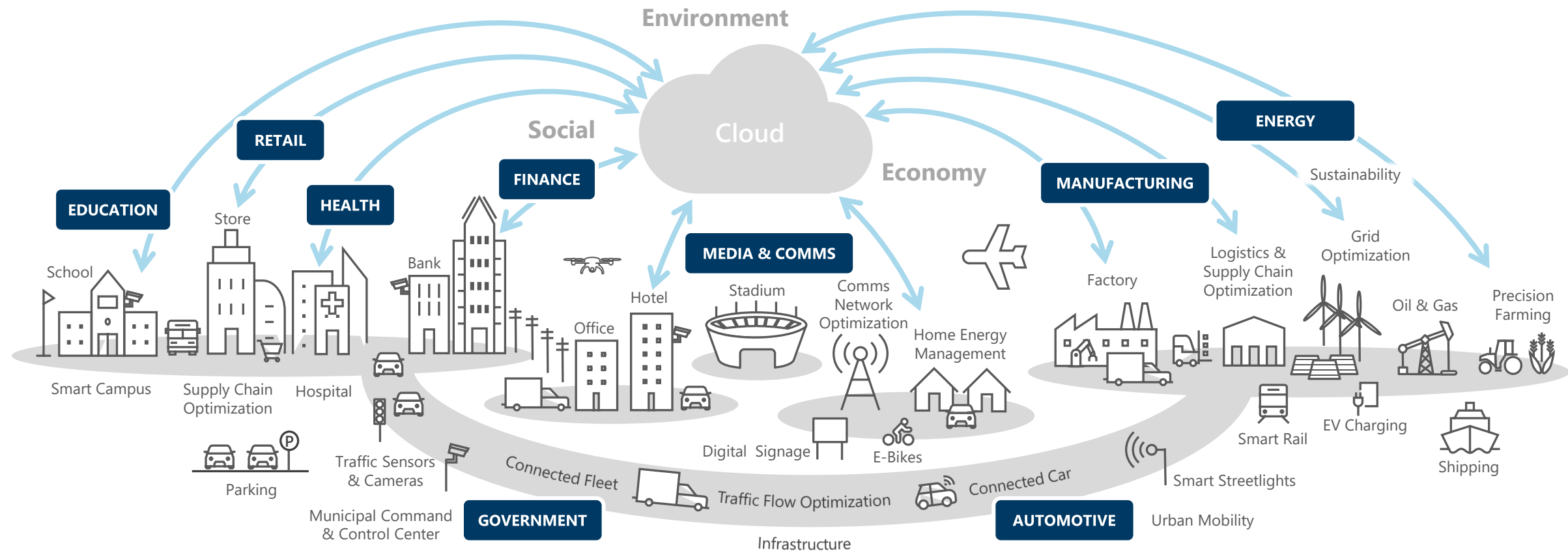




DIGITAL TWINS TRANSFORM ALTERNATIVE ENERGY PRODUCTION

Bert Van Hoof
Microsoft Cloud for Industries

Energy and the built world



TODAY
Intelligent Assets

EMERGING
Intelligent Environments

FUTURE
Intelligent Ecosystems

Changing energy landscape



Market Forces



Renewable Energy ↑



Distributed Energy Resources ↑



IoT Devices ↑ & Digital Transformation ↑



Policy and Regulations ↑



Geopolitical & Energy Market Volatility ↑

Operational Challenges



Supply & Demand Volatility ↑



Aging Grid - Investments ↑



New Scenarios ↑ (Solar, Electric Vehicle, ...)



Prediction Complexity ↑



Cybersecurity concerns ↑

Fundamental Changes

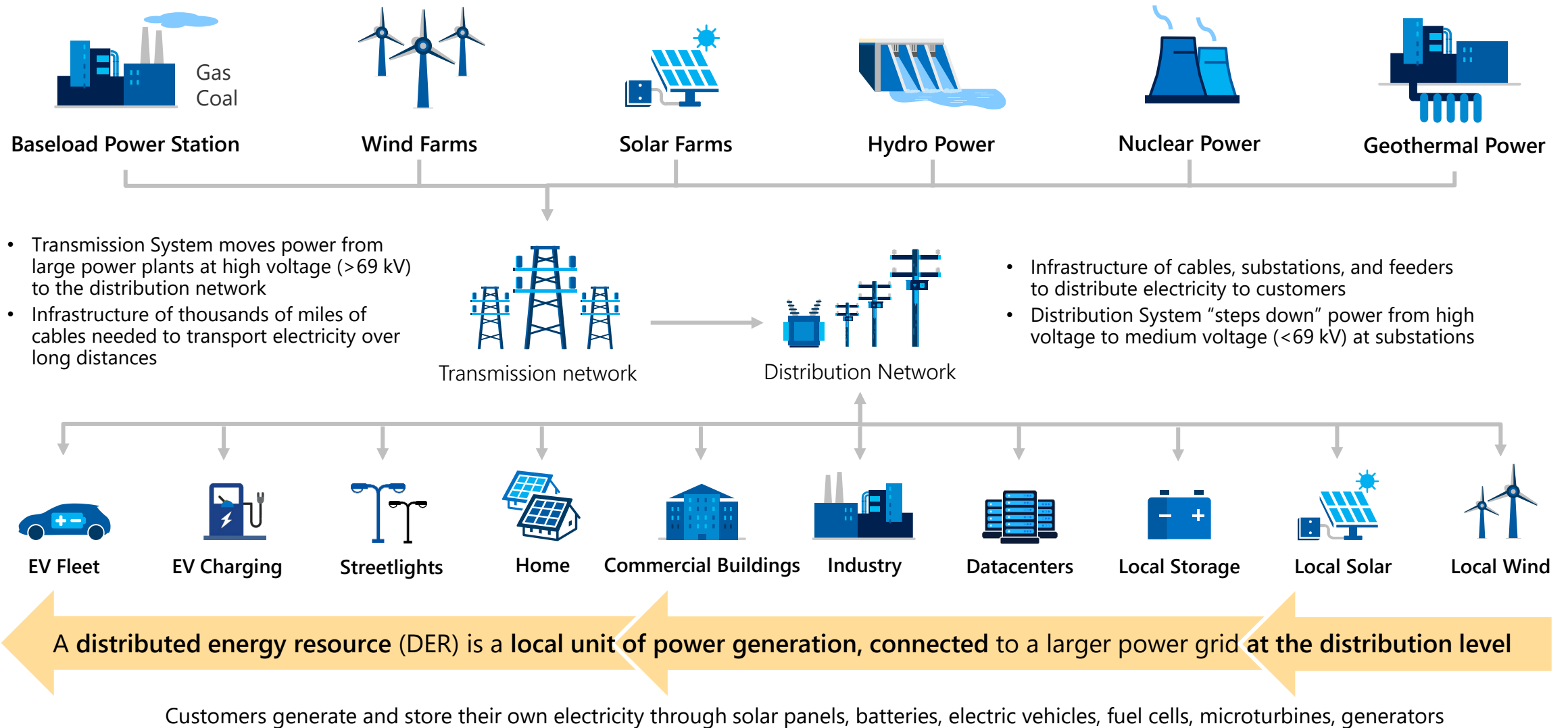


Bidirectional flow of Electric Power ↑

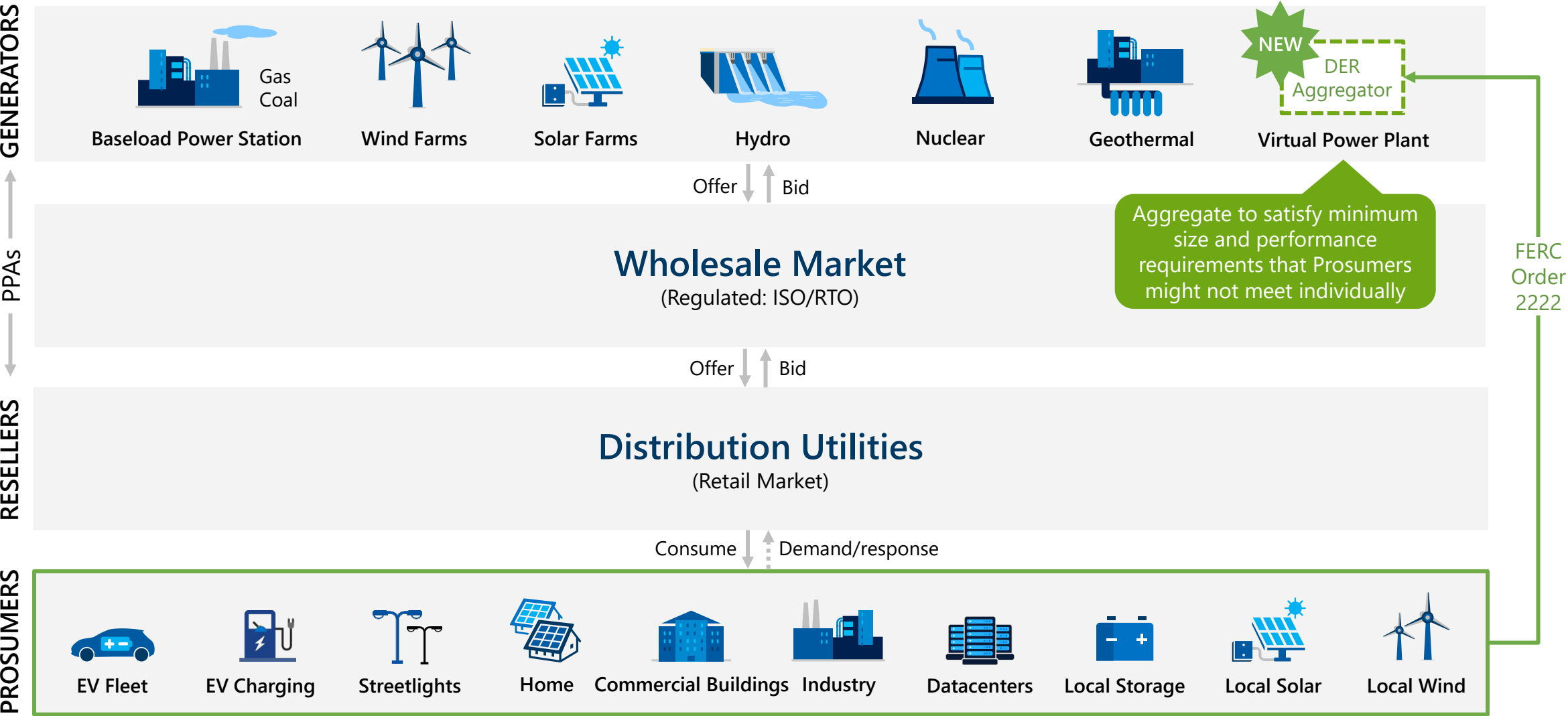


Electricity Storage (large quantity) ↑

Electric grid assets and infrastructure

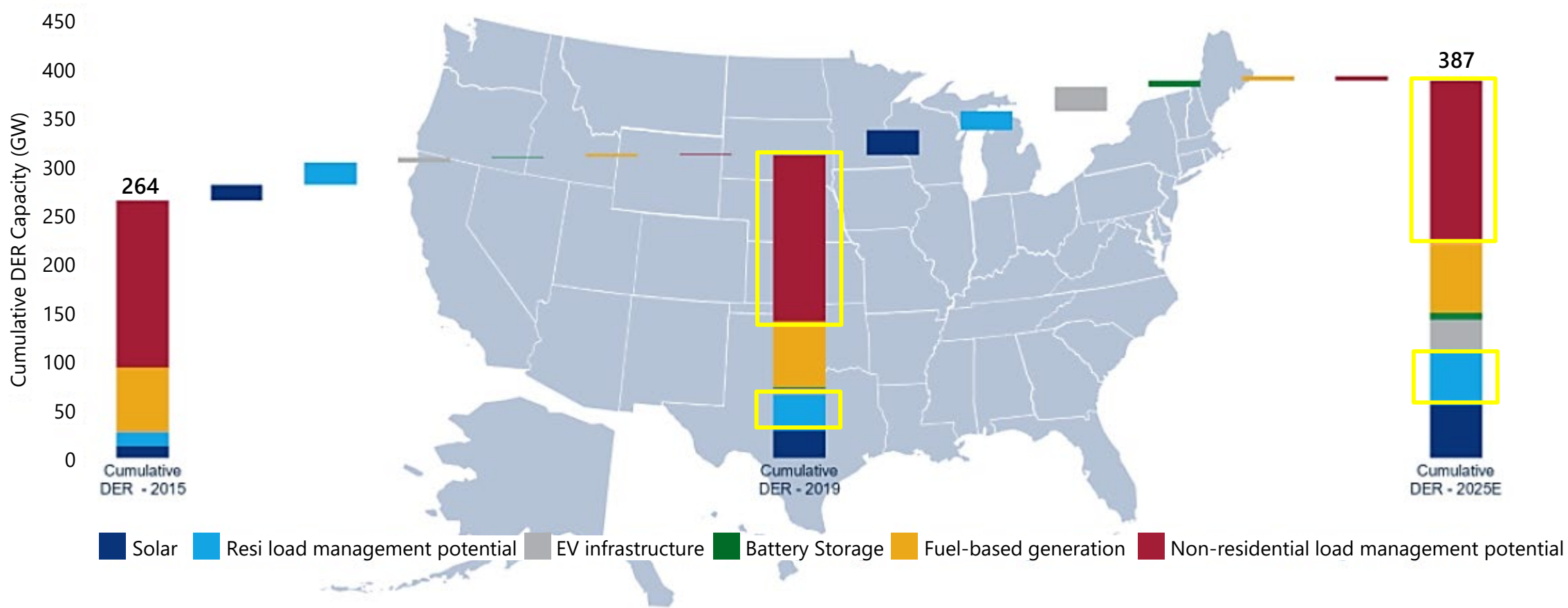


Electric grid market mechanics (\$)



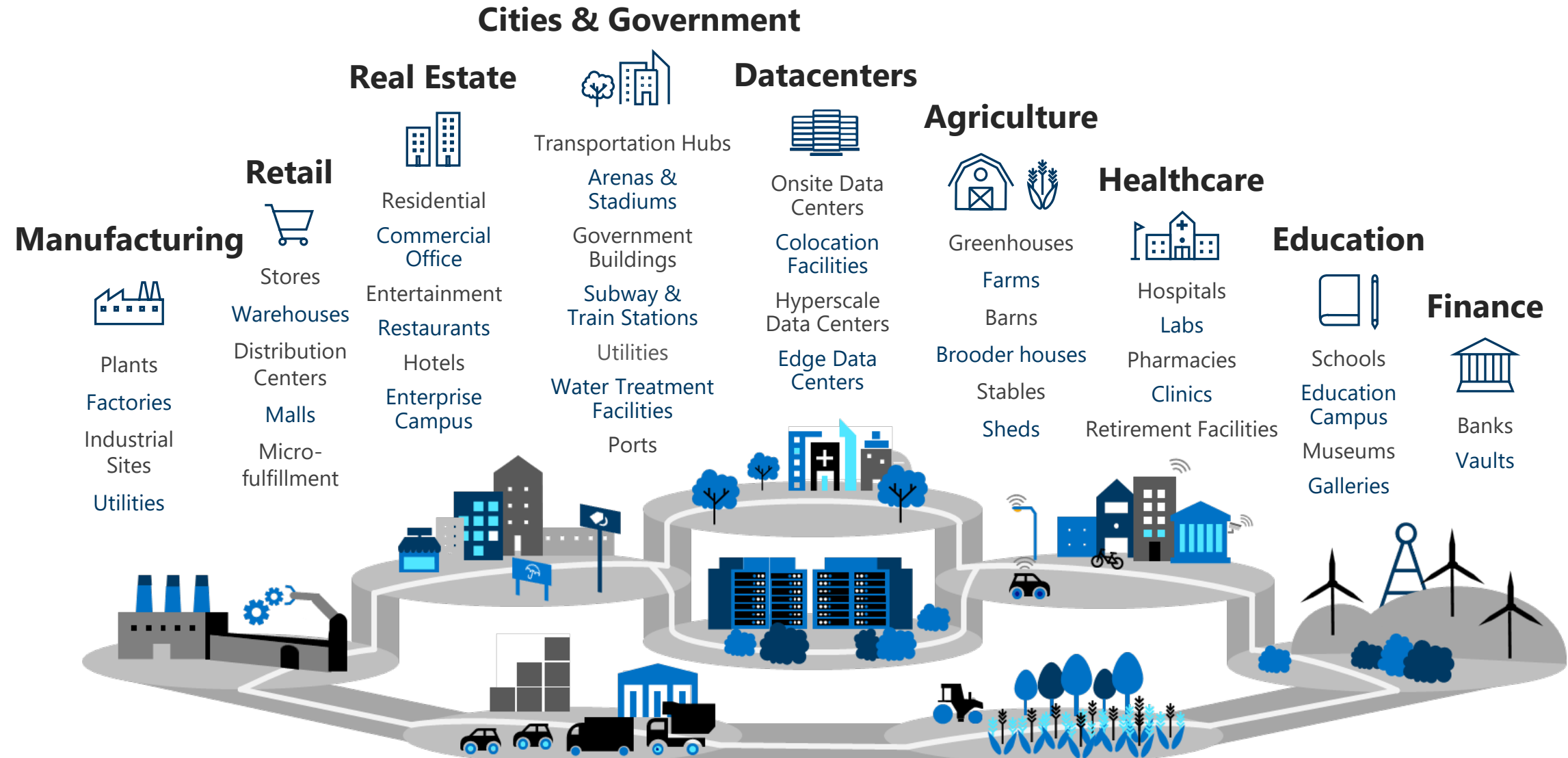
DER Capacity in the United States

Cumulative DER capacity additions by resource and customer type (2016 – 2025)



Source: Wood MacKenzie Energy Storage, Grid Edge Service, U.S. Distributed Solar Service; U.S. Department of Energy

Smart buildings and facilities



Active Efficiency

Optimize energy use by blending traditional energy efficiency measures with digital transformation

Coalesce well-established energy efficiency approaches with the new capabilities of digital twins, distributed energy resources, and key decarbonization strategies

Multi-system integration

Component-level (LEDs)
→ multi-system, cross-ecosystem integration (GEB, EV2G, EV2H)



Autonomous systems

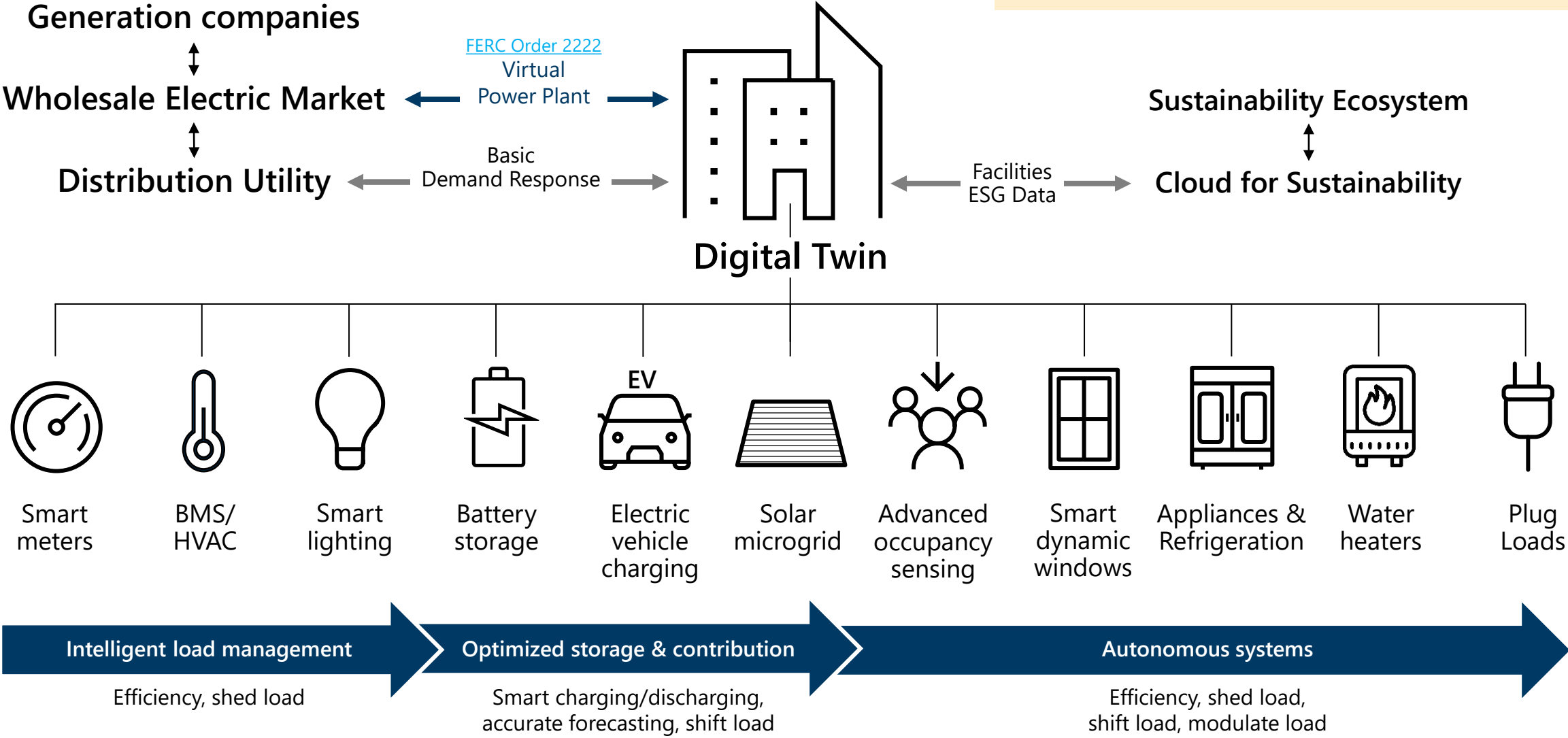
Static (building envelope improvements)
→ Real-time response and interaction
(demand response / demand flexibility)

Multi-dimensional benefits

Energy savings and economic productivity
→ Resilience, health, and GHG reductions

Grid-interactive Efficient Buildings

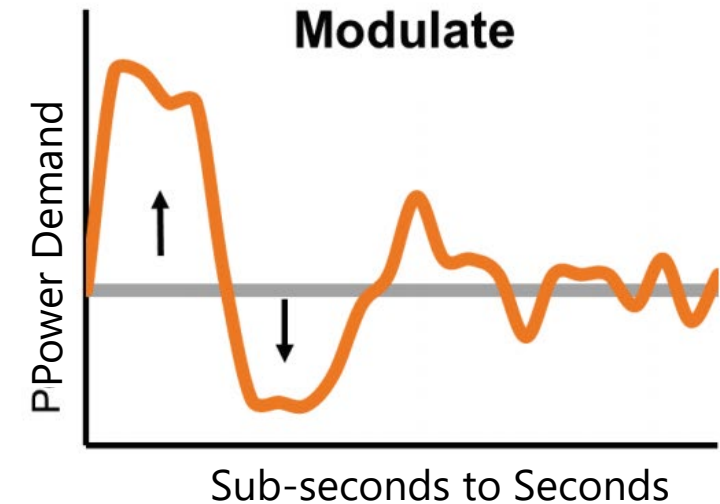
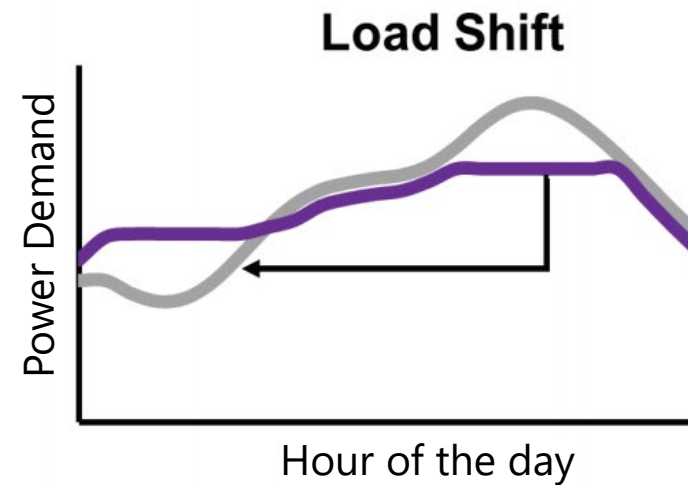
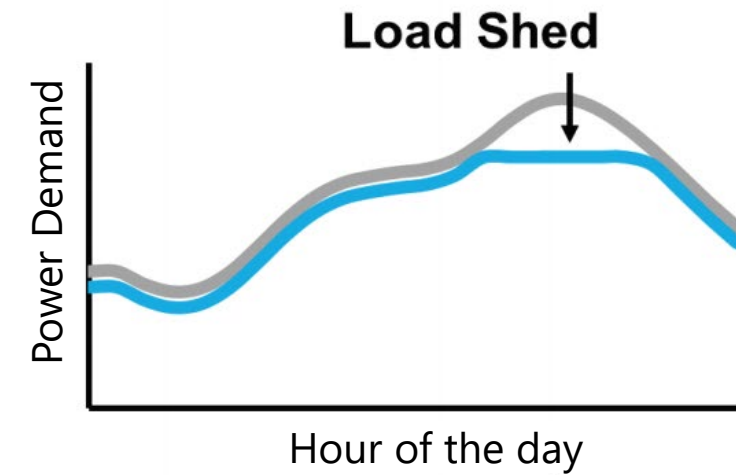
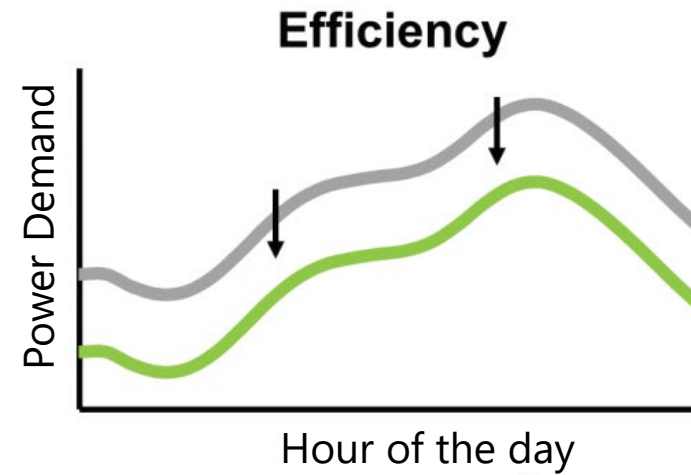
The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) estimates national adoption of Grid-interactive Efficient Buildings will be worth \$100 - 200B in electric power system cost savings. [A National Roadmap for GEBs](#)



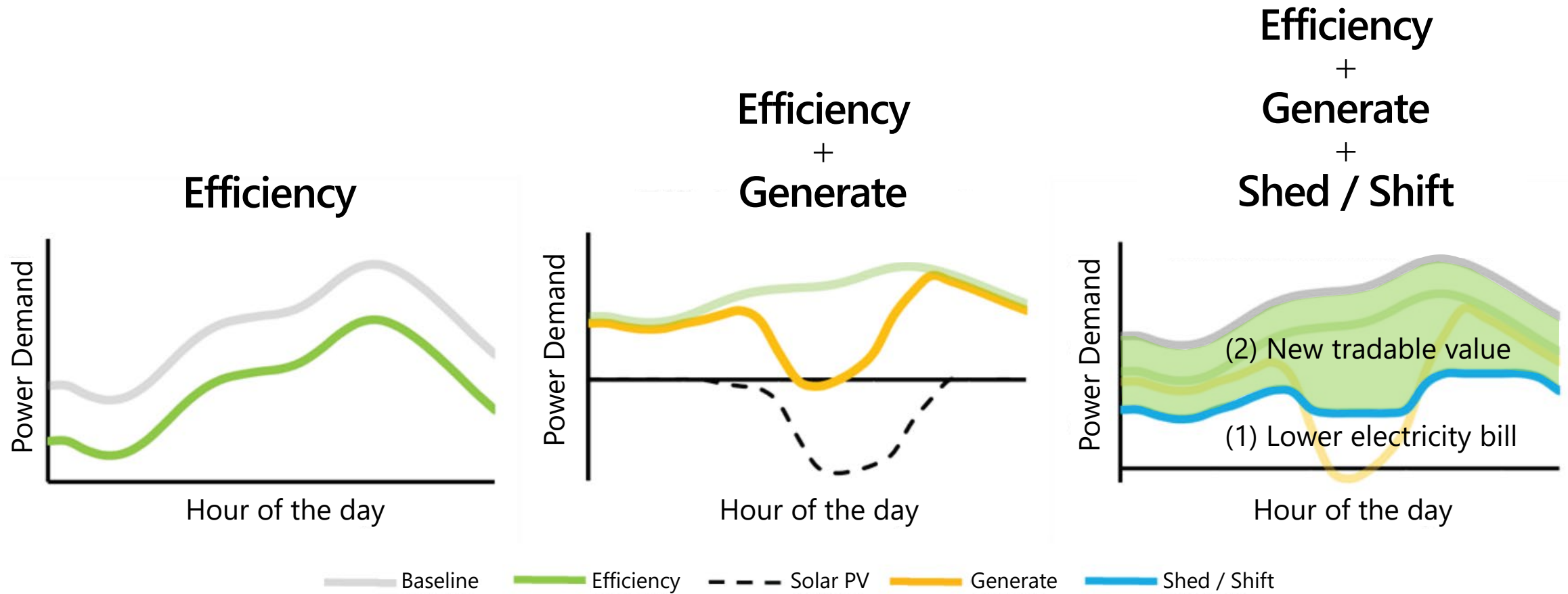
Intelligent load management

Flexibility Load Curves

In these graphs, the gray curve represents an example baseline building load and the colored curves (green, blue, purple and orange) show the resulting building load.



New incentives



Traditional control systems have reached their limits



Static and rigid



Cannot consider
all observable data



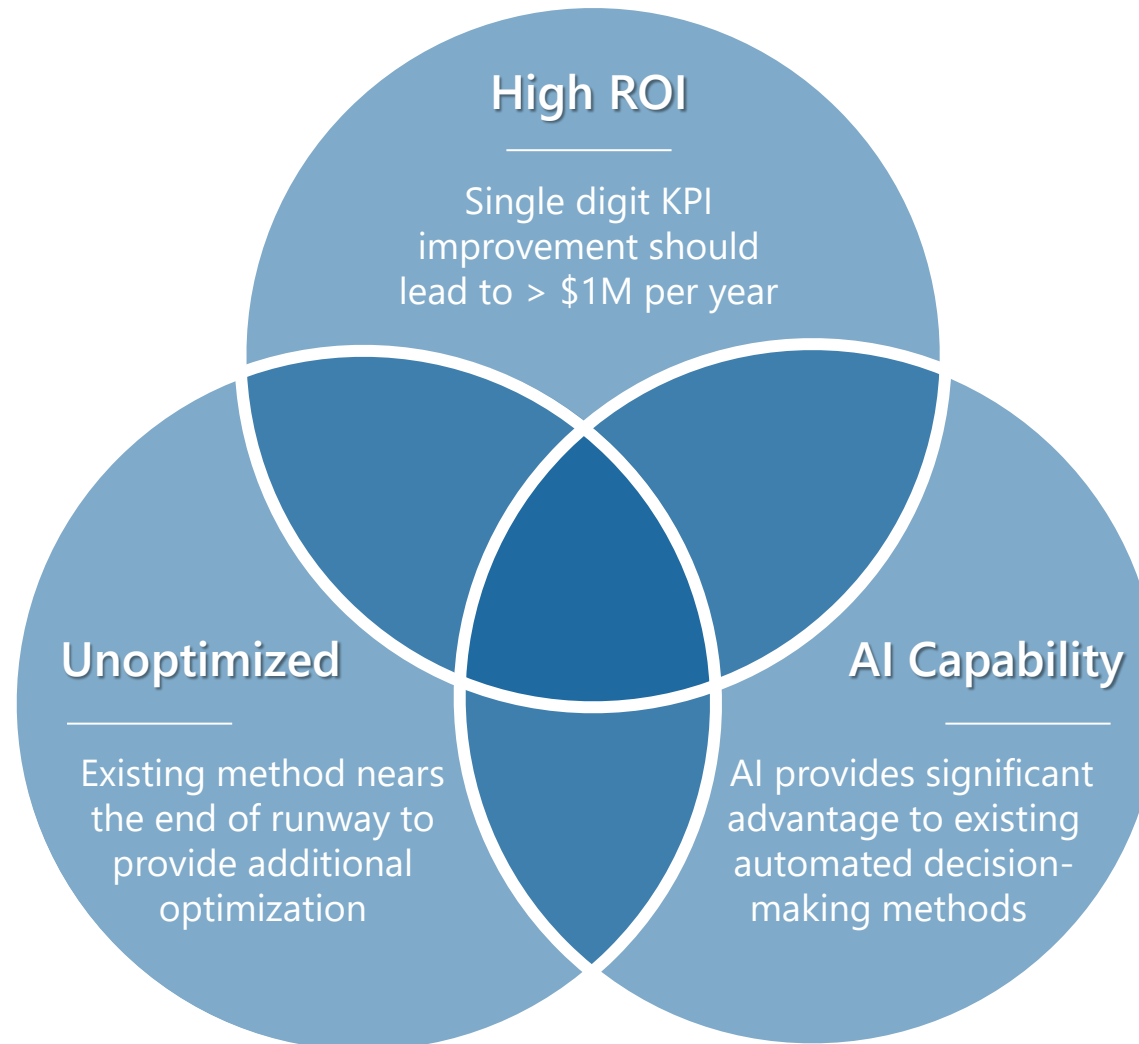
Lack imagination

Traditional control systems fall short or do not go the last mile when you have too many inputs/outputs to optimize, or things are changing in an unpredictable way

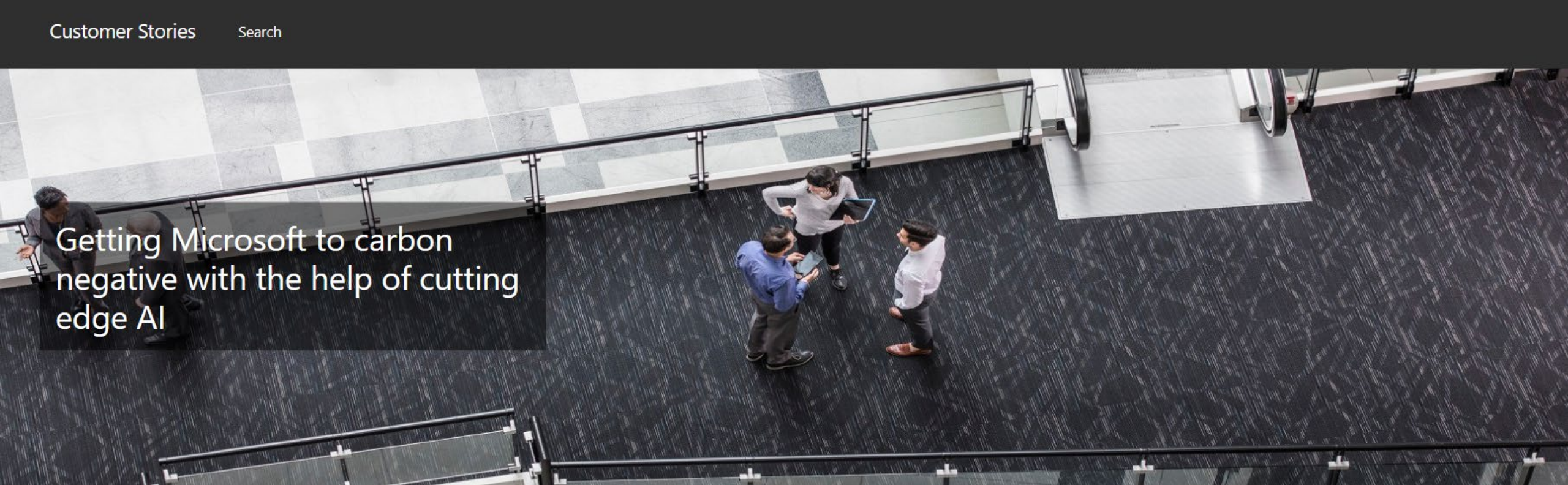
Enterprise Use Cases for AI Brains

Business Decision Maker's Guide to Selecting Use Cases

Not every control or optimization application requires an AI brain, but brains offer unique characteristics compared to control theory and optimization algorithms



If humans are required to supervise or augment an automated control system, an AI brain will likely improve human performance



Getting Microsoft to carbon negative with the help of cutting edge AI

The more variables and controllers that are in a system, the harder it is for a human to optimize it.

Mohan Reddy:
Director - GWS
[Microsoft](#)

If we could reduce energy consumption by 15% just by changing a few set points – I must imagine there are a lot of other areas where the AI approach can help.

Tearle Whitson:
Sr. Director
[CBRE](#)

We had our experts work with Project Bonsai to make sure the AI we were creating knew everything we knew.

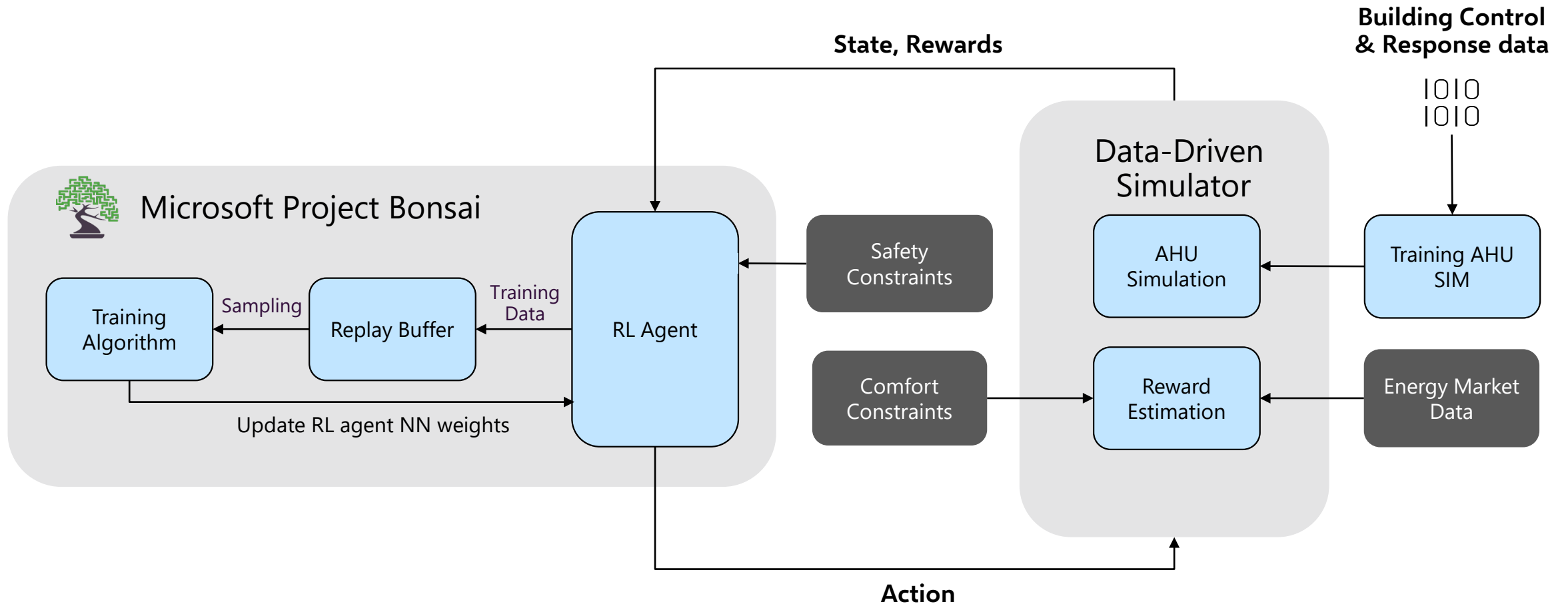
Ray Nichols:
Chief Engineer
[CBRE](#)

With Project Bonsai, we uncovered recommended optimizations that we never could have come to on our own.

Brendan Bryant:
Mechanical Engineer
[DB Engineering](#)

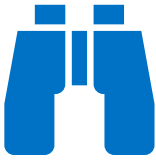
AI-based energy optimization recommendation

Autonomous Systems: AI-powered automation that optimizes your equipment, systems, and processes by sensing and responding in real-time



Superpowers of Autonomous AI

More human-like decision making for specific use cases



Perceives, then Acts



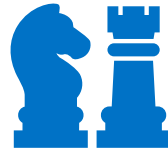
Learns and Adapts



Spots Patterns



Plans Ahead



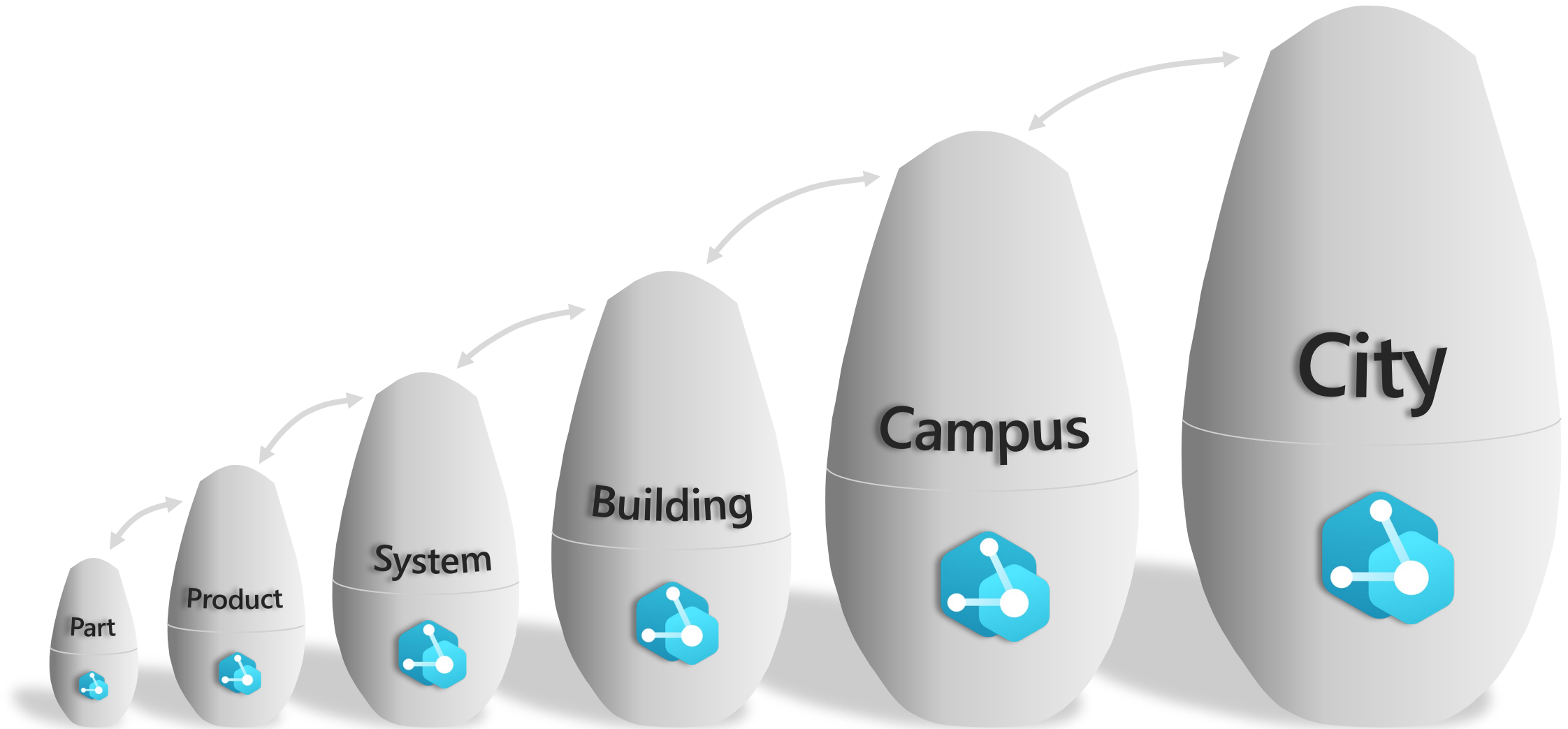
Strategizes



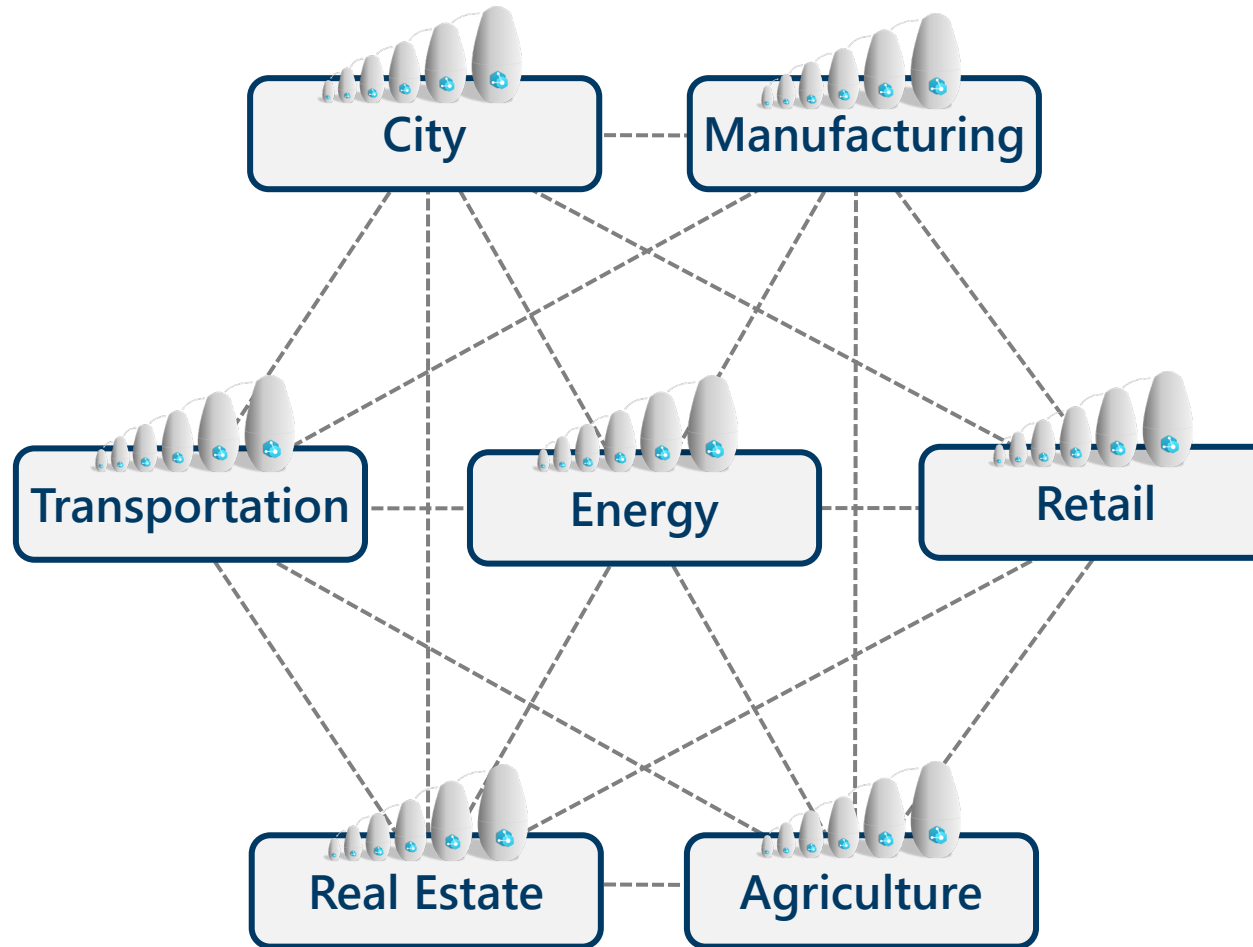
Infers from Experience

Twin-Twin federation

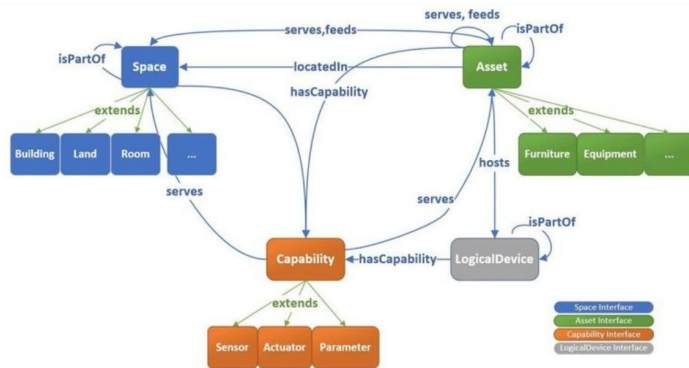
"Russian dolls" of digital twins



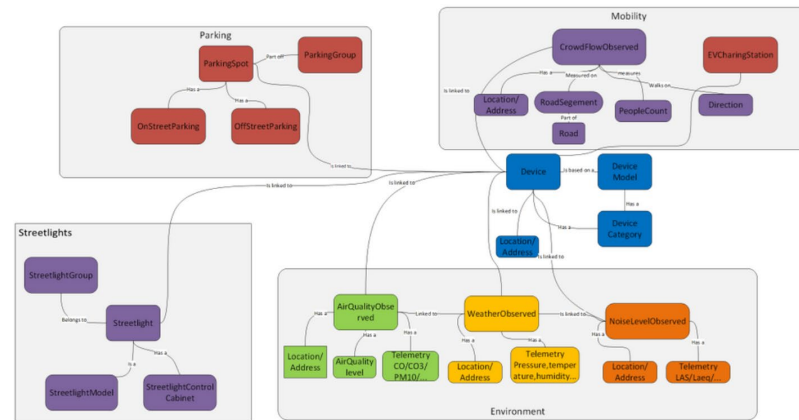
Intelligent ecosystems



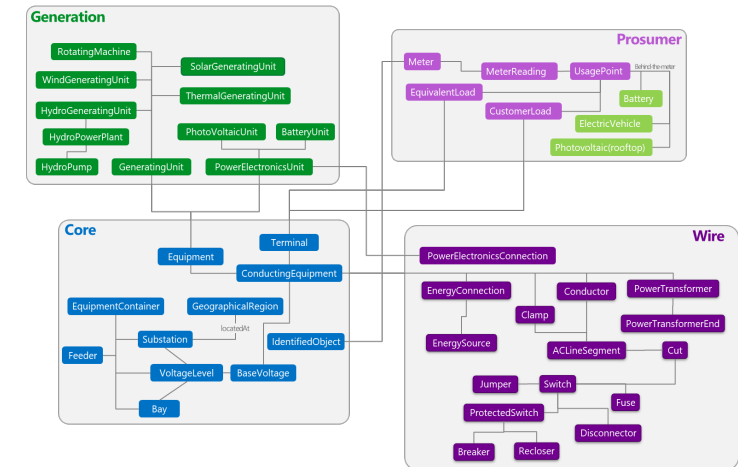
Open-source digital twin ontologies



[Open-source DTDL-based Smart building ontology](#)

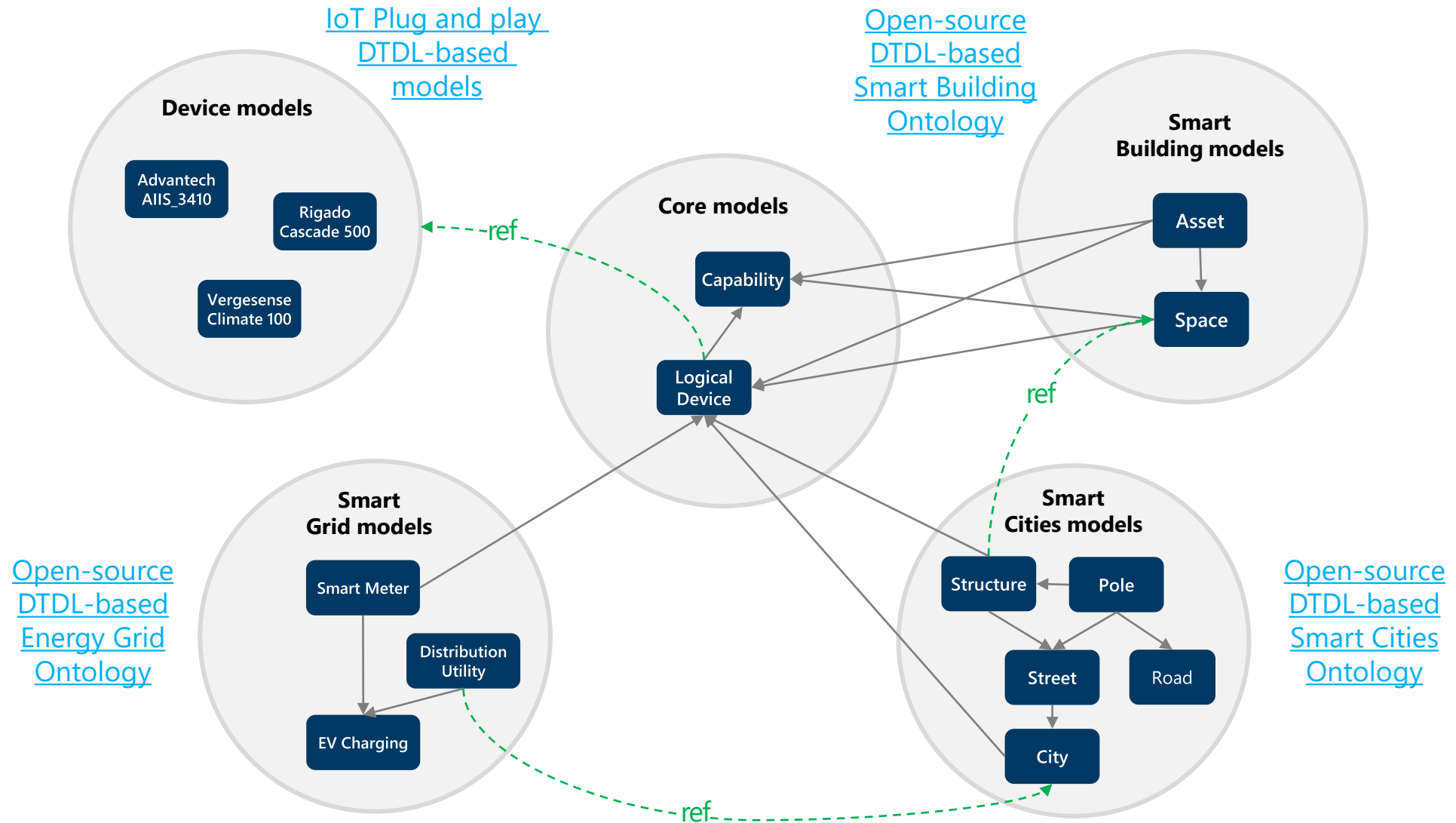


[Open-source DTDL-based Smart cities ontology](#)



[Open-source DTDL-based Energy grid ontology](#)

Ontology federation



Microsoft's presence in Georgia

We want to create a positive impact as an active partner in the Atlanta community. We are excited to work hand in hand with local organizations and community groups in Atlanta to ensure Microsoft and the city thrive

- **Atlantic Yards campus**

Located in the heart of the Midtown, one of Atlanta's most vibrant and bustling neighborhoods, close to public transportation stations, key Microsoft customers and partners, premier dining and shopping, and a handful of Georgia colleges and universities

- **New 90-acre campus**

on a parcel of land at Quarry Yards and Quarry Hills on the Westside, purchased by Microsoft

- **New datacenter region**

Presence in Douglas and Fulton counties

- **Affordable broadband**

for more people in Atlanta, including through our national Airband Initiative

- **Support non-profit organizations**

through greater access to technology and funding for Atlanta's diverse and critical non-profit organizations

- **Digital Skilling Programs**

Adding to Microsoft's own skilling programs on AI and our existing Technology Education and Literacy in Schools (TEALS), work with strong non-profits in Atlanta that have existing impressive skilling programs

- **Facilities for the community**

Setting aside 25% of our expansion site for the construction of affordable and empowered housing and other local community services and needs

- **Close Opportunity gaps**

Creating programs that aim to close opportunity gaps, partnering with the many historic universities in the area

- **Environmental sustainability**

Being a carbon negative, water positive, zero waste company by 2030 is engrained into our designs with focus on environmental justice and equity solutions

Mapping energy efficiency for a just transition

Problem Statement

A clear gap in building energy efficiency data and integration of equity data limits the ability for policymakers, investors, and building developers to target retrofitting and building efficiency to households and community buildings with the highest energy burdens.

Environmental Challenges

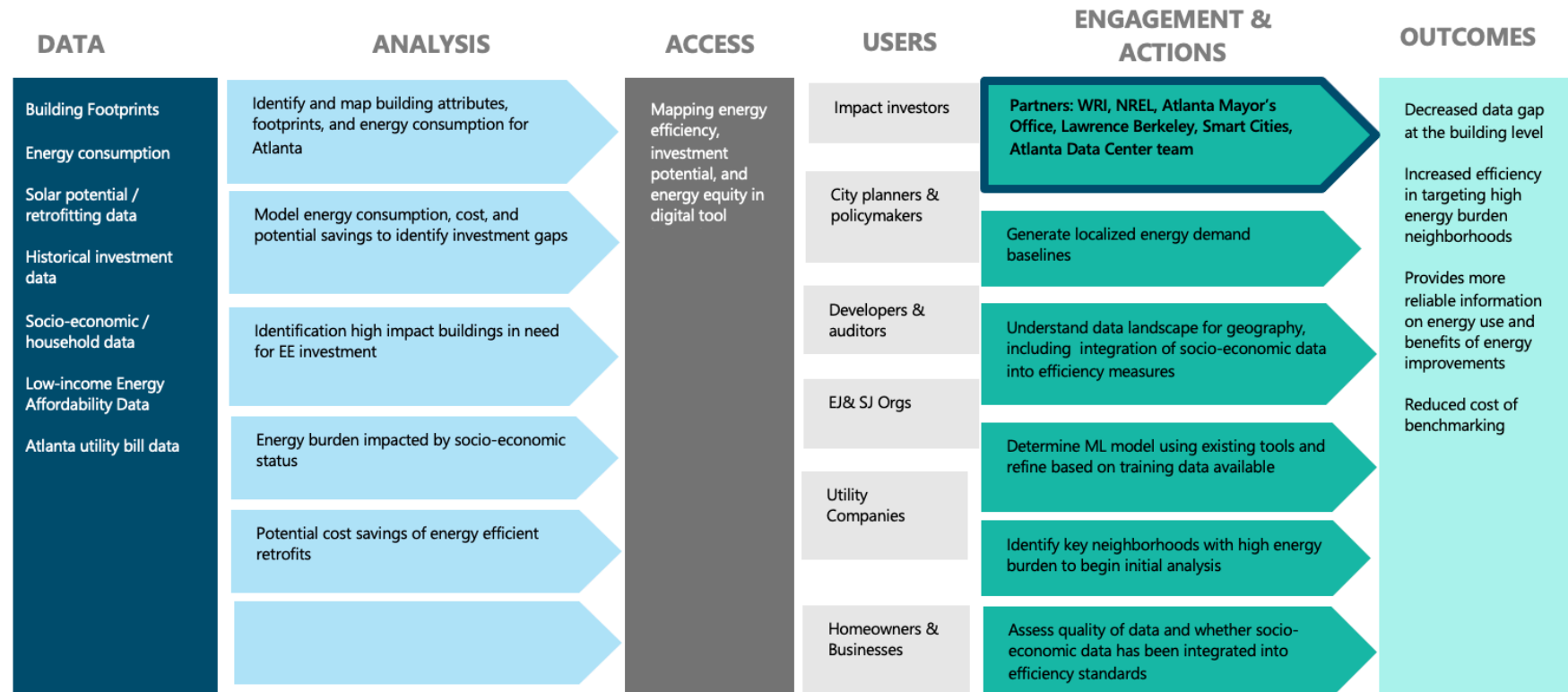
- Buildings account for 76% of electricity use and 40% of all US energy use
- Inefficiencies disparately impact low-income households who spend 7.2 – 10 percent of their incomes on energy

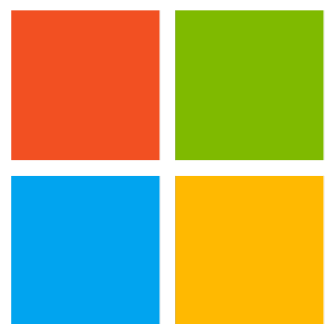
Business Case

- Energy benchmarking supports policymakers and developers in designing targeted & impactful solutions for increasing energy efficiency. To do so, they need access to data (high resolution spatial data, building footprints, socio-economic indicators) and analytics that allows them to develop interventions to alleviate cost and inefficiencies in high-energy burden areas.

Data Gaps

- Limited access to building heights and floor areas to support cost-effective and accurate models of building energy consumption
- Lack of AI/ML models for energy consumption prediction make benchmarking a costly and prone to error practice
- Integration of socio-economic data into efficiency benchmarking





Microsoft