# Team 14: Resilience Against Electrical Outages in Stockton, CA

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#### Introduction

- Census tract 1
- Poverty rate: 16.3%, about 5% above the national average (11.6% in the US)<sup>1</sup>
- Frequent extreme weather events like heatwaves/winter storms cause outages
- Inadequate resources to respond, gets less support from the government
- Outages have negative impacts on health and the local economy.
- Disproportionately affect certain populations- homeless, low-income, minorities
  - Energy Burden

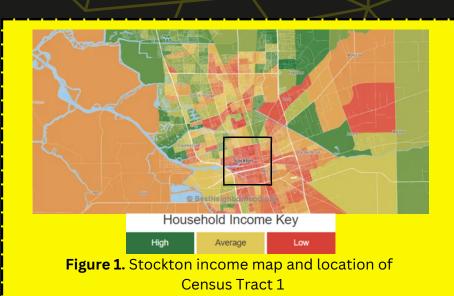




Figure 2. Insulation injections are non-invasive

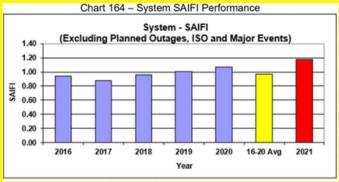
#### **Solutions**

#### Solution 1: Solar/Battery Microgrid

- Census Tract 1 (1,141 households)
- 5-megawatt solar array <sup>2</sup>
- 11.6 megawatt-hour battery storage
- Capable of providing power to Census Tract 1 for 2-days without main grid<sup>3</sup>

# **Solution 2: Upgrading Insulation**

- Need to reduce energy usage by 25 percent to prevent outages<sup>4</sup>
- Spray foam insulation injection method
- Retrofitting is better than building new infrastructure<sup>5</sup>
- Home insulation reduces energy usage and cost by 11 percent<sup>6</sup>



**Figure 3.** Rising trend in yearly outages experienced by customers

# **Cost Benefit Analysis**

- Average cost of one outage: \$16-19 million<sup>7</sup>
- Microgrid can save up to \$10+ million/year on electricity expenditure<sup>2</sup>
- Five years with one prevented outage per year avoids cost of nearly \$150 million
- Total Cost of Solutions: \$55 Million

# **Funding and Conclusion**

- Funded by government grants/subsidies
- Federal Government funding:
  - Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the Inflation Reduction Act: \$97 billion
- State of California Energy Commission grants
- Solutions are feasible and cost-effective ways to make Stockton more resilient.

#### **Literature Cited**

Figure 1. Poverty rate in Stockton, California. Welfare Info

Figure 2. (2021, Aug. 16) Spray Foam and Injection Foam; Why You Need It and What's The Difference? RetroFoam. Figure 3. Learn About PG&E Reliability Reports. Pacific Gas and Electric Company.

<sup>1.</sup> US Census Bureau. "National Poverty in America Awareness Month: January 2023." Census Gov. 20 Dec. 202

<sup>2.</sup> Wood, S., Quackenbush, J. (2022, Feb. 8). 2 Major Microgrid Solar-Battery Storage Projects Underway in the North Bay. The North Bay Business Journal.

<sup>3. (2019,</sup> Sept. 4) Megawatt - Definition: Solar Terms. Sunrun.

**<sup>4.</sup>** Hassan, A. (2022, Sept. 1). Ca Households Could Prevent Blackouts by Reducing Energy Use by 25%, Expert Says. ABC7 San Francisco.

<sup>5.</sup> Kirkpatrick, G. (2023, May 5). Interview

**<sup>6.</sup>** "Methodology for Estimated Energy Savings from Cost-Effective Air Sealing and Insulating." ENERGY STAR.

**<sup>7.</sup>** (2011, Sept. 9). San Diego Blackout Economic Impact (September 2011). National University System Institute for Policy Research.