

# —AGENDA—

**REGISTRATION** **9:30 - 10:00**  
**Engineering Hall Atrium**

Registration and coffee/tea  
Note: Food/drinks not allowed in meeting rooms

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**OPENING REMARKS** **10:00 - 10:15**  
**Engineering Auditorium Room 1109**

Dr. David Rosowsky - VP for Research at Kansas State University  
Dr. Anil Pahwa - Kansas State University

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**PANEL DISCUSSION** **10:15 - 11:15**  
**Barriers, Opportunities & Strategies for Solar Energy**  
**Engineering Auditorium Room 1109**

Moderator: Dr. Anil Pahwa - Kansas State University  
Panel: Mark Barbee - Kansas Electric Power Cooperative (KEPCo)  
Colin Hansen - Kansas Power Pool (KPP)  
Corey Linville - Sunflower Electric Power Corporation  
Paul Mahlberg - Kansas Municipal Energy Agency (KMEA)  
Doug Shepherd - Independent Contractor at Kansas Electric Cooperatives (KEC)

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**FIRST KEYNOTE** **11:15 - 11:45**  
**Surveys of Rural Communities and Electricity Distributors**  
**Engineering Auditorium Room 1109**

Dr. Gary Brase - Kansas State University

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**LUNCH** **11:45 - 1:00**  
**Engineering Hall Basement**

Lunch and networking

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**SECOND KEYNOTE** **1:00 - 2:30**  
**Case Studies of Solar Energy in Rural Kansas**  
**Engineering Auditorium Room 1109**

**Baldwin Solar Project**  
Glenn Rodden - City of Baldwin

**Community Solar**  
Alli Conine - Wheatland Electric Cooperative  
Erica Schmidt - Sunflower Electric Power Corporation

**Financial Analysis of Solar Power for Greensburg, KS**  
Dr. Anil Pahwa - Kansas State University

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**CLOSING REMARKS** **2:30 - 3:00**  
**Engineering Auditorium Room 1109**

Reflections and path forward

# — GUEST SPEAKERS —

## **Dr. David Rosowsky - VP for Research at Kansas State University**

David Rosowsky joined Kansas State University as vice president for research in July 2021. As VPR, Rosowsky serves as the university's chief research officer, providing leadership and expertise in fostering a campus environment that promotes collaborative, interdisciplinary efforts and produces high-quality research and scholarly work. Rosowsky encourages and facilitates the integration and enhancement of research, scholarly and creative activities across the university's colleges and multiple research centers and leads university wide strategic research growth activities. Additionally, Rosowsky serves as chair of the board of directors for K-State Innovation Partners, K-State's hub of corporate engagement, technology commercialization and economic development.

## **Dr. Anil Pahwa - Kansas State University**

Anil Pahwa has worked for 40 years in Electrical and Computer Engineering Department at Kansas State University, where he is presently University Distinguished Professor and holds the Logan-Fetterhoof Chair. He received the B.E. (honors) degree in electrical engineering from Birla Institute of Technology and Science, Pilani, India, in 1975, the M.S. degree in electrical engineering from University of Maine, Orono, in 1979, and the Ph.D. degree in electrical engineering from Texas A&M University, College Station, in 1983. He served as a Senior Scientific Advisor in Economic Policy Office of East Asian and Pacific Affairs Bureau of the U.S. Department of State in 2014-15. He served as Program Director for power and energy at the National Science Foundation from 2018-20. He is a Fellow of IEEE.

## **Mark Barbee - Kansas Electric Power Cooperative (KEPCo)**

Mark R. Barbee is Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer for Kansas Electric Power Cooperative, Inc. (KEPCo). He has overall responsibility for the engineering and operational functions at KEPCo. He is on the Board of Directors of the Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation, the Iatan 2 Owner/Operations Committee, and the Southwest Power Pool Markets and Operations Policy Committee. He has over 35 years of engineering and operational experience in the electric utility industry. Mark came to KEPCo in 1997 from Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation where he spent ten years in various engineering and supervisory roles. He is a graduate of Kansas State University with a B.S. in Electrical Engineering and is a licensed Professional Engineer in Kansas.

### **Colin Hansen – Kansas Power Pool (KPP)**

Colin Hansen is CEO & General Manager of KPP Energy, a municipal joint action agency providing electricity, transmission and energy services to 24 Kansas cities. Prior to joining KPP in February 2022, Colin served for 22 years as Executive Director of Kansas Municipal Utilities (KMU), the statewide trade association for municipal utilities. Colin served as the 2021-2022 Chairman of the Board of the American Public Power Association. He holds a mechanical engineering degree from Iowa State University and master's in business administration from Drake University.

### **Corey Linville – Sunflower Electric Power Corporation**

Corey Linville is the Vice President of Power Supply and Delivery for Sunflower Electric Power Corporation. His current responsibilities include overseeing system operations, market operations, power contracts, resource planning, billing, and member services and external affairs. Corey has been with Sunflower for 30 years, and his previous experience includes working as an engineer at Sunflower's generation facilities. Corey holds a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Kansas State University, and he is a licensed professional engineer in the state of Kansas.

### **Paul Mahlberg – Kansas Municipal Energy Agency (KMEA)**

Paul Mahlberg has served the municipal electric industry for over 30 years and joined the Kansas Municipal Energy Agency (KMEA) in August 2015 as the Agency's General Manager. Paul is responsible for the overall management of the Agency. Prior to KMEA, Paul worked for the municipal utility in Independence, Missouri for 19 years and a national engineering consulting firm for 8 years. He earned the Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from Iowa State University.

### **Doug Shepherd – Independent Contractor at Kansas Electric Cooperatives (KEC)**

Doug Shepherd has nearly 35 years of service to rural electric utilities, including a rural electric distribution utility, the statewide trade association, and an electric generation and transmission cooperative. He graduated from the University of Nebraska – Lincoln with the Bachelor's Degree in Agricultural Engineering and the Master's Degree in Business Administration. Doug recently retired from Kansas Electric Cooperatives, Inc. as Vice President, Management Consulting Services. His expertise lies in the areas of electric cost of service studies and rate design, regulatory and government affairs, sales and property taxes, customer-owned interconnection issues, and emerging technologies.

### **Dr. Gary Brase - Kansas State University**

Gary Brase is a Professor in the Department of Psychological Sciences at Kansas State University, studying complex human decision making using social, cognitive, and evolutionary theories. His research includes work on topics such as medical decisions, decisions about sustainability issues, relationship and fertility decision making, and reasoning about social rules. He has done applied research on consumer decision making in areas such as cybersecurity, electric vehicle and solar power adoption, and other sustainable behaviors.

### **Glenn Rodden - City of Baldwin**

Glenn Rodden served in the United States Army for five years before attending Northern Illinois University where he earned a B.S. in Political Science, a Masters of Public Administration, an M.A. in American History, and a Ph.D. in American History. He started my career in public administration in Streator, Illinois and moved to Kansas in 2000. He has managed four cities in Kansas: 1. Seneca; 2. Holton; 3. Beloit; and 4. Baldwin City. Each of those communities has owned and operated all utilities including electric. The exposure to the electric business sparked his interest in renewable energy in general and solar in particular. His experience constructing a small solar plant in Baldwin City was educational.

### **Alli Conine - Wheatland Electric Cooperative**

Alli Conine is the Director of Member Services & Corporate Communications at Wheatland Electric Cooperative, Inc. She has been with Wheatland since 2015. Alli is responsible for all internal and external communications at Wheatland. Alli also coordinates all community and school programs in addition to all membership meetings. Alli holds her CKAE (Certified Key Accounts Executive) credentials through NRECA. Alli currently manages a key accounts program that includes 113 members who have over 1,950 individual accounts representing more than thirty-one million dollars in revenue or nearly 28% of the total revenue for the cooperative in 2021. This fall Alli will earn her CCC (Certified Cooperative Communicator) credentials.

### **Erica Schmidt - Sunflower Electric Power Corporation**

Erica Schmidt has been at Sunflower Electric Power Corporation for 13 years. In her current role, Manager Power Contracts, Erica focuses on power contracts and resource adequacy, as well as developing energy solutions to Sunflower's Members and wholesale customers. Erica graduated from Kansas State University with the bachelor's degree in business and from Friends University with the Master of Business Administration. Erica also holds her Certified Key Accounts Executive certificate from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.