

Confirmed Energy Forum speakers include:



Alan Rossiter, Executive Director, External Relations & Educational Program Development, UH Energy, University of Houston

Harvey, and Beauty of the Steady State

Steady operation is one of the keys to good energy efficiency. On the other hand, disturbances are bad for energy efficiency – and Harvey was one BIG disturbance! This presentation discusses some of the ways that disturbances affect energy intensity, both during routine plant operations and in major incidents like hurricanes, and measures that can

be taken to mitigate the effects.

Bio: Prior to joining UH Energy, Dr. Rossiter served in a variety of engineering and management positions with two major chemical companies, Imperial Chemical Industries (ICI) in England, and Saudi Basic Industries (SABIC) in Saudi Arabia. He also worked for the industrial energy efficiency and waste minimization consulting firm Linnhoff March in the US, as a senior consultant, operations manager, and interim president. Later he ran his own independent consulting firm.

Dr. Rossiter obtained his bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees in chemical engineering from the University of Cambridge. He is a licensed professional engineer (Texas).



CDR Joseph J. Leonard, Jr. (USCG, ret.), Principal Consultant—PENTA Consortium

Harvey Success Stories

The Houston-Galveston-Port Arthur area comprises the largest petrochemical complex in the Western Hemisphere. The complex is supported by an equally large port complex where the calculated direct annual value of waterborne trade exceeds \$325.7 billion...that is \$825 million a day or \$37 million an hour (2018 figures). Regardless of the cause of the service interruption, the impact locally and nationally is significant. When you look at the minimal interruption during Harvey, Ike, Rita, and Allison, you see a region that is resilient. Resilient because of active and engaged partnerships, effective sharing of information, plans that are practiced and updated, and an undeniable "Can Do" spirit

among federal, state, local, and private sector stakeholders who comprise the Marine Transportation System. This presentation reviews these success stories.

Bio: Commander Joe Leonard is a nationally recognized emergency responder, incident manager, and trainer with forty years of United States Coast Guard, United States Army, volunteer municipal fire service, and private-sector experience responding to natural disasters, oil spills, hazardous materials releases, marine fires, mass rescue operations, mass care and shelter events, national special security events, and maritime homeland security events.

He chairs the Greater Harris County Local Emergency Planning Committee and is an active member of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary where he serves as a Division Commander, District Staff Officer-Emergency Management, and Flotilla Staff Officer-Public Education. He serves on the Planning Committee for the Hot Zone Hazardous Materials Conference; on the Preparedness Leadership Council and Journal Editorial Board; and is past the Chairman of the Public-Private Partnership Committee of the International Association of Emergency Managers. He is an active member of several professional organizations, including the International Association of Emergency Managers, the National Emergency Management Association, Emergency Management Associations of Texas and Tennessee, ASIS, the National Association of SARA Title III Program Officials, the Emergency Management Association of Texas, the National Fire Protection Association, the Global Society for Homeland and National Security Professionals, and the Historical Miniatures Gaming Society. He is a life member of the United States Naval Institute, the Navy League of the United States, the All-Hazards Incident Management Teams' Association, and the National Rifle Association.

Commander Leonard's military awards include two Coast Guard Auxiliary Meritorious Service Medals, four Meritorious Service Medals, eight Coast Guard Commendation Medals, the Army Commendation Medal, the Department of Transportation 9-11 Medal, seven Coast Guard Achievement Medals, two Army Achievement Medals, six Coast Guard Commandant's Letter of Commendation Ribbons, and numerous unit awards. He is authorized to wear the Coast Guard Marine Safety Professional Pin, Coast Guard Aviator Wings, the Army Parachutist Badge, and the Army Air Assault Badge. He was awarded the Marshall Kraemer Distinguished Service Medal and Humanitarian Service Medal by the Harris County Fire Marshal in 2012. He was recognized with the prestigious U.S. Navy League's Captain David H. Jarvis Award for Inspirational Leadership and was named a Fox News "Power Player of the Week" on 11 September 2005 for his services as the FEMA-designated Area Commander-Houston Area Mega-Shelter Operations following landfall of Hurricane Katrina.

He has a Bachelor's Degree in History from the Virginia Military Institute and a Master's Degree in Engineering Technology from Murray State University. He holds certifications as a Master Exercise Practitioner, Master Continuity Professional, Certified Emergency Manager, Certified Homeland Protection Professional, and Certified Port Executive.



Kenneth M. Mercado, Senior Vice President of Electric Operations, Technology Operations and Chief Integration Officer, CenterPoint Energy.

Hurricane Harvey and Energy Resilience

Reliable delivery of energy is the heart of CenterPoint Energy's mission, and Hurricane Harvey tested and proved the company's mettle for energy resilience. Harvey was a unique and record-breaking storm, dumping more than 50 inches of rain in southeast Texas, with over one million customers losing power. Relive how years of CenterPoint Energy's preparation and investment in grid strengthening measures and smart grid technology enabled electric and natural gas crews' award-winning response. Discover the role of real-time monitoring, operational situational awareness

and data analytics in maximizing the resilience of the energy delivery system in the energy capital of the world.

Bio: A more than 34-year veteran of CenterPoint Energy and predecessor companies, Kenneth (Kenny) is the company's senior vice president of Electric Operations, Technology Operations and chief integration officer. In this role, he is responsible for leading electric transmission, distribution, electric engineering and power delivery solutions in the greater Houston area, as well as Corporate Safety and Technical Training. Kenny also oversees Customer & Business Technology, Infrastructure and Competitive Services, Operational Technology and Markets groups in the Technology Operations organization. In addition, he continues to lead CenterPoint Energy and Vectren Corporation's integration implementation into one company: CenterPoint Energy. This includes process improvement, change leadership, the technology integration management office, and strategic sourcing and purchasing.

Prior to this role, Kenny was CenterPoint Energy's integration co-lead with Vectren. Before that, he had financial and operational responsibility of the company's electric utility, which consists of a 5,000 square-mile service territory and power delivery to homes and businesses in the Houston metropolitan area. He also led the deployment of the company's smart grid system, which includes the installation of smart meters and intelligent grid technology.

Kenny is currently president of the Southeast Electrical Exchange board of directors. He serves on the boards of Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT), Research Advisory Council at the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI), Advisory Board at Texas A&M Smart Grid Coalition and the Engineering Leadership Board at the University of Houston. He is also former chair of March of Dimes in Houston and prior board member of the Greater Houston Chapter of the American Red Cross.

He received a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering and a master's degree in industrial engineering from the University of Houston. He also received an Executive Master of Business Administration (EMBA) degree from Mays Business School at Texas A&M University. Kenny is a registered engineer in the State of Texas.