

# U.S. Solar Heating & Cooling Alliance

- a Division of  **SEIA** Solar Energy Industries Association®

SEIA SHC Alliance Conference Call – Minutes from August 11, 2014

Attending – 24 participants, including these:

	Speaker	Company
1	Chip Bircher	SEIA
2	Michael DiPaolo	Ritter Group USA
3	Amanda Treat	Massachusetts Clean Energy Center
4	Eileen Prado	SRCC
5	Les Nelson	IAPMO R&T
6	Michael Neary	Desert Sun Solar
	Name	Company
7	Adam Chrisman	SunEarth
8	Alonso Morlesin	SRCC
9	Bob Danielson	SunEarth
10	Bob Leckinger	FAFCO
11	Daniel Yang	PiEP Solar
12	Dave Sizelove	Aquatherm Industries
13	Elyse Gresnick-Smith	SW Gas Corporation
14	George Huang	PiEP Solar
15	Greg Gahagan	UMA Solar
16	Hannah Qu	PiEP Solar
17	Henry Vandermark	Solar Wave Energy
18	Hugo Aguilar	IAPMO R&T
19	Jim Huggins	SRCC
20	Mark Harris	Public Utilities Commission of NV
21	Michael Intrieri	SunDrum Solar
22	Mike Kozlowski	UMA Solar
23	Ramsey Brown	Hawaii Energy Efficiency
24	Robert Waters	Viessmann Manufacturing Company

## Action Items:

- **Replay of August 11 phone call available:** [Click here to download the audio .mp3 file](#)
- **Mon. Sept. 8:** Next SHC Alliance conference call, 3 p.m. Eastern.

## Minutes:

1) SEIA antitrust reminder was read.

## 2) New Participants

1. [Hannah Qu](#), [PiEP Solar Technology](#), along with George Huang (sales manager) and Daniel Yang (technical director)

### 3) Case Study: Ritter Group USA

[Michael DiPaolo](#), [Ritter Group USA](#) provided an overview of a project that his company commissioned in July on the Royal Hawaiian Hotel located on Wakiki Beach in Honolulu. The system heats water for domestic use and the hotel's pool. It includes 40 [Ritter CPC-45 evacuated tube collectors](#) with a total gross collection area of 2,127 sq. ft. Water is the heat transfer fluid, and the collectors are closed-loop with steam-back. Two unpressurized 950-gallon storage tanks, fastened directly to the concrete roof, store the hot water. Three closed loop heat exchangers transfer the heat from the collector to the storage tank to the load. Natural gas is the auxiliary fuel, and the project payback was estimated to be less than four years. The system is designed to withstand hurricane-strength wind loads. See the handout attached to the agenda for more information, and contact Michael with any questions.

### 4) Massachusetts Solar Water Heater Program – Update

[Amanda Treat](#), [MassCEC](#) reviewed upcoming changes to the Massachusetts program:

1. [SB 2214](#) (formerly SB 1970) was passed by the legislature on Aug. 4 and will go into effect on Jan. 1, 2015 after it is signed by Governor Patrick. Under this bill, renewable heating and cooling technologies will qualify for Alternative Energy Credits under the existing Alternative Energy Portfolio Standard. SEIA partnered with other renewable thermal trade organizations to promote the legislation. The next step is for the Massachusetts Dept. of Energy Resources to draft regulations.
2. Incentive caps for commercial systems under the [Commonwealth Solar Hot Water](#) program will increase from \$50 K to \$100 K (in line with other states in the region).
3. A program option will be added to the incentive calculation that allows use of OG-300 system rating values instead of only allowing OG-100 collector rating values.
4. A residential performance monitoring bonus of \$500 will be introduced, and the requirement to monitor both the collector loop and the water heater loop will be relaxed in order to accommodate other monitoring approaches. It's estimated that all changes will go into effect by the end of the summer.
5. A consultant has been hired to analyze other solar thermal technologies currently not included in the program. Solar air heating walls, for example, will be analyzed.

### 5) Arizona Solar Water Heating Alliance

[Michael Neary](#), [Arizona Solar Water Heating Alliance](#) updated the group on the incentive program and policies in Arizona. In January 2013, the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC), which regulates the utilities and the implementation of the state's Renewable Energy Standard (REST), decided to reduce residential solar incentive levels and eliminate commercial sector incentives. Solar industry members were obviously concerned, and a group of companies in the state worked with ACC and the utilities to revive the solar water heating program. The new program in Arizona Public Service territory offers an incentive of \$0.35 per kWh (first year savings) with a total budget of \$500 K. This, along with state and federal tax credits, provides a good level of incentive. Along the way, a group of solar thermal companies formed the [Arizona Solar Water Heating Alliance](#) in order to continue promoting the technology to the public, ACC and legislators. See [membership application](#).

### 6) California CSI-Thermal Update

[Les Nelson](#), [IAPMO](#) reviewed a recent [CSI-Thermal filing](#) from CALSEIA and the four program administrators (representing the major utilities in the state) to the California Public Utility Commission (CPUC) to increase the incentive levels for natural gas solar thermal systems. When the CSI-Thermal program began, the incentives were set at levels which CALSEIA and other industry stakeholders felt would not move the market. In January 2012, CALSEIA and others submitted a petition for modification to the CPUC to increase the residential and multifamily/commercial incentives by 100% and 45%, respectively. CPUC agreed to increases of 30% and 13%. Now, in 2014, another petition for modification is being submitted, with recommended increases of 60% for residential and 40% for multifamily. The four program administrators all support this proposal and have signed on to the filing because these changes will help them achieve the goal of 200,000 systems 585,000,000 therms savings. The CSI-Thermal program will run through 2017, though that date could be extended. Additional material: [Petition of the CSI-Thermal Program Administrators and CalSEIA for Modification of D.12-08-008 AND D.13-08-004 Regarding The CSI-Thermal Program](#)

## 7) SRCC Update

[Eileen Prado](#) and [Jim Huggins](#) from [Solar Rating & Certification Corp.](#), joined the call. Eileen reminded the group that public comment is due on Monday, Aug. 11 on the proposed SRCC/ICC standards. See [SRCC website](#) for more information and [click here](#) to download both draft ICC/SRCC solar thermal standards documents and the public comment forms and instructions for submission. SRCC Board of Directors elections are being held in August – please be sure to vote. SRCC's collector standards have been updated to align with ISO 9806-2013. Also, solar water heaters using PV as the input energy source can now apply for certification under OG-100 and OG-300.

## 8) SPI Solar Heating & Cooling Sessions

[Chip Bircher](#), [SEIA SHC Alliance](#) provided an overview of the SHC sessions at the [Solar Power International conference](#). There will be an SHC-only mini-conference on Monday, Oct. 20, and additional SHC sessions on Tuesday, Oct. 21. [Detailed schedules](#) are posted on the conference website. Chip thanked everyone for their patience during the process of designing the SHC sessions and selecting speakers. [Katherine Stainken](#) will be distributing additional information about the conference fees soon.

## 9) Articles and Publications

- 1) [Protecting Water Heating Systems with Expansion Tanks](#), Aug./Sept., Woodruff, V., Home Power Magazine
- 2) [Comments by SEIA's Katherine Stainken at EPA Clean Power Plan Listening Session July 30, 2014](#), July 30, Solar Energy Industries Association
- 3) [Cutting Carbon Emissions under 111\(d\): The Case for Expanding Solar in America](#), May 27, Solar Energy Industries Association
- 4) [2014 U.S. Solar Market Trends](#), July 2014, Sherwood, L. Interstate Renewable Energy Council
- 5) [Solar Market Insight Report 2014 Q1](#), May 29, 2014, SEIA and GTM Research
- 6) [Listen Up: The State of Solar in Hawaii](#), July 15, 2014, The Energy Show on Renewable Energy World
- 7) [Get the Most Out of Solar: Cloud-Based Data Monitoring and Control Solutions](#), July 21, Suleman, A., RenewableEnergyWorld.com
- 8) [Arizona Utility Does a 180 on Solar](#), Aug. 1, Hardesty, L. Energy Manager Today
- 9) [A Survey of State-Level Cost and Benefit Estimates of Renewable Portfolio Standards](#), May 2014, Heeter, J. et al., NREL and LBNL
- 10) [The SfunCube Solar Incubator: Helping the Solar Industry Get Beyond "Start-up"](#), Aug. 8, Valenza, T. RenewableEnergyWorld.com
- 11) [California Solar Initiative Annual Program Assessment](#), June 2014, California Public Utilities Commission
- 12) [Solar Hot Water System on Newest High-Rise in San Diego Central](#), Jun. 24, CSI-Thermal Program, reported by Epp, B. in SolarThermalWorld.com
- 13) [Profile of Clean Energy Investment Potential – Los Angeles County](#), 2013, Environmental Defense Fund and UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs
- 14) [Municipal Utilities Ride to the Rescue of Beleaguered Solar Projects](#), August 2014, Barajas, D. SolarIndustryMagazine.com
- 15) [Steam from the Sun](#), July 22, Chu, J., RenewableEnergyWorld.com
- 16) [EnergySage Partners With Chambers Of Commerce On Solar Marketplace](#), July 30, SolarIndustryMagazine.com

## 10) Upcoming Conferences & Webinars (updated for August 2014)

- 1) SEIA Webinars:
  - [The Impact of Carbon Fee and Dividend on Solar](#), August 26 (members only)

- [CA ISO Energy Imbalance Market - What Does it Mean for Developers](#), August 12 (open to public)
  - [Archive: Updates and Critical Developments in the Midwest](#), recorded on July 19 (members only, working at the state level)
- 2) [Solar Powering Michigan Conference](#), Sept. 12, Traverse City, MI, [See agenda](#) and [Register online](#)
  - 3) [Solar Heating & Cooling 2014](#), Oct. 13-15, Beijing, China [See agenda](#) and [Register online](#)
  - 4) [Solar Power International 2014](#), Oct. 20-23, Las Vegas, [See agenda](#) and [Register online](#)
  - 5) [Forum 20/20: Innovations and the Future of Cleantech](#), Oct. 29, Boston, MA. [See agenda](#) and [Register online](#)
  - 6) [Total Energy USA](#), November 11-13, Houston
  - 7) [Renewable Energy World Conference & Expo: Power Generation Week](#), Dec. 9-11, Orlando, [See agenda](#) and [Register online](#)
  - 8) [ACEEE Hot Water Forum](#), Feb. 22-24, 2015, Nashville, [See website](#)
  - 9) [2015 Solar Power Colorado](#), Feb. 23-25, 2015, Broomfield, CO; [See agenda](#)
  - 10) [Intersolar North America 2015](#), Jul. 14-16, 2015, San Francisco; [Preliminary inquiry](#)

#### 11) Other Program/Industry Updates

- None

#### 12) Date for Next SEIA SHC Alliance Meeting

- Monday, September 8, 3 p.m. Eastern

Chip Bircher



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