

Presenter Bios

Webinar: CCAs and Energy Resilience: Redwood Coast Energy Authority's Airport Microgrid April 17, 2019



Richard Engel

Richard Engel is director of power resources at Redwood Coast Energy Authority in Eureka, California, where he oversees administration of the community choice energy program, power procurement, and customer account management. He previously worked as a research engineer at the Schatz Energy Research Center at Humboldt State University in Arcata, California, developing hydrogen fuel cells and other advanced energy technologies. He has worked for local government energy programs in San Francisco, Palo Alto, and Sonoma County. He has a degree in environmental resources engineering from Humboldt State University.



Jim Zoellick

Jim is a Managing Research Engineer at the Schatz Energy Research Center at Humboldt State University with 24 years of dedication. His work involves planning, analysis, project development and implementation, with a special focus on tribal and public sector projects in rural northern California. Most recently he has worked to develop, deploy and evaluate cutting edge microgrid technology. He has managed or co-managed two microgrid projects at the Blue Lake Rancheria, including the 2018 DistribuTECH Project of the Year for DER Integration. Currently he is co-managing the Redwood Coast Airport Microgrid Project; this will be the first front-of-the-meter, multi-customer microgrid on Pacific Gas and Electric's distribution system.



Nikky Avila

Dr. Avila, Grid Innovation Engineer for PG&E, is a lead microgrid product manager working on designing, testing and deploying energy technologies to enable the distributed grid of the future. She also works on grid modernization strategy and policy in California.