PV Module Reliability Workshop – Discussion Notes
Thursday, February 26, 2015

IECRE: PV System Certification Workshop PV Rules of Procedure Discussion

- Will the standard address issues related to zoning, encroachment etc. by various authorities having jurisdiction (AHJs)?
- Will the standard cover the modules mismatch criteria and long term warranty support plan from manufacturer? It may apply to other balance-of-system components as well.
- How will the standard deal with design safety factors like DC/AC ratio and validation?
- Standard should define SCADA interface minimum requirements and definitions of key solar terms and metrics.
- Standard should include list of key exclusions.
- How will the standard cover the environmental related issues at a site – landfill and related gases, pores, cotton field, snow-to-ice buildup on roofs (safety concern)? Some of the items are not covered in local building codes.
- Standard should be flexible for commercial cookie-cutter systems and address incremental requirements for design and installation (e.g., best design practices, guidelines, certified installers).
- Remove roof mounting from BIPV application class category.
- Will standard be product or process driven? We agreed it will look like a blend of both criteria.
- O&M plan should cover spares list and their availability/replacements over plant life.
- A good preventive inspection and maintenance plan may reduce insurance costs.
- Divide certifications into type-level and site-level.
- How will the standard address vegetation mitigation, third-party designs, etc?
- Include minimum SCADA capability and notification/communications requirements.
- O&M plan – what is the best way to define certification level of ongoing surveillance visits during the O&M phase vs. certification through successful acceptance of the power plant (full energy testing and validation)?
- Use of satellite-based telemetry instead of site instrumentation to minimize errors.
- Add parking structure as a new application class for system certification.
- Update scope by removing "support structure/foundation" and inserting "including."