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Title - The Integrated Grid: Realizing the Full Value of Central and Distributed Energy Resources.

“At the February 2014 U.S. NARUC Conference, EPRI released a Concept Paper, “The Integrated Grid: Realizing the Full Value of Central and Distributed Energy Resources.” The paper outlines the power system transformation that is currently underway and the importance of all resources to optimize the reliability, quality and affordability of electricity.

Grid architecture is critical to achieving this transformation — through the integration of control systems and information exchange — to enable greater situational awareness and coordinated systems planning. As consumer expectations rise and new market entrants compete for those relationships, an enhanced communications infrastructure is needed. Grid operations — including capacity needs, ancillary service provisions and resource planning — must be addressed through seamless transmission and distribution system operations.

EPRI is committed to supporting the electricity sector in addressing these challenges. Utilities will need advanced technologies to accommodate increasing levels of distributed energy resources without compromising system integrity. Evolving utility models will demand these new technological capabilities be deployed in a highly-efficient, cost-effective manner. With collaboration, effective power system configurations can be designed to achieve the vision of an Integrated Grid.”