

Member Spotlight



In the Spotlight with SEEA Member SemaConnect

Products	Smart, Networked Electric Vehicle Charging Solutions
HQ	Maryland
Areas Served	North America
# Employees	Approx. 50



Meet Josh Cohen

- Director of Policy and Utility Programs, SemaConnect
- SEEA Member Representative

When asked why SemaConnect was interested in joining SEEA, Josh acknowledged, “SemaConnect is very interested in working with utilities to develop scalable EV charging solutions that meet their needs for data tracking, load management and demand response. SEEA has an excellent reputation as an effective organization and has established relationships with many of the key utilities in the Southeast. Another key factor in our decision to join was the fact that SEEA created a transportation electrification position and hired Anne Blair who is well-known nationally as a leader in the EV space. I had worked with Anne in the past, and the new position was a clear signal that SEEA was serious about working on transportation electrification.”

Josh describes his experience working with SEEA as “we are new members, having just joined last fall. Our experience has been outstanding. Mandy and Pam led a smooth onboarding process and really made sure they understood SemaConnect’s goals and how we could benefit from our SEEA membership. SEEA’s member-friendly approach was further evident when we exhibited at October’s annual SEEA conference in Atlanta. Unlike some conferences in which vendors pay exorbitant fees for each individual add-on, SEEA offered an all-inclusive package at a good value, and the SEEA team went out of their way to make sure we had what we needed.”

Electric Vehicle charging offers exciting possibilities for energy efficiency and load management. Josh states, “electric vehicles are so important. Unlike an internal combustion engine vehicle, an EV actually gets cleaner over time as more renewables are added to the grid.” As more EV drivers fuel up with electricity, it drives down rates for all ratepayers because it spreads out the fixed system costs. And when it comes to reducing peak load, programs that incentivize off-peak EV charging, as well as newer innovative approaches that allow EV batteries to serve as mobile storage units, have transformative potential to make electricity usage even cheaper.

Josh has a background in government and policy and worked at USDA’s Rural Utilities Service during the latter part of the Obama Administration. “That experience opened my eyes to the incredible clean energy transition underway in communities across our country.” When he left the federal government,

he started a consulting practice focused on policy advocacy and communications in the clean energy space.