

# EPRI: BORN IN A BLACKOUT

THE CREATION OF EPRI WAS FUELED FROM THE GREAT NORTHEAST BLACKOUT OF 1965.

## WHAT CREATED THE BLACKOUT:

THE BLACKOUT WAS CAUSED BY A FAULTY RELAY SETTING AT SIR ADAM BECK STATION ON THE ONTARIO SIDE OF NIAGARA FALLS LEADING TO A POWER SWELL FROM THE SOUTH, CAUSING POWER OVERLOADS AND AUTOMATIC SYSTEM SHUTDOWNS IN NEW YORK, NEW JERSEY, CONNECTICUT, MASSACHUSETTS, RHODE ISLAND, NEW HAMPSHIRE, VERMONT AND PARTS OF CANADA.



SPRING 1965

Electric Research Council formed to assist in creation of cooperative research in the U.S.

NOVEMBER 9, 1965

Blackout knocks out power.

JUNE 1971

Electric Research Council creates Greenbook, a blueprint for 30 years of R&D.

MARCH 1972

Federal hearings held due to public criticism of utilities after the blackout. Utilities allowed one year to develop what is now EPRI or face proposed 1 percent tax on gross revenues for federally-funded organization.

APRIL 5, 1972

EPRI officially incorporated.

JANUARY 1973

Chauncey Starr officially begins at EPRI.

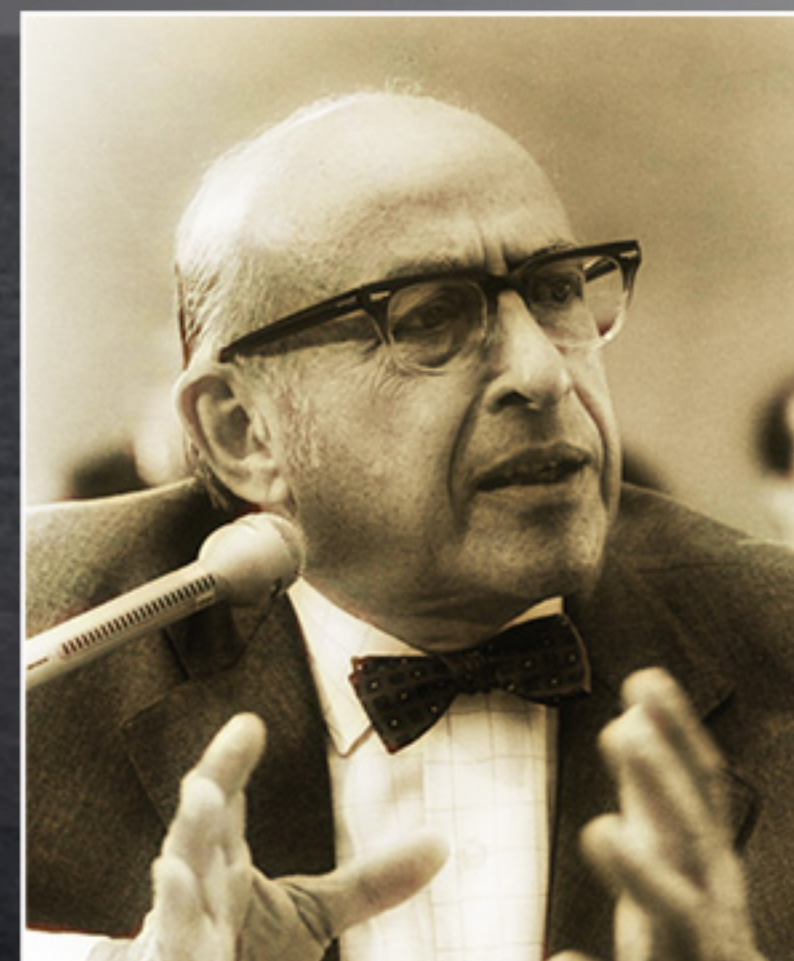
## KEY FIGURES



**Joseph Swidler**  
Chairman of Federal Power Commission pushed for comprehensive utility industry R&D in the early 1960s.



**Shearon Harris**  
President of the Edison Electric Institute negotiated the one-year deferral of the 1 percent tax to develop what is now EPRI.



**Chauncey Starr**  
Founding President of EPRI refined the Greenbook's technical and organizational vision to help create ultimate blueprint for the Institute.

## KEY NUMBERS



30 MILLION - NUMBER OF PEOPLE WITHOUT POWER DURING THE BLACKOUT



12 HOURS - AMOUNT OF TIME MOST PEOPLE WERE WITHOUT POWER



80,000 SQUARE MILES - AREA COVERED BY BLACKOUT.



100 - NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES HIRED DURING EPRI'S FIRST YEAR