



What is a virtual power plant (VPP)?

A virtual power plant or VPP is a network of small electricity generators (like rooftop solar) and consumers, working cooperatively to achieve a stronger shared and interdependent outcome.

The rate of pace in the energy market is perhaps faster than almost any other sector at the moment. Yes, it's true that SpaceX is blasting off into the cosmos, and blockchain and cryptocurrency are in the news every other week.

The difference with the rate of change in the energy market is that we're all impacted. Whether you need to boil the kettle at home or run the packaging line in your factory, you are more than likely connected to a large energy grid. That energy grid has been through a significant change and is on the cusp of going through another.



You don't have to have your own rooftop solar or battery to be part of a VPP. You can join just because you want to be part of your community's transition locally generated clean energy.

Historically power was generated by large fossil-fuelled power plants or perhaps a hydro-electric dam. More recently we have seen the significant growth of large-scale renewable energy around the globe, meaning that large scale wind and solar farms are generating an increasing share of the energy being used.

The things both fossil-fuelled energy and large-scale renewables have in common is that they are BIG and they are usually far away from you, the energy user.

In the last decade or so there has been rapid adoption of rooftop solar, particularly in countries such as Australia, and the growing affordability of small scale home battery storage is only increasing consumer interest in how households can become more self-reliant when it comes to their electricity. Until now homes with solar have used as much energy as they can from the panels on their roof, charged their battery if they have one and any surplus is put back into the grid in exchange for a, usually quite small, feed-in tariff.

The challenge for the entire energy market has long been to work out how homes can contribute to energy security and reap the benefits of participating in the energy market.

There is now a great deal of effort being invested in research, testing and technology which will make it easy for the growing number of solar homes to join forces and act as a single large powerplant would.

The aggregation of small energy "generator-consumers" can take many forms and, as we step away from reliance on fossil fuels, is critical if we wish to have an affordable, reliable, sustainable electricity grid.

By working together a town with just 300 homes equipped with solar and battery could form a Virtual Power Plant. The town could then deliver electricity supply and stability where and when its needed.

Mondo is currently working on a number of different solutions to contribute to the way energy is generated, sold, and stored which could change the nature of the electricity grid as we know it.

As VPP technologies and the ways to reward participation evolve, Mondo customers will be uniquely positioned to save money and contribute to a truly renewable energy future.

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