



## CUSTOMER CASE STUDY

*Pioneering Fail-Safe Distributed Energy Storage Systems*

# Leave No Trace: Burning Man, the City in the Desert

67 portable energy storage units combined to provide over 69.5 MWh of energy for the temporary metropolis

Burning Man, the annual arts and music festival in Nevada's Black Rock Desert, has relied on diesel generators—until 2023, when Viridi's energy storage system stepped in. Designed for the festival's unique, demanding environment, Viridi's technology cut carbon emissions, fuel use, costs, and noisy, odorous generator operations. Following this success, 67 units were deployed in 2024.

### CHALLENGE

In the desert, where reliable cell service is not available, real-time monitoring of systems is crucial to ensure optimal operating conditions. With its remote geography, rugged environment, limited LTE coverage, and extreme heat, Burning Man is a challenging environment to provide resilient electricity.

### SOLUTION

Viridi's team used high-efficiency diesel generators, running for short periods of time, to charge 67 RPS150 portable energy storage units, each discharging up to 30kW of power and storing 150kWh of energy. We developed a custom Wi-Fi network with satellite link backhaul, leveraging our proprietary VCom telematics systems for remote monitoring and configuration to optimize each individual microgrid setup.

### RESULT

Using energy storage, we reduced the event's fuel consumption by **40%** resulting in a cost savings of **\$65,000**. Additionally, we were able to eliminate **147 tons** of carbon emissions, contributing to a more sustainable event. This was the first time portable energy units were scaled in an effort to reduce the event's reliance on fossil fuels. With Viridi's energy storage technology, great strides were made toward event zero-carbon goals.



RPS150 portable energy storage units using Viridi technology help power the Burning Man event in Black Rock City, NV.

#### INDUSTRY

Outdoor Events

#### LOCATION

Burning Man  
Nevada Desert,  
Black Rock City, NV

#### IMPLEMENTATION

- **(67) RPS150** Energy Storage Units Scaled through "Paralleling"
- Discharged over 69.5MWh of total energy
- **Viridi VCom** provided internet connectivity via WiFi from **STARLINK** access points
- Viridi VCom + ViSTA® Cloud IOT system for remote monitoring
- **Viridi batteries controlled the generators within each of the microgrids. This command/control relationship determined the throttle and operation of the generators prioritizing system needs and efficiency.**

**Discover the full story—  
contact us now.**

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