

New Paltz Microgrid

The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) selected the New Paltz Microgrid Project for Stage I funding in the NY Prize Community Grid competition. The project is a public-private collaboration with the *Town and Village of New Paltz*, with support from local stakeholders including: *SUNY at New Paltz*, *New Paltz Central School District*, and the *New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (Region #3)*. In addition to Microgrid Institute, the project team includes technology partners Hitachi Consulting, Green Energy Corp. (GEC), and TeMix Inc., with local stakeholders the Town and Village of New Paltz, State University of New York (SUNY) at New Paltz, the New Paltz Central School District, Central Hudson Gas & Electric, and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation - Region 3 Office.

Why a Microgrid?

A microgrid would strengthen the New Paltz community by ensuring reliable electricity supplies for critical facilities during power outages. Hurricane Irene, Superstorm Sandy, and the October 2011 Winter Storm inflicted serious damage and disruption to the community, displacing residents and causing widespread utility outages. Additionally, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation has identified New Paltz as an Environmental Justice Area, and the community is committed to reducing its climate footprint and fossil energy use. A microgrid would help New Paltz improve its resilience and energy self-reliance, while supporting local clean energy development.

New Paltz Microgrid Objectives

1. *Ensure resilient energy supplies* for facilities and services critical to the community's health, safety, and economic vitality, minimizing disruptions caused by weather events and reliability issues.
2. *Increase the community's energy efficiency* and reduce its environmental footprint.
3. *Optimize the use of local clean energy resources* – especially solar and biomass. The Project Team will assess the feasibility of integrating 25 to 30 percent renewable resources into the microgrid.
4. *Modernize local grid infrastructure* to create a platform for ongoing development of innovative and competitive energy assets and resources.

Timeline

NYSERDA NY Prize Community Grid Competition:
Stage I (feasibility study) - July 2015-March 2016
Stage II (engineering) – April 2016-Dec. 2017
Stage III (deployment) – April 2018-Sept. 2019

The New Paltz Microgrid is envisioned to provide resilient clean energy services for multiple “nodes” or clusters of facilities critical to the health, safety, and vitality of the community.

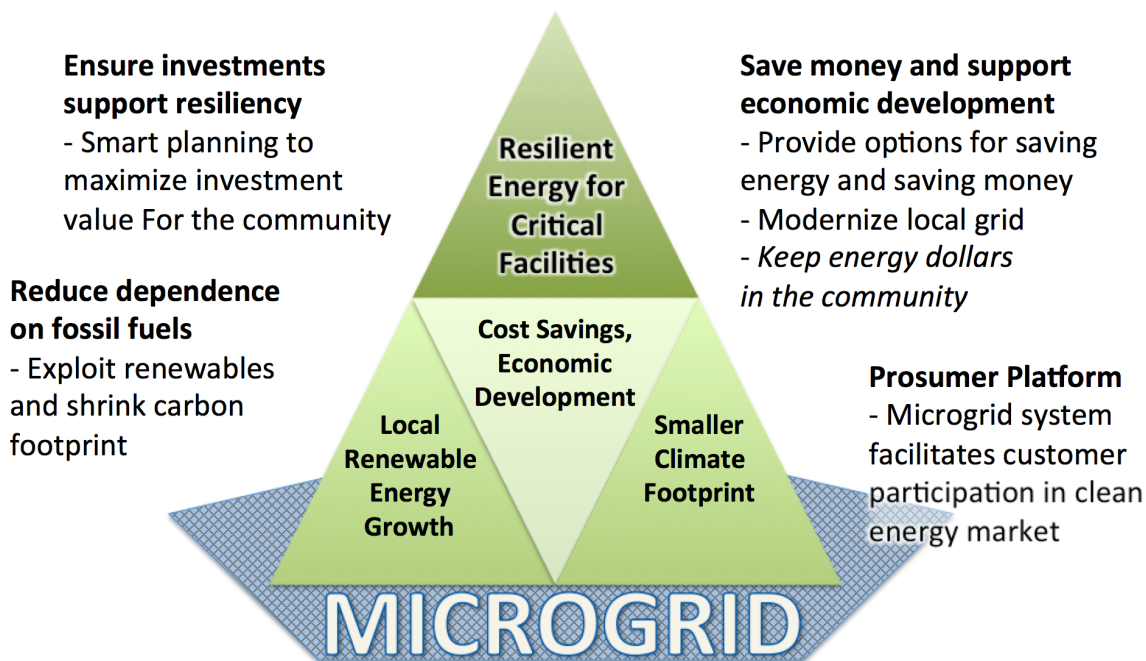


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A Prosumer Platform

The New Paltz Microgrid project proposes a public-private partnership (P3) to support the ongoing development of resilient, clean energy service options for customers in the New Paltz community. This P3's mission would be to strengthen local resiliency, increase use of local renewable energy, decrease reliance on fossil fuels, and help New Paltz energy customers save money and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

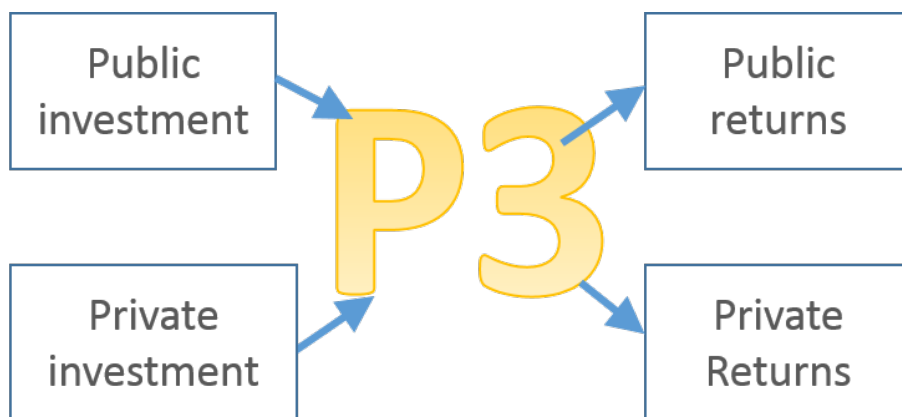
The P3 also would create a platform for customers to become prosumers – *e.g.*, consumers who are also producers. This platform is based on a three-tier energy services model.



A Public-Private Partnership

The New Paltz Microgrid is conceived as a public-private partnership (P3) involving public entities in New Paltz, private developers, and third-party investors. This P3 enterprise would focus on achieving community goals for resilience, sustainability, and energy cost savings.

The P3 business structure allows access to a wide range of financing sources, resulting in lower capital costs – and lower costs for customers.



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