

**Technical Working Group Meeting 11/10/08 2-4pm**  
**Draft Meeting Notes**

**Attendees:** Mark Valori, Kevin Wright, Robert Menist, Peter Robilotta, Julie Weiser

**Handouts:** Manufacturer's Specifications for Uni-solar Laminate PVL-series, Solectria Renewables Grid-Tied PV Inverters 13kW & 15kW, & Sanyo HIT Double 186 module

**Agenda:**

- **Welcome & Intro**
- **Topics to discuss**
  - **Failure modes**
    - The highest failure is due to Racking. Kevin W. is to put together something on this for the next meeting.
    - Mark V. mentioned there are a few people that are failing about 20% of the time.
    - Failures for some folks are on the same issue.
  - **Presentation** – John Moynihan “True South vs. Magnetic South”
    - John didn't show up to the meeting to have this presentation
  - **Other Issues**
    - **Recent Inspection Issues** (Robert Menist)
      - Installation had exposed THHN wire and passed the electrical inspection (we should probably send an egregious letter to the DCA. Mark V & Kevin W. mentioned this is not part of DCA egregious violations)
        - A question was raised if we could fail this inspection for wire not meeting the rating of connector. We would need to look into this.
        - It was determined that we can't really do anything, (because it passed the electrical inspection) besides informing the DCA about this issue.
      - Disconnects with parallel fusing was also discussed
        - Robert's written something up on this and it will be included in the next newsletter.
    - **Uni-solar Laminate** (Kevin Wright)
      - There are 5 or 6 installations where this is installed at 0 to ¼ slope, not meeting the manufacture's minimum.
      - Manufacture will allow it up to 3 ½ degrees, but publicly they have it noted as 5 degrees.
      - Uni-Solar sent us a letter that they warrant the product on a particular job, but they want bi-annual inspections each year. (These inspections are between the installer and Uni-Solar, the program is not involved.)
      - Kevin Wright mentioned that the building integrated solar goes only to 40% not 80% as previously thought.

- Kevin W. mentioned a concern about the adhesive of this product if installed on an existing roof.
  - Peter mentioned a job he was aware of where they cleaned the roof with alcohol and some other product before installing the Uni-Solar Laminate.
- Mark V. will make a notification of the Uni-Solar laminate issues in the next news letter.
- **Solectria Grid-Tied PV Inverters 13kW & 15kW** (Mark Valori)
  - The inverter has a remote display.
  - There have been problems with this inverter due to grid going down. Was told by manufacturer that if this goes off the inverter will come back online within 24 hours.
  - Manufacture is currently working on fixing the software issue.
  - Manufacturer claims that if there is a slow ride down of power by the utility then the inverter will start back up.
    - Told by Manufacturer that the procedure to test is to shut down DC power first then shut down the AC power. Then you would start it up by turning the AC power on and then the DC power on.
  - What should we do from a program standpoint? (Mark V.)
    - Comments:
      - It is not a safety issue, but it is a production issue.
      - The size of the inverter isn't common; unless it is really cheap it won't be installed on many systems.
    - This has caused a problem for inspecting systems with this inverter during one site visit.
      - Robert mentioned it needs to work while he is on site.
      - Kevin mentioned that in theory it should work if we use the manufacture's test procedure.
      - Should an inspection fail because of a program issue? (Kevin W.)
      - Mark V. mentioned that this is a pass, and will put manufacture's letter in the file.
- **Sanyo Modules HIT Double 186**– (Robert Menist)
  - Robert saw this module on a recent inspection and wanted to bring it to our attention that light will go through these modules.
  - It guards from the weather and absorbs light from the other side too.
  - Also, since regular modules aren't available, some people are now installing these modules.
  - The modules will produce up to 30% more.

- This module was encountered on a ground mounted system with grass on the underside.

**Next Meeting:** The current agenda has this meeting set up for December 1st. However due to the Wind Site Assessor Training that is occurring on that day, the meeting will be moved. After looking at the agenda, we will move this meeting to December 15<sup>th</sup>. Cynthia Surman is to send out a meeting notice for the next TWG Meeting.