

HARTLEY SOLAR PLUS STORAGE



SWENSON COLLEGE
OF SCIENCE & ENGINEERING
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA DULUTH

BRET PENCE
ECOLIBRIUM3



DR. ALISON HOXIE
MECHANICAL & INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING



- 11,000 students
- Over 500 full-time faculty
- Land-grant university

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ECOLIBRIUM3



Mission: Our mission is to inspire and lead change in our community toward an equitable and sustainable future.

Solar Market Pathways:



- 1) Define barriers to solar adaptation
- 2) Develop pathways to reduce costs and increase adaptation of this technology in our community
- 3) End goal of 1MW of solar on the ground in Duluth

PROJECT OVERVIEW

- Hartley Nature Center is a City-owned, nonprofit operated green building.
- The Center serves as a park, environmental center and outdoor-based preschool with annual visitors ~ 30,000



PROJECT OVERVIEW

- HNC had one of the first PV systems in northern MN, installed in 2002–2003. There is 11 kW on the roof and 2 kW on a ground-mounted dual-axis tracker, with 6 inverters.
- By 2016, 4 out of 5 roof inverters were no longer operable, and replacing them all with 2 inverters and rewiring would cost ~\$10,000.
- The installation is part of a larger energy retrofit of Hartley Nature center, which includes replacement of the HVAC controls and GSHP, separation of hot water from the GSHP, and lighting upgrades.

PROJECT TEAM

- Bret Pence, Ecolibrium3
- Alison Hoxie, UMD
- Alex Jackson, City of Duluth
- Tom O'Rourke, Director Hartley Nature Center
- Brett Amundson, Operations Hartley Nature Center
- Chris LaForge, Great Northern Solar
- Paul Helstrom, Minnesota Power

FUNDING



UMD

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA DULUTH
Driven to Discover™



PROJECT GOALS

- Replace Inverters
- Create a public emergency shelter
- Move building to net-zero
- Explore added values with storage:
 - critical load backup and
 - behind the meter savings, including peak demand shaving
- Create an education platform for energy storage



BATTERY SELECTION

- Sunverge, only company to meet project needs
- Small Commercial Unit (<15 kWh) & DC coupled (high voltage)
- Software ~ Energy Arbitrage, coming soon more sophisticated Peak Demand Shaving
- Other resiliency option – SPS outlet SunnyBoy grid-tied inverter connected to 5 kW of roof array



CRITICAL LOADS

Critical Load Backup	Description	Surge Load	Operating Load
Server, Wi-Fi, Phones	Plug load: mech. Room	135 W	15 W
Refrigerator	115 Volts, 7.7 Amps	250 W	250 W
Lighting	Bathroom	610 W	232 W
	Mechanical Room	128 W	128 W
	Classroom 1	46 W	46 W
	Classroom 2	46 W	46 W
Plug Loads	Exhibit Hall:	8 W/phone	8 W/phone
	Hartley: (1: 4 plug outlet)	32 W	32 W
	Civil: (3: 4 plug outlet)	96 W	96 W
	Office: 2 desktops	1200 W	10 W standby
	Office Library: 2 Laptops & 6 phones	248 W	248 W
	Classroom 2:		
	Hartley: (1: 2 plug outlet)- 100 W laptop	200 W	200 W
	Civil: (5: 2 plug outlet)- (2) 100 W laptops, (8) 8 W/ phones	248 W	248 W
Maximum Total Loads		H:2895 W / C:3007 W	H:1208 W / C:1319



OPEN INSTALLATION PROCESS



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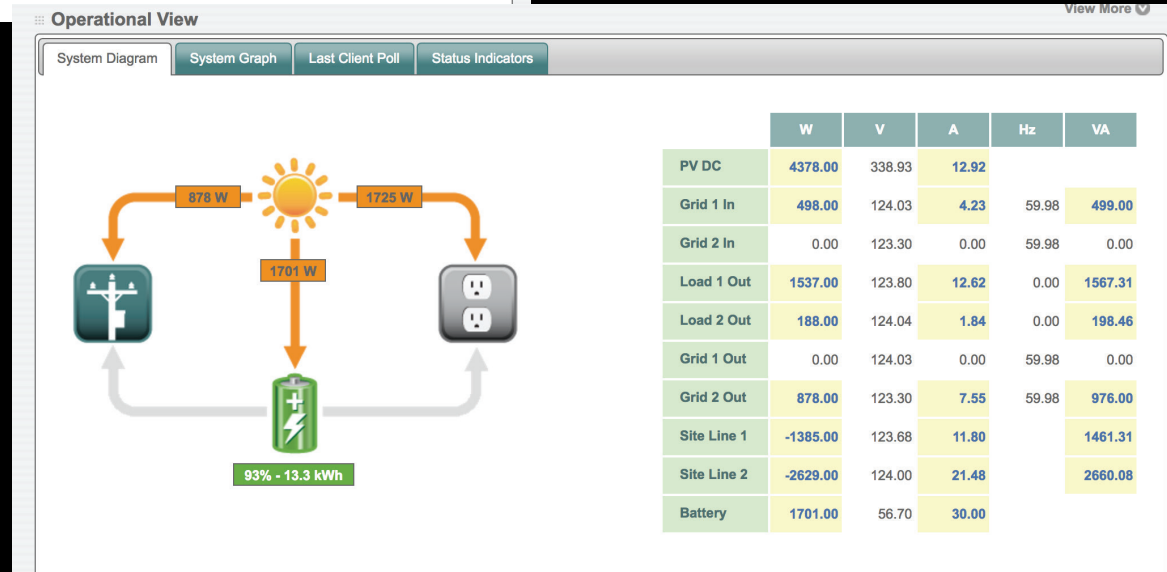
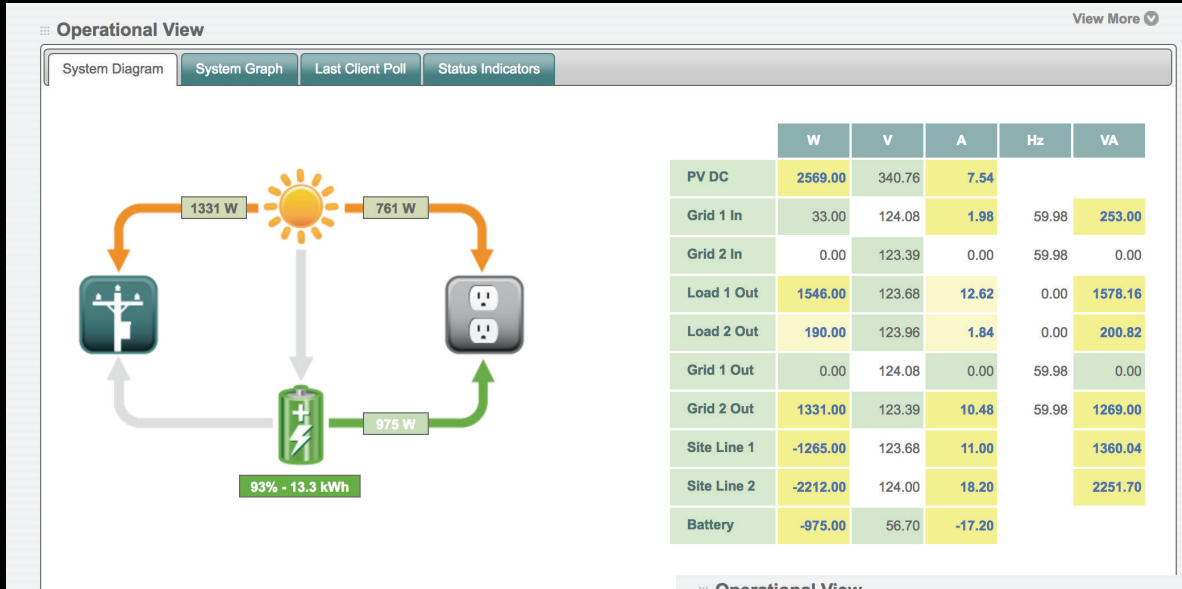
OPEN INSTALLATION PROCESS



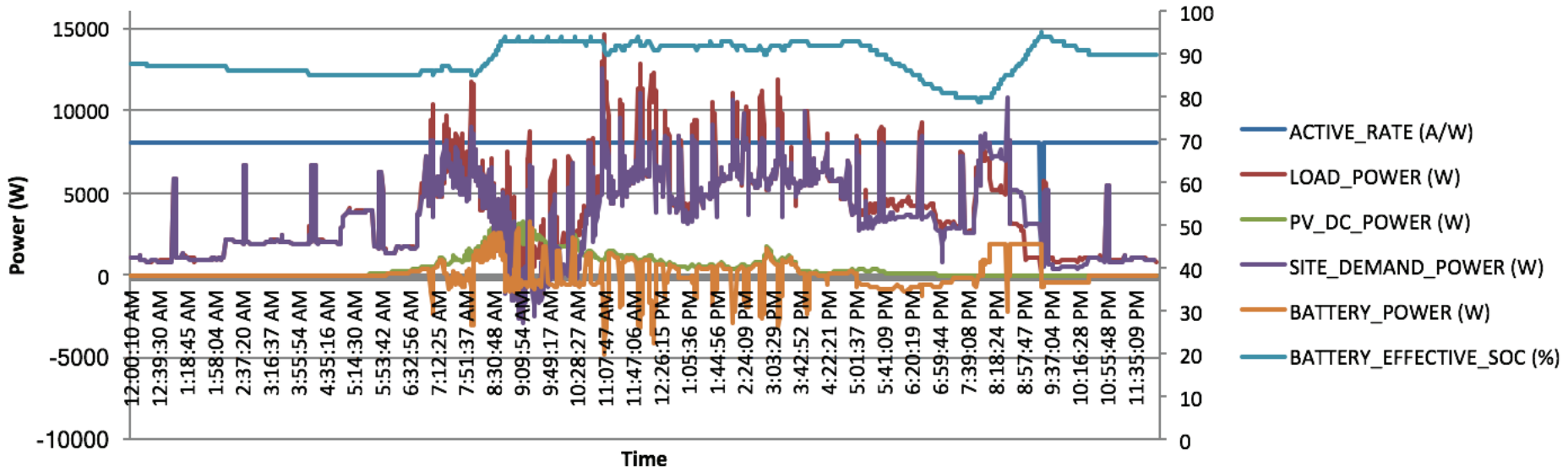
SOLAR PLUS STORAGE AWARENESS DAY



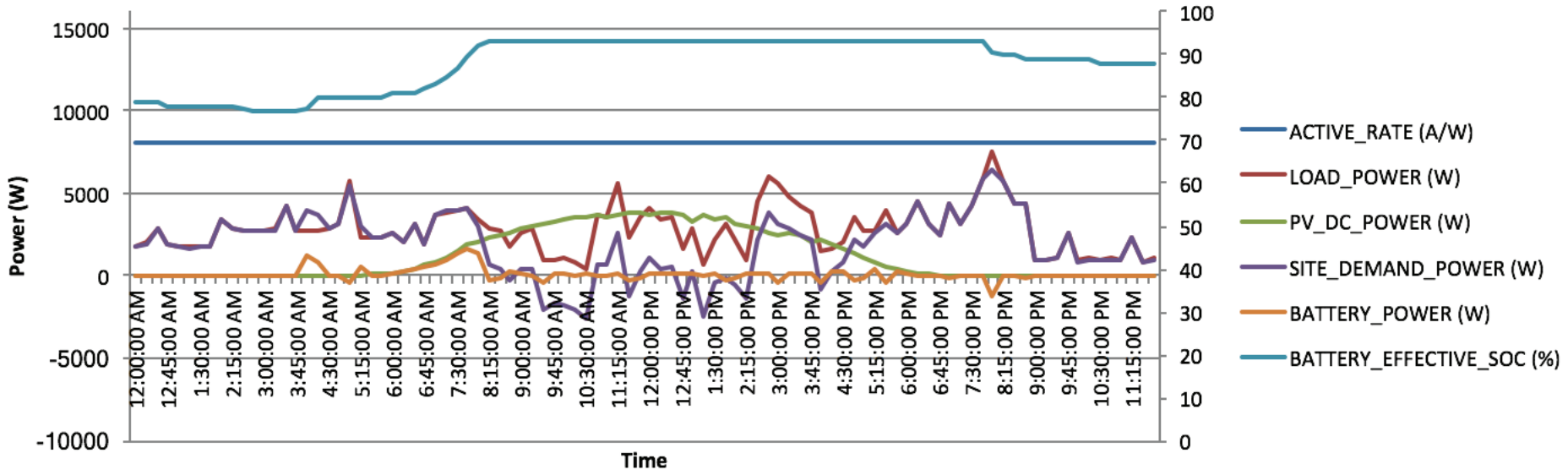
DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS – SPRING 2016



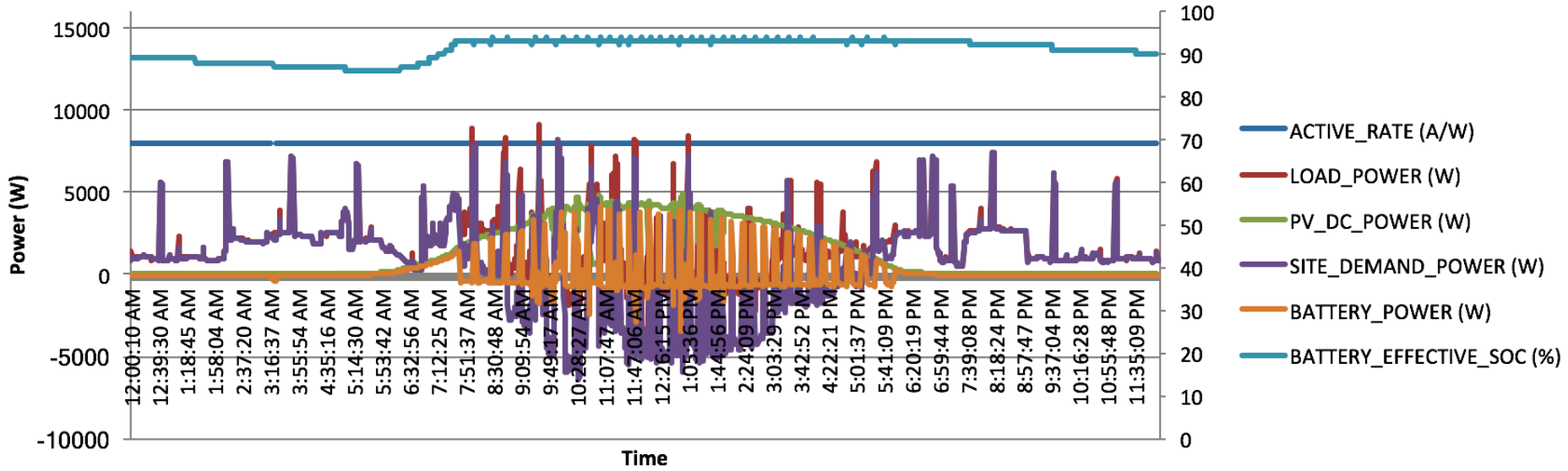
Wednesday 8/16/2017 - Detailed Sunverge



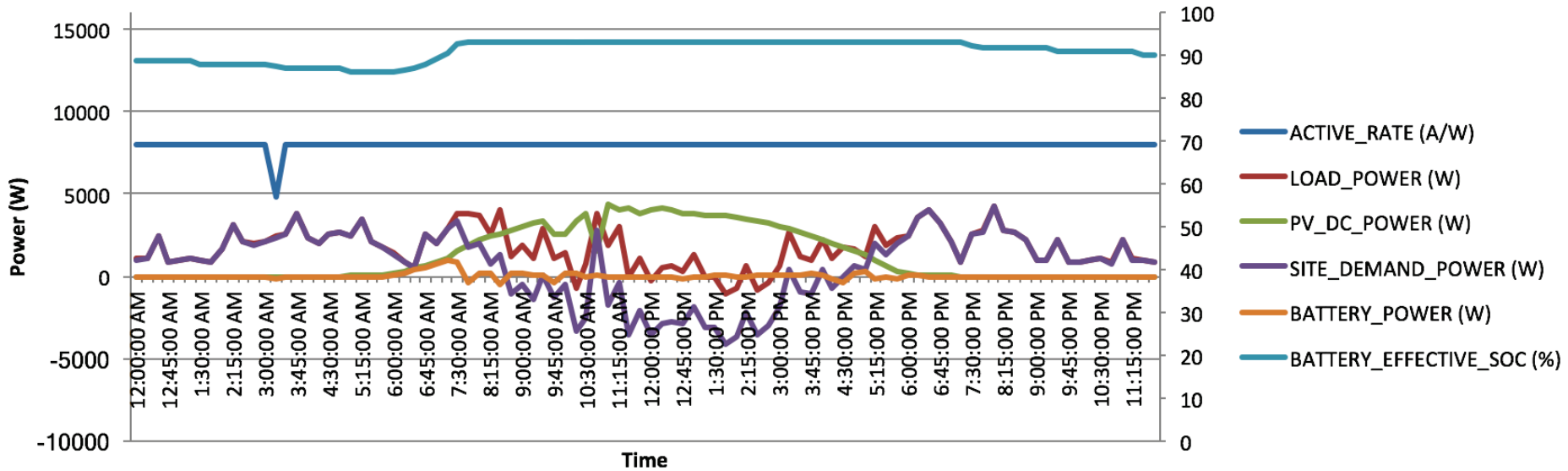
Wednesday 8/16/2017 - 15 Min Avg. Sunverge



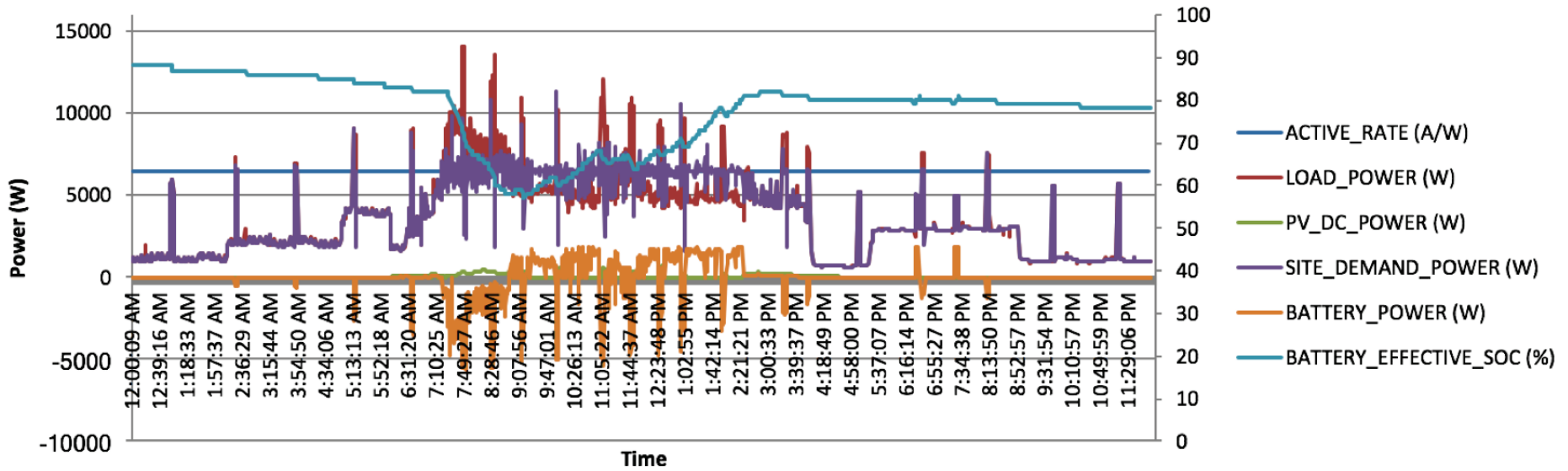
Friday 8/11/2017 - Detailed Sunverge



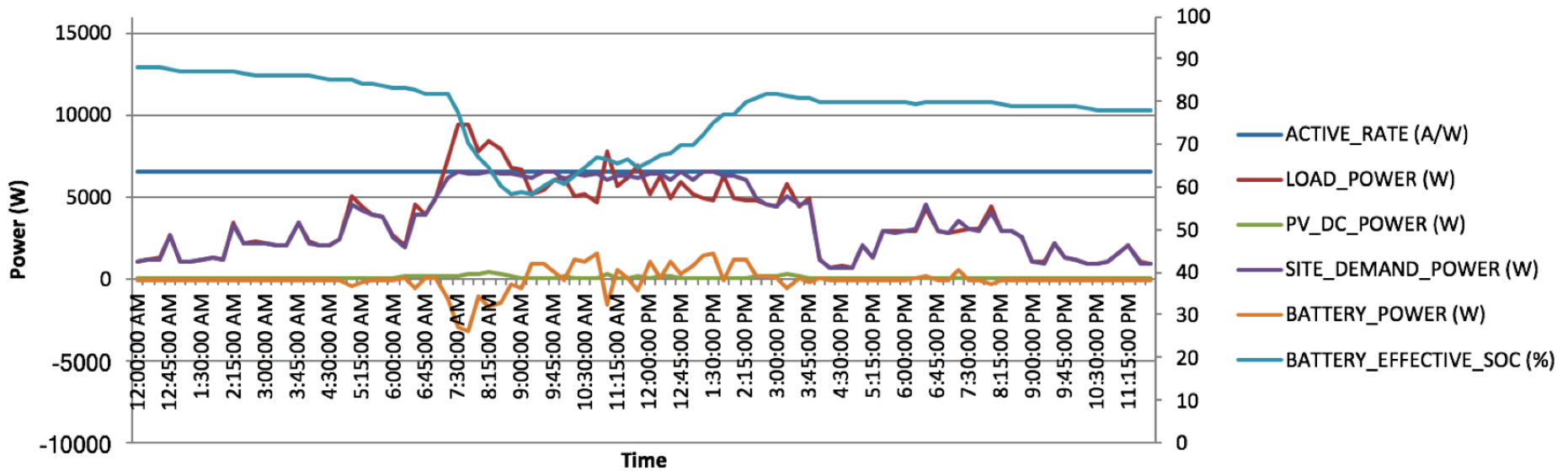
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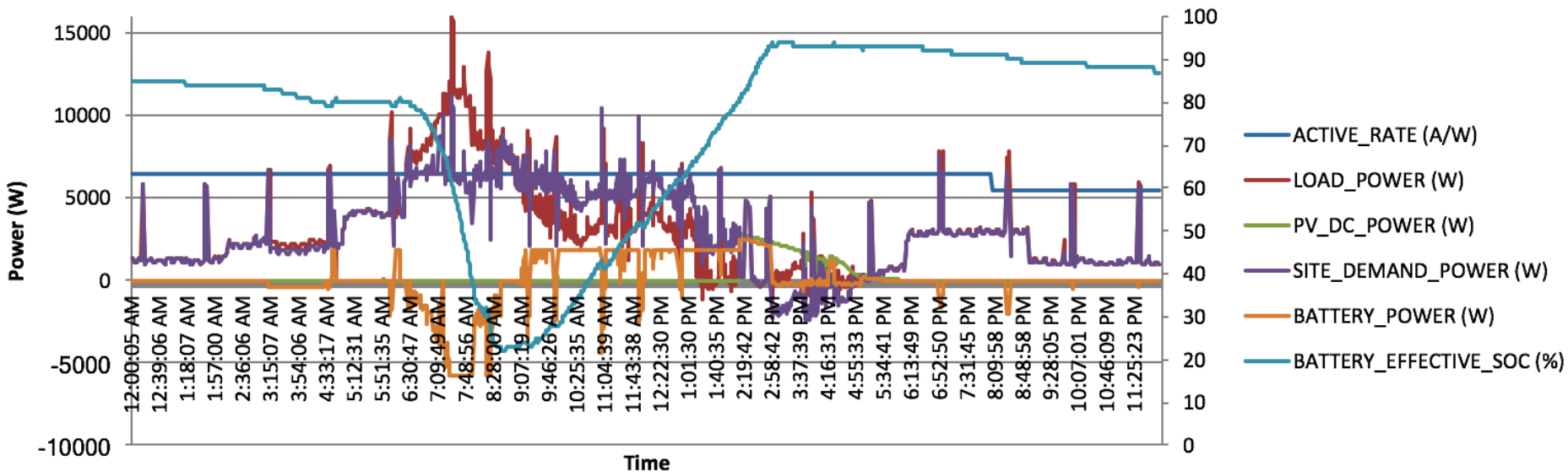
Friday 09/15/2017 - Detailed Sunverge



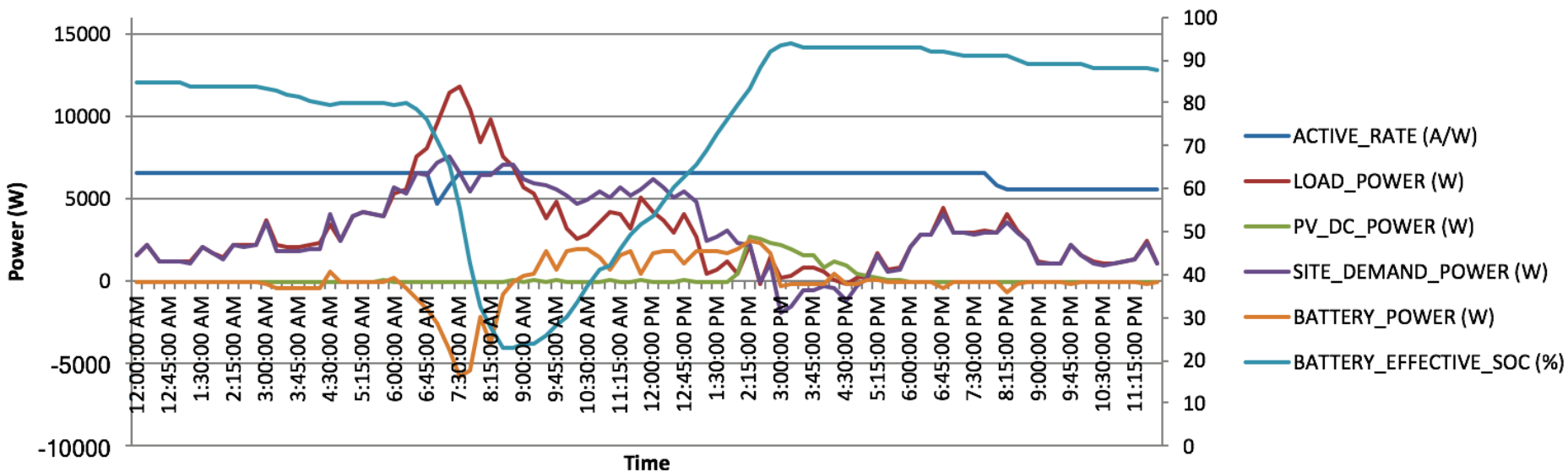
Friday 09/15/2017 - 15 Min Avg. Sunverge



Friday 09/22/2017 - Detailed Sunverge



Friday 09/22/2017 - 15 Min Avg. Sunverge



LESSONS – RETROFITS ARE HARD

- Code updates can upset the apple cart (increase cost)
 - Rapid shutdown and arc-fault protection
- Flex plans to accommodate the reality of the built environment – wiring, loads, etc.
- Initial project estimated cost ~20,000, actual ~45,000



RETROFITS HAVE VALUE

- Project Costs – \$45,000, cost to Hartley?
 - \$5000
- Financial benefit- \$1500/year, 30 year payback
- Value of backup – Wind storm and the value of storage
- Change to a non-demand tariff – \$5000/year
 - Below 10kW peak demand, not over 2500kWh/month energy limit for 3 months in a row
 - Believe this is possible with energy efficiency upgrades, increased solar production, and strategic use of energy storage – Ask us in 3 months!



THANK YOU.

- Alison Hoxie, University of Minnesota Duluth
 - ahoxie@d.umn.edu
 - 218-726-8957
- Bret Pence, Ecolibrium3
 - bret@ecolibrium3.org
 - 218-336-1038

