

BUSINESS OWNER'S PLAYBOOK

Secure a Resilient Commercial Microgrid Before July 4, 2026

A practical roadmap to energy independence, cost control, and long-term value.

One Baker. One Partner. One Microgrid Strategy.





WELCOME

Energy independence today is about more than producing power on-site. It's about **protecting your business from rising utility costs**, keeping operations running through outages, and creating predictable long-term returns you can reinvest back into your company.

A modern **microgrid** does exactly that.

This playbook is designed for commercial and institutional leaders who want control over their energy future. By integrating **solar, battery energy storage, and backup generation** into a single intelligent system, a microgrid delivers resilience, cost stability, and financial performance far beyond what a single technology can provide.

At Baker Electric, we approach this differently. Through our **One Baker** model, we bring together electrical construction, renewables, controls, and systems expertise to engineer **fully integrated microgrids** that perform as one seamless solution. The result is lower risk, better economics, and a system designed to support your business for decades.

WHAT IS A MICROGRID?

A microgrid is a localized energy system that can generate, distribute, and regulate electricity for a defined area—such as a campus, hospital, military base, industrial facility, or community. It can operate:

- Connected to the main utility grid (grid-tied mode), or
- Independently (island mode) when the main grid is unavailable.

In simple terms, a microgrid is a self-sufficient, intelligent energy network within a larger power system.

HOW A MICROGRID IMPROVES CASH FLOW

Beyond resilience, microgrids are financial assets.

By reducing energy costs and demand charges, many businesses experience:

- **15-30% reduction in electricity costs over 5-7 years**
- **Up to 50% off eligible system costs**
- **Payback periods as short as 4 years**
- **Protect your business from rising utility rates**
- **Additional cash flow that can be reinvested in growth, people, or capital improvements**

When combined with tax incentives and depreciation benefits, microgrids often deliver **strong long-term ROI** while immediately improving financial stability.

BUILDING THE FOUNDATION OF ENERGY RESILIENCE

Solar PV and microgrid systems work together to reduce costs, improve reliability, and protect your operations from grid disruptions.

PV (Solar Photovoltaics)	Microgrid
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Produces clean, renewable energy with no fuel required	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Keeps power flowing during grid outages by operating independently (“island mode”)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reduces dependence on diesel, gas lines, and fuel deliveries	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Protects critical facilities like hospitals, water systems, and commercial operations
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Low operating and maintenance costs over time	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Coordinates multiple energy sources (solar, storage, generators) into one controllable system
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Generates power locally, improving energy security	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Enhances resilience against storms, cyber events, and other disruptions

What We Need From You

To move efficiently, we typically request:

- Facility address and point of contact
- Recent utility bills or energy data
- Operating hours and critical load requirements
- Existing electrical drawings if available
- Timeline and budget considerations

The more clarity we have early, the faster we can design a system that meets your goals.

Smart Moves That Protect ROI

This path is viable but requires precision.

- Decide early where systems will be installed to avoid redesign delays
- Plan equipment procurement early to protect schedules
- Treat compliance and documentation as part of project planning, not an afterthought
- Consider battery storage and generation as part of the system, not add-ons
- Focus on long-term value, not just upfront cost

The most successful projects are those designed for performance over decades, not just installation.



START YOUR RESILIENCE READINESS REVIEW

If your goal is to protect your business from rising energy costs, improve resilience, and generate long-term value, the first step is understanding your options.

Start with a **Resilience Readiness Review** at baker-electric.com. Our Commercial Renewables team will help you evaluate your facility and design a microgrid strategy that supports your business today and well into the future.

Energy independence isn't about going off-grid—it's about being prepared and protected, because every month of delay increases exposure to higher utility rates and tighter procurement windows.

WHY TIMING MATTERS NOW

The next two years represent a rare opportunity to invest in energy infrastructure while federal incentives remain strong. Projects that are planned and executed within this window can capture meaningful tax benefits while locking in long-term energy savings. But incentives alone are not the real driver.

A well-designed microgrid helps your business:

- Insulate against ever-increasing utility rates
- Reduce demand charges and peak energy costs
- Create predictable energy expenses
- Improve cash flow by lowering monthly operating costs
- Generate long-term ROI through tax benefits and energy savings
- Protect critical operations during outages

Waiting often means paying more later. Utility rates continue to rise, grid reliability remains uncertain, and incentive windows will not last forever. Acting now allows you to take control rather than react.

THE ONE BAKER ADVANTAGE

Baker Electric is not a single-solution provider. We are a **multi-discipline commercial renewables partner** that designs, builds, and maintains complete energy systems.

Our One Baker approach means:

- One team engineering solar generation, battery storage, generators, and controls together
- One construction partner accountable for the entire system
- One coordinated schedule, one budget, and one point of responsibility

This integration matters. When systems are designed in isolation, performance and ROI suffer. When they are engineered together as a microgrid, the result is a smarter, more resilient energy asset that delivers maximum value.

Our expertise spans:

- Microgrid feasibility and system design
- Battery energy storage and load management
- Backup generation integration
- Electrical infrastructure and controls
- Permitting, construction, and commissioning
- Long-term monitoring and service

We focus on building systems that **reduce risk, optimize incentives, and deliver measurable financial returns.**



YOUR PATH TO ENERGY INDEPENDENCE

July 4, 2026 is a critical deadline for commercial microgrid and solar projects. After this date, the federal tax credit—worth up to 50% of total project value when stacked with available incentives—will no longer be available in the same way, significantly impacting project financials. That means for every \$1 million in project cost, businesses could lose roughly \$300,000–\$500,000 in tax benefits. Below are two scenarios showing how starting a project before vs. after July 4, 2026 can affect the financial outcome.

Scenario 1: Project start Before July 4th

This path offers flexibility and access to full incentive value, provided the project is properly planned.

Best suited for organizations that:

- Want time to optimize system size and ROI
- Need coordination across multiple facilities or stakeholders
- Want to lock in compliant equipment early

Key considerations:

- Early planning is critical to protect timelines
- Equipment sourcing must meet current compliance requirements
- Construction scheduling must be deliberate and well-documented

This scenario provides the strongest balance of incentive capture, schedule control, and financial performance.

Scenario 2: Project start After July 4, 2026

This path is viable but requires precision.

Best suited for organizations that:

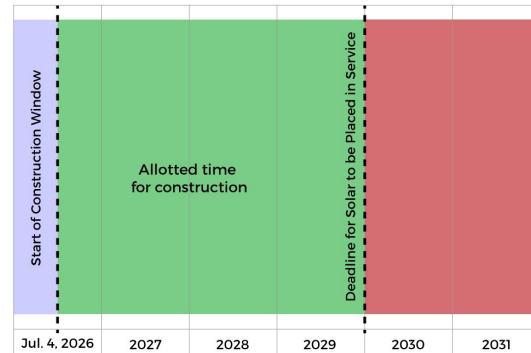
- Can move quickly once approvals are secured
- Have internal alignment and capital readiness
- Are comfortable with a tighter execution window

Key considerations:

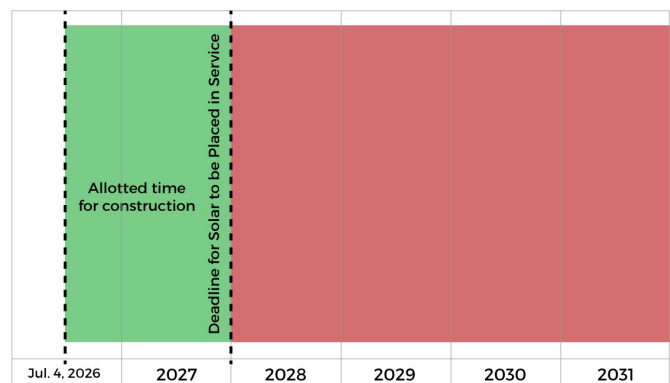
- Design, permitting, and procurement must be front-loaded
- Construction timelines must be tightly managed
- Documentation and compliance must be exact

This scenario can still deliver strong ROI, but success depends on disciplined execution.

Scenario 1: • Project starts BEFORE July 4, 2026
• FEOC Applies



Scenario 2: • Project starts AFTER July 4, 2026
• System must be placed in service BEFORE January 1, 2028
• FEOC Applies



THE 10-STEP MICROGRID DELIVERY PROCESS

Baker Electric keeps the process straightforward and transparent.

01 Resilience Readiness Review

A high-level assessment of your facility's energy usage, risk exposure, and opportunities for cost savings and resilience.

02 Discovery Call

We align on your business goals, operational needs, and financial priorities.

03 Energy and Load Analysis

We review utility data to identify demand peaks, cost drivers, and savings opportunities.

04 Site Feasibility Review

We evaluate infrastructure, space, constructability, and future expansion needs.

05 Incentive and Financial Planning

We align system design and schedule to maximize tax benefits and depreciation while supporting long-term returns.

06 Engineering and Design

All components are engineered together to function as one integrated system.

07 Commercial Renewables Strategy

We present a tailored microgrid solution designed to balance resilience, savings, and ROI.

08 Permitting and Utility Coordination

Baker manages all approvals and interconnection requirements.

09 Construction and Installation

Our crews deliver the system with minimal disruption to operations.

10 Commissioning and Ongoing Support

We test, activate, monitor, and maintain the system to ensure long-term performance.

