
Solar Energy Technologies Program Annual Review

Session: Utility Technical Outreach
Solar Electric Power Association



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Solar Electric Power Association
FACILITATING UTILITY USE AND INTEGRATION OF SOLAR ELECTRIC POWER

About SEPA



Solar Electric Power Association (SEPA)

Formed in 1992 as the Utility Photovoltaic Group (UPVG)

Mission: Facilitate solutions for the use and integration of solar electric power by utilities and their customers

14 of 17 members of our Board of Directors are utilities

Membership

Electric Utilities – 100 (IOU, public, coop)

Solar Industry – 120

Stakeholders – 80

Free memberships for State Energy Offices and
Public Utility/Service Commissions



Relevance to the SAI



Project Objectives

Assist in removing utility-solar market barriers by providing information, analysis, and networking opportunities for utilities

Identify significant market changing activities, such as aggregated utility purchases and the development of innovative business models

Facilitate near- and mid-term increased utility use and integration of solar electric power



Relevance to the SAI



Project Outcomes

Expansion of existing utility solar programs

Development of new utility solar programs

Increased utility and customer-owned solar installations

Increased awareness and understanding of solar technologies and applications by utility employees



Project Specific Information

Project Tasks

1. Outreach, Tools, and Services
2. Analysis Projects
3. Utility Solar Toolkit
4. Regional Support Staff



Project Specific Information

Outreach, Tools, Services

Task 1: Resources & Information

- 1.1 Online Tools (SPOT, Peer Matching, Case Studies)
- 1.2 Online Resource Library
- 1.3 Biweekly Electronic Newsletter
- 1.4 Research and Information Services
- 1.5 Present, Exhibit, and Attend Utility/Solar Conferences
- 1.6 Utility/Solar Publication Articles
- 1.7 Monthly Phone Seminars
- 1.8 Policy Tracking (newsletter)



Project Specific Information

Outreach, Tools, Services

Task 1: Resources & Information

1.9 Research and Analysis

- March – Metering and Interconnection Survey
- April – PV Capacity Methods
- May – Decoupling & *Utility Solar Business Models*
- June – Consumer Incentive Survey
- July – Utility Solar Year in Review Survey

TBD:

PV/CSP Directory

Issue Briefs

Partnering with EPRI, RAP, IREC, and others.





Project Specific Information

Outreach, Tools, Services

Task 2: Utility-Solar Networking

2.1 Peer Matching Service

2.2 Membership Directory

2.3 Utility Networking Receptions

Non-DOE:

Utility Scholarships to Solar Power 2008

Utility Fact Finding Mission to Germany





Project Specific Information

Analysis Projects

3.0 Utility Aggregation and Procurement Techniques

- What innovative procurement options can facilitate utility scale PV and CSP projects?
- Two parts: 1. Procurement/Aggregation Techniques
2. RFP/PPA Best Practices

4.0 Utility Business Models

- Decoupling neutralizes the solar customer disincentive.
- How can the utility participate in the solar value chain?
- Where can the utility maximize its strengths in relation to the solar industry's?

5.0 Analysis Project Workshops

- Procurement: Solar Power 2008
- UBM: Solar Power 2007 and PowerGen REF 2008





Project Specific Information

Utility Solar Toolkit

6.0 Toolkit Design and Resources

- Brainstorm ideas
- Develop flowchart pathways
- Compile resources

7.0 Toolkit Production

- Database construction
- Website design

8.0 Toolkit Distribution

- Market through stakeholder channels
- Utilize in Tasks 1.5, 1.6, 1.7, 2.3, 5.0, 11.0, 12.0, & 13.0





Project Specific Information

Utility Solar Toolkit

- Online tool that filters solar information specific to utility categories – a “smart clearinghouse”
- Information – filtered by topics:
 - Online tools (SEPA, calculators, tables, etc)
 - Documents (PDF, DOC, PPT, etc)
 - Media files (MP3, video, etc)
 - News, events, etc
 - Links, contacts, etc
- Process
 - Information presented by topics
 - User can sort by filters
- Other
 - Override function allows users to see everything
 - Non-utility versions possible



Project Specific Information



<p>CATEGORIES 1 Solar Resource 2 Technology 3 Customer Projects 4 Utility Projects 5 Policy 6 Business Models 7 All</p> <p>FILTERS Job Function Utility Type Geography Technology Experience</p> <p>CONTACTS 1 SEPA 2 Peer Match</p> <p>About SEPA</p> <p>About SAI</p>	CATEGORY 2: Customer Projects	
	<p>LIBRARY 1 (static) 2 3 1 (dynamic – popularity) 2 3 4 5 See All</p>	<p>TOOLS SPOT Peer Match Case Studies Inventories</p>
	<p>BEST PRACTICES FAQ Templates - Programs -RFPs -Policies Utility Programs</p>	<p>NEWS & MULTIMEDIA News Feed Newsletters MP3/Presentaions Video Maps</p>
	<p>CALENDAR Conference calls Conferences Workshops Meetings</p>	<p>LINKS 1 (static) 2 3 1 (dynamic) 2 3 4 5 See All</p>





Project Specific Information

Regional Support Staff

9.0 Regional Utility Field Representatives

- Three Regional Directors:
 - West: Jim Harding
 - Central: Tom Nicholas
 - East: Christy Herig

10.0 Target Utilities

- Leaders, Influencers, Target States, etc

11.0 Assessment Meetings (Target Utilities)

- Meet with multiple staff at target utilities to educate on SEPA initiatives, understand solar plans, and support needs

12.0 Assessments and Support (Target Utilities)

- Support specific utility plans and needs

13.0 General Regional Outreach (Regional Utilities)

- Attend and develop workshops, conference calls, tours, etc
- Involvement in state-level utility-solar activities



Thank You



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www.SolarElectricPower.org
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Solar Power 2008
October 13-16, San Diego
www.SolarPowerConference.com

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Project Specific Information

Please discuss:

1. The details of your project/activity;
2. What did you set out to accomplish in the last year;
3. What did you accomplish during the reporting period;
4. What do you plan to accomplish in the remainder of FY 2008;
5. Are you on track to meet your goals, if not, why?



Looking Forward

Please discuss:

1. What activities should continue or start in the coming year;
2. Are these activities in line with the activities DOE is currently funding;
3. If not, how does your proposed research diverge;
4. What changes should be made to DOE's portfolio of activities, if any;
5. What opportunities do you see for DOE to work with stakeholders to meet the President's SAI?