# OUR 110-YEAR-OLD HOME OF THE FUTURE

CHERI DAVIS AND TED FRINK 2023 UTILITY ENERGY FORUM

# OUR HOUSE

- Located in Sacramento, CA Climate Zone 12
- Curtis Park historic neighborhood with large trees
- Craftsman style
- Built in 1910, purchased in 2011
- 2,300 Sq. Ft.





- All gas appliances
- SMUD for electricity, PG&E for gas
- Mostly original, but new'ish wiring & 200-amp panel

## OUR HOUSE - BEST LAID PLANS

- Our plan was to begin an energy efficient remodel right away
- Surprise! Structural problems caused delays
- While extremely frustrating, the delays ended up being a good thing ...
  - Converting from gas to electric wasn't so much on our radar
  - SMUD did not yet have rebates for electrification as they do now
- We ended up spending the next 7 years scraping up the money to fix the structure, and it was finally time to begin planning our next project a kitchen remodel
- Unfortunately, we had a large chase for the water heater flue that came up through one edge of our kitchen

## 1. HEAT PUMP WATER HEATER (2018)

#### Considerations

- ☑ Gain space in the kitchen by removing flue
- ✓ Lower water heating costs
- ✓ SMUD rebates!



COST		
water Heater	\$1,200	
Other parts	\$500	
Electrical	\$300	
Plumbing	\$1,400	
Subtotal	\$3,400	
SMUD rebate	-\$2,500	
Tax credit	-\$300	
NET COST 4	\$600	

Now \$2,000!

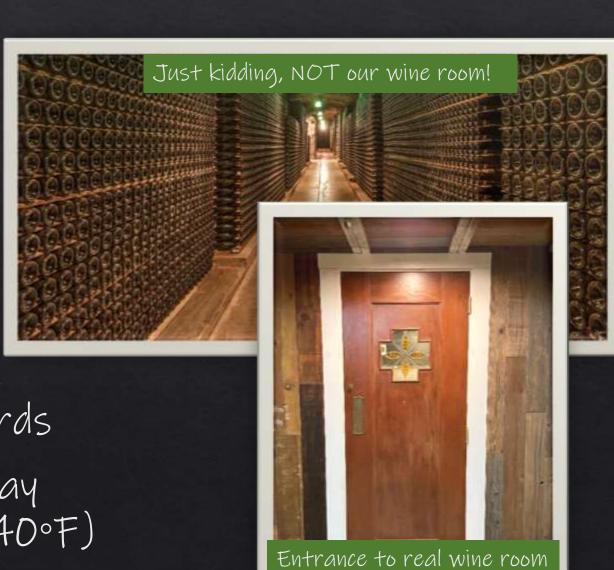
## 1. HEAT PUMP WATER HEATER (2018)

#### Non-Energy Benefits

- ✓ Expels cold air
- ☑ Directed the cold air into our wine room. Free wine chiller!!

#### Lessons Learned

- Mixing valve installed backwards
- ☑ Relying on heat pump mode may require higher temps (130-140°F)



## 2. ELECTRIC CAR - Tesla Model 3 (2019)

#### Considerations

☑ Reduce our carbon footprint

✓ Stop paying for gasoline/No more long gas lines

☑ Reduced maintenance/cost per mile

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Now _	
\$7,500+	

COST		
Tesla Model 3	\$35,000	
Long range, All-wheel drive	\$13,500	
Other upgrades	\$4,000	
Electrical work	\$200	
Subtotal	\$53,900	
Fed tax credit	-\$3,750	
NET COST	\$50,400	

#### Why Tesla?

☑ Best-performing EV on the market

✓ Long range (310 miles)

Dest charging network, by far!

#### 3. INDUCTION STOVE (2019)

#### Considerations

☑ Remodeling the kitchen!

■ Superior performance

✓ Improve indoor air quality

☑ Reduce heat in the kitchen

✓ SMUD rebate

COST		
Range	\$2,800	
Electrical work	\$200	
SMUDRebate	-\$500	
TOTAL	\$2,500	





#### Other stuff

- Makes more noise than we'd like
- Cookware already induction-compatible

## 4. HEAT PUMP HVAC & INSULATION (2020)

#### Considerations

- Upstairs unit malfunctioning
- ☑ Downstairs unit no A/C!
- ☑ Poor insulation, leaky house
- ☑ Improve efficiency/reduce energy bills
- ✓ SMUD rebates
- ☑ LAST gas appliance in the home!
- ☑ Timing was perfect
  - Pandemic lockdown

COST	-
2 X 3-ton units	\$27,700
Seal & Insulate	\$3,800
Subtotal	\$31,500
SMUD rebates	-\$11,500
Fed tax credit	-\$500
NET COST	\$19,500

New Fed tax credits:

- -\$2,000 for heat pump
- -\$1,200 for insulation

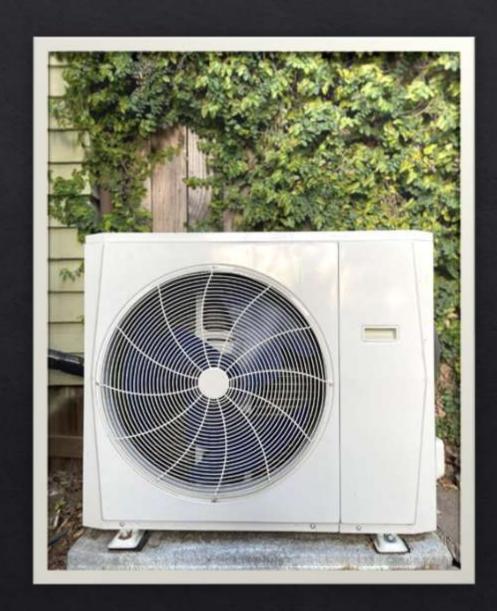
New SMUD rebate:

-\$3,500 each

#### 4. HEAT PUMP HVAC & INSULATION (2020)

#### Non-Energy Benefits

- ✓ SUPER QUIET outdoor unit
- ☑ WAY more comfortable
  - ✓ Fan is variable speed. No BLAST of hot or cold air
  - ✓ Fewer thermostat wars!
- ✓ Saved space in our basement
- ✓ Outdoor unit is smaller, more discreet



#### 5. SOLAR ROOF & BATTERY (2022)

#### Considerations

✓ Needed new roof

☑ Long-lasting, durable product

✓ Zero energy, low carbon home

✓ Energy resilience

☑ Eliminate asphalt roofing waste

COST	
Roof (non-solar tiles)	\$16,900
Solar – 6.05 kW DC	\$12,200
Powerwall – 13.5 kWh	\$7,500
Powerwall installation	\$3,500
Discounts	-\$4,000
Structural work	\$16,600
Subtotal	\$52,700
Fed tax credit	-\$7,000
NET COST	\$45,700

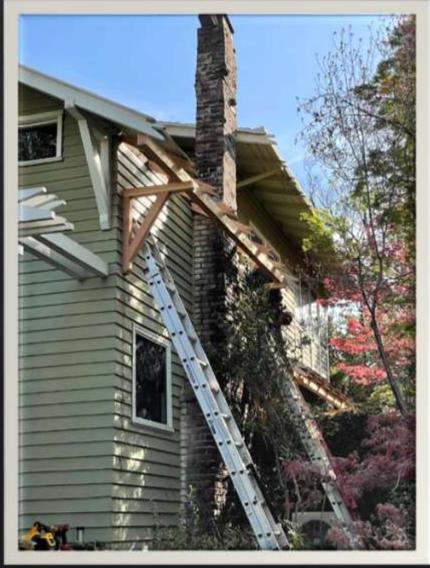
## SOLAR ROOF - STRUCTURAL SUPPORT





## SOLARROOF - STRUCTURAL SUPPORT





## SOLAR ROOF - STRUCTURAL SUPPORT





## ROOF INSTALL UNDERWAY



## SOLAR ROOF - FINISHED PRODUCT

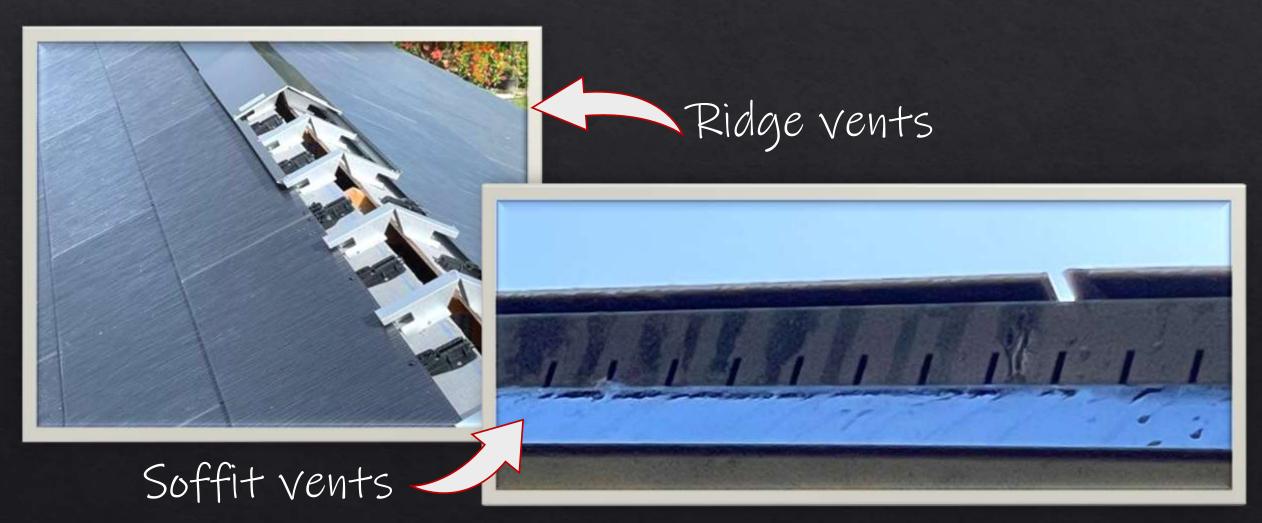
#### Cool Features

- Active tiles: tempered glass
- Non-active: Textured metal insulated tiles
- Replace individual tiles
- Slate look
- 25-year warranty

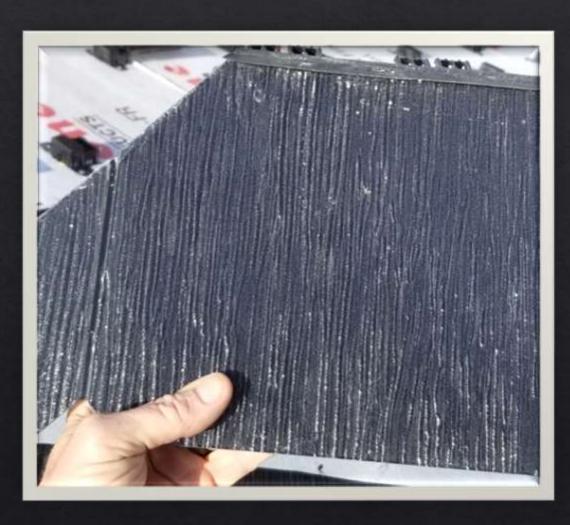


## SOLAR ROOF - MORE COOL FEATURES

Air circulation behind the tiles helps keep roof cool



## SOLAR ROOF - STRENGTH



- 3X stronger than traditional tiles
- Class 3 hail resistance
- Class F wind resistant (130 mph)

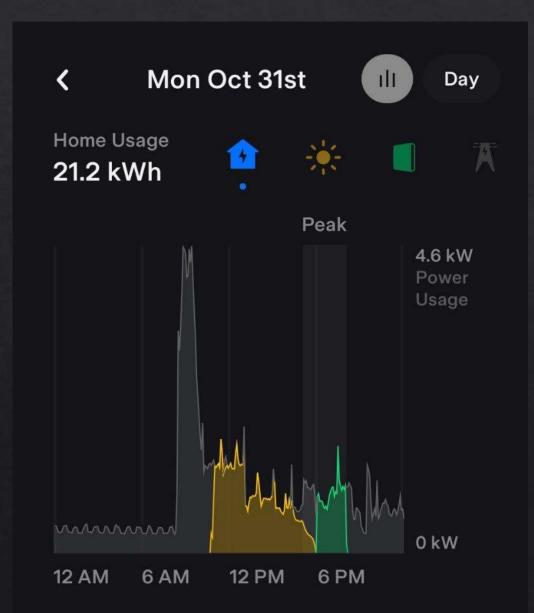
## POWERWALL & INFRASTRUCTURE

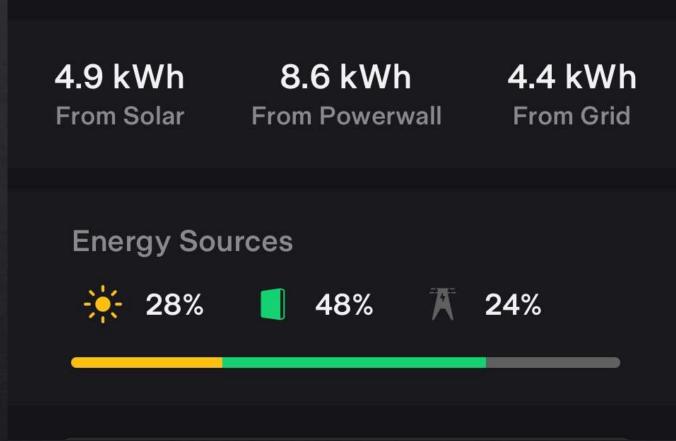




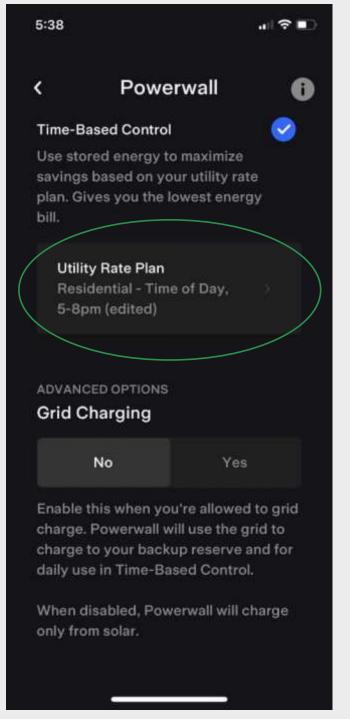


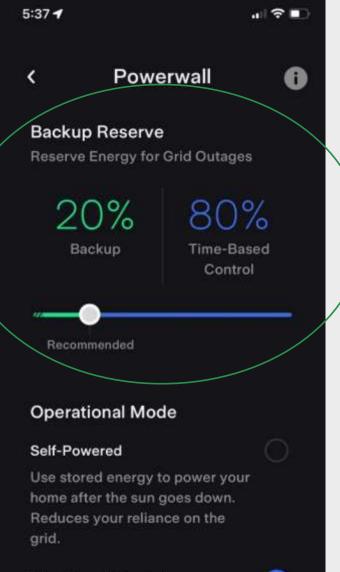
#### POWERWALL & SOLAR PERFORMANCE - THE APP





# BATTERY SETTINGS





Time-Based Control

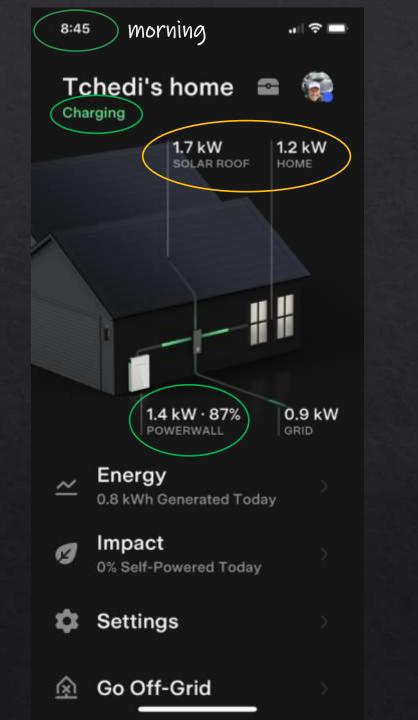
bill.

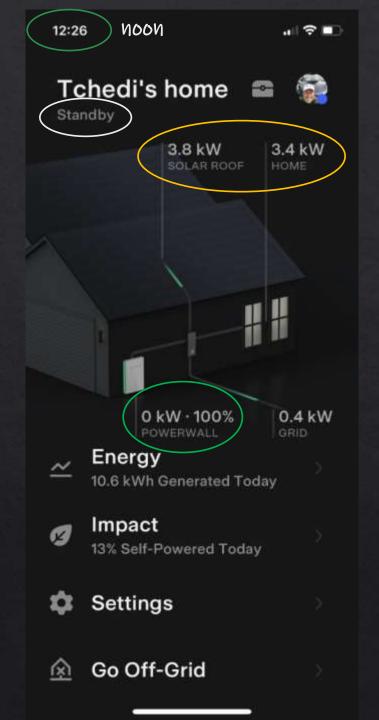
Use stored energy to maximize

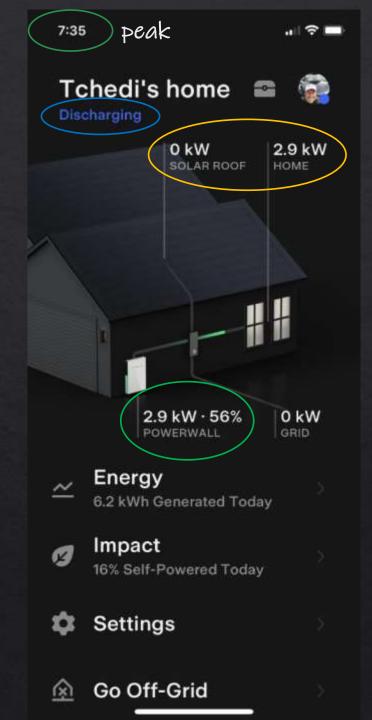
savings based on your utility rate plan. Gives you the lowest energy

#### SOLAR AND BATTERY PERFORMANCE

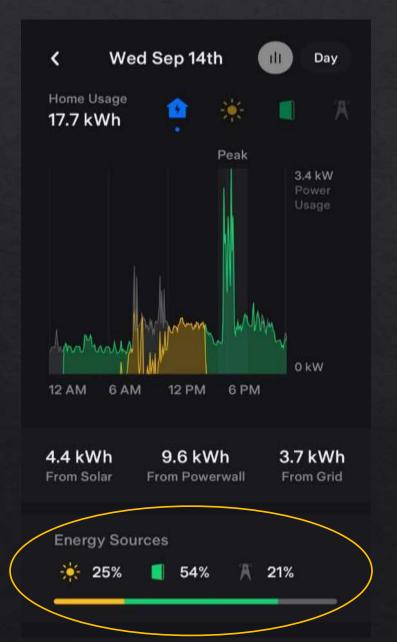
Typical day



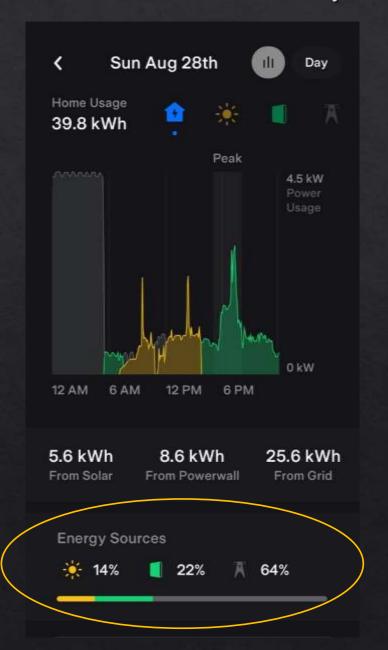




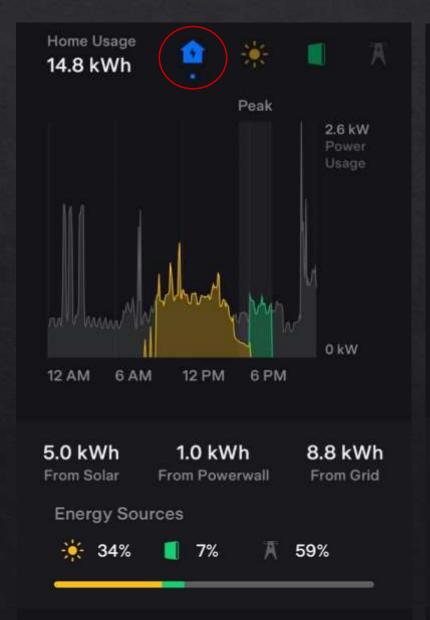
#### POWERWALL & SOLAR PERFORMANCE - NICE Day







#### POWERWALL/SOLAR PERFORMANCE - Hot Day in Oct





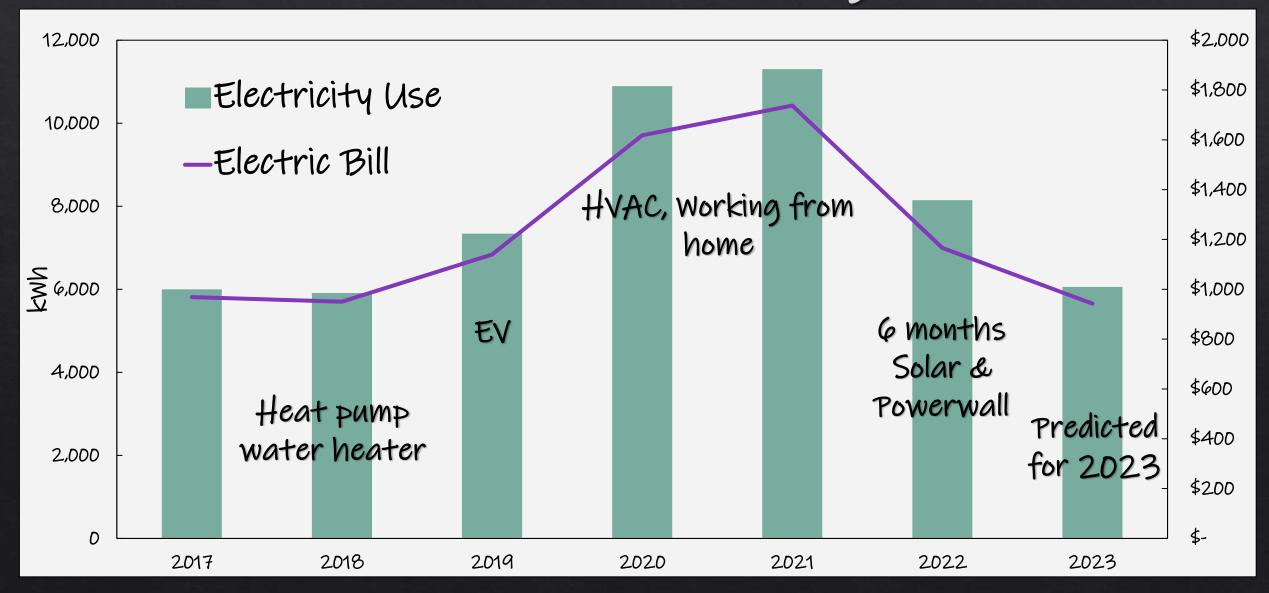


#### POWERWALL PERFORMANCE

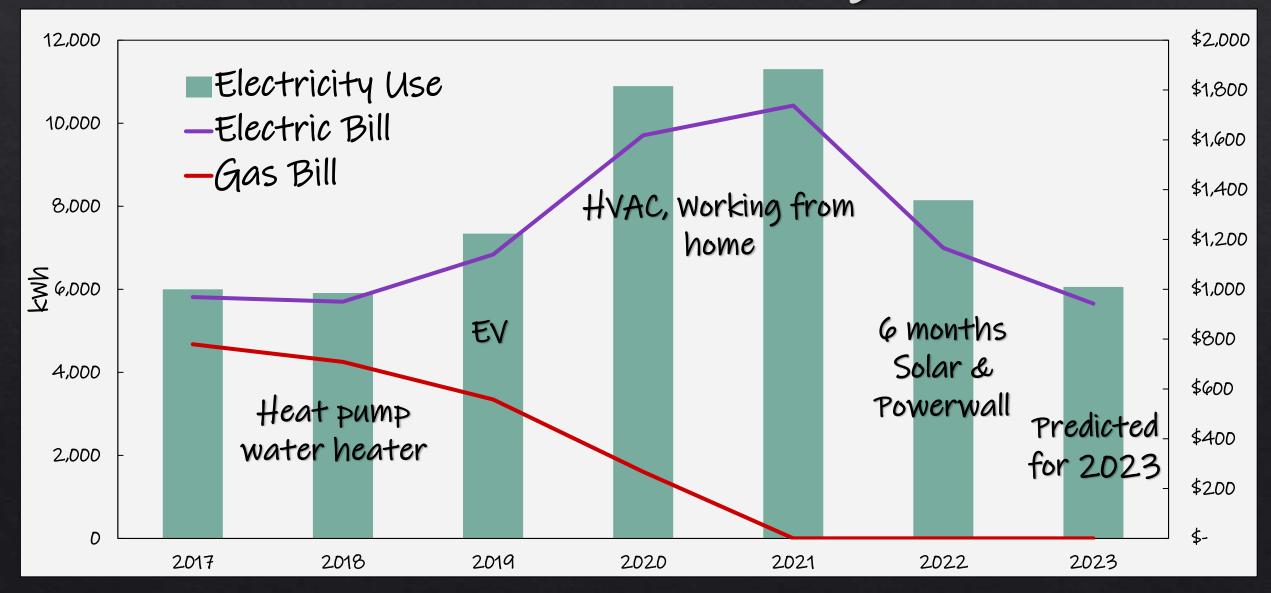
- Storms knocked out power
- Smooth transition to battery backup
- Battery coverage
  - -12 hrs with minimal uses
  - -Requires managing loads



# RESULTS: Electric Usage / Bills



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## NOTES ON UTILITY BILL SAVINGS

- Estimated total energy bill for 2023: \$950
  - \$300 of this is for SMUD's fixed infrastructure charge
- Estimated total energy bill savings
  - \$1500 in gas bills (from going all-electric)
  - -\$800 in electricity bills (from solar & battery storage)

## TOTAL PAID / AVOIDED COSTS

	Before Rebates	Net Cost*	Would have cost	w/metal roof
Water Heater	\$3,400	\$600	\$2,000	\$2,000
Car	\$53,900	\$50,400	\$32,700	\$32,700
Stove	\$3,000	\$2,500	\$2,000	\$2,000
HVAC	\$27,700	\$15,700	\$18,200	\$18,200
Insulation	\$3,800	\$3,800	\$2,000	\$2,000
Roof (incl. structural work)	\$33,500	\$33,500	\$36,850	\$50,800
Solar – 6.05kW DC	\$12,200	\$12,200	\$18,150**	\$18,150**
Battery	\$11,000	\$7,700	-	-
Battery + Solar discount	-\$4,000	-\$4,000	-	-
	\$144,500	\$118,750*	\$112,400	\$126,350

<sup>\*</sup> After rebates & tax credits

<sup>\*\*</sup> Assumes \$3/watt installed

## CARBON SAVINGS

- Savings from avoided:
  - Natural gas: 3.1 Tonnes/yr
  - Electric Vehicle: 1.9 Tonnes/yr
  - kWh (offset by solar): 1.2 Tonnes/yr
- Total carbon saved: 6.2 Tonnes/yr
- · Equivalent to carbon released by:
  - 694 gallons of gasoline consumed
- Equivalent to carbon sequestered by:
  - 7.4 acres of U.S. forest



# CONCLUDING THOUGHTS

- Can everyone afford to do this?
  - Many technologies are cost-effective
  - New incentives are significant
    - Fed tax credits (now)
    - Fed rebates for income-qualified (2024)
    - Utility incentives, TECH incentives (CA Only)
- Challenges?
  - Familiarity
  - Leading edge can be bleeding edge
- Remember, you don't have to do everything at once
  - Retrofit when things break
  - Remodel when you have the budget
- REMODEL LIKE THE WORLD DEPENDS ON IT
  - ... because it DOES!



## THE END

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