



San Francisco Power and Energy Society

Spring Banquet

Wednesday May 22

6:30 – 9:00 PM

Sinbad's Restaurant Pier 2-Embarcadero

Keynote Speaker - Merwin Brown, PhD
Co-Director, Electric Grid Research
California Institute for Energy and Environment
University of California

The Real Reasons We Must Have a Smart Grid for the 21st Century

Abstract:

Attempts to sell the smart grid to electricity consumers and taxpayers have understandably leaned toward promoting the “carrot” of customer-side applications and their benefits, the “stick” being a mandate. Unfortunately, these promised benefits, while valuable, are not the whole story, and will likely not be fully realized for many years. If the “carrot” cannot be affordably delivered soon, the appearance of overstated promises, especially given the recent hype and media attention, might ignite a consumer/taxpayer backlash that could derail smart grid progress. And the stakes are high. The smart grid is more than a smart meter, and is a must is for keeping the lights on and electricity prices in check for the early 21st century. The reasons have their roots in trends that started in the electricity industry in the 1960s, and their impacts are now reaching critical significance. Today the 21st century electric grid owner, planner, and operator face a growing uncertainty, complexity, inadequacy, conflict, and the need for flexibility, robustness, real-time situation awareness, forecasting in uncertainty and rapid response. The smart grid is a necessary, if not sufficient, investment. Dr. Brown thinks the public needs to be told about this necessity and helped to understand the real reasons sooner rather than later.

Merwin Brown, Electric Grid Program Co-Director for the California Institute for Energy and Environment (CIEE), manages a team helping to develop and commercialize technologies for the modern electric grid for California’s aggressive energy-policy goals. The team develops, administers, and conducts technology R&D programs for reliable, safe, affordable, and environmentally sound transmission and distribution systems. The California Energy Commission and the U.S. Department of Energy largely funds this work.

Dr. Brown’s knowledge of electric utilities and new technologies results from over 40 years of experience with firms such as Pacific Gas and Electric Company, Arizona Public Service, the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory. Dr. Brown also has other R&D program management, strategic business planning, electric industry advisory and leadership experience. Dr. Brown has numerous technical publications and presentations, and holds B.S. and Ph.D. degrees in nuclear engineering from Kansas State University.



DATES & TIMES
Wednesday, May 22, 2013
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PLACE
Sinbad's Pier 2 Restaurant
Embarcadero
Closest BART Station is Embarcadero
Valet Parking Available - \$5.00

Dinner Selections

Choice of Chef's Potatoes or Herb Seasoned Rice, Fresh Garden Vegetables, Italian French Bakery Sourdough Bread and Butter, French Roast Coffee, Fresh Brewed Tea. Dessert not included.

Dinner Choices (Please Select):

- 1) Salmon Florentine
- 2) Breast of Chicken Piccata
- 3) Pacific Red Snapper
- 4) London Broil
- 5) Shrimp Louie Salad served with Cup of Chowder
- 6) Vegetarian Dish – Pasta Primavera

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

IEEE Membership #: _____

Cost:

- **Early Bird discount!**, if pay by May 8, 2013. *IEEE members \$25, Non-members \$35*
Eventbrite Discount Code: EarlyBird2013
- *After May 8, IEEE members \$30, Non-members \$40*
- Students \$15 with valid Student ID.
- Cash Bar
- **Corporate sponsorships (call for details):**
 - Table for 8 with Logo on the table and slide presentation during the event - \$350
 - Only Corporate Logo advertising - \$100

Payment Options/RSVP:

1) Pay and RSVP by May 15 at Eventbrite (Preferred). Use your credit card! (Fee applies)

<http://ieespringbanquet.eventbrite.com/>

2) Pay at the door. RSVP by May 15 to: Charles Mee; Phone: **415-703-1147** **E-Mail: charles.mee@cpuc.ca.gov**