

EXPERTISE TO
ENABLE GRID
TRANSFORMATION

GridLAB





Smart Inverters

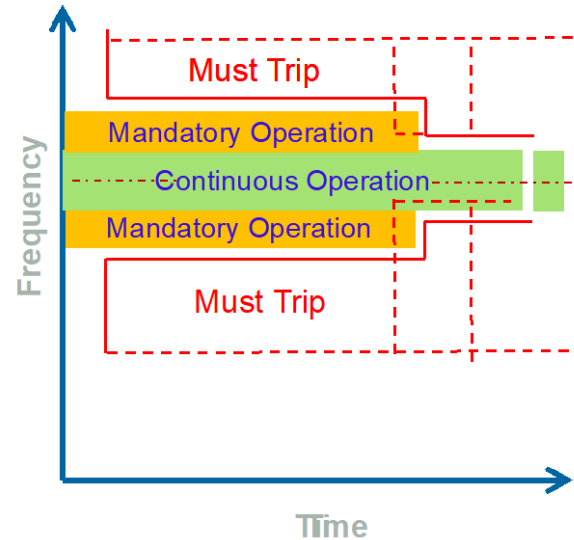
- ✓ Capabilities and Benefits
- ✓ How to access features
- ✓ Approach for enabling
- ✓ Guidance from other States

Context

1. **IEEE-1547 2018** inverters based on this new equipment standard will be available soon. States and utilities are making decisions now.
2. **Capabilities vs. Requirements.** 1547-2018 is an equipment capabilities specification, not a prescriptive standard. States and utilities have to make decisions about what features to implement.
3. **Grid Features:** 1547-2018 includes new grid support functionality.
4. **Harmonize.** If we can agree on default settings for systems, we reduce complexity for installers, utilities, manufacturers.
5. **Early, Early, Early.** Don't wait until we have high DER penetrations to implement these features, the grid needs them now, and it will be hard to implement retroactively.

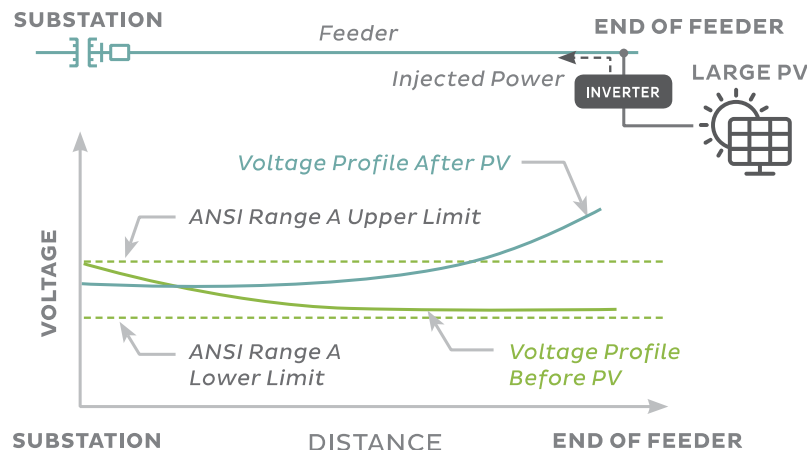
Grid Features: Ride Through

- IEEE 1547 compliant inverters have the capability to **ride through** voltage and frequency disturbances
- Supports bulk system reliability
- Maintains anti-islanding



Grid Features: Voltage Regulation

- Earlier versions of IEEE-1547 did not allow inverters operate at non-unity power factors.
- Increased deployment of DER raises concern for voltage management on distribution circuits
- Voltage management features allows compliant inverters to mitigate their own voltage impact



IEEE 1547-2018 Voltage Management Modes

One of these modes:

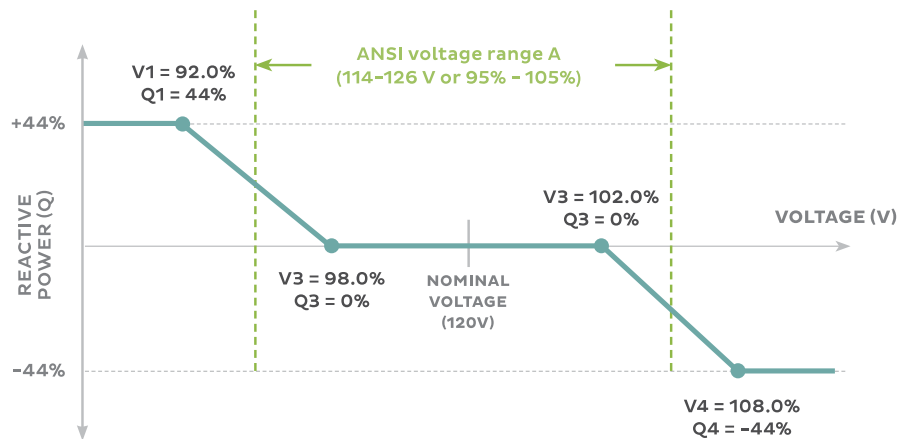
1. Constant Power Factor (default, unity)
2. Voltage-Reactive Power (**volt-var**)
3. Active Power-Reactive Power (**watt-var**)
4. Constant Reactive Power

With the potential addition of:

- Voltage-Active Power (**volt-watt**)

Voltage Management: volt-var

DEFAULT CATEGORY B VOLT-VAR SETTINGS IN IEEE 1547



- **Pro:** Can address both high and low voltage impacts, does not create reactive power
- **Con:** Can result in curtailment w/o headroom, may challenge coordination with traditional voltage management

Voltage Management Modes

*Voltage-Active Power (**volt-watt**)*

- **Pro:** Mitigates impacts from reconfiguring circuits, can increase hosting capacity
- **Con:** May result in curtailment

Constant Power Factor

- **Pro:** Simple, Can mitigate voltage
- **Con:** Absorbs reactive power at all times, even when not needed, can curtail active power if no “headroom”

Grid Features: Visibility and Control

Communications **capabilities** are required in 1547-2018 compliant inverters, but that does not **require** distribution utilities to communicate or control these devices. many systems will likely have communications enabled with aggregators/owners.

Grid features are designed to be **autonomous**, e.g. the inverter responds to grid conditions based on a predefined set of instructions. This allows for **real-time** response by the device.



RELIABILITY ASSUMPTIONS

*Do we need
communications
and control?*

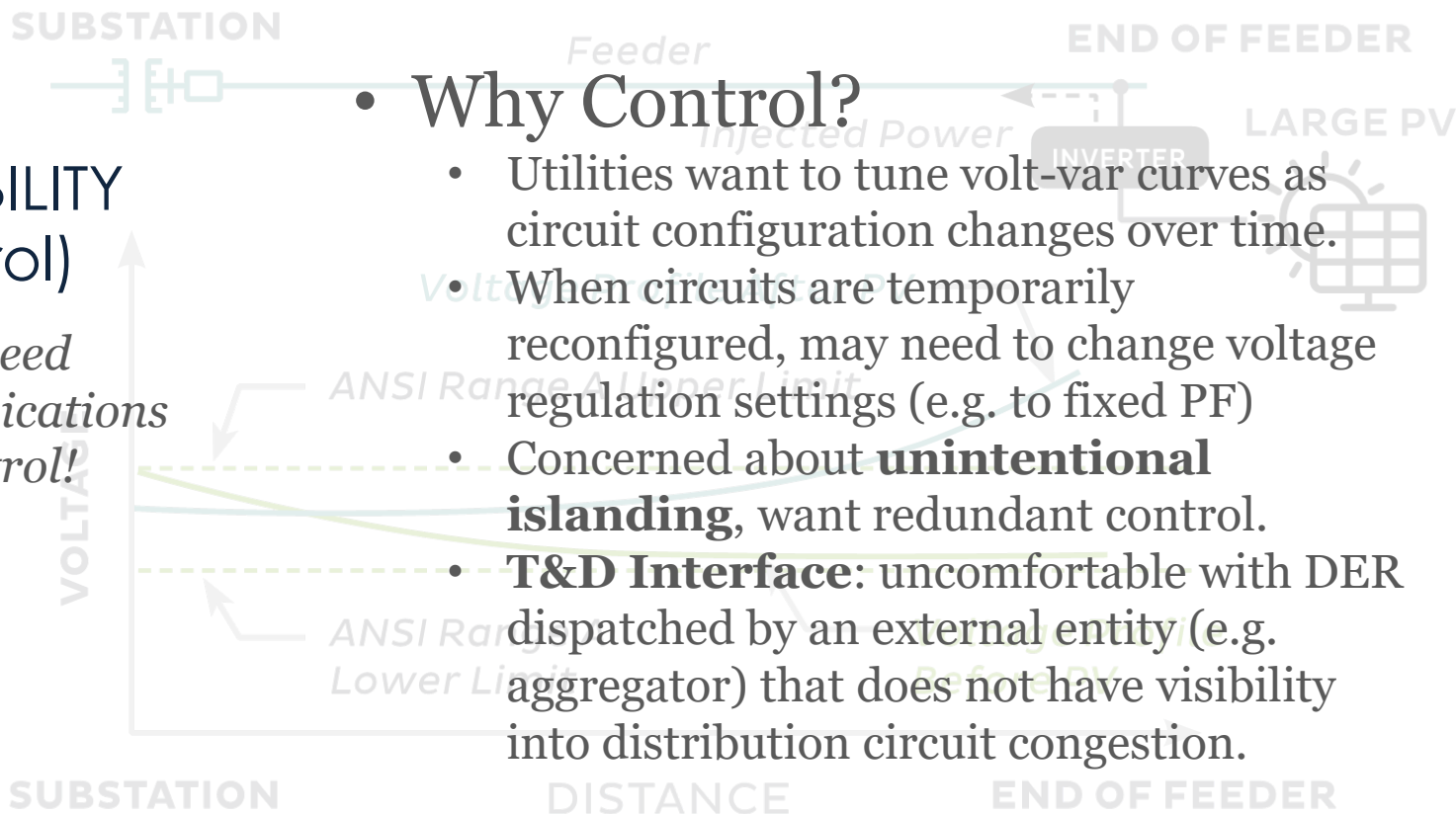
- **Control required**
 - Many utilities assume communications and control of DER will be needed to maintain *reliability*.
 - Focus has been on effects of distribution reconfiguration, anti-islanding concerns
- **Autonomous Approach**
 - California, Hawaii continue to progress with autonomous controls (e.g. volt-var, volt-watt in some cases).
 - Illinois, Minnesota following

RELIABILITY (Control)

*We do need
communications
and control!*

• Why Control?

- Utilities want to tune volt-var curves as circuit configuration changes over time.
- When circuits are temporarily reconfigured, may need to change voltage regulation settings (e.g. to fixed PF)
- Concerned about **unintentional islanding**, want redundant control.
- **T&D Interface:** uncomfortable with DER dispatched by an external entity (e.g. aggregator) that does not have visibility into distribution circuit congestion.

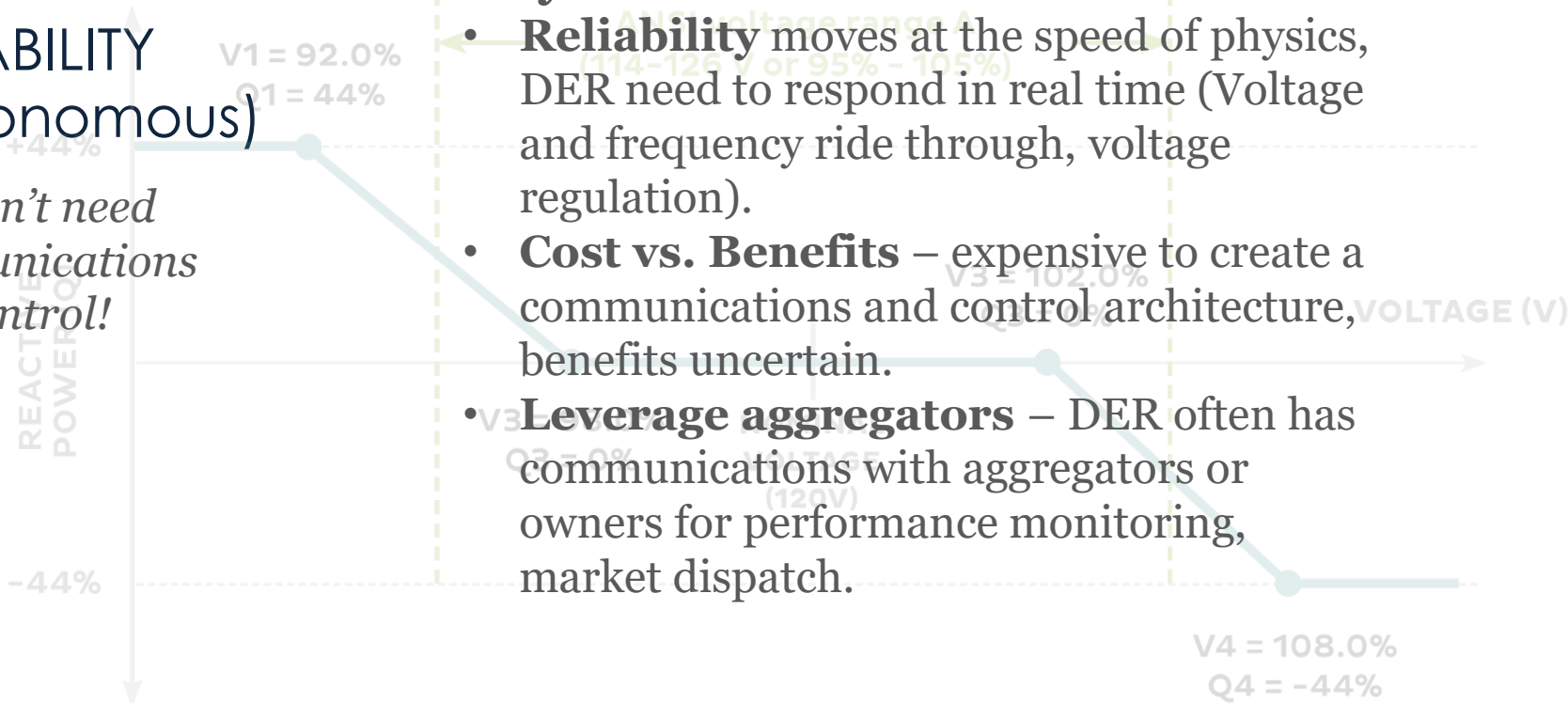


RELIABILITY (Autonomous)

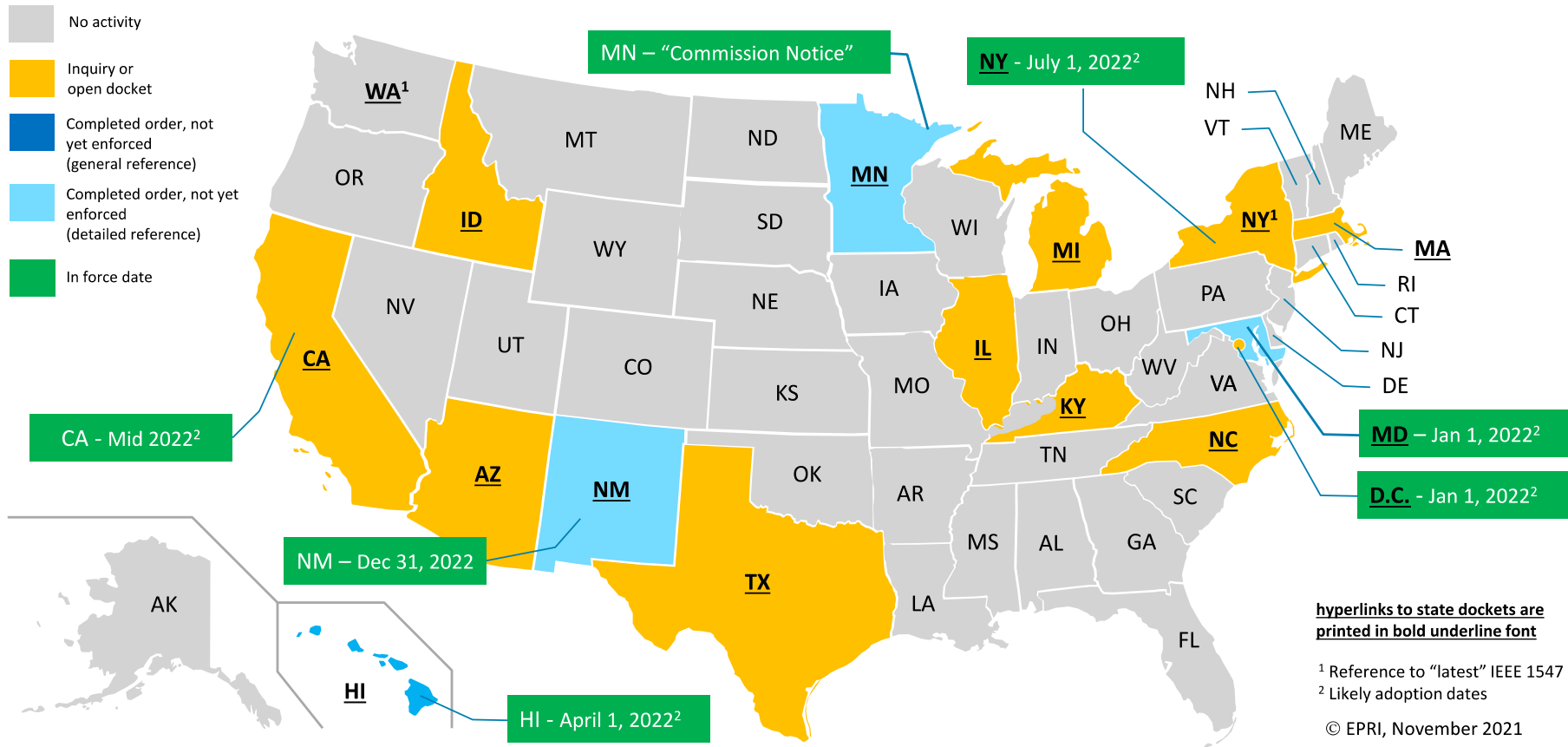
*We don't need
communications
and control!*

- **Why Autonomous?**

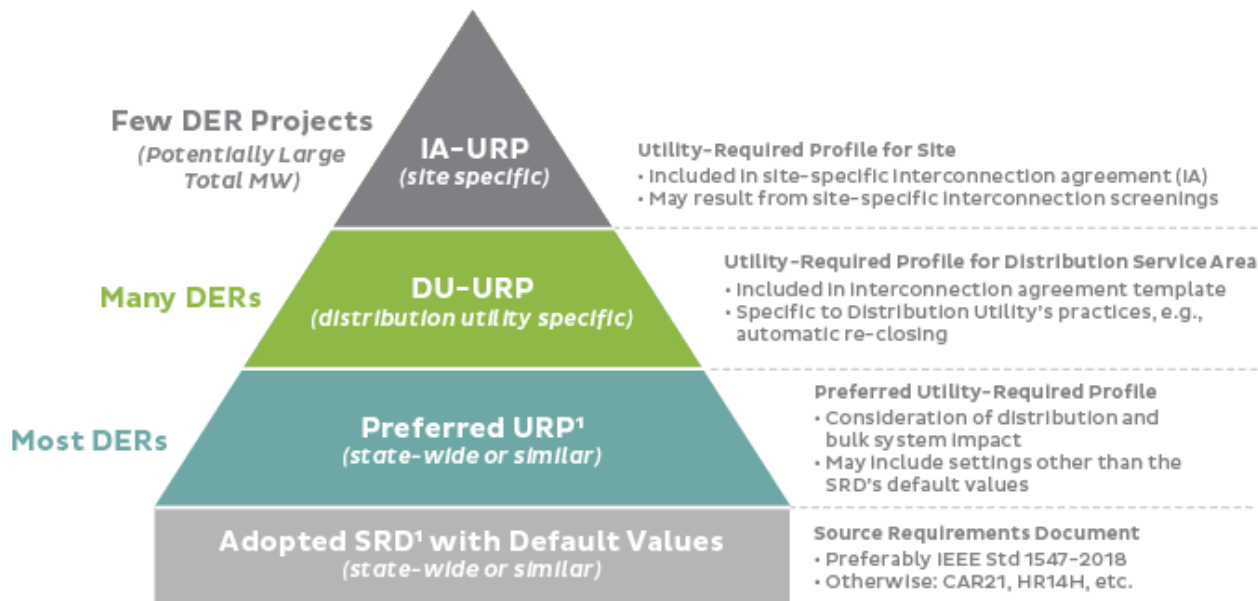
- **Reliability** moves at the speed of physics, DER need to respond in real time (Voltage and frequency ride through, voltage regulation).
- **Cost vs. Benefits** – expensive to create a communications and control architecture, benefits uncertain.
- **Leverage aggregators** – DER often has communications with aggregators or owners for performance monitoring, market dispatch.



U.S. States adopting IEEE Std 1547™-2018



Recommendations: For "Most DER"



Source: EPRI

¹Based on decision by Authority Governing Interconnection Requirements (AGIR)

Recommendations

Implement early, don't over-analyze

Deploy standard settings for most systems

- Volt-var for voltage regulation
- Default Category II or III for ride-through settings

Resources:

NREL IEEE 1547 Education

<https://www.nrel.gov/grid/ieee-standard-1547/>

GridLab Voltage Regulation

<https://gridlab.org/works/regulating-voltage-report/>





THANK YOU

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