

**RENEWABLE ENERGY FORUM
SEPTEMBER 20-21, 2011
ST. THOMAS, US VIRGIN ISLANDS**

**Caribbean Integration: An Electric Utility Energy
Diversification Strategy in a Challenging Global Environment**

RE FORUM OVERVIEW

September 19, 2011

Pre-Conference Workshop on Prototype Power Purchase Agreement for Renewable Energy Projects

This pre-conference workshop will discuss critical areas of a prototype power purchase agreement (PPA) that was prepared under the Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Project for CARILEC which is funded by the Inter-American Development Bank. The workshop will look at several aspects of PPAs, including the basics of a power purchase agreement such as sale and purchase of energy, obligations, interconnection, operation and maintenance, metering, mutual warranties, defaults and termination, indemnification and liability and resolution of disputes. The workshop will also examine particular issues for different energy sources (fuel, wind, solar etc.), tariff issues and will discuss several PPA examples.

Opening Ceremony with Keynote Speaker

September 20, 2011

Plenary Session I

Integrating Renewable Energy Resources into the Electricity Grid: Issues, Challenges, Best Practices & Solutions

As the Caribbean region seeks to further embrace renewable energy (RE) solutions, there is a need to understand the issues surrounding the technical, safety, regulatory, environmental and financial aspects of introducing renewable energy into the electricity grid. This will be necessary in order to derive strategies and solutions which will be best suited to the regional situation.

This panel discussion will set the framework for the rest of the Forum and will highlight and discuss critical issues including: the percentage of RE that the grid can take without introducing

safety and reliability issues; the costs of the RE power and who should bear the costs associated with it; the best practices and solutions that have been implemented regionally/globally and the possibility for replication throughout the region.

September 20, 2011

Parallel Session I

**Resource Assessments and Project Development
(Technical/Project Development Track)**

This track will feature a presentation on conducting resource assessments for several renewable energy initiatives. Emphasis will be placed on how to do assessments, the type of assessments that are required, how to ensure/maintain integrity of data, successfully engaging stakeholders, among other things. The track will also include case studies of two major regional renewable energy projects, highlighting challenges, solutions and lessons learnt.

**Power Purchase Agreements for Renewable Energy projects
(Policy/Regulatory Track)**

This track builds on the pre-conference workshop on power purchase agreements for renewable energy projects.

**The cost of renewable energy development
(Investment/Financial Track)**

As the region progresses with its renewable energy developments, there is a need to understand the costs of the various resources. This track will include an examination of the cost of the RE resources and the costs of the various support systems that will be necessary to foster RE development. There will also be an analysis of some of the fiscal measures that have been employed regionally in favour of RE developments and a discussion on how project developers can manage risks in order to maintain financial viability.

September 20, 2011

Parallel Session II

**Utility experience with Renewable Energy
(Project Development Track)**

This track will focus on the work that some of the electric utilities within the Caribbean have been doing to further RE development, highlighting challenges, solutions and lessons learnt. The track will include presentations on pilot programmes, permitting and licensing processes, community and stakeholder involvement, among other things.

**Driving RE development through policy and regulation
(Policy/Regulatory Track)**

This track looks at the current state of policy and regulation regionally, discusses where the region needs to be and outlines what is required to get there. It also examines the challenges and

opportunities faced in mandating/regulating the increased implementation of RE. This track also entails a discussion on how to formulate appropriate tariff structures for the various RE technologies.

Creating solutions through research and technology advancement (Technology/Research Track)

Research and technology developments are critical to the growth of RE. This track will include three regional research initiatives which are geared towards supporting RE development. The track will also feature presentations from technology providers who have worked on regional projects.

September 20, 2011

Plenary Session II

Advancing RE developments: Transforming Policy to Legislation

There is a concern that enough is not being done to facilitate a progression from policy that promotes RE to some other mechanism that directly stimulates/mandates RE development. This panel discussion will be focused on how the move from policy to legislation can be made, highlighting challenges, issues, possible solutions and the way forward.

September 21, 2011

Parallel Session I

Power Purchase Agreements for RE Projects (Policy/Regulatory Track)

This track builds on the pre-conference workshop on power purchase agreements for renewable energy projects.

Transforming the Electricity Grid (Technical Track)

There is a need to transform the electricity grid so that it can better facilitate RE integration. The presentations in this session will look at distributive generation (hydropower case study); energy storage applications; 'net metering' (through a regional case study).

Financing for RE development in the Caribbean: Current and Future Prospects (Investment/Financial Track)

This track will highlight the work that several multilaterals have been doing in the region, as it pertains to RE. The presentations will focus on current initiatives and future prospects for public and private sector-led RE developments.

Utility experience with Renewable Energy II

(Project Development Track)

This track will focus on the work that some of the electric utilities within the Caribbean have been doing to further RE development, highlighting challenges, solutions and lessons learnt. The track will include presentations on pilot programmes, permitting and licensing processes, community and stakeholder involvement, among other things.

Transforming the Electricity Grid II

(Technical Track)

This second track on transforming the electricity grid will look at and smart grids (regional case study which will highlight current status, future direction and requirements to get there); smart grids and research development; workforce development and net metering.

Topic: To be confirmed

(Technical/Project Development Track)

Power Purchase Agreements for RE Projects

(Policy/Regulatory Track)

This track builds on the pre-conference workshop on power purchase agreements for renewable energy projects.

RE Resources and Climate Change

(Environmental Track)

The issue of climate change is becoming increasingly important, especially for Caribbean territories which are vulnerable to its effects. This track will look at how climate change can impact RE development regionally. It will also examine how existing/future projects can mitigate their climate change risks and explore how planned/future projects can take advantage of available carbon market opportunities.

Transforming the Caribbean Electricity Sector through resource integration

(Technical/Regulatory Track)

The small size of the Caribbean islands makes them susceptible to diseconomies of scale. The presentations in this track will look at the advantages and benefits that the islands can derive by bundling/coupling resources when conducting resource assessments; seeking financing; trying to attract vendors for a particular technology and arranging transportation and other logistics. The track will also look at how combined efforts such as the Eastern Caribbean Energy Regulatory Authority and the Caribbean Wind Energy Initiative can help the region.

Interconnecting Island Systems to Maximize the development of the Region's RE resources: What is required?

This panel discussion basically examines the future for RE development in the Caribbean and how it can be facilitated through regional interconnection. The discussion will examine the technical, social, political, environmental, financial, legal and regulatory aspects of interconnecting island systems.