# Rate Design for Public DCFC

Chris Nelder, RMI Electricity Manager MADRI – Philadelphia, PA – June 6, 2017



## **Our June 2016 report on VGI**



### ELECTRIC VEHICLES AS DISTRIBUTED ENERGY RESOURCES

BY GARRETT FITZGERALD, CHRIS NELDER, AND JAMES NEWCOMB

- Explored using TOU rates to shift EV charging loads from peaks to valleys
- Time-varying rates are key, but must be implemented early
- EVs can maximize renewable generation and flatten load profile
- Regulators should create performance-based incentives for high utilization of chargers and use of EVs to optimize existing grid assets and avoid new investment
- Remove regulatory uncertainty

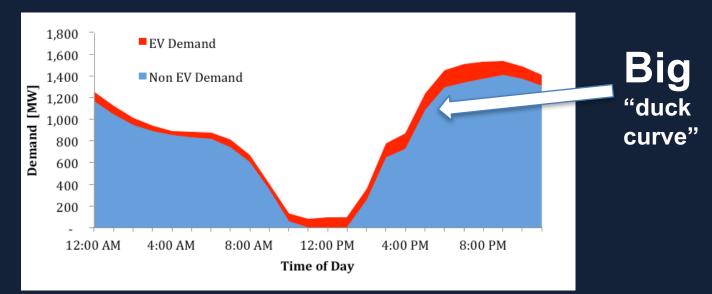
## **A Dynamic Grid Resource**



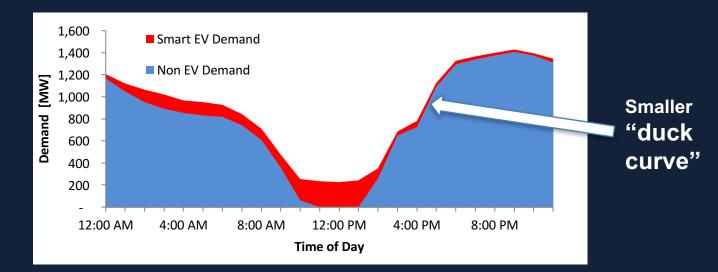
Controlled charging of electric vehicles (not V2G) can deliver many benefits:

- Optimize existing grid assets and extend their useful life
- Avoid new investment in grid infrastructure
- Supply ancillary services, such as frequency regulation and power factor correction.
- Absorb excess wind and solar generation
- Reduce emissions
- Reduce electricity and transportation costs
- Reduce petroleum consumption

#### **Pressed Duck**



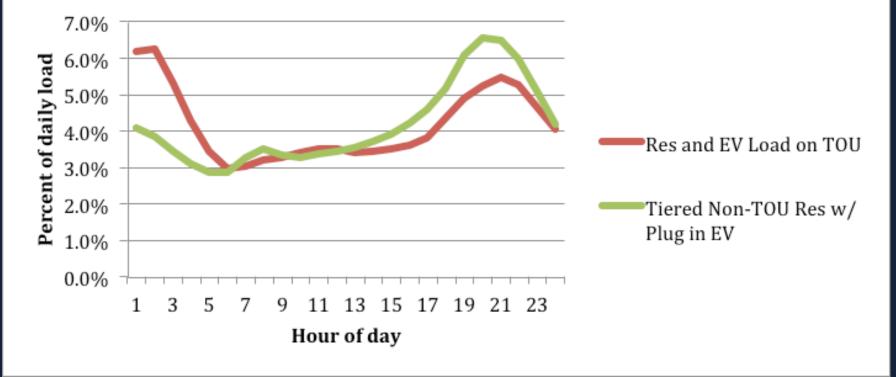
#### Projected HECO demand with 23% EV penetration with uncontrolled EV charging



#### Projected HECO demand with 23% EV penetration and optimized charging

## **TOU Rates Are Effective at Shifting Demand**

#### Residential Load Shapes for Homes with EVs TOU vs non-TOU Rates



## SUMMARY

## If we integrate EVs proactively and intelligently, we can:

- minimize new investment in grid infrastructure
- optimize existing grid assets and extend their useful life
- enable greater integration of variable renewables (wind and solar PV) without needing new gas generation for dispatchable capacity, while reducing curtailment of renewable production
- improve energy security

- reduce electricity and transportation costs
- reduce petroleum consumption
- reduce emissions of CO2 and conventional air pollutants
- provide multiplier benefits from increased money circulating in the community
- supply ancillary services to the grid, such as frequency regulation and power factor correction

## If we integrate EVs reactively and badly, it will:

- shorten the life of grid infrastructure components
- require greater investment in gas-fired peak and flexible capacity
- make the grid less efficient
- make the grid less stable and reliable

- increase the unit costs of electricity for all consumers
- inhibit the integration of variable renewables, and increase curtailment of renewable generation when supply exceeds demand
- increase grid power emissions

## Our March 2017 report for EVgo



PUBLIC VERSION

### EVGO FLEET AND TARIFF ANALYSIS



- Analyzed every charging session in 2016 from all 230 of EVgo's DCFC in California.
- Modeled DCFC load profiles against multiple tariffs in SDG&E, SCE and PG&E territory under four future EV adoption scenarios.
- Critically evaluated the role of demand charges in DCFC operating costs.
- Sought to understand the business case for public DCFC owners/operators.

#### **Findings: Demand Charges**

• Tariffs with high demand charges are definitely problematic for public DCFC with low utilization

| Category                             | Host Type A | Host Type B | Host Type C | Host Type D |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Utilization                          | 15%         | 8%          | 8%          | 4%          |
| SCE ToU EV 4 (actual)                | \$1,933     | \$1,817     | \$1,762     | \$1,682     |
| SCE ToU EV 8 (proposed)              | \$808       | \$648       | \$569       | \$461       |
| SDG&E AL-ToU Commercial (actual)     | \$3,313     | \$3,219     | \$3,178     | \$3,114     |
| SDG&E Public Charging GIR (proposed) | \$501       | \$329       | \$255       | \$138       |
| PGE A-6 ToU (actual)                 | \$484       | \$322       | \$260       | \$150       |
| PG&E A-10 (actual)                   | \$1,318     | \$1,197     | \$1,147     | \$1,065     |

#### **Findings: Demand Charges**

• Demand charges can make up a very high percentage of the charger's monthly bill if utilization rates are low.

| Tariff                               | Host Type A | Host Type B | Host Type C | Host Type D |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| SCE ToU EV 4 (actual)                | 70%         | 75%         | 77%         | 81%         |
| SCE ToU EV 8 (proposed)              | 0           | 0           | 0           | 0           |
| SDG&E AL-ToU Commercial (actual)     | 88%         | 91%         | 92%         | 94%         |
| SDG&E Public Charging GIR (proposed) | 0           | 0           | 0           | 0           |
| PGE A-6 ToU with Option R (actual)   | 0           | 0           | 0           | 0           |
| PG&E A-10 (actual)                   | 67%         | 73%         | 76%         | 81%         |

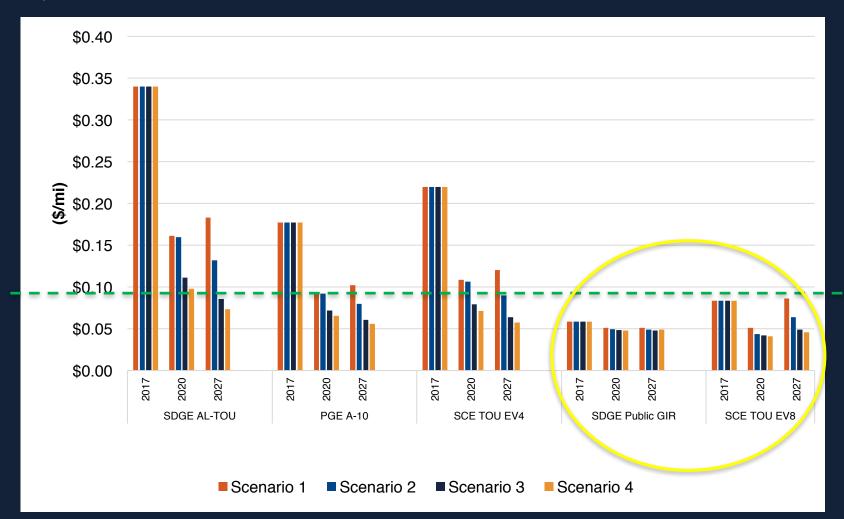
#### **Findings: Demand Charges**

• Tariffs that de-emphasize demand charges are more favorable to DCFC operators.

| SCE                                     | Fixed | Energy | Demand         | Total   |
|---|-------|--------|----------------|---------|
| TOU EV4                                 | \$220 | \$278  | \$1,362        | \$1,938 |
| TOU EV 8 without demand charges         | \$330 | \$478  | \$0            | \$808   |
| TOU EV 8 with demand charges in year 11 | \$330 | \$368  | \$792          | \$1,490 |
| SDG&E                                   | Fixed | Energy | Demand/Dynamic | Total   |
| AL-TOU                                  | \$116 | \$279  | \$2,545        | \$2,941 |
| Public GIR                              | \$0   | \$452  | \$115          | \$567   |

#### The Goal: ICE Parity

 Public EVSE should aim for ICE parity: gasoline equivalent cost of \$0.29/kWh, or \$0.09/mile or less



#### **Public DCFC Rate Design Issues**

- As regulators begin to focus on EV-grid, it is critical that tariffs support public charging infrastructure.
- Most existing tariffs are not designed for DCFC operators and are not suitable:
  - Do not accurately reflect the true cost of service
  - Are not consistent across utilities
  - Lack appropriate price signals for effective integration of EVs onto the grid
- DCFC utilization varies by host type, and increasing utilization eases issues with demand charges.

→ We need tariffs that create a better business case for DCFC owners & operators

#### **Rate Design Recommendations**

Tariffs that enable profitable public DCFC operation should have the following characteristics:

- Time-varying volumetric rates which recover most utility costs
- Limited or **no demand charges**. If demand charges are necessary, they should be designed to only recover location-specific costs of connection to the grid, not upstream costs.
- Low fixed charges, which primarily reflect routine costs for things like maintenance and billing
- The opportunity to earn credit for providing grid services
- **Rates that vary by location** and promote a more efficient use of existing grid infrastructure

## What if Public Charging Becomes Ubiquitous?

Most planners assume that most vehicles will charge at home using Level 2 chargers...but what if public Level 3 charging becomes widely available?

## DISRUPTORS

• Vehicle range increasing (200+ mi)

- Use patterns changing (all-purpose)
- Chargers getting more powerful (400 kW)
- MaaS could popularize renting, not owning

## DIFFERENT CHALLENGES

- Less overloading risk from clusters of Level 2 chargers in residential neighborhoods
- TOU a less effective tool
- Opportunity for utilities to use EVs to soak up midday solar
- Would flatten the duck curve

## PUBLIC / WORKPLACE CHARGING SCENARIO

- Charging at home could become secondary & use on-board Level 1 system
- On-peak/daytime charging would increase
- Public/workplace Level 3 chargers could be lower total capital outlay if heavily used
- High utilization rates would make chargers more profitable for private charging companies, so better maintained, more available

### What's the no-regrets strategy?

Public fast-charging is future-proof

## Public fast-charging advantages

- Critical for fleet vehicles, autonomous or not
- Useful for fleets and personally owned vehicles
- Supports buses and other mass transit
- The more available DCFC are, the better for widespread EV use

## HOWEVER...

- DCFC can't provide grid benefits like Level 2 can.
- A mix of both Level 2 and DCFC is best

# Thank you

Questions?