

# 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Statewide Energy Efficiency Forum

## Session Block #4 – Microgrids: Low Carbon Reliability & Resilience

Salon A  
Level: All- Track: Implementation

Thursday, June 27, 2019  
1:30 – 2:45 PM

Notes prepared by *Dario Bobeda*, Corpsmember at California Conservation Corps

### Speakers:

*Margaret Bruce*, Local Government Commission

*Peter Asmus*, Navigant Research

*David Liebman*, Sonoma County Junior College District

*Christine Houston*, Port of Long Beach

### Session Summary:

Microgrids are a possible solution to recent struggles that a main utility grid poses. Microgrids can become viable economical as a service, by providing “energy as a service.” With recent outages and more planned outages in the future due to wildfires, microgrids can provide the necessary power at a low carbon reliability. David Liebman and Christine Houston shared their experiences developing a microgrid for Sonoma County Junior College District and the Port of Long Beach, respectively. They both shared the pros and cons of developing a microgrid. They both have to find innovative solutions to storage problems, identifying which facilities are critical to keep running when needed, and how to provide the necessary energy sustainably. Once their microgrids are complete, they may be able to sell their services when needed to recoup costs and create revenue. Overall, though, these microgrids are still in various stages of development.

### What are some words, phrases, or ideas that capture what practitioners need in order to successfully meet California’s energy and climate goals?

Building a microgrid with sustainability and energy efficiency in mind can help achieve those goals. Microgrids can help take the burden off of main utility grids.

### What was inspirational or hopeful about this session

The idea of a microgrid is fascinating. Not only can it be designed with sustainability in mind, but it can help when main utility grids are down. With more wildfires and planned outages coming in the future, microgrids may a solution to the problem.

