# Raters of the **Lost Ark**



# **Raters of the Lost Ark**

David K. Owens Executive Vice President Edison Electric Institute

NARUC Annual Meeting November 10, 2015 Austin, Texas

### The Electric Distribution System in Transition

- The structure and operation of distribution systems will change as "smart" infrastructures are built out and new distributed technologies are deployed.
  - Ultimately, power will flow in 2 directions across distribution systems.
  - Investing in a safe and reliable grid infrastructure is critical to the deployment of new technologies.

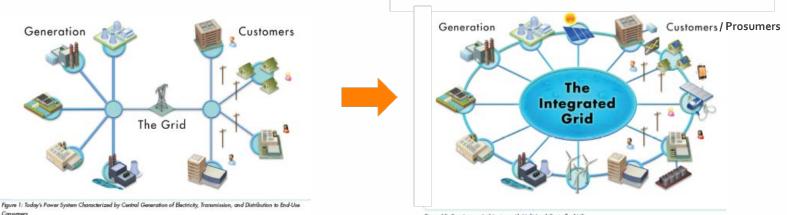
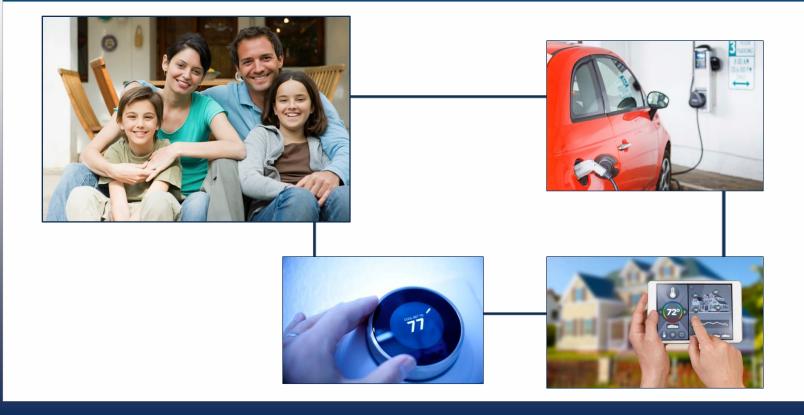


Figure 12: Creating an Architecture with Multi-Level Controller [44]



Consumera

## Expanding Options for Residential Customers



What Should Be the Central Objective for Customer Service Models and Regulatory Policy?



### Reliability Sustainability Affordability



## Enabling Regulatory Frameworks to Better Serve Customers

#### Cost recovery for advanced distribution investments

- Rate policies that allow accelerated depreciation
- Alternative regulatory policies (future test year, cost trackers, formula rates, multi-year rate plans, etc.)
- New rate designs with better fixed cost recovery
- Performance-based regulatory policies
- New interconnection standards
- Support for value-added services
- Support for various DER asset ownership options
- Revised affiliate code-of-conduct rules
- Revised data privacy policies



### Selected Residential Customer DG Decisions

- Grid Access Fee—Arizona Public Service
- Self Supply or Grid Supply with Higher Minimum Bill—Hawaiian Electric
- New DG Rate Class—Westar
- **Standby Charge**—Dominion; Appalachian Power
- **3-Part Rate Including Demand Charge**—We Energies



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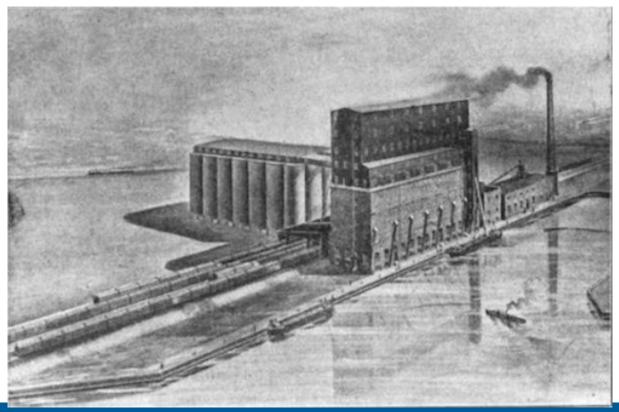
#### Smart Rate Design for a Smart Future

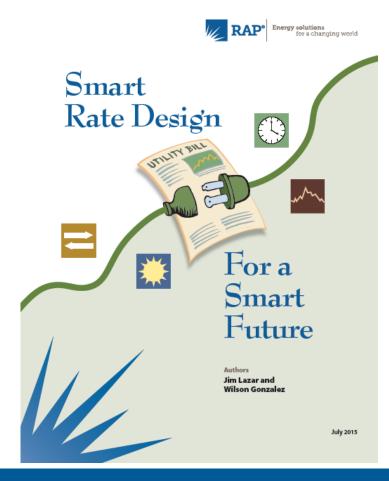
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**The Regulatory Assistance Project** 

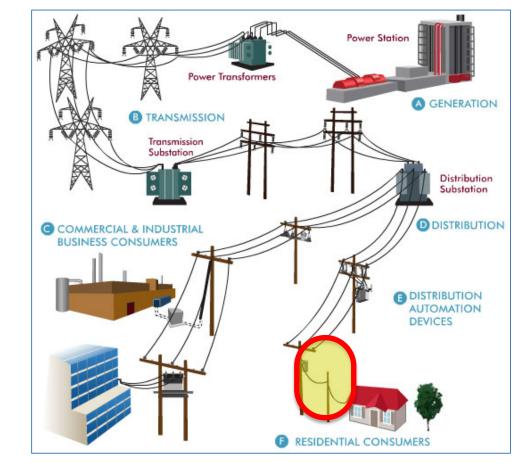
Home Office (US) 50 State Street, Suite 3 Montpelier, VT 05602 Phone: 802-223-8199 web: www.raponline.org

# **Genesis of Utility Regulation**





**A Customer should** be allowed to connect to the grid for no more than the cost of connecting to the grid.



**Customers** should pay for the grid in proportion to how much they use the grid, and when they use the grid.



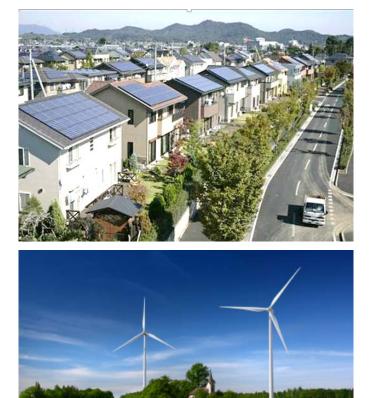
**Customers should** pay for the grid in proportion to how much they use the grid, and when they use the grid.







**Customers** delivering power to the grid should receive full and fair value -- no more and no less.



## How Do Other Industries Recover Fixed Costs?



## We Pay For Other "Grids" In Volumetric Prices

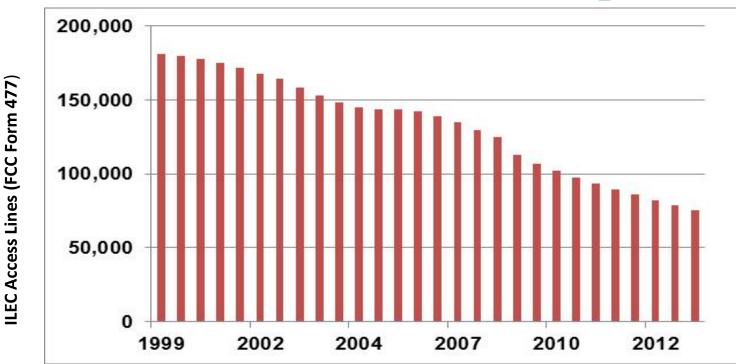








### How Did High Fixed Charges Work Out for the Landline Phone Companies?



# Good Rate Design vs. Bad: ~15% Difference in Usage



Low Fixed Charge +TOU Rate + Inclining Block vs.

High Fixed Charge + Flat Rate

~ Half of CPP Obligation



## A Simple Cost-Based Residential Rate Design

**Cost to Connect to the Grid** 

Billing	\$/mo	\$ 4.00
Line Transformer	\$/kVA/Mo	\$ 1.00

<b>Bi-Directional Grid and Power Supply</b>				
Off-Peak	\$/kWh	\$	0.07	
	<b>* *</b> • • • • •	-		

Mid-Peak	\$/kWh	\$ 0.09
On-Peak	\$/kWh	\$ 0.14
Critical Peak	\$/kWh	\$ 0.74



#### **About RAP**

The Regulatory Assistance Project (RAP) is a global, non-profit team of experts thatfocuses on thelong-term economic and environmental sustainability of the powerand natural gas sectors. RAP has deep expertisein regulatory and market policiesthat:

- Promote economic efficiency
- Protect the environment
- Ensure system reliability
- Allocate system benefits fairly among all consumers

Learn more about RAP at www.raponline.org

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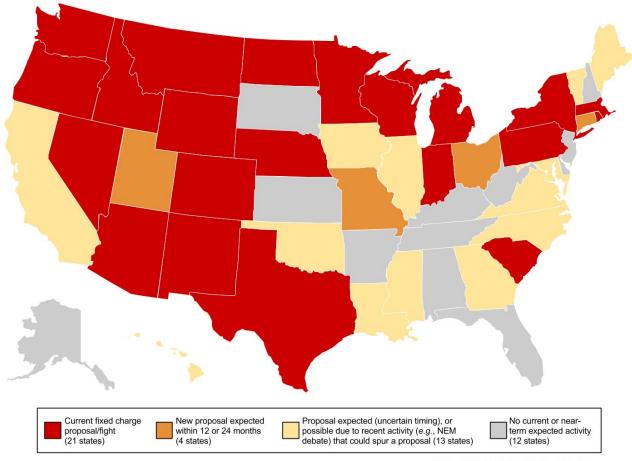


Global The Regulatory Assistance Project

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Mandatory Fee Proposals Timing Map



October 14, 2015: NRDC, NCLC and Vote Solar

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