

SOLAR FORECASTING WORKSHOP – DRAFT AGENDA

February 10, 2012 – Westin La Paloma, Tucson, Arizona

Time	Topic	
8:00 AM - 8:30 AM	BREAKFAST	
8:30 AM – 9:00 AM	Introduction	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) DOE-Sunshot program 2) Solar Forecasting Overview 3) Goals of this workshop
9:00 AM – 10:30 AM	Panel Session I: <i>Achieving Consensus on Forecasting Metrics</i>	<p>Discussion Questions for Panel Session I:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Incorporating Solar Forecasts into Power System operations – Challenges and Needs b) What should a solar forecast contain? c) How to develop nationwide consensus around a set of metrics to evaluate a solar forecast? d) Who are the stakeholders that need to be involved? e) What are the different categories of metrics? f) How do we develop metrics for assessing quality of forecasts – statistical, value-based, etc.? g) How do we validate the developed metrics? h) How to develop metrics for assessing “validation sufficiency” of new/improved forecasting models?
10:30 AM – 10:45 AM	BREAK	
10:45 AM – 12:15 AM	Panel Session II: <i>Innovative Methods and Instrumentation Needs for Accurate Solar Forecasting</i>	<p>Discussion Questions for Panel Session II:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Is current instrumentation (on the ground, overhead) sufficient for developing accurate solar forecasts? b) Can reference cells augment solar sensor networks and provide other benefits? c) What are the current shortcomings of the various forecasting technologies? d) What are the innovations needed for reducing solar forecast uncertainty? e) Should forecasting power production include performance prediction of solar power plants? f) How should the industry, government, and other stakeholders work together in developing forecasting methods and instrumentation/observations? g) Is industry willing to share data with DOE/Federal Labs or NOAA, who could act as an “honest broker” of proprietary data? h) How do we store and access historical/forecast solar irradiance and power generation data? i) Probabilistic vs Deterministic forecasts: How to develop and use them?

		j) How should forecasts be tailored to meet different needs, such as for load forecasting, market participation, grid reliability, etc.?
12:15 AM – 12:30 PM	BREAK (Compilation of Panel Session Inputs)	
12:30 AM – 1:00 PM	Discussion and Closing Remarks	
1:00 PM	Adjourn	