

From: Howard, Ted
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Subject: CPUC Thought Leaders event: "What Role can Cleantech and Smart Grid Start-ups Play in Solving the Climate Change Crisis?"

The next CPUC Thought Leaders event, "What Role can Cleantech and Smart Grid Start-ups Play in Solving the Climate Change Crisis?", will take place from 1:30 to 3 PM on June 30th, in the CPUC auditorium (505 Van Ness Ave, San Francisco).

Our Speakers:

* **Saul Griffith**, an Inventor Extraordinaire, Entrepreneur, MacArthur Fellow, and Chief Scientist at Other Lab, has created a variety of companies (to see some of his inventions, go to: <http://www.saulgriffith.com/>). In the Clean Tech and Climate Change areas, companies he has created include Makani (high-altitude wind energy), Potenco (human-powered generation), WattzOn (online tool to quantify, track, compare and understand your energy use), and onya cycles (hybrid electric bikes).

* **Steve Vassallo**, Venture Partner at Foundation Capital (see <http://www.foundationcapital.com/>) and holder of over 20 patents, currently serves on the Board of Directors for SunRun (home solar financing) and, is actively involved with PurFresh (clean solutions for food and water), Serious Materials (energy efficient building materials), and Silver Spring Networks (smart grid software, hardware, and services). Foundation Capital is also a leading investor in several other smart grid and cleantech companies, including EnerNOC (energy management solutions), eMeter (enterprise-scale energy information management), CalStar (energy efficient building materials), and Azure Power (a leading solar energy provider in India).

The Discussion will include:

1) Cleantech & Smart Grid start-up companies created by Saul Griffith.

2) Cleantech & Smart Grid start-up companies funded by Foundation Capital.

3) Should utilities and tech companies actively provide Venture Capital funding to Cleantech and Smart Grid start-ups?

4) What should utilities and tech companies do to facilitate commercial success by viable Cleantech and Smart Grid start-up companies?

5) What can government do to enable the commercial success of viable Cleantech and Smart Grid start-up companies?

The event will be free, and will also be viewable via webcast (<http://www.californiaadmin.com/cgi-bin/cpuc.cgi>).

For more information see: <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/thoughtleaders>.

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