### **SRP IBR Integration and Operations Challenges**



NASPI Work Group Meeting October 2024

## IBR Integration Challenges (Third Party Owned and Operated)

#### **Background IBR Integration**

- Earlier experience with small must take stand alone energy storage (20MW) and energy storage + solar (20MW solar, 10MW battery)
- September 2021 (SRP owned and operated, Tesla maintained)
  - 25MW/100MWhr Battery for peak shaving and energy arbitrage with added ancillary benefits.
- December 2023 (All PPA, Third party owned and operated)
  - Sonoran Hybrid 260 MW solar + 260MW/1,040 MWh, 4hour battery
  - Storey Hybrid 88 MW solar + 88MW/264 MWh, 3-hour battery
  - Saint Hybrid 100MW solar + 100MW/400MWh, 4-hour battery
- Summer 2024 (All PPA, Third party owned and operated)
  - Sierra Estrella Battery 250MW/1000MWh, 4-hour battery
  - Superstition Battery 90MW/360MWh, 4-hour battery
  - Granja Eleven Mile Co-Located 300MW Solar + 300MW/1200MWh 4-hour battery.

### **PMU Monitoring Value**

- Early monitoring of oscillatory and abnormal behavior during commissioning.
- Controller tuning Critical SCADA Integration Operational vs. Monitoring
  - Particularly critical with BESS and PV plants
    - Complicated staged commissioning
    - Complicated BESS and PV controller interaction during commissioning
- Post-COD oscillation monitoring, still evaluating if there are more advanced methods for monitoring plant performance
- Need for more granular and more diverse data (possibly POW?)
  - Granular Understand dynamic impact of commission testing
  - Diverse Plant level data to understand dynamics of plant faults

Do utilities need internal IBR plant data from third-party owned and operated sites for reliable oversight?



# IBR Integration Challenges (Third Party Owned and Operated)

### **SCADA Integration**

• Reliable SCADA data is required before COD. SRP encountered many instances where plant SCADA data was not accurate and was interrupted after the IBR site was in operation.

#### **Contractual Limits Accounting**

• SRP working on monitoring metrics to ensure each site's Power Purchase Agreement warranty limits are tracked and accounted for.

#### **EMT modeling challenges**

- Ensuring accurate and reliable site settings and EMT models for dynamic system studies for SSO and other interactions with other IBR plants and system equipment (such as series capacitors)
- Good practice conformance to IEEE2800

#### **Metering**

- Complicated metering configuration scenarios with battery and solar hybrid or co-located sites have complicated energy accounting metering needs.
- Controller configurations not vetted and not tested (HIL) prior to field energization.

Robust IBR plant data is needed for utility reliability and contractual compliance



# **IBR** Operations Challenges

#### **Owned and Operated**

- Energy Retention and Round-Trip Efficiency challenges
- Real Power Capacity Short-Falls
  - Artificially Derate Battery to 20MW (from 25MW expected capacity)
- Numerous Summer Maintenance by Tesla Possible Heat Related Challenges

#### Power Purchase Agreement (Third Party Owned and Operated)

- Large Battery Oscillations Triggered SRP Operational Readiness project to:
  - Develop AGC Operating Procedure for Addressing Oscillations
  - Develop Online and Offline Oscillation Monitoring
- Ongoing small scale MVAR oscillations at a battery only site
- Other operating issues:
  - SRP developing contractual limit tracking
  - Telemetry outages
  - Vegetation management
  - Natural critter management Gnats getting into inverter vents
  - Temperature settings on inverters







### Dedicated Unit Managers to identify, facilitate, and mitigate IBR operational challenges



