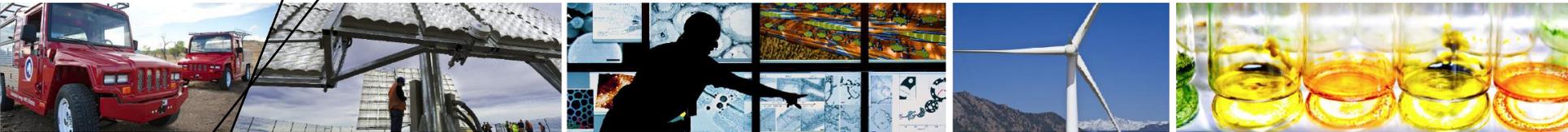




# Distributed Generation Interconnection Collaborative (DGIC)



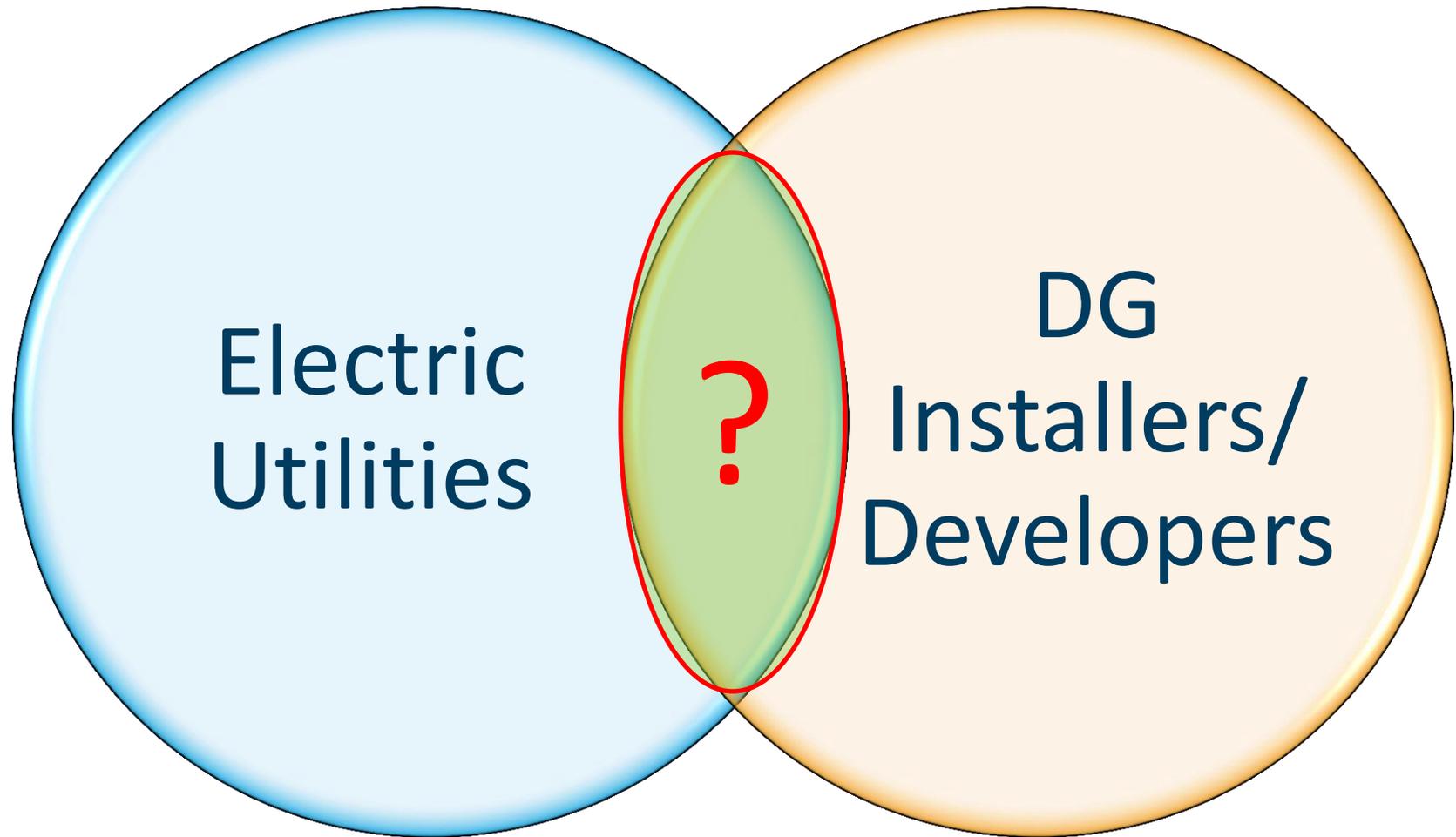
December 17, 2013  
Overview presentation for group call, 1:00-2:30EST

October 21, 2013 NREL and EPRI facilitated workshop of electric utilities, PV developers, PUCs, and other stakeholders to discuss the formulation of a collaborative effort focused on distributed PV interconnection:

- Data and informational gaps/needs
- Persistent challenges
- Replicable innovation
- Informed decision making and planning for anticipated rise in distributed PV interconnection

**Based on stakeholder input and feedback, the Distributed Generation Interconnection Collaborative (DGIC) was established.**

# Oct 21 Workshop Focus: Challenges and Interests on Both Sides of the Meter



# Oct 21 Workshop Findings

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- **Categories of Persistent Challenges/Priorities:**
  - Lack of data standardization and accuracy
  - Need for enhanced software planning and modeling
  - Lack of understanding/transparency for the full range of mitigation measures and associated costs
  - Transparency of system conditions (determining which potential projects are not going to be feasible)
  - Clear timelines for applications and costs for studies
  - Diffusion of innovative tools (i.e. SDG&E's interconnection platform)
    - Staying up to date on current and emergent utility innovations to address interconnection challenges
  - Information/data sharing best practices and protocols (between utilities; and between utilities and developers)

# DGIC is Focused on Information and Data Exchange Related to the Process of Distributed PV Interconnection

## UL 1741 Safety

- Mechanical
- Electrical
- Fire

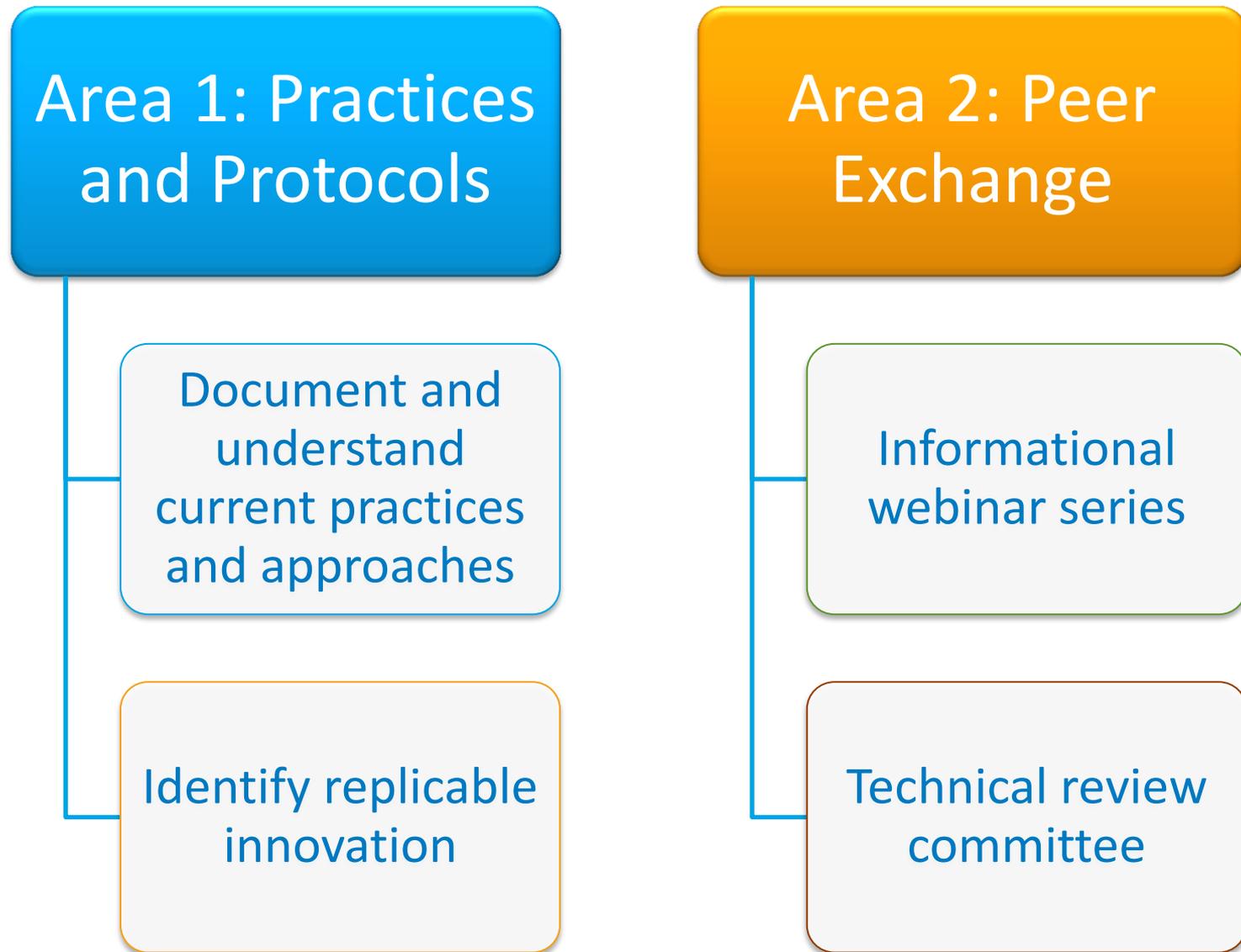
## IEEE 1547 Performance

- Voltage
- Response to area EPS abnormal conditions
- Power quality
- Islanding

## DG Interconnection Collaborative (DGIC) Process

- Application submittal and review
- Data exchange between developers and utilities
- Time/ Cost
- Replicable Consistency

# Based on Stakeholder Input: DGIC Framework



# Distributed Generation Interconnection Collaborative (DGIC)

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## DGIC Objectives

The DGIC's overall objectives are two-fold: 1) foster peer to peer exchange on distributed PV interconnection practices to enable informed decision-making and planning related to increasing grid-connected, distributed PV resources (i.e., learn what other utilities and stakeholders are doing, and what advancements are being made) 2) address stakeholders' priority challenges related to distributed PV interconnection via the identification of innovative cost and time savings measures, while emphasizing grid safety and reliability. NREL, with support from EPRI and WAPA, will facilitate and organize DGIC's informational webinars and activities, foster a collaborative environment, and conduct analysis as identified by DGIC's participants.

## DGIC Value Proposition

- Participate in stakeholder discussions on interconnection processes and procedures to enhance awareness of current and emergent practices and innovations. Key components include potential impacts on utility operations, including reliability, safety, cost, and cost recovery.
- Gain advanced access to expertise and information related to distributed PV interconnection practices, mitigation techniques, and cost saving measures.
- Establish a technical review committee (TRC) to discuss and provide input on current and upcoming DGIC research, analysis, and initiatives. The TRC will enable broader stakeholder understanding of related efforts, and gather stakeholder feedback and input on the scope and direction of DGIC research and activities.

## Logistics

The DGIC is open to all interested stakeholders and meets monthly, typically the last Wed of the month from 11:30-1:00 MST/ 1:30-3:00 EST. Monthly meetings consist of webinars and discussions focused on specific interconnection practices and related research. Topics are chosen based on relevancy to DGIC participants. Presentations, meeting notes, and other relevant information will be posted on the DGIC web page (address forthcoming). The tentative DGIC webinar schedule, with presentation topics, is included below. Topics are subject to change, based on DGIC participants' feedback and priorities. Detailed agendas and speaker bios will be sent in advance of each monthly meeting.