Pre-computed DERs, Pre-approved Interconnection

Using a systems-thinking approach, we are streamlining interconnections for distributed energy resources by pre-computing outcomes, improving DER developer operations, and reducing interconnection approval times.

- Track: Utility Digitization/Data Challenge
- Problem:
  - Interconnection delays hinder the adoption of cost-effective electrification.
- Solution:
  - Implementing algorithms for pre-approved interconnection authorizations based on pre-calculated potentials for DERs on all utility feeders. Doing this will also lower cost of project development.
- Credentials:
  - Decades of combined experience in utility planning, software, data science, and DER integration.
  - Innovative partnerships and proven data-driven strategies in grid planning and DER forecasting.
- Goals:
  - Develop and validate a pre-clearance strategy for DER interconnection.
  - Integrate and pilot the solution with PGE, aiming for broader utility adoption.

- Synopsis:
  - The proposed solution streamlines the identification of cost-effective small-scale DER project sites and associated interconnection approvals, by leveraging existing common data sets to pre-approve (and enable prioritization of) DER projects based on the capacity of potential sites along the grid. This solution, once successfully demonstrated, has the potential to accelerate adoption of electrification measures nationwide.

Team Plentiful is a partnership between data analytics software development firm, Plentiful.ai, and distributed energy resource (DER) integration and planning group at Portland General Electric.
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