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Renewable energy and energy efficiency: Lessons for US from Europe

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This talk presents some recommendations for the current challenges, development and implementation of renewable energy technologies in the US. Europe has been for several years forefront of renewable energy technology in the world. Europe has presented great innovations in applying sustainable development and renewable energy practices into Europeans daily life. With the increase in the renewable market in China and the rest of the world, it is essential for US companies to be more involved in the state of the art renewable energy technology in US and around the globe. The challenges for US would be pulling out from Paris agreement, state level not federal level law, inefficient buildings, plants and automobiles, use of fossil fuels, poor renewable energy infrastructure and final renewable energy cost for American family. The opportunities and hope would be DOE's 20% Wind energy production by 2030 report, renewable energy job creation, 35 states with 70% of the total US net power with the overall target averages 20% of electricity from renewables by 2020 and diversifying risk of energy route by investing in many different states. Last but not least, the author will focus on renewable energy education based on his practical study of solar thermal in Europe and working in US afterwards and will compare the challenges, opportunities and practices of renewable energy and energy efficiency in two sides of Atlantic Ocean and will propose joint European and American renewable energy schools and connection with the European universities counterpart for the joint renewable energy program.

Biography

Eshagh Yazdanshenas, PhD, PE, LEED AP, CEM is Head of Energy Group at the Global Engineering Solutions. He obtained his PhD from the Technical University of Denmark within the Marie Curie Training Network, Advanced Solar Heating and Cooling for Buildings SOLNET (Solar Thermal Network) project in 2010. SOLNET was the first international PhD education program on Solar Thermal Engineering with partners from nine universities and seven European countries supported by the European Commission. He is an expert in renewable energy, building energy modeling and performance modeling applications such as CFD and daylighting modeling. He is proficient in many modeling and simulation programs and related applications, such as EnergyPlus, DesignBuilder, Google SketchUp, Ecotect, Radiance, Star CCM+ and FLUENT, TRNSYS, Trane Trace among others. As a member of Maryland, MD IBPSA chapter, he helps to organize meetings and speakers. He has also written numerous journal and conference papers and presented at significant industry events, such as Solar World Congress, EUROSUN, SimBuild and ASES Solar Conference.

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