events that in most instances can be prevented by the use of a Static Transfer Switch (STS). The STS provides superior switching time such that if one power source fails, the STS switches to the back-up power source so quickly that the load never recognizes the transfer made. This equipment uses solid-state power electronics technology. In this case, the STS feature needs to be combined with enough capacity of power in islanded mode operation. The capacity would come from energy storage (battery bank), solar renewable energy, or combination of both. In this option the islanded mode operation would be just a transition mode for the configuration shown in Figure 4-5, since code compliance (NFPA 99) requires an alternate independent power source [5]. If the system is properly designed, the transition islanded mode combined with the alternate independent power source will reduce power quality disruptions close to zero. The main drawback about this option is the additional cost of the equipment for the islanded mode operation.

For healthcare facilities with power supplied from an alternate feeder from a different substation transformer, the advantage of fast switching of an STS to an alternate feeder will solve many of the power quality disruptions. In such cases, the STS option by itself represents a cost effective solution.

4.5.6 Combination of different features

A combination of different features can be proposed for the Dilkon HC design project in order to get the best value regarding the power system implementation. The five (5) different features listed above can be combined to produce different options that can be implemented (see Table 4-2). These options can be evaluated in terms of the expected benefit versus cost implications for the project. The cost analysis will be based mainly on optimum power system design instead of traditional oversizing of equipment. Notice that optimum power system design is not the same as Value Engineering (VE) or a reduction in scope during the acquisition process.

Table 4-2 Combination of features to form different options for power system - Dilkon HC

Features	Option	Advantages	Disadvantages
1. Active Filters and Zigzag Transformer	I	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce harmonics • Low cost compared to other options 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very low energy savings • Additional equipment in system - requires maintenance • No immediate response for VSSI
2. Augmented PV System	II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High energy savings • Supports LEED Gold certification • Carbon neutrality, environmental friendly • PV modules low maintenance (clean up twice per year). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase cost/investment • Additional equipment requires some maintenance. • Foot print availability is a design constraint • No immediate response for VSSI

Features	Option	Advantages	Disadvantages
2. Augmented PV System 3. Energy Storage System (Battery Bank)	III	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High energy savings • Supports LEED Gold certification • Carbon neutrality, environmental friendly • PV modules low maintenance (clean up twice per year). • Reliable Power Quality • Excellent response to voltage drop from NTUA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significantly Increase cost/investment • Additional equipment requires some maintenance. • Foot print availability is a design constraint
2. Augmented PV System 3. Energy Storage System (Battery Bank) 4. Microgrid Controller 5. Static Transfer Switch	IV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High energy savings • Supports LEED Gold certification • Carbon neutrality, environmental friendly • PV modules low maintenance (clean up twice per year). • Significantly Reliable Power Quality • Smooth transition from NTUA to Islanded Mode to Emergency Power under any PQ disturbance • Excellent response to VSSI • Full microgrid capabilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significantly Increase cost/investment • Additional equipment requires some maintenance. • Foot print availability is a design constraint

Features	Option	Advantages	Disadvantages
1. Active Filters and Zigzag Transformer 2. Augmented PV System 3. Energy Storage System (Battery Bank) 4. Microgrid Controller 5. Static Transfer Switch	V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce harmonics • High energy savings • Supports LEED Gold certification • Carbon neutrality, environmental friendly • PV modules low maintenance (clean up twice per year). • Significantly Reliable Power Quality • Smooth transition from NTUA to Islanded Mode to Emergency Power under any PQ disturbance • Excellent response for VSSI • Full microgrid capabilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significantly Increase cost/investment • Additional equipment requires some maintenance. • Foot print availability is a design constraint • response for VSSI

4.6 Cost estimates for the different features

4.6.1 Active Filters and Zigzag transformer

This option contemplates the addition of Active Filters and Zigzag transformer to reduce harmonics currents instead of oversizing of equipment and conductors to avoid overheating and other harmonics issues. The Kayenta HC normal power system capacity is more than five times higher than the recorded load during summer time (2.5MVA vs 300KVA @ SES-2) as well as the Emergency Power Supply System (5-1000KVA for the entire facility). This cost estimate evaluates a twice oversizing condition versus single sizing just for equipment. The cost does not include the difference in price by oversizing conductors, conduits, etc. Hence, the resulting numbers are very conservative. This is a

Rough Order of Magnitude (ROM) estimate that was prepared using RSMMeans online version [7]. The ROM shows cost savings for \$357,100.

Table 4-3 Feature 1 - Active Filters and Zigzag transformer

Option 1 - Active Filters and Zigzag transformer													
										Dilkon AZ		Data Release : Year 2017 CCI Location: ARIZONA / FLAGSTAFF (860)	
Unit Cost Estimate													
Quantity	Line Number	Description	Crew	Daily Output	Labor Hours	Unit	Material	Labor	Equipment	Total	Notes		
1	263526-00001	Hamonic Filter, 50KVAR, 480V, 60HZ, with 120 VAC control transformer to power the capacitor contactor.		0	0	Ea.	\$ 4,863.10	\$ 1,099.10	\$ 141.47	\$ 6,103.67	Pricing data obtained from a specific manufacturer, not available in RSMMeans online version.		
1	263526-00002	Hamonic Filter, 25KVAR, 480V, 60HZ, with 120 VAC control transformer to power the capacitor contactor.		0	0	Ea.	\$ 3,593.70	\$ 812.20	\$ 104.54	\$ 4,510.44	Pricing data obtained from a specific manufacturer, not available in RSMMeans online version.		
1	262213104500	Transformer, dry-type, 3 phase 480 V primary 120/208 V secondary, 300 kVA	R3	0.55	36.36	Ea.	\$ 10,332.30	\$ 1,980.90	\$ 253.64	\$ 12,566.84			
2	262413400430	Circuit breaker, 3 pole, 480 V, 125 to 400 amp, LA frame, for feeder section	1 Elec	2.3	3.48	Ea.	\$ 9,360.46	\$ 377.02	\$ -	\$ 9,737.48			
2	261219100500	Transformer, oil-filled, 15 kV with taps, 480 V secondary 3 phase, 1000 kVA, pad mounted	R3	0.26	76.92	Ea.	\$ 65,472.00	\$ 8,370.90	\$ 1,075.24	\$ 74,918.14			
3	263213133200	Generator set, diesel, 3 phase 4 wire, 277/480 V, 500 kW, incl battery, charger, muffler, & day tank, excl conduit, wiring, & concrete	R3	0.18	111	Ea.	\$ 308,434.50	\$ 18,115.65	\$ 2,329.68	\$ 328,879.83			
1	262413103300	Switchboards, pressure switch, 4 wire, 120/208 V, 2000 amp, incl CT compartment, excl CT's or PT's	2 Elec	0.56	28.57	Ea.	\$ 24,245.10	\$ 1,549.58	\$ -	\$ 25,794.68			
-2	261219100700	Transformer, oil-filled, 15 kV with taps, 480 V secondary 3 phase, 2000 kVA, pad mounted	R3	0.2	100	Ea.	\$ (98,003.40)	\$ (10,863.00)	\$ (1,396.88)	\$ (110,263.28)			
-2	262413103300	Switchboards, pressure switch, 4 wire, 120/208 V, 2000 amp, incl CT compartment, excl CT's or PT's	2 Elec	0.56	28.57	Ea.	\$ (48,490.20)	\$ (3,099.16)	\$ -	\$ (51,589.36)	Two of these switchboard equivalent in price to 4000 amp switchboard 262413103330 listed in book, but not available in the online version.		
-6	263213133200	Generator set, diesel, 3 phase 4 wire, 277/480 V, 500 kW, incl battery, charger, muffler, & day tank, excl conduit, wiring, & concrete	R3	0.18	111	Ea.	\$ (616,869.00)	\$ (36,231.30)	\$ (4,659.36)	\$ (657,759.66)	Each two of 500KW generators price equivalent to one of 1000KW generator (262313133270) according to RSMMeans book. But 1000KW is not available in the online version.		
							Totals	\$ (337,061.44)	\$ (17,888.11)	\$ (2,151.67)	\$ (357,101.22)		

4.6.2 Augmented PV system

This option contemplates Life Cycle cost analysis comparison for the augmented PV system vs normal PV system traditionally installed. The normal PV system reference is 300KW, which is the size of the last PV system installed in Ft. Yuma HC. The augmented PV system is 500KW, which represents the size of a proposed PV system to

reach almost net zero energy consumption and support the achievement of LEED Gold certification.

A run in PVWatts® calculator from NREL shows total energy savings of 895,424 kWh per year, which is equivalent to \$95,184.00 (see Figure 4-6) [8]. It also shows the energy savings and energy value by month. Notice that the closest location to Dilkon available in PVWatts® is Flagstaff and a capacity factor of 20.4% is used. For this run, \$0.11 per kWh are used, which is consistent with the energy price as stated in NTUA website [9].



Caution: Photovoltaic system performance predictions calculated by PVWatts® include many inherent assumptions and uncertainties and do not reflect variations between PV technologies nor site-specific characteristics except as represented by PVWatts inputs. For example, PV modules with better performance are not differentiated within PVWatts; from lesser performing modules from NREL and private companies provide more sophisticated PV modeling tools (such as the System Advisor Model at <http://sam.nrel.gov/>) that allow for more precise and complex modeling of PV systems.

The expected range is based on 30 years of actual weather data at the given location and is intended to provide an indication of the variation you might see. For more information, please refer to this NREL report: The Error Report.

Disclaimer: The PVWatts® Model ("Model") is provided by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory ("NREL"), which is operated by the Alliance for Sustainable Energy, LLC ("Alliance") for the U.S. Department Of Energy ("DOE") and may be used for any purpose whatsoever.

The names DOE/NREL/ALLIANCE shall not be used in any representation, advertising, publicity or other manner whatsoever to endorse or promote any entity that adopts or uses the Model. DOE/NREL/ALLIANCE shall not provide

any support, consulting, training or assistance of any kind with regard to the use of the Model or any updates, revisions or new versions of the Model.

YOU AGREE TO INDEMNIFY DOE/NREL/ALLIANCE, AND ITS AFFILIATES, OFFICERS, AGENTS, AND EMPLOYEES AGAINST ANY CLAIM OR DEMAND, INCLUDING REASONABLE ATTORNEY'S FEES, RELATED TO YOUR USE, RELIANCE, OR ADOPTION OF THE MODEL FOR ANY PURPOSE WHATSOEVER. THE MODEL IS PROVIDED BY DOE/NREL/ALLIANCE "AS IS" AND ANY EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTIES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE ARE EXPRESSLY DISCLAIMED. IN NO EVENT SHALL DOE/NREL/ALLIANCE BE LIABLE FOR ANY SPECIAL, INDIRECT OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES OR ANY DAMAGES WHATSOEVER, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO CLAIMS ASSOCIATED WITH THE LOSS OF DATA OR PROFITS, WHICH MAY RESULT FROM ANY ACTION IN CONTRACT, NEGLIGENCE OR OTHER TORTIOUS CLAIM THAT ARISES OUT OF OR IN CONNECTION WITH THE USE OR PERFORMANCE OF THE MODEL.

The energy output range is based on analysis of 30 years of historical weather data for nearby , and is intended to provide an indication of the possible interannual variability in generation for a fixed (open rack) PV system at this location.

895,424 kWh per Year *

RESULTS

System output may range from 854,145 to 928,644kWh per year near this location.

Month	Solar Radiation (kWh / m ² / day)	AC Energy (kWh)	Energy Value (\$)
January	3.79	55,003	5,847
February	4.72	61,679	6,556
March	5.64	80,594	8,567
April	6.45	87,011	9,249
May	7.11	96,990	10,310
June	7.51	95,673	10,170
July	6.58	86,756	9,222
August	5.68	75,341	8,009
September	6.08	79,225	8,422
October	5.11	69,673	7,396
November	4.08	55,837	5,936
December	3.59	51,740	5,500
Annual	5.53	895,422	\$ 95,184

Location and Station Identification

Requested Location	Dilkon, AZ
Weather Data Source	(TMY2) FLAGSTAFF, AZ 77 mi
Latitude	35.13° N
Longitude	111.67° W

PV System Specifications (Commercial)

DC System Size	500 kW
Module Type	Standard
Array Type	Fixed (open rack)
Array Tilt	10°
Array Azimuth	180°
System Losses	4%
Inverter Efficiency	96%
DC to AC Size Ratio	1.1

Economics

Average Cost of Electricity Purchased from Utility	0.11 \$/kWh
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Performance Metrics

Capacity Factor	20.4%
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Figure 4-6 Dilkon HC PVWatts® Calculator Run

The Cost of Renewable Energy Spreadsheet Tool (CREST) from NREL is a guide for the evaluation and development of cost-based alternatives to support renewable energy technologies [10]. It includes Solar (photovoltaic or solar thermal

electric), Wind, Geothermal, Anaerobic Digestion and Fuel Cell. Table 4 shows results for the expanded PV system and other sub-options at Dilkon HC using CREST. Notice that net capacity factor (19.4%) is based on the state average, which is lower than the capacity factor at Dilkon (22.2% from Renewables.Ninja). Therefore, the numbers obtained are conservative for the PV solar sub-options. However, a capacity factor of 15.2% is included for the Wind Turbine sub-option, which is the same as determined from Renewables.Ninja (Figure 4-2).

Calculations with the Spreadsheet compare five (5) different sub-options:

- Super Expanded (SE) PV System (750kW),
- Expanded PV (E) System (500kW),
- Normal PV (N) System (300kW),
- Low Value PV (LV) System (100kW), and
- Wind Turbine (WT) System.

The Expanded PV System sub-option shows an energy production of 847,567 kWh per year, Table 4 below are \$2,700,000, \$1,800,000, \$1,080,000, \$360,000 and \$1,250,000 for the Super Expanded PV (SE), Expanded PV (E), Normal PV (N), Low Value PV (LV) and Wind Turbine (WT) Systems respectively. The project useful life is 25 years and the paid off period is 18 years for each PV sub-option. The WT sub-option project useful life is 20 years and the paid off period is 15 years. The Net Nominal Levelized Cost of Energy (NLCE) is reduced if increasing the PV System capacity. By combining option 2 with optimum system design instead of traditional overdesign, the net investment is reduced to \$2,309,980, \$1,409,980, \$689,980, \$-30,020 and \$859,980 for the SE, E, N and LV and WT Systems respectively (see Table 4-4 below).

The initial check of efficiency in part IV demonstrated the WT system to be 7% less efficient than the equivalent rated solar PV system. Table 4-4 shows a NLCE of \$0.51/kWh and \$0.32/kWh for the WT and E respectively. The E system has 5 more years of useful life as compared with the WT system. The operating expenses are almost three times more expensive for the WT than the E systems (\$0.243/kWh vs \$0.087/kWh).

Table 4-4 Feature 2 – Expanded PV System

Option 2 - Expanded PV System : Summary Results																																																																																																																																																																																		
Results of multiple scenarios may be compared here by using the "copy" and "paste special - values" feature to transfer values from column D to columns F through O																																																																																																																																																																																		
<p><i>Press F9 each time inputs are changed to ensure completion of the COE calculation. When "N/A" appears, press "F9" in the upper row on your keyboard to complete the calculation. It may be necessary to press F9 more than once. See note for details.</i></p>																																																																																																																																																																																		
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Tax Credit- or Cash- Based?		Tax Credit	Tax Credit	Tax Credit	Tax Credit	Cash																																																																																																																																																																												
Other Grants or Rebates		No	No	No	No	No																																																																																																																																																																												
Total of Grants or Rebates	\$	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA																																																																																																																																																																												
Bonus Depreciation assumed?		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA																																																																																																																																																																												
Notes: Subtract cost of overdesign (\$390,019.65) to obtain net investment for optimum design		390019.65	\$2,309,980	\$1,409,980	\$689,980	-\$30,020	\$859,980																																																																																																																																																																											

4.7 Analysis of Options

It was verified in 4.4 that the wind turbine alternative is not cost effective when compared to the PV solar alternative at the Dilkon HC location. Also, there is a concern about the maintenance costs and burden to be created for service unit personnel. Different sub-options of PV solar and WT are compared in 4.6.2 (see Table 4-4). Table 4-6 compares costs for the options listed in Table 4-2. A rank is included based on benefit versus cost evaluation. Option I alone provides very little benefit in energy savings and power quality solutions, so this is ranked as #5. Options IV and V include full microgrid capabilities, but added significant cost for the STS and the microgrid controller (ranked #3 and #4). The feature of the microgrid controller is more cost effective in applications with diversified distributed energy resources. Option III provides the best combination of energy savings and power quality solutions versus the necessary investment and is ranked as #1. Option II provides energy savings but does not directly address power quality solutions and is ranked as #2. The solar PV 500kW system is selected as the best one among the sub-options.

Table 4-6 Cost comparison of different options for power system at Dilkon HC

Features	Option	Cost	Group Rank	Rank
1. Active Filters and Zigzag Transformer	I	\$ (357,101.22)	5	
2. Augmented PV System	II.a (750kW PV)	\$ 2,309,980.35	2	2
	II.b (500kW PV)	\$ 1,409,980.35		1
	II.c (300kW PV)	\$ 689,980.35		3
	II.d (100kW PV)	\$ (30,019.65)		4
	II.e (500kVA WT)	\$ 859,980.35		5
2. Augmented PV System 3. Energy Storage System (Battery Bank)	III.a (750kW PV + ES)	\$ 2,829,886.85	1	2
	III.b (500kW PV + ES)	\$ 1,929,886.85		1
	III.c (300kW PV + ES)	\$ 1,209,886.85		3
	III.d (100kW PV + ES)	\$ 489,886.85		4
	III.e (500kVA WT + ES)	\$ 1,379,886.85		5
2. Augmented PV System 3. Energy Storage System (Battery Bank) 4. Microgrid Controller 5. Static Transfer Switch	IV.a	\$ 3,479,886.85	3	
	IV.b	\$ 2,579,886.85		
	IV.c	\$ 1,859,886.85		
	IV.d	\$ 1,139,886.85		
	IV.e	\$ 2,029,886.85		
1. Active Filters and Zigzag Transformer 2. Augmented PV System 3. Energy Storage System (Battery Bank) 4. Microgrid Controller 5. Static Transfer Switch	V.a	\$ 4,227,007.85	4	
	V.b	\$ 3,327,007.85		
	V.c	\$ 2,607,007.85		
	V.d	\$ 1,887,007.85		
	V.e	\$ 2,777,007.85		

Table 4-7 shows a life cycle cost analysis for different sub-options of PV solar and WT. The total life cycle cost of WT is significantly more than the PV system technology at Dilkon. The total life cycle cost decreases by increasing the PV system capacity, but this also increases the initial investment. If feasible to obtain matching of funds by a DOE program or any other source, the life cycle cost can be reduced up to zero or a negative value (savings).

Table 4-7 Life cycle cost analysis of different options for renewable energy systems at

Dilkon HC

Life cycle cost analysis				
System	Solar PV 750kW, 25 years	Solar PV 500kW, 25 years	Solar PV 300kW, 25 years	Wind Turbine 500kVA, 20 years
Installation Cost	\$ 2,700,000.00	\$ 1,800,000.00	\$ 1,080,000.00	\$ 1,250,000.00
O&M Cost	\$ 2,060,080.12	\$ 1,840,619.53	\$ 1,665,432.46	\$ 3,236,802.29
Energy Savings	\$ (3,496,212.82)	\$ (2,330,808.54)	\$ (1,398,485.13)	\$ (1,464,672.00)
Optimum Design Savings	\$ (390,019.65)	\$ (390,019.65)	\$ (390,019.65)	\$ (390,019.65)
Total life cycle Cost	\$ 873,847.65	\$ 919,791.34	\$ 956,927.69	\$ 2,632,110.64
Matching Funds DOE	\$ (1,350,000.00)	\$ (900,000.00)	\$ (540,000.00)	\$ (625,000.00)
Updated life cycle Cost	\$ (476,152.35)	\$ 19,791.34	\$ 416,927.69	\$ 2,007,110.64

4.8 Chapter 4 Conclusion

The Expanded solar PV system (500 kW) with the battery bank of 500kW/200kWh (Option III.b) is recommended as the best alternative for a combination of energy savings and power quality solutions versus the necessary investment. The battery bank can withstand voltage at nominal value for 20 minutes, which is enough to overcome typical power quality issues identified in research. This system requires an initial investment of \$1,929,890.

This proposal serves as a guidance for the design and specification of the microgrid system and components. Appendix A provides a sample of specifications for the solar energy electrical power generation system adapted for Dilkon HC [11].

Chapter 5

General Conclusions and Future work

1. Tribal healthcare facilities of American Indian and Alaska natives have specific and unique challenges and opportunities for improvement the power system, such that it deserved additional research. A facility was selected (Kayenta HC) with a well-defined criteria that is representative of many typical healthcare facilities in the Navajo Nation. This process warranty that a significant population of tribal members will benefit from the improvements achieved through this study.

2. Experimental data of a full scale system on a specific location provided a reliable source of information about the actual results and typical problems of the PV system and the power system. It also provides insight from field observations and demonstrate the advantages, disadvantages and feasibility of the particular healthcare power system.

3. A modified configuration of existing power system (Kayenta) around microgrid concept was presented. In most cases is not cost effective to upgrade the existing power to have full microgrid capabilities. However, some improvements of the power system can be achieved by applying certain features of the microgrid on existing facilities.

4. Since the work in the construction of new healthcare facilities and staff quarters is an ongoing process at IHS, is necessary to select proper techniques to gather reliable information. Seasonal experiments validated with theoretical data available for the zone, the facility, the systems and the equipment is a useful and cost effective technique in the research process. Wintertime and summertime extremes provides reliable information in order to extrapolate the behavior of the system under different conditions. In this application, modeling and simulation tools also demonstrated to be

very useful to discover additional information, process and methodology not readily available at full scale level.

5. A concept model was presented for the design of the power system for tribal healthcare facilities in Navajo Nation. The concept model ensures that the actual implementation of the microgrid will enhance the power quality, result in optimum power system design, produce energy savings and reduce environmental pollution. The concept model of microgrid architecture lead to the development of a proposal for the implementation of the microgrid at Dilkon Health Center. The Microgrid proposal was accepted and adopted by the management of Division of Engineering Services from Indian Health Services.

6. The proposal for Dilkon HC basically use previous research information and the concept model and apply a procedure and cost estimates for a specific facility. It was necessary to include different type of language (cost vs benefits instead of highly technical) in the proposal because it have the intent of convince the different stakeholders. It was proved that the proposal is a necessary stage between the research and the actual implementation. The proposal serves as a guidance for the power system design around the microgrid concept for Dilkon HC.

It was important to present, analyze and compare multiple options and sub-options based on benefit versus cost. The Expanded solar PV system with the battery bank was recommended as the best alternative for a combination of energy savings and power quality solutions versus the necessary investment.

7. The research foundation and procedures presented can be applied not only for Dilkon HC, but also to develop additional proposals of Microgrid implementation or power system improvements in other healthcare facilities and staff quarter projects.

8. The concept model can be adjusted and adapted to include the full capabilities of the microgrid implementation for a staff quarters project of the IHS new construction priority list. In this case, there is more flexibility regarding the code compliance features of the model. Full capabilities are more cost effective for staff quarter projects as compared to healthcare facilities in the Navajo Nation.

9. Once the microgrid is implemented, additional research and experimental studies can be applied for the full scale system. These studies will verify expectancies and will identify additional opportunities for improvement of the efficiency and effectiveness of the microgrid.

10. Future work includes development accurate models and perform simulation studies for different conditions of microgrid system and components applicable for tribal healthcare facilities and staff quarter projects.

The scope of this study is applicable for the Navajo Nation, but the health care facilities and staff quarters are located in twelve (12) different tribal areas. Due to the size, location and configuration of the facilities, the climate, transportation and other factors, certain areas (e.g. Alaska) deserve separate future studies. The renewable energy resources, the power quality issues and hence the solutions for the power system improvement will vary significantly from different areas. For example, efficient Combined Heat and Power (CHP) solution alternatives would receive stronger consideration in some areas.

Appendix A

Sample specification for solar energy electrical power generation system

SECTION 48 14 00

SOLAR ENERGY ELECTRICAL POWER GENERATION SYSTEM

PART 1 - GENERAL

1.1 DESCRIPTION

- A. This section specifies the furnishing, installation, connection, testing, and commissioning of solar energy electrical power generation systems.
- B. The requirements of this Section apply to all sections of Division 48 related to solar energy electrical power generation systems.

1.2 RELATED WORK

- A. Section 01 00 00, GENERAL REQUIREMENTS: General construction practices.
- B. Section 01 33 23, SHOP DRAWINGS, PRODUCT DATA, AND SAMPLES: Submittals.
- C. Section 01 91 00, GENERAL COMMISSIONING REQUIREMENTS: General requirements for commissioning.
- D. Section 26 05 11, REQUIREMENTS FOR ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS: Requirements that apply to all sections of Division 26.
- E. Section 26 05 19, LOW-VOLTAGE ELECTRICAL POWER CONDUCTORS AND CABLES: Requirements for low-voltage conductors.
- F. Section 26 05 26, GROUNDING AND BONDING FOR ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS: Requirements for personnel safety and requirements for providing a low impedance path for possible ground fault currents.
- G. Section 26 05 33, RACEWAYS AND BOXES FOR ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS: Requirements for boxes, conduits, and raceways.
- H. Section 26 08 00, COMMISSIONING OF ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS: Requirements for commissioning the electrical system, subsystems, and equipment.
- I. Section 26 29 21, DISCONNECT SWITCHES: Requirements for disconnect switches.

1.3 DEFINITIONS

- A. Unless otherwise specified or indicated, electrical and electronics terminology used in these specifications, and on the drawings, shall be as defined in IEEE 100 CD.
- B. Unless otherwise specified or indicated, solar energy conversion and solar photovoltaic energy system terminology used in these specifications, and on the drawings, shall be as defined in ASTM E772.

1.4 QUALITY ASSURANCE

- A. Solar Energy Electrical Power Generation System installer(s) shall demonstrate that they have successfully installed at least four projects within the past five years that, in aggregate, equal or exceed the size of the proposed project. References shall be provided for each of the referenced qualified projects.
- B. Refer to Paragraph, QUALIFICATIONS, in Section 26 05 11, REQUIREMENTS FOR ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS.
- C. Supports and racking for solar photovoltaic system designs shall be prepared under the seal of a licensed Professional Structural Engineer (PE). Where applicable, such as roof top installations, the engineer shall also provide adequate review and structural analysis of the existing structure that will be supporting the proposed solar photovoltaic system. Among the documents that shall be submitted by the engineer are environmental loading analyses (including wind, snow, hail, and where applicable, seismic) and the rack and substrate's ability to withstand these environmental forces. In the instance where the rack is installed on the ground, adequate information shall be presented to demonstrate the earth's ability to support the proposed design.
- D. If the system will be a tracking system, the mechanical and control systems shall be approved by the using entity. Preference shall be given to closed or hybrid-open/closed logic control for the tracking system.

- E. If paralleling arrangement is desired, the system shall have anti-islanding capability such that it is incapable of exporting power to the utility distribution system in the absence of utility power. Paralleling must be approved by serving electric utility. Provide written correspondence from the utility confirming its requirements.
- F. Investigate whether the COR or local environmental entities require environmental impact studies which may include, but are not limited to, effects upon wildlife. The Contractor shall determine which entity has jurisdiction over environmental matters and shall make appropriate inquiry and comply with all applicable regulations.
- G. Investigate any other local ordinances that may apply to installation of a solar energy electrical generating system in the proposed location. Bring any conflicts with the drawings and specifications to the attention of the COR.
- H. Warranties: The solar energy electrical generating system shall be subject to the terms of FAR Clause 52.246-21, except that the warranty period shall be as noted for the items below:
 - 1. Solar photovoltaic modules and inverter: 10 year manufacturer's warranty against defects in materials and workmanship.
 - 2. Power output: 25 year manufacturer's power output warranty, with the first 10 years at 90% minimum rated power output and the balance of the 25 years at 80% minimum rated power output.

1.5 SUBMITTALS

- A. Where proposed system shall be a Net Meter project, prepare appropriate applications and submittals to the Contracting Officer's Representative (COR). Where proposed system shall be connected before the serving electric utility's meter and tied directly to the grid, prepare appropriate applications and submittals to the COR. In all cases, the serving electric utility may have a requirement for further electrical studies, which may include or not be limited to power factor analysis, short circuit protection studies, grid

wiring adequacy, or capacities of upstream equipment. If such requirements exist and are required by the serving electric utility, these requirements shall be fulfilled by the Contractor. Provide written documentation confirming the utility's approval of the interconnection of the solar energy electrical power generation system with the utility system.

B. Submit six copies of the following to the COR in accordance with Section 26 05 11, REQUIREMENTS FOR ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS.

1. Shop Drawings:

- a. Submit sufficient information to demonstrate compliance with drawings and specifications.
- b. Include electrical ratings, dimensions, mounting details, materials, required clearances, terminations, weight, wiring and connection diagrams, accessories, and nameplate data.
- c. Include shop drawings for foundations and other support structures.

2. Product Data:

- a. Include detailed information for components of the solar energy electrical generation system.
 1. Wiring.
 2. Inverter.
 3. Photovoltaic modules.
 4. Rack and support assemblies.
 5. Instrumentation.
 6. Switchgear.
 7. DC and AC disconnects.
 8. Combiner boxes.
 9. Monitoring systems.

3. Manuals:
 - a. Submit, simultaneously with the shop drawings, complete maintenance and operating manuals including technical data sheets, wiring diagrams, and information for ordering replacement parts.
 1. Safety precautions.
 2. Operator restart.
 3. Startup, shutdown, and post-shutdown procedures.
 4. Normal operations.
 5. Emergency operations.
 6. Environmental conditions.
 7. Preventive maintenance plan and schedule.
 8. Troubleshooting guides and diagnostic techniques.
 9. Wiring and control diagrams.
 10. Maintenance and repair procedures.
 11. Removal and replacement instructions.
 12. Tracking systems (where applicable).
 13. Spare parts and supply list.
 14. Parts identification.
 15. Testing equipment and special tool information.
 16. Warranty information.
 17. Testing and performance data.
 18. Contractor information.
 - b. If changes have been made to the maintenance and operating manuals originally submitted, then submit updated maintenance and operating manuals two weeks prior to the final inspection.
4. Certifications: Two weeks prior to final inspection, submit the following.

- a. **Certification by the manufacturers of all major items of the** solar energy electric generation system that the system conforms to the requirements of the drawings and specifications, and that they have jointly coordinated and properly integrated their equipment and controls to provide a complete and functional installation.
 - b. Certification by the Contractor that the solar energy electric generation system has been properly installed, adjusted, tested, commissioned, and warrantied. Contractor shall make all necessary field measurements and investigations to ensure that the equipment and assemblies meet contract requirements.
5. Estimated Annual Power Output: Submit calculated annual power output for each of the proposed solar photovoltaic systems. Provide independent calculations for each fixed, single-axis tracking, or double-axis tracking system.
- C. If equipment submitted differs in arrangement from that shown on the drawings, provide drawings that show the rearrangement of all associated systems. Approval will be given only if all features of the equipment and associated systems, including accessibility, are equivalent to that required by the contract and acceptable to the COR.
 - D. Submittals and shop drawings for independent but related items shall be furnished together and complete in a group. Coordinate and properly integrate materials and equipment in each group. Final review and approval will be made only by groups.

1.6 APPLICABLE PUBLICATIONS

- A. Publications listed below (including amendments, addenda, revisions, supplements and errata) form a part of this specification to the extent referenced. Publications are referenced in the text by the basic designation only.
- B. American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM):
E772-15.....Standard Terminology of Solar Energy Conversion

E1038-15Standard Test Method for Determining Resistance of Photovoltaic Modules to Hail by Impact with Propelled Ice Balls

C. Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE):

100 CD-13The Authoritative Dictionary of IEEE Standards Terms

519-14Recommended Practices and Requirements for Harmonic Control in Electric Power Systems

937-07Recommended Practice for Installation and Maintenance of Lead-Acid Batteries for Photovoltaic (PV) Systems

1013-07Recommended Practice for Sizing Lead-Acid Batteries for Stand-Alone Photovoltaic (PV) Systems

1361-14Guide for Selection, Charging, Test and Evaluation of Lead-Acid Batteries Used in Stand-Alone Photovoltaic (PV) Systems

1526-03Recommended Practice for Testing the Performance of Stand-Alone Photovoltaic Systems

1547-03Standard for Interconnecting Distributed Resources with Electric Power Systems

1561-07Guide for Optimizing the Performance and Life of Lead-Acid Batteries in Remote Hybrid Systems

1562-07Guide for Array and Battery Sizing in Stand-Alone Photovoltaic (PV) Systems

1661-07Guide for Test and Evaluation of Lead-Acid Batteries Used in Photovoltaic (PV) Hybrid Power Systems

D. International Code Council (ICC):

- IBC-15International Building Code
- IFC-15International Fire Code
- E. National Electrical Manufacturer’s Association (NEMA):
 - 250-14Enclosures for Electrical Equipment (1,000 Volts
Maximum)
- F. National Fire Protection Association (NFPA):
 - 70-14National Electrical Code (NEC)
- G. Underwriters Laboratories (UL):
 - 6-07Electrical Rigid Metal Conduit – Steel
 - 94-13Tests for Flammability of Plastic Materials for Parts in
Devices and Appliances; Ed 6
 - 797-07Electrical Metallic Tubing – Steel
 - 969-95Standard for Marking and Labeling Systems
 - 1242-06Standard for Electrical Intermediate Metal Conduit –
Steel
 - 1703-02Standard for Flat-Plate Photovoltaic Modules and
Panels
 - 1741-10Standard for Inverters, Converters, Controllers and
Interconnection System Equipment for Use with
Distributed Energy Resources

PART 2 - PRODUCTS

2.1 GENERAL

- A. Provide materials to fabricate functioning photovoltaic system in accordance with ASTM, IEEE, NEMA, NFPA, and UL, as specified in this section, and as shown on the drawings.

- B. Factory-prefabricated solar equipment packages which include photovoltaic modules, batteries or other energy storage, inverters, and controls and which meet the requirements of this section are acceptable.

2.2 GROUNDING

- A. All applicable components of the solar energy electrical power generating system must be grounded per latest NEC requirements.
- B. DC Ground-Fault Protector:
 - 1. Shall be listed per UL 1703.
 - 2. Shall comply with requirements of the NEC.

2.3 PHOTOVOLTAIC ARRAY CIRCUIT COMBINER BOX

- A. Shall be listed to UL 1741.
- B. Shall include internal overcurrent protection devices with dead front.
- C. Shall be contained in non-conductive NEMA Type 4X enclosure.
- D. Up to 48 volts DC: Shall use UL-listed DC breakers that meet NEC requirements for overcurrent protection.
- E. Up to 600 volts DC, paralleling system: Shall use fuses instead of breakers.
- F. Ground and pole-mounted arrays shall have a separate combiner box mounted to the pole itself.
- G. Where applicable, combiner box shall be a disconnecting combiner box.

2.4 SWITCH/DISCONNECTING MEANS

- A. Shall be UL-listed, in accordance with the NEC, as shown on the drawings, and as specified.
- B. Utility External Disconnect Switch (UEDS): Refer to COR, as several states do not require UEDS for small solar photovoltaic systems if the inverter provides the same function per NEC. Coordinate requirements with serving electric utility.

2.5 WIRING SPECIALTIES

- A. Direct Current Conductors:
 - 1. If Exposed: Shall be USE-2, UF (inadequate at 60°C [140°F]), or SE, 90°C [194°F] wet-location rated and sunlight-resistant (usually for tracking modules).
 - 2. If in Conduit: Shall be RHW-2, THWN-2, or XHHW-2 90°C [194°F], wet-location rated.
- B. Conduits and Raceways:
 - 1. Shall use steel conduit listed per UL 6, UL 1242, UL 797 (as appropriate), except for tracking modules. Weathertight EMT installations shall be allowed for DC wiring in weather-protected areas.
 - 2. Shall use expansion joints on long conduit runs.
 - 3. Shall not be installed on photovoltaic modules.
- C. Enclosures subject to weather shall be rated NEMA 3R or better.
- D. Cable Assemblies and Junction Boxes:
 - 1. Shall be UL-listed.
 - 2. Shall be rated to 5VA flammability per UL 94.
- E. Prohibited Wiring Materials: Those which are not UL-listed, or listed materials used in environments outside those covered in their listing.

2.6 DC-AC INVERTER

- A. Shall be listed to UL 1741.
- B. Shall comply with IEEE 519 and IEEE 1547.
- C. Shall be listed per FCC Part 15 Class A.1.
- D. Shall have stand-alone, utility-interactive, or combined capabilities.
- E. Shall include maximum power point tracking (MPPT) features.
- F. Shall include anti-islanding protection if paralleling arrangement is required.

2.7 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) MODULES

- A. Minimum Performance Parameters as per IBC 1509.7.4, IRC M2302.3, UL 1703.
- B. Photovoltaic Panel Types:
 - 1. Monocrystalline: Listed to UL 1703.
 - 2. Polycrystalline: Listed to UL 1703.
 - 3. Thin-Film/Flexible: Listed to UL 1703.
 - 4. Building-Integrated & Solar Shingles: Listed to UL 1703.
- C. Module and System Identification
 - 1. Module or Panel:
 - a. Listed to UL 969 for weather resistance.
 - b. Listed to UL 1703 for marking contents and format.
 - 2. Main Service Disconnect: per NEC.
 - 3. Identification Content and Format: per NEC.
 - 4. Identification for DC Conduit, Raceways, Enclosures, Cable Assemblies, and Junction Boxes: IFC 605.
 - 5. Identification for Inverter: per NEC.
- D. Bypass diodes shall be built into each PV module either between each cell or each string of cells.
- E. Other Components: per UL 1703.
- F. Hail Protection: Compliant with testing procedure per ASTM E-1038.
- G. Lightning Protection: Shall ground according to manufacturer instructions per UL 1703.
- H. Access, Pathways, and Smoke Ventilation: Per IFC 605.3, access and spacing requirements must be observed in order to: ensure access to the roof, provide pathways to specific areas of the roof, provide for smoke ventilation opportunities area, and, where applicable, provide emergency access egress from the roof.
- I. Fire Classification:

1. IBC 1505.8 for building-integrated photovoltaic and solar shingles.
2. IBC 1509.7.2: Although not technically enforceable, every effort shall be made to ensure the solar photovoltaic module is not combustible.

2.8 BATTERY CHARGE CONTROLLER

- A. Listed per UL 1741.
- B. Charge controller or self-regulating system shall be required for a stand-alone system with battery storage. Charge controller's adjusting mechanism shall be accessible only to qualified persons.
- C. Shall be capable of withstanding 25% over-ampereage while charging for limited time per the NEC.
- D. Charge controller shall include maximum power point tracking (MPPT) and temperature compensation.

2.9 BATTERY

- A. General: Comply with NEC. Flooded lead-acid, captive electrolyte lead acid and nickel-cadmium are acceptable. Consider climate when selecting battery type.
- B. Off-Grid: Always use high-quality, industrial-grade, deep-cycle batteries.
- C. Grid-Interactive with Battery Backup: Best to use sealed-absorbed glass mat (AGM) batteries specifically designed for emergency standby or float service.
- D. Sizing: For stand-alone systems, size per IEEE 1013 and/or 1562.
- E. Installation and Maintenance: Follow practices per IEEE 937.
- F. Test and Evaluation:
 1. Stand-Alone System: Follow procedures per IEEE 1361.
 2. Hybrid System: Follow procedures per IEEE 1661.
- G. Optimize Performance and Life: Follow practices per IEEE 1561.
- H. Safety and Ventilation:
 1. Use protective enclosure and proper ventilation per the NEC.

2. Exposed battery terminals and cable connections shall be protected, and live parts of batteries shall be guarded. Batteries should be accessible only to a qualified person via locked room, battery box, or other container.
 3. Spacing around battery enclosures and boxes and other equipment shall be at least 915 mm [36 inches]; batteries shall not be installed in living areas, or below enclosures, panelboards, or load centers.
 4. Prohibited are conductive cases for flooded, lead-acid batteries operating above 48-volt nominal. Battery racks shall have no conductive parts within 155 mm [6 inches] of the tops of cases.
 5. To reduce risk of electric shock, storage batteries in dwellings shall operate at less than 50 volts (48-volt nominal battery bank). Live parts of any battery bank shall be guarded.
- I. Interconnection:
1. Per NEC, battery cables shall be a standard building wire type conductor. Welding and automobile “battery” cables (listed and non-listed) are prohibited.
 2. Flexible cables, listed for hard service use and moisture resistance, are permitted (not required) from battery terminals to nearby junction box and between battery cells. Flexible, highly-stranded building-wire type cables (USE/RHW and THW) are available. Battery terminals shall be compatible with flexible cables.

2.10 COLLECTOR SUPPORTS

- A. Wind Resistance Requirement:
1. For rack-mounted: per IBC 1509.7.1.
 2. For building-integrated photovoltaic and solar shingles: IBC 1507.17.3.
- B. Mechanical Load Requirement: per UL 1703.
- C. Ground and Pole Mount:
1. Foundations shall be designed by a licensed Professional Structural Engineer (PE).

2. Where possible, combiner boxes shall be mounted directly to the pole itself.

2.10 INSTRUMENTATION

- A. Meters: If applicable and system is grid-connected, use net smart meter provided by the serving electric utility.
- B. Sensors:
 1. Temperature sensor shall be a component in the MPPT control system.
 2. May install additional data acquisition sensors to measure irradiance, wind speed, and ambient and PV module temperatures. Any additional sensors shall require a conduit separate from the current conductor conduit.
- C. Data logger/Monitoring System: Shall be a packaged system capable of string-level monitoring or in the case of micro-inverters, capable of monitoring and logging an individual module's information.

PART 3 – EXECUTION

3.1 INSTALLATION

- A. Install the solar photovoltaic system in accordance with the NEC, this section, and the printed instructions of the manufacturer.
- B. Prior to system start-up, ensure no copper wire remains exposed with the exception of grounding wire as allowed in certain circumstances per manufacturer's instructions.
- C. Wiring Installation: Workers shall be made aware that photovoltaic modules will be live and generating electricity when there is any ambient light source and shall take appropriate precautions. Utilize on-site measurements in conjunction with engineering designs to accurately cut wires and layout before making permanent connections. Locate wires out of the way of windows, doors, openings, and other hazards. Ensure wires are free of snags and sharp edges that have the potential to compromise the wire insulation. All cabling shall be mechanically fastened. If the system is roof-mounted it

shall have direct current ground fault protection according to NEC. Ensure breakers in combiner box are in the off position (or fuses removed) during combiner box wiring.

- D. Instrumentation: Install instruments as recommended by the manufacturer. Locate control panels inside a room accessible only to qualified persons.
- E. Building-Integrated Photovoltaic Installations: Building-integrated photovoltaic modules/shingles shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions.
- F. Rack-Mounted Photovoltaic Installations: Rack-mounted photovoltaic modules shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions.
- G. Ground and Pole-Mounted Photovoltaic Installations: If structure is used as equipment grounding conductor, ensure compliance with NEC. Wiring shall not be readily accessible.
- H. Tracking System Installations: Disconnect shall be within sight of the tracking motor.
- I. Provide safety signage per NEC.

3.2 FIELD QUALITY CONTROL

- A. Field Inspection: Perform in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations. Prior to initial operation, inspect the solar energy electrical power generation system for conformance to drawings, specifications, and NEC. In addition, include the following:
 - 1. Visual Inspection and Tests:
 - a. Compare equipment nameplate data with specifications and approved shop drawings.
 - b. Inspect physical, electrical, and mechanical condition.
 - c. Verify required area clearances.
 - d. Verifying tightness of accessible bolted electrical connections by calibrated torque-wrench method, or performing thermographic survey after energization.

- e. Verify the correct operation of all sensing devices, alarms, and indicating devices.
 - f. Verify that all cable entries from top of junction boxes are sealed per junction box rating.
 - g. Verify all connections and integrity of printed circuit boards in all applicable junction boxes.
- B. Tests: Provide equipment and apparatus required for performing tests. Correct defects disclosed by the tests and repeat tests. Conduct tests in the presence of the COR.
- 1. Module String Voltage Test: Prior to connecting wiring to the combiner box, use a digital multi-meter to ensure each series string's polarity is correct.
 - 2. Operational Tests: Perform tests in accordance with the manufacturer's written recommendations. Tests for stand-alone systems shall be performed per IEEE 1526.

3.3 FOLLOW-UP VERIFICATION

- A. Upon completion of acceptance checks, settings, and tests, the Contractor shall show by demonstration in service that the solar photovoltaic electrical power generation system is in good operating condition and properly performing the intended function.

3.4 COMMISSIONING

- A. Comply with the requirements of Section 01 91 00, GENERAL COMMISSIONING REQUIREMENTS.
- B. If the system is grid-tied, the Contractor shall coordinate with the serving electric utility to establish an interconnection agreement.
- C. Connect the solar photovoltaic electrical power generation system to the serving electric utility grid only after receiving prior approval from the utility company.
- D. Only qualified personnel shall connect the solar photovoltaic electrical power generation system to the serving electric utility grid.

3.5 INSTRUCTION

- A. A complete set of operating instructions for the solar photovoltaic electrical power generation system shall be laminated or mounted under acrylic glass and installed in a frame near the equipment.
- B. Furnish the services of a factory-trained technician for one, 4-hour training period for instructing personnel in the maintenance and operation of the solar photovoltaic electrical power generation system, on the date requested by the COR.

---END---

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Biographical Information

Samuel Vega-Cotto is currently Sr. Electrical Engineer at the Indian Health Service and has been registered as a Professional Engineer for 23 years. He has vast experience in the Research and Development, design, maintenance and construction for power equipment within different industries. Areas of expertise include: Modeling & Simulation, Power System Studies, Electrical Engineering Design, Project Management, Staff development, Quality Control, Research & Development, Corrective actions, and redesign. Mr. Vega-Cotto has a BSEE from University of P.R., Mayaguez Campus, MEEE from University of Idaho and a PhD in Electrical Engineering from University of Texas at Arlington. His research efforts are conducted over the microgrid architecture application in order to improve the power system of existing and new healthcare facilities for American Indian and Alaska natives.

Samuel Vega-Cotto's experience is diversified in different industries that includes education, communications, pharmaceuticals, aviation, military, shipbuilding and healthcare. Areas of electrical engineering include maintenance, design, construction, consultant, teaching, research and development.

In the near future, Samuel plans to continue doing research in power systems for the US government and support research efforts of other students from the Energy Systems Research Center with the same area of interest.