



# Leading the Transformation to Zero-Carbon Economy and Society

An Update to DAB of CECS

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## Overview

### Main funding sources:

- UCF Academic Excellence Funds
  - \$3M for R1 microgrid and digital twins
  - \$1M for faculty hires
  - \$2M for startups, etc.
- Duke Energy
  - \$2M from Florida Vision Funds
  - \$2+M from Duke Energy

### Members:

- Research teams: RISES & CATER
- Units: CECS, CREOL, COS, CCIE, SMST, FCI, UCF Facilities and Safety
- External partners: Duke Energy, Siemens, Siemens Energy, Mitsubishi, and Low Carbon Research Initiative

# **R1 Microgrid and Digital Twins**

# Resilient Zero-Emission Microgrid



- **Research Building I**, an interdisciplinary and experimental research
- Critical experiments require reliable power supply for the building
- Florida has an annual hurricane season
- Integration of roof-top solar generation
- Further hardening through on-site, zero-emission generation
- Separate test loop for grid-related research

# Assets

## z Existing

- Two 250KW diesel backup generators
- One 40KWh Flow Battery

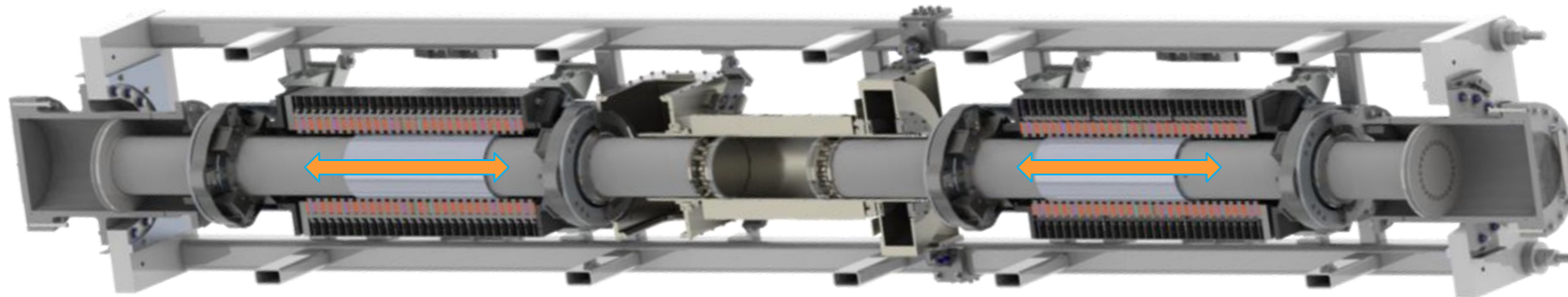
## z New assets

- Two 240KW linear generators
- 150KW rooftop PV arrays
- 500kW/950kWh fast-response battery and inverter control
- Microgrid controller and switch gears
- Level-3 chargers
- Microgrid controller for the test loop

## z Test loop

- 30KW power amplifier
- 24KW regenerative load (expandable to 50KW)
- Opal-RT hardware-in-the-loop (HIL) test system
- Test equipment (**new**)

# Non-Combustion Linear Generator



Video can be viewed at  
<http://mainspringenergy.com/technology/>

Power electronics and software enable simplicity of design and precision control

## Low LCOE

High efficiency,  
low capital and  
maintenance costs

## Low Emissions

Near-zero NO<sub>x</sub>,  
low CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

## Dispatchable

Load tracking,  
fast on/off, black start,  
and island capable

## Fuel Flexible

Dynamic fuel  
switching capability

**Starting point:** blended fuel of 30% hydrogen and 70% natural gas

**5-year test period:** understand and integrate this and other technologies

**Future goal:** 100% green fuel

# Aerial View

Generator Non-Reg.  
solution w/ Solar  
and Battery sources  
(Microgrid – MG)

Research One Bldg.



170.6 kWDC to 150  
kWAC Roof Top Solar

To Load

500kW Battery

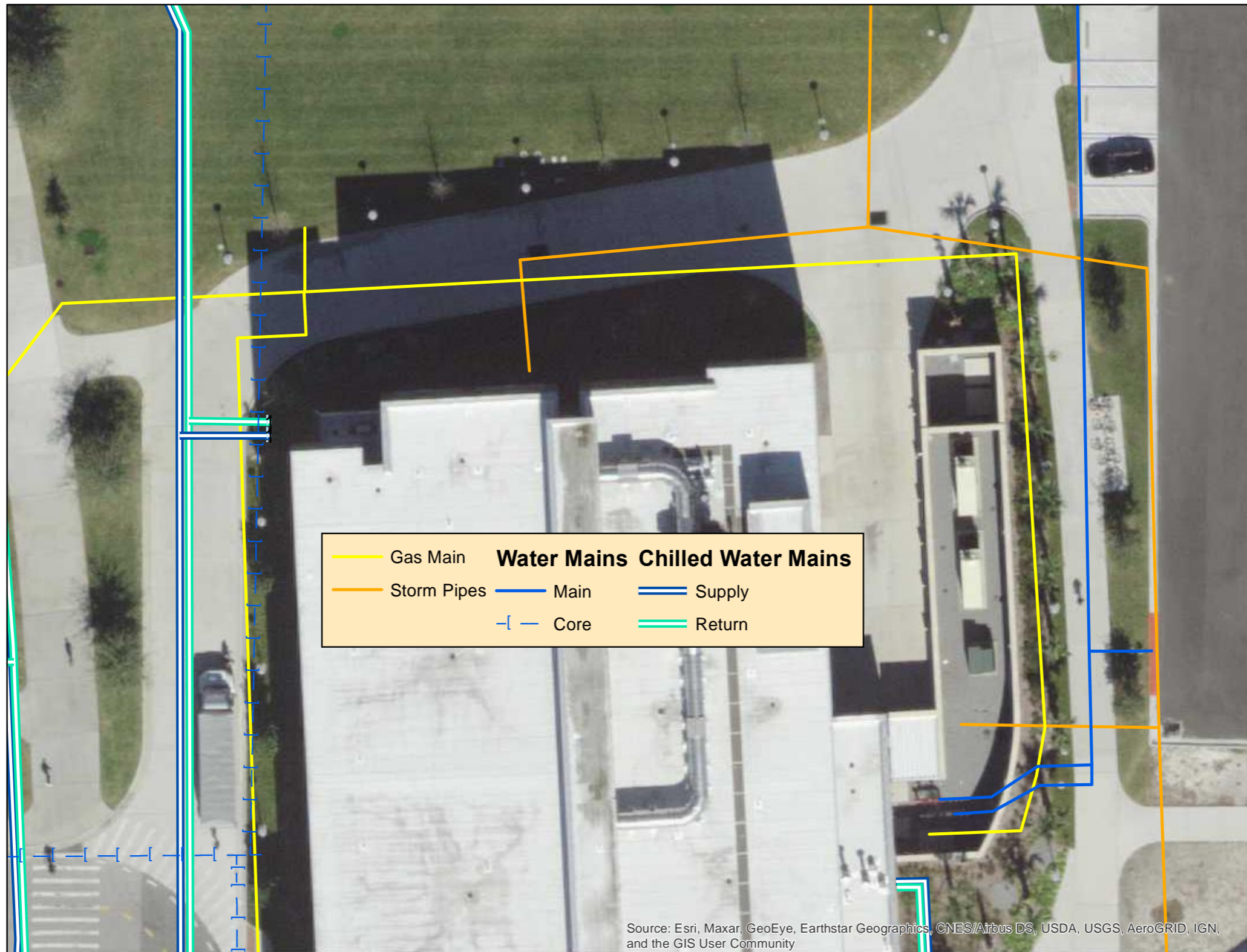
Main SG

Relocate  
Transformer

Paralleling  
Switchgear

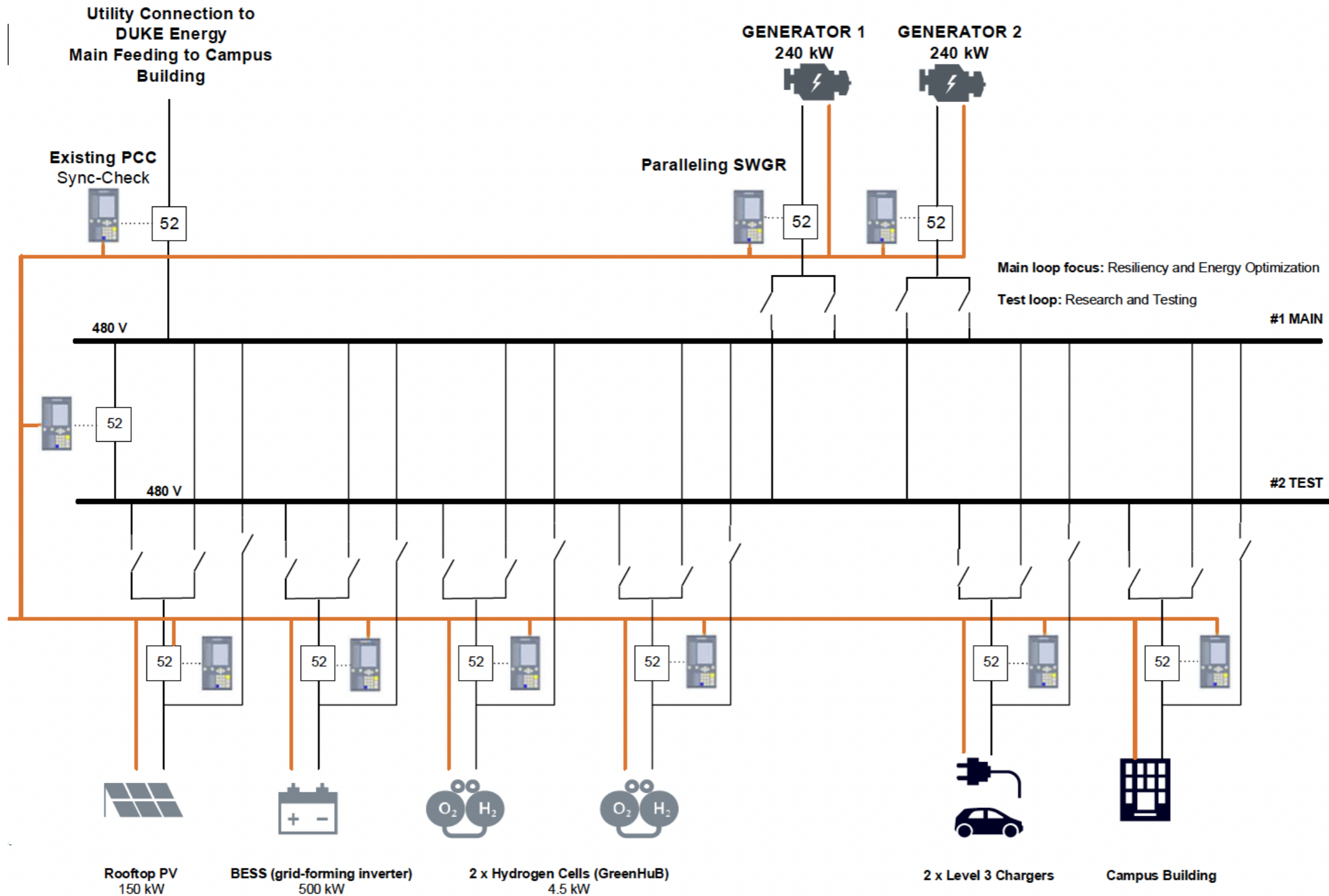
2 x 240kW Linear  
Generators

# Physical Location



Source: Esri, Maxar, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

# One-Line Diagram



# R1 Test Loop & Microgrid Control Laboratory

## Main asset

- GE ADMS and EMS
- 30KW power amplifier
- 24KW regenerative load (expandable to 50KW)
- Opal-RT hardware-in-the-loop (HIL) test system
- Microgrid controller (to be installed)



# R1 Digital Twins

The digital twins for real-time monitoring, optimization, control, and operation: one for R1 Building, and another for R1 Microgrid.



Intelligent Infrastructure Technologies:

- System of systems
- Data analytics, AI, and intelligent models
- Real-time optimization
- Knowledge automation and predictive maintenance

## Benefits

- **Zero emission and cost savings:** Linear generators which use a non-combustion reaction of air and fuel (gas or hydrogen) to move magnets back and forth through copper coils, generating an electric current. Little CO<sub>2</sub> released, and zero NO<sub>x</sub>. More efficient without the separation of primary mover and electricity generator.
- **Sustainability:** Integration of renewables and storage technologies. Blended fuel reduces CO<sub>2</sub> generation. UCF's new Energy Roadmap/Transition Plan to decarbonize its energy mix.
- **Resilience:** To control and optimize a diverse set of generation/storage assets with respect to real-time energy demands
- **Smart community:** Two integrated digital twins, one on the grid, and other on grid-interactive building
- **Education:** A living lab for students.
- **Research:** smart grid, decarbonization, cyber security addressing challenges in information technology, operational technology, control technology, and their integration; ...
- **Partnership:** University-industry collaborations.

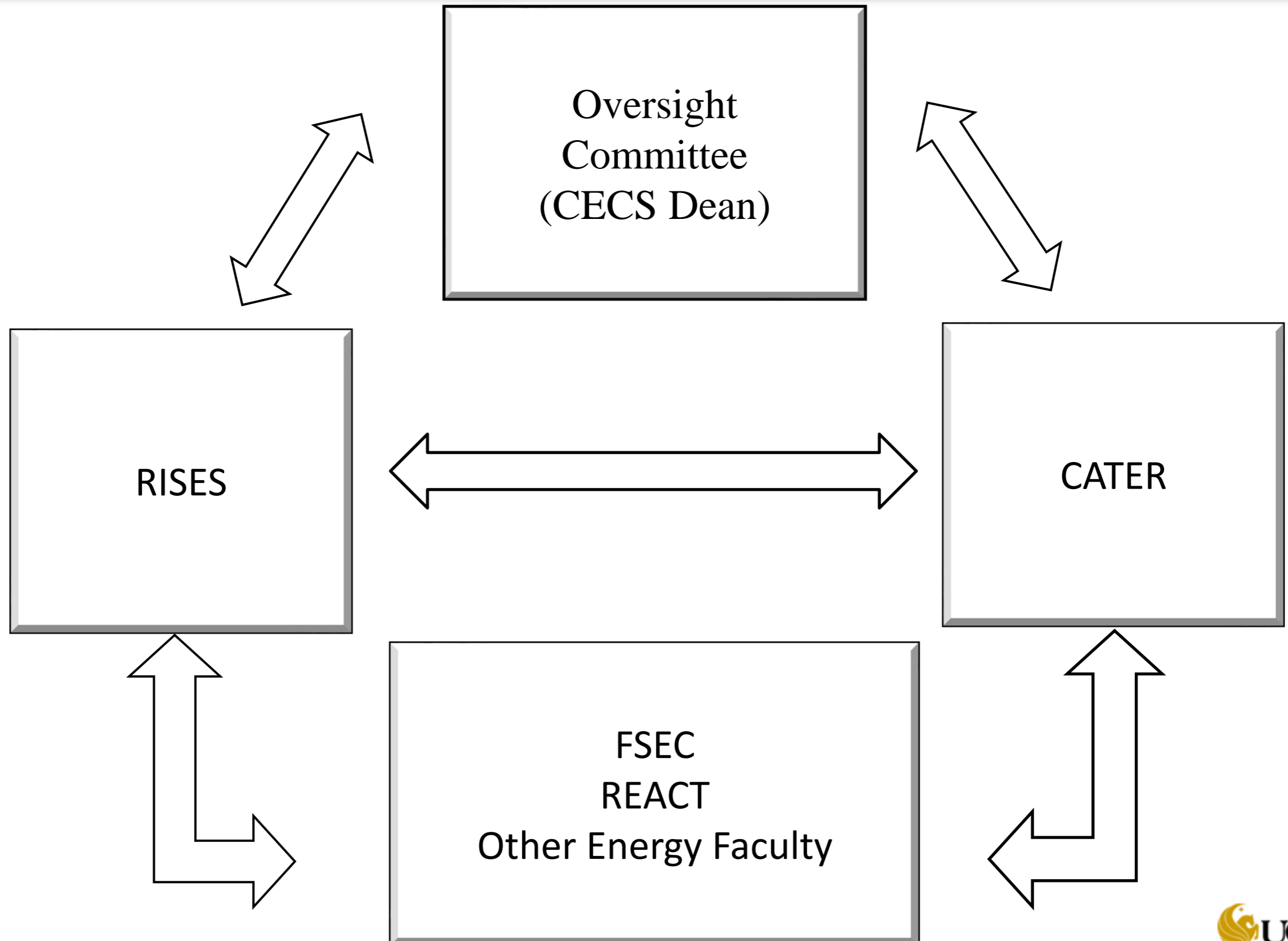
# Implementation and Oversight

## Microgrid Timeline (18 months)



## Hiring Timelines (3.5 years):

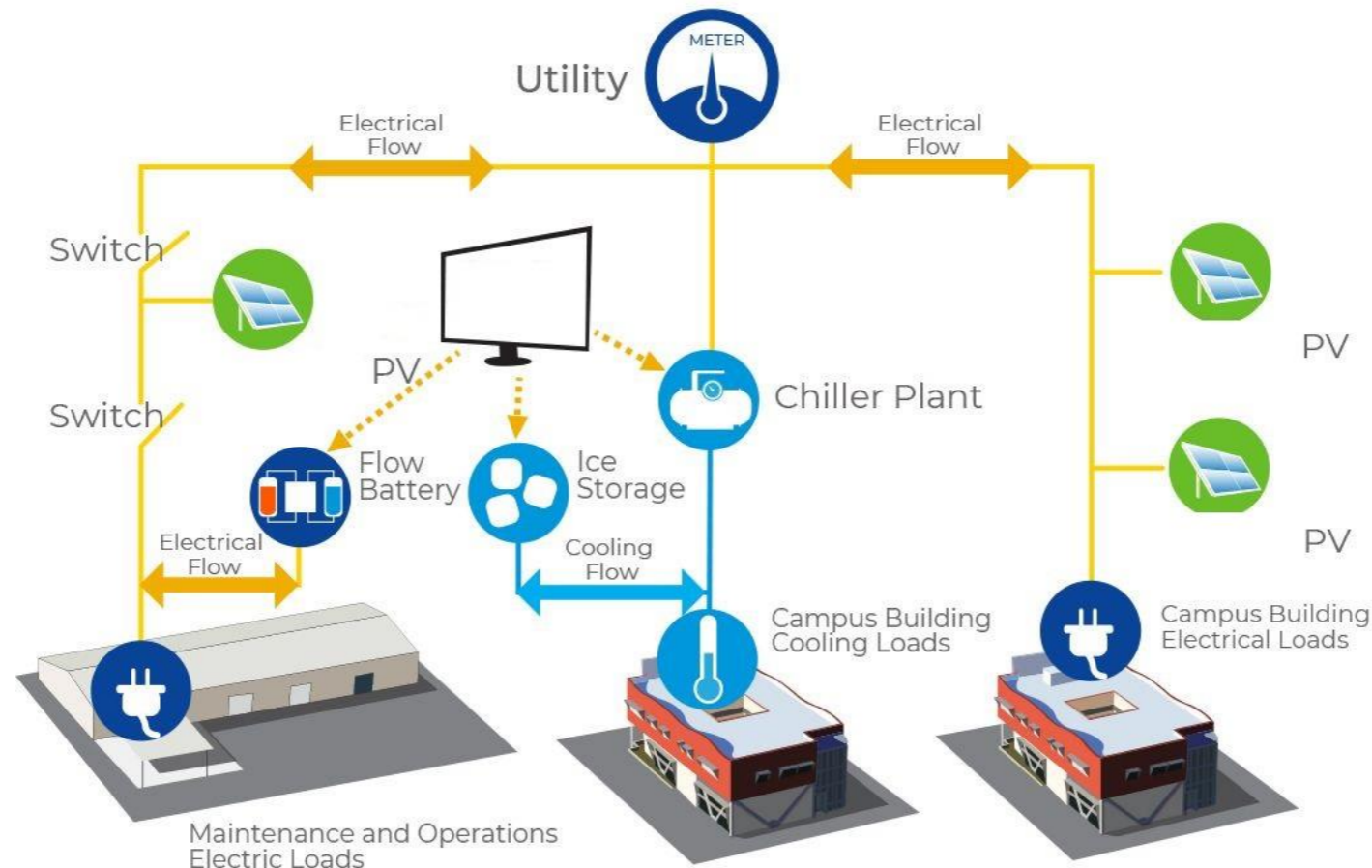
Faculty numbers	Home Colleges	Targeted Areas
1 & 2	FCI, CECS/COS	energy storage, non-combustion reaction, decarbonization
3 & 4	CECS	data driven optimization, control, and machine learning for energy systems
5 & 6	COS/CECS	data science, physics-based artificial intelligence
7 & 8	SMST	digital twin
9 & 10	CECS	aviation fuel and propulsion



# Collaborative Opportunities

# Zero-Emission, Zero-Carbon, Networked Microgrids

UCF campuses will evolve into networks of zero-emission (and zero-carbon) microgrids, achieving efficiency and resilience at the grid-edge. R1 microgrid is a starting point.



Topics: hydrogen research, storage technologies, uninterruptable microgrids, resilient operation

# Green Campus & Society

Focus and impact:

- Hydrogen-based power generation and distribution
- Energy storage
- Green industries:
  - power generation
  - aviation
  - transportation
- Decarbonization.



# Q&A