

## 2024 EPRI AND SANDIA WORKSHOP

July 17, 2024 • Charlotte, North Carolina

### EPRI SOLAR PROGRAM WORKSHOP AGENDA

#### WEDNESDAY, JULY 17

TIME (ET)	TOPIC	PRESENTER
7:00 a.m.	<i>Breakfast</i>	
8:00 a.m.	<b>WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND SAFETY MOMENT</b>	<i>Robert Flottemesch, EPRI – Solar Brandon Fitchett, EPRI –Wind</i>
8:15 a.m.	<p><b>Welcome Keynote</b></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>Keynote Speaker</i>
8:45 a.m.	<p><b>Wind and Solar O&amp;M Overview</b></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>	
9:15 a.m.	<p><b>Panel Session: Winds of Change, Rays of Progress: Unifying Paths in Wind and Solar Energy</b></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>	
10:00 a.m.	<i>Break</i>	
10:30 a.m.	<b>Performance Benchmarking</b> (SUPER/NERC GADS (Solar & Wind GADS)/LEAP)	
12:00 p.m.	<i>Lunch</i>	

### SANDIA-EPRI PV CONNECTOR RELIABILITY WORKSHOP AGENDA

1:00 p.m.	<p><b>Panel Session I. View from the Trenches: connector reliability in the US</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overview/why this workshop/why now (Laurie Burnham, Sandia) (5)</li> <li>• An EPC perspective (Scott Canada, McCarthy) (10)</li> <li>• An independent engineer’s outlook (Bill Brooks, Brooks Engineering) (10)</li> <li>• Asset owner’s perspective (Kenneth Wicker, Southern Company) (10)</li> <li>• Asset owner’s perspective (Craig Richardson, Entergy) (10)</li> <li>• Q&amp;A (10)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Panel Session II. Connector Failures: Field and Lab Findings (30 mins)</b></p>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigation of installation practices (Bruce King, Sandia) (5)</li> <li>• Macro-level forensics (Steven DiGregorio, Sandia) (5)</li> <li>• Micro-level forensics (Tap Lolla, EPRI) (5)</li> <li>• Accelerated testing (Dave)</li> </ul>	
2:45 p.m.	<i>Break</i>	
	<p><b>Panel Session III. The Economics of Degraded and Failed Connectors (40 mins)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TEA Analysis (Andy Walker, NREL) (10)</li> <li>• Rising insurance costs (Linkesh Diwan, HSB) (10)</li> <li>• Field Assessments (David Penalva, Heliovolta) (10)</li> <li>• Q&amp;A (10)</li> </ul>	
	<p><b>Panel Session IV. Looking Forward: Finding a Path to Reliability (35 mins +)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Next generation designs (Dominic Buergi, Staubli) (5)</li> <li>• Next generation designs (Mark Farrelly, Amphenol) (5)</li> <li>• Automation and pre-assembly (John Hass, Shoals) (5)</li> <li>• Codes &amp; standards (Evelyn Butler, SEIA; Colleen O'Brien (UL) (5 and 5)</li> </ul>	
4:45 p.m.	Closing Remarks	
5:00 p.m.	<i>Day 2 Sessions Adjourn</i>	
5:00 – 7:00 p.m.	<b>Welcome Reception</b>	<i>All attendees</i>