



Energy solutions
for a changing world



Sustainable Communities Leadership Academy

AGENDA

California Endowment Conference Center | Sacramento, CA
May 2-4, 2017

TUESDAY, MAY 2 | DAY 1

Theme: Peer Learning

9:00 – 9:30 AM Registration, Refreshments and Networking

9:30 – 10:00 Welcoming Remarks

Elaine Ulrich, *Balance of Systems/Soft Costs Program Manager, U.S. Department of Energy*
Debra Perry, *Program Director, Institute for Sustainable Communities*

10:00 – 11:00 Keynote: Our Distributed, Decentralized and Democratized Energy Future

Emily Kirsch, *CEO, Powerhouse*

11:00 – 12:00 PM Team 5x5s: Part 1

The first group of seven teams will provide project updates in five minutes with five slides, providing a brief highlights, lessons learned and describing success stories or areas where significant progress has been made.

CSE

CICV

MREA

Cook County

Extensible Energy/CSVP

Dominion

SEPA

TUESDAY, MAY 2 | DAY 1 (CONTINUED)

12:00 – 1:00

Lunch

1:00 – 1:50

5x5s: Part 2

Ecolibrium 3
Salt Lake City

CUNY
San Francisco

VEIC
Pace/Northeast Solar Coalition

1:50 – 2:00

Break

2:00 – 3:15

Concurrent Sessions: Round 1

1. **Solar Financing Models: What’s working? What’s not? And where to from here?**

Room: Power Up

Join Sara Baldwin Auck, *IREC*; Harshul Banthia, *Sustainable Capital Advisors*; Sarah Wright, *Utah Clean Energy*; Eric Rehm, *Midwest Renewable Energy Association* and Mike Trahan, *Northeast Solar Energy Market Coalition* for a deep dive on solar financing models, current market trends, successes, what’s working in the field and what’s not. Teams will share their experiences navigating solar financing through their projects, scalable successes, outstanding challenges and insights for other teams to consider. The group will end with a Q&A and problem-solving session on solar financing mechanisms across diverse markets and strategies to help scale and replicate successes.

2. **Sustaining Stakeholder Engagement** *Room: Renew*

Join Deb Perry, *Institute for Sustainable Communities*; Daniella Leifer, *Sustainable CUNY*; Deborah Stone, *Cook County* and Rachel Snead, *Dominion* to explore the question: What brings stakeholders to the table and how can we continue to keep them engaged as a project moves through various phases? We’ll hear from SMP project leads and their partners about the ways they are inviting and keeping stakeholder involvement. We’ll look ahead to the challenges of maintaining these relationships as grants end and projects move from planning to implementation.

3. **Reaching New Solar Customers** *Room: Progress*

Join Larry Sherwood, *IREC*; John Gingrich, *EnergySage*; Alexandra Patey, *Center for Sustainable Energy* and Lora Toothman, *Council of Independent Colleges in Virginia* to explore effective approaches, strategies and tools to reach new customers (e.g., multifamily residents, colleges and new communities). The group will discuss how social platforms have been effectively utilized to engage, educate and garner committed actions from customers and will brainstorm ways to increase the uptake of proven, effective strategies, amplifying their adoption in their respective markets and beyond.

TUESDAY, MAY 2 | DAY 1 (CONTINUED)

4. Integrating Distributed Solar Systems into Grid Operations *Room: Adelante Ballroom*

Join Carl Linvill, *RAP*; Sky Stanfield, *Shute, Mihaly, Weinberger*; Marc Monbouquette, *California Public Utilities Commission* and John Goodin, *California ISO* for a discussion on ways interconnection standards, power system planning practices and power system operations can adapt to manage technical challenges that arise with the deployment of distributed solar power. Understanding these challenges – and some of the potential solutions – is important for accelerating the deployment and maximizing the value of distributed solar systems.

3:15 – 4:15

Team Huddles

4:15 – 4:30

Wrap Up and Preview of Tomorrow

5:00 – 6:30

Happy Hour

Cafeteria 15L, 1116 15th St.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 3 | DAY 2

Theme: Dissemination and Replication

- 8:30 – 9:00 AM** **Breakfast Networking**
U.S. Department of Energy staff will host breakfast tables, providing an opportunity for in-depth small group discussions.
- 9:00 – 9:15** **Opening Remarks and Today's Objectives**
Nicole Enright, *Program Officer, Institute for Sustainable Communities*
- 9:15 – 10:15** **Plenary: Expanding the Solar Revolution – Key Lessons from Solarize**
Brian Keane, *President, SmartPower*
This session will focus on successful ways to scale your project and expand the solar market by highlighting new research unveiled in the groundbreaking and award-winning "Solarize" campaigns. Grounded in lessons learned and best practices, this session will help your team understand successful ways to disseminate key project accomplishments, drive people to your resources, tap your networks, utilize social media and more.
- 10:15 – 10:30** **Break**
- 10:30 – 12:00 PM** **Concurrent Sessions, Round 2: Peer Review**
Participants will breakout into topical sessions to peer review SMP products – presentations, tools and reports – with the goal of providing constructive feedback.
- 12:00 – 1:15** **Lunch**
Project lead meeting in breakout room: Change.
- 1:15 – 3:15** **Clinic: Team Strategy Session**
In this clinic session, teams will work together to craft a strategy for maximizing the impact of their project and ensuring the replicability and scalability of their work. We'll also consider how each participant can play a role in helping to implement the best practices emerging from the SMP program.
- 3:15 – 4:00** **Team Huddles**
Teams meet to discuss insights they've acquired at the workshop and how their new knowledge will advance their work. Team leaders prepare brief reports on what they expect to achieve or contribute in the coming months and what fellow SMP projects can do to help their project succeed.
- 4:00 – 4:30** **Team Report Outs and Preview of Tomorrow**
- 5:00** **Happy Hour**
Firestone Public House, 1132 16th St.

THURSDAY, MAY 4 | DAY 3

9:00 – 12:00 PM **Site Visit: Sacramento Municipal Utility District**

The Sacramento Municipal Utility District will present several of their innovative partnerships and projects on commercial storage, community solar, distributed generation strategies, solar+storage for affordable housing and more.

Sacramento Municipal Utility District Customer Service Center
6301 S St, Sacramento, CA 95817

From downtown:

Gold Line Train towards Folsom

Get off at University/65th Street Station