The IEEE Berkshire Section Power Chapter sponsored a luncheon meeting on the subject of “Manhole Events”. The meeting was held at EPRI’s High-Voltage Laboratory, in Lenox MA on May 28th. Dave Rueger, Assistant Lab Manager and Section Power Chapter Chairperson hosted the event.

A presentation was given by Dr. George Gela, Ph.D., P.Eng. He is Technical Executive at the EPRI – Lenox Lab. The lecture provided an overview of manhole events, causes, mitigation techniques and current research in this area.

Manhole events can and do occur in the electrical world. Dr. Gela explained how the industry is combating this issue and how EPRI’s unique manhole test facility is helping to provide an understanding of these events.

A live demonstration of a manhole event followed the talk. The demo provided attendees with a rare opportunity to see the dynamics involved. A group of 15 members and guest were in attendance.

The Electric Power Research Institute, Inc. (EPRI, www.epri.com) conducts research and development for the global electricity sector.