

BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPLICATION

Contact Information:

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Biography:

Richard Krauze brings over 22 years of energy industry experience, domestically and internationally. Richard has been involved in all aspects of project development with an emphasis on identifying market opportunities, originating project development sites and power marketing in Colorado and throughout the US. During this time in the energy industry, Richard has built and managed significant pipelines of opportunities, led complex contract negotiations, executed numerous deals, consistently solved multifaceted problems, proven the ability to 'think-outside-the-box', and demonstrated strong communication skills. Richard's industry experiences include working with utilities, ISOs, commercial and industrial customers, project developers, financiers, policy makers, lawyers, consultants and industry associations. He is an innovative leader with global experience and success in Fortune 100 to family-owned businesses. Richard has been involved in the development of over 3,000 MWs of projects, ranging from 100kW to 200+ MW projects, including over 500 MW of projects that have been built.

Richard worked with the American Council on Renewable Energy (ACORE) a national non-profit organization that unites finance, policy and technology to accelerate the transition to a renewable energy economy in 2004. During his time in Washington, DC he worked with the Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA), Solar Electric Power Association (SEPA) and the American Wind Energy Association (AWEA) providing him a great insight into managing a trade association.

Solar or Storage Experience:

COSSA Board Member since 2021.

Awarded Colorado Solar Energy Industries COSEIA (now COSSA) 2018 President's Award for contribution to the organization.

Co-Chair of the COSEA Inaugural 2017 Clean Energy Means Business (CEMB), a forum to bring together energy buyers for C&I, community solar, municipal and utility-scale opportunities.

Chair of the COSEA 2018 Clean Energy Means Business (CEMB), a forum to bring together energy buyers for C&I, community solar, municipal and utility-scale opportunities.

Involved in planning the COSSA 2019 Clean Energy Means Business event.

Involved with the Georgia Large-Scale Solar Association (GLSSA) from 2015 through 2020. Including working to increase the amount of renewables in both the 2016 and 2019 Georgia Power IRPs. In 2019 Richard was the chair of the GLSSA IRP sub-committee, where the approved plan includes 2,260 MW of new renewables, primarily solar, along with its storage additions. This involved working extensively with member organizations, board members of GLSSA, lobbyist, other IRP stakeholders, Georgia Power, the Georgia Public Service Commission, the Georgia Public Service Commission staff and technical experts to justify the increase in solar and energy storage .

Worked with a service provider from 2005-2009 that provided energy estimates for wind, solar and hydro projects. Involved in developing the first solar product offerings. The role involved working with renewable energy developers, financiers, utilities, energy traders and independent system operators.

Involved in renewable energy equipment sales from 2010 to 2013 that offered a great insight into the capital equipment side of the business, logistics, EPC, operations and maintenance, and financing. The role primarily involved working with developers of C&I projects since the average project size was from just under 1 MW to around 5 MW.

Involved in C&I projects, municipal projects, cooperative projects, and community solar projects as well as utility-scale projects throughout Colorado, as well as nationally.

Participated in the American Wind Energy Board meetings from 2005 to 2010 that provided great insights into how to effectively manage a national trade association.

Involved with understanding the finances and financing of successful projects which requires a complete understanding of the projects from the customer's perspective, from the developer and EPC's perspective and from the long-term owner's perspective.

Richard attended his first SolarPower International in 2004 and has attended multiple times since there as a regular attendee. This has allowed him to stay on top of industry trends, meet with key industry leaders and develop a network that can turn to to benefit COSSA's growth.

Attended first Energy Storage Association conference in 2010 and have been exploring storage opportunities since then.

Participated as a moderator at COSEIA, now COSSA annual conference.

My Priorities:

1. Increasing the market opportunities for residential, C&I, MUSH market, community solar and utility-scale markets since an all of the above approach is critical in the energy transformation needed in Colorado. This includes pursuing a regional transmission operator (RTO) and making sure the policies are in place to capture the benefits of solar and energy storage offerings.
2. Actively pursuing policy, commercial structures that effectively capture the benefits of energy storage which would open up significant opportunities for COSSA members.
3. And while the top focus needs to be on continuing to create opportunities for the current market place, ensuring COSSA is forward thinking and positioned to benefit from a transforming market including how solar and storage are critical to fully benefit the State of Colorado from a build out of EV chargers, as well as positioning the organization to be a part of the decision making process when other opportunities to grow solar and energy storage can be pursued. This includes building the stature of COSSA so the organization is a go-to for the state government, local governments, elected officials, regulators, utilities, cooperative, municipal utilities and commercial customers.
4. Continuing to build organization capacity of COSSA to best benefit the industry.

My Strengths:

1. Richard's vast renewable energy experience over the last 22 years will allow him to represent the entire industry and he is passionate at growing solar and energy storage opportunities for residential, C&I, community solar, MUSH customers and utility-scale.
2. Richard has experience in leading COSSA events, working with COSSA, working with national trade groups, and other local trade groups to increase solar and energy storage opportunities.
3. Richard has been an active board member of COSSA including identifying a significant financial opportunity for the organization, as well as pushing the organization to bring on a General Counsel that will allow the organization to address more regulatory proceedings and have a more active legislative presence.
4. Richard is forward thinking and focused on overcoming current challenges the industry faces, as well as positioning the industry for continued growth and opportunities.
5. Richard has a solid grasp of the renewable energy industry from working with equipment vendors, consultants, policy makers, financiers, stakeholders, elected officials, long-term owners, installers, EPCs, regulators and service providers that will allow him to focus on solutions from multiple perspectives.
6. Richard has worked with ACORE, a national non-profit organization focused on accelerating the transmission of renewable energy and will be able to bring that experience to accelerate solar and energy storage opportunities in Colorado.

7. Having been involved in the renewable energy space in the US for the last 16 years, Richard has an extensive network throughout the supply and value chain to be able to call for advice, as well as to support COSSA's growth.
8. Richard was the Co-Chair of the 2017 CEMB and Chair of the 2018 CEMB where he was able to attract national speakers and provide strategic insight on the overall program.
9. Richard has a diverse background understanding the importance of residential solar, and at the same time having worked on distributed energy projects, community solar projects and utility-scale projects both from a service providers perspective, as well a developer's perspective.
10. Effectively increased solar and energy storage targets while working with Georgia Large-Scale Association and can apply numerous lessons learned and strategies to the Colorado market.