

## **The Future of the Electric Grid and the Role of Storage** **Brittany Westlake, bwestlake@epri.com**

Driven by the increasing demand for clean, highly reliable power, the rapid expansion of variable renewable generation, and the opportunities for communications and control through smart grid technology - tomorrow's grid will be dramatically different than today's. While these changes may prove challenging, they provide opportunities for storage to add value to the changing grid. While it still faces technical, economic, and regulatory challenges, grid energy storage can improve reliability, resiliency, and flexibility of the grid.

### Speaker bio:



Brittany Westlake is an Engineer Scientist at the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI). At EPRI, she directs the technology and research assessment projects related to energy storage and fuel cell technologies. Prior to joining EPRI, Dr. Westlake was an American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Science and Technology Policy Fellow at the US Department of Energy in Washington, DC. She worked in the DOE Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability on US electric grid Issues, Transmission Planning, and the Energy-Water Nexus. Dr. Westlake was also a Science Policy Fellow at the American Chemical Society in Washington, DC. There she researched and analyzed policy related to energy, chemistry research, and the chemical industry. Brittany received her Ph. D. in Physical Chemistry from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.