

CCSF Lunch Summary
Distributed Energy Systems Research for a Low Carbon Economy
December 15, 2008

Attendees

Host - Max Zhang, kz33
Host - Tim Mount, tdm2
Host - Bob Thomas, rjt1
Frank DiSalvo, fjd3
Helene Schember, hrs6
David Dieterich, dd355
Zellman Warhaft, zw16
Dan Roth, dnr6
Kieran Donaghy, kpd23
Chuck Greene, chg2
David Hammer, dah5
David Filiberto, dmf22
Terry Jordan, tej1
David Caughey, dac5
Dean Koyanagi, drk5
Dick Schuler, res1

Alan McAdams, akm3
Ray Zimmerman, rz10
Lindsay Anderson, cla28
Wesley Sine, wds4
Carlos Murillo-Sanchez, cem14
Betta Fisher(Elizabeth), emf4
Fred Gouldin, fcg2
Ben Ho, bth26
William Lesser, whl1
Jimmy Chang, cc434
Antonio Bento, amb396
Al George, arg2
Steve Beyers, smb75
Mark Lawrence, mal64
Francis Vanek, fmv3
David Lieb, djl5

Regrets

Bob Howarth
Rick Almenginger
Drew Harvell
Larry Brown
Al Center
Oliver Gao
Tobias Hanrath
Ying Hua
Andrew Hunter

Sidney Leibovich
Aija Leiponen
Johannes Lehmann
Mark Milstein
Sidney Saltzman
Elizabeth Sanders
Jeff Tester
Larry Walker
Steve Wolf

Summary

The lunch meeting started with an introduction of the vision for a low carbon economy and the role of intelligent distributed energy systems (iDES) by Tim Mount. Then Max Zhang elaborated the components within the iDES, followed by a description of the research and education agendas for the iDES. Bob Thomas further introduced the smart grid concepts, a key enabling technology for iDES, and various initiatives within the Department of Energy on this subject. Next, the attendees introduced themselves and their potential contributions to an iDES program at Cornell.

The meeting ended with a strong consensus that the movement toward iDES has already started and that Cornell should play a large role in the transition. The iDES and the smart grid concepts will be able to bring together researchers with expertise in engineering, environmental studies, public affairs, and behavioral sciences. In addition, there is good potential to establish a smart grid demonstration project on campus in synergy with the Cornell carbon neutrality initiative, and within the Ithaca community (e.g., the Ithaca Car Share program).

There were several potential research topics (in addition to what the hosts presented) proposed by the attendees, including studies on infrastructure planning for the smart grids, linkage between the agricultural, the electric utility and the transportation sectors, emissions and environmental assessments for distributed energy generators. We plan to explore these topics with some focus groups in the New Year.