

U.S. Solar Heating & Cooling Alliance

- a Division of



SEIA SHC Alliance Conference Call – Minutes from October 15, 2014

Attending – 28 participants:

	Moderator/Speakers	Company
1	Chip Bircher	SEIA
2	Victoria Hollick	Conserval Systems
3	Tim Merrigan	NREL
4	Eileen Prado	SRCC
	Name	Company
5	Bob Danielson	Sun Earth
6	Brian Elwell	UMA Solar
7	Dan Gretsch	SolarHot
8	Dave Sizelove	Aquatherm Industries
9	Edmond Murray	Aztec Solar
10	Eileen Prado	SRCC
11	Fred Milder	Solarlogic
12	Hannah Qu	PIEP Solar
13	Hnery Vandermark	Solar Wave Energy
14	James Wilson	Financial Risk Solutions
15	Jim Huggins	SRCC
16	Katherine Stainken	SEIA
17	Mark Harris	PUC NV
18	Mark Thornbloom	SRCC
19	Matt Carlson	Sunnovations
20	Michael Intriери	SunDrum Solar
21	Nick Korth	Calefii North America
22	Nick Toman	Viessman Manufacturing
23	Ramsey Brown	Hawaii Energy
24	Rex Gillespie	Caleffi North America
25	Rob Waters	Viessman
26	Ron Kamen	EarthKind
27	Sandy Xiong	PIEP Solar
28	Shawn Martin	ICC

Action Items:

- **Replay of Oct. 15 phone call available:** [Click here to download the audio .mp3 file](#)
- **Mon. Nov. 10:** Next SHC Alliance conference call, 3 p.m. Eastern.

Minutes:

- 1) SEIA antitrust reminder was read.

2) New Participants

- None

3) SolarWall Case Study

[Victoria Hollick](#), [Conserval Systems](#), provided an overview of a 25,000 sq. ft. SolarWall installation at a new New York Transit bus facility located at 726 Lennox Ave. in Harlem. The facility spans an entire block, and the SolarWall covers the entire south wall, so it quite large. The system's capacity is 1.5 MW_{thermal} and it will save about 500 tons of carbon dioxide annually. The architect on the project specified a custom "forest green" color for the SolarWall, and it is integrated with stained glass features as well. The exterior metal is higher gauge than normal and is coated with Kynar, a very durable surface that minimizes long-term fading and chalking. From the beginning, the project's goal was to create a beautiful, show-case facility in an area of the city that had deteriorated somewhat. The team was also pursuing LEED Platinum certification, and the architect wanted to use the building envelope to produce renewable energy. The SolarWall system was installed in late 2013, and the building will be commissioned in late 2014, which should attract positive attention for solar heating and cooling (SHC) in New York. The general contractor stated that the installation created 10 full-time equivalent in jobs, and Victoria said this is an important part of the message about any "green" project. The project also highlights the huge potential of SHC in North America. This potential is often overlooked and not well understood by policy makers, politicians and other stakeholders. Interestingly, the project managers were not concerned about the project's payback, and Victoria expressed concern about overemphasizing payback as a decision criterion.

4) SRCC Update

[Eileen Prado](#), [SRCC](#) announced that SRCC plans to merge with the International Code Council (ICC). After due diligence is completed, closing of the merger is anticipated around the end of November. ICC is committed to maintaining the program, the SRCC staff, and its current certifications, so SRCC participants should not see many changes. Shawn Martin from ICC mentioned that their organization will bring added technical expertise and help bring solar into the mainstream. He mentioned there will be further announcements as the merger proceeds. See [ICC/SRCC Press Release](#).

5) DOE Issues Request for Information for Residential Solar Water Heaters Test Procedures and Energy Conservation Standards

[Tim Merrigan](#) from NREL called attention to a new "Request for Information" from DOE about solar water heaters. This request is related to a revised standard for all water heaters that was originally published in [Federal Register, 10 CFR Part 430, April 16, 2010](#) and goes into effect on April 16, 2015. Under this new standard, a minimum Energy Factor of ~2.0 and ~0.80 will be required, respectively, for electric and gas-fired storage water heaters >55 gallons. This essentially requires all electric water heaters to be heat-pump water heaters and all gas water heaters to be condensing. Solar water heaters that use only solar energy are excluded, but most solar water heaters do include an auxiliary heat source, leading to some confusion. The concern for solar water heating is that this standard may unintentionally prohibit the use of large solar storage tanks that include a single electric-resistance heating element, a common design for direct, single-tank solar water heating (SWH) systems in some climates. The Final Rule also states that solar-powered water heaters and pool heaters are excluded, but the rationale provided leaves some questions unanswered.

Additional material:

- [Test Procedures and Energy Conservation Standards for Residential Water Heaters](#)
- [Docket Number EERE-2014-BT-STD-0045](#)
- [Federal Register, 10 CFR Part 430, April 16, 2010](#)

6) SHC Alliance Update

[Katherine Stinken](#), [SEIA SHC Alliance](#) and [Mike Healy](#), [Nextility](#), updated the group on the Alliance's recent activities.

- In Massachusetts, [SB 2214](#), which adds solar and other thermal technologies to the state's AEPS, was passed by the legislature on Aug. 4. Thanks to Mike Healy and other industry members who

worked on this initiative. Under this bill, renewable heating and cooling technologies will qualify for Alternative Energy Credits under the existing Alternative Energy Portfolio Standard. The rule-writing process will begin soon, and SEIA has reached out to the Massachusetts Dept. of Energy Resources to offer assistance. SEIA is also investigating how to engage assistance from an industry representative who lives in Massachusetts. Mike H. added that there is still a lot work to accomplish to ensure that the rules properly reflect SEIA's amendment.

- In New York, SEIA has been involved in ongoing discussions with NYSERDA about making the incentive program fuel neutral and to increase the incentive caps. NYSERDA has agreed to implement SEIA's proposal in two stages. First, they have set aside some funding for fuel neutral incentives. Second, NYSERDA has agreed to hold a stakeholder dialogue meeting in late October or early November with the goal of including solar thermal technologies under the Clean Energy Fund.
- Katherine emphasized the need for companies to submit commercial case studies for the upcoming report. Materials must be submitted by Friday, Sept. 12. Every Alliance member company can have one or more case studies. Mike pointed out that the report is a key follow-up from the roadmap report issued earlier in the year.
- Policy planning process at SEIA – Bd. Meeting in mid-September. For SHC Alliance, ITC extension and work in Mass & NY. Bd. Makes final decisions on final priorities. Mike mentioned that SHC stakeholders made up about a third of the group working on
- This year, membership has grown from 57 to ~65. Having passed SEIA's required threshold, 60% of the SHC Alliance dues will go directly to the SHC Advocacy Fund through the end of the year. Anyone who has not yet joined the Alliance is encouraged to do so right away.
- Mike mentioned that the Alliance is using a "campaign" approach to accomplish its goals. For 2015, New York will continue as one of the main efforts, and members are encouraged to provide input about others. At the SHC Forum at SPI, there will be more discussion on this topic.
- Policy dialogue will be added to the monthly calls.
- The White House invited SEIA to discuss solar heating and cooling, and a small delegation will meet with White House staff on Sept. 17. Meetings with EPA, DOE and Congressional members will also be held on that day. Contact Katherine S. or Mike H. if you are interested in participating.

7) SPI Solar Heating & Cooling Sessions

[Katherine Stinken](#), [SEIA SHC Alliance](#) provided an overview of the [SHC sessions](#) at the [Solar Power International conference](#).

- Monday, Oct. 20
7:30 – 11:30: NABCEP training
Noon – 2:15: SHC Symposium, Part 1, featuring a keynote by Jigar Shah, founder of SunEdison, who will make an important announcement. This will be followed by an interactive session with several industry leaders.
2:30 – 4:30: SHC Alliance Annual Meeting, all are welcome
- Tuesday, Oct. 21
9:00 – 10:00: The Next Growth Markets for Solar Heating and Cooling
10:30 – 11:30: SHC 2.0: Innovations Driving the Industry Into the Future
11:30 – 1:00: Networking Lunch
1:00 – 2:00: Solar Heating and Cooling's Triple Bottom Line: Policy, Financing, and Utilities

8) SolarThermalWorld.org and IEA Solar Heating & Cooling Program Partnership

Chip Bircher mentioned that SolarThermalWorld.com has partnered with the IEA Solar Heating & Cooling (SHC) Program to promote IEA's SHC initiatives. See [SolarThermalWorld/IEA SHC Press Release](#) and [new IEA SHC section of SolarThermalWorld website](#).

9) Articles and Publications

- 1) [Saving Money and Energy: Solar Heating & Cooling Is Paying Big Dividends for U.S. Businesses](#), Oct. 9, Solar Energy Industries Association
- 2) [Sec. of Energy Ernest Moniz to Attend Solar Power International](#), Oct. 7, Solar Energy Industries Association

- 3) [Credit Where Credit Is Due: Renewable Thermal Energy Heats Up](#), Sept. 26, O'Connor, D. The National Law Review
- 4) [For Solar Thermal Installs, Project Management Trumps Technology](#), Puttre, M., Solar Industry Magazine
- 5) [White House Issues Executive Actions On Solar Power](#), Sept. 18, Solar Industry Magazine
- 6) [Thermal Rebate Step Change: CSE/SDG&E multifamily/commercial moves to Step 2](#), Oct. 2014, Go Solar, California! Newsletter
- 7) [Hawaii Hopes Storage Will Enable A 'Multi-Directional' Grid For Solar](#), Sept. 30, Puttre, M., Solar Industry Magazine
- 8) [Special Tariffs Help Large Companies Benefit From Solar Without Hosting Capacity](#), Sept. 25, Caley, N., Solar Industry Magazine
- 9) [The State Clean Energy Cookbook: A Dozen Recipes for State Action on Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy](#), Sept. 11, Bingaman, J. et. al., Steyer-Taylor Center for Energy Policy and Finance
- 10) [How to Make a "Perfect" Solar Absorber](#), Oct. 1, Chandler, D., RenewableEnergyWorld.com
- 11) [Solar and Heat Pump Systems Position Paper](#), Sept. 30, IEA Solar Heating & Cooling Program
- 12) [Analysis of load match and grid interaction indicators in net zero energy buildings with simulated and monitored data](#), Sept. 7, Salom, J., IEA Solar Heating & Cooling Program
- 13) "Solar Cooling: The Earthscan Expert Guide to Solar Cooling Systems, Kohlenbach, P. and Jakob, U., June 2014, Routledge

10) Upcoming Conferences & Webinars (updated for October 2014)

- 1) SEIA Webinars:
 - [Solar Power International Insider Info](#), Oct. 7, 9, 14, 16, 3 p.m. EDT
 - [California 2030 Low Carbon Grid Study: Phase I Results](#), Oct. 14, 1 p.m. EDT (free; open to public)
 - [Business Development: New Federal Solar Projects & Structures](#), Archive from Sept. 3 (free; open to public)
- 2) [Webinar: Kickstart your race to zero competition entry!](#), Student Design Competition; Oct 21, 2014, Noon - 1:30 p.m. Central
- 3) [Listen Up: Let's Talk Solar Water Heating](#), Sept. 2, The Energy Show on Renewable Energy World; Host is Barry Cinnamon, guest is Freeman Ford of Fafco
- 4) [Solar Heating & Cooling 2014](#), Oct. 13-15, Beijing, China [See agenda](#) and [Register online](#)
- 5) [Solar Power International 2014](#), Oct. 20-23, Las Vegas, [See agenda](#) and [Register online](#)
- 6) [Forum 20/20: Innovations and the Future of Cleantech](#), Oct. 29, Boston, MA. [See agenda](#) and [Register online](#)
- 7) [Total Energy USA](#), November 11-13, Houston
- 8) [Renewable Energy World Conference & Expo: Power Generation Week](#), Dec. 9-11, Orlando, [See agenda](#) and [Register online](#)
- 9) [U.S. Solar Market Insight Conference](#), Dec. 8-10, San Diego, [See agenda](#) and [Register online](#)
- 10) [ACEEE Hot Water Forum](#), Feb. 22-24, 2015, Nashville, [See website](#)
- 11) [2015 Solar Power Colorado](#), Feb. 23-25, 2015, Broomfield, CO; [See agenda](#)
- 12) [Intersolar North America 2015](#), Jul. 14-16, 2015, San Francisco; [Preliminary inquiry](#)

11) Other Program/Industry Updates

- [Richard Lawrence](#) from NABCEP mentioned that they are developing credentials for inspectors of solar thermal systems. A technical committee is being formed to complete the Job Task Analysis, and NABCEP invites people with experience in not only inspection but also in design, installation and maintenance to join the group.

12) Date for Next SEIA SHC Alliance Meeting

- Monday, November 10, 3 p.m. Eastern

Chip Bircher



[SEIA SHC Alliance](mailto:SHCAlliance@seia.org)
SHCAlliance@seia.org