

ASME South Texas Meeting

Thursday, May 18, 2017

Program: "The Baseload Power Predicament"

Speaker: Sonal Patel - Associate Editor, *POWER* Magazine, Houston, TX

Baseload power from coal-fired and nuclear generators are exiting wholesale power markets across the country, owing primarily to low natural gas prices, regulatory concerns, capital costs, transmission woes, and a general influx of renewables. This trend shows no signs of abating. Natural gas-fired plants are also now at risk of closure. Reliability concerns have spurred legislative and regulatory measures in New York and Illinois, and potential actions are brewing in a number of other states. This presentation will provide an overview of the baseload exit trend, its implications for reliability, and discuss what lies ahead.

Sonal Patel is an associate editor for *POWER* magazine, a 135-year-old publication for power generation professionals worldwide. She covers U.S. and international technology and business trends and has a keen interest in energy and environmental policy, regulation, and markets. She received a national Azbee Award of Excellence in 2011 for a *POWER* series analyzing energy transitions around the world and was a Jesse H. Neal Award finalist for specialized journalism in 2014. She earned her bachelor's degree in Journalism from the University of Houston.

Reservations: <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2931738>

Location: [The Forest Club 9950 Memorial Drive](#) (near Chimney Rock)

Directions: From I-10, exit at Wirt / Chimney Rock turning south onto Chimney Rock. The first stop light is the intersection with Memorial. Turn left and travel two blocks east to the picket fences on the left. Turn left onto Saddlebrook and the Forest Club will be on your right.

Times: 5:30 p.m. to 6:15 p.m. Social Hour
6:15 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Dinner Buffet and Program

Cost: \$35 Regular Reservation
\$50 at the door
Students Only \$15

ASME meetings are open to all. Membership is encouraged but not required to attend. Professional Development Hour (PDH) certificates will be available to participants at the conclusion of the event.