



# Southeast Distribution Systems and Planning Training

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Jackson, Mississippi

## PRESENTER BIOS

**Michael Coddington** is Principal Engineer and Principal Investigator at National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL). Before joining the lab in 2007, he spent 19 years working in the electric utility industry. His work at NREL has focused on integration of distributed energy resources (DERs) with the electric distribution grid, including interconnection of high penetrations of solar PV systems. He has supported and led standards and codes activities related to interconnection of DERs. Michael received his Electrical Engineering degree from Colorado State University and is a licensed master electrician and licensed electrical contractor.

**Paul De Martini** is Managing Director at Newport Consulting. He is a recognized industry thought leader and consultant on the business, policy and technology dimensions of a more distributed power system. Paul has played a leading role in grid modernization efforts in California, Hawaii and New York. He is co-project manager for DOE's modern distribution grid initiative (DSPx). Previously, Paul was Chief Technology Officer for Cisco's Energy Internet of Things business unit and VP, Advanced Technology, at Southern California Edison responsible for grid modernization, energy storage and transportation electrification activities.

**Joe Eto** is a Staff Scientist at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (Berkeley Lab), in the Electricity Markets and Policy Department and Grid Integration Department. Among other things, Joe has spent the past 15+ years conducting research on reliability and resilience metrics and trends, and on the economic value of reliability to electricity customers. Joe has provided technical assistance for many state public utility commission (PUC) activities. In 1988, he co-authored the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners' Handbook on Least Cost Utility Planning, and in the 1990s he organized yearly training seminars for state PUC staff on technical aspects of utility integrated resource plans.

**Lavelle Freeman** is a Technical Director in GE's Energy Consulting group. He leads activities related to distribution planning, engineering, systems analysis, DER/microgrid applications and grid modernization. He also manages the DSTAR consortium (Distribution System Testing, Application and Research, [www.dstar.org](http://www.dstar.org)), a group of utilities in North America that fund distribution R&D of common interest. Previously, Lavelle spent several years in R&D and systems consulting at ABB. He has an M.S. in Power Engineering from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte and an M.S. in Computer Engineering from North Carolina State University.

**Dr. Fritz Kahl** is an independent researcher and consultant. He has worked with North American regulators and utilities on a range of critical issues facing the electricity industry, including grid modernization investment economics, distribution system platforms and markets, wholesale market design and evaluation, resource planning, retail rate design, and resource adequacy program design. Previously, he was a Director at Energy and Environmental Economics (E3). He holds Ph.D. and M.S. degrees in Energy and Resources from the University of California, Berkeley, and a B.A. in Philosophy from the College of William & Mary.

**Dr. Debra Lew** is an independent consultant with 28 years of experience in the energy sector. Previously she served as Technical Director at GE Energy Consulting, focusing on utility integration of wind, solar and DERs. Before that, she spent 16 years at NREL, where she initiated and led the Western Wind and Solar Integration Study, examining impacts of high

penetrations of wind and solar in the Western Interconnection. She also worked with Hawaiian Electric on integrating high levels of wind and solar in Hawaii. She has a B.S. from MIT in Electrical Engineering and Physics and a Ph.D. from Stanford in Applied Physics.

**Dr. Barry Mather** joined the Power Systems Engineering Center at NREL in 2010. Until 2015, he led a project focusing on technical impacts of integrating high penetrations of solar PV in Southern California Edison's service territory and authored the High-Penetration PV Grid Integration Handbook for Distribution Engineers. He currently leads a group of about 20 researchers focused on power electronics, system-level control, standards, and national- and state-level interconnection issues related to the integration of renewable energy sources. He received a Ph.D. in electrical engineering from the University of Colorado, Boulder.

**Natalie Mims Frick** is an Assistant Leader and Energy Efficiency Program Manager in the Electricity Markets and Policy Department at Berkeley Lab. She conducts research and manages projects on energy efficiency and other DERs, including technical assistance to states, DER policies, and program design, implementation and evaluation. Before joining the lab, Natalie was the principal at Mims Consulting, LLC, where she served as an expert witness in demand-side management regulatory proceedings across the country. She also was an Energy Efficiency Director at the Southern Alliance for Clean Energy and a Senior Consultant at Rocky Mountain Institute.

**Joe Paladino** is a Senior Advisor in the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Electricity, Transmission Permitting and Technical Assistance division. He has worked at DOE for 20 years on programs involving nuclear waste management, energy-efficient buildings and electric grid modernization. His particular interest is the advancement and commercialization of technology. Before joining DOE, he worked for over 10 years in the private sector including marketing, sales and technology development at Westinghouse Electric Corporation. He has an undergraduate degree in Biology from Middlebury College and a graduate degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Pittsburgh.

**Dr. Kevin P. Schneider** is a Principal Research Engineer at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, working at the Battelle Seattle Research Center. His main areas of research are distribution system analysis and power system operations. Kevin is an Adjunct Faculty member at Washington State University, an Affiliate Associate Professor at University of Washington, and a licensed Professional Engineer in Washington state. He is the past Chair of IEEE's Distribution System Analysis Subcommittee and the current Chair of the Analytics Methods for Power Systems Committee. He received his B.S. in Physics and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Electrical Engineering from the University of Washington.

**Lisa Schwartz** is Deputy Leader of the Electricity Markets and Policy Department at Berkeley Lab. She manages work spanning utility regulation, electricity system planning, energy efficiency and other DERs, and leads training for states on distribution system planning. Previously, she was Director of the Oregon Department of Energy, where earlier in her career she was a Senior Policy Analyst. At the Oregon Public Utility Commission for seven years, she was staff lead on resource planning and procurement, demand response, and distributed and renewable energy resources.

**Ben Sigrin** is an Energy Systems Modeling Engineer in the Distributed Systems and Storage Group at NREL. He leads development and analysis for the Distributed Generation Market Demand (dGen) model, which simulates customer-driven DER adoption based on economic and behavioral drivers. The model has been featured in over 20 peer-reviewed publications and will be open sourced in September 2020. He also leads NREL research relating to the behavioral drivers of DER adoption. Prior to joining NREL Ben was a Peace Corps Volunteer in Namibia. He received an M.S. in Energy & Earth Resources and a M.P.Aff from the University of Texas at Austin and a B.A. in Physics from Grinnell College.

**Dr. Emma Stewart** is the Associate Program Leader for the Defense Infrastructure Program at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. She has over 15 years of experience working in distribution operations, planning and DER integration. She worked at Berkeley Lab for several years, including in the area of distribution measurement and analysis techniques for smart grid applications. Earlier, Emma was a visiting researcher at Sandia National Laboratories and a Senior Engineer at BEW Engineering (now DNV GL). She led distribution modeling and analysis and high renewable penetration studies for large utility customers. Emma holds a master's degree in Electrical and Mechanical Engineering from University of Strathclyde and a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering.