

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

Solar Instructor
Training Network

Southeast Region



This newsletter is produced by the Southeast Solar Training Network (SSTN) for the purpose of supplying solar-related news to our educational and energy office partners. The information presented is from public websites such as the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE), the Interstate Renewable Energy Council (IREC), the Solar Instructor Training Network (SITN) and general energy related websites.

The goal of SITN is to help facilitate and support the creation of a well-trained and highly-qualified solar energy workforce of sufficient size and diversity to meet the projected workforce needs of the United States. The SSTN is one of nine DOE-funded Regional Training Providers and serves in the capacity of trainer and mentor for solar and photovoltaic-related faculty at southeast educational institutions.

We hope you find this information useful.

Upcoming Training

**Florida Solar Energy Center,
Cocoa, FL**

PV Workshop for Code Officials
hosted by Miami Dade Department of
Regulatory and Economic Resources,
Miami, FL
[Aug. 21, 2013]

PV Workshop for Code Officials
hosted by Building Officials
Association of Florida
[Sept. 17, 2013]

**Principles of Photovoltaic Systems
Design and Commissioning**
[Sept. 24-26, 2013]

Installing Photovoltaic Systems
[Oct. 7-11, 2013]

**Photovoltaic Technical Sales &
Business Operations**
[Nov. 13-14, 2013]

Solar Water Heating Systems
[Sept. 11-13, 2013]

For more course details, visit
<http://ce.fsec.ucf.edu/>

1. Principles of Photovoltaic Systems Design and Commissioning to be Offered at FSEC

A 2-½ day course offering the principles for designing and commissioning utility-interactive solar photovoltaic (PV) systems will be offered at FSEC on September 24-26, 2013. The course covers system inspections, troubleshooting and diagnostics, and is based on industry best practices and relevant standards, such as NFPA 70, the National Electrical Code, and IEC 62446: *Grid connected photovoltaic systems - Minimum requirements for system documentation, commissioning tests and inspection.*

Over 15 faculty members from SSTN partner educational institutions have signed up to take the course. The objectives of this course are to develop the basic requirements for PV system documentation and designs, and for submitting construction documents to the Authorities Having Jurisdiction (AHJs) for plan review and permitting.

For more information and registration details, please contact: JoAnn Stirling at joann@fsec.ucf.edu or (321) 638-1014.

2. Penn State Debuts Online Renewable Energy and Sustainability Systems Degree

As a follow-up to the FSEC story above, Penn State will offer a Renewable Energy and Sustainability Systems Degree program. Although the two educational programs are different, Penn State and FSEC have partnered together in the program development.

“The new Intercollege Master of Professional Studies in Renewable Energy and Sustainability Systems (iMPS-RESS) is designed to prepare professionals to lead the world's transformation from an unsustainable, fossil energy economy to a renewable, sustainable basis of operation,” said Ali Demirci, professor of agricultural and biological engineering and

iMPS-RESS academic program chair.

Contact Us

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Applications are now being accepted for Penn State's online [renewable energy and sustainability systems degree](#). Inquiries also may be sent by email to info@ress.psu.edu. Contact: Deborah A. Benedetti, [Penn State Outreach](#) 814-238-4895

See: <http://www.prweb.com/>

3. BOAF to Offer PV Code Official Workshop on September 17, 2013.

The Building Officials Association of Florida (BOAF) and FSEC are holding a PV Code Official Workshop at the BOAF Administrative Office & Training Facility in Lake Mary, FL on September 17, 2013. If you are interested in attending the class, please go to BOAF website at www.boaf.net and register at www.cvent.com, click RSVP and copy and paste in this event code: XVN5L5J7FFG. Class capacity is limited to 52. Participation is limited to Florida building code officials.

For additional details, call JoAnne Gamble, Administrative Coordinator, BOAF, 3697 Lake Emma Road, 2nd Floor, Lake Mary, Florida 32746-6121, Phone 407-804-1001, Fax 407-804-0308, joanne@boaf.net

4. IREC Credentialing Program Announces New Credential Holders

The Interstate Renewable Energy Council, Inc. (IREC) announced that twelve organizations and trainers nationwide have been recognized over the past quarter with the prestigious IREC credential, an internationally recognized mark of quality for education and training providers and instructors in renewable energy and energy efficiency.

The IREC Credentialing Program assesses curriculum, quality systems, resources and personnel across a broad range of energy efficiency, renewable energy and weatherization training programs. This process leads to defined workplace knowledge and skills, and ensures the legitimacy of what is being taught and by whom. An IREC credential sends a signal to students, potential employers and other industry stakeholders that an industry-validated standard for quality training has been met.

See: www.irecusa.org

5. Policy Trumps Sunshine as a Solar Energy Resource

The future looks bright for solar in the U.S. That's according to a recent UC Berkeley study that claims that by 2050, solar power could supply a third of all electricity demand in the country's western states.

What would it take to do more throughout the U.S.? The Berkeley study ties future solar growth in the U.S. to the success of the [SunShot Initiative](#). That program aims to lower the soft costs of solar and to invest in research and development, including better storage technology. But these advances alone are not enough, as the Berkeley study acknowledges. A look at Environment America's top 12 solar states makes it clear that a key ingredient for success must be favorable solar policies.

This article was originally published on [PV Solar Report](#).

See: <http://theenergycollective.com/>

6. Two-thirds of Global Solar PV Has Been Installed in the Last 2.5 Years And capacity will nearly double in the next 2.5 years.

Stephen Lacey: August 13, 2013

If you want to understand why people so often compare deployment trends in solar photovoltaics (PV) to [Moore's law](#) in computing, consider this statistic: two-thirds of all solar PV capacity in place worldwide has been installed since January 2011.

Even more amazingly, the solar industry is on track to install another 100 gigawatts worldwide by 2015 -- nearly doubling solar capacity in the next 2 1/2 years.

Those statistics are the courtesy of [GTM Research](#) Senior Analyst MJ Shiao. And, Shiao's second chart shows, the U.S. distributed solar market is on pretty much the same growth trajectory. More than two-thirds of America's distributed PV (everything except for utility-scale projects) has been installed since January 2011. And by 2015, the country's distributed PV market is expected to jump by more than 200 percent.

Source: [GTM Research](#)

See: <http://www.greentechmedia.com/>

7. Ratemaking, Solar Value and Net Energy Metering

The Solar Electric Power Association has released a primer entitled *Ratemaking, Solar Value and Net Energy Metering*. This paper is an introduction to state utility regulation and principles that are considered during solar valuation, with an emphasis on key concepts and terms. It is designed to ensure that stakeholders engaged in these conversations are more fully informed in those areas in order to have a common understanding of the lexicon used.

See: <http://www.solarelectricpower.org/>

8. White House Installs PV

Washington (Reuters) - The White House has started installing solar panels on the first family residence as part of an energy retrofit that will improve the efficiency of the building, a White House official said on Thursday, August 15. President Obama in 2009 directed federal agencies to improve energy efficiency and increase the use of renewable energy, and in late 2010 pledged to put solar panels on the White House.

See: <http://ca.news.yahoo.com/>



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