

7TH ANNUAL EPRI WIND AND SOLAR O&M INNOVATION WORKSHOP

July 15-18, 2024 • Charlotte, North Carolina

Solar Owner League (SOL) Session Agenda Day 2 – July 17, 2023

EPRI CHARLOTTE CAMPUS
BLDG. 3, Room # 741

WEDNESDAY, JULY 17, 2024		
TIME (ET)	TOPIC	PRESENTER
7:00 a.m.	<i>BREAKFAST</i>	
8:00 a.m.	WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND SAFETY MOMENT	<i>Robert Flottemesch, EPRI – Solar Brandon Fitchett, EPRI – Wind</i>
8:15 a.m.	<p>Welcome Keynote</p> <p>Expect to gain a deep understanding of the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead, from advancements in technology to the evolving regulatory landscape. Our keynote speaker will highlight key trends, breakthrough innovations, and the collaborative efforts driving the industry towards a more resilient and interconnected future.</p>	<i>Ron Schoff, EPRI</i>
8:45 a.m.	<p>Wind and Solar O&M Overview</p> <p>A review of operating and maintaining large-scale wind and solar assets, including current practices, pricing, and trends. Specific challenges and opportunities will be identified, especially as owner/operators increase the number of plants in their fleet.</p>	<i>Raja Pulikollu, EPRI Wayne Li, EPRI</i>
9:15 a.m.	<p>Panel Session: Winds of Change, Rays of Progress: Unifying Paths in Wind and Solar Energy</p> <p>Join us for an enriching plenary session that sets the stage for collaborative learning, cross-industry dialogue, and a shared vision of a cleaner, more resilient energy future powered by the united forces of wind and solar energy.</p>	<i>Jay McFarland, Southern Company Vy Kieu, Salt River Project Josh Rogers, American Clean Power Assoc. Robert Flottemesch & Brandon Fitchett, EPRI Ron Schoff, EPRI (Moderator)</i>
10:00 a.m.	<i>BREAK</i>	
10:30 a.m.	<p>Performance Benchmarking</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>(LEAP/SUPER/GADS) Renewables Plant Performance Benchmarking White Paper Report Out</i> <i>Real-world experiences, challenges, feedback across industry</i> <i>15 min per speaker with a total of 3 speakers followed by discussion for nearly 45 min.</i> 	<i>Joe Karas, EPRI Praanjal Nasery, EPRI Jim Bezner, Deriva Energy Marty Martin, NERC EPRI Moderators</i>
12:00 p.m.	<i>LUNCH</i>	
1:00 p.m.	See Agenda for SANDIA-EPRI PV CONNECTOR RELIABILITY WORKSHOP	

2024 EPRI AND SANDIA WORKSHOP

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SANDIA-EPRI PV CONNECTOR RELIABILITY WORKSHOP AGENDA

WEDNESDAY, JULY 17

TIME (ET)	TOPIC	PRESENTER
1:00 p.m.	Welcome Remarks	<i>Robert Flottesmesch, EPRI</i>
1:05 p.m.	Panel Session I. View from the Trenches: connector reliability in the US <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview/why this workshop/why now • An EPC perspective • An independent engineer's outlook • Asset owner's perspective • Q&A 	<i>Laurie Burnham, Sandia</i> <i>Kyle Phelps, McCarthy</i> <i>Bill Brooks, Brooks Engineering</i> <i>Craig Richardson, Entergy</i>
1:50 p.m.	Panel Session II. Connector Failures: Field and Lab Findings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigation of installation practices • Macro-level forensics • Micro-level forensics • Accelerated testing • Q&A 	<i>Bruce King, Sandia</i> <i>Steven DiGregorio, Sandia</i> <i>Tap Lolla, EPRI</i> <i>David Miller, NREL</i>
2:45 p.m.	<i>Break</i>	
3:15 p.m.	Panel Session III. The Economics of Degraded and Failed Connectors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TEA Analysis • Rising insurance costs • Field Assessments • Q&A 	<i>Andy Walker, NREL</i> <i>Linkesh Diwan, HSB</i> <i>Kevin Wicker, Southern Co</i>
3:55 p.m.	Panel Session IV. Looking Forward: Finding a Path to Reliability <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next generation designs • Next generation designs • Automation and pre-assembly • Codes & standards • The DOE's Perspective • Q&A 	<i>Dominic Buerger, Staubli</i> <i>Mark Farrelly, Amphenol</i> <i>John Hass, Shoals</i> <i>Evelyn Butler, SEIA and</i> <i>Colleen O'Brien, UL</i> <i>Allan Ward, SETO</i>
4:45 p.m.	Closing Discussion & Remarks	<i>Laurie Burnham, Sandia</i>
5:00 p.m.	<i>Day 2 Sessions Adjourn</i>	
5:00 – 8:00 p.m.	Welcome Reception	All attendees