

How can the energy sector maximise the value of weekly-to-decadal forecasts?

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Climate forecasts have increasing potential to support decision-making across the energy sector, from energy security and network planning to system operations and trading. Realising that value, however, requires a clearer understanding of which decisions can realistically be informed by these forecasts, what levels of uncertainty users can tolerate, and what forecast quality is needed before they become useful in practice.

The session will open with short talks covering a range of energy-sector applications, followed by an interactive discussion supported by a whiteboard. Discussion will address the decisions that could be informed by forecasts, the challenges that currently limit their use, the levels of uncertainty and confidence that are acceptable to users, and the forecast evaluation approaches needed to ensure products are fit for purpose. The session will also consider what kinds of frameworks, accessibility, and user engagement are needed to build familiarity, trust, and confidence in weekly-to-decadal forecasts.