



Micro Classroom State Grid

Are campus microgrids a good idea?

Increasingly, campus microgrids are also being used as an educational and sustainability awareness tool, connecting technology to students and community. Although microgrids have been deployed for more than a century--and many have been installed at campuses nationwide-- broad awareness of the technology is lacking.

Who uses a microgrid?

end-users such as homes, industries, or office buildings to consume it. A microgrid can stand on its own ("behind the meter") or can be connected to the larger grid ("in front of the meter") but have the capability of keeping electricity flowing in the case of a power outage. Microgrids are nothing new.

Why do universities need a modular microgrid?

Fred James, National Business Director for Higher Education at Siemens, pointed out that this modularity also enables microgrid owners to adopt the latest technology as it becomes commercially available. "It is hard to predict which technologies will prove optimal to meet a university's carbon neutrality goal, often 30 years in the future.

Does a microgrid make a college a draw for climate conscious students?

More than half (63%) of students surveyed for the Princeton Review's 2018 "College Hopes & Worries Survey" reported that information about a college's commitment to the environment would influence their application or enrollment decisions. A microgrid on campus makes the college a draw for today's climate conscious students.

What is a gold star example of a microgrid?

A gold star example is emerging at Santa Fe Community College (SFCC) in New Mexico, which is building a microgrid training center in partnership with Siemens. Like Bronzeville, SFCC's project demonstrates the value of linking disparate microgrids. In SFCC's case, a nanogrid will power its greenhouse and link to a planned campuswide microgrid.

How do I create a microgrid?

Creating your own microgrid can be as simple as purchasing a flexible solar panel that charges a small battery to provide you with a small amount of electricity during camping trips or power outages. A rooftop solar system with battery backup is another single-customer microgrid.

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