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Technology Innovation in Renewable Energy Development

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Abstract

Innovation in renewable energy technology development is becoming more important as global environmental concerns are heightened and the need increases for improved power generation in a carbon-constrained future. The United States Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) maintains a Technology Innovation (TI) Program that advances energy science and technology, incubates it along the path toward practical application, and accelerates its use throughout the electricity enterprise. Addressing the mid- and long-term strategic objectives of the electric power industry, the TI Program focuses collaborative investments on targets of innovation with the greatest potential for delivering value to the industry and global society. The TI Program has dedicated significant resources over recent years to the research and development (R&D) of renewable energy technologies. Its R&D portfolio includes renewable energy technology development related to advanced hydropower turbines; wave and tidal energy; river in-stream current energy; and wind energy forecasting. Also performed are technology assessments of the status, performance, and cost of renewable generating technologies and markets. This presentation will briefly describe the EPRI TI Program and its collaborative model for technology development. Renewable energy technologies under development through the TI Program will be presented.