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To 33% and Beyond: Grid Integration Challenges for Renewable Generation

presented to:

UCLA Smart Grid Thought Leadership Forum
March 28, 2012



ciee

California Institute for
Energy and Environment

by:
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Electric Grid Research

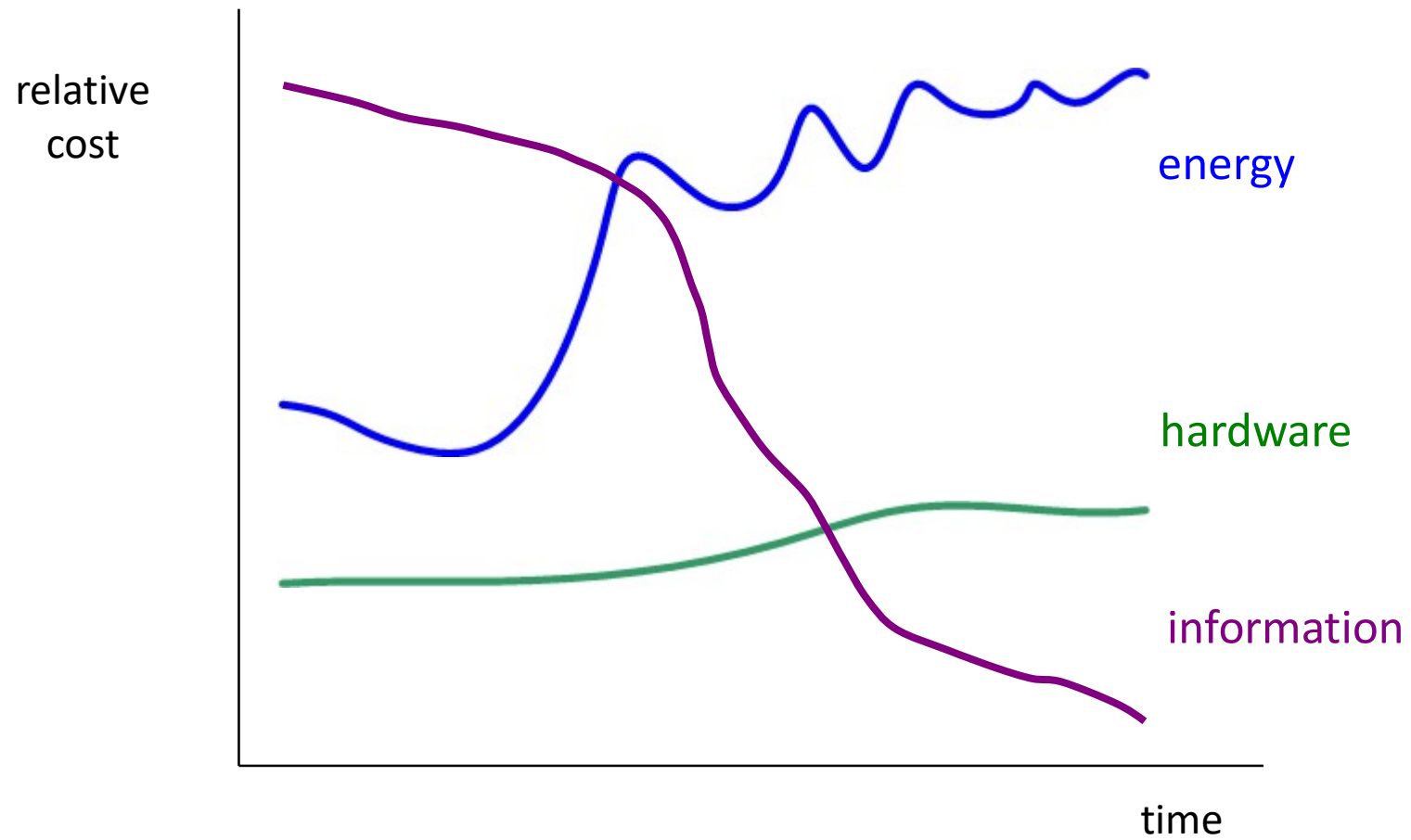
Disclaimer



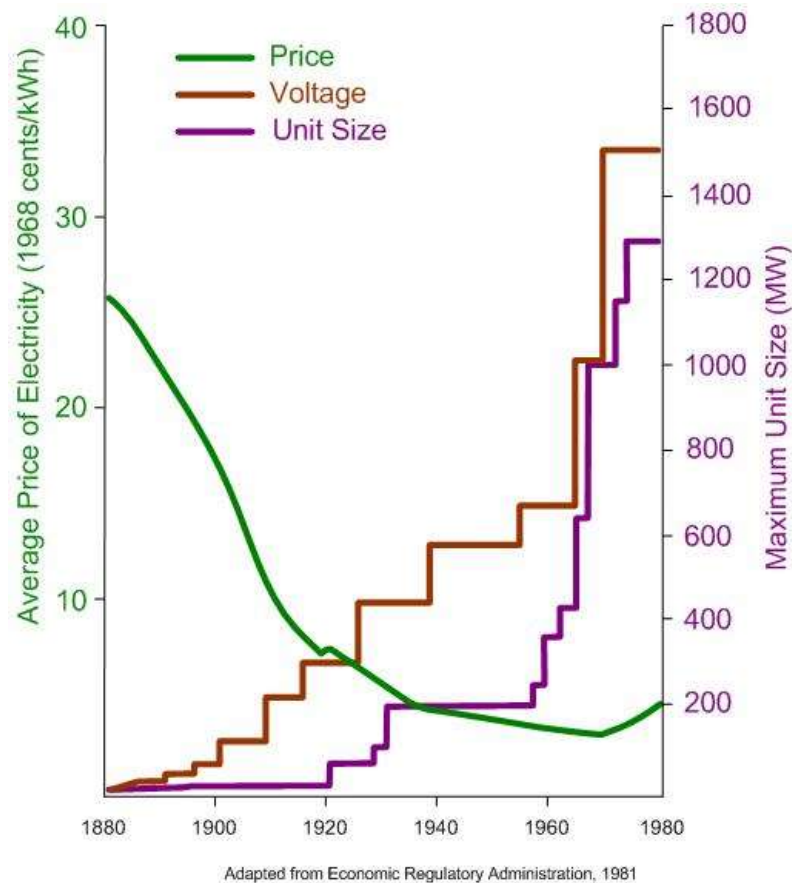
This presentation is based in part on work sponsored by the California Energy Commission, but does not necessarily represent the views of, nor has it been approved or disapproved by, the Energy Commission.



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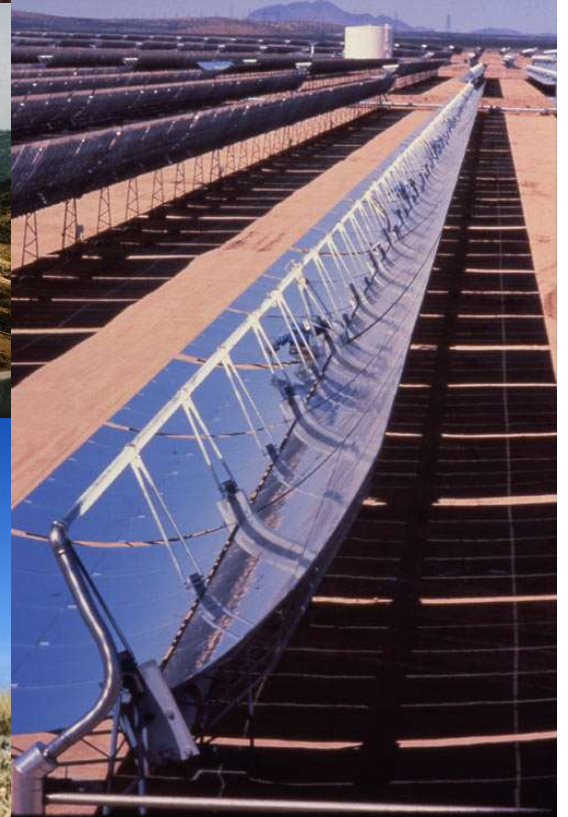


Historical drivers toward “smart grid” development

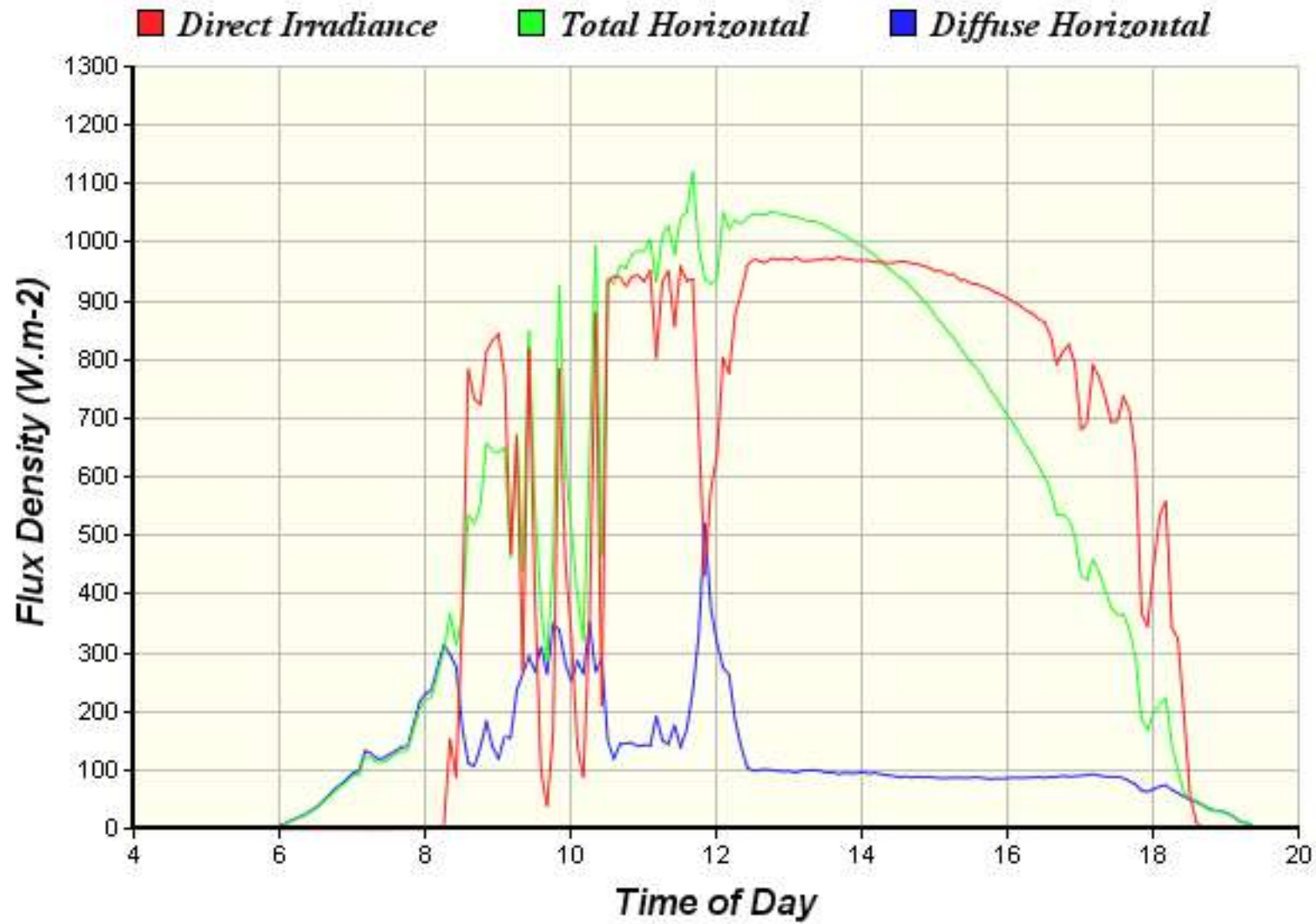


- limited economies of scale
- oil prices
- high interest rates in 1970s and '80s hampering large, inflexible units
- recognition of environmental costs
- PURPA: diversity of generators
- declining transmission investment
- increasing dependence on long-distance connectivity: vulnerability
- electronic loads: reliability needs, modeling challenge
- competitive market philosophy

The grid is becoming harder to operate. Meanwhile, we want electricity that's clean, green, good-looking, reliable... and cheaper, too!

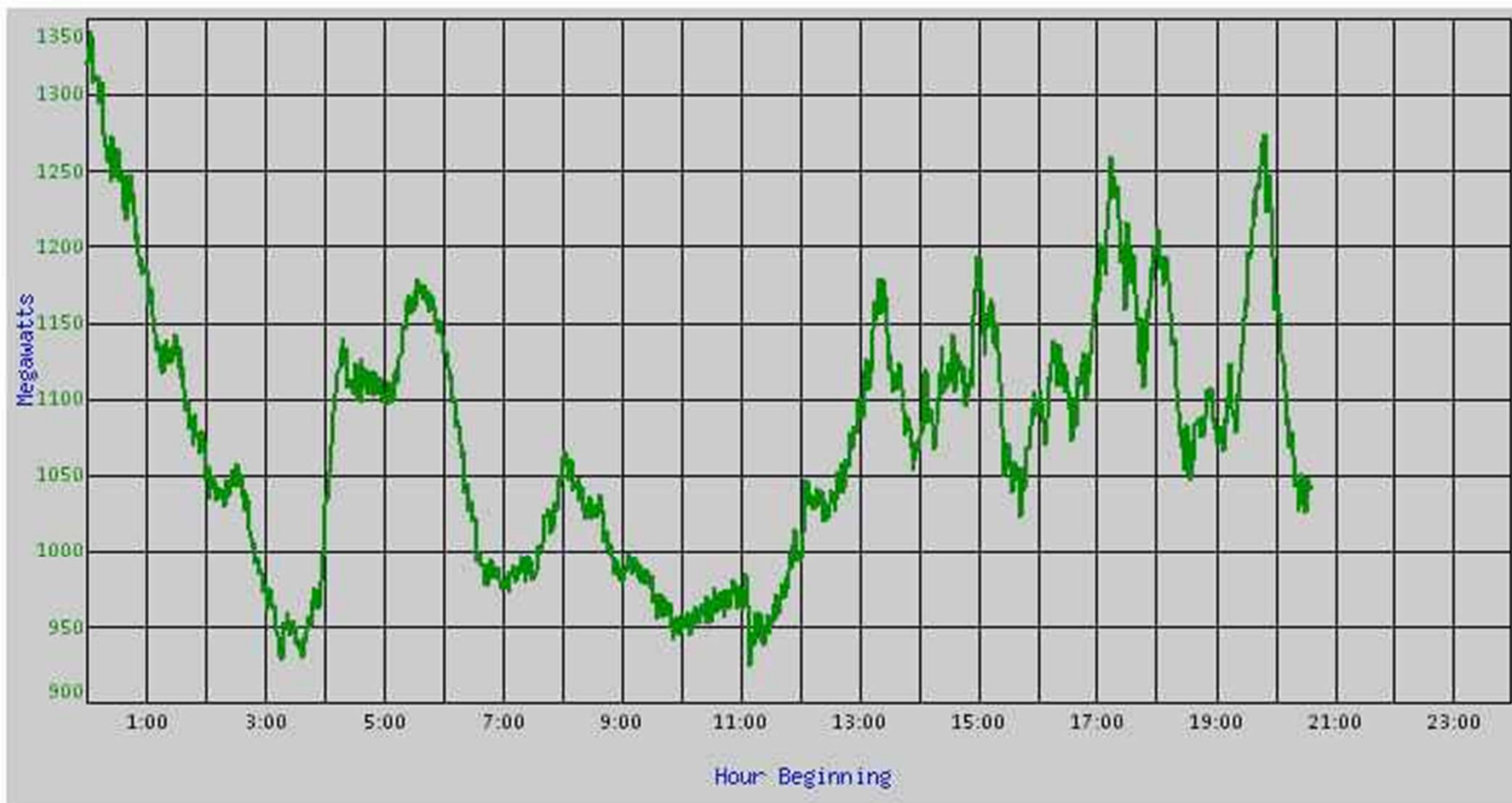


Solar Irradiance for 2011-11-05



Today's Wind

Current Wind: **1043.80 MW**



This graph shows the aggregated output from the wind generation connected directly to the California ISO Balancing Area.



Herding Cats



It CAN be done



Renewables

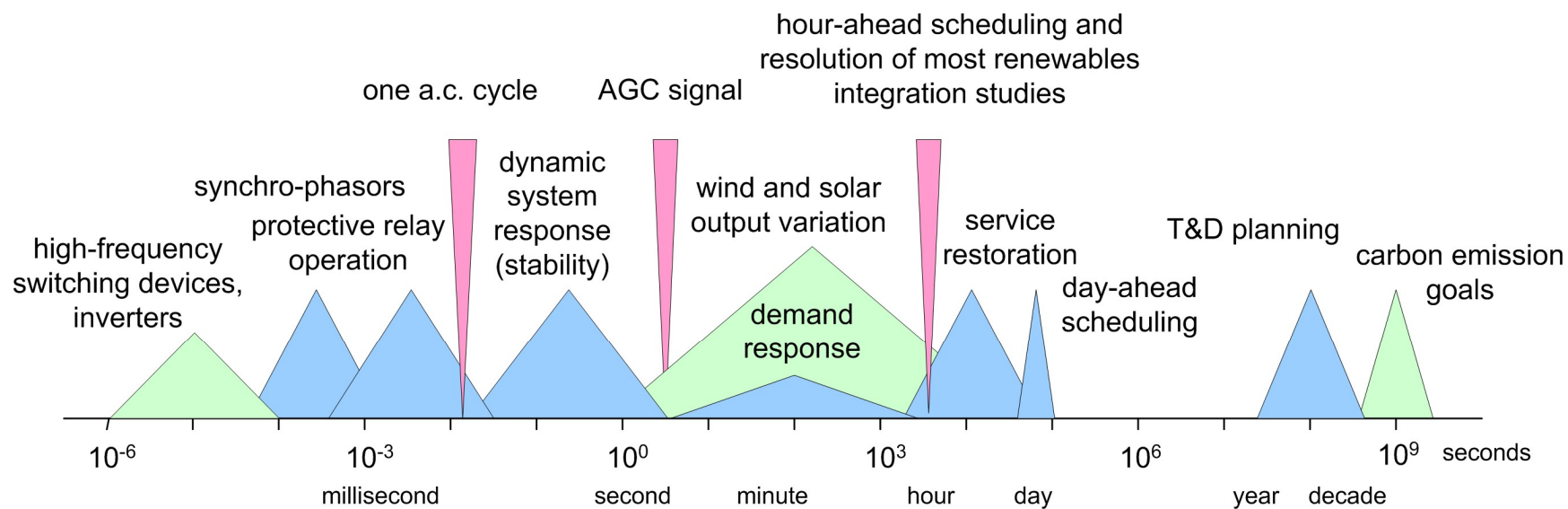
*Problems are difficult
but solvable*

33% by 2020 in CA

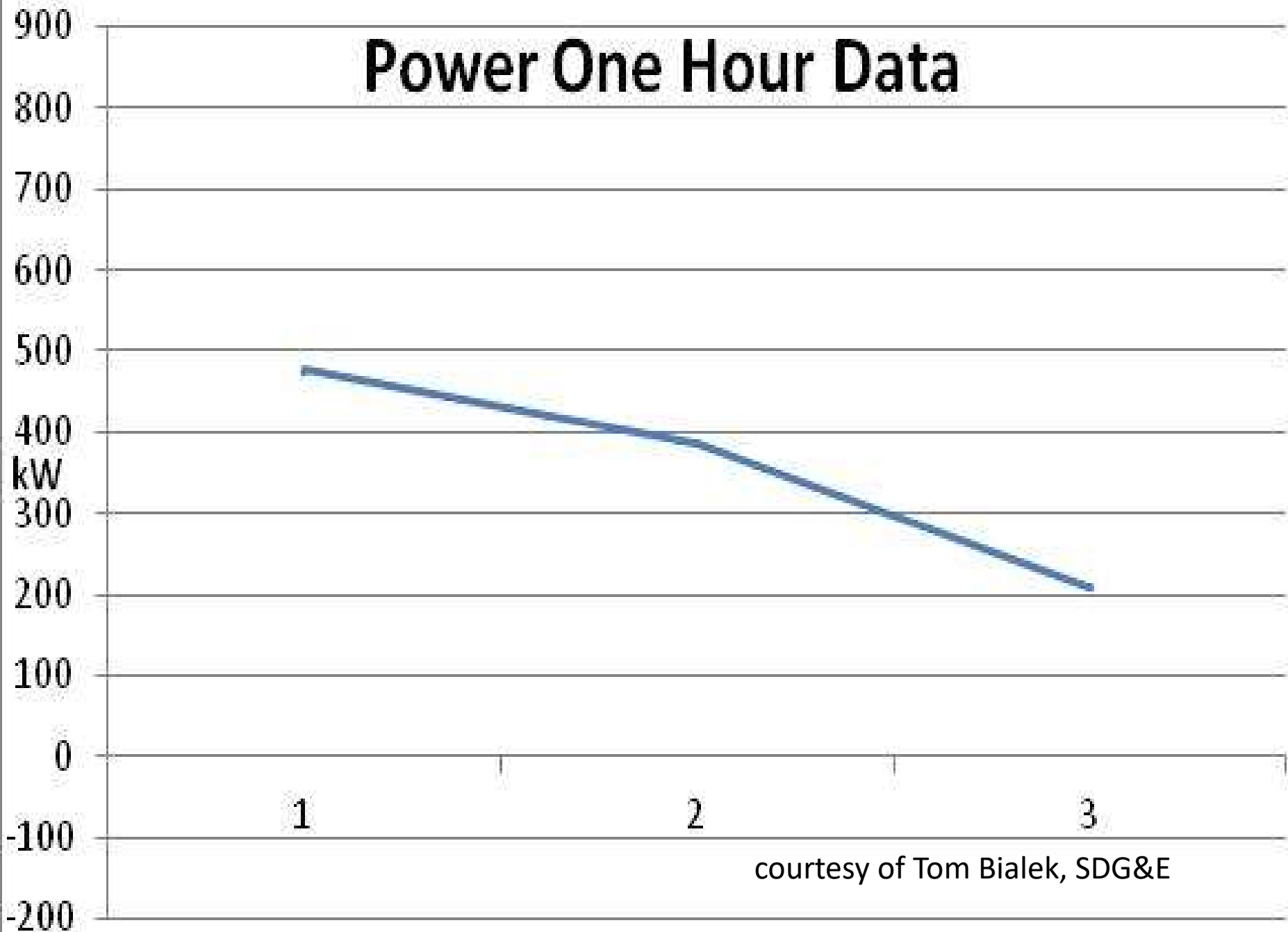
12,000 MW in distributed installations

→ 100% ?

Time scales in electric grid operation

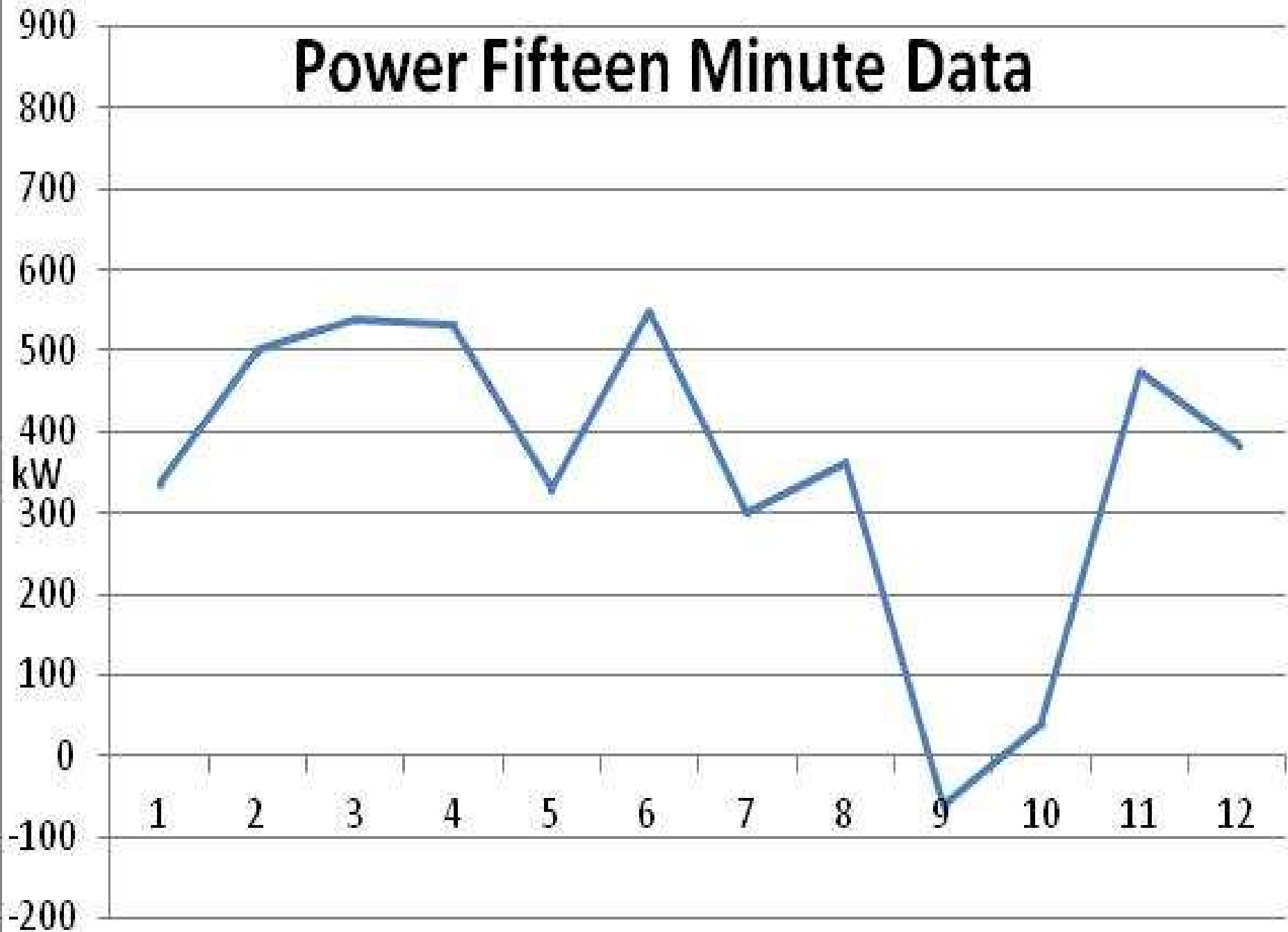


Power One Hour Data

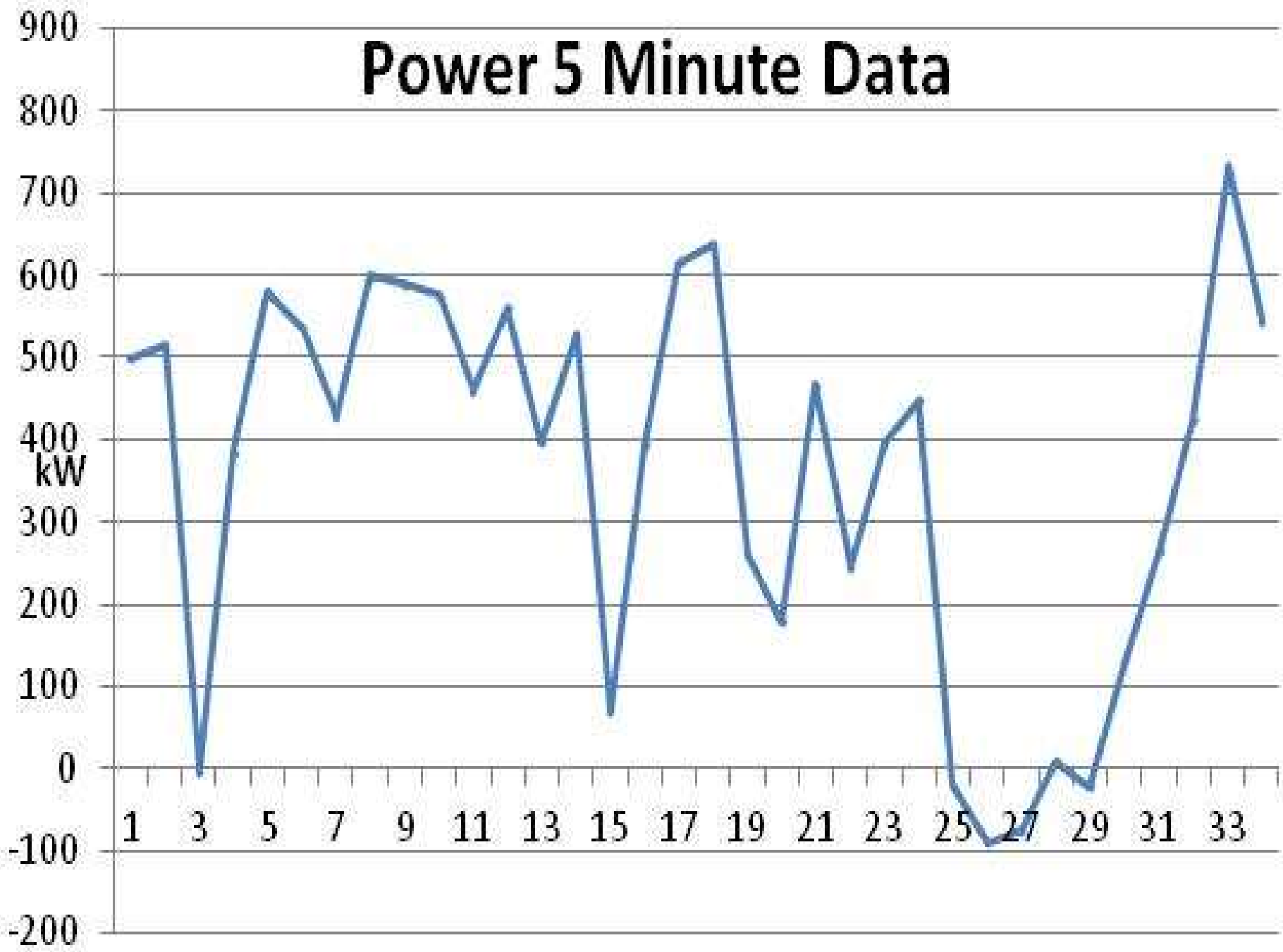


courtesy of Tom Bialek, SDG&E

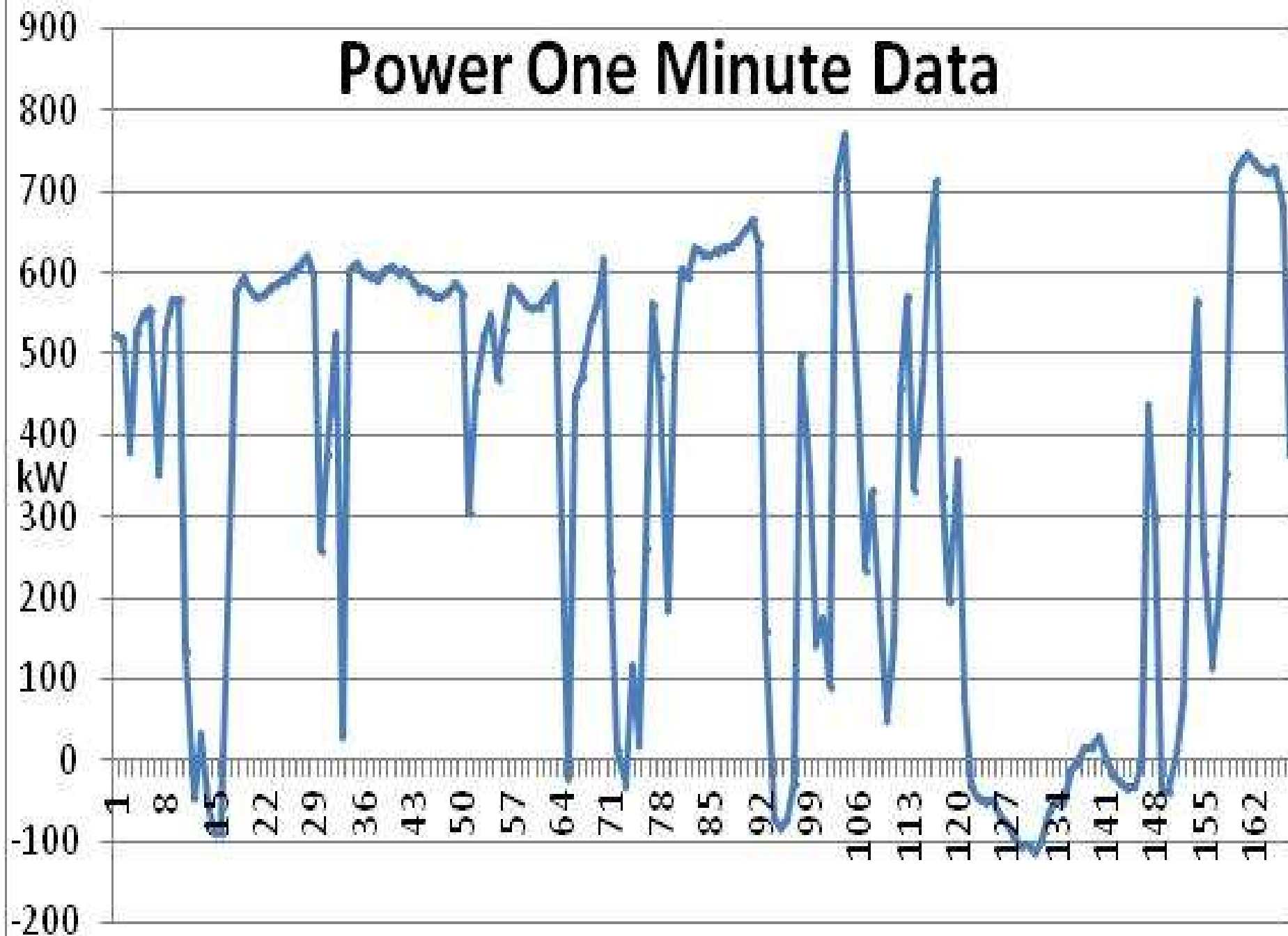
Power Fifteen Minute Data



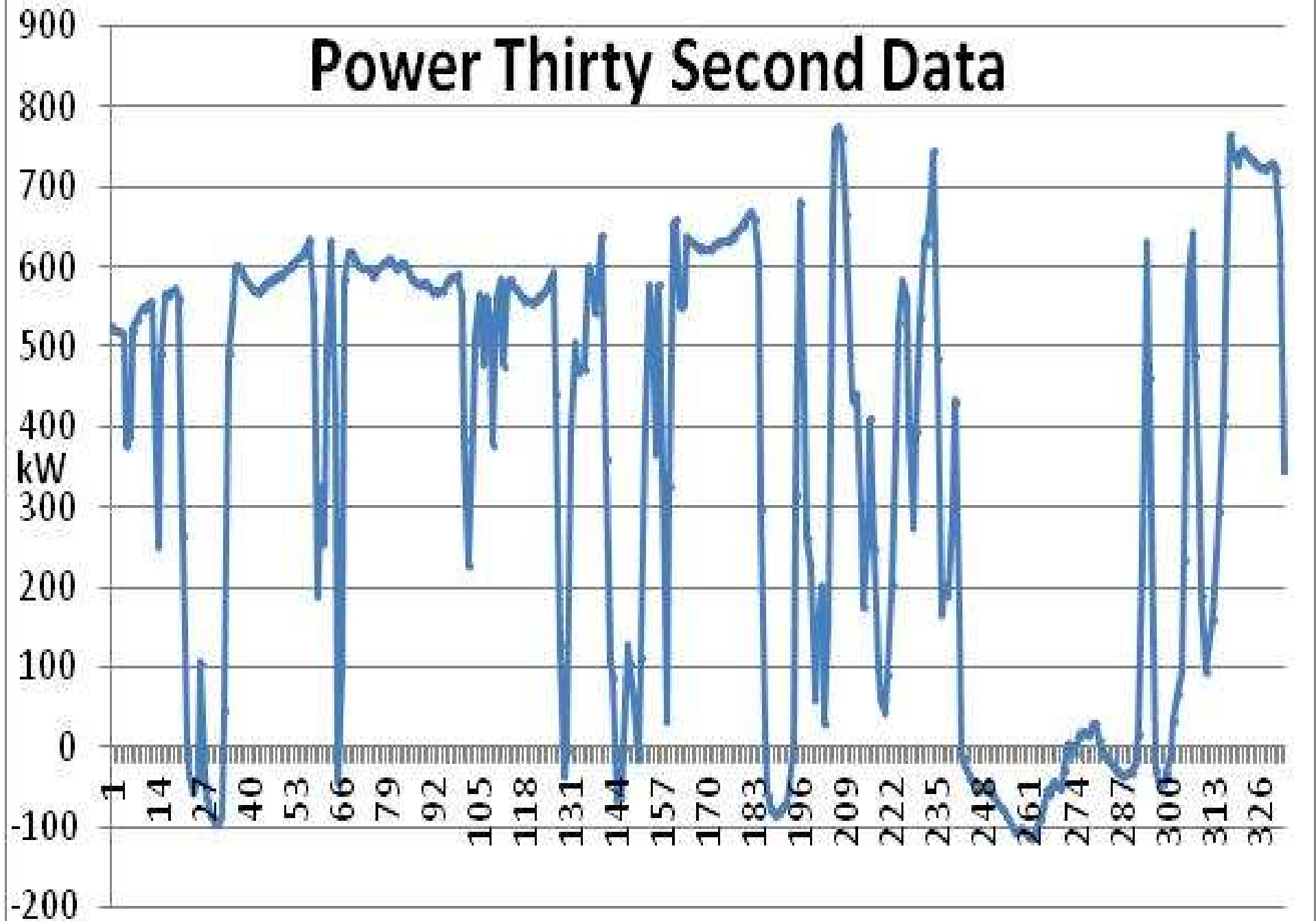
Power 5 Minute Data



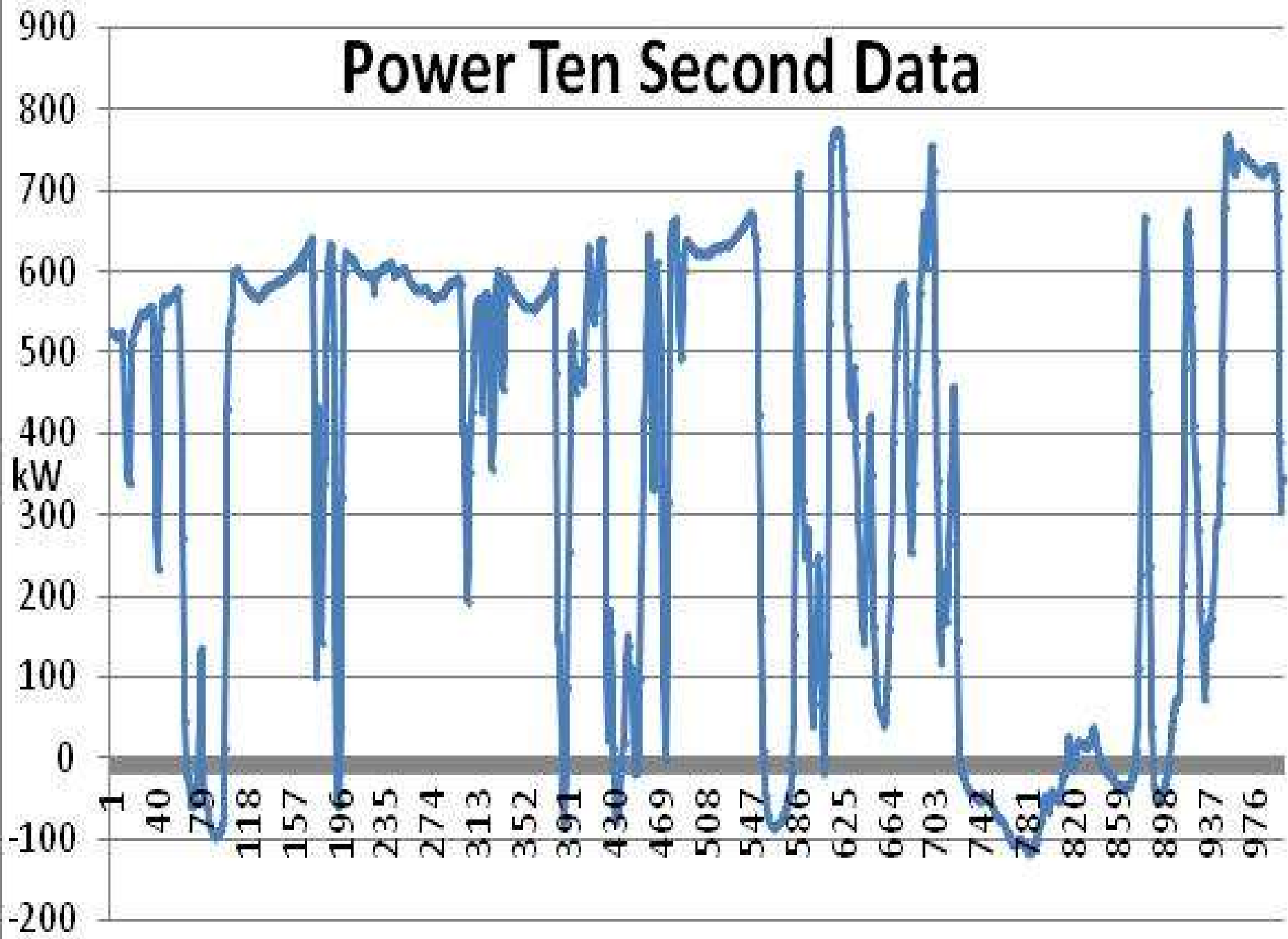
Power One Minute Data



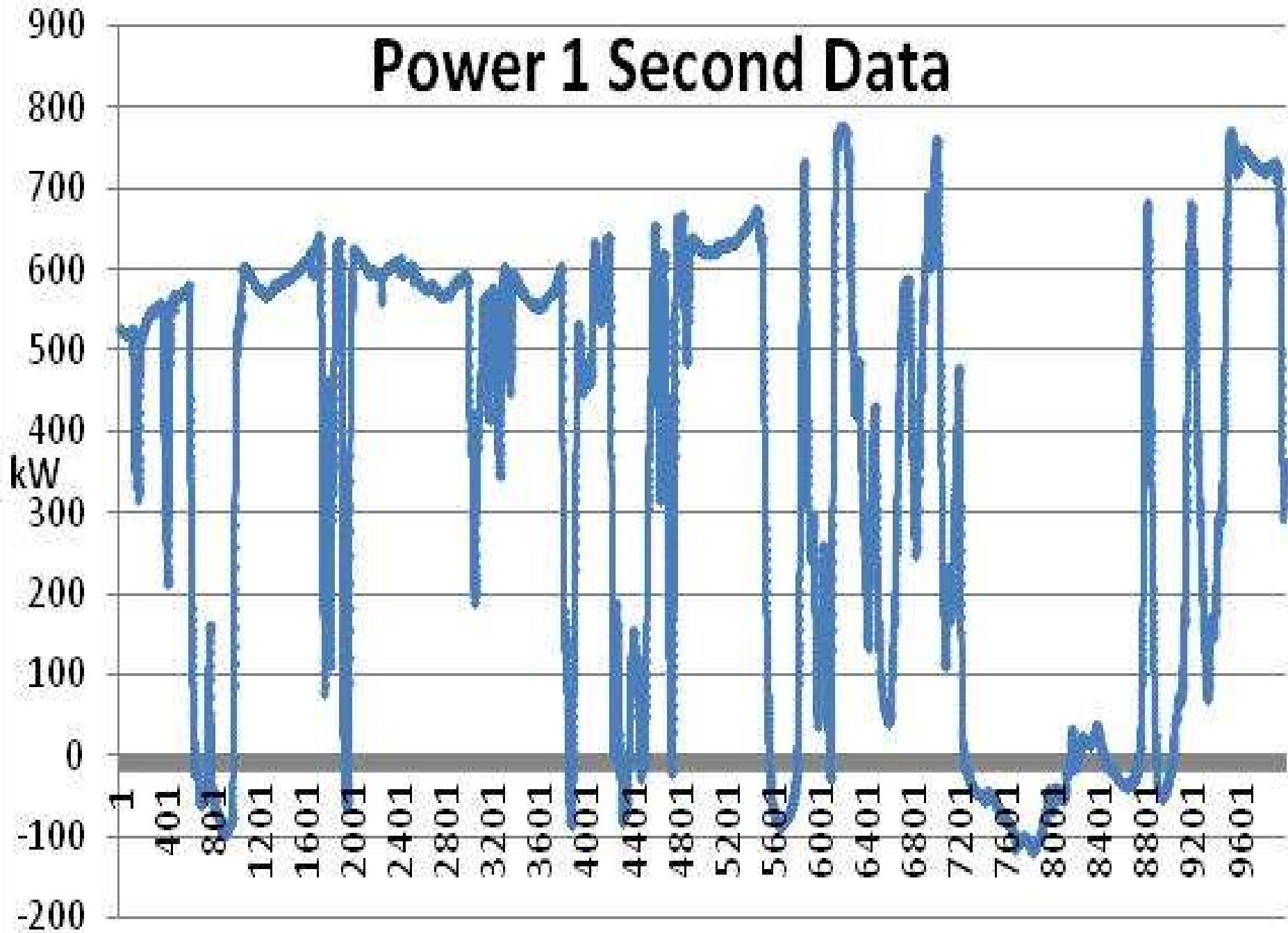
Power Thirty Second Data



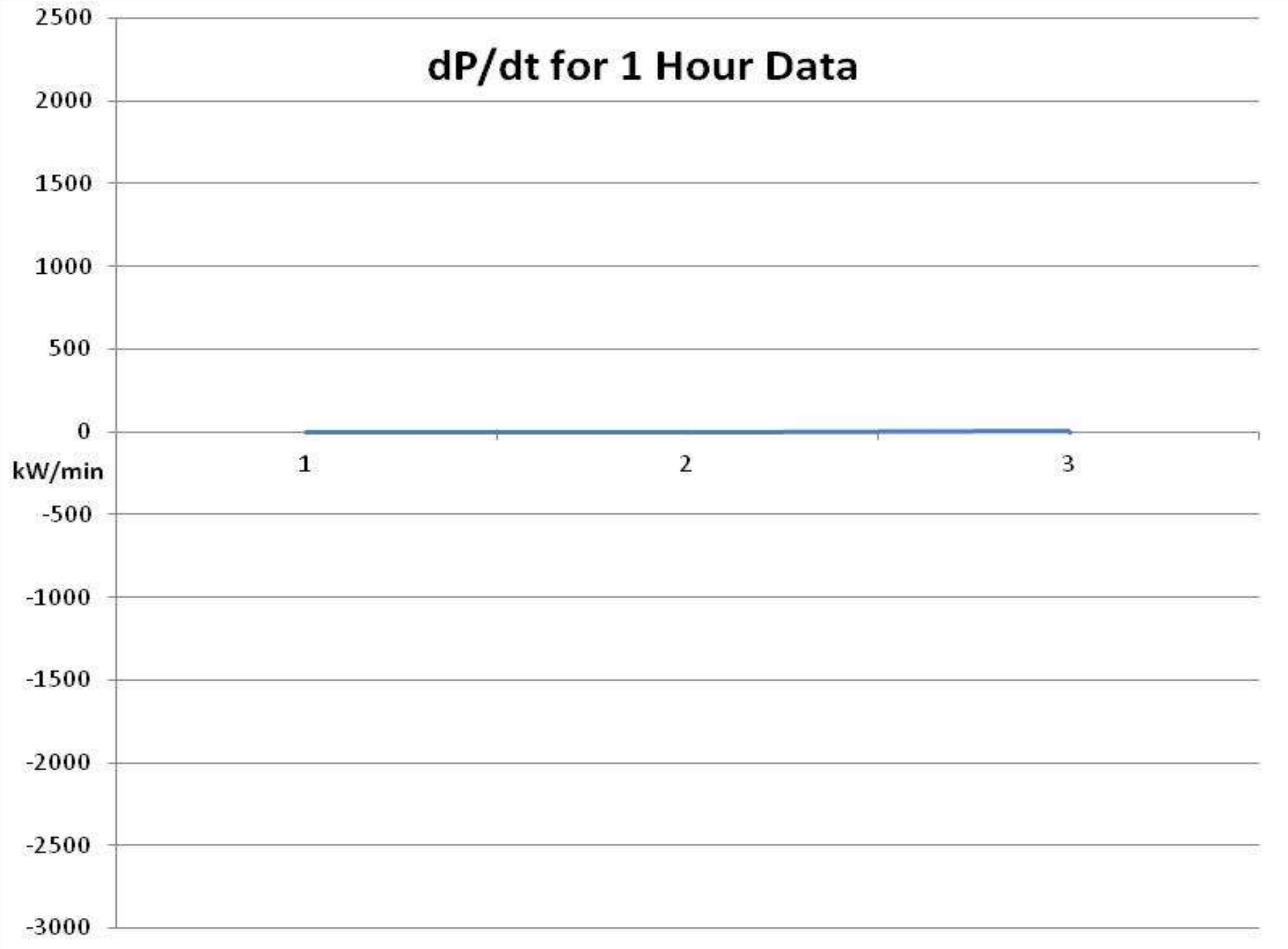
Power Ten Second Data



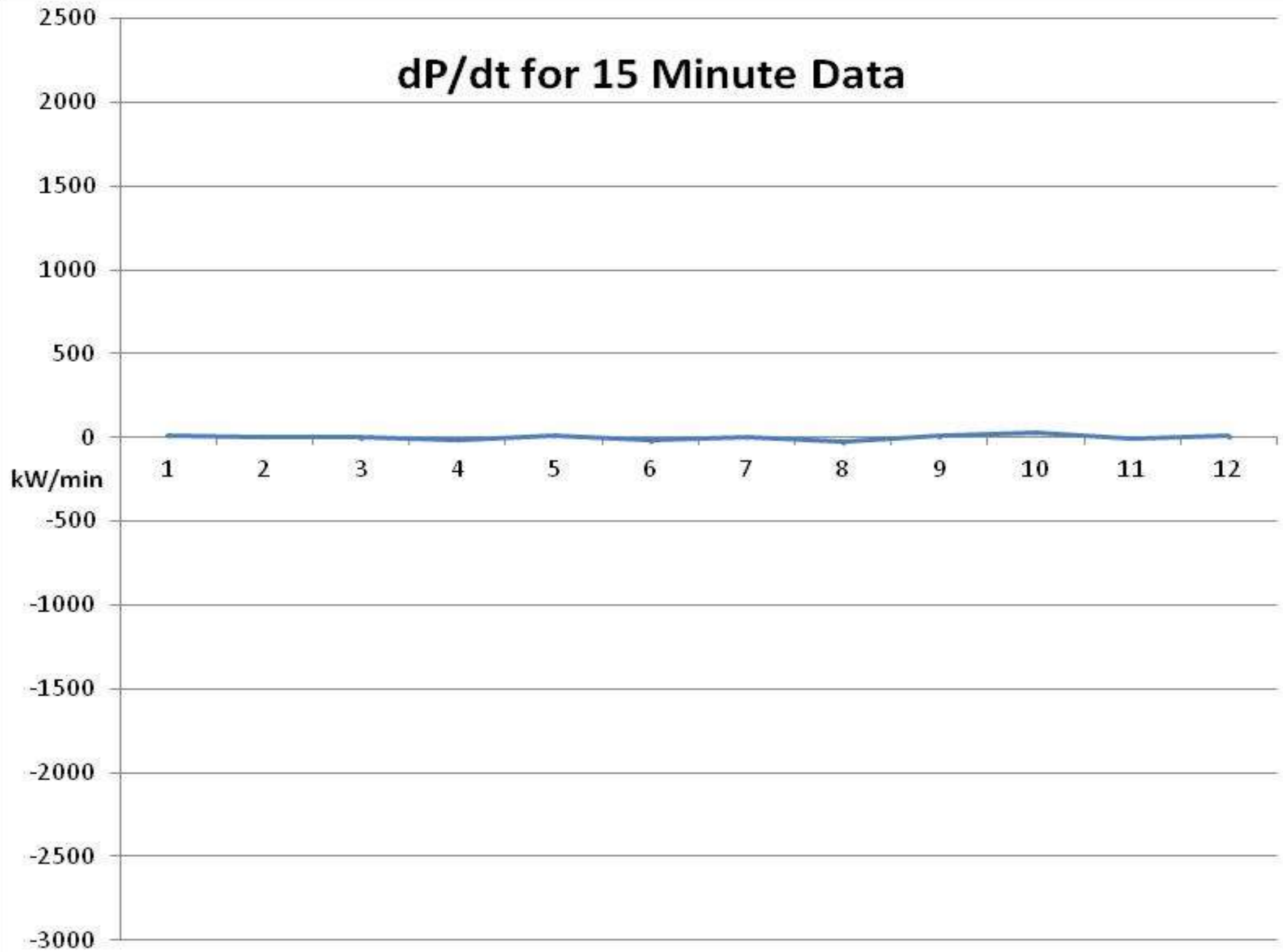
Power 1 Second Data



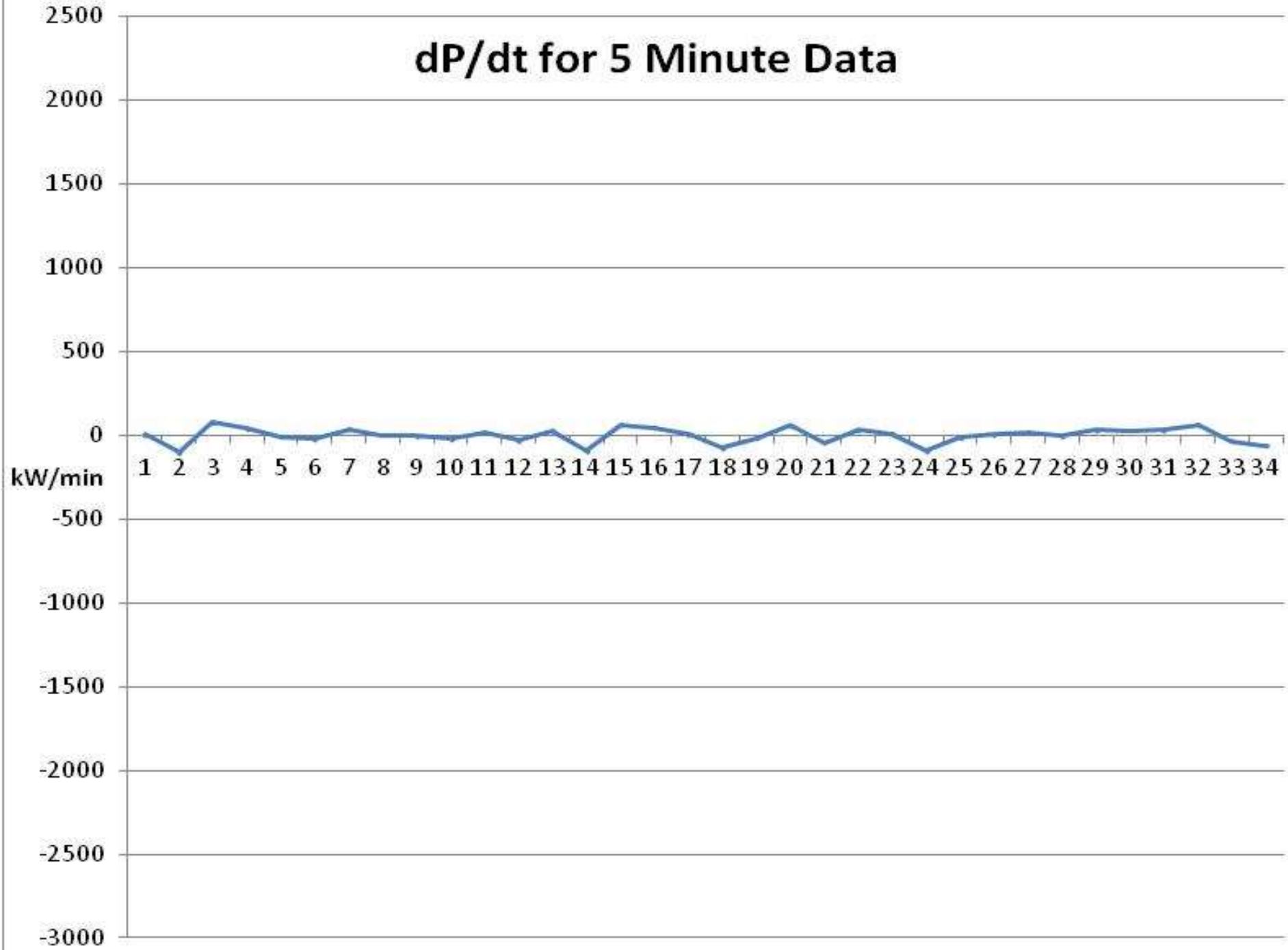
dP/dt for 1 Hour Data



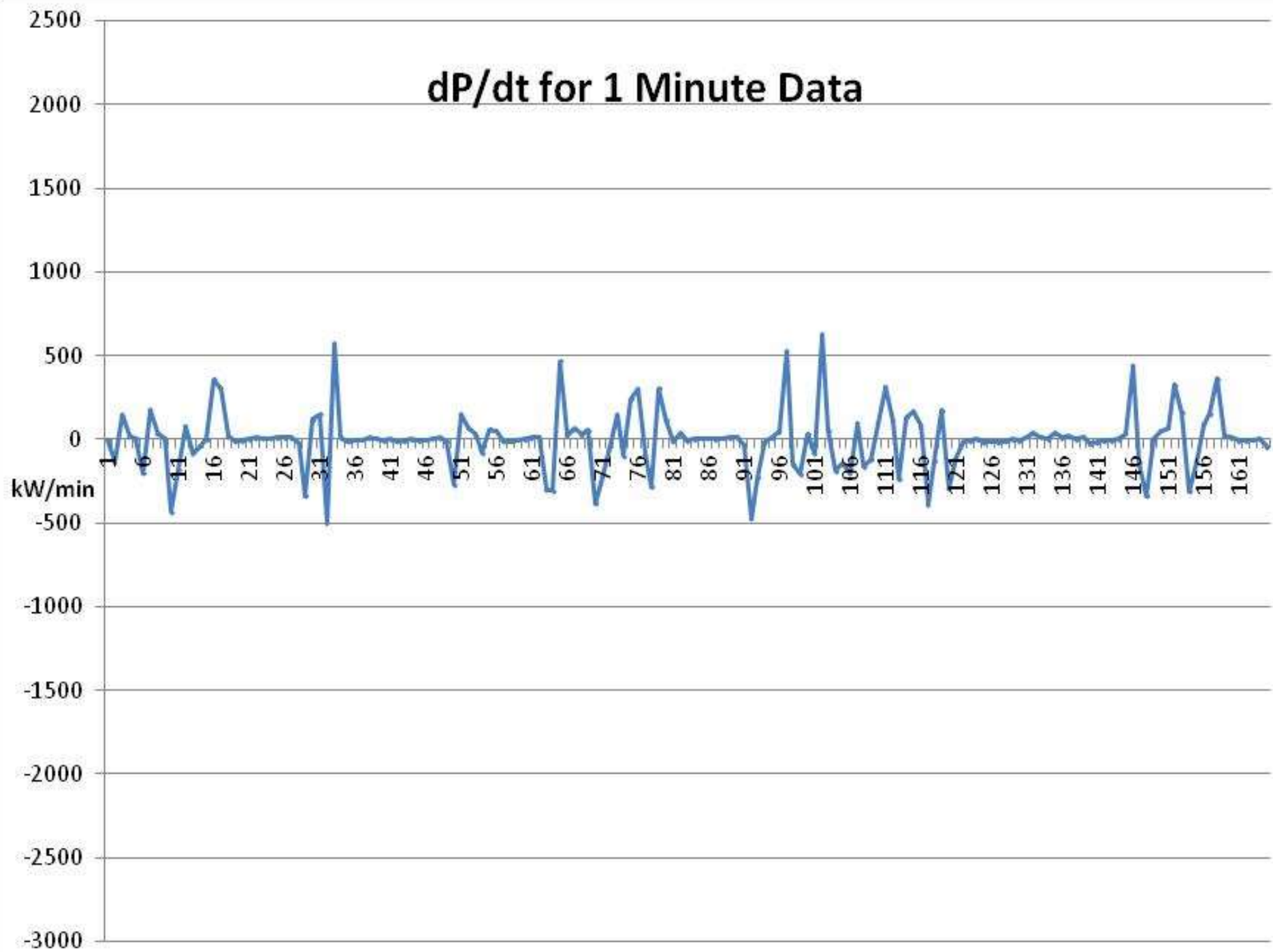
dP/dt for 15 Minute Data



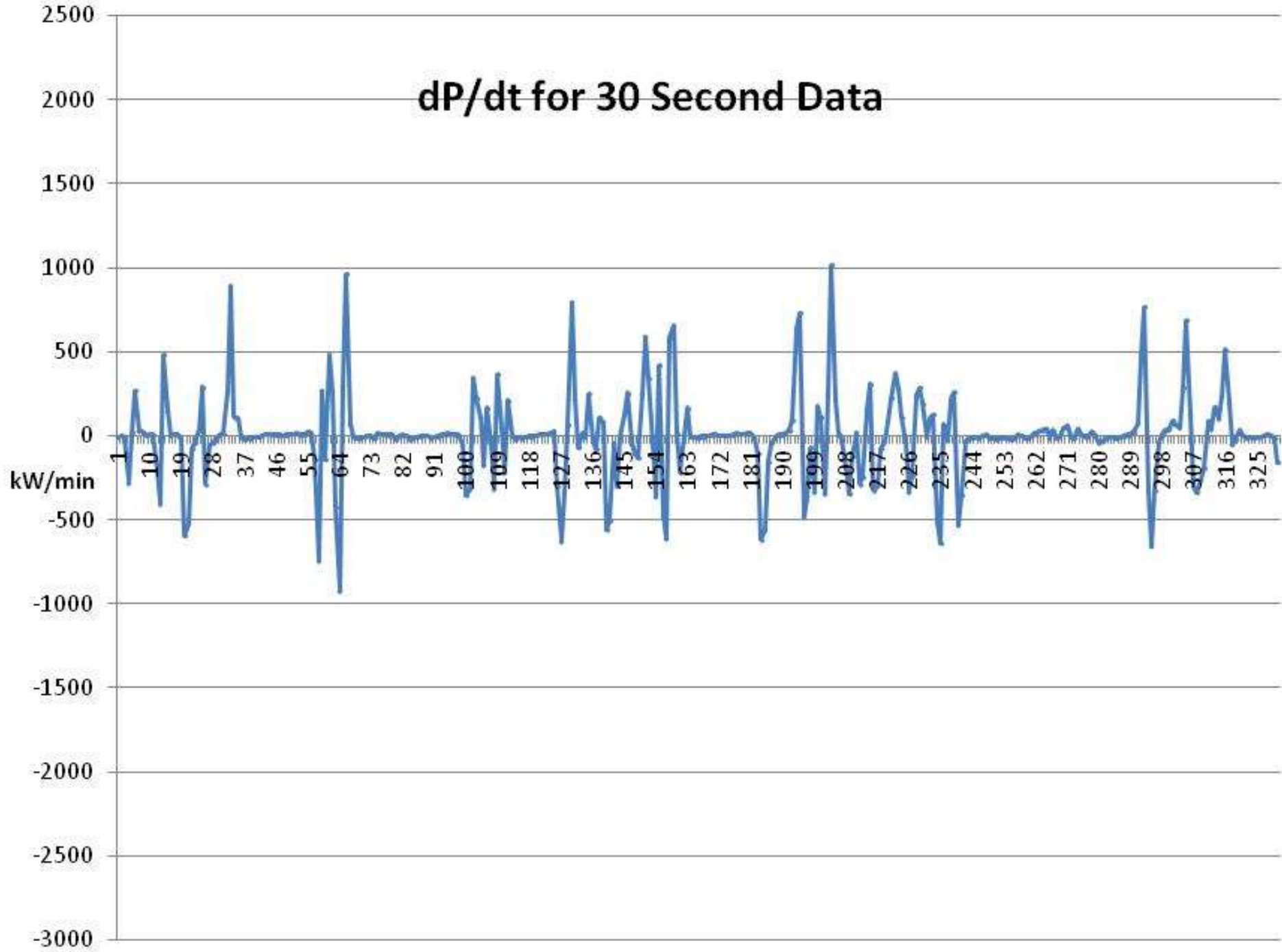
dP/dt for 5 Minute Data



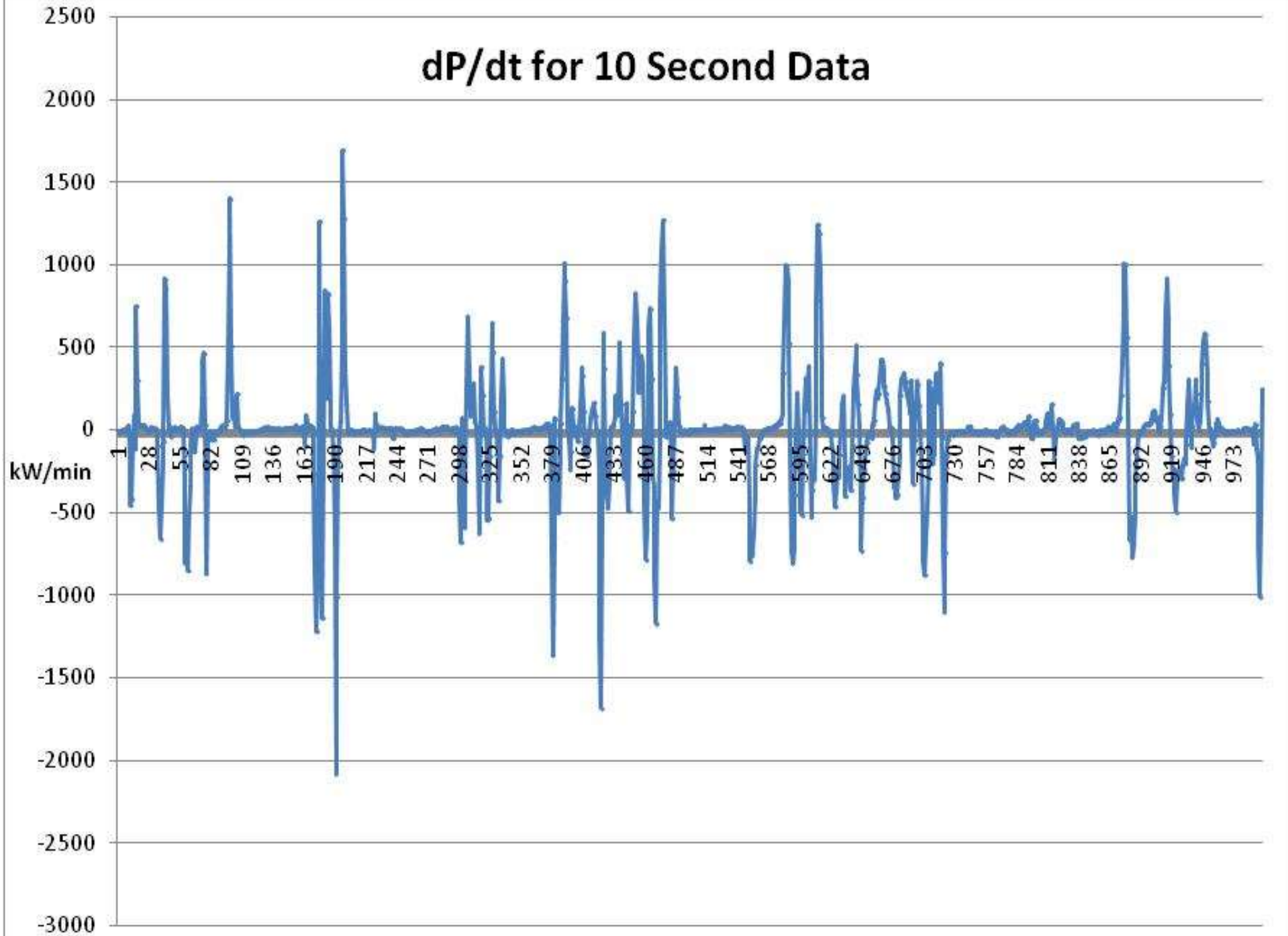
dP/dt for 1 Minute Data



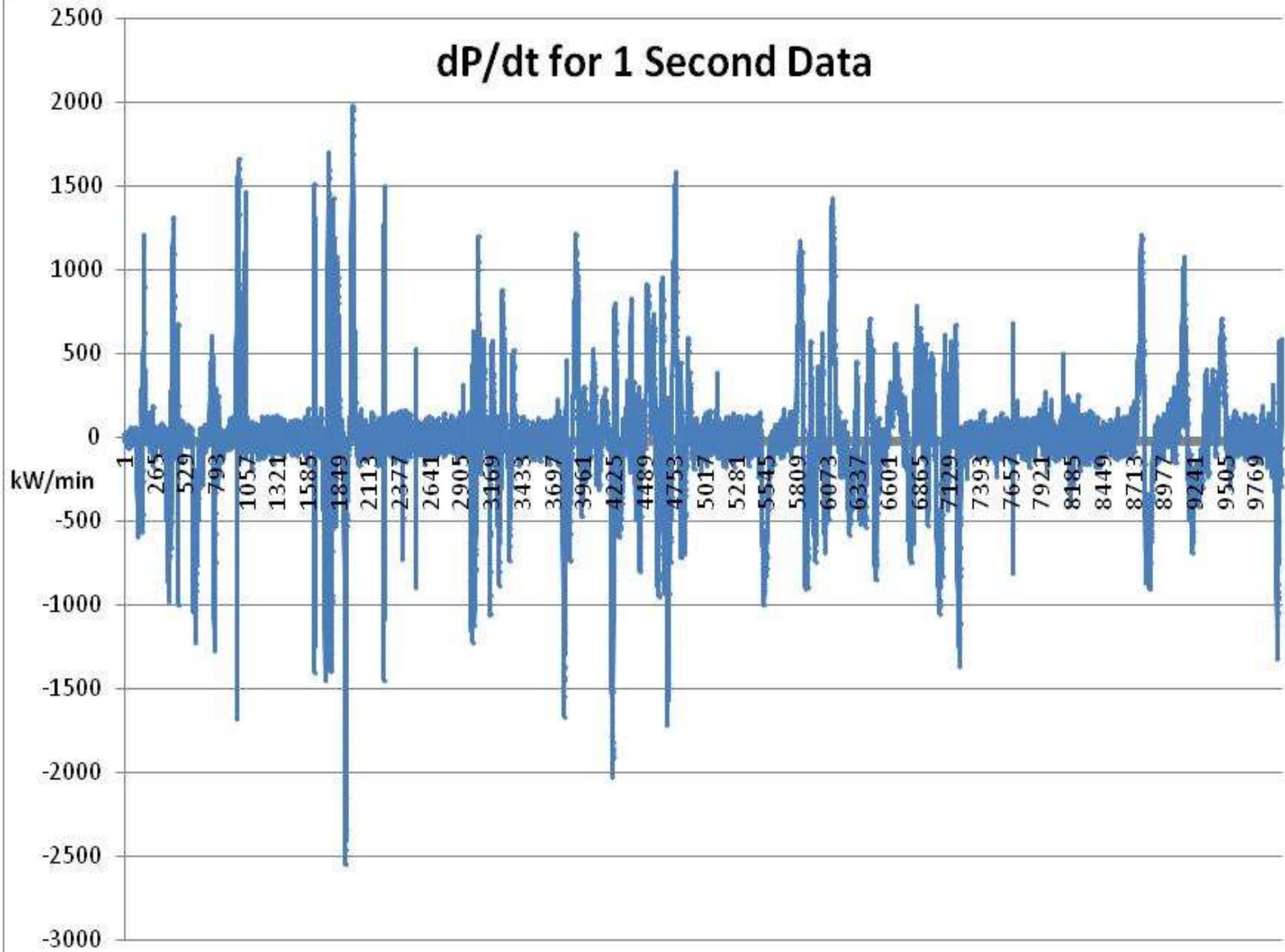
dP/dt for 30 Second Data



dP/dt for 10 Second Data



dP/dt for 1 Second Data



Addressing resource intermittence

Firming resources:

- load-following and reserve generation
- storage
- demand response

...whose effective and economical coordination depends on:

- good forecasts
- real-time data
- fast response
- good algorithms

important areas for continuing research – not just devices, but their coordination

Addressing resource intermittence

Firming resources:

- load-following and reserve generation
- storage
- demand response

...on different time scales:

seasonal

day-ahead

hour

intra-hour

minutes

seconds

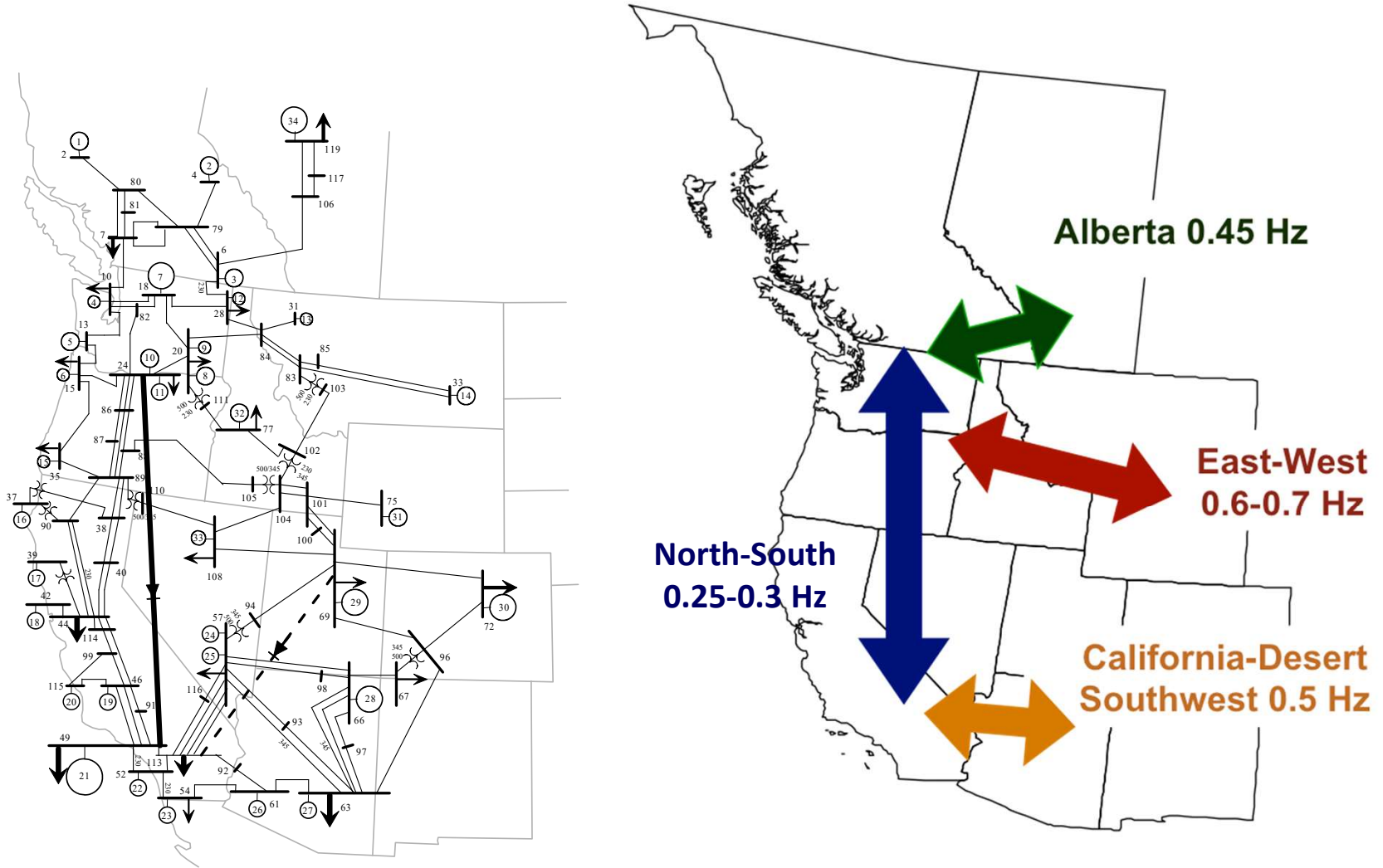
cycles

*...suggesting new definitions
of ancillary services?*

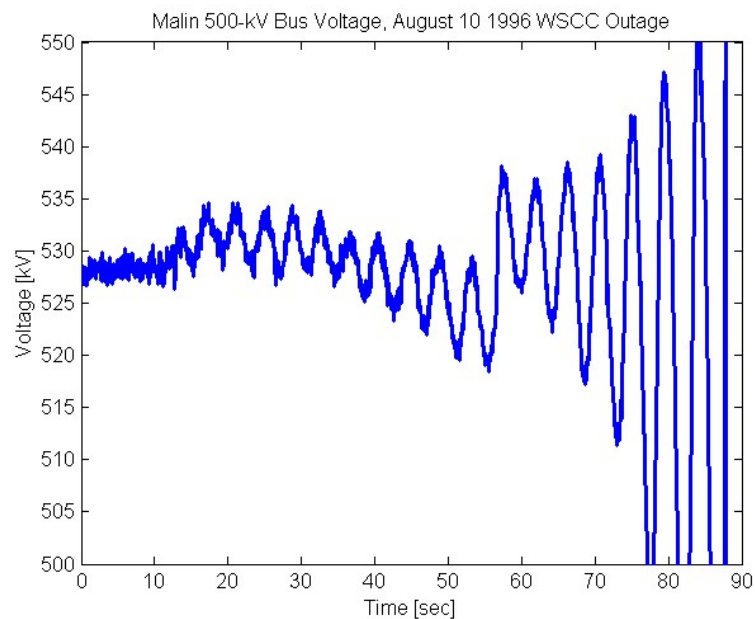


frequency regulation
inertia

Low-frequency oscillations in the Western U.S. grid

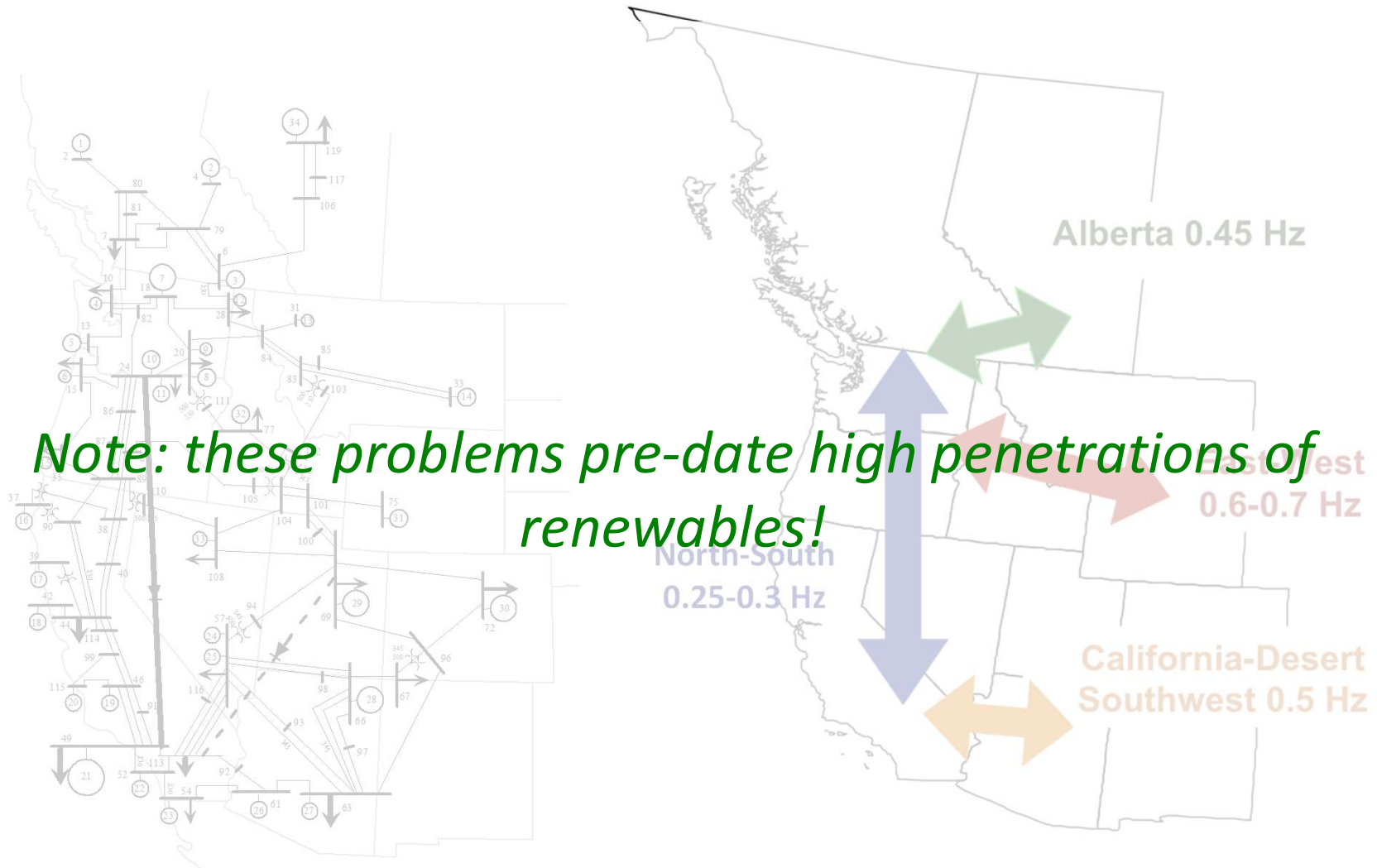


Example of North – South Oscillation...



**...which ended in the August 10th, 1996
power outage in the Western U.S.**

Low-frequency oscillations in the Western U.S. grid



Coordination challenges in time

- Matching $P_{IN} = P_{OUT}$ on different scales
- Constrained by ramp rates (dP/dt) of resources
- Maintaining stability on the scale of seconds, cycles
- Long-distance a.c. transmission constrained by stability
- Impact of switch-controlled generators (inverters) on angle stability not yet well understood

Requires management at the sub-cycle level:

synchrophasors

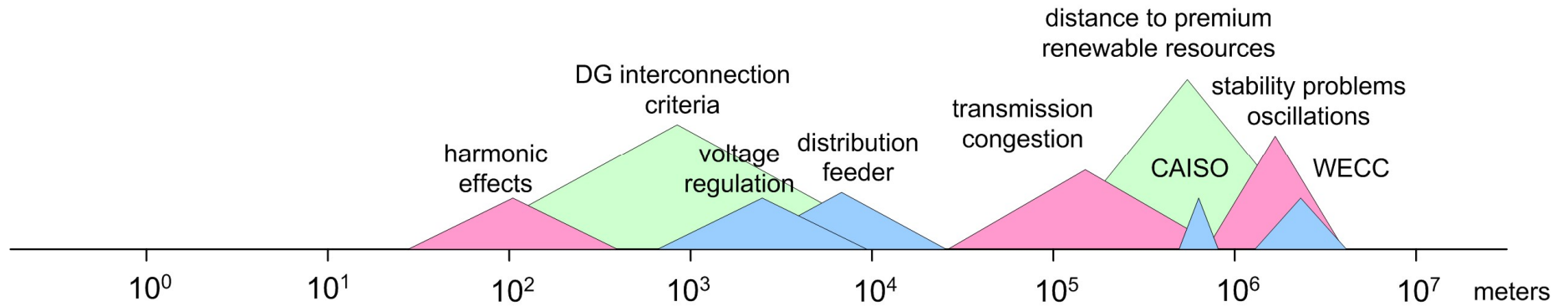
ac-dc-ac conversion

power flow control devices



chopping up waveform
with solid-state technology

Distance scales in electric grid operation

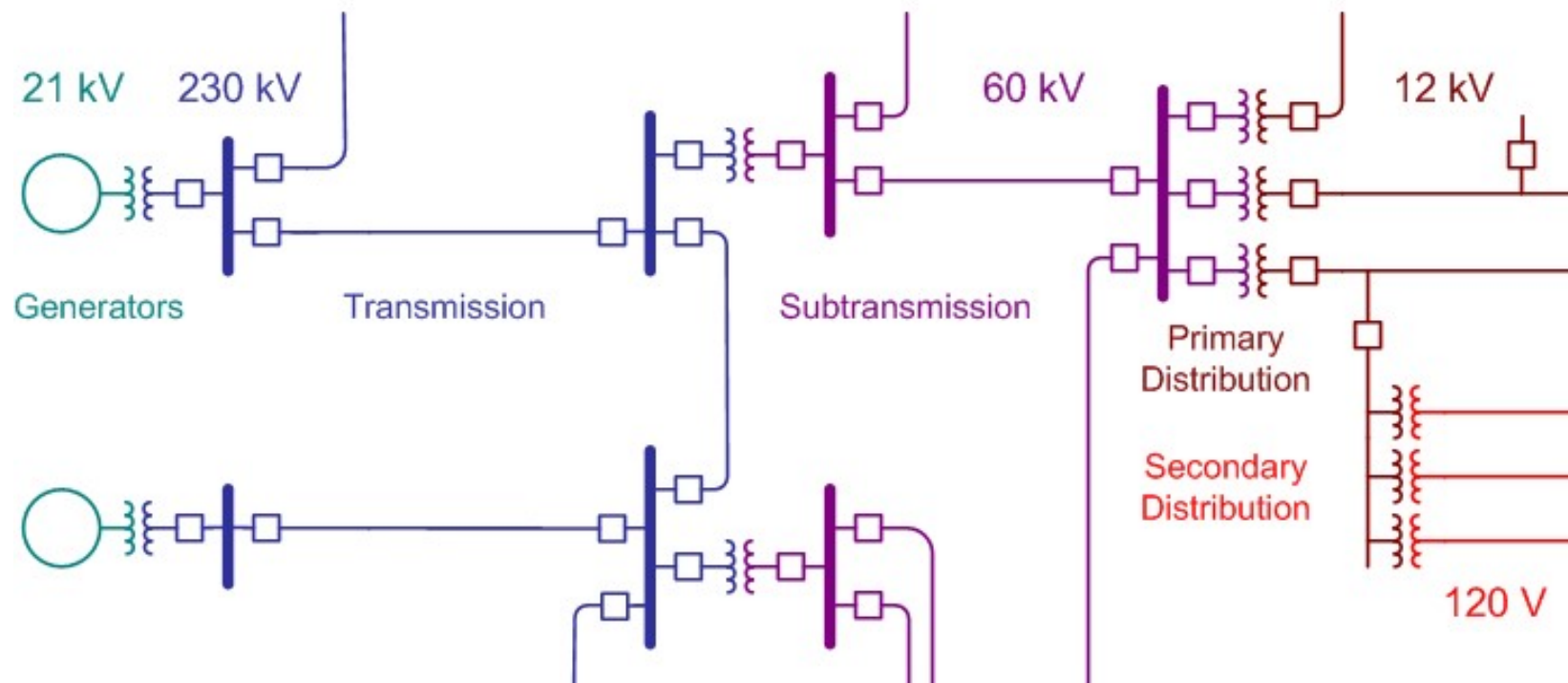




Distribution vs. transmission systems

Important differences:

- architecture
- diversity
- time variation
- vulnerability
- opacity



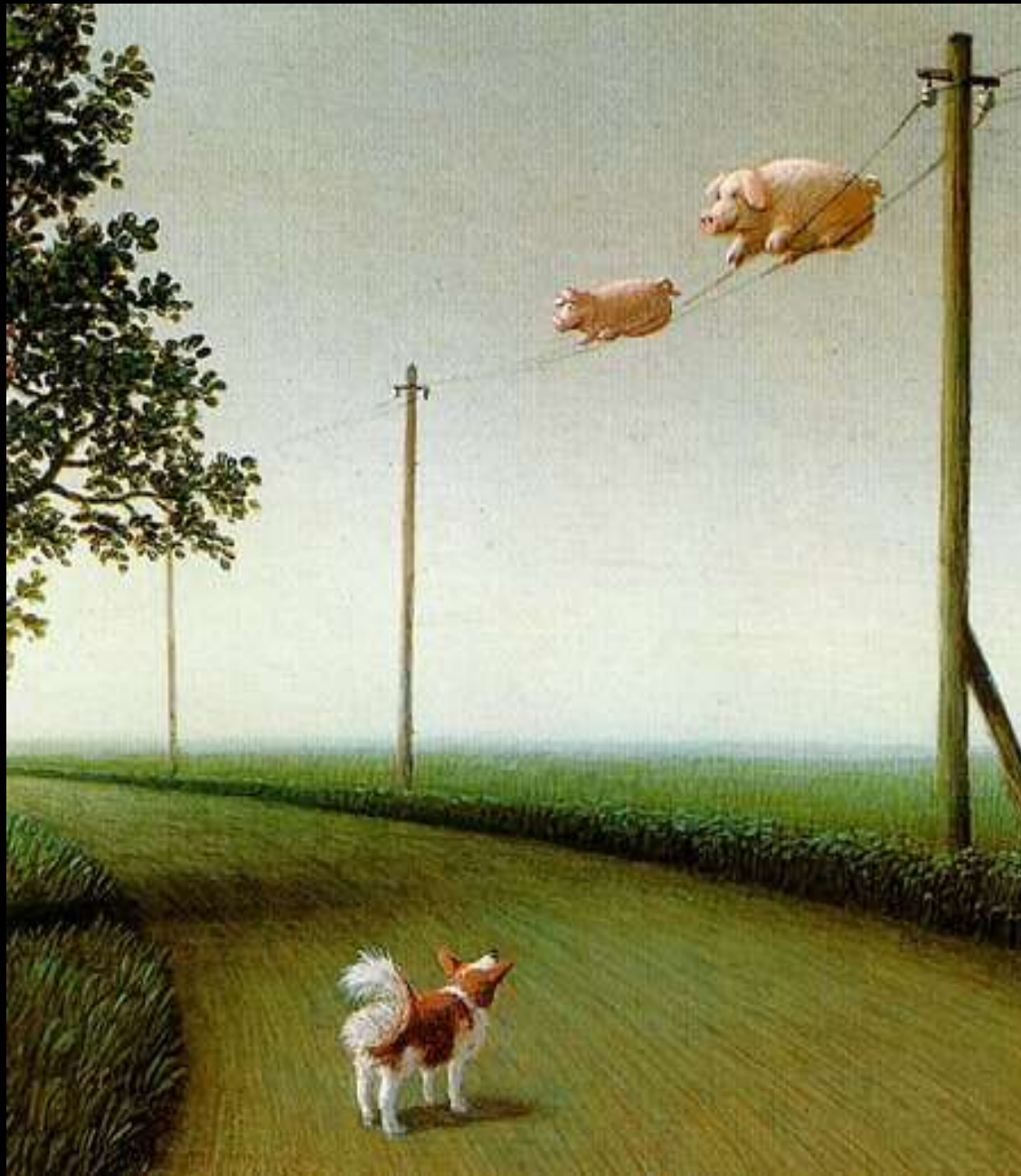
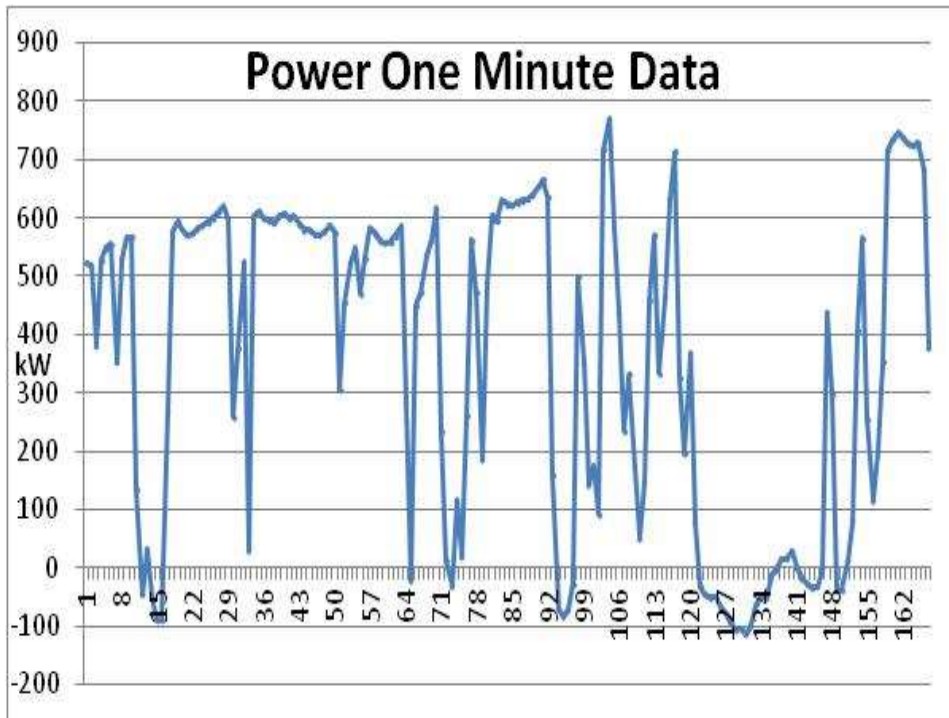


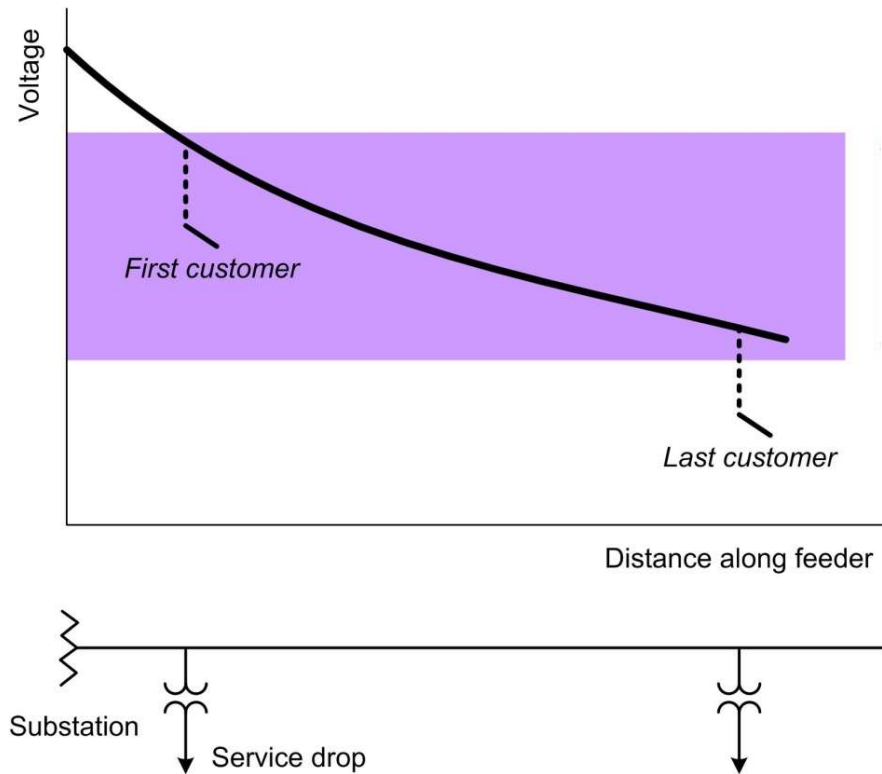
Illustration:
Michael Sowa

Distributed siting and local issues



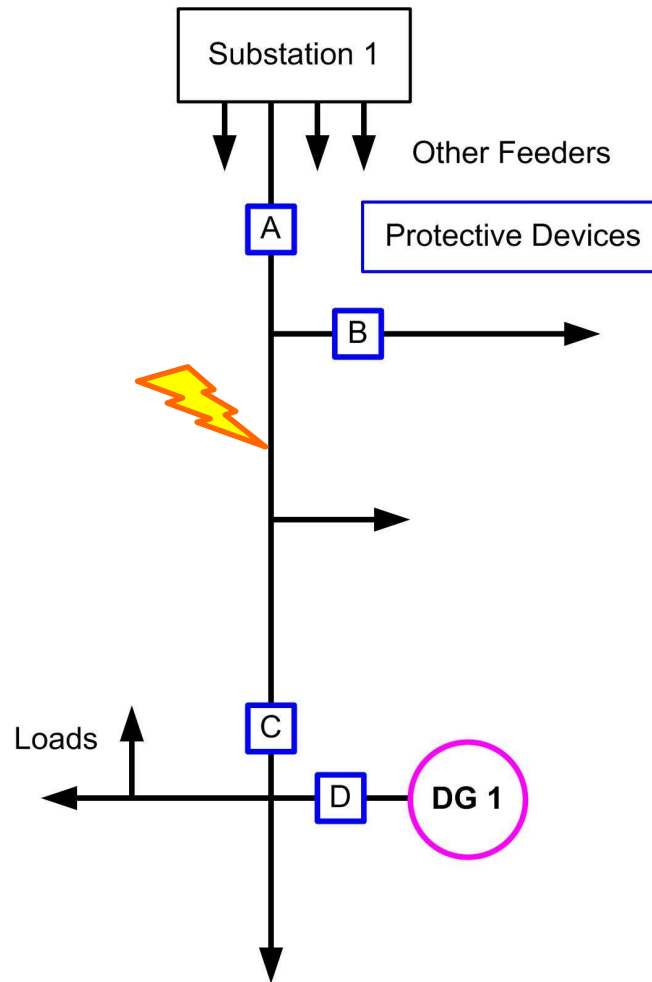
- Generation and load modeling
- Voltage regulation
- Protection
- Islanding
- Unexpected phenomena

Distributed siting and local issues



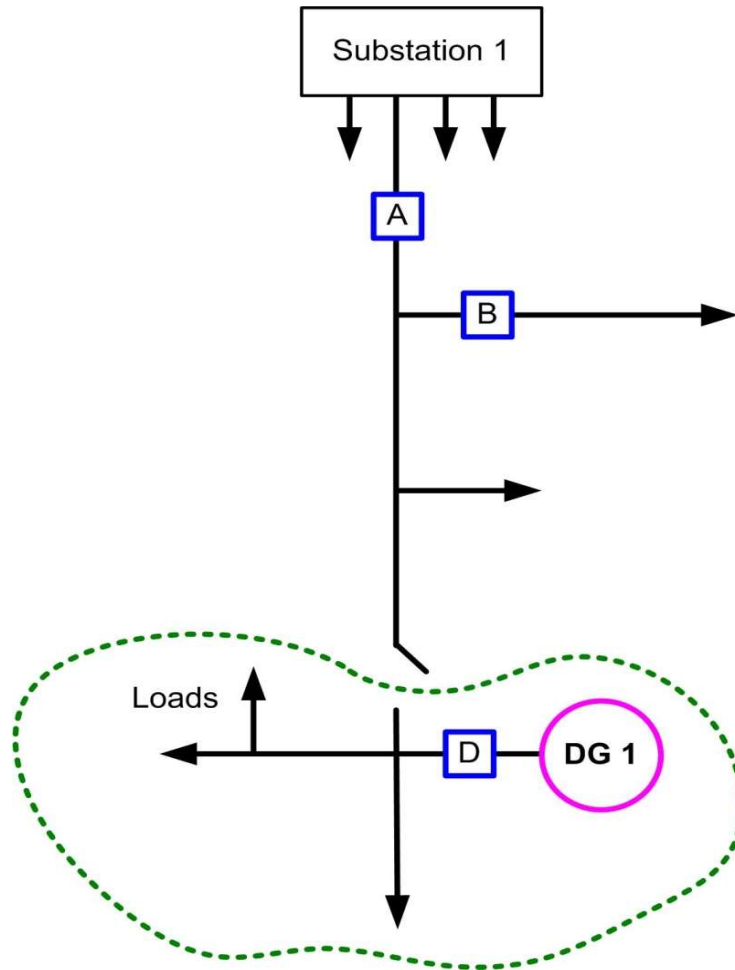
- Generation and load modeling
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Distributed siting and local issues



- Generation and load modeling
- Voltage regulation
- **Protection**
- Islanding
- Unexpected phenomena

Distributed siting and local issues



- Generation and load modeling
- Voltage regulation
- Protection
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- Unexpected phenomena

Distributed siting and local issues



- Generation and load modeling
- Voltage regulation
- Protection
- Islanding
- **Unexpected phenomena**

Distribution Monitoring Initiative

Distribution Monitoring for Renewables Integration
to be funded by PIER/California Energy Commission

collaborative effort with CA utilities

plan to install 3 line sensors each on ca. 20 circuits for each utility

sub-cycle sampling rates

include circuits with different penetration levels of DG installed

look for comparative impacts of DG

obtain baseline feeder behavior data

attempt typology of distribution feeders

use data to validate existing distribution circuit models

use data to develop and validate models of new components in
distribution systems

Technologies under development for refined observation and control

- four-quadrant (P,Q) inverters
voltage-VAR control
- advanced inverters
harmonic cancellation
transient mitigation
- distributed storage
- micro-synchrophasors
- power routers
- solid-state transformer
- responsive loads
- communication networks

distributed resources
& coordination tools

*increasingly provide the
capability to balance power
and manage power quality
& reliability locally*

Future directions

Refined observation and control in time and space

- driven by the need to mitigate pre-existing vulnerabilities of the legacy system, much amplified by intermittent renewable resources
- providing the means to observe, communicate and control at higher resolution while maintaining large-scale awareness

Trend toward adding new capabilities on the grid's periphery

- resonant with philosophical and aesthetic preferences of many ratepayers who embrace “going local, going green”
- may enable more local diversity, flexible management options and more systemic value derived from renewable and distributed resources

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