“PV Circular Economy: Regulatory and Policy Considerations”

Abstract:
Solar photovoltaics (PV) are an important element to a zero-carbon energy transient in the United States and around the world. Policy focused on reducing carbon emissions and increasing electric grid resiliency, coupled with decreasing installation costs continue to drive demand for PV. In the U.S. alone, cumulative installed PV capacity exceeded 95 gigawatts (GW)dc at the end of 2020. If current trends persist, PV is expected to grow faster than any other renewable energy sector in the United States and cumulative installed PV capacity could exceed 202 GWdc by 2025.

The rapid growth and expected continual demand for PV, and the growing volume of retired PV equipment has led to supply chain and environmental concerns. As the volume of retired PV modules and balance of system equipment grows industry stakeholders, regulators, and policymakers are considering solutions to drive and enable environmentally sustainable PV system equipment management decisions and behaviors. This panel session will discuss the regulatory and policy considerations that may influence PV system equipment management decisions and behaviors.

Bio:
Taylor Curtis is a regulatory/policy analyst at the U.S. Department of Energy’s National Renewable Energy Laboratory and a licensed attorney. She has been working in the renewable energy and environmental policy sector for a decade to enable a circular economy for energy materials and to develop sustainable energy solutions for both industry and government.