

DATELINE EPRI

News and events update

Synchrophasor Demo Links Hardware in EPRI Laboratories

FORT WORTH, Tex. — Phasor measurement units, or synchrophasors, provide real-time information about a power system's dynamic performance. The North American SynchroPhasor Initiative (NASPI) in February demonstrated one approach to a network to securely move synchrophasor data beyond a single utility. Participating were CISCO, GE Digital Energy, OSIsoft, InStep Software, SISCO, Space Time Insight, Verizon, and EPRI. The demonstration streamed live synchrophasor measurements between EPRI labs in Lenox, Mass., Charlotte, N.C., and Knoxville, Tenn., and the demonstration presentation in Fort Worth. The Knoxville site simulated a utility operations center and sent data to Fort Worth.

Workshop Charts IGCC Roadmap

CALGARY, Alberta — EPRI staff conducted a workshop on behalf of the International Energy Research and Development Coalition for representatives of the U.S. Department of Energy, Canadian government-funded research labs, coal suppliers and others. The workshop focused on the future of integrated-gasification-combustion. Results of roadmap studies and detailed technology presentations under development could contribute to IGCCs with efficiencies greater than the most efficient of today's plants. For more information, contact George Booras at 704.595.2554, or George Booras, gbooras@epri.com,

EPRI's Sowder Testifies Before Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board

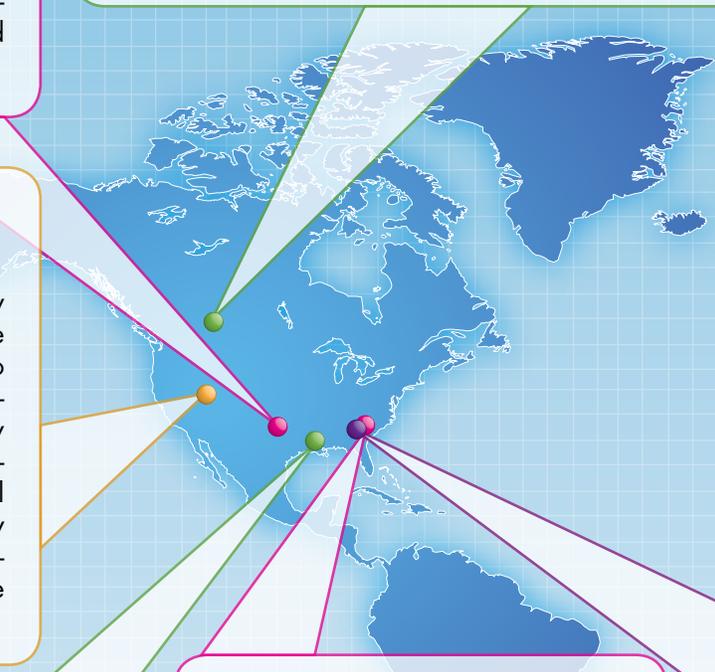
LAS VEGAS, Nev. — EPRI Senior Project Manager Andrew Sowder presented invited comments to the U.S. Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board on lessons learned from U.S. efforts to develop a permanent repository for used fuel and high-level radioactive waste. Sowder shared insights from EPRI's recently completed four-volume technical review of geologic disposal activities in the U.S. and abroad. The Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board, appointed by the president, was established by the 1987 Nuclear Waste Policy Amendments Act as an independent federal agency to provide technical oversight of the Department of Energy's High-Level Nuclear Waste Program.

Absorbing Contaminants: Conference Hears About Organoclays

NEW ORLEANS, La. — At the Sixth International Conference on Remediation of Contaminated Sediments, EPRI's Jeff Clock presented results from a remediation pilot project at a manufactured gas plant (MGP). The project examined the performance of an organoclay-based reactive core mat system in New York's Hudson River. Preliminary evaluations showed that 18-month-old organoclay in the reactive core mats had oil absorption capacity and permeability comparable to those of virgin organoclay. Other tests confirmed that the aged organoclay was absorbing MGP-related nonaqueous phase liquids from the contaminated sediments. Comparisons are ongoing for reactive core mats, conventional sand systems, and a composite system containing reactive core mats and bulk organoclay.

Chubu Electric Power Company Visits EPRI

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Two representatives from Chubu Electric Power Company in Japan visited the EPRI Charlotte offices on Friday, February 11, to discuss nuclear research activities and to tour EPRI's nuclear laboratory facilities. Mr. Ishihara, Chubu's chief nuclear officer, and Mr. Hamada, Chubu's country representative in Washington, D.C., met with Neil Wilmshurst and several members of the nuclear staff to discuss further opportunities for engagement.





Events



Reports



New Members



Speeches,
Testimonies,
& Briefings



Program &
Project Updates



Conferences

IGCC Roadmapping for the Canadian Clean Power Energy's National Energy Technology Laboratory, Canada, electric utilities, and technology developers. The combined-cycle technology (IGCC), using recent regulations by the developers. A key conclusion: technology 90% CO₂ capture producing power more efficiently. For more information, contact Ron Schoff, rschoff@epri.com, 650.855.2471.

EPRI and Czech Utility Launch Three-Year Nuclear Membership

PRAGUE — EPRI and the Czech utility CEZ a.s. met in January to launch CEZ's membership in the EPRI Nuclear Sector. CEZ's daughter company, NRI Rez (Nuclear Research Institute), had previously participated in several nuclear programs as a supplemental member. CEZ, the Czech Republic's largest utility, owns and operates six nuclear reactors at two sites, Dukovany and Temelin. Nuclear power accounts for about one-third of the power produced in the Czech Republic, and additional units are planned for Temelin, with startup in 2020.

EPRI Scientists Examine Issues at EMF/ELF Conference

PARIS — EPRI's Gabor Mezei and Rob Kavet presented several papers at the 2nd International Conference on EMF/ELF, an international forum for research on electric and magnetic fields coming from overhead lines, underground or submarine cables, substations, and converting stations. Mezei provided a summary evaluation of the epidemiologic literature on occupational exposure to extremely low frequency magnetic fields (ELF-MF) and neurodegenerative diseases. Kavet discussed two cases of exposures to power frequency electric fields that are incompletely addressed in published electric and magnetic fields exposure limit documents and may be considered when addressing indirect effects of electric fields in exposure standards and guidelines. Mezei and Kavet also presented an overview of epidemiology and laboratory research on a potential link between exposure to ELF-MF and cancer development.

Smart Grid Demonstration Advisory Meeting Marks Research Progress

ATLANTA, Ga. — Southern Company hosted the March Smart Grid Demonstration advisory meeting, which focused on four strategic topics: conservation voltage reduction and volt/VAR optimization; consumer engagement; energy storage monetization; and distribution management system integration and visualization. EPRI provided updates on research progress, and 10 utility members provided project updates. Southern Company reported on its smart grid projects and advanced meter infrastructure, fault location analysis, and distributed photovoltaic (PV) systems, followed by a tour of the Technology Showcase and Georgia Power Annex Distributed PV Systems, which is evaluating several different PV technologies.

IEA Coal Industry Advisory Board Looks at CCS

PARIS — EPRI Director of Generation Stu Dalton reviewed for the International Energy Agency Coal Industry Advisory Board a number of key issues related to carbon capture and storage (CCS) technology. He emphasized the need for research on all technology options, the difficulty and cost of meeting CO₂ goals, and the status of CCS development, including EPRI large-scale tests and demonstrations. The audience included senior executives from electric utilities, coal companies, and railroads.