

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

Solar Instructor
Training Network

Southeast Region



This newsletter is produced by the Southeast Solar Training Network (SSTN) for the purpose of supplying solar-related news to our educational and energy office partners. The information presented is from public websites such as the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE), the Interstate Renewable Energy Council (IREC), the Solar Instructor Training Network (SITN) and general energy related websites.

The goal of SITN is to help facilitate and support the creation of a well-trained and highly-qualified solar energy workforce of sufficient size and diversity to meet the projected workforce needs of the United States. The SSTN is one of nine DOE-funded Regional Training Providers and serves in the capacity of trainer and mentor for solar and photovoltaic-related faculty at southeast educational institutions.

We hope you find this information useful.

Note: An IREC "Clean Energy Training Directory" email has been sent to each SSTN trainer. Please take time to list your institution in this important directory.

Upcoming Training

**Florida Solar Energy Center,
Cocoa, FL**

PV Workshop for Code Officials
hosted by Building Officials
Association of Florida
[Sept. 17, 2013]

**Principles of Photovoltaic Systems
Design and Commissioning**
[Sept. 24-26, 2013]

Installing Photovoltaic Systems
[Oct. 7-11, 2013]

**Photovoltaic Technical Sales &
Business Operations**
[Nov. 13-14, 2013]

For more course details, visit
<http://ce.fsec.ucf.edu/>

1. New Energy Secretary takes a strong stand and sets the tone for the Department of Energy.

[Dr. Ernest J. Moniz](#) just delivered his first big policy address since being sworn in as the 13th U.S. Secretary of Energy in May. He spoke at Columbia University's Center on [Global Energy Policy](#) in New York City on Monday afternoon. Secretary Moniz set the Obama administration's [Climate Action Plan](#) as the backbone of his speech and set the stage for his tenure at the DOE. And, during the question-and-answer session, the Secretary diplomatically responded to questions.

See: [Secretary Moniz' energy policy address article](#)

2. PV Online Training

August 20, 2013 - The [PV Online Training](#), developed as part of IREC's role as the National Administrator of the Solar Instructor Training Network (SITN), instructs users in reliable field inspection practices and endorses efficient permit processes for residential PV installations.

Contact Us

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Project Staff

David L. Block
321-638-1001
block@fsec.ucf.edu

John Harrison
321-638-1506
harrison@fsec.ucf.edu

Colleen Kettles
321-638-1004
ckettles@fsec.ucf.edu

JoAnn Stirling
321-638-1014
joann@fsec.ucf.edu

Recent modifications to the training platform make it easier to use.

"We listened to the comments and suggestions from the users of PV Online Training," said Joe Sarubbi, program manager for SITN. "We believe this latest version is more user friendly."

The PV Online Training is now on the Moodle platform, an open source learning management system, popular with educators as a tool for creating online, dynamic web-based content for students. To access the PV Online Training, users will login and create an account at www.pvonlinetraining.org. Returning users can get credit for lessons previously completed.

This is an excellent tool to use with your students for classroom instruction and also as a valuable reference for local code officials that you may interact with.

3. Simplify local solar permitting with the new SolarPermit.org

Learn about local solar permitting requirements at SolarPermit.org, which hosts the National Solar Permitting Database—a free, online database of solar permitting requirements for cities and counties across the country. The newly redesigned site now contains key data for 80% of jurisdictions with 200 or more residential installations per year. This includes our Southeast area as well.

See: <http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/solar/newsletter/detail.cfm/articleId=436>

4. The Following is a story from our SSTN Georgia partner -- Southface Energy Institute.

GeorgiaEnergyData.org is the only comprehensive and current source for Georgia's energy data. The site is a free resource developed by Southface with assistance from Georgia State University's Geospatial Laboratory. The site provides interactive maps, charts and tables that allow users to understand Georgia's total energy, electricity and solar trends.

The Solar Map available on GeorgiaEnergyData.org, is the definitive source for Georgia solar installation and company data. The data shows that Georgia's solar capacity more than doubled between 2010 and 2011, going from 5.7 megawatts (MW) to 13.3 MW. It increased by another 65% in 2012 to approximately 22 MW. This is good news for Georgia's economy because the vast majority of these solar installations were installed by Georgia-based companies. In addition, approximately 38% of the state's solar electricity comes from panels made by Suniva or MAGE Solar, companies with manufacturing operations in Georgia. GeorgiaEnergyData.org shows that with solar, Georgia has the opportunity to make solar cells in-state, employ Georgians for solar

installation, and get electricity from the free sunshine that falls on Georgia every day.

GeorgiaEnergyData.org is listed on the U.S. Energy Information Administration's [Georgia portal](#). The EIA is the definitive source for energy data in the United States.”

5. Renewable Energy Provided Nearly 50% of 2012 U.S. Added Capacity

Renewable energy sources in the United States accounted for nearly 50% of U.S. electric capacity added in 2012, according to a new report. Wind deployment added a record 13,124 megawatts (MW) of capacity, and solar added 3,313 MW of capacity, according to the latest edition of the Ernst & Young report on U.S. renewable energy attractiveness indices. The report highlights trends in U.S. renewable investment and ranks the states in terms of their attractiveness for clean technology investment. The indices provide scores for state renewable energy markets, renewable energy infrastructures, and their suitability for individual technologies, and are updated on a biannual basis.

California led the nation in the report's measure of all renewable energy attractiveness, followed by Hawaii, Texas, Colorado, and Nevada. Texas was the leader in the actual installed wind base. See the [Ernst & Young press release](#) and the latest [indices report](#).

6. Careers for the Green Economy

The Florida Solar Energy Center has partnered with Brevard Workforce (BWDB) to offer an exclusive event targeting their clients who have participated in school-to-career transition service. “Careers for the Green Economy,” will provide a day long expose into the world of green jobs for BWDB’s NextGen, YouthBuild, and Job Corps graduates. Eastern Florida State College Green Team members, students dedicated to serving the campus community raising awareness about pressing environmental issues, will also participate.

The day will focus on:

- The Green Economy - what it means and why you should know about it.
- Types of green-related jobs and careers available.
- Industry trends in energy, construction, automotive, culinary arts and more.
- Local examples of businesses that contribute to the green economy.
- Entry level requirements employers look for in job candidates.
- Skills training programs available.

The event will be held September 25, 2013, from 10:00a.m. to 3:00p.m.

at FSEC. The SSTN will provide members of the solar industry to serve on a panel of industry experts who will be available during the day to provide insight into the skills, abilities, experience and training necessary to enter various occupations in the solar energy field.



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1679 Clearlake Road, Cocoa, FL 32922-5703