



# Sustainable Communities Leadership Academy

## AGENDA

University Guest House – Officer’s Club  
Salt Lake City, Utah  
May 4-6, 2015

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MONDAY, MAY 4 | DAY 1

### Theme: Framing the Challenge

- 1:00 – 2:00 PM**      **Registration, Refreshments & Networking**
- 2:00 – 2:45**      **Welcoming Remarks**  
Debra Perry, *Program Director, Institute for Sustainable Communities*  
Angela Crooks, *Lead Program Analyst, US Department of Energy*
- 2:45 – 3:30**      **Keynote: Solar Entrepreneurs Will Save the World! And How You Can Help**  
Danny Kennedy, *Co-Founder and Executive Vice President, Sungevity*
- 3:30 – 4:30**      **Team Huddles**  
Teams meet privately to discuss the status of their efforts, identifying accomplishments and challenges. Each team will have time to discuss goals for this workshop and strategize about how to maximize the impact of what they gain and the connections they make.
- 4:30 – 5:00**      **Structured Networking**
- 5:00 – 5:30**      **Highlights & Insights**  
Participants share new ideas and insights they have gained throughout the day (two minutes per team).
- 6:00, 7:00, 8:00**      **Dinner (self-organized)**  
Meet in the hotel lobby every hour on the hour, between 6-8 PM.

TUESDAY, MAY 5 | DAY 2

## Theme: Explore and Inspire

8:00 – 9:00 AM      **Coffee Networking**

9:00 – 9:15      **Opening Remarks & Today's Objectives**

Debra Perry, *ISC*

9:15 – 10:15      **Panel: Trends, Innovations and the Challenges Ahead**

A facilitated panel discussion will explore four unique perspectives on the future opportunities and challenges in accelerating the deployment of solar energy in US communities.

**Moderator:** Sara Baldwin Auck, *Regulatory Program Director, Interstate Renewable Energy Council*

Vicki Bennett, *Director – Division of Sustainability, Salt Lake City Corporation*

Stephen Frantz, *Project Manager – Retail Solar Program, Sacramento Municipal Utility District*

Karl Rábago, *Executive Director, Pace Energy and Climate Center*

Anya Schoolman, *Executive Director, Community Power Network/DC SUN*

10:15 – 10:30      **Break**

10:30 – 11:45      **Breakout Sessions, Round 1: Choose Your Challenge**

1. **Community Solar for Consumer, Industry, and Utility Success** – Join Becky Campbell, *Solar Electric Power Association*, Jill Cliburn, *Extensible Energy* and Carl Linvill, *Regulatory Assistance Project* to discuss community solar programs and the opportunities to expand and adapt these programs to meet community, utility, and consumer priorities.
2. **Innovative Financing** – Join Koben Calhoun, *Rocky Mountain Institute* for a discussion on innovative solar financing. The conversation will include a review of existing solar finance models and then focus on the future of solar finance. Come prepared to discuss your specific project finance challenges, as well as thoughts on how financing will change between now and 2018.
3. **Deploying Solar to Support Community Resilience** with Seth Mullendore, *Clean Energy Group* and Erica Helson & Jeff Irvine, *Sustainable CUNY*. Learn how solar PV can be part of a larger strategy for community resilience and the approach that City University of New York is taking to this work.
4. **Clean Energy Solutions for Colleges and Universities** with James Critchfield, *EPA Green Power Partnership*, Nick Hylla, *Midwest Renewable Energy Association*, and Janna Cohen-Rosenthal, *Second Nature*. Join this session to discuss different models and approaches to increase the use of solar energy and other renewables in higher ed institutions and learn more about the tools available through EPA's Green Power Partnership.

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TUESDAY, MAY 5 | DAY 2 (CONTINUED)

5. **Developing Nascent Markets** with John Larson, *Dominion Virginia Power*, John Shenot, *Regulatory Assistance Project* and Sarah Wright, *Utah Clean Energy*. Working in a community or region where the solar market is early in its development brings both challenges and opportunities. Come discuss the utility, regulatory and community perspectives for developing strong local solar markets.
6. **Solar Deployment on Affordable and Multi-Family Housing** – Join Steve Morgan, *Clean Energy Solutions, Inc.* and Katrina Morton, *Center for Sustainable Energy* to discuss strategies and approaches for breaking down the barriers to greater adoption of solar electric power systems by affordable and multi-family housing properties.

11:45 – 12:45      **Lunch**

12:45 – 3:00 PM      **Clinic: Tools of Engagement**

Owen Smith, *Principal, Rocky Mountain Institute*  
 Leia Guccione, *Manager, Rocky Mountain Institute*  
 Brenna Atnikov, *Consultant, Reos Partners*

This interactive session is designed to help teams overcome challenges they face in creating and implementing their stakeholder engagement plans. Rocky Mountain Institute and Reos will demonstrate tools and best practices that teams can integrate into individual project planning. Come prepared to discuss stakeholder engagement processes and leave with new ideas and approaches.

3:00 – 3:30      **Team Huddles**

Teams meet to discuss how they can use the new information and ideas that they are acquiring at the workshop. Teams are encouraged to invite resource team members, DOE, or another team to join their discussion.

3:30 – 5:00      **Site Visit: Tour of Salt Lake City Public Safety Building**

We will travel by light rail to the Salt Lake City Public Safety Building (475 South 300 East, Salt Lake City) to learn about the first net-zero public safety building in the country.

5:00 – 7:00      **Networking at Gracie’s Bar**

Please join us for informal networking at Gracie’s Bar, 326 South West Temple

WEDNESDAY, MAY 6 | DAY 3

## Theme: Strategize and Commit

8:00 – 9:00 AM General Attendee Coffee Networking | Meeting of SMP Project Leads

9:00 – 9:30 Opening Remarks & Overview of Basecamp

Debra Perry & Elliott Bent, ISC

9:30 – 10:30 Breakout Sessions, Round 2: Select Your Strategy

1. **From Mapping to Modeling** – Analyzing the Potential for Solar Deployment with David Hill and Damon Lane, *Vermont Energy Investment Corporation*, Mat Elmore, *Elevate Energy* and Carolyn Davidson, *National Renewable Energy Laboratory*. Come learn about tools that SMP awardees are using to map, model and otherwise assess the opportunities for solar deployment.
2. **Bulk Procurement** with Sara Baldwin Auck, *Interstate Renewable Energy Council*, Kate Bowman, *Utah Clean Energy*, Anya Schoolman, *Community Power Network/DC SUN* and Tyler Espinoza, *Optony*. This session will explore the ins and outs of designing and executing a bulk procurement program.
3. **Policy and Regulation** with John Shenot and Rich Sedano, *Regulatory Assistance Project*. This session will provide a forum for discussion about policies and regulations that need to be better understood or perhaps even modified in order for SMP projects to be successful. The group will discuss the policies and regulations of greatest interest or concern to participants, which could include PV interconnection requirements, net metering rules, other utility tariffs, renewable energy standards, permitting issues, etc.
4. **Fostering a Robust Regional Market** with Karl Rábago, *Pace Energy and Climate Center* and Mike Trahan, *Northeast Solar Market Coalition*. How can we move from creating local solar markets to creating collaborative regional markets? This session will explore how work underway in the Northeast might serve as a model for regional collaboration in other regions of the country.
5. **Integrating Solar into Community Preparedness and Emergency Planning** with Cal Broomhead, *San Francisco Department of Environment* and Vicki Bennett, *Salt Lake City Corporation*. Come learn how two cities are working with their emergency management departments to install solar on critical facilities and enhance community resilience.

10:30 – 11:30 Team Huddles

Teams meet to discuss insights they have acquired at the workshop and how their new knowledge will advance their work. Team leaders prepare brief reports on three specific actions they will take to put this new information into action when they return home.

11:30 – 12:00 Closing Plenary: Pulling it All Together

Debra Perry, ISC

Round-the-horn report-outs and closing remarks: each team reports on Team Huddle #3 (three minutes per team).