

# Our Team

## **DR. DANE GLUECK | PRESIDENT/FOUNDER**

Dane founded StraightUp Solar in 2006 after witnessing mountaintop removal in Appalachia during his medical residency. He wanted to inspire individuals and communities to go solar and be part of the solution. Since then, Dane has enjoyed building a team of motivated individuals equally committed to his passion for clean, renewable energy. Dane is the first NABCEP Certified PV Solar Installer in Missouri and is a founding member and former President of the Missouri Solar Energy Industries Association (MOSEIA).



## **JOSH HILL | VP OF FIELD OPERATIONS AND DESIGN**

Josh joined StraightUp Solar in 2011. He holds an Electrical Engineering degree from the University of Illinois and is a licensed Master Electrician. Josh manages the engineering, design, and installation of all solar PV systems. He has overseen several successful 1MW+ installations, requiring coordination with the company's on-site management, multiple electrical contractors, and jurisdictional permitting officials.



## **MIKE HORNITSCHKEK | VP OF STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT**

Mike joined StraightUp Solar in 2012 after 23 years with the Air Force, culminating his service as the Scott Air Force Base installation commander. His technical background is in aeronautical engineering and international security studies, which fuels his passion around energy and security. In addition to leading the strategic vision of the company, Mike leads a four-person team responsible for information systems delivery, process improvement, and knowledge fusion for the StraightUp Solar team.



## **SHANNON FULTON | VP OF DEVELOPMENT**

Shannon joined StraightUp Solar in 2013 to lead the company's growth in Illinois. She directs StraightUp Solar's legislative policy work and opened the Illinois 25-person office in Bloomington in 2015. Shannon started StraightUp Solar's Commercial Sales Division in 2017 and developed several large commercial and industrial projects during her tenure. She has served on the Illinois Solar Energy Association Board since 2014 and is a Solar Ambassador for WeCare Solar, a non-profit equipping rural health clinics in low-resource countries with solar power.





### **DOUG WIDEMAN | VP OF SALES**

Doug's solar career began with his 2013 solar installation on his own home. Since 2018, Doug has managed sales and project development efforts for StraightUp Solar. He developed the StraightUp Solar Legacy Fund to own and operate non-profit, environmental justice, and other projects of choice. Previous to StraightUp Solar, he was the manager of small commercial sales at Real Goods Solar for the West Coast, Mid-Atlantic, and New England regions as well as their National Sales Trainer.

### **ERIN NOBLE | VP OF BUSINESS OPERATIONS**

Erin earned a Bachelor's of Arts in Public Policy and a Master's of Environmental Management from Duke University. Prior to StraightUp Solar, she co-founded Renew Missouri, a non-profit advocacy group working to improve energy efficiency and renewable energy policy in Missouri, and she served as Energy Policy Coordinator for the Missouri Coalition for the Environment. Erin joined StraightUp Solar as the Director of Community Relations in 2011. In her current role, her team manages the employee experience, ensuring SUS delivers on its commitment to be equally people, planet, and profit-driven.



### **CHERIE ELLIS | VP OF FINANCE**

Cherie joined StraightUp Solar in 2018 after a diverse career in engineering, project management, and accounting. Cherie started her career with McDonnell Douglas as a Senior Systems Engineer and the Naval Air Command as a Software Development/First Article Test Engineer. She transitioned into executive corporate roles early in her career and brings over 30 years' experience to our organization in finance, accounting, project management, customer engagement, and business analytics.

### **TOM MILLER, PE | DIRECTOR OF SERVICE**

Tom's career experience includes performing hazardous waste investigations and remediation consulting on potable water supply projects, performing electrical bill audits, submetering and tenant billing, energy efficiency studies, and ENERGY STAR Certifications. Tom arrived at StraightUp Solar in 2018 and has served as a Residential Project Developer, Subcontractor Manager, Project Manager, Service Manager, and now Director of Service. The Service Department's staff of 14 professionals provides service to residential and commercial solar array owners, annual Operations and Maintenance contracted services for commercial customers, and removal and reinstallation of residential and commercial solar arrays to facilitate roof repairs or replacement.





### **DAN HANCOCK | SENIOR COMMERCIAL PROJECT DEVELOPER**

Joining StraightUp Solar in 2019, Dan excels at creative project finance structuring and has over a decade of experience developing a wide array of renewable energy projects, ranging from multi-MW utility scale projects in North America to small projects on private Islands in the Caribbean. Dan leads StraightUp Solar commercial project development sales and specializes in financial partnerships for non-profit and institutional solar developments.

### **KY AJAYI | SOLAR ACCESS MANAGER/ PROJECT DEVELOPER**

Ky joined StraightUp Solar in 2019, and he leads StraightUp Solar's efforts to connect environmental justice and low-income communities with the Illinois Solar for All program. He is also an Approved Vendor Aggregator for Illinois Solar for All projects. Previous to StraightUp Solar, Ky was a Political Science professor at Illinois Wesleyan, a teleradiology business manager, and environmental consultant.



### **CHUCK WITTHAUS | COMMERCIAL O&M MANAGER/SEN. PV O&M SPECIALIST**

Chuck has been with StraightUp since 2013 and has deep experience as both a solar installer and senior operations and maintenance specialist. Prior to working in solar, he was a residential electrician for 13 years with additional experience in network integration. Chuck also completed the SEI's PV System Operations and Maintenance course.

### **MICHAEL HARTUPEE | COMMERCIAL PROJECT MANAGER**

Michael joined StraightUp Solar in 2016 after working as a Solar Energy Consultant, gaining experience in solar site assessment, service, and operations. Michael estimates commercial project costs and manages the project through design, procurement, installation and close out. Prior to beginning his career in the solar industry, he graduated with a Renewable Energy Technology degree from Mineral Area College.



### **JAMES FISHER | COMMERCIAL FIELD PROJECT COORDINATOR**

"Fish" leads Commercial Field Project Coordination for StraightUp Solar. He joined the team in 2012 and has served in several operational capacities over the years, including installation project coordination. He also teaches Solar 101 to StraightUp Solar's incoming class of installers. He holds a degree in Applied Science from Lewis and Clark Community College and is NABCEP PV Installation Professional certified.