Imagine what we could do if you, your home and your car talked ‘power’.

Becoming more intelligent in the ways with which we use power is an essential step on our journey to a clean energy future. With power being made, used and stored in ever more flexible and dispersed forms, the need to be smart about how we weave clean energy into our lives is paramount. And that means that we have to start a conversation with our homes, our cars and with the grid – a conversation in ‘power’.

The home, as always, will be the hub for this new stage of energy evolution. It will gather power from the sun and wind, through solar PV panels and micro-turbines. It will be harnessing advanced fuel-cell technology, to complement the generation and storage of much of the energy it ultimately consumes. And the home will feed its clean power direct into your EV, for your journeys away from it.

But the home won’t merely be a passive gatherer and storer of energy. It will be designed to integrate natural and LED lighting, passive and active heating, cooling and ventilation systems, ensuring that energy use is pared to a minimum. It will talk to the electric grid, so that your power-hungry devices can be balanced with the ebb and flow of electrons through the utility’s wires. And it will be open to remote control by you, through smart mobile technology – you will be in charge of your home, even when not there.

Your home will also become be an more active refuge in times of trouble. By drawing on its solar energy resource, and on the energy stored in your EV’s battery, power outages – whether from man-made or natural disasters – won’t mean a disastrous loss of power to your heating, lighting and means of communicating.

Marrying smarts to the power in your home could just be the cleverest way of re-imagining our future.