

Second Annual U.C. Hastings Cleantech Roundtable: Hot Topics in Cleantech Law

The Future of Electric Energy Storage in California

Electric Energy Storage (EES) has long been seen as the key to unlocking California's renewable energy potential. By allowing the energy from wind, solar and other renewables to be stored for future use, EES has the potential to fundamentally transform the way we use electricity. However, despite advances on the technology and policy front, the future of this industry still very much depends on the ability of California to embrace this opportunity and overcome the myriad challenges inherent in a transition as profound as this promises to be. Come hear from the leading minds in the utility, regulatory, and investment communities as they discuss the future of this potentially transformative industry in California.

Schedule – Tuesday, April 12, 2011, University of California, Hastings College of the Law, 200 McAllister Street, San Francisco, CA 94102.

- Registration (8:30 a.m.)
- Dean's Welcome (9:00 a.m.)
- Panel 1: The Role of EES in California's Clean Energy Future (9:15 to 10:30 a.m.)
- Panel 2: California's Roadmap for EES Integration (10:45 to 12:00 p.m.)
- Lunch (provided) (12:00 to 1:00 p.m.)
- Panel 3: The Smart Money in California's EES Market (1:00 to 2:15 p.m.)
- Networking Reception (wine and hors d'oeuvres provided) (2:15 p.m. onward)

Panel 1: The Role of EES in California's Clean Energy Future

This panel will introduce the conference topic by first explaining why viable, cost-effective energy storage is critical to ensure that California achieves its renewable energy goals. The panel will provide an overview of the obstacles to large-scale energy storage integration and explain how advances on the technology and policy front have brought the industry to the edge of a major breakthrough. The panel will introduce the recent state and federal policies that have helped California become a leader in energy storage, with over a billion dollars invested in the industry. Along the way, the panel will introduce the various energy storage technologies and provide a summary of the numerous pilot projects being implemented in California today.

Panel 2: California's Roadmap for EES Integration

California passed a landmark energy storage law in late 2010, galvanizing efforts by the state's energy regulatory agencies to lay the foundation for utility-scale energy storage implementation. But realizing this goal will require solving a number of policy challenges, not least among them how to conceptualize the role of EES in an energy system that was built around the traditional model of energy generation and transportation. This panel will provide an overview of the challenges to EES integration and an insider's perspective on how they will likely be addressed.

Panel 3: The Smart Money in California's EES Market

This panel will explore the market for EES in California from the entrepreneur and investor's perspective. The panel will discuss the size of this market opportunity, when it will come to fruition, and what it will take to get there. The panel will provide an investor's perspective on the merits of competing energy storage technologies and the challenge of overcoming barriers to large-scale integration. The panel will discuss trends in investment and the business models that are attracting the most attention from investors. The panel will also weigh in on the emerging policies in California and nationally to determine whether they will succeed in galvanizing investment in the EES industry.

For additional information, please visit our event page at:

<http://www.uchastings.edu/media-and-news/event/2011/03/cleantech.html>

For information on the previous U.C. Hastings Cleantech Roundtable, please visit:

<http://www.uchastings.edu/faculty-administration/academic-dean/clean-tech-conf.html>