



ASSOCIATION OF  
ENERGY ENGINEERS

Bay Area Chapter

# NEWSLETTER

March 2001

## Meeting Information Tuesday, March 27<sup>th</sup>

### AEE Bay Area Chapter Presents Latest in Lighting Systems and Controls Strategies

6:00 – 6:30 p.m.

Social

6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Dinner

7:30 – 9:00 p.m.

Chapter Business and Presentation

**Location:**

Autumn Moon, Oakland

**Cost:**

\$30.00 for Members

\$35.00 for Non-members

\$15.00 for Students

**Reservations:** Call Rory Moran at (925) 543-3809 or  
FAX (877) 638-4942.

See inside for more info...

## President's Message

Well it's been a month since the last newsletter and energy issues are still making news every day in the local fishwrap. "Soaring Electric Use More Fiction Than Fact," read this Sunday's headlines. "Total electricity consumption in California increased only 4.75% in 2000 from 1999, a sharp contrast to claims of industry representatives..." *Only 4.75%?* Sounds like a lot to me, particularly when you consider that projections were for in the range of 2%. If you look at a statewide average demand last year in the range of 30,000 MW, that is an increase of about 1500 MW. That's a pretty big plant – one and a half of the standard nuclear reactor unit size, for example.

The article rankled me. It sounded more like the Bay Guardian than the Chronicle given that they were pretty fast and loose with some big numbers. Of course that was the point – that the generating companies have been fast and loose with their interpretation of load growth numbers. The authors were trying to shift blame for the current

Now don't get me wrong. I am no fan of fossil fueled or nuclear powered generation. I've committed my professional life to reducing demand so we can rely less on those sources. But I think it's too easy to point the finger at generators, simply because they are profiting from the tight market. We, well *somebody*, asked for a deregulated market and now we've got it. But we got a market that is short on capacity. The authors seemed shocked that although use has only gone up by about 5%, prices during peak hours have gone up by as much 289%. That points to a simple economic fact about energy use – the supply curve is inelastic. In other words, higher prices don't immediately cause a reduction in use and, conversely, a small shortfall of supply can lead to a big jump in price.

We're just not used to thinking of energy as a deregulated commodity. And because it will take years to get more supply in place, it is going to be painful to ride out the shifts in supply, demand, and price as this thing plays out.

So, what does California need? A bunch of energy geeks of course. We should throw them at immediate O&M commissioning savings. If we could effect a 1% energy savings on the total statewide demand (I'm much more conservative than Gray who is shooting for 10%) how many energy engineers could we afford in the state? Given rough numbers (30,000 MW average demand and an average salary of \$85,000 each), we could hire about 3,000 energy engineers. Maybe we could send one over to the Chronicle building!

situation back onto the evil generating companies as if to say that's "where it belongs."

Conclusion: Energy use is like drug use. Don't point the fickle finger of fate at the dealers (generators, distributors, et. al.), while you still have a problem at home (didn't these guys see Traffic?).

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**Interested in involvement?**

Contact: Jim Kelsey  
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**AEE Advertisement Cost**

Charges for advertising in the Newsletter and Web Site are as follows:

<u>Advertisement Size</u>	<u>(1) one month</u>	<u>(3) three months</u>
Quarter Page	\$50	\$40/month
Eighth Page	\$30	\$20/month
Business Card	Not Available	\$15/month

- Advertisement in both documents will be at an additional charge of 50% to the above.
- Corporate members are permitted to advertise their business card at no charge, otherwise Corporate members will be charged at half of the above cost.

*A special thanks to our Corporate Members. If you were a corporate member, you could have your card advertised (and on the web site too).*

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AEE Bay Area Chapter serves as a unique forum for the discussion of energy issues and concerns. AEE Bay Area Chapter provides common professional meeting ground for facility managers, design and specifying engineers, utility and vendor representatives and energy researchers to participate in vigorous peer-to-peer dialogue, learning and group discussion.

AEE Bay Area Chapter strives to provide quality professional development opportunities that build knowledge and skills through meetings, seminars and publications. Emphasis is placed on:

- Assessing the applicability of emerging technologies, and
- Improving the performance and reliability of current technologies.

Meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of the month. All interested persons are welcome to attend, participate and join the Chapter. If you are interested in joining the AEE Bay Area Chapter, contact Ryan Wood (800) 770-8539.

# Secretary's Report

Report on the AEE Bay Area Chapter dinner meeting held February 27, 2001 at Zza's Trattoria in Oakland.

## Announcements

**Rebuilding Together** (formerly know as Christmas in April) is coalescing once again! Rebuilding Together is a volunteer organization that rehabs homes for low-income elderly and disabled citizens.

In the past two years, Energy Teams have been added to this community effort. Energy Team volunteers learn how - and why - to perform simple household energy efficiency measures, like installing water heater blankets, water pipe insulation, compact fluorescent lamps, low flow showerheads, programmable thermostats, weather-stripping doors and windows, and cleaning refrigerator coils. On Saturday, April 28 (April 21 in Patella) the Energy Teams bring their skills to homes and community facilities being rehabbed by nine different Rebuilding Together chapters in Northern California.

To become a general Energy Team volunteer or an Energy Team Captain, please contact Lisa Gartland at [lisa@pstvnrg.com](mailto:lisa@pstvnrg.com) or (510) 595-7674. You can also check out the website [www.pstvnrg.com/xina](http://www.pstvnrg.com/xina).

**Society for Women Engineers** is soliciting donations for the purchase and distribution of "Cool Construction for Girls," a book that inspires future architects, engineers, project managers, etc. Contact Wendy Maria Phelps at [wendy.phelps@gsa.gov](mailto:wendy.phelps@gsa.gov) or (415) 522-3204.

## Presentation

Energy Efficiency Programs for the East Bay – New Initiatives for Commercial Lighting, Office Equipment, and Product Design Assistance.

As part of the CA PUC's Summer Initiative (a highly accelerated effort aimed at reducing electric demand), Pacific Gas and Electric Company conducted a third-party bidding process with funds from the Public Goods Charge. Energy Solutions is currently implementing three of these programs. A trio of Energy Solutions staff provided an overview of these three programs.

**Andrew McAllister** discussed The FastTrack Efficient Lighting Program, a rebate program targeted to lighting contractors and their medium and large customers in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. With an emphasis on peak KW reduction, the program provides incentives for the installation of efficient lighting equipment and controls in existing facilities. Check the web site for more details: [www.energy-solution.com/FastTrack](http://www.energy-solution.com/FastTrack) or contact Andrew at (510) 482-4420 ext. 226.

**Terry O'Sullivan** educated the dinner gathering on the fastest growing electricity end use in the commercial sector – "plug load" (computer monitors, computers, printers, and task lights are the lion's share). The Office Equipment Efficiency Program is designed to provide three types of services: 1) Sleep Mode enabling for computer monitors, 2) Energy Saving hardware including "smart power strips" and wall switch lighting controls and 3) User awareness campaign. The program targets large commercial and institutional customers (300 users) in the Pacific Gas and Electric territory (Bay Area preferred). The goal is 450 KW by June 30. For more info contact Terry O'Sullivan at (510) 482-4420 ext. 223.

**Susan Kulakowski** is currently managing the Oakland Energy Efficiency Design Assistance (EEDA) program. The City of Oakland was awarded this third-party initiative and, in turn, hired Energy Solutions, KW Engineering, and TMT Associates to provide free energy efficiency building advice along with the City's planning, zoning, and building permit services. The services may be requested by owners, designers, developers, or contractors for both new construction and renovation/retrofit of existing buildings in the commercial and multifamily sectors. The key is to contact the EEDA as early as possible in the project cycle. The program will continue through December 31, 2001. Some of the Resources/Contacts are: 250 Frank Ogawa Plaza Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor "One-Stop Permit Center," Green Building Resource Center, Susan Kulakowski (510) 923-0614.

**Bruce Chamberlain**  
**Co-Secretary, AEE Bay Chapter**

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What the world really needs is more energy geeks.

Almost forgot. Head down to IKEA for a good deal on cheap CFL's. They have a bunch in the \$5 to \$7 range, including some that have nifty little covers that make them look like old fashioned light bulbs. Kind of funny when you think about it – some light bulbs come in flame shapes, presumably to make you feel more warm and fuzzy about them. Now CFLs come in A-lamp shapes for the same reason. Maybe someday we'll have microwave sulfur or induction lamps shaped like spirally CFLs when we get used to them.

**By Jim Kelsey, P.E.**

# Career Opportunities

## City of San Francisco's Hetch Hetchy Water and Power

City of San Francisco's Hetch Hetchy Water and Power is looking for four energy management professionals. Salary \$57,000 to \$85,000 per year. Call (415) 554-2425 ASAP.

## Berkeley Lab – Environmental Energy Technologies Division – Project Manager Opportunity

As a project manager for our Environmental Energy Technologies Division, you will be an integral member of a research team that develops technologies and processes to mitigate the environmental effects of energy use. Desired qualifications: experience developing and facilitating large, complex energy efficiency projects, preferably in the high tech sector; experience leading multi-disciplinary teams to apply energy efficiency technologies; experience making presentations and producing end-user resource guidelines; proficiency in MS Office; extensive experience in critical facility design, energy management programs, energy retrofit project management and/or facilities management. Interested? Go to [www.lbl.gov](http://www.lbl.gov) for more details about Berkeley Lab. Apply on-line at [www.cjo.lbl.gov](http://www.cjo.lbl.gov) or email application to [employment@lbl.gov](mailto:employment@lbl.gov). Send your resume in plain text, no attachments please. Or mail to Berkeley Lab Staffing Office, One Cyclotron Road, MS 937-0600, Berkeley, CA, 94720. Reference job title and source code EE/013146/BEE1.

## NORESKO – Project Managers and Measurement & Verification Specialist

NORESKO is a national leader in designing and providing energy services programs. Currently, we are looking for bright, motivated *Project Managers* in our South San Francisco office. Project managers are sought to coordinate bids, create budgets, track job costs, and manage subcontractors and vendors in the construction of mechanical and electrical efficiency projects. Minimum requirements: 3 years exp. in management and installation of lighting and mechanical retrofit projects. Strong verbal, written, communication and time management skills, the ability to work independently, and strong Excel, MSWord, and Windows skills. NORESKO offers competitive salaries, a full array of benefits and an exciting work environment for the right candidate. Please forward resume with a cover letter to NORESKO, Attn.: Tom Harley, 100 Produce Ave., Suite L, South San Francisco, CA 94080, Fax: (650) 589-3750, [tharley@noresko.com](mailto:tharley@noresko.com).

NORESKO is also seeking a measurement and verification specialist for our South San Francisco office. Duties will include: monitoring and verifying energy savings of long-term performance contracts in both utility and non-utility sponsored programs; performing measurement and verification data collection, troubleshooting, and integrity checks; installing and maintaining measurement and verification systems for Utility and Performance Contract Programs; receiving, diagnosing, and solving trouble calls for Energy Management Systems; and developing measurement and verification strategies for lighting and HVAC energy conservation measures. The successful applicant will have the following skills and interests: 1-3 years work experience, a general background or interest in energy efficiency, strong computer knowledge; experience in engineering, construction, and field work. Please forward resume with a cover letter to NORESKO, Attn.: Melinda Saunders,

Do you know someone who might be interested in joining AEE Bay Area Chapter?



*Bay Area Chapter*

The benefits of joining include:

- Participating in exciting and informative programs
- Receiving a monthly newsletter containing information on meetings, events, and job openings
- Communicating with other energy professionals

For membership application:  
**Contact Ryan Wood**  
**(650)-596-1160**

Meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of each month. All interested persons are welcome to attend, participate

65 Battery Street, Suite 200  
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IT'S ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME. RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY TO CONTINUE RECEIVING THE BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP.