MICROGRIDS 101

What are microgrids?

How do they help make electricity more reliable?
How do we get electricity now?

Power lines carry electricity from power plants to our homes as a part of the macro grid (aka the grid).

This massive electrical network connects energy producers to homes and businesses.
Micro vs. Macro Grid

A microgrid is like the macro grid, but much smaller.

It can disconnect from the grid and has a **local source of generation**, like solar panels!
How could a microgrid help me & my community?

If the macro grid loses power, the buildings that make up the microgrid can disconnect (aka 'island') and still have electricity!

Being prepared and able to recover after a disaster are key to public wellbeing.
Imagine this...

There's a heat wave. Everyone's AC is working extra hard. Since the grid is over-loaded, there is a power outage.

The Port goes dark.

But with a microgrid...
By disconnecting from the grid and switching to its local power source (like solar panels or battery storage), a microgrid prevents loss of power.

The switch happens so quickly that you won't notice any disruption!
Microgrids provide reliable electricity, something everyone should have.

Learn more at CambridgeEnergyAlliance.org/microgrids