

Agenda
Opportunities for Solar: Ways Forward for Inland Southern California
The University of California, Riverside
Center for Sustainable Suburban Development
Center for Environmental Research and Technology
Southern California Research Initiative for Solar Energy
February 25th 2016, 8:00 AM – 5:30 PM

This conference is designed for city leaders, planners, council members, businesses, utility companies and the general public to learn about the state of solar energy by discussing the market ready technologies, public policy/regulations, economics/financing, and the associated environmental/sustainability issues. Attendees will learn about the challenges and opportunities for incorporating solar energy in their communities, including how the marketplace works, local policies and initiatives already in place.

Bourns Technology Center
1200 Columbia Ave. Riverside, CA 92507

8:00 – 8:30 Breakfast and Attendee Check In

8:30 – 8:35 Introductory Remarks

Remarks by:

Matthew Barth, Director, College of Engineering Center for Environmental Research and Technology

8:35 – 9:25 Inland Region, State and Federal Perspective

Morning Keynote Presentation by:

Karen Douglas, Commissioner, California Energy Commission

9:25 – 9:40 Solar Storage and the Low-Carbon Grid

Starting Session by:

V. John White, Executive Director, Center for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Technologies

9:40 – 10:40 1st Panel Discussion—The State of Solar Energy and the Role of Energy Storage

Description:

The panelists will discuss the state of the solar energy from a variety of perspectives, focusing on the opportunities for solar energy, and how to better address the challenges facing this industry as it continues to rapidly grow and achieve higher levels of penetration in the energy generation market. The role of energy storage will also be discussed as a way to balance the intermittent nature of solar energy.

Moderated by:

V. John White, Executive Director, Center for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Technologies

Panelists:

Brad Heavner, Policy Director, California Solar Energy Industries Association

Adam Green, Director, Development, SolarReserve

Negar Vahidi, Senior Associate, Aspen Environmental Group

Bryan Cope, Director, Program Development, Southern California Public Power Authority

James F. Cook, Director, Business Development, First Solar

10:40 – 11:00 Morning Break (Sponsor's booths)

11:00 – 12:00 2nd Panel Discussion—Streamlining Permitting

Description:

The panelists will discuss existing solar permitting guidelines, lesson learned, best practices, and how to successfully streamline the permitting process. This discussion will be approached from the perspective of the solar industry, governmental agencies and power utility companies. The attendees will learn of some of the outstanding challenges in streamlining the permitting process and existing resources that can help municipalities and local governmental agencies.

Moderated by:

Claudia Eyzaguirre, Co-Founder, PVComplete

Panelists:

L. Dennis Michael, Mayor, Rancho Cucamonga

Gerald Buydos, Solar Program Manager, Riverside Public Utilities

Chris Huntley, Manager, Biological Group, Aspen Environmental Group

Scott Carlson, President, New Day Solar

Patrick Healy, Chief Electrical Preventive Maintenance Inspector, Planning and Developmental Services, County of San Diego

12:00 – 12:50 Lunch

12:50 – 12:55 Afternoon Keynote Introduction

Introduction by:

Ron Durbin, Executive Director, University of California Advanced Solar Technologies Institute

12:55 – 1:45 Solar Power: Making a Difference Today and Tomorrow

Afternoon Keynote Presentation by:

Dr. Charlie F. Gay, Founder, Greenstar

1:45 – 2:45 3rd Panel Discussion—Economics and Financing Options for Solar

Description:

The panelists will provide a brief overview of solar photovoltaic (PV) system costs and approximate savings by taking advantage of state and federal incentives available for industrial, commercial & residential systems. The attendees will learn about the variety of financing models that are increasingly making a compelling argument for the development of PV systems in all market sectors, including community solar and shared renewable projects.

Moderated by:

Rick Brown, Ph.D., President, TerraVerde Renewable Partners

Panelists:

Tom Hunt, Vice President of Corporate Development, Clean Energy Collective

Dick Lowry, Executive, National Sales, SunPower Corporation

David Cohen, Senior Program Manager, California Center for Sustainable Energy

Dan Hoffiz, Senior Director, Capital Markets, OneRoof Energy

Bob Aguilar, Senior Vice President, Financing, SolarMax Technology, Inc.

2:45 – 3:45 4th Panel Discussion—Market Ready Technologies

Description:

The panelists will discuss a variety of market ready technologies that support and improve the economics of solar energy projects by adding value in the form of improved performance and lowered costs. These technologies include high efficiency solar modules, flow batteries, solar design platform, soiling prevention, and power to gas (P2G) technology.

Moderated by:

Anand Janaswamy, Vice President, Product Development and Utilization, OneRoof Energy

Panelists:

Claudia Eyzaguirre, Co-Founder, PVComplete

Bret Adams, Vice President, Business Development, Primus Power

Brenor Brophy, Chief Technical Officer & Vice President, Business Development, Enki Technology

George Minter, Vice President of External Affairs and Environmental Strategy, Southern California Gas Company

John Collins, Director of Business Development, Solexel

3:45 – 3:55 Afternoon Break

3:55 – 4:55 5th Panel Discussion—Community Solar Strategies

Description:

The panelists will discuss a variety of existing strategies for implementing community solar projects, including programs from utilities with different structures and operating under different legislative and regulatory constructs.

Moderated by:

Ted Flanigan, President, EcoMotion-Sustainability Solutions

Panelists:

John Powers, Chief Executive Officer, Extensible Energy

Catherine Leland, Sr. Project Manager, Southern California Edison

Rex Stepp, Manager, Community Solar Business Development, First Solar

Andrew Noel, Sr. Project Development Manager, SolarCity

Penny Newman, Executive Director and Founder, Center for Community Action and Environmental Justice

4:55 – 5:00 Closing Remarks

5:00 – 5:30 CE-CERT Tour