NET ENERGY METERING (NEM) AND UTILITY SOLAR RATES SUMMIT

Evaluating NEM Actions & Other Solar Rate Mechanisms

September 11 – 12, 2019
Denver Marriott South at Park Meadows
Denver, CO

“A wealth of information that’s useful in determining if we are on the track.”

Policy Advisor, DC Public Service Commission

EUCI is authorized by IACET to offer 1.0 CEUs for this course
OVERVIEW

Over the years, 43 states (plus DC) adopted net energy metering (NEM) as the regulatory approach for accommodating the development and consumer adoption of solar. In many jurisdictions, the proliferation of rooftop solar systems have pinched utility infrastructure that was not traditionally built to accommodate the resulting distributed power flows and related system anomalies. Consequently, several state regulatory commissions and the utilities they oversee have pushed the NEM re-set button or are evaluating whether and how to do so. This is responsive in large measure to two gripes brought on by the consequences of allowing the consumer’s meter to run “backwards” and sell energy back to the grid: 1) that the revenue of utilities and load-serving entities is being reduced, while the unrecoverable costs to service this non-centralized form of generation and the grid remain or are increasing, and 2) that this rate mechanism can result in economic inequities among ratepayer classes.

This NEM utility summit will explore common rate structures and alternate measures now receiving greater attention, study and debate. It will examine the array of options that utilities, regulatory commissions and stakeholders are looking to as a means for striking the necessary balance between promoting the advancement of solar policy and development, facilitating appropriate rate recovery, ensuring grid reliability and enabling consumer choice. Finally, the program will consider how various jurisdictions are working through these challenges, and what the results have been or are projected to be. Utilities, regulatory bodies and project developers with active or anticipated NEM and related cases will find this a must-attend forum to evaluate their options and the path forward.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Through presentations and panel discussions, attendees will have the opportunity at this conference to:
- Appraise various utility solar rate designs and mechanisms in use
- Identify common elements of regulatory costs, benefits and externalities that can be reflected in “retail” rate structures
- Evaluate strategic utility challenges in properly establishing solar program revenue targets
- Examine distributed solar valuation, avoided cost and levelized cost (LCOE) calculation metrics and assumptions
- Discuss “in-progress” net energy metering (NEM), tariff and related “retail” solar rate proceedings and their prospective relevance to utility rate cases
- Assess how the higher penetration of customer distributed generation solar impacts utility business models for the future

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

This program will inform professionals at:
- Utilities (IOUs, Municipal and public power)
- Local distribution companies (LDCs)
- Project developers
- Retail electric providers (REPs) and energy service companies (ESCOs)
- Regulatory staff and officers
- Consultants
- Attorneys
- Solar and renewable energy advocates

Whose expertise supports the following:
- Solar programming and development
- Renewable energy initiatives and measures
- Rate case development and management
- Regulatory, policy and governmental affairs
- Legal
- Resource and long-range planning
TESTIMONIALS FROM PAST ATTENDEES

“‘Net Metering 2.0/Utility Solar Rates’ is hot! Attendees include the net metering expert and utility professionals dealing with net metering.”
Rate Specialist, PacifiCorp

“A fantastic learning and networking opportunity. Well worth the expense for anyone who works on rates and regulatory issues.”
Anonymous

“EUCI’s Net Metering 2.0 program gave great insight and exposure to an ever-changing renewable landscape.”
Senior Program Manager, Tucson Electric Power (TEP)

“A valuable resource from which to gain the most current industry knowledge from leading experts in the field.”
Vice President – Regulation, Arizona Public Service (APS)

“The knowledge and experience represented by the speakers was extensive and impressive. So great to have this brainpower all in one room.”
Vice President – Solar Services, EcoMotion

“Comprehensible, relevant and educational for all!”
Project Coordinator – Renewable Development

“This was a well-rounded group of speakers with different backgrounds and perspectives — great choices. It really helped me to fill in the solar ‘blanks’.”
Utility Rate Analyst, Lodi Electric Utility

“An extremely helpful and professional opportunity for discussion.”
Auditor, Michigan Public Service Commission

“Excellent discussion of the ways NEM is being addressed across the U.S.”
Director, Clean Power Research
AGENDA

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2019

7:45 – 8:15 am  Registration and Continental Breakfast

8:15 – 8:30 am  Welcome and Overview

8:30 – 9:00 am  The Foundations of Net Energy Metering (NEM)
This segment will provide an overview of the foundations that underpin the concepts associated with net energy metering (NEM) and the results they have yielded.

9:00 – 10:15 am  Why is NEM in Flux and Where?
This segment will survey more or less current actions in the United States where there have been proposed and enacted legislative, regulatory policy, and rate design changes affecting the value proposition of distributed energy resources (DERs), with a special emphasis on solar and net energy metering (NEM). Its content draws on a quarterly series of state policy updates from the North Carolina Clean Energy Technology Center, called the 50 States of Solar, and comprehensive 2019 report prepared by the National Regulatory Research Institute (NRRI).

10:15 – 10:30 am  Morning Break

10:30 am – 12:00 pm  What Are Some Common NEM and Alternative Mechanisms and How Do They Work?
Understanding the components that go into various net energy metering (NEM) and solar rate methodologies is essential for utilities and regulatory commissions when they are considering whether and how to pursue a modification of the state policies that govern these (mostly) solar-specific mechanisms. This segment will examine how multiple rate structures are formulated, and will recognize the important relationships that each of these mechanisms have to rate class, utility business model and metering/billing infrastructure:
- Comprehensive reviews of utility rate designs
- Increasing fixed charges
- Adding demand or standby charges to small-customer rates
- Community solar provisions
- Creating a separate rate class for customers using distributed generation
- Third-party ownership rules for DG resources
- Utility-led programs for customer-sited DG

12:00 – 1:00 pm  Group Luncheon

1:00 – 3:00 pm  Inventory of Related State Regulatory Actions and Case Studies
This segment will describe the changes to traditional rate design features and net metering policies that are being proposed, approved, and implemented. It will examine general themes and specific case studies of policy attribute debates and their importance to utilities and customers as they relate to:
- Rates
- Customer contribution(s) to grid
- Impact on utility business model(s)
- Implementation
  - General
    - NEM Termination w/pending replacement tariff(s)
    - NEM Replacements
  - Specific
    - Arizona – TEP/UNS Electric net metering regulatory history (“ground zero” for net metering debate)
    - California – Update on next net metering proceeding anticipated to start in 2019/2020
    - New York – New York REV update on decisions and rate setting principles recently established
AGENDA

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2019 (CONTINUED)

3:00 – 3:15 pm   Afternoon Break

3:15 – 5:00 pm   Evaluation of Recent State Actions in NEM Policies in Vertically Integrated and Restructured States as well as CoOps
This segment will consider whether and how NEM programs are influenced based on whether they are administered in electric service territories that fall within different types of regulatory constructs – and will consider the similarities and distinctions of – these distinct categories:
• Wholesale electricity markets (typically ISOs)
• Retail competitive choice electricity markets
• Vertically integrated electric utilities (VIEUs)
• Hybrid VIEU/electricity market

5:00 pm    Program Adjournment for Day

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2019

8:00 – 8:30 am  Continental Breakfast

8:30 – 10:00 am  Implications for Changes in NEM Solar and DER Rate Design
This segment will explore implications associated with the transition away from traditional NEM approach. Going forward, utilities, rate commissions and legislatures will be in a better position to forge long-term, satisfactory NEM-replacement measures if they have considered such questions as:
• How do NEM rate changes affect the rate of adoption of DG or even broader DER technologies?
• Are studies of the value of solar, the value of DER, and utility costs of service measuring the right benefits and costs? Are they measuring all of them? Finally, are the measuring methods valid and reliable?
• Are there marked differences in DG markets between jurisdictions allowing versus prohibiting third-party ownership? If yes, what are those differences?
• In jurisdictions with utility-led programs, utility ownership, or both, what happens to market growth rates? And, what happens to competition?
• Should the credit rates include both capacity and energy costs bundled into an average rate at all hours, or should the credit be differentiated by the prices at the specific times energy is delivered?
• Are there locational cost dimensions that differentiate the value which should be recognized in the NEM programs and tariffs?

10:00 – 10:20 am Morning Break

10:20 – 11:45 am  Moving Beyond NEM
Formulating a policy and process approach that re-frames the value proposition to address contemporary and future terms requires more than just a knowledge of rate adjustment techniques and processes.
This segment will consider how state regulatory commissions and utilities are pursuing a successful balancing of the fundamental regulatory and market-based business compacts that have a bearing on NEM and VoST formulations, and forging outcomes that are earning broad buy-in. It will consider:
• Issues of common perspective to reduce conflict
• Rate stabilization methods that achieve the objective of addressing utility concerns while still facilitating distributed solar development
• Ensuring rate-payer equity across other class(es)
• If a “sweet-spot” can be identified between too little and too much granularity in tariff design

11:45 am    Program Adjournment
INSTRUCTORS

Tom Stanton
Principal Researcher – Energy & Environment, National Regulatory Research Institute (NRRI)

Tom Stanton is Principal Researcher, Energy and Environment, at NRRI. He joined NRRI in fall 2010 after a 32-year career in Michigan state government. Mr. Stanton specializes in policy research for renewable energy, energy efficiency, smart grid, and global climate change. Mr. Stanton has worked in Michigan state government -- in the fields of public utility regulation, energy efficiency, and renewable energy -- including 10 years at the State Energy Office and over 22 years at the Michigan Public Service Commission. For several of those years, he worked on administration of Michigan's solar and renewable energy tax credits program and later served as manager of the renewable energy section at the Michigan PSC. He earned a B.A. in Communications and an M.A. in Journalism, both from Michigan State University, as well as an M.S. in Public Administration from Western Michigan University.

David DesLauriers
Director - Federal Energy Regulatory Matters, Black & Veatch Management Consulting

David DesLauriers is Director of Federal Energy Regulatory Matters for Black & Veatch Management Consulting, where he has been for the past eight years. In this capacity, he is responsible for providing expert guidance and insight on energy regulatory and costing matters for electric utility and energy companies. Areas of expertise include: cost of service, rate design, revenue requirements, regulatory policy, distributed energy resource matters, market planning, and regulatory strategy & policy. Before joining B & V, he served eight years at KPMG as Senior Manager of Advisory for Utilities Regulated Services, Executive Consultant at Stone & Webster/Shaw Group and Senior Consultant at The Columbia Group. He holds an MBA from Babson College – Franklin W. Olin Graduate School of Business, with a specialization in finance and management, and a B.A in Economics from the College of Holy Cross.

Bruce R. Chapman
Vice President and Senior Economist, Christensen Associates Energy Consulting

Bruce R. Chapman is Vice President and Senior Economist at Christensen Associates Energy Consulting. He assists clients in the electricity and natural gas industries to improve their costing and pricing capabilities. Mr. Chapman advises clients in such areas of expertise as: cost-of-service analysis and rate design based upon established regulatory and market-based principles; innovative rate design including demand response products, renewables pricing, fixed billing, and other market-based retail pricing products; load forecasting and load research analysis. Additionally, he has supervised the development of software required for the implementation and support of innovative retail products.

“Superb conference in terms of content, speakers and relevance. Will help with understanding critical issues for NEM and provide many examples to learn from.”

Senior Manager, CT Green Bank
INSTRUCTORS

Lon Huber  
**Director - Energy Policy, Navigant**

Lon Huber leads Navigant’s North American retail energy regulatory offering. In this capacity, he provides expert witness testimony, proceeding strategy, and pricing solutions on behalf of clients across the energy sector landscape. Mr. Huber has received numerous awards including being named Utility Dive’s Innovator of the Year for 2018 and is well known for his creative data-driven solutions to some of the energy industry’s most pressing issues, including rate design, DER pricing reform, RPS modernization, and energy storage. With more than a decade in the energy industry, his experience spans public and private sectors, as well as academia. In addition to his work on behalf of industry clients, Mr. Huber has directly educated consumers on new rates and demand response options, designed tariffs, and consulted on education and communication strategy. He is an instructor at FRI’s Advanced Transformational Rates Seminar at Washington University in St. Louis.

Rick Gilliam  
**Program Director – DG Regulatory Policy, Vote Solar Initiative**

Rick Gilliam is Program Director of DG Regulatory Policy for the Vote Solar Initiative. He is focused on rate case and regulatory intervention nationwide. He was formerly Vice President of Mountain West Government Affairs for SunEdison and held prior roles at Western Resource Advocates, the Public Service Company of Colorado and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

Allison Hamilton  
**Senior Principal for Markets and Rates – Business and Technology Strategies Group, National Renewable Electric Cooperatives Association (NRECA)**

Allison Hamilton is the Senior Principal for Markets and Rates in the Business and Technology Strategies group at National Renewable Electric Cooperatives Association (NRECA). She serves as the technical expert for NRECA staff and membership with respect to retail and wholesale rate structures and evolving energy services business models. Prior to her position at NRECA, Ms. Hamilton worked in various capacities for Pepco Holdings based in Washington D.C. for more than 13 years. Before crossing over to the energy industry, she spent several years as an equity analyst for a boutique investment bank in the Pacific Northwest. She holds a liberal arts degree from Valparaiso University and an M.B.A. from Johns Hopkins University.

“In the speakers helped us to think about the bigger picture of the current state of the industry, and left us understanding the various options being used or considered in NEM and solar rate programs.”

Manager – Financial Accounting, Lee County Electric Cooperative

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INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS

Case studies and PowerPoint presentations will be used in this program.

REQUIREMENTS FOR SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION

Participants must sign in/out each day and be in attendance for the entirety of the conference to be eligible for continuing education credit.

IACET CREDITS

EUCI has been accredited as an Authorized Provider by the International Association for Continuing Education and Training (IACET). In obtaining this accreditation, EUCI has demonstrated that it complies with the ANSI/IACET Standard which is recognized internationally as a standard of good practice. As a result of their Authorized Provider status, EUCI is authorized to offer IACET CEUs for its programs that qualify under the ANSI/IACET Standard.

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EVENT LOCATION

The event is located at the Denver Marriott South at Park Meadows, 10345 Park Meadows Dr, Littleton, CO 80124, for the nights of September 10-12, 2019. Room rates are US $184 plus applicable tax. Call 1-303-925-0004 for reservations and mention the EUCI event to get the group rate. The cutoff date to receive the group rate is August 20, 2019 but as there are a limited number of rooms available at this rate, the room block may close sooner. Please make your reservations.

REGISTER 3, SEND THE 4TH FREE

Any organization wishing to send multiple attendees to this conference may send 1 FREE for every 3 delegates registered. Please note that all registrations must be made at the same time to qualify.
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ENERGIZE WEEKLY

Energize Weekly is EUCI’s free weekly newsletter, delivered to your inbox every Wednesday. We provide you with the latest industry news as well as in-depth analysis from our own team of experts. Subscribers also receive free downloadable presentations from our past events.

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NET ENERGY METERING (NEM) AND UTILITY SOLAR RATES SUMMIT: SEPTEMBER 11 – 12, 2019: US $1495
EARLY BIRD on or before AUGUST 23, 2019: US $1295

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THIS EVENT? (DIRECT E-MAIL, COLLEAGUE, SPEAKER(S), ETC.)

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BILLING ZIP CODE/POSTAL CODE

OR ENCLOSED IS A CHECK FOR $ TO COVER REGISTRATIONS.

SUBSTITUTIONS & CANCELLATIONS

Your registration may be transferred to a member of your organization up to 24 hours in advance of the event. Cancellations must be received on or before August 9, 2019 in order to be refunded and will be subject to a US $195.00 processing fee per registrant. No refunds will be made after this date. Cancellations received after this date will create a credit of the tuition (less processing fee) good toward any other EUCI event. This credit will be good for six months from the cancellation date. In the event of non-attendance, all registration fees will be forfeited. In case of conference cancellation, EUCI’s liability is limited to refund of the event registration fee only. For more information regarding administrative policies, such as complaints and refunds, please contact our offices at 303-770-8800.

EUCI reserves the right to alter this program without prior notice.