



Sepi™

POWER BY DESIGN

EXPERT WITNESS

Shedding light on complex solar industry legal concerns

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Sepi, where passion meets expertise in upholding the integrity of the solar industry. As fervent advocates for sustainable energy, we have positioned ourselves as the premier expert witness for solar-related cases. Our commitment to transparency, ethical practices, and cutting-edge knowledge has made us a trusted authority in the field.

At Sepi, we recognize the pivotal role solar energy plays in shaping a sustainable future. Our team of seasoned professionals brings unparalleled expertise, providing comprehensive insights and testimony to support legal proceedings related to the solar sector. With a deep understanding of industry standards, regulations, and emerging technologies, we stand as unwavering guardians of the solar industry's integrity. Trust Sepi to illuminate the path towards fair and just resolutions in solar-related cases, driven by a passion for a cleaner, greener tomorrow.

Bodies Of Law:

Patent

- Person of Ordinary Skill in the Art (POSITA/POSA)
- Invalidity
- Infringement
- Claim Construction
- Indefiniteness
- Obviousness
- Anticipation

Civil

- Misrepresentation
- Negligence
- Contracts
- Fraud
- Property Damage
- Performance
- Wrongful Termination

Construction

- Defects
- Spearin Doctrine
- Payment Disputes
- Bonds & Liens
- Delay Claims
- Noncompliance
- Contract Disputes

How We Contribute:

- Reports
- Depositions
- Trials & Hearings
- Litigation & Arbitration
- Opinions & Analysis
- Rebuttals
- Industry Standards
- Property Inspections

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JOSH WEINER, CEO



After completing his Bachelor's degree in Astrophysics & Astronomy from UC Berkeley, Josh began his solar career at Akeena Solar, one of the leading turnkey residential and commercial solar contractors from 2002 to 2009. Shortly after joining Akeena in 2005, Josh quickly took on a supervisory role within the company's operations departments, opening several remote offices nation-wide and scaling the company's staffing and infrastructure needs upon Akeena's IPO filing. Joshua managed the engineering, drafting, and project management teams, supporting over 20 MW of both residential and small commercial PV systems over a 3-year time period.

In 2009, Josh founded SepiSolar, a national solar-plus-storage design, engineering, and consulting company based in Fremont, California, leading a growing team of designers, engineers, and technical consultants.

Josh's energy storage career began as a co-founder of Green Charge Networks, which was awarded a \$10M grant by the US DOE to deploy 8 micro-grid and utility-interactive solar + energy storage + electric vehicle chargers projects for the purposes of optimizing behind-the-meter electricity usage. After exiting Green Charge Networks (now owned by Engie) in 2015, Josh has gone on to develop grid-connected energy storage and micro-grid projects with NRG's Station A team and NEXTracker's integrated energy storage program, where Josh has played many roles in the development of energy storage products and services, including business, finance, policy, project, product, hardware, and software development.

As a North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners, Josh applies his extensive experience training and scaling project management and design teams within the solar PV integration industry. With a passion for teaching and education, he has also taught at UC Berkeley Extension.

“ Maintaining the integrity of the solar industry remains one of my most important goals.”

EXPERIENCE

CEO, SepiSolar Feb 2009 - Present (15 years +)

SepiSolar is a solar PV and storage design and engineering company that specializes in supporting solar EPC's, contractors, developers, and installers. SepiSolar's design team focuses on residential, commercial, and utility-scale system design and engineering, as well as product design consulting to ensure new products meet NEC, UL ratings, and applicable codes. Our team comprises of NABCEP-certified professionals so that you know you're getting the industry experience you need to install systems as efficiently as possible.

Director of Storage Integration, Nextracker Inc. Jul 2015 - 2019 (4 years 6 months)

Providing technology due diligence, business development, project development, and program management to the new products team.

Director of Engineering/Engineering Consultant, NRG Energy Feb 2013 - Feb 2015 (2 years 1 month)

Supported NRG's transition as Director of Engineering from Sun-Cap to Residential Solar Solutions, and eventually to NRG Home Solar through the acquisition of Roof Diagnostics Solar. Created policies and procedures for technical underwriting and scaling the Engineering department's tools, staffing, and resources to support lease sales volumes of \$10M+ per month. Post-September 2014, continue to serve as Engineering & Technology Consultant and subject matter expert for technical due diligence efforts with new technologies, products / applications, markets, and investors.

Engineering Consultant, ENGIE Storage Jan 2009 - Jul 2013 (4 years 7 months)

Helped to secure DOE funding for R&D in 2009. Provided complete, turnkey design & engineering of all projects deployed until 2013. Also provided project management, technology consulting, business development, sales / pro-forma modeling, product development / UL certification, among many other roles to bring energy storage products from conception to commercialization.

Instructor, University of California, Berkeley Jan 2010 - Jun 2010 (6 months)

Created and developed course curricula (including training workshops, seminars, final projects, etc.) for students of the UC Berkeley Extension program for the "Advanced PV System Design and Project Management" course. Taught classes of 10-30 students in solar PV system design, engineering, development, and project management.

Engineering Manager, Akeena Solar May 2006 - Feb 2009 (2 years 10 months)

Designed and engineered solar installations and plans to meet current Codes and standards for residential and commercial photovoltaic installations. Duties included obtaining required permits and assisting installations and inspections with engineering support. Provided engineering support to Sales. Also assisted several municipalities to develop streamlined permitting procedures for photovoltaic permits. Presented new products and standards of workmanship to local municipalities. Assisted in the management and coordination of designs and engineering procedures with headquarters, existing remote offices, and new regional offices. Developed and implemented engineering policies, procedures, quality control, and was the sole point-of-contact for the Engineering department. Served as manager of Engineering, reporting directly to the CEO, and managed/monitored the work of 11 design engineers.

Air Division Intern, Environmental Protection Agency Apr 2005 - Dec 2005 (9 months)

Worked in the EPA's Air Division in San Francisco to ensure that pollution-producing power plants meet all local, state, and federal Codes and standards. Conducted extensive research on turbine engines and vapor-recovery units.

EDUCATION

University of California, Berkeley
BA, Major in Astrophysics/Astronomy;
Minors in Physics and Music
2001 - 2005

Relevant Coursework:

Electromagnetism and Optics, Quantum Mechanics, Statistical Mechanics and Thermodynamics, Stellar and Nuclear Physics, Analytic Mechanics, Special and General Relativity, High Energy Particle Physics and Astrophysics, Cosmology and Relativistic Astrophysics, Planetary Astrophysics and Atmospheric Physics, Experimental Astronomy Lab and Error Analysis, Differential Calculus, Multi-variable Calculus, linear algebra, Statistics and Probability.

QUALIFICATIONS

- BA in Astrophysics (minors in Physics & Music), UC Berkeley
- Named as a *40 Under 40 Changemaker* in 2018 by Renewable Energy World.
- Patent awarded for Load Isolation Consumption Management Systems and Methods ([US 20130285446 A1](#))

LICENSES & CERTIFICATIONS

- NABCEP certification 092907-34 (2007 – present)
- CalSEIA member (2016 – present)

SOLAR PROJECTS

- 1,000+ (5+ MW) residential systems designed
- 200+ (50+ MW) commercial, industrial, agricultural systems designed
- 12+ (70+ MW) utility-scale designed
- 15+ (8+ MWh) utility-interactive energy storage systems designed

SKILLS

- Project Development, Planning, Execution, & Operations
- Asset Management
- Design Development
- Project Engineering
- Project Management
- Engineering Operations & Management
- Sales Engineering
- Training
- Discovery & Due Diligence
- Energy Storage
- Micro-Grids
- Integration Engineering
- Performance Engineering
- Performance Simulation & Modeling
- Economic & Financial Analysis & Modeling
- Pro Forma Development

THE SEPI LEADERSHIP TEAM

Having a dedicated Sepi team is crucial as it ensures specialized expertise, consistent and efficient collaboration, clear accountability, effective communication, and the ability to build a strong relationship with you, our client. The team's familiarity with our processes and standards facilitates adaptability, high-quality work, and innovation, leading to improved project outcomes, your satisfaction, and overall success.

Explore the team's backgrounds, experiences, and expertise; and of course, feel free to contact any of us at any time.



Josh Weiner
CEO



Rob Brown
VP of Growth



Heidi Callahan
Account Manager



Peter Florin
Director of Operations



Richard Dobbins
Planning Engineering



Crystal Breshears
Controller



Connie Christensen
Project Coordinator

ROB BROWN, VP of Growth



Born into entrepreneurship, Rob has a passion for creating, building, and improving businesses. By the time he had completed his Bachelor's degree in Business Management from Brigham Young University, he had launched 3 projects in multiple industries; one of which was in designing exercise equipment that would generate electricity and take advantage of local net metering policy.

Upon graduation, Rob gained experience leading teams at AT&T from 2011, and then Vivint Solar in 2013 where he entered the renewables industry. In 2015, he was recruited by Graybar Electric Company, a Fortune 500 nationwide electrical distributor, to start and launch their solar division. Under the supervision of some of the brightest minds in energy efficiency, energy services, and electrical products, Rob developed energy projects with end-user customers in the commercial and industrial sectors while managing a small team of 6 people.

While at Graybar Rob became acquainted with various energy storage technologies and chemistries, among them Avalon Battery, a vanadium flow battery manufacturer from Vancouver, Canada. Rob found Avalon's technology intriguing and incorporated their systems into his proposals when advising his end-user clients. In January 2020, Rob transitioned to Avalon Battery as their Regional Director for North America, one of only two people to cover global sales. Shortly thereafter, Avalon merged with RedT Energy from London, England to form Invinity Energy Systems. For the next two years, Rob developed processes, advised on company strategy, and directed go-to-market strategy within North America. Having positioned Invinity as the world's leading provider of vanadium flow batteries, Rob exited in search of his next project.

Hearing about Rob's pending departure from Invinity, Josh Weiner, CEO and Founder of Sepi, recruited Rob to develop and launch Sepi's Development Engineering department. Shortly thereafter Rob took the lead as Sepi's VP of Growth, focusing on sales, marketing, and overall client experience. When not obsessing about customer satisfaction, Rob can be found playing with his children or experimenting with recipes in his kitchen.

“*Life is too short to be unhappy with what you do, or who you do it with.*”

HEIDI CALLAHAN, Account Manager



With over 17 years of experience, Heidi Callahan is a seasoned account manager in the solar/renewable energy engineering sector. She has a proven track record of fostering long-term client relationships and driving sales growth. Heidi's expertise lies in navigating the complex landscape of renewable energy solutions and aligning them with clients' needs and goals. Her deep understanding of the industry allows her to effectively communicate the benefits of sustainable energy solutions to clients from various backgrounds. Heidi's passion for sustainability and her technical knowledge make her a valuable asset to Sepi, where she plays a key role in expanding their market presence and driving business development.

Prior to joining Sepi, Heidi was a sales executive with REC solar, where she supported project development, managed and prepared proposals, and analyzed utility data to optimize sales. Heidi held similar positions with SPG Solar and SunTechnics/Conergy.

Heidi enjoys living up in the San Jacinto Mountains of Southern California, loving the relaxing pace of small town Idyllwild.

“*Integrity in solar engineering ensures the reliability and sustainability of our energy future.*”

PETER FLORIN, Director of Operations



As a career electrical contractor of 45 years (CA Electrical Contractor License #516688), it is extremely rare that Peter Florin comes across a project he has never seen before. Having built electrical systems for large commercial complexes, multi-family housing, medium- and high-voltage utility substations, education, and public works, Peter brings deep logistics, construction, and operations expertise to Sepi and is a key operations leader.

Peter oversees the organization to ensure that day-to-day operations runs effectively and according to short- and long-term objectives. In addition to his leadership role, Peter also leads expert witness assignments, electrical site surveys, and brings his overall electrical knowledge to assist our clients in multiple areas of their projects.

Having garnered extensive qualifications in both the electrical contracting and renewable energy EPC realms, he provides the organization and its clients with expertise in contract management, engineering management, scoping, budgeting and estimating, scheduling, consulting services, capacity and resource management, project management, safety, and quality management.

Prior to joining Sepi, Peter led numerous successful initiatives and operations including Preventative Maintenance & Testing, Distributed Generation PV Rooftops, Turnkey PV Parking Structures, PV Commissioning Services, and Project Management Scope, and Cost Estimating.

At Sepi, we believe good infrastructure begins with good design, and good design is informed by construction services, processes, and tools that enable the best-in-class projects to become a reality. Peter and the Sepi Operations team brings this expertise to the team to ensure our project, product, and consulting services are second to none in the renewable energy industry.

“ If you ever need anything,
anything at all, call me.”

RICHARD DOBBINS, Planning Engineering



Richard's journey from Santa Rosa, California, to becoming a seasoned professional in the solar industry reflects his passion for sustainable technology and innovation. A graduate of Santa Clara University with a degree in electrical/mechanical engineering, Richard's transformative experience occurred during his participation in the 2013 Department of Energy's Solar Decathlon. As a proud member of the university team, he contributed to the creation of a solar-powered home, an endeavor that ignited his fervor for solar energy and set the course for his career.

Since joining Sepi, Richard has been an instrumental force, earning recognition as an NABCEP certified solar professional. His commitment to excellence extends to achieving Professional Engineer's licensure in California and multiple states, solidifying his expertise in the solar and energy storage domains. Richard is driven by a vision to contribute to the transformation of the utility grid, making it more renewable-friendly through his extensive knowledge and skills.

Beyond his professional pursuits, Richard is a versatile individual with a penchant for creativity. Whether he's jamming with his latest musical project, exploring the outdoors through hiking, or channeling his curiosity by tinkering with gadgets in his workshop, Richard embodies a holistic and dynamic approach to life. His dedication to advancing renewable energy solutions both in and out of the office underscores his commitment to a sustainable and innovative future.

“ We're more than just engineers.
We appreciate how important
management and customer service
is to each and every project.”

CRYSTAL BRESHEARS, Controller



As the Controller at Sepi since 2021, Crystal has demonstrated a wealth of expertise in diverse accounting functions spanning both corporate and project levels. Her background includes a pivotal role as an accounting supervisor for a solar project developer and energy services provider, where she honed her skills in overseeing financial operations in the dynamic renewable energy sector. Crystal's commitment to precision and excellence is evident in her role at Sepi, where she is spearheading financial and accounting process development. By leveraging her comprehensive knowledge, she aims to enhance visibility and foster data-driven decision-making within the organization.

Crystal's academic foundation includes an associates degree from the College of the Sequoias, underpinning her practical experience with a solid theoretical framework. Residing in Central Arkansas, Crystal brings a unique perspective to her role, enriching Sepi's team with her diverse professional background and geographical insight. Her strategic financial acumen and dedication to refining processes position her as a key contributor to Sepi's financial success and sustainability in the ever-evolving renewable energy landscape.

“ Our collective success hinges on meticulous attention to financial details.”

CONNIE CHRISTENSEN, Project Coordinator



Connie's professional journey has been marked by a commitment to streamlining and enhancing operational efficiency in the renewable energy sector. Prior to her role at Sepi, she played a crucial role at NRG Home, where she provided invaluable support to the permit and interconnection processing departments. Her experience there equipped her with a comprehensive understanding of the intricacies involved in navigating regulatory landscapes and ensuring seamless integration of renewable energy systems.

A testament to her dedication, Connie engages actively in gathering data for Sepi's marketing outreach efforts, showcasing her versatility and commitment to the company's growth. Beyond the professional realm, Connie's passion for sustainable living is evident in her daily routine, where she commutes to work via cycling and BART, embodying Sepi's commitment to environmentally conscious practices. On weekends, she can be found navigating Northern California's scenic roads—true enthusiast of both sustainable living and outdoor adventure. Connie's dynamic skill set and unwavering commitment make her an integral asset to Sepi's ongoing success in the renewable energy landscape.

“*The project isn't complete
until you get Permission to Operate.*”

STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS

With almost 15 years of experience in solar design, engineering, and project management, Sepi uses modern renewable technologies to solve modern electrical infrastructure problems. Sepi employs creative solutions without compromising safety, security, and resilience.

ENGINEERING SERVICES

Design & Engineering Packages

- Title page
- PV array layout & equipment locations
- Balance-of-system (BOS) elevations & details
- Anchorage method & details
- Electrical plan
- String diagram
- Conduit runs
- Wire diagram, including calculations
- Grounding details
- Electrical interconnection details
- System & equipment specifications
- Labels & markings
- Version control & revisions

Electrical Engineering

- Licensing in all 50 states
- Professional engineering stamps/seals & design review
- "Smell" tests & feasibility analysis
- Energy Storage
- DC- & AC-coupling
- Direct burial, overhead, raceways, cable tray, and wire harnesses
- DC-DC converters
- Transformers
- Distributed & centralized inverter architectures
- Protection relays
- Low & medium voltage
- Wire & conduit sizing
- OCPD sizing, coordination studies & fault current
- Voltage drop calculations
- Grounding details
- POC/Interconnection design & troubleshooting
- Arc flash study

ENGINEERING SERVICES

Structural/Civil Engineering

- Licensing in all 50 states
- Professional engineering stamps/seals & design review
- Smell tests & feasibility analysis
- Roof mounts (pitched or flat)
- Ground mounts (fixed-tilt, 1-axis & 2-axes tracking)
- Carports/parking canopies
- Single-cantilever
- Double-cantilever
- Tabular
- Custom structures
- Geo-technical analysis
- Stormwater drainage
- Landscaping and tree removal
- Foundation design
- Anchorage design

Site Survey

- Data acquisition
- Shading analysis
- Sales verification
- On-site discovery, analysis & troubleshooting with key team members
- Photos, sketches, design
- Equipment location identification
- Feasibility analysis
- Inspection services
- Pre-construction
- Post-construction
- Production/Performance verification of monitoring

Sales/Proposal Support

- Pre-design/Layouts (to-scale)
- 3D renderings
- RFP response
- Equipment cost/benefit analysis
- Structural “smell tests”
- Electrical “smell tests”
- Production/Performance modeling
- Economic/Financial analysis
- System sizing

ENGINEERING SERVICES

Utility Interconnection

- Interconnection application processing & troubleshooting
- Utility infrastructure upgrade design & mitigation strategies
- Real-time requirements database
- Response letters/meetings
- Preliminary SLDs with EE stamps

Consulting

- Independent engineering design reviews
- New product development
- Business development
- Sketch-to-Scale & commercialization
- Policy Development

Miscellaneous

- City/County Permitting
- Construction Support
- Rebate/Incentive Processing
- Owner's Engineering

PROJECT EXPERIENCE

Since its inception in 2009, Sepi has designed:

- 11.5 GW+ commercial and utility-scale systems
- 27+ demand-charge-management energy storage projects
- 23,500+ residential systems

Our projects have utilized:

- Roof-Mounts
- Ground-Mounts
- Carports (Parking Canopies)
- Numerous Tracker Types
- Multiple Energy Storage Methods
- Wind Turbines
- Direct-Burial
- Cable Tray
- Wire Harnesses
- DC-DC Converters/Optimizers
- Tilt-Up Racking Systems
- Ballasted Systems
- Distributed vs Centralized Inverter Designs
- Structural Engineering and Feasibility
- Civil Engineering

SOME OF OUR CLIENTS AND PARTNERS



CLIENT TESTIMONIALS



"Using Sepi for designing and engineering Swell Energy's solar-plus-storage systems was a no-brainer. Storage is complicated, so we wanted to work with a team of U.S.-based quality engineers who could speak 'fluent storage' and get out accurate plan sets quickly and with minimal AHJ revisions. If you're looking for a quality design partner who knows how to get storage permit plans approved in California, trust the Sepi team."

Andrew Meyer,
Co-Founder, Swell Energy



"Xero Solar stands behind all of our installations, and this is only as good as the design they are built on. We need to have confidence that we're building systems based on sound technical plans and designs. Plans that we have confidence that will result in safe, effective, and compliant systems is crucial. The price of failure with defects on a finished project is severe, and it's simply not worth trying to save a few dollars upfront only to be bitten down the road with failures. That's why we partner with Sepi for all of our engineering and design needs for solar and storage."

Ben Lichtenberg,
CEO of Xero Solar



"We submitted our RFP proposal to the utility today, and I wanted to thank Sepi for the excellent service you provided. Your ability to provide a detailed engineering design on a tight turnaround time was impressive. Your input helped us secure an updated solar design that met all of the RFP's requirements. We look forward to working with Sepi again on future projects."

Travis Stowers,
Power System Application Engineer



Josh Weiner
CEO



Rob Brown
VP of Growth



Heidi Callahan
Account Manager

THANK YOU!

Please contact us if you have questions or require more information on our Expert Witness Services.

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