IMPLEMENTING AGREEMENT ON PHOTOVOLTAIC POWER SYSTEMS TASK 1



Workshop IEA PVPS (Task 1), EUPVSEC 2011, Hamburg Wednesday, Sept. 7th Morning

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Abstract:

Driving future PV deployment – electricity utility PV business models

With governments acting to redesign PV support schemes, what may be the approach to widespread PV deployment in the medium-term? This international workshop explores the potential role of the electricity businesses and regulators.

Technical questions have been raised about high penetration of PV in some electricity networks, but political concerns have taken precedence over electricity utility issues in the past (the mandates to accept all renewable electricity generation – already being challenged or circumvented in some cases –have been the classic political response to the issue). In the near-term, strongly influenced by political considerations, governments are acting to redesign support schemes. As PV becomes more widely affordable and retail electricity prices continue to increase, governments may well rethink their involvement in PV market growth.

- What will then be the approach to widespread deployment of PV taken by the 'new' electricity network businesses?
- What will the future involvement of government be?
- Will this involvement be limited to working through a legal process that sets the boundaries for the industry and network regulators?
- Who is going to pay for some of the network-related issues?
- How will PV in general be financed into the future?

Featuring international experts presenting their views and engaging the audience in discussion, this workshop explores and answers these questions.