

# Solar Powering Your Community

## Addressing Soft Costs and Barriers





Powered by

**SunShot**

U.S. Department of Energy

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(202) 540-5348

# About the SunShot Solar Outreach Partnership

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The SunShot Solar Outreach Partnership (SolarOPs) is a U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) program designed to increase the use and integration of solar energy in communities across the US.

# About the SunShot Solar Outreach Partnership

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- Increase installed capacity of solar electricity in U.S. communities
- Streamline and standardize **permitting and interconnection processes**
- Improve **planning and zoning codes/regulations** for solar electric technologies
- Increase access to **solar financing options**



# Agenda

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- 09:10 – 09:45    Introductions and Overview
- 09:45 – 10:10    Solar 101: Policy Environment and Economics
- 10:10 – 10:20    *Break*
- 10:20 – 10:40    Benefits and Barriers Activity
- 10:40 – 11:10    Creating a Solar Ready Community
- 11:10 – 11:50    Growing Your Local Solar Market
- 11:50 – 12:00    *Break*
- 12:00– 01:00    Lunch and Local Session

# Agenda

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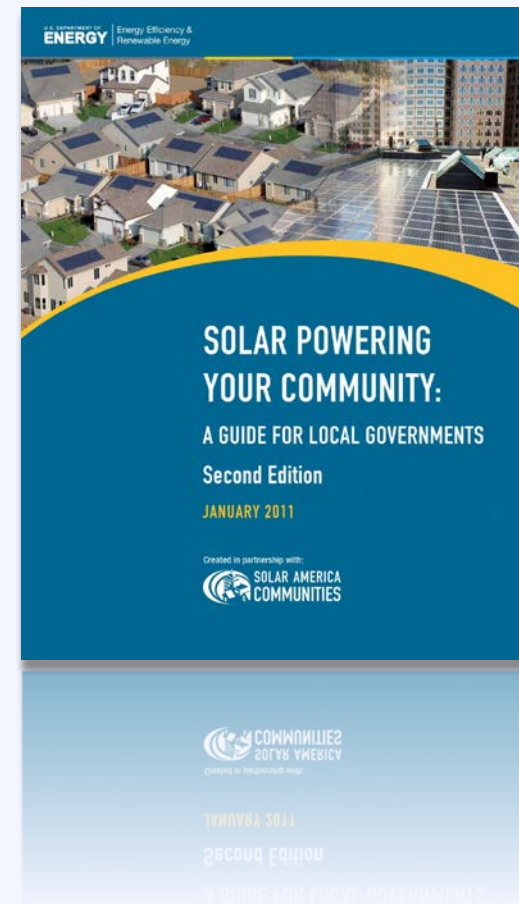
12:00– 01:00    Lunch and Local Session

# About the SunShot Solar Outreach Partnership

## Resource Solar Powering Your Community Guide

A comprehensive resource to assist local governments and stakeholders in building local solar markets.

[www.energy.gov](http://www.energy.gov)



# About the SunShot Solar Outreach Partnership

## Resource Sunshot Resource Center

- Case Studies
- Fact Sheets
- How-To Guides
- Model Ordinances
- Technical Reports
- Sample Government Docs

[www4.eere.energy.gov/solar/sunshot/resource\\_center](http://www4.eere.energy.gov/solar/sunshot/resource_center)



# About the SunShot Solar Outreach Partnership

## Technical Support

- 'Ask an Expert' Live Web Forums
- 'Ask an Expert' Web Portal
- Peer Exchange Facilitation
- In-Depth Consultations
- Customized Trainings



[www.solaroutreach.org](http://www.solaroutreach.org)



# Poll

## Who's in the room?

# Poll

**What is your experience with solar?**

# Solar Technologies



**Solar Photovoltaic (PV)**



**Solar Hot Water**



**Concentrated Solar Power**

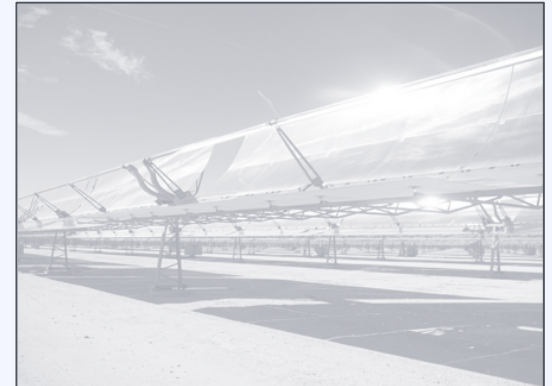
# Solar Technologies



Solar Photovoltaic (PV)



Solar Hot Water



Concentrated Solar Power

# Solar Technologies



**Solar Photovoltaic (PV)**



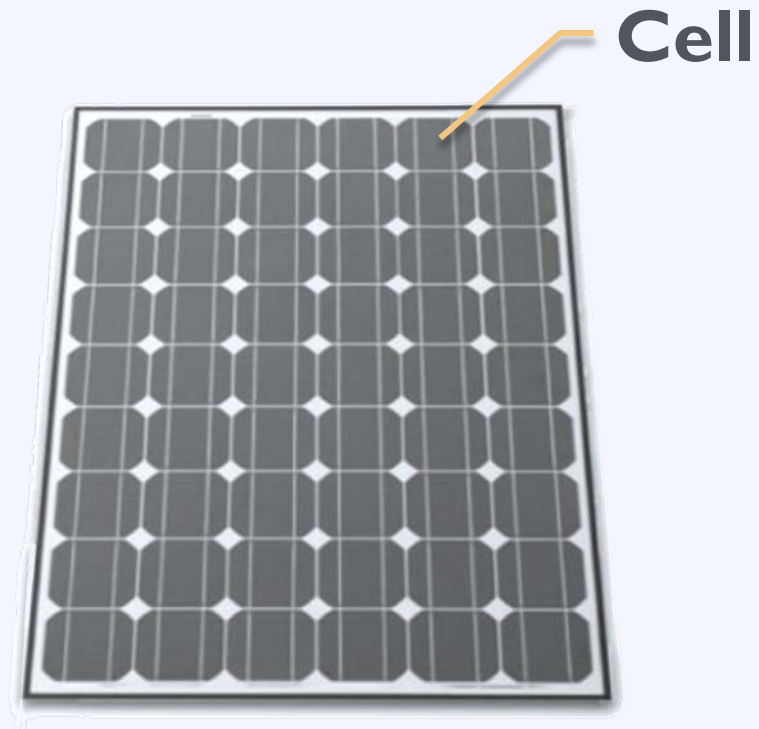
Solar Hot Water



Concentrated Solar Power

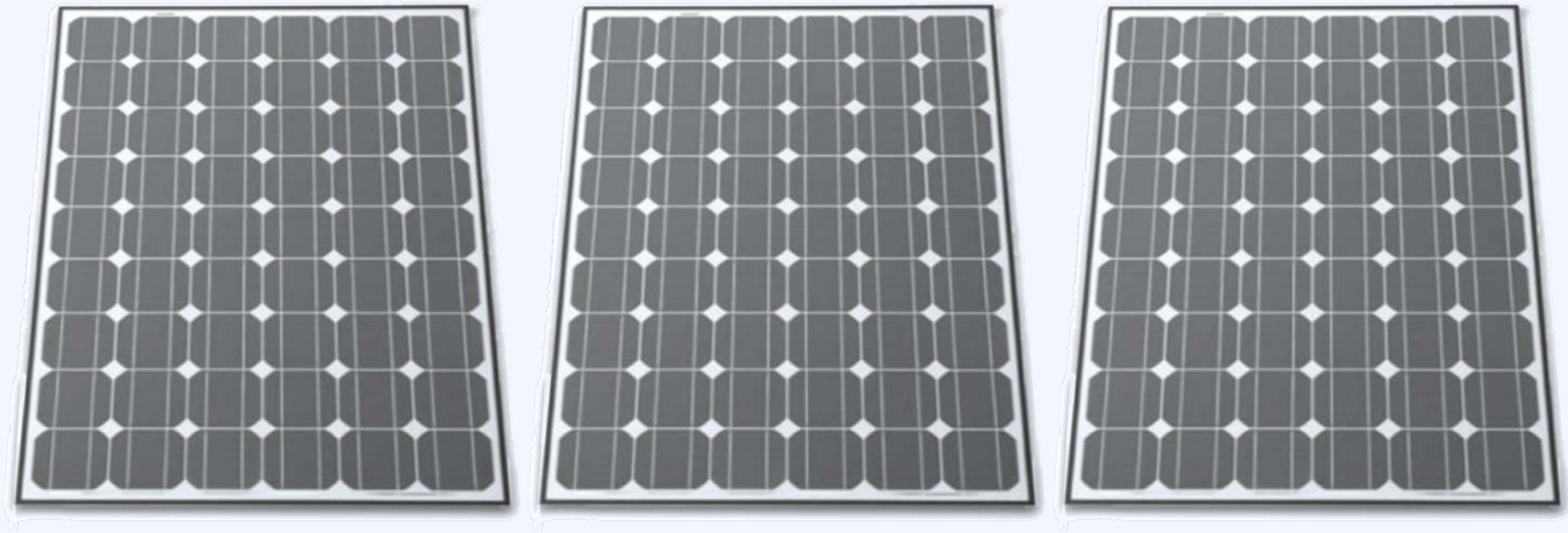


# Some Basic Terminology



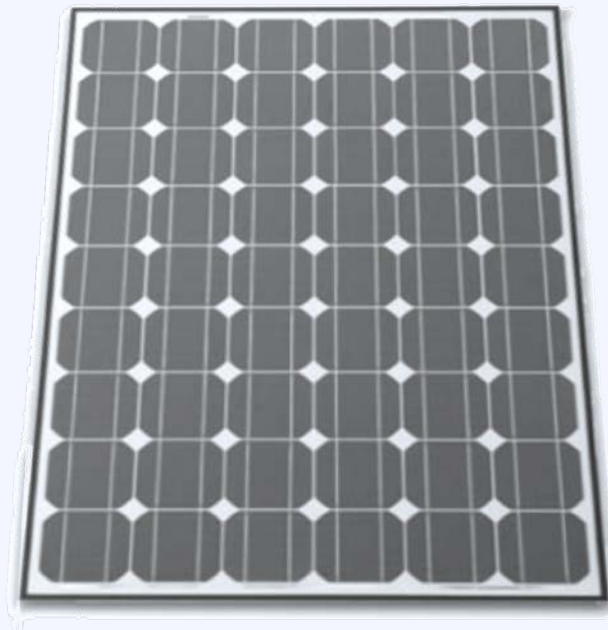
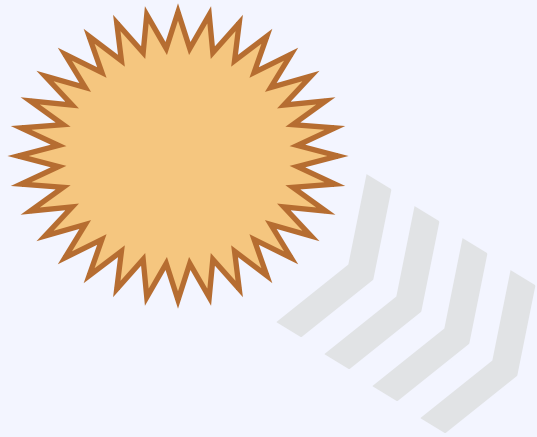
**Panel / Module**

# Some Basic Terminology



**Array**

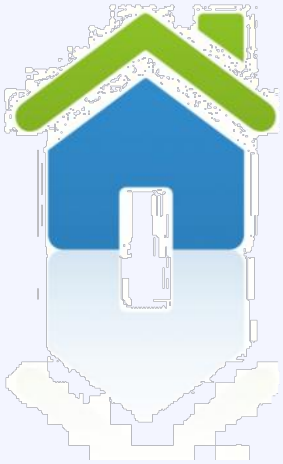
# Some Basic Terminology



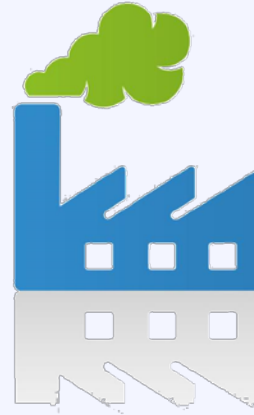
**Production**  
*Kilowatt-hour (kWh)*

**Capacity / Power**  
*kilowatt (kW)*

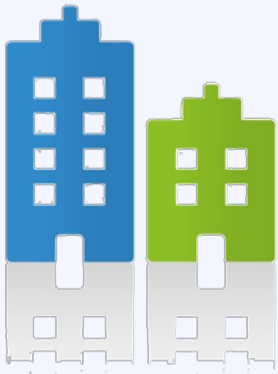
# Some Basic Terminology



**Residence**  
5 kW



**Factory**  
1 MW+



**Office**  
50 – 500 kW



**Utility**  
2 MW+

# Solar Technologies



**Solar Photovoltaic (PV)**



**Solar Hot Water**

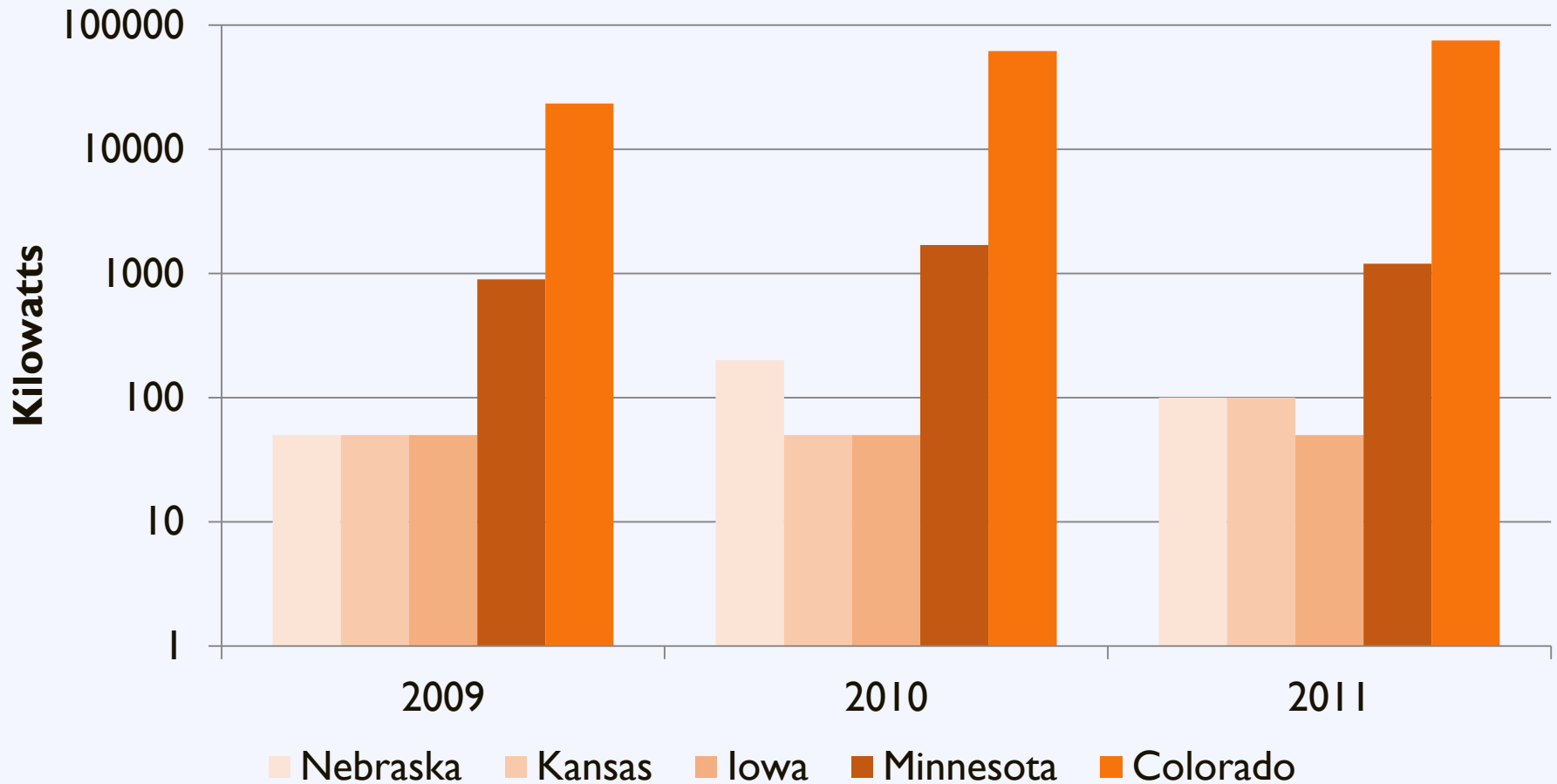


**Concentrated Solar Power**



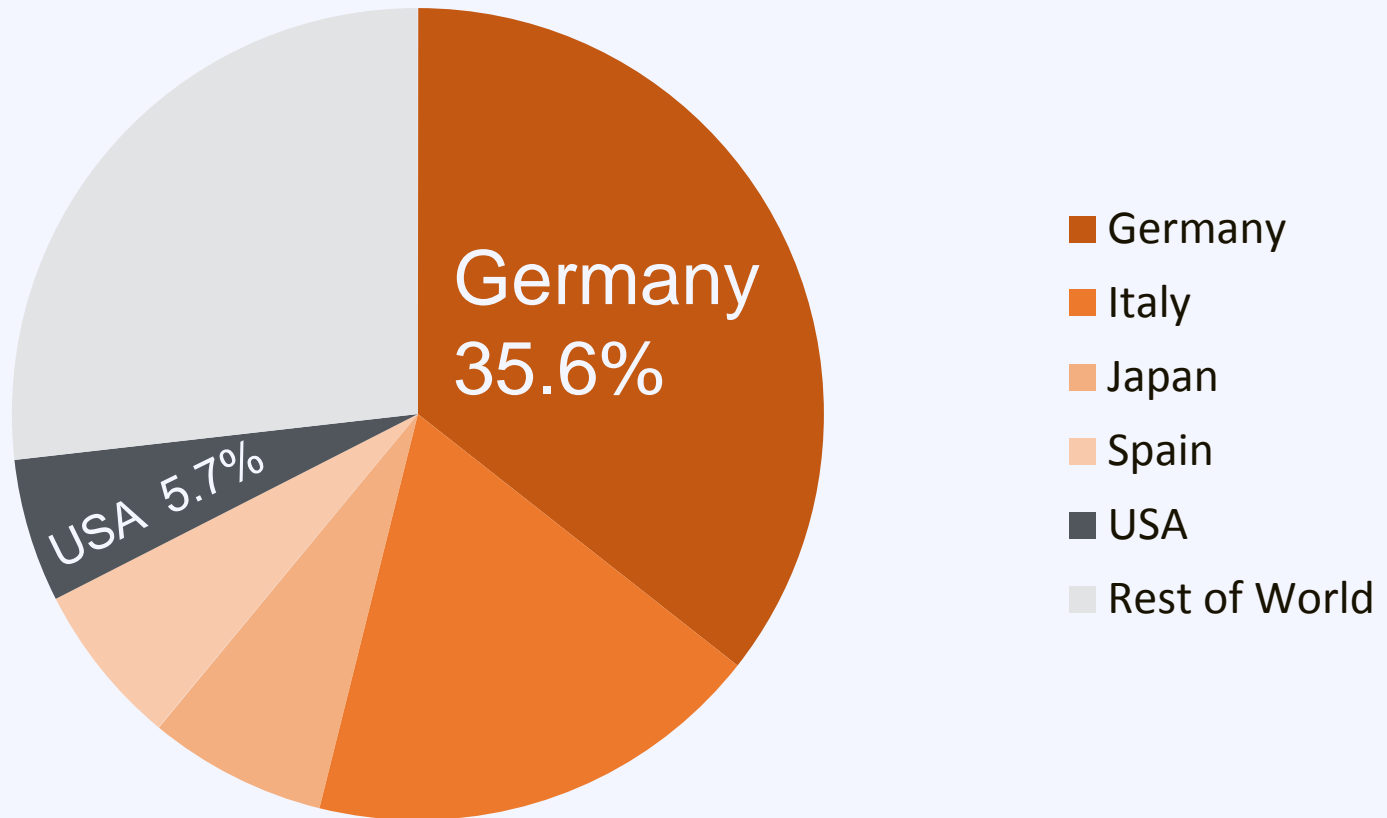
# Nebraska Regional Solar Market

## Installed Capacity of Solar PV



# Installed Capacity

Top 5 Countries Solar Operating Capacity (2011)



# Installed Capacity

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Total installed solar capacity in the US

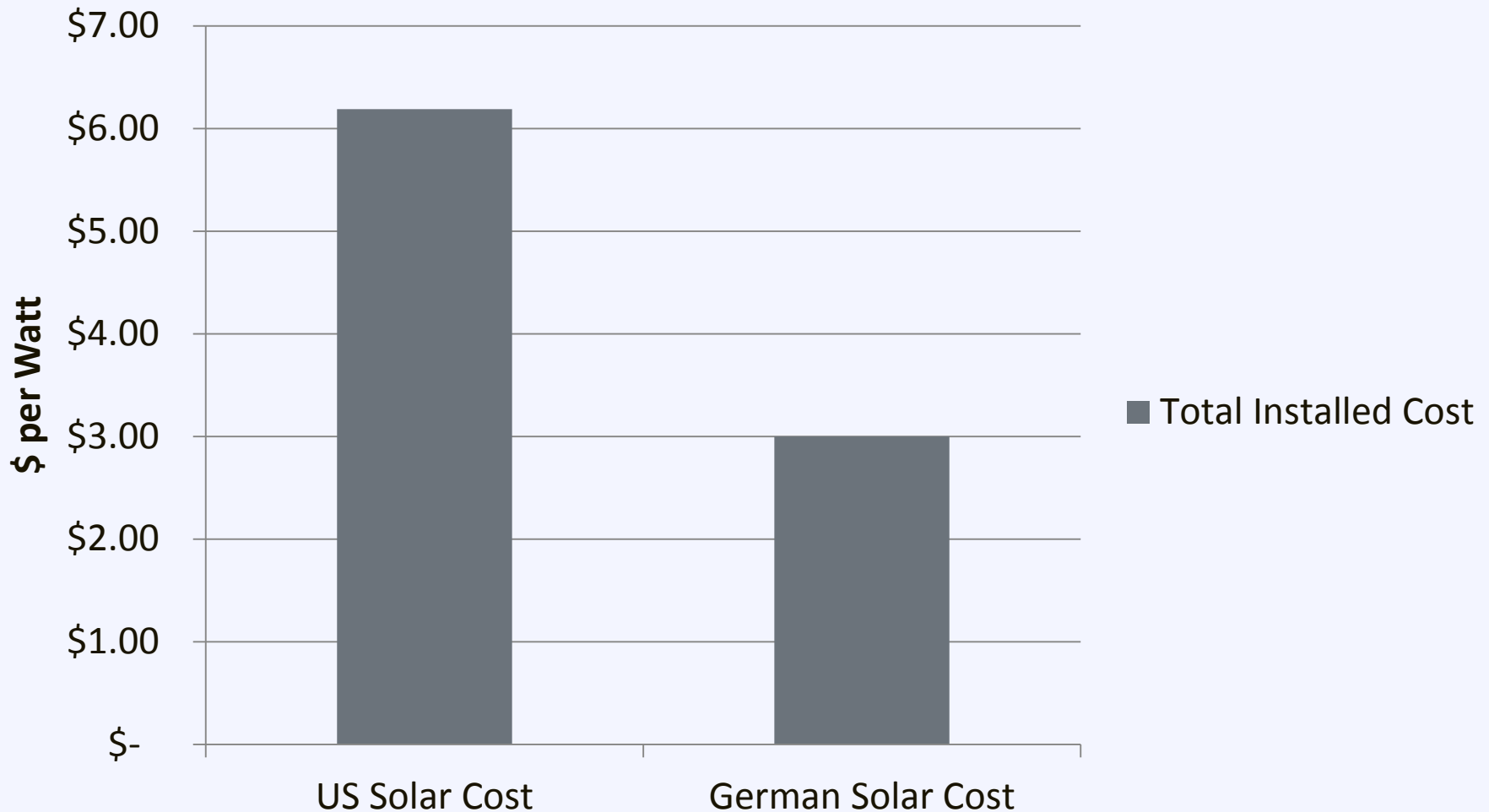
7.7 GW

Capacity installed in Germany in 2012 alone

7.6 GW

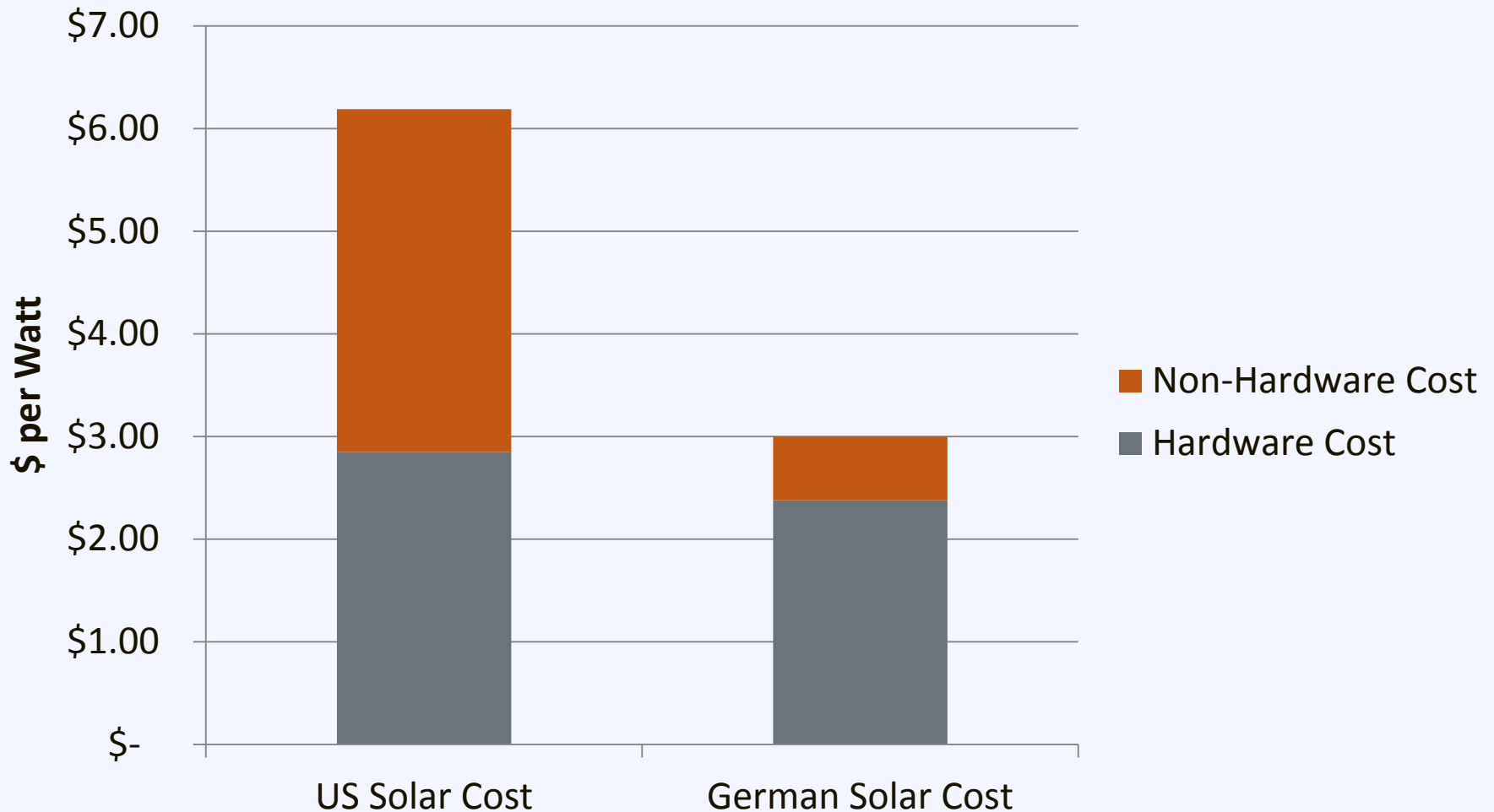
# The Cost of Solar in the US

## Comparison of US and German Solar Costs



# The Cost of Solar in the US

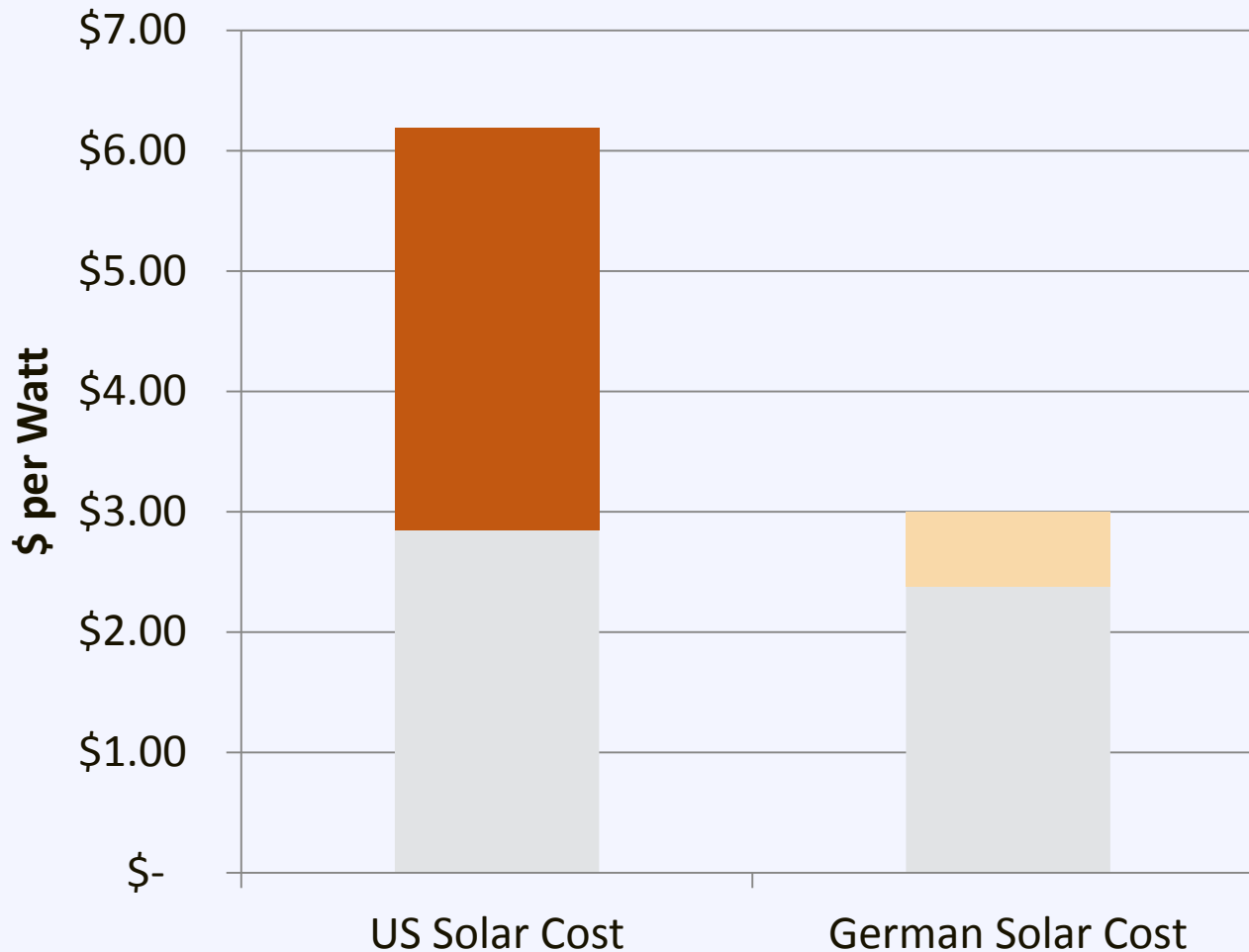
## Comparison of US and German Solar Costs





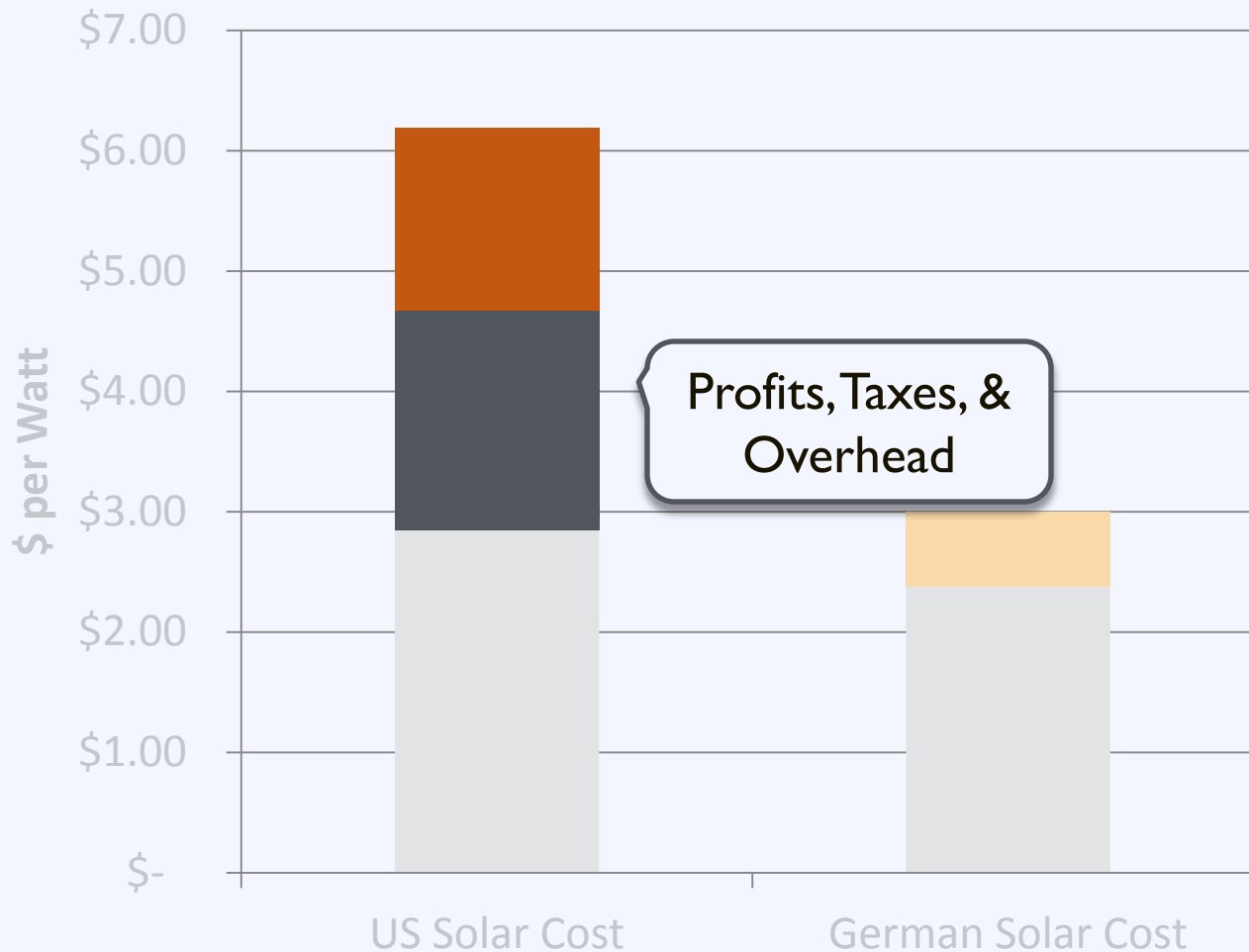
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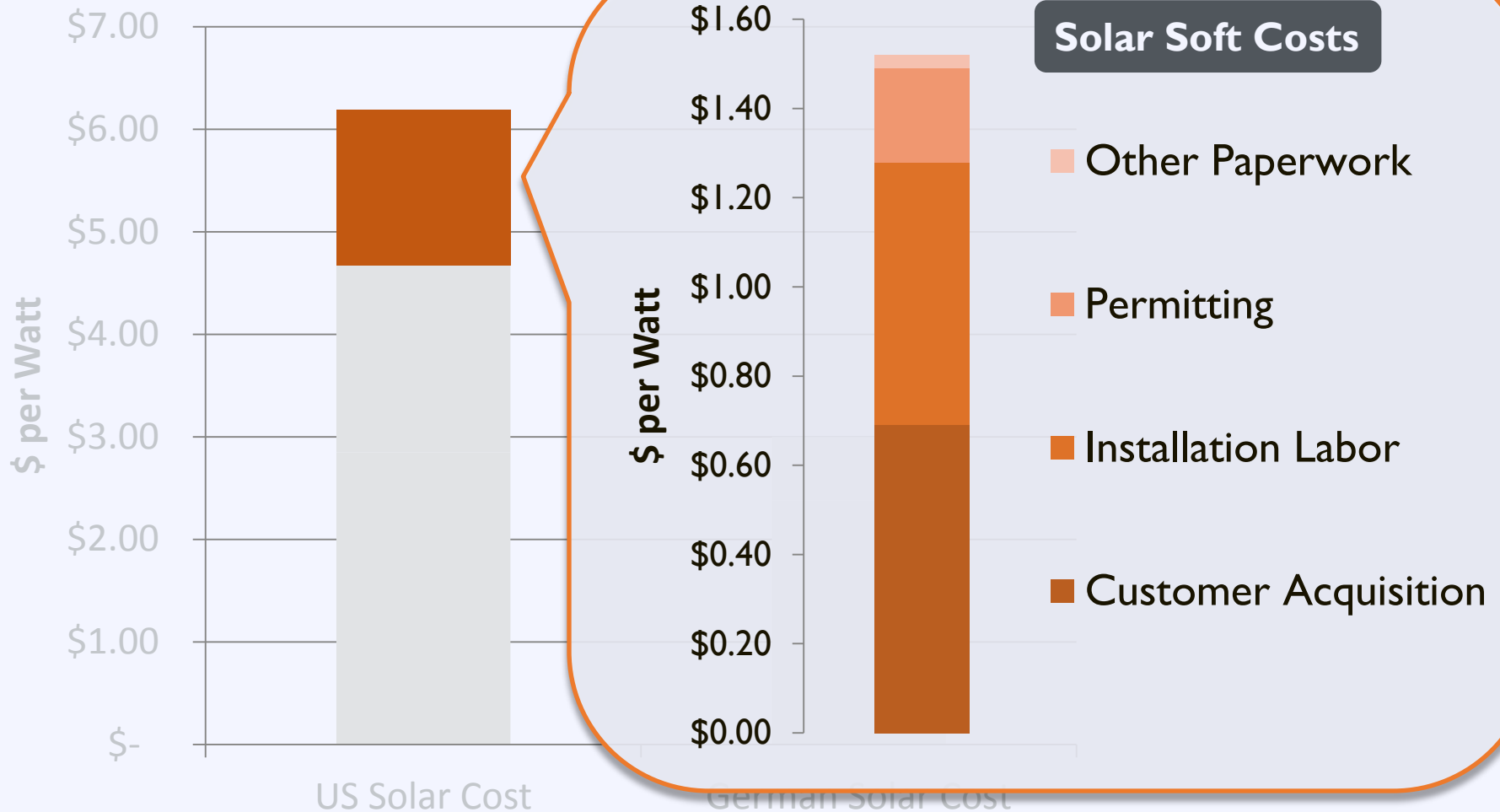
# The Cost of Solar in the US

## Comparison of US and German Solar Costs



# The Cost of Solar in the US

Comparison of US and German Solar Costs



# Workshop Goal

**Enable local governments to replicate successful solar practices and expand local adoption of solar energy**

**Explore benefits**

and

**Overcome barriers**

# Activity: Identifying Benefits

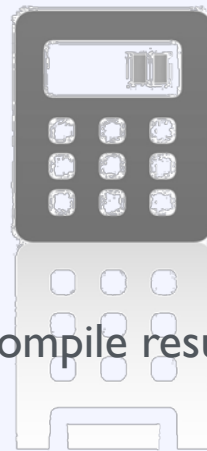
What is the greatest benefit solar can bring to your community? **[Blue Card]**

Right Now



Write answer on card

During Session



Compile results

After Break



Group discussion

# Activity: Addressing Barriers

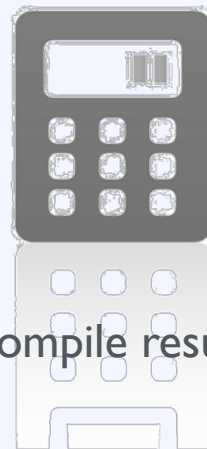
What is the greatest barrier to solar adoption in your community? **[Green Card]**

**Right Now**



Write answer on card

**During Session**



Compile results

**After Break**



Group discussion

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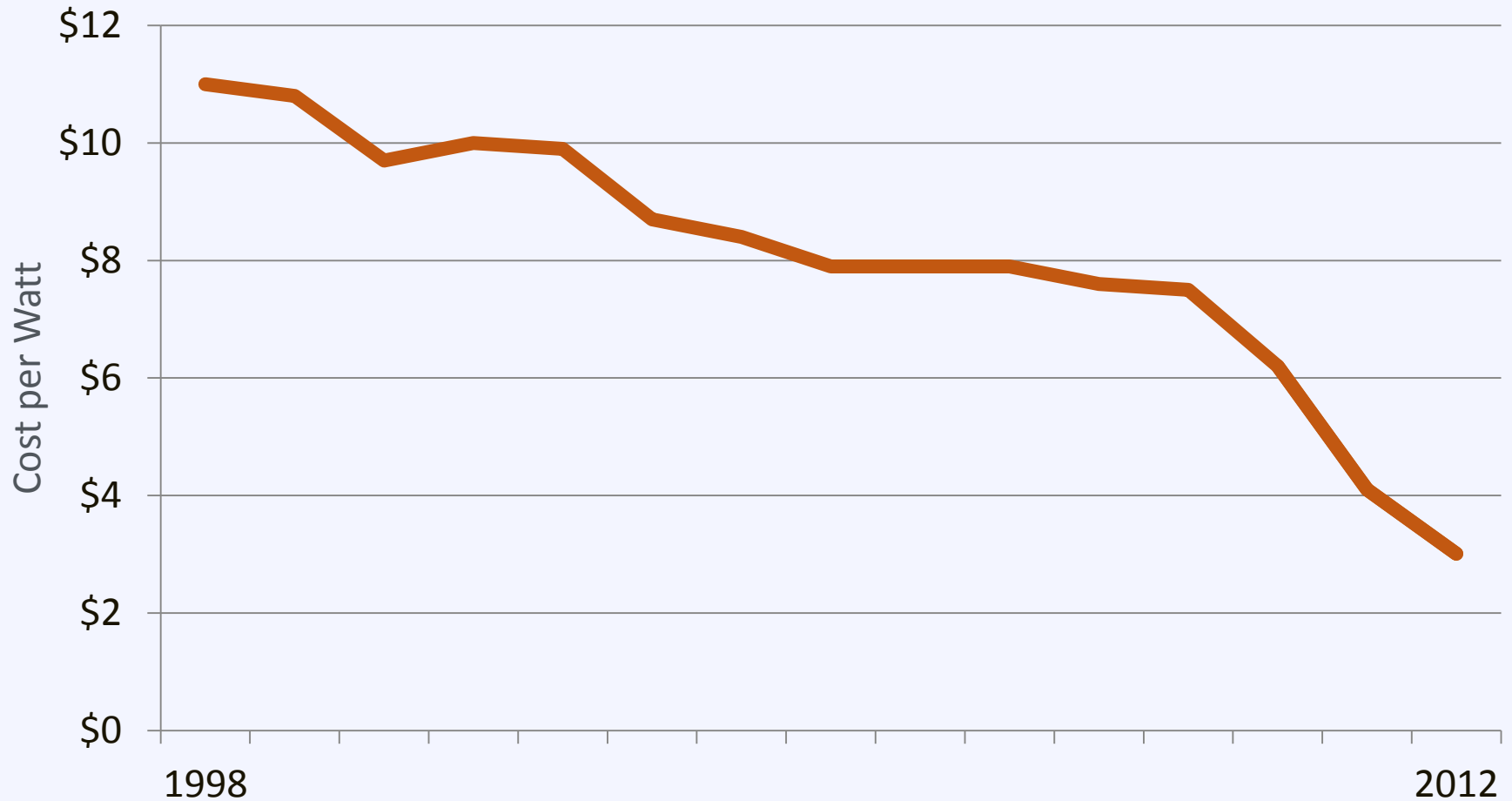
11:50 – 12:00 *Break*

12:00– 01:00 Lunch and Local Session



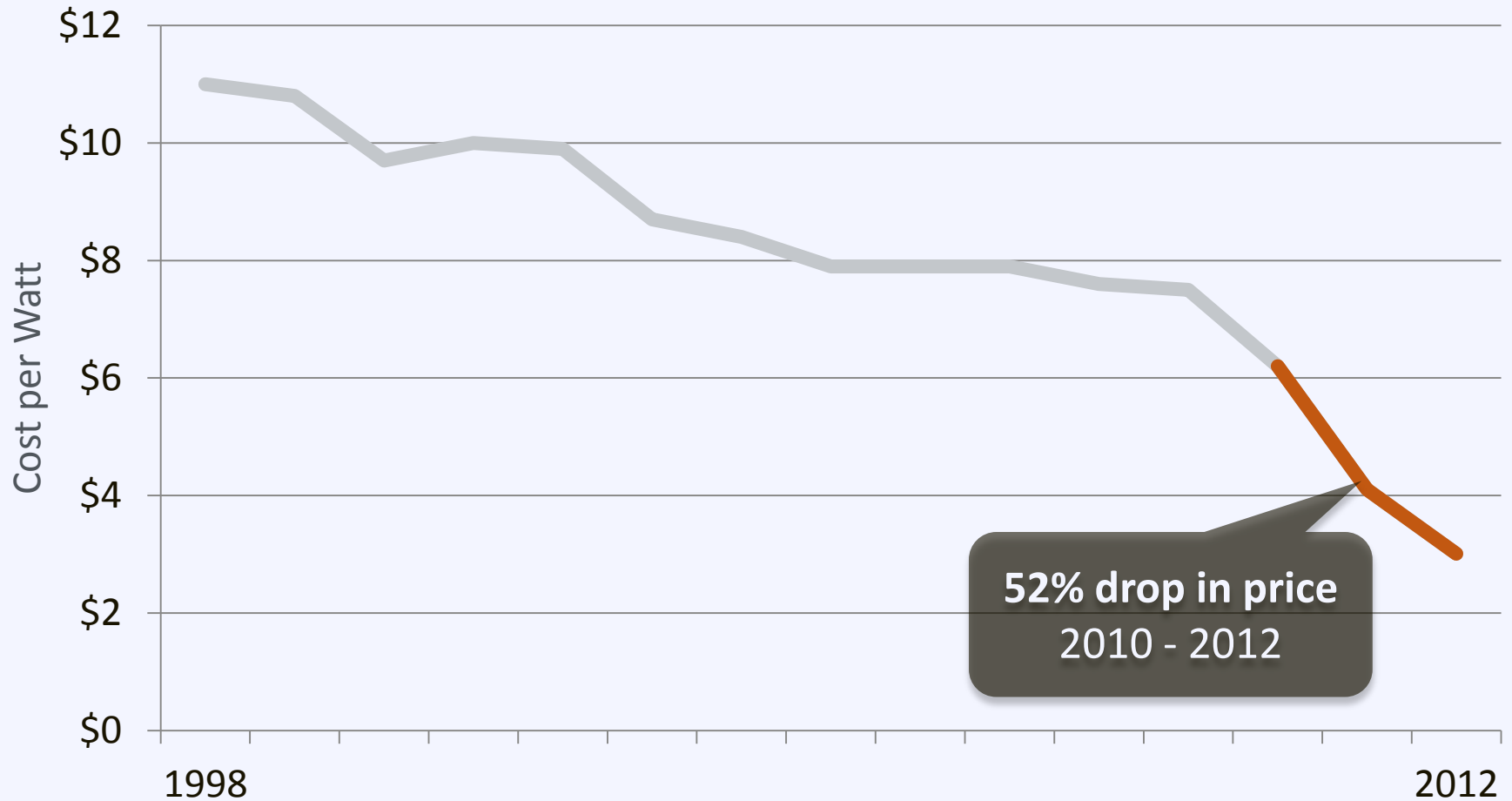
# Solar Market: Trends

US Average Installed Cost for Behind-the-Meter PV

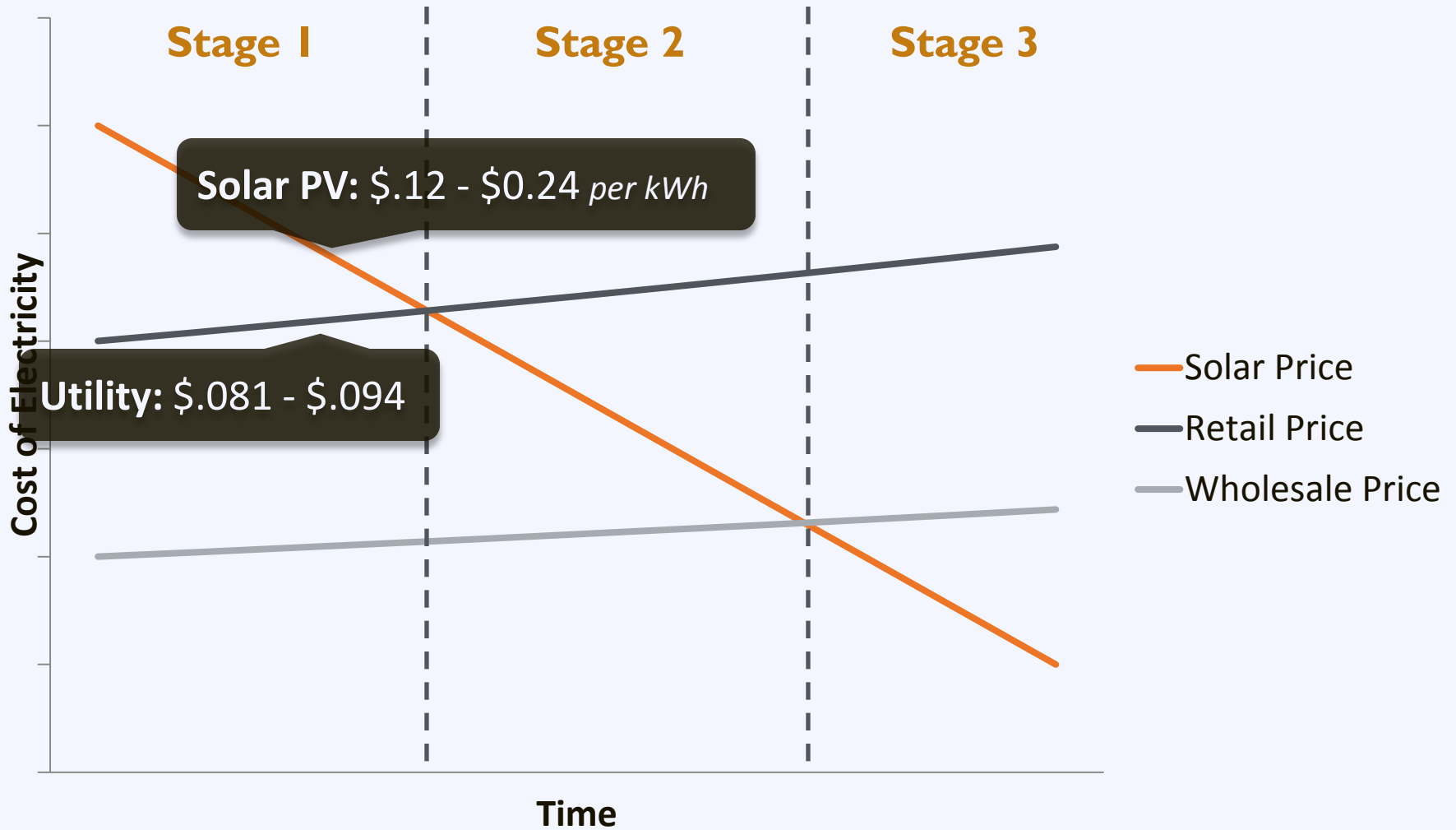


# Solar Market: Trends

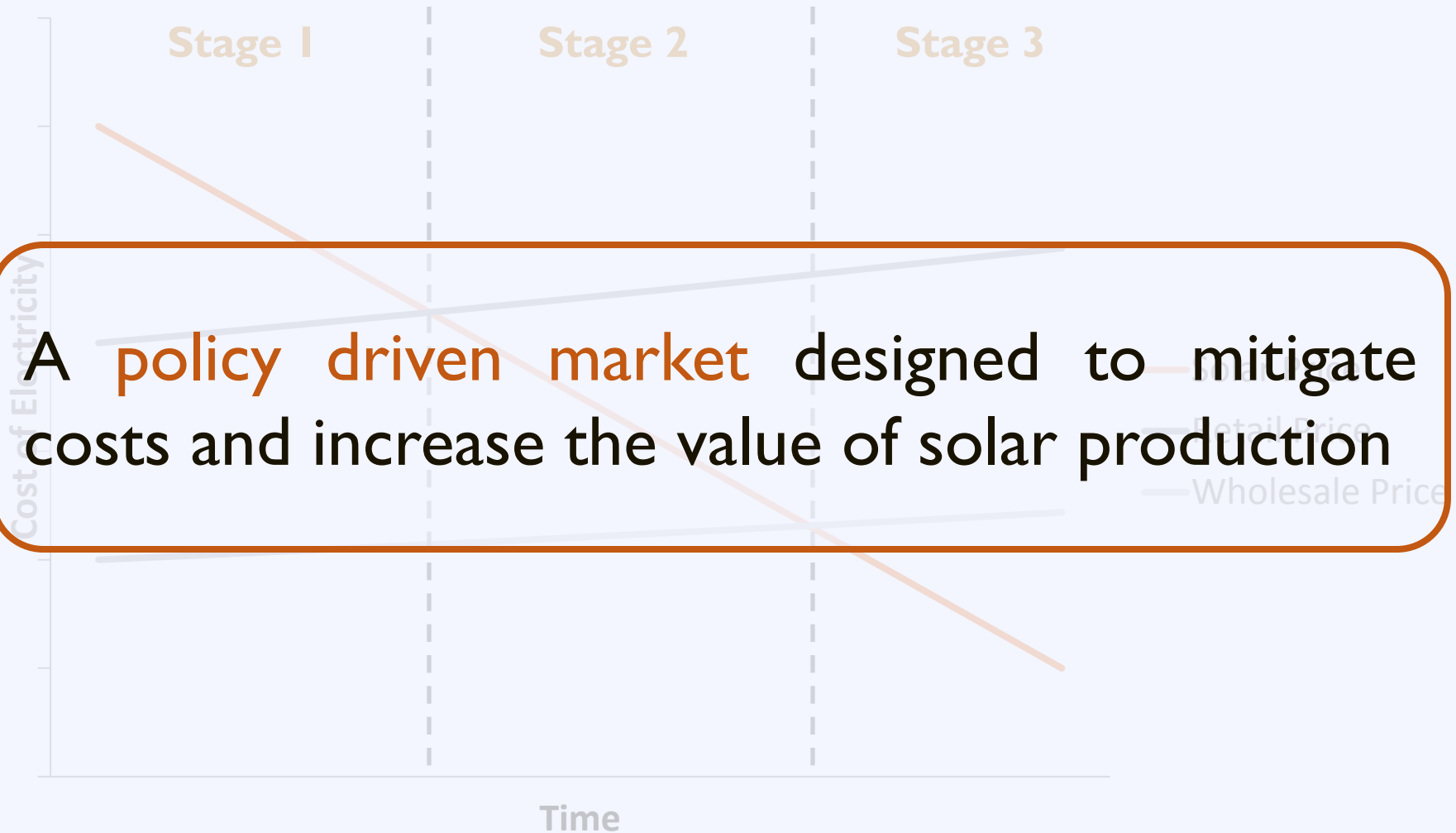
US Average Installed Cost for Behind-the-Meter PV



# Solar Market: Trends



# Solar Market: Stages



# A Policy Driven Market

## State

Utility Regulation

Solar Access

Community-Based  
Energy Development

## Local

Planning

Zoning

Permitting

# A Policy Driven Market

## State

Utility Regulation

Solar Access

Community-Based  
Energy Development

## Local

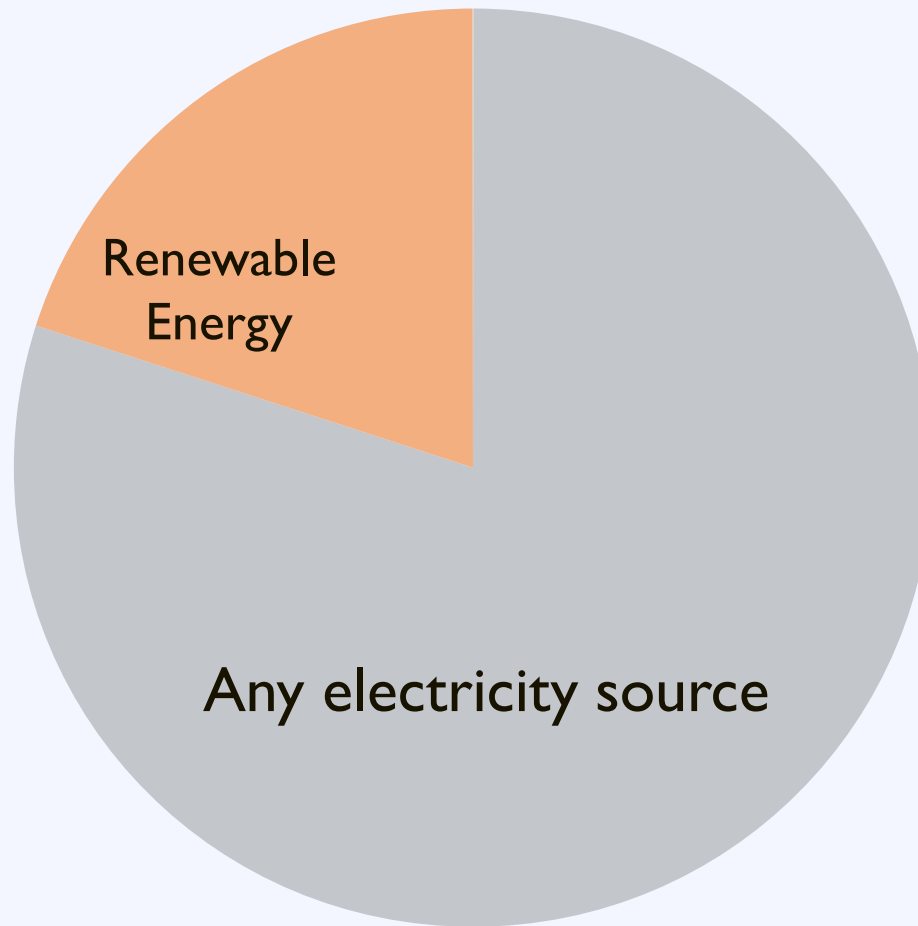
Planning

Zoning

Permitting

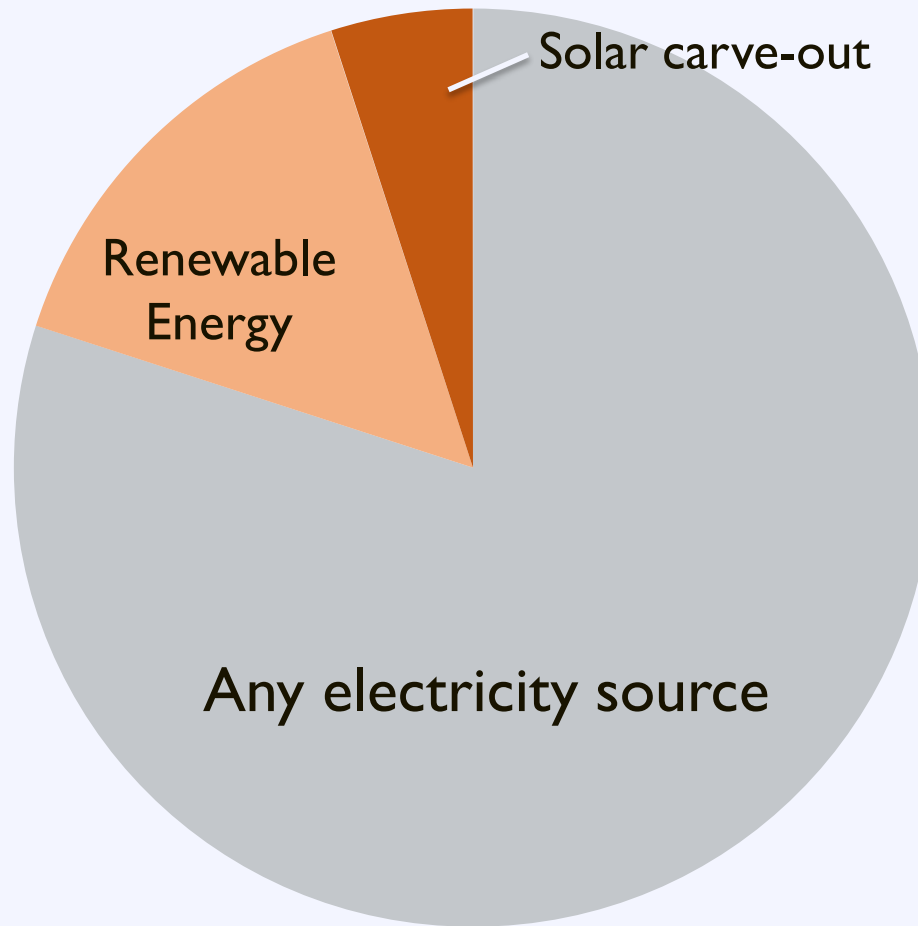
# Renewable Portfolio Standard

## Retail Electricity Sales



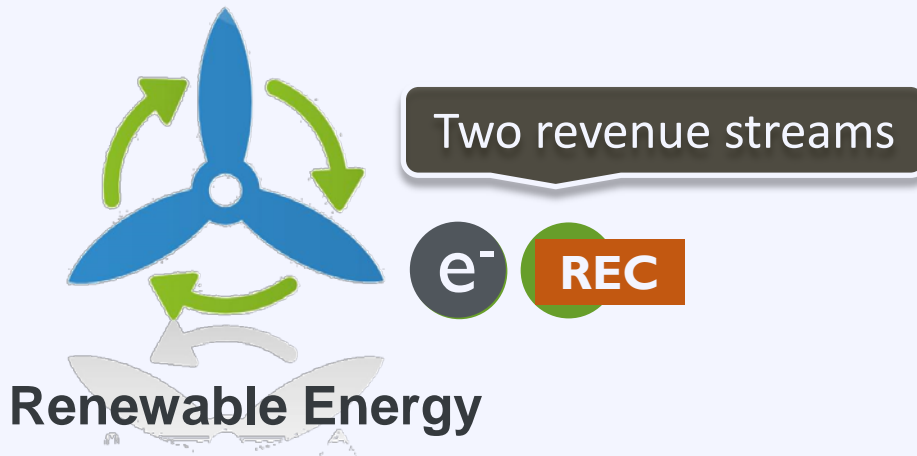
# Renewable Portfolio Standard

## Retail Electricity Sales



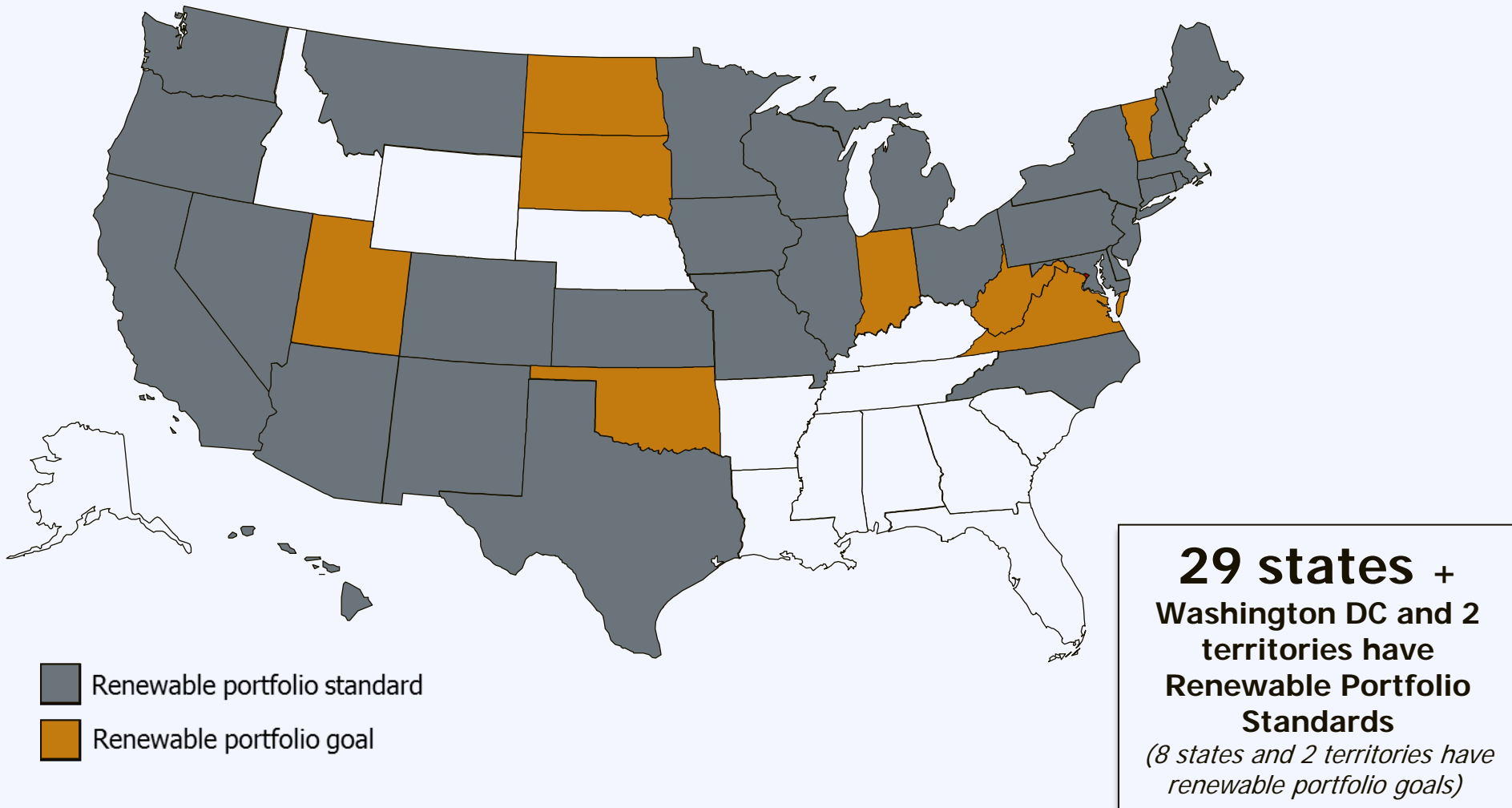


# Renewable Portfolio Standard

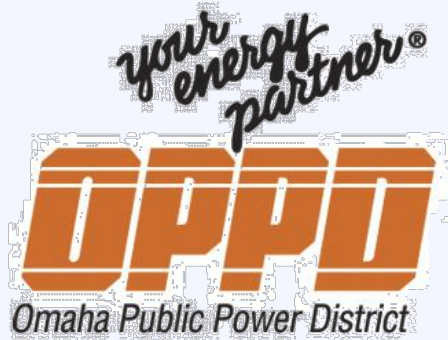


# Renewable Portfolio Standard

[www.dsireusa.org](http://www.dsireusa.org) / March 2013



# Renewable Portfolio Standard

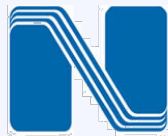


Voluntary goal of

**10%**

from renewable sources

**by 2020**



**Nebraska Public Power District**

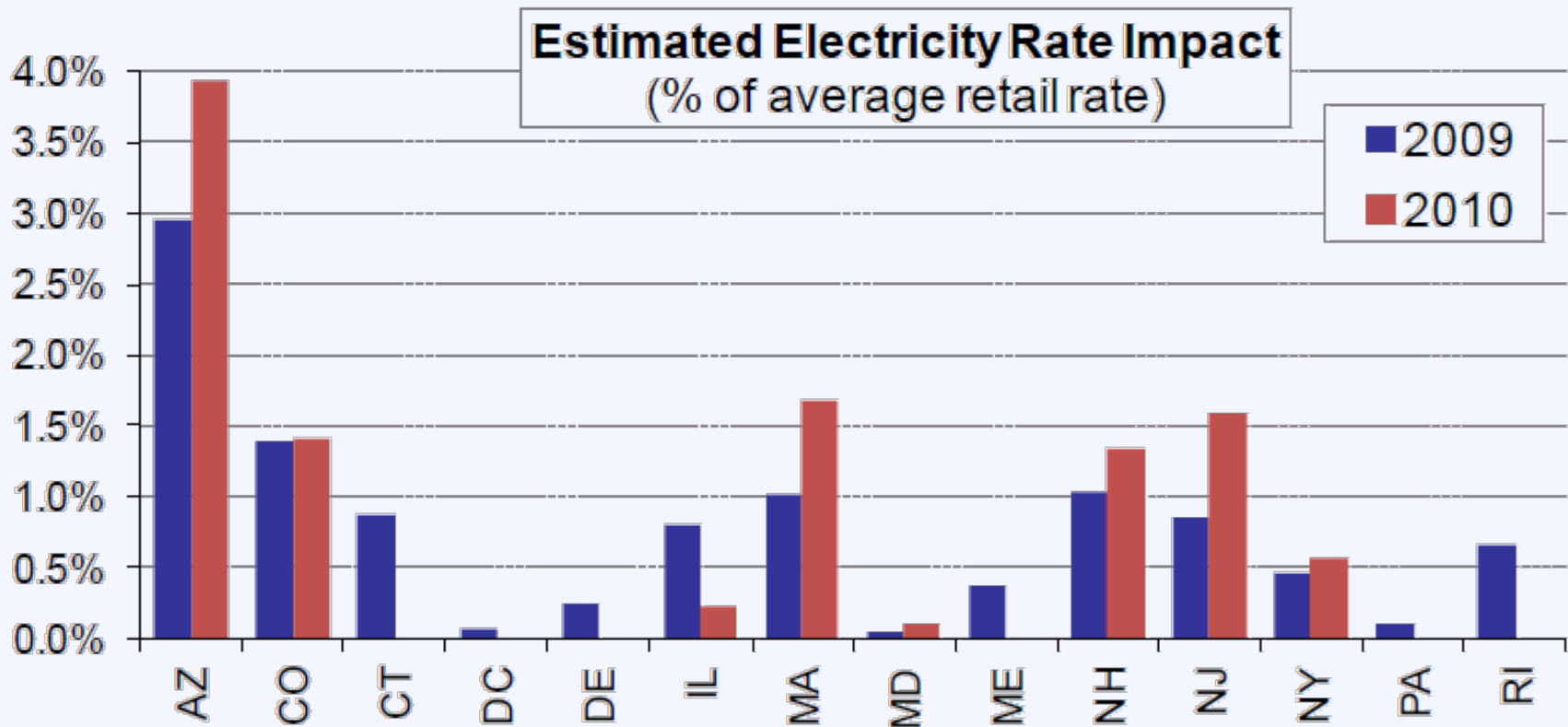
*Always there when you need us*

# RPS Impacts: Solar Deployment

## RPS and Solar/DG Status of Top Ten Solar States by Cumulative Installed Capacity (as of Q4 2012)

Ranks	State	RPS?	Solar/DG Provision?
1	California	Y	N
2	Arizona	Y	Y
3	New Jersey	Y	Y
4	Nevada	Y	Y
5	Colorado	Y	Y
6	North Carolina	Y	Y
7	Massachusetts	Y	Y
8	Pennsylvania	Y	Y
9	Hawaii	Y	N
10	New Mexico	Y	Y

# RPS Impacts: Retail Rates



*States not included if data on incremental RPS compliance costs are unavailable (CA, IA, HI, MN, MT, NC, NM, NV, OH, TX, WI) or if RPS did not apply in 2009-10 (KS, MI, MO, OR, WA).*

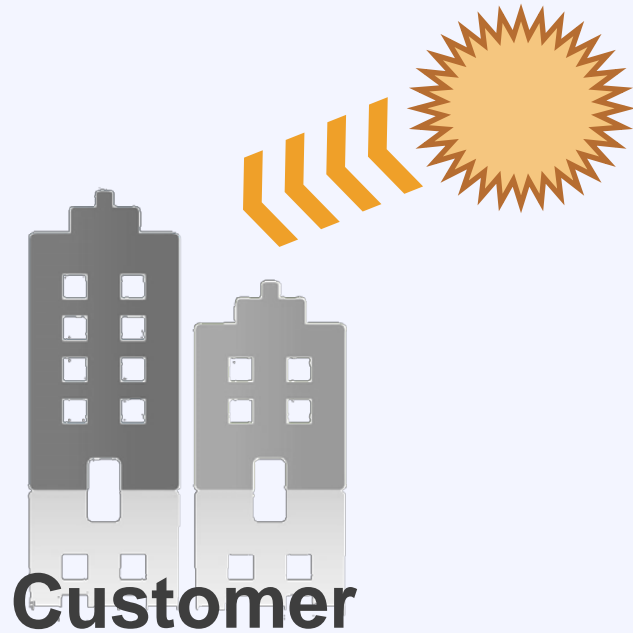
# Net Metering

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Net metering allows customers to export power to the grid during times of excess generation, and receive credits that can be applied to later electricity usage

# Net Metering: Overview

*Morning*



# Net Metering: Overview

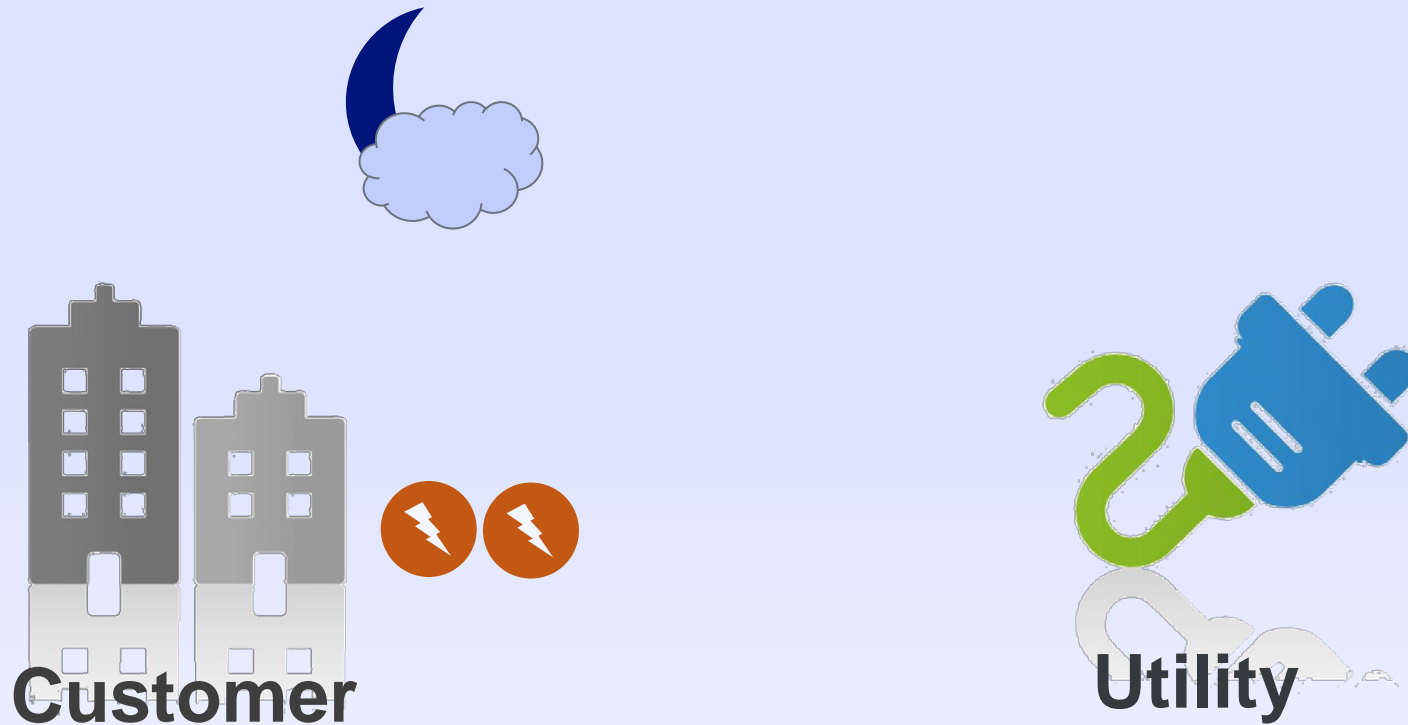
*Afternoon*





# Net Metering: Overview

*Night*



Solar covers 100% of the customer's load, even at night!

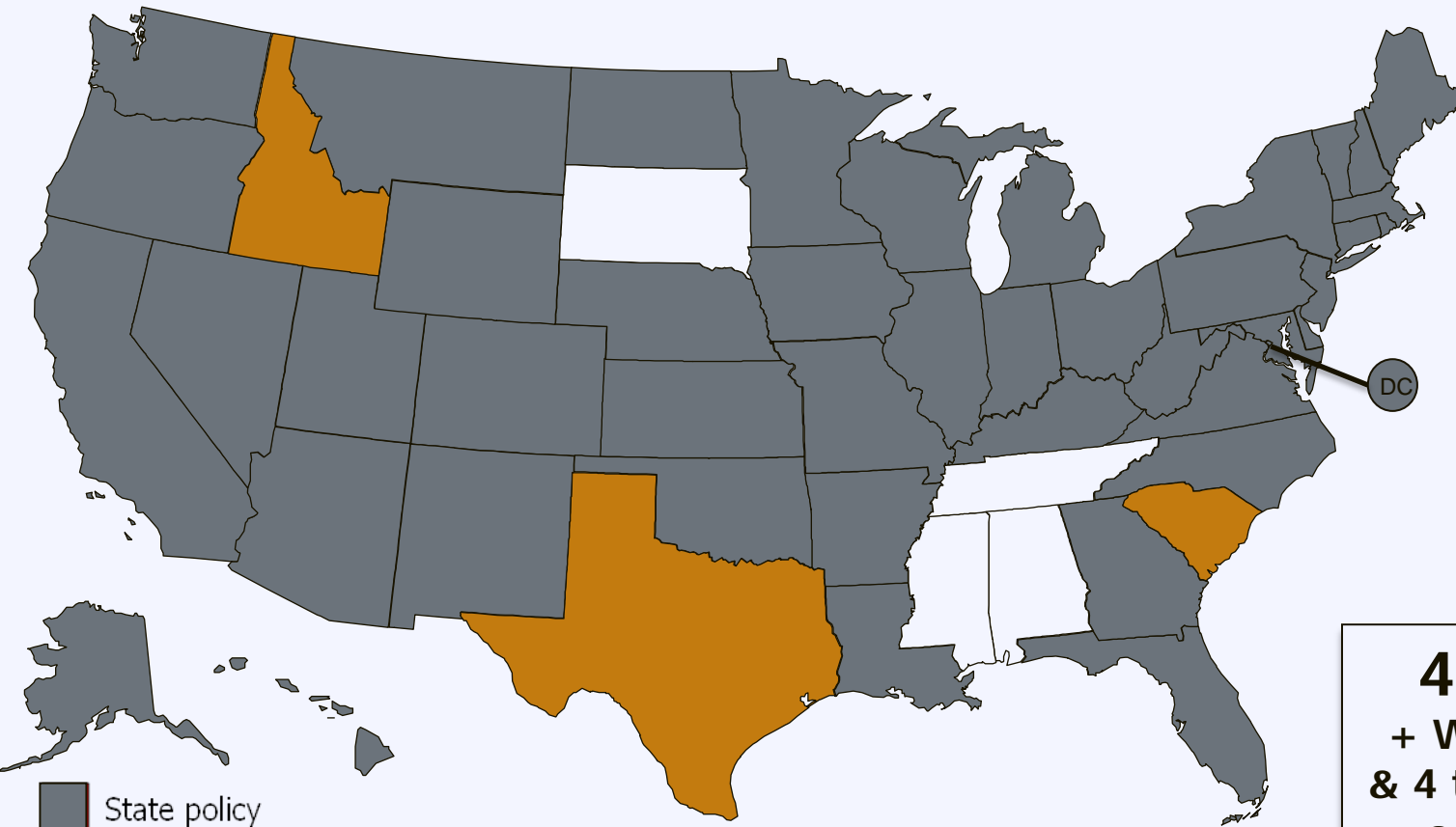
# Net Metering: Market Share

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More than **93%** of distributed  
PV Installations are net-metered

# Net Metering: State Policies

www.dsireusa.org / August 2012



- State policy
- Voluntary utility program(s) only
- \* State policy applies to certain utility types only (e.g., investor-owned utilities)

**43 states  
+ Washington DC  
& 4 territories have  
adopted a net  
metering policy**

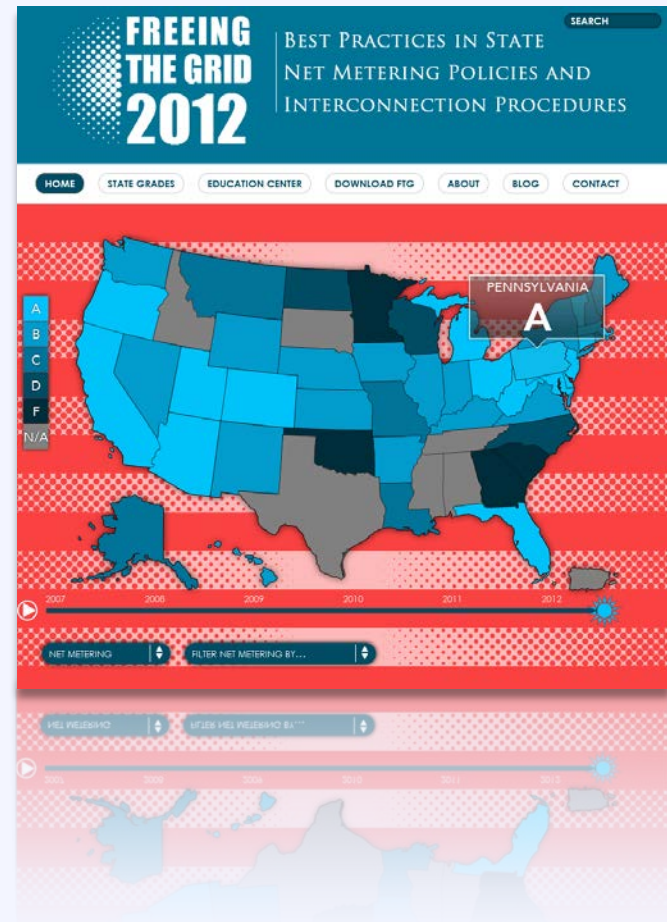
*Note: Numbers indicate individual system capacity limit in kilowatts. Some limits vary by customer type, technology and/or application. Other limits might also apply. This map generally does not address statutory changes until administrative rules have been adopted to implement such changes.*

# Net Metering: Resources

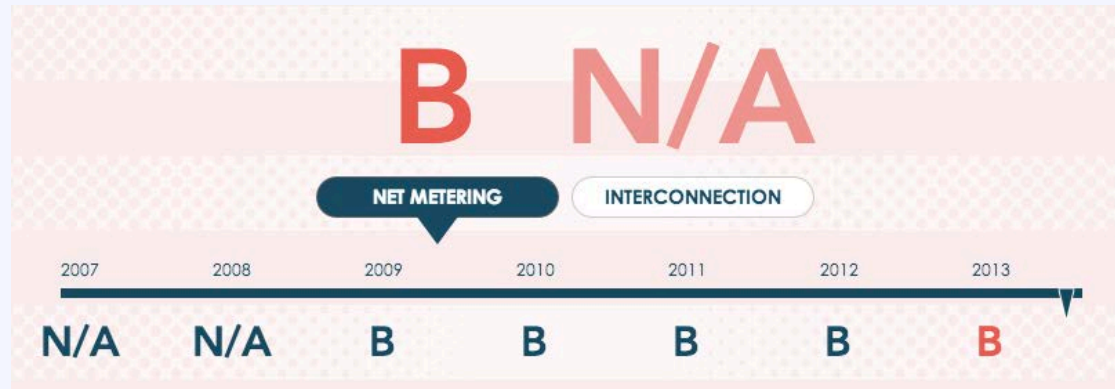
## Resource **Freeing the Grid**

Provides a “report card” for state policy on net metering and interconnection

<http://freeingthegrid.org/>



# Net Metering: Nebraska



## Nebraska Net Metering Policy:



### Credit Value

Avoided Cost Rate



### Credit Rollover

Up to one year



### System Capacity Limit

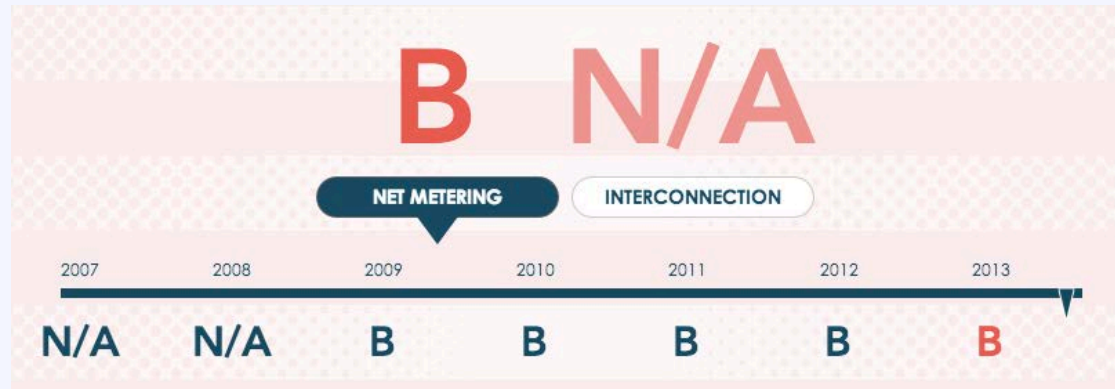
25 kW



### Aggregate Limit

1% of monthly peak

# Net Metering: Nebraska



## Freeing the Grid Recommendations:



### Credit Value

~~Avoided Retail Cost Rate~~



### Credit Rollover

~~Up to one year~~  
Indefinite



### System Capacity Limit

~~25 kW~~ No Limit

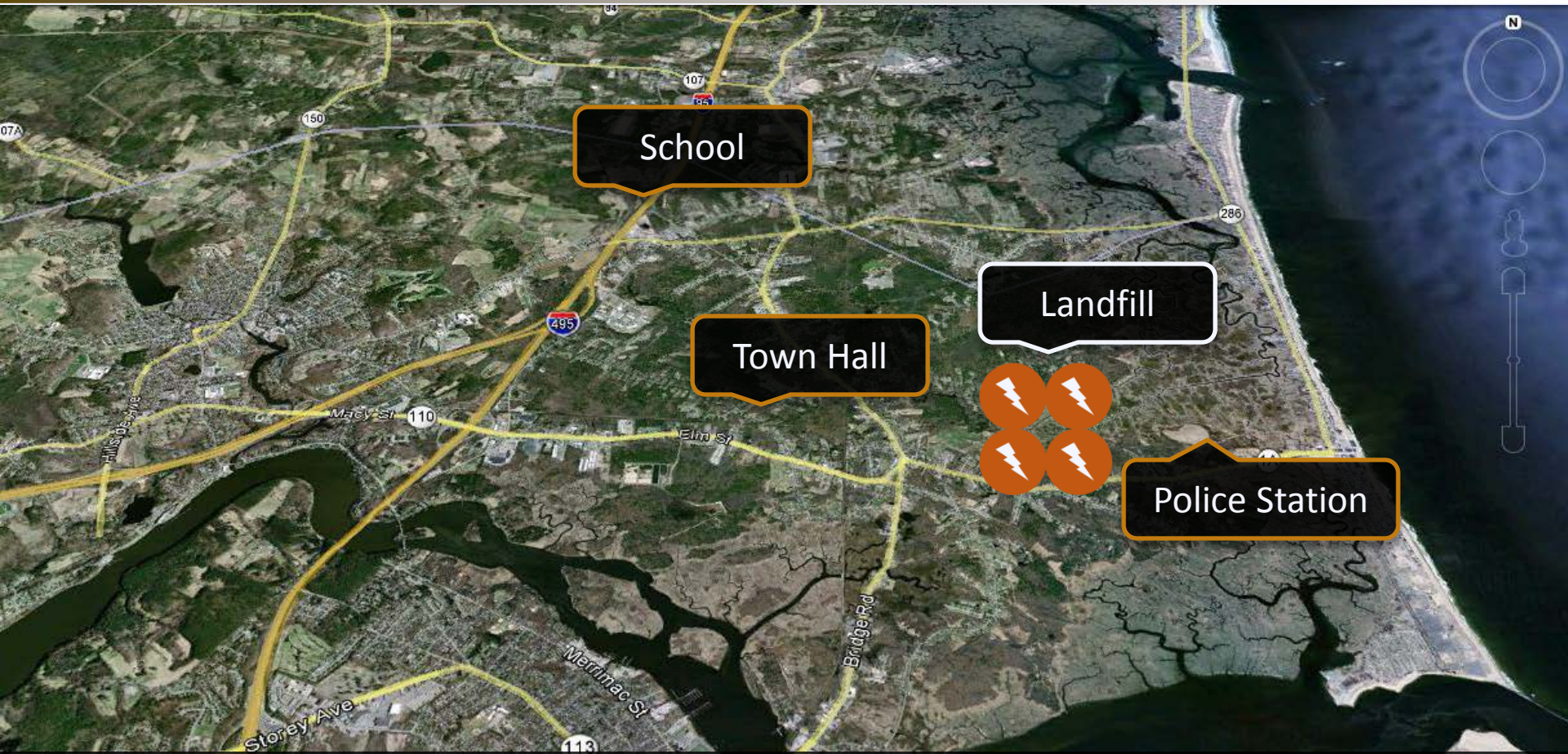


### Aggregate Limit

~~1% of monthly peak~~  
No Limit



# Net Metering: Virtual



No direct connection necessary

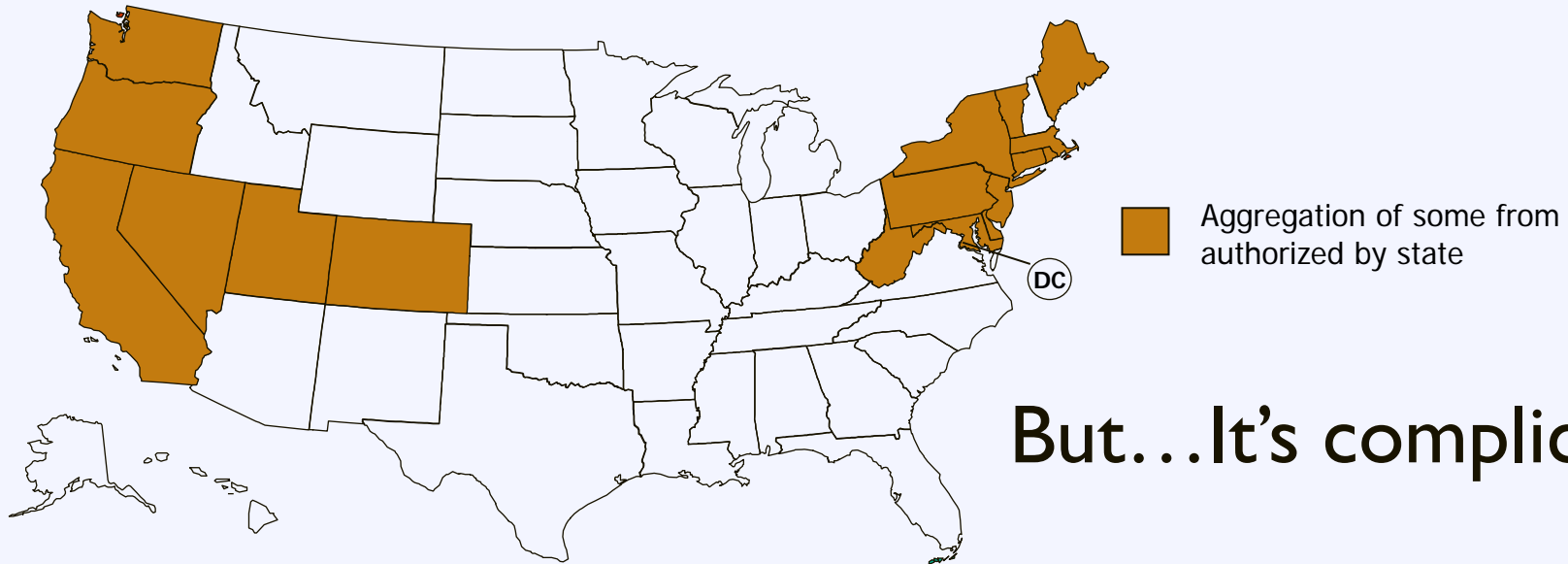
Image: MassGIS, Commonwealth of Massachusetts EOE  
Data: SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO  
© 2012 Google

Google earth

Date: 4/9/2008 1992 lat: 42.841484 lon: -70.875865 elev: 21 ft

Eye alt: 25725 ft

# Net Metering: Meter Aggregation



But...It's complicated

- Ownership requirements
- Contiguous vs. non-contiguous properties
- Multiple customers
- Multiple generators
- Modified system/aggregate system size limits
- Rollover rates
- Distance limitations
- Number of accounts
- How to address accounts on different tariffs

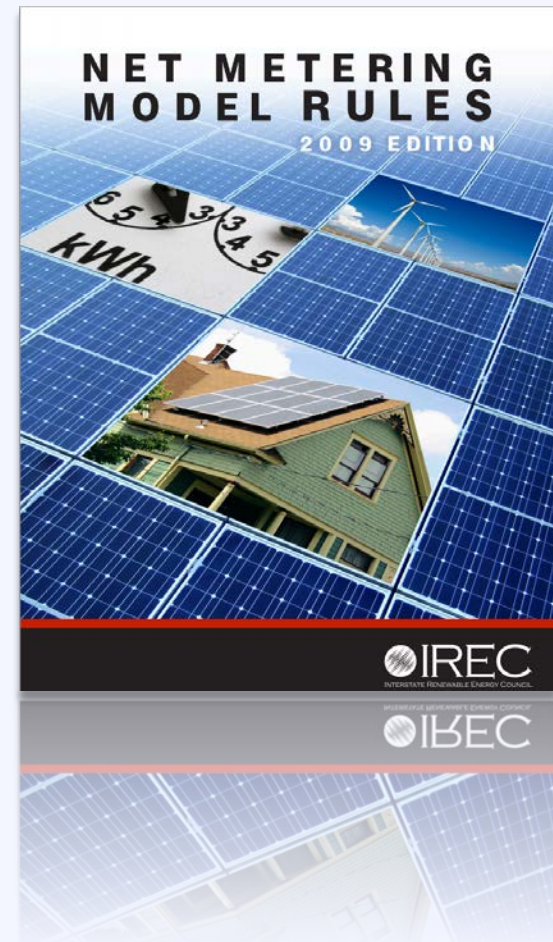


# Net Metering: Resources

## Resource Interstate Renewable Energy Council

IREC developed its model rules in an effort to capture best practices in state net metering policies.

[www.irecusa.org](http://www.irecusa.org)



# A Policy Driven Market

## State

Utility Regulation

Solar Access

Community-Based  
Energy Development

## Local

Planning

Zoning

Permitting

# Solar Access

---

## Solar Access Laws:

1. Increase the likelihood that properties will receive sunlight
2. Protect the rights of property owners to install solar
3. Reduce the risk that systems will be shaded after installation

# Fontainebleau V. Eden Roc (1959)

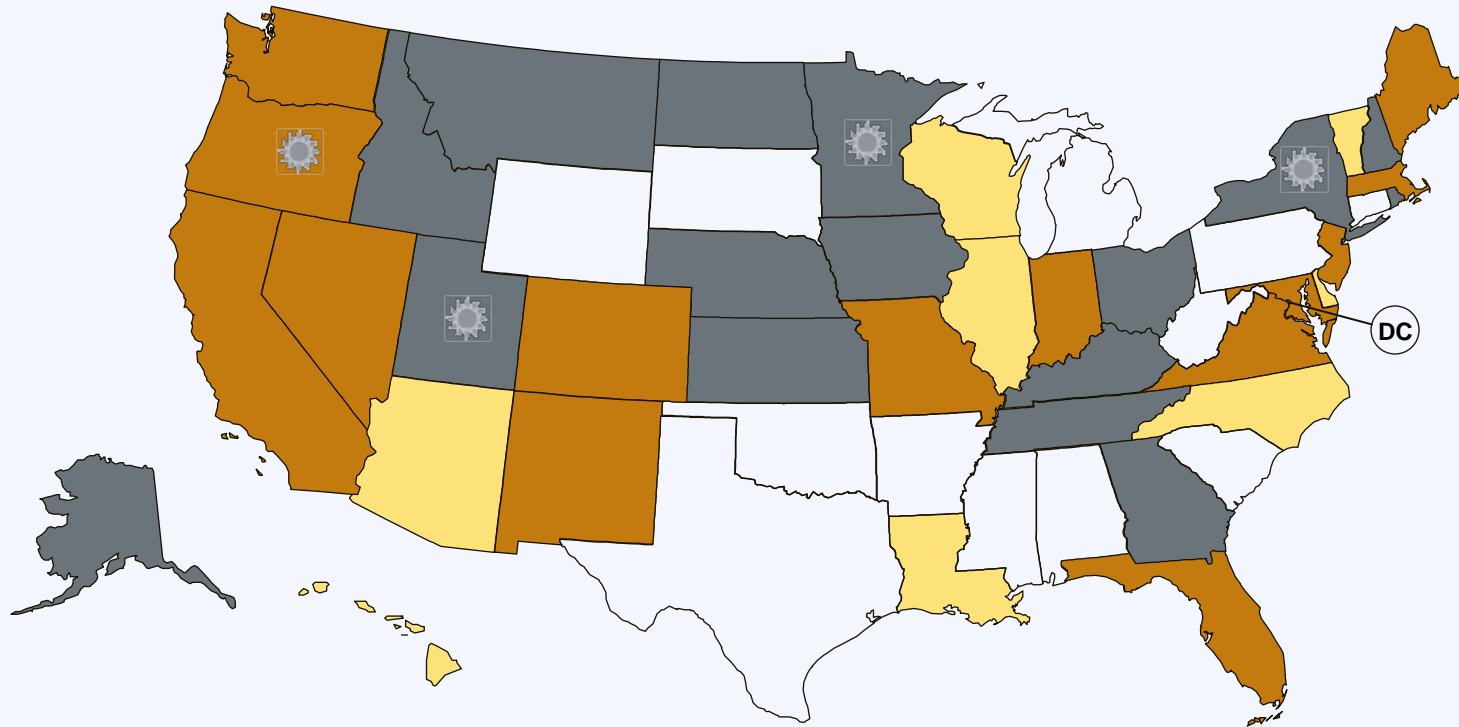


Eden Roc Hotel

Fontainebleau Hotel

A landowner does not have any legal right to the free flow of light and air across the adjoining land of his neighbor

# Solar Access



-  Solar Easements Provision
-  Solar Rights Provision
-  Solar Easements and Solar Rights Provisions
-  Local option to create solar rights provision
-  U.S. Virgin Islands

# Solar Access: Nebraska

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**66-901** The Legislature hereby finds and declares that the use of solar energy...is of such importance to the public health, safety, and welfare that the state should take appropriate action to encourage its use.

**66-911** **Solar Easement:** An instrument creating a land right or an option to secure a land right in real property or the vertical space above real property for a solar agreement or a wind agreement shall be created in writing...

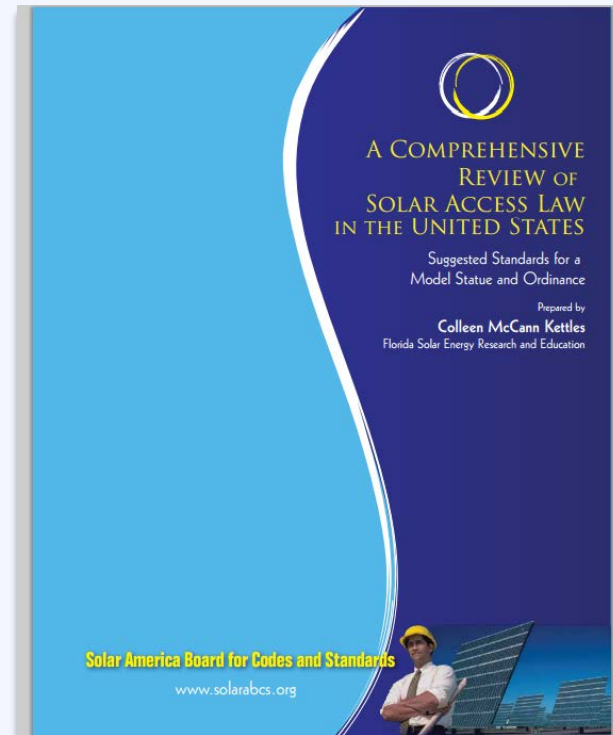


# Solar Access

## Resource Solar ABCs

A comprehensive review of solar access law in the US – Suggested standards for a model ordinance

[www.solarabcs.org](http://www.solarabcs.org)



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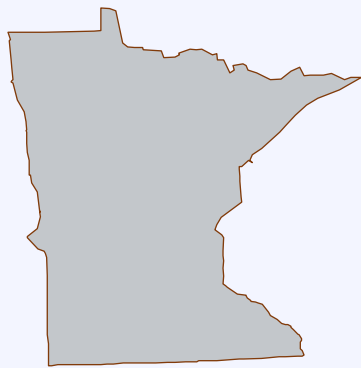
Planning

Zoning

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# C-BED: Minnesota



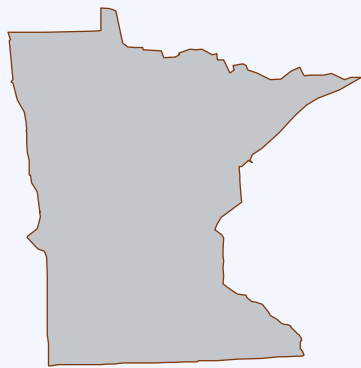
## Minnesota

Enacted 2005

### Key Elements:

- Qualifying owners must be local
- A single entity owns <15% (wind)
- Power price for levelized cash flow
- Aggregation of projects
- Prioritized by utilities
- Wind, Solar, Biomass, Hydro

# C-BED: Minnesota



## Minnesota

Enacted 2005

### Benefits:

- Qualify for the C-BED tariff
  - 20 Year PPA with utility
  - Front loaded
  - Original Cap: NPV 2.7 cents per kWh
- 266 MW wind developed
- Almost no solar

# C-BED: Nebraska



**Nebraska**

Enacted 2007

## Key Elements:

- Qualifying owners must be local
- A single entity owns <15% (wind)
- At least 33% of revenue to owners
- Resolution of support from county
- **Wind only**

# C-BED: Nebraska

## Benefits

- Tax Exemptions
  - Sales tax
  - Property tax
- Encourage utilities to purchase electricity



**Nebraska**

Enacted 2007

# A Policy Driven Market

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# Q & A

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# Activity: Identifying Benefits

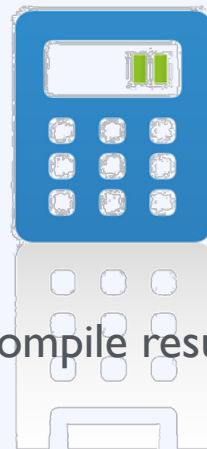
What is the greatest benefit solar can bring to your community? **[Blue Card]**

**Right Now**



Write answer on card

**During Session**



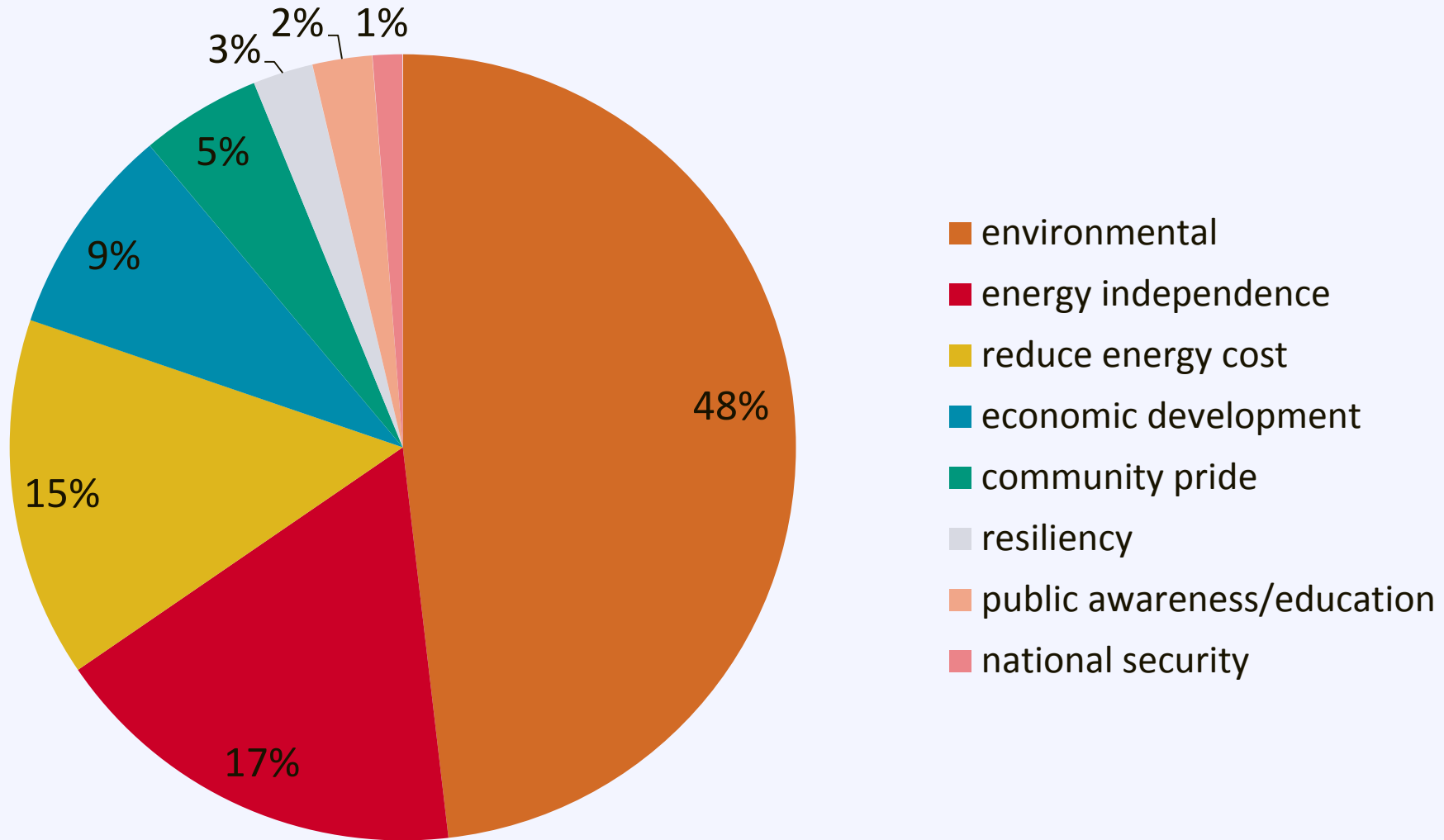
Compile results

**After Break**



Group discussion

# Benefits Poll

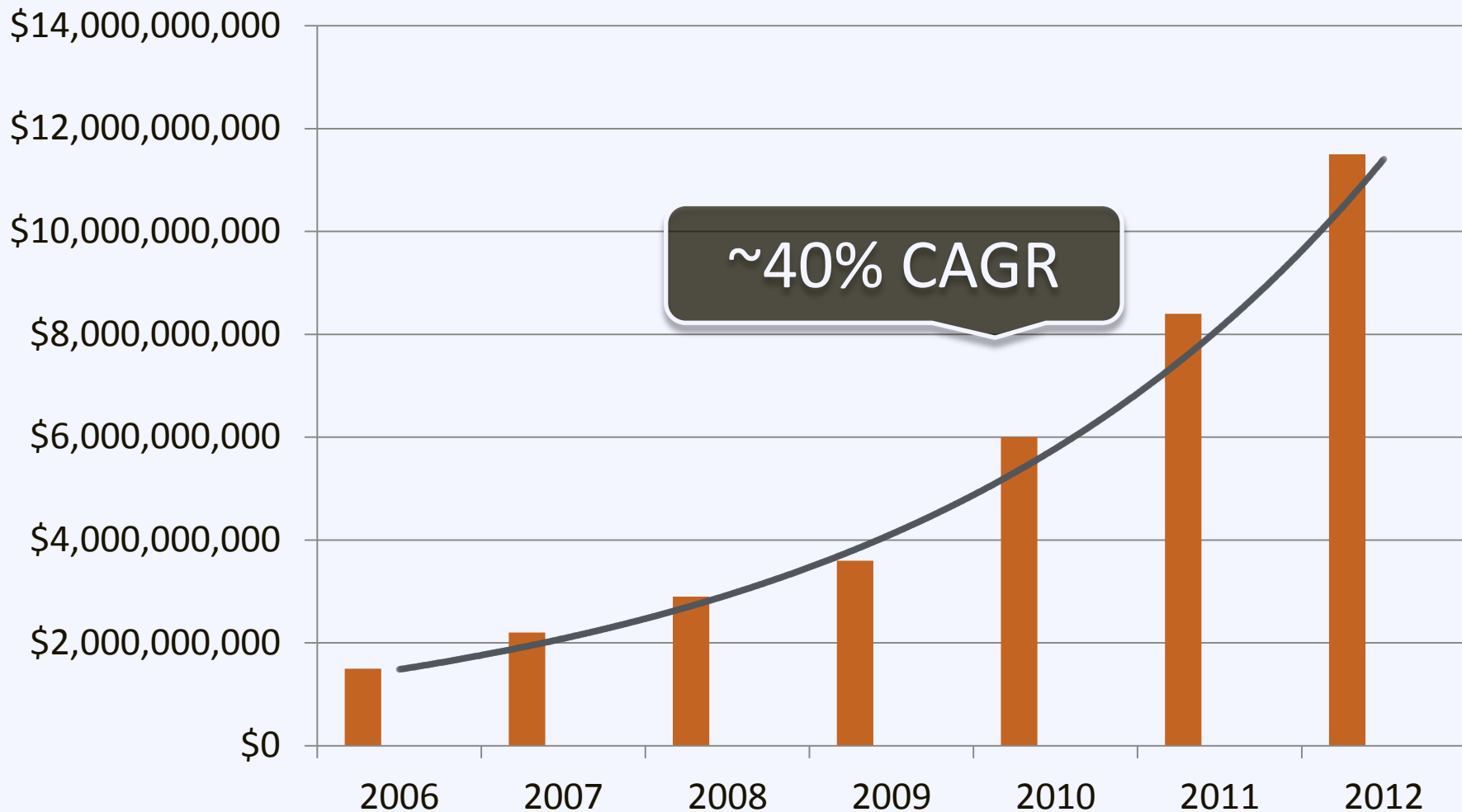


# Benefits of Solar Energy

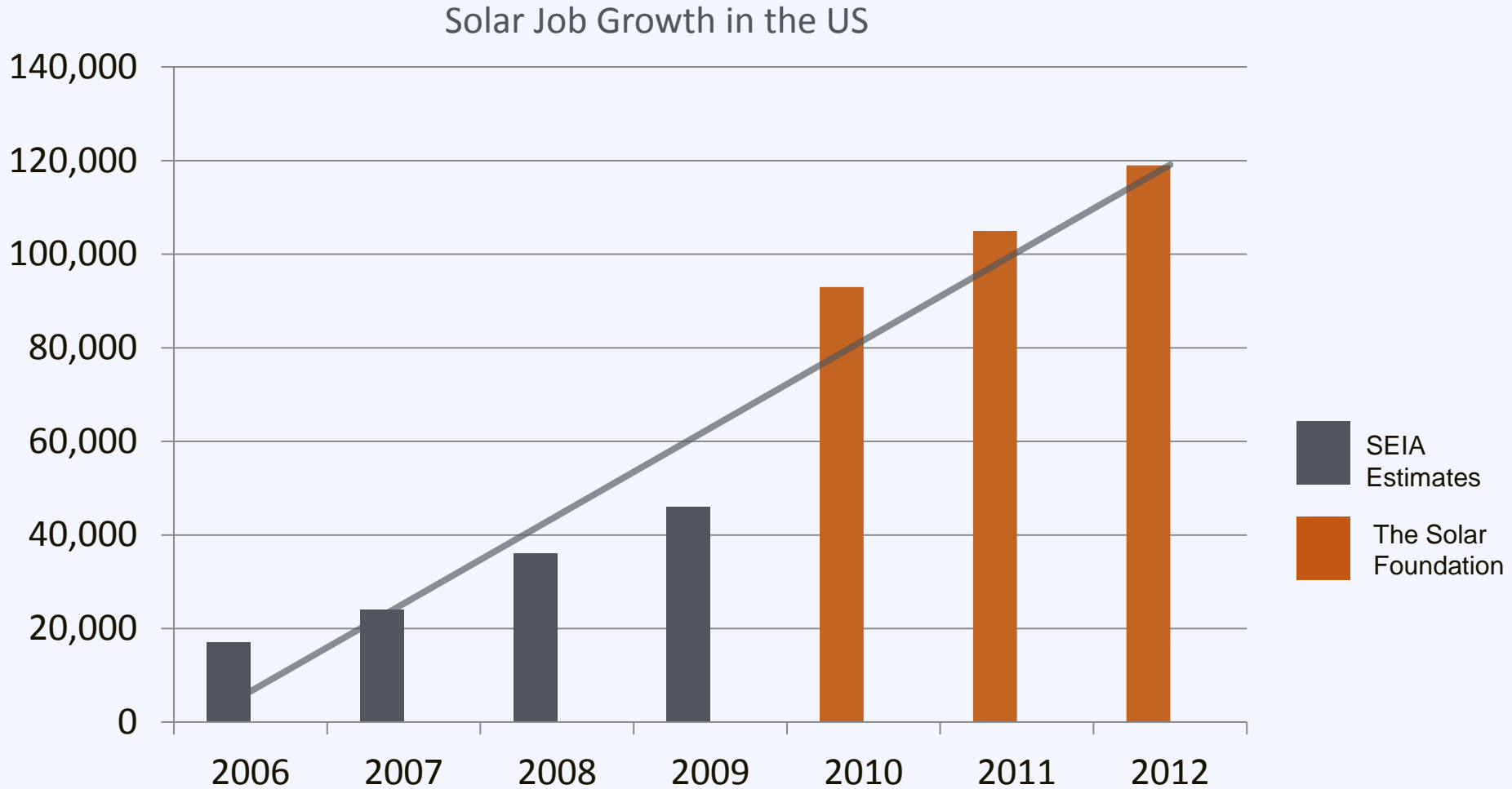
- Local economy growth
- Local jobs
- Energy independence
- Stabilizes price volatility
- Valuable to utilities
- Smart investment



# Benefit: Economic Growth



# Benefit: Job Growth



# Benefit: Stabilize Energy Prices

Boston Area Average Wholesale Price



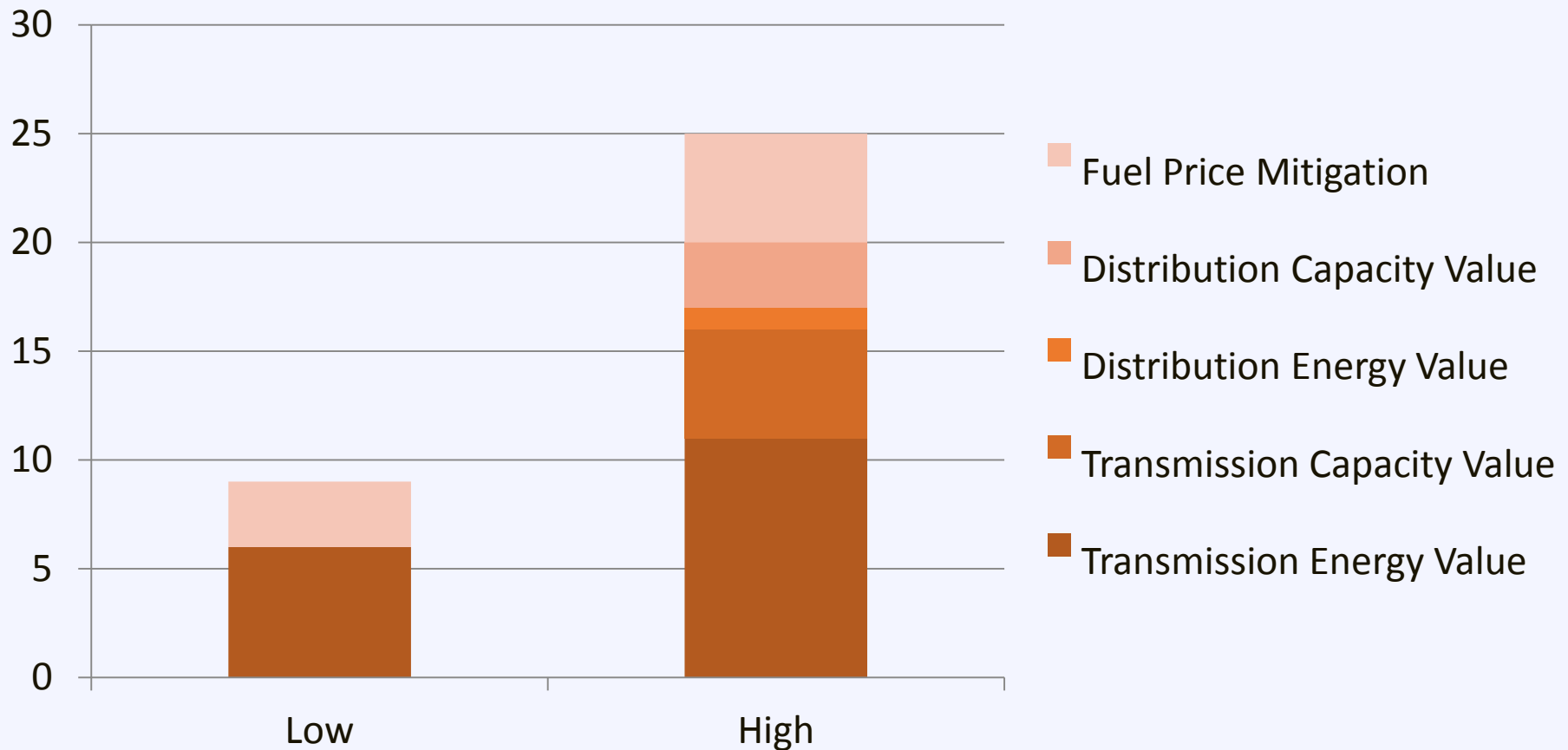
# Benefits: Valuable to Utilities

- Avoided Energy Purchases
- Avoided T&D Line Losses
- Avoided Capacity Purchases
- Avoided T&D Investments
- Fossil Fuel Price Impacts
- Backup Power



# Benefits: Valuable to Utilities

Value to the utility is **10 to 25 cents** beyond the value of the electricity





# Benefit: Smart Investment for Homes

From NREL:

Solar homes sold

**20% faster**


and for

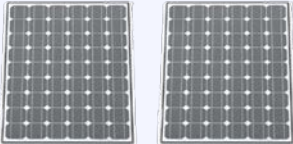
**17% more**

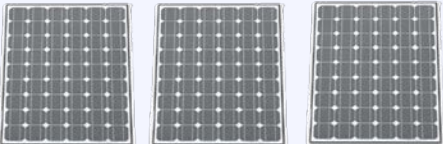
than the equivalent non-solar homes  
in surveyed California subdivisions

# Benefit: Smart Investment for Homes

From SunRun:

3 kW  = \$ 16,500 *added sale premium*

6 kW  = \$ 33,000 *added sale premium*

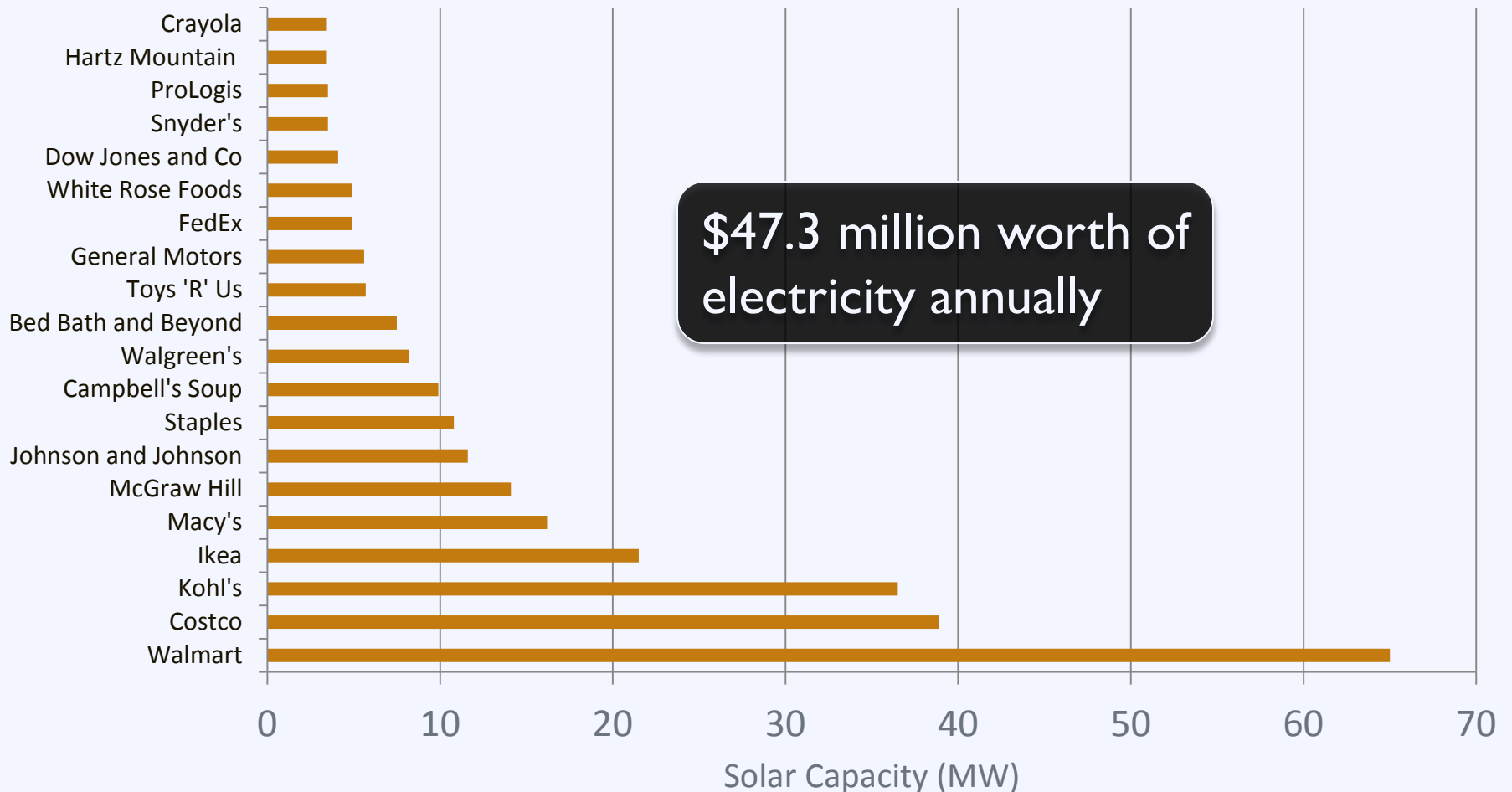
9 kW  = \$ 49,500 *added sale premium*

# Benefit: Smart Investment for Business



# Benefit: Smart Investment for Business

Top 20 Companies by Solar Capacity





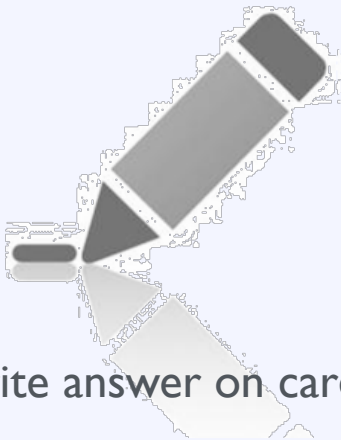
# Benefit: Smart Investment for Government



# Activity: Addressing Barriers

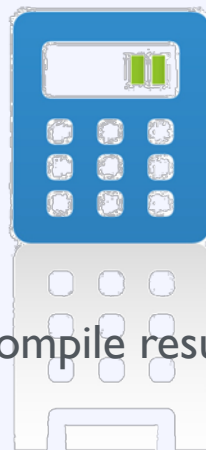
What is the greatest barrier to solar adoption in your community? **[Green Card]**

Right Now



Write answer on card

During Session



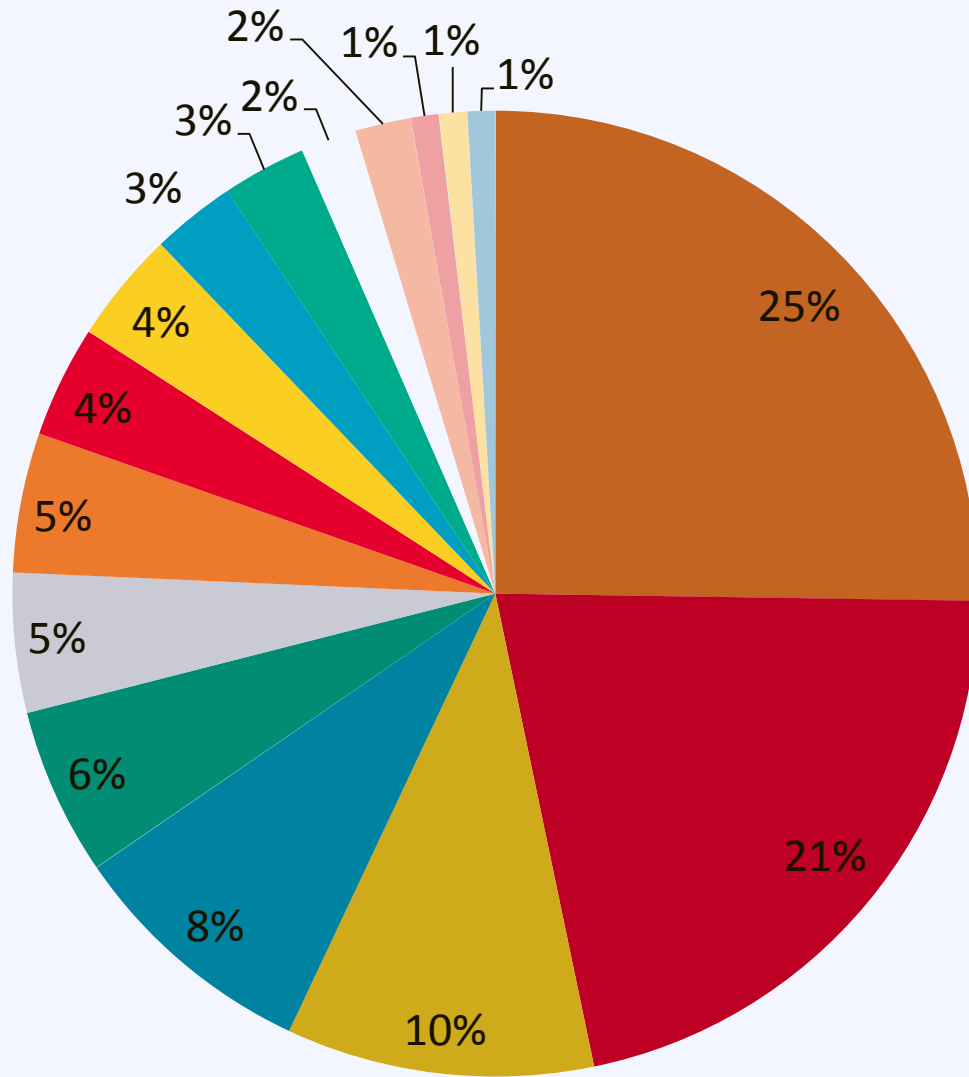
Compile results

After Break



Group discussion

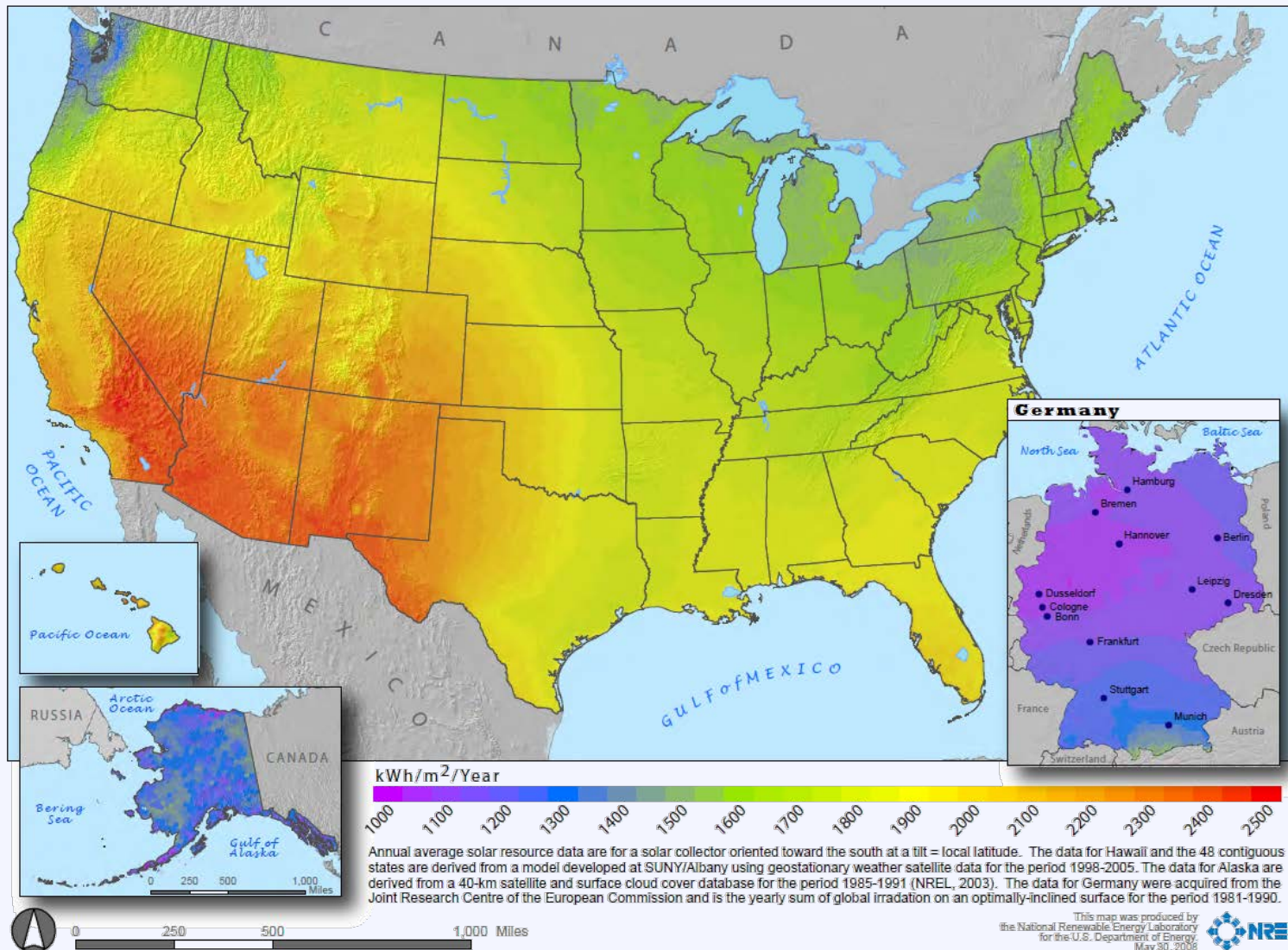
# Barriers Poll



- Cost
- Lack of Knowledge
- Politics
- Utilities
- Zoning
- Slow ROI
- Lack of leadership
- Lack of financial Incentives
- Restrictive policies
- Low Cost of Fossil Fuels
- Permitting
- Reliability of Technology
- Aesthetics
- Lack of installers locally
- Net Metering



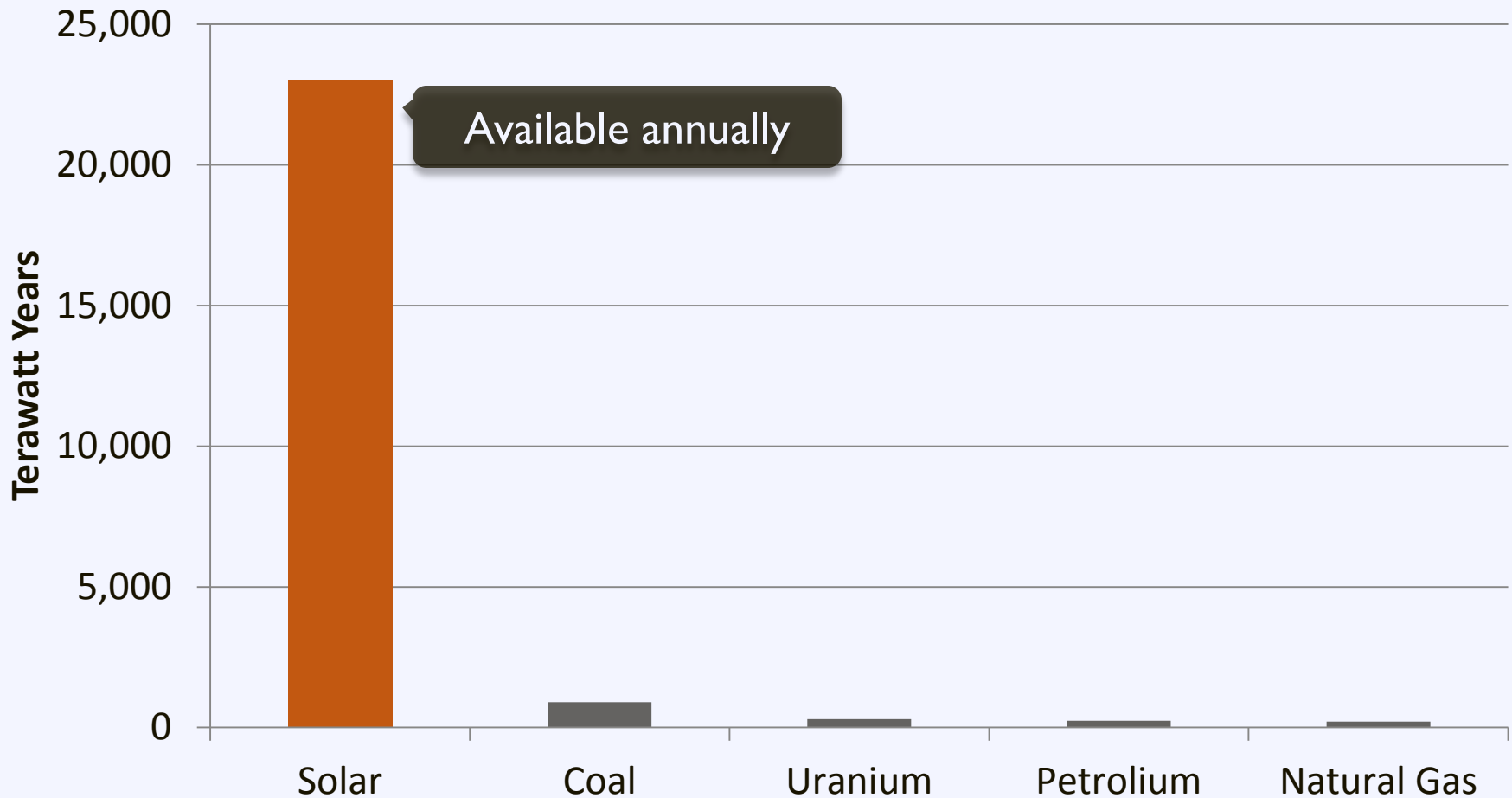
# Fact: Solar works across the US





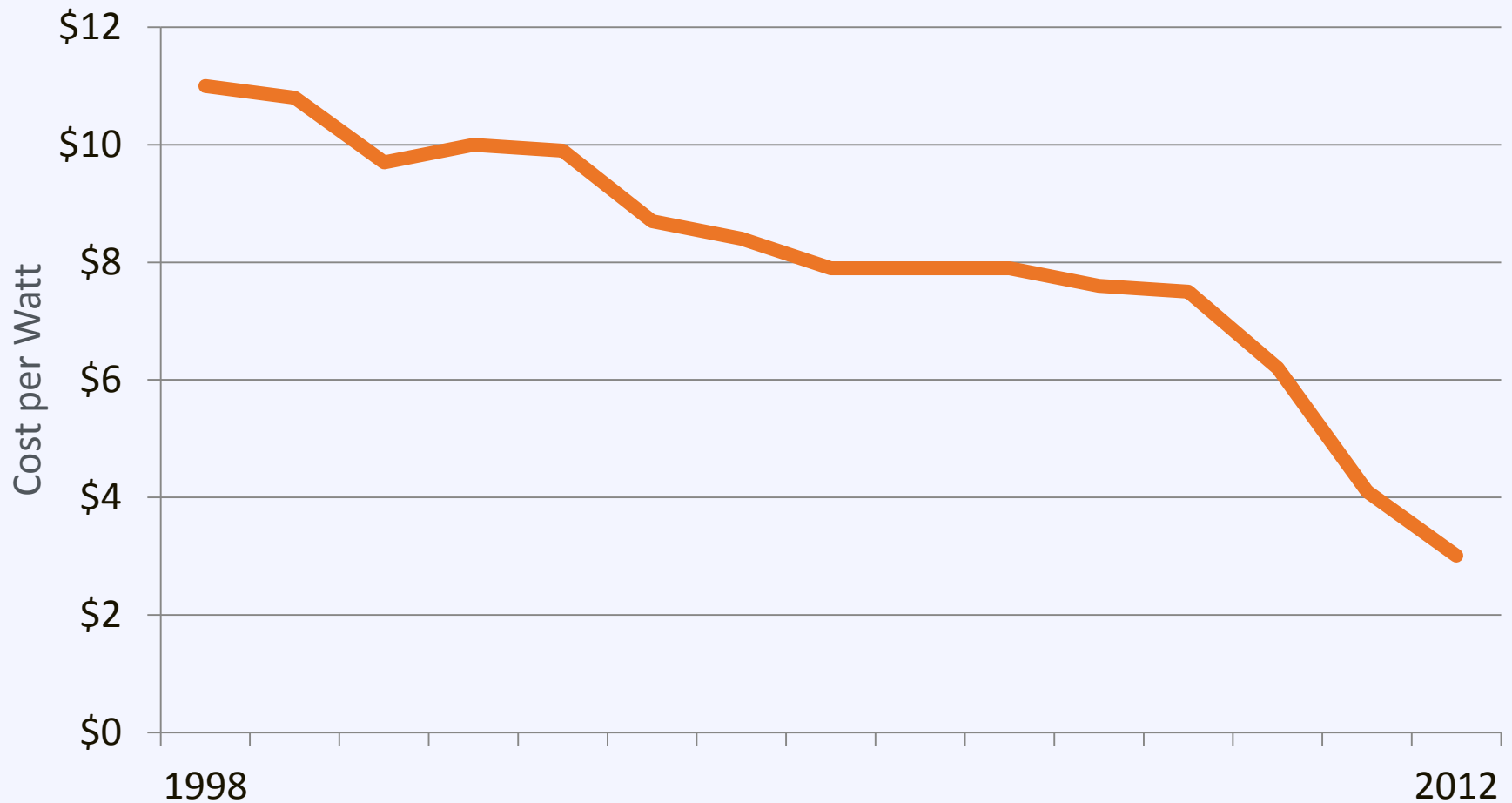
# Fact: Solar is a ubiquitous resource

Resource Availability



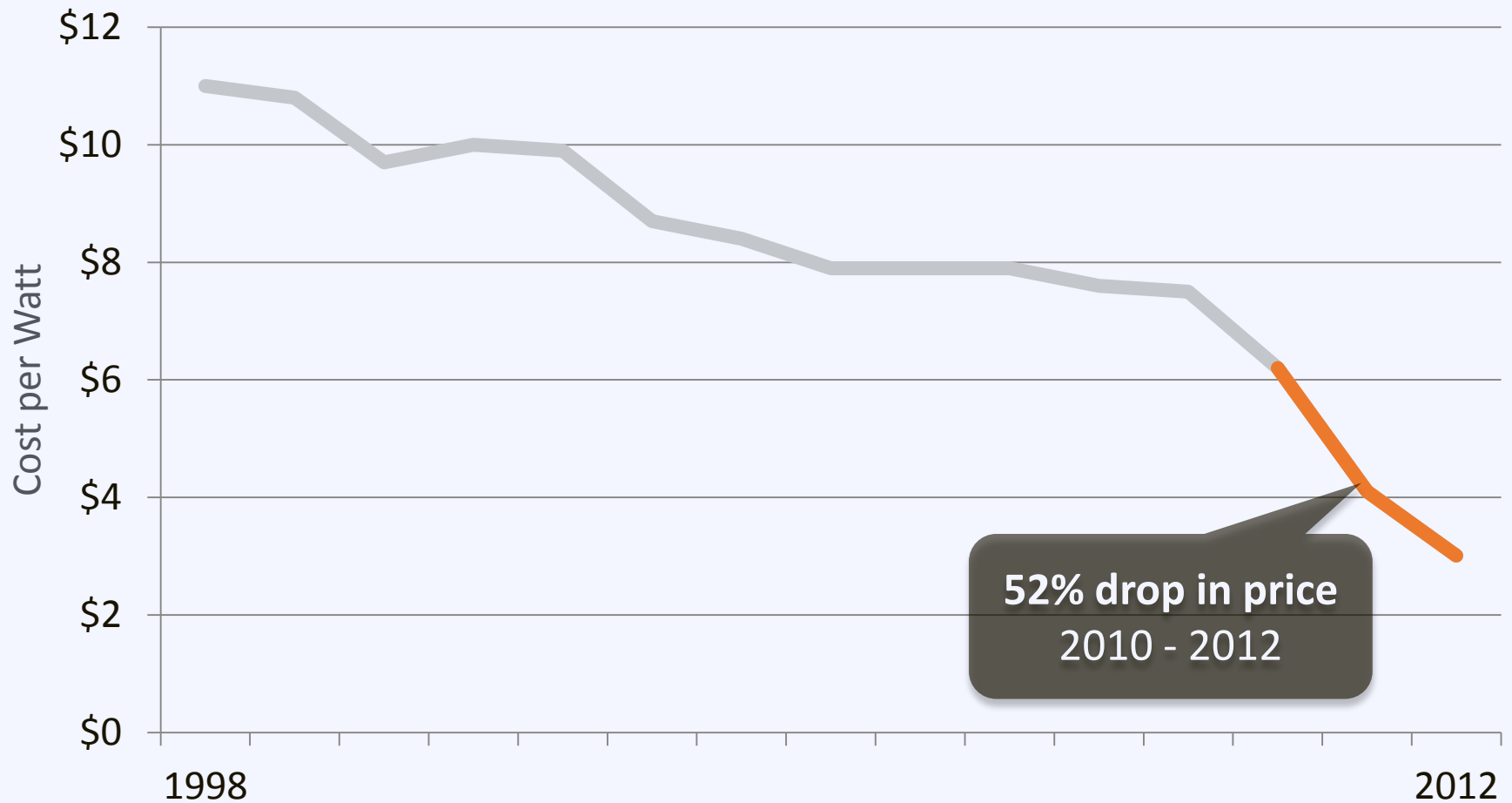
# Fact: Solar is cost competitive

US Average Installed Cost for Behind-the-Meter PV



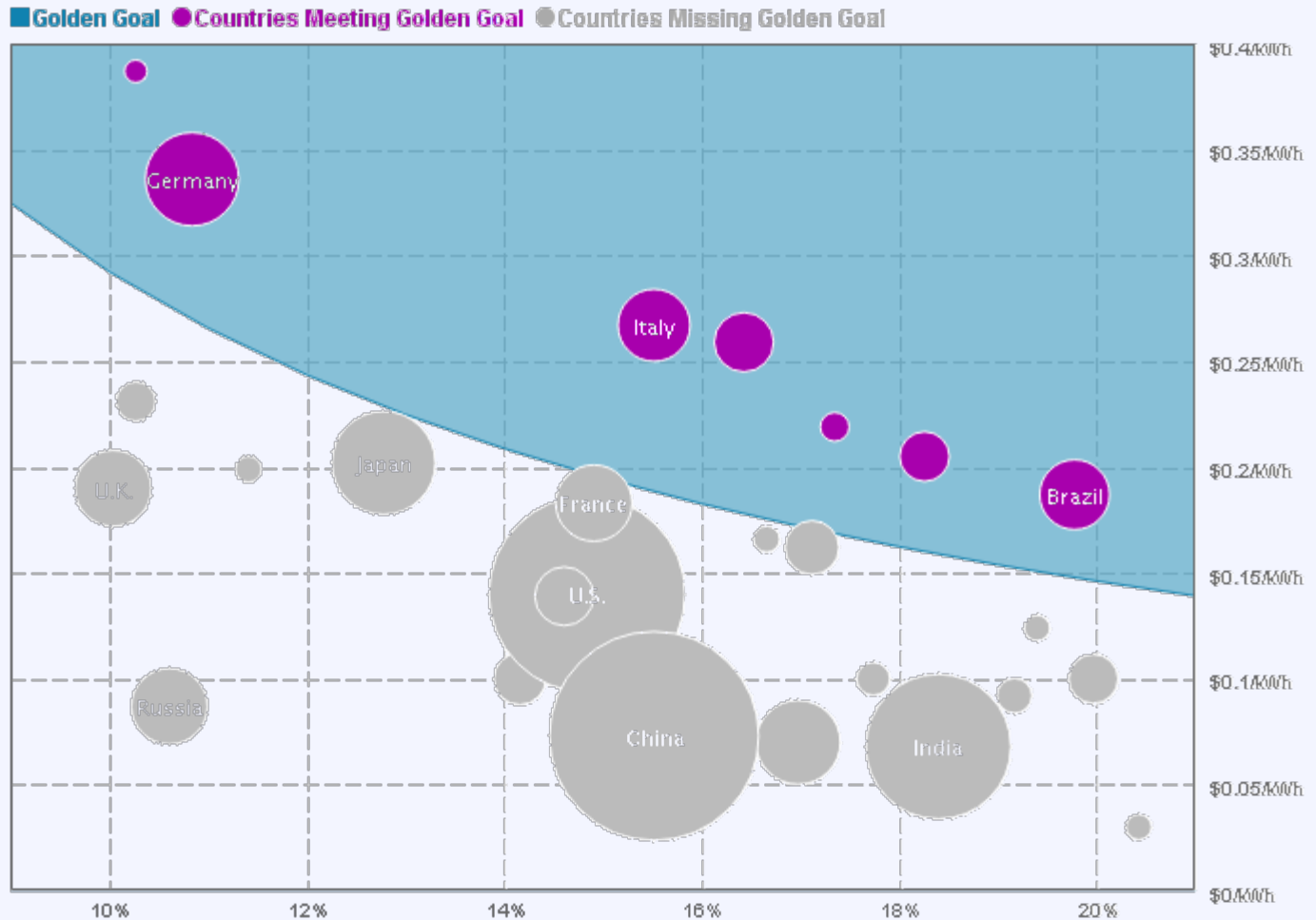
# Fact: Solar is cost competitive

US Average Installed Cost for Behind-the-Meter PV



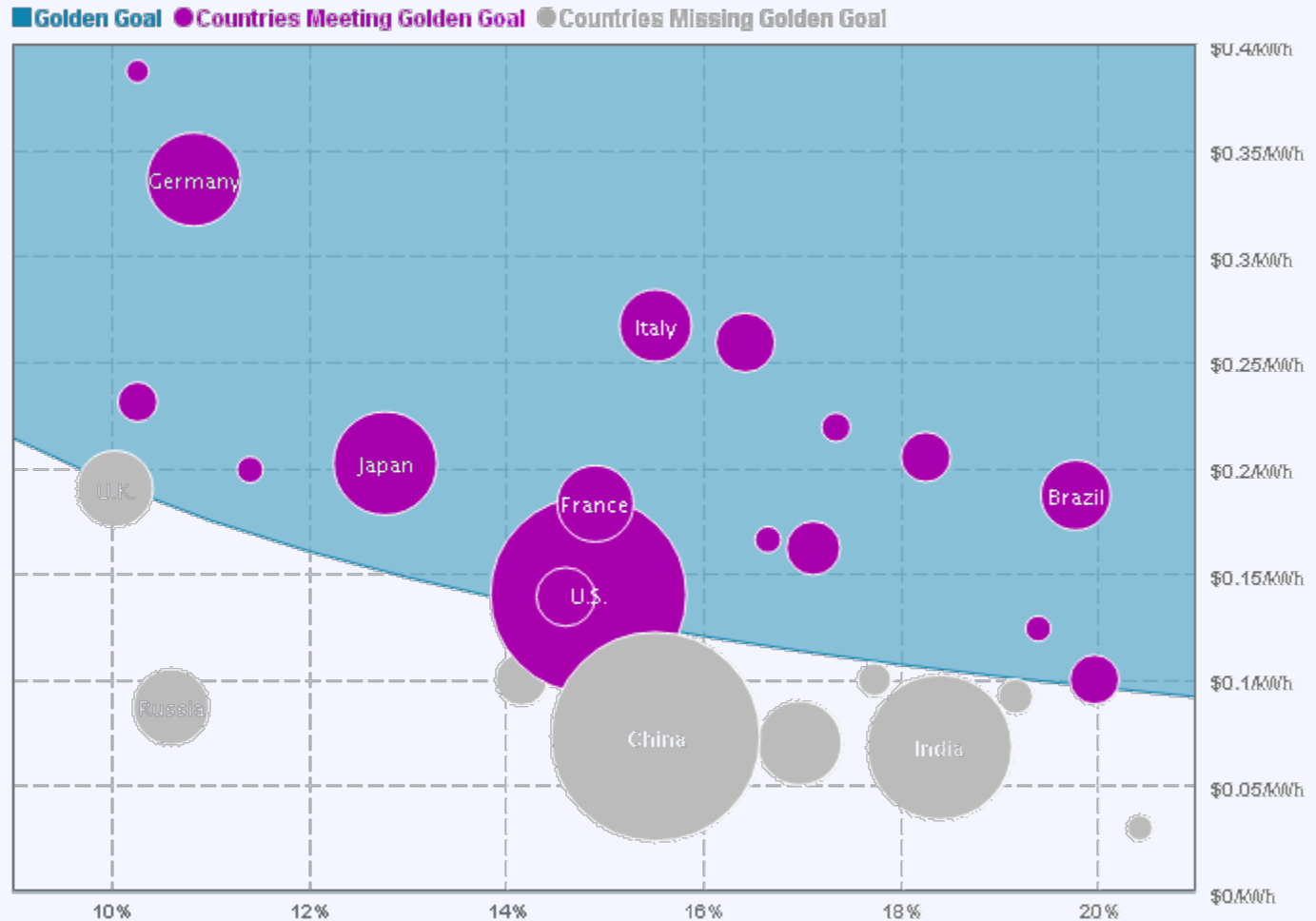
# Fact: Solar is cost competitive

2012



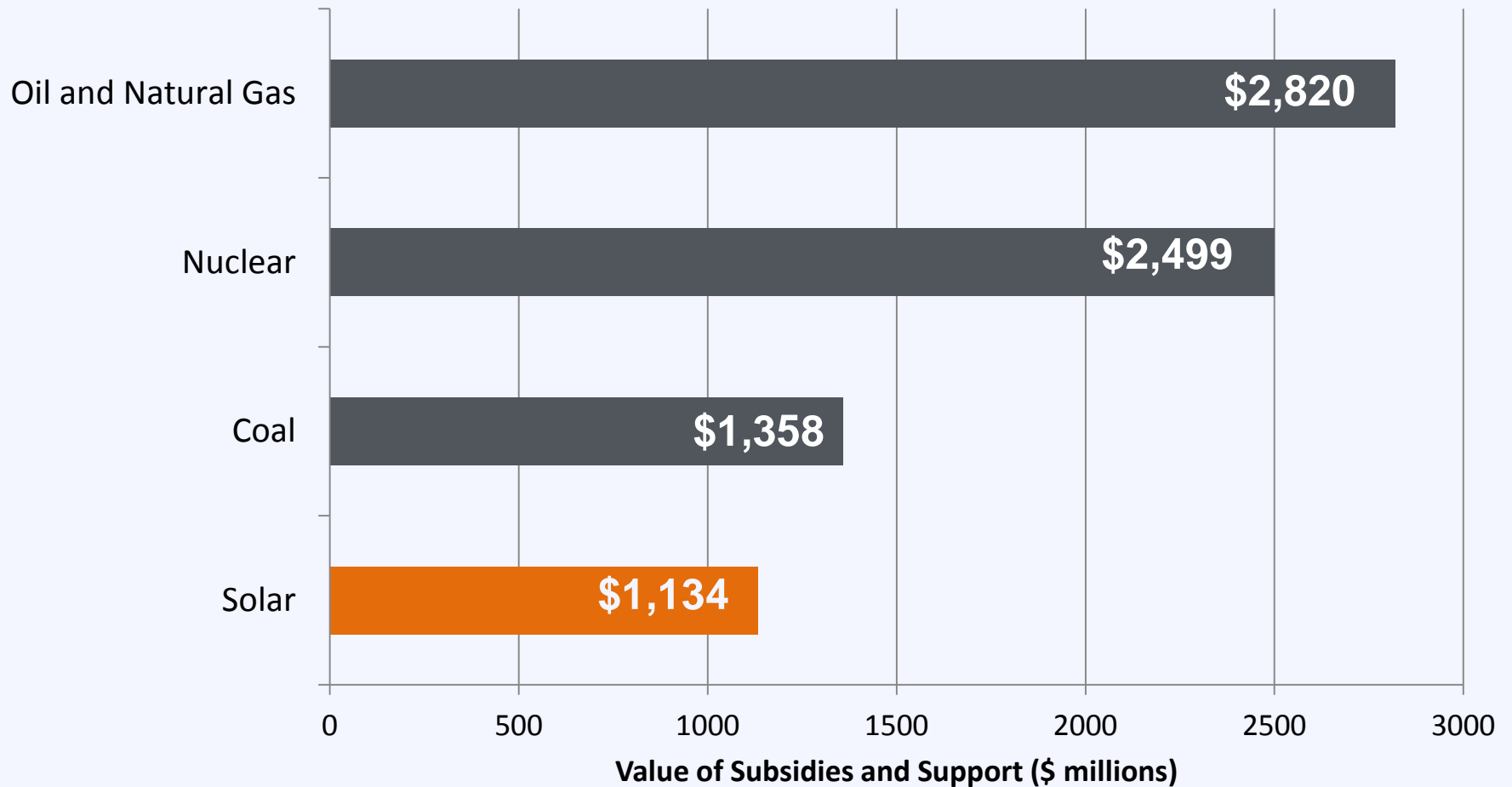
# Fact: Solar is cost competitive

2020

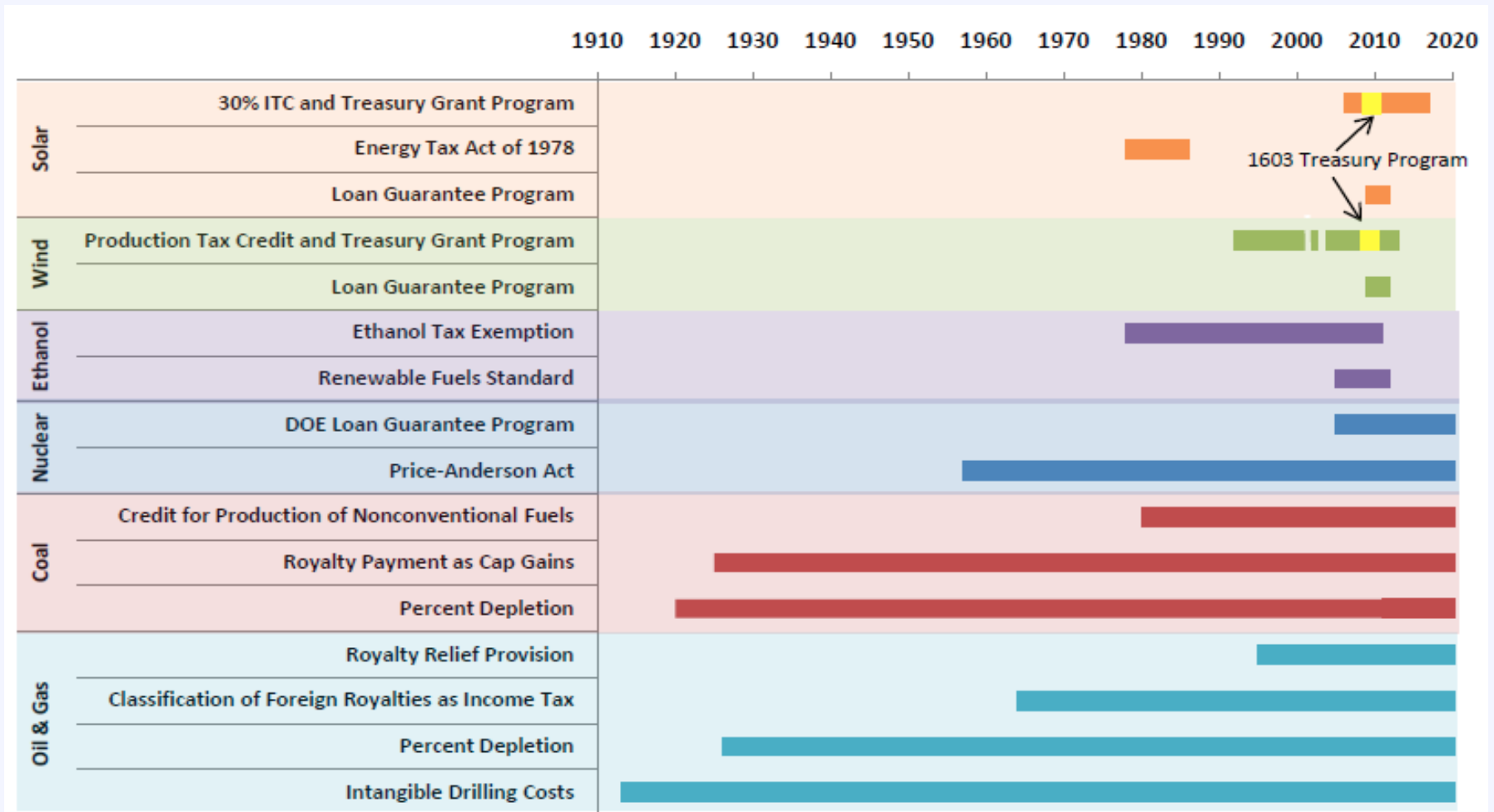


# Subsidies and Support

Subsidies for Conventional and Solar Energy, 2010

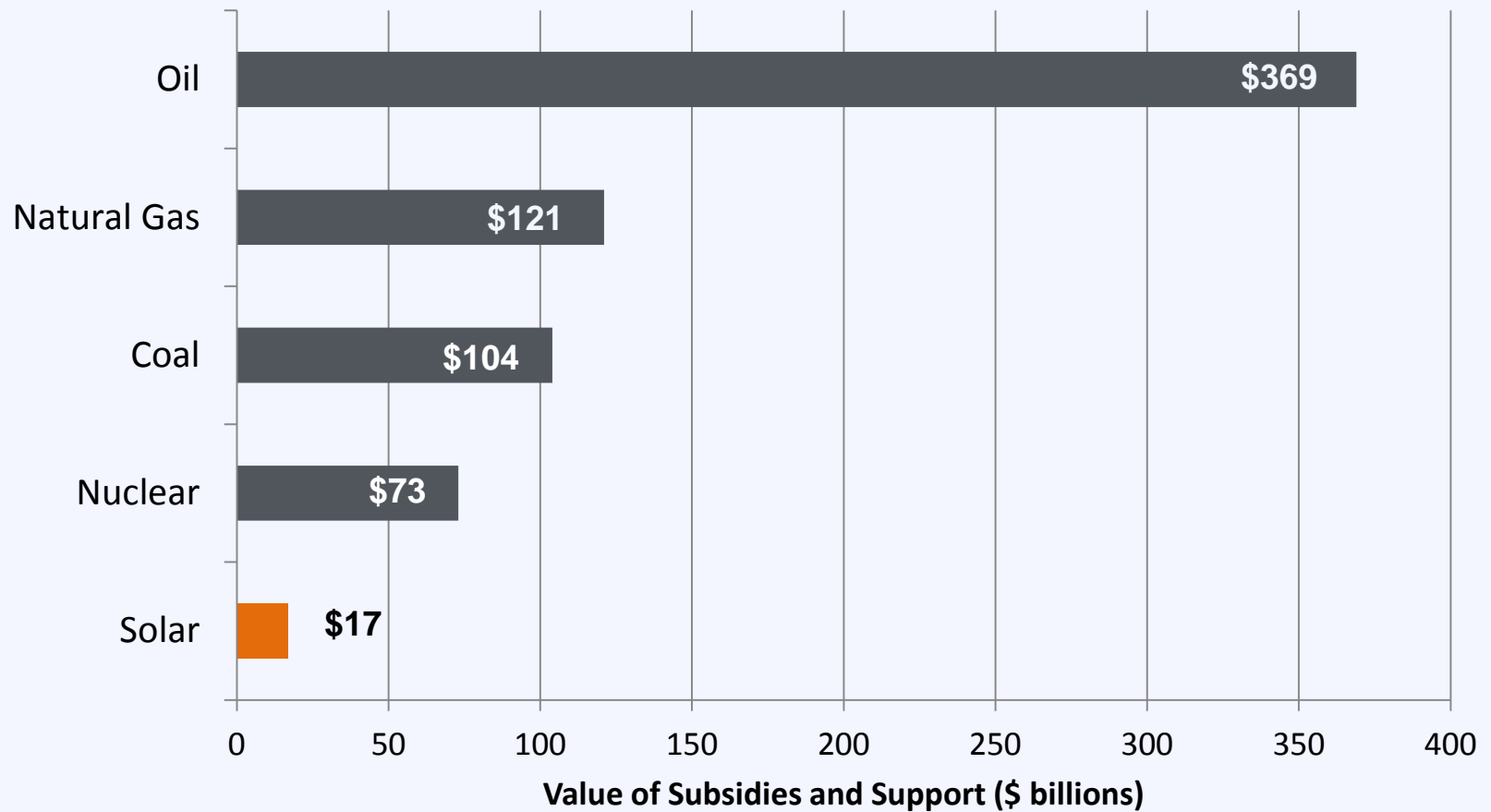


# Subsidies and Support



# Subsidies and Support

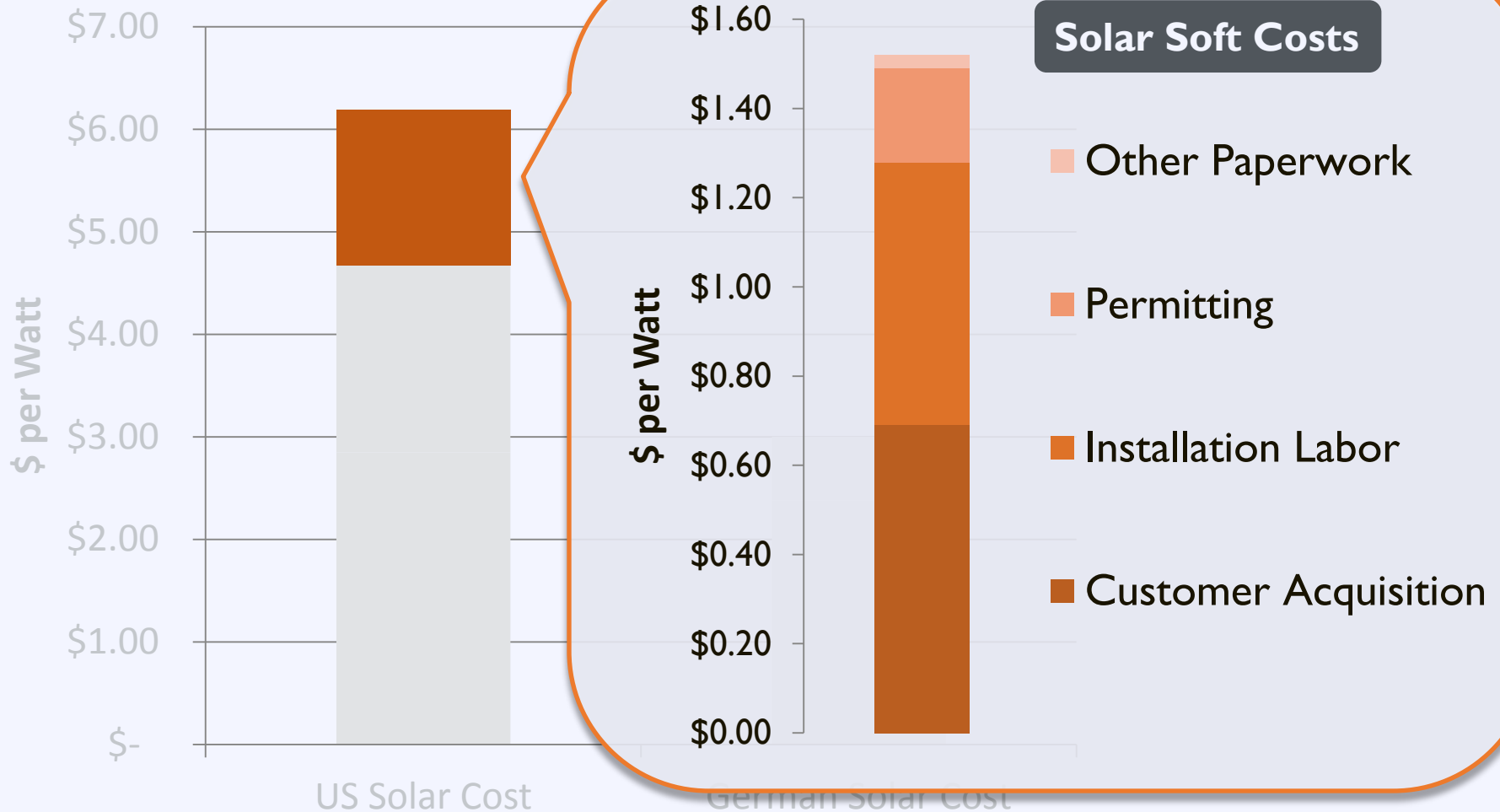
Subsidies for Conventional and Solar Energy, 1950-2010





# The Cost of Solar in the US

Comparison of US and German Solar Costs



# Agenda

---

- 09:10 – 09:45 Introductions and Overview
- 09:45 – 10:10 Solar 101: Policy Environment and Economics
- 10:10 – 10:20 *Break*
- 10:20 – 10:40 Benefits and Barriers Activity
- 10:40 – 11:10 Creating a Solar Ready Community**
- 11:10 – 11:50 Growing Your Local Solar Market
- 11:50 – 12:00 *Break*
- 12:00– 01:00 Lunch and Local Session

# Time to Installation



**New York City's  
Goal**

**100 days**

from inception to completion



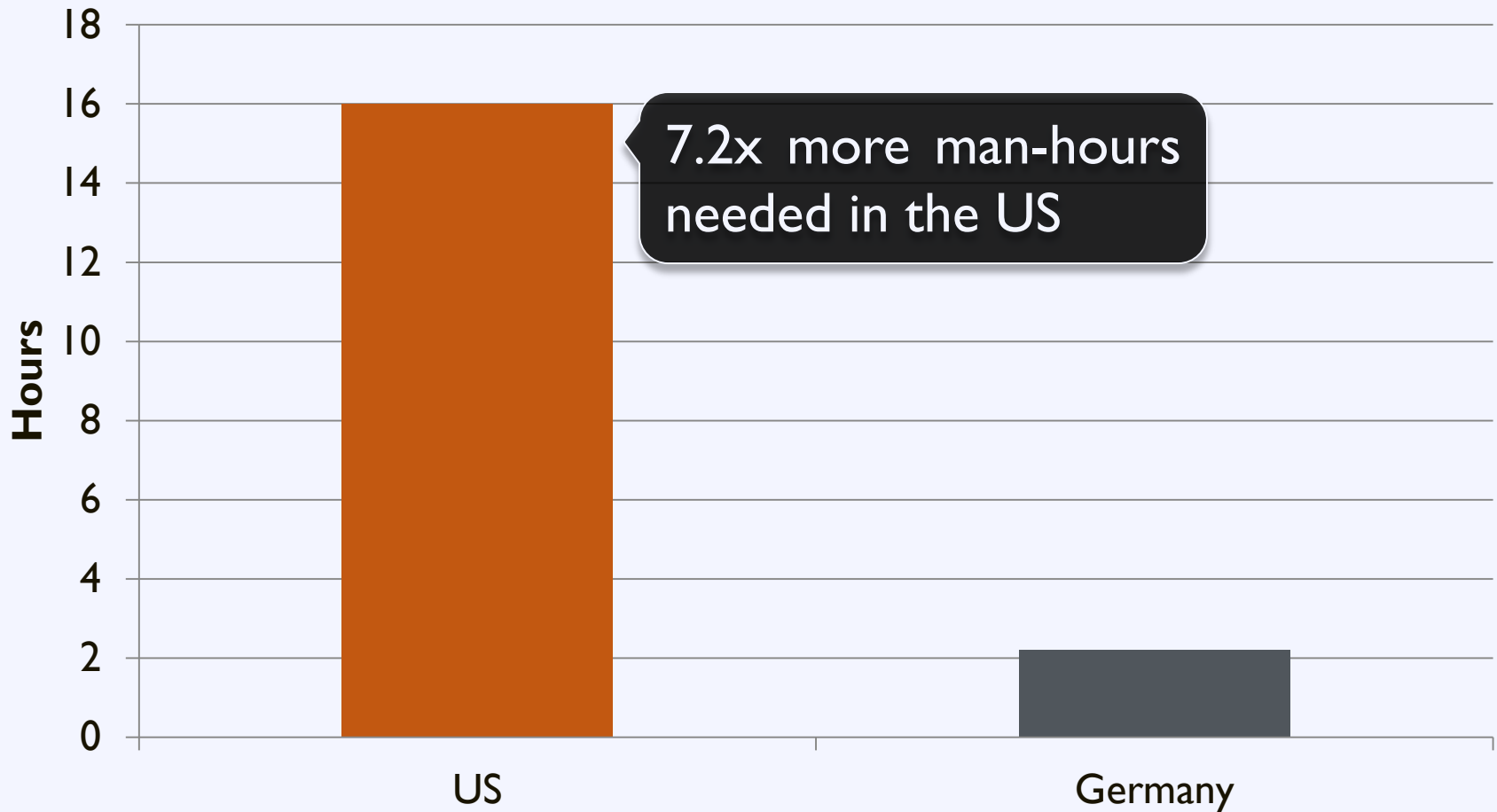
**Germany  
Today**

**8 days**

from inception to completion

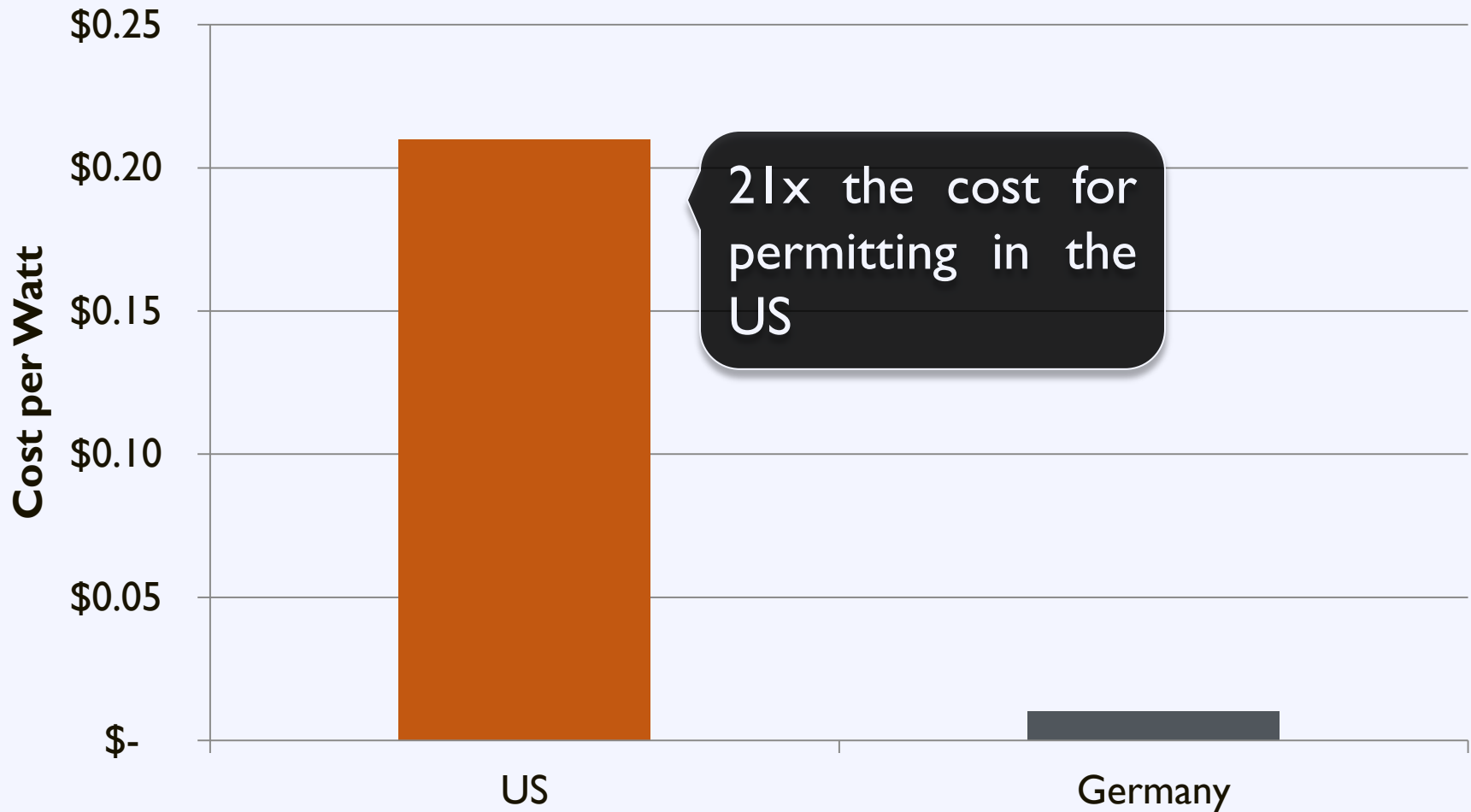
# Time to Installation

## Average Time to Permit a Solar Installation



# Permitting Costs

## Average Cost of Permitting in the US and Germany



# Germany's Success

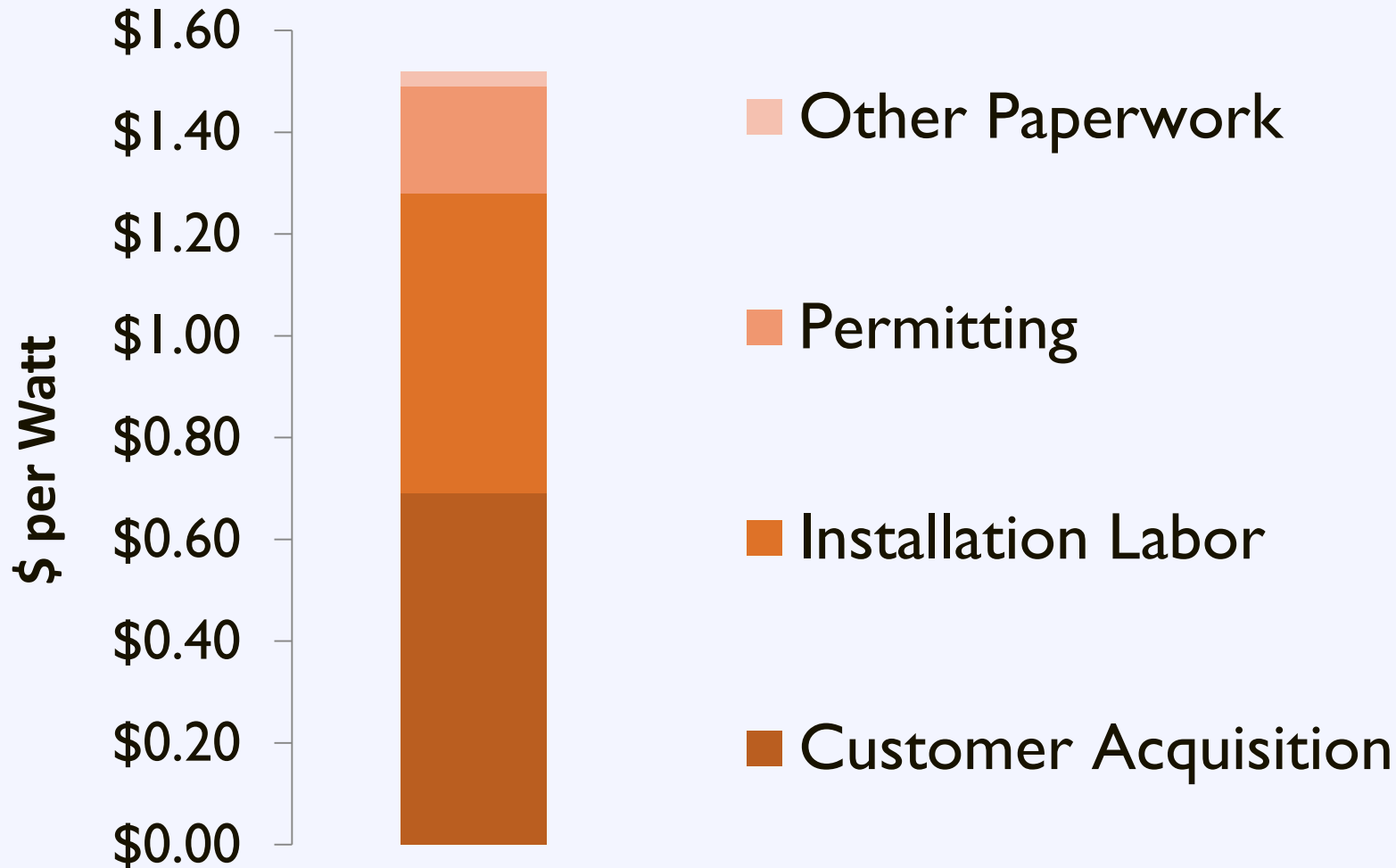
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Consistency and Transparency

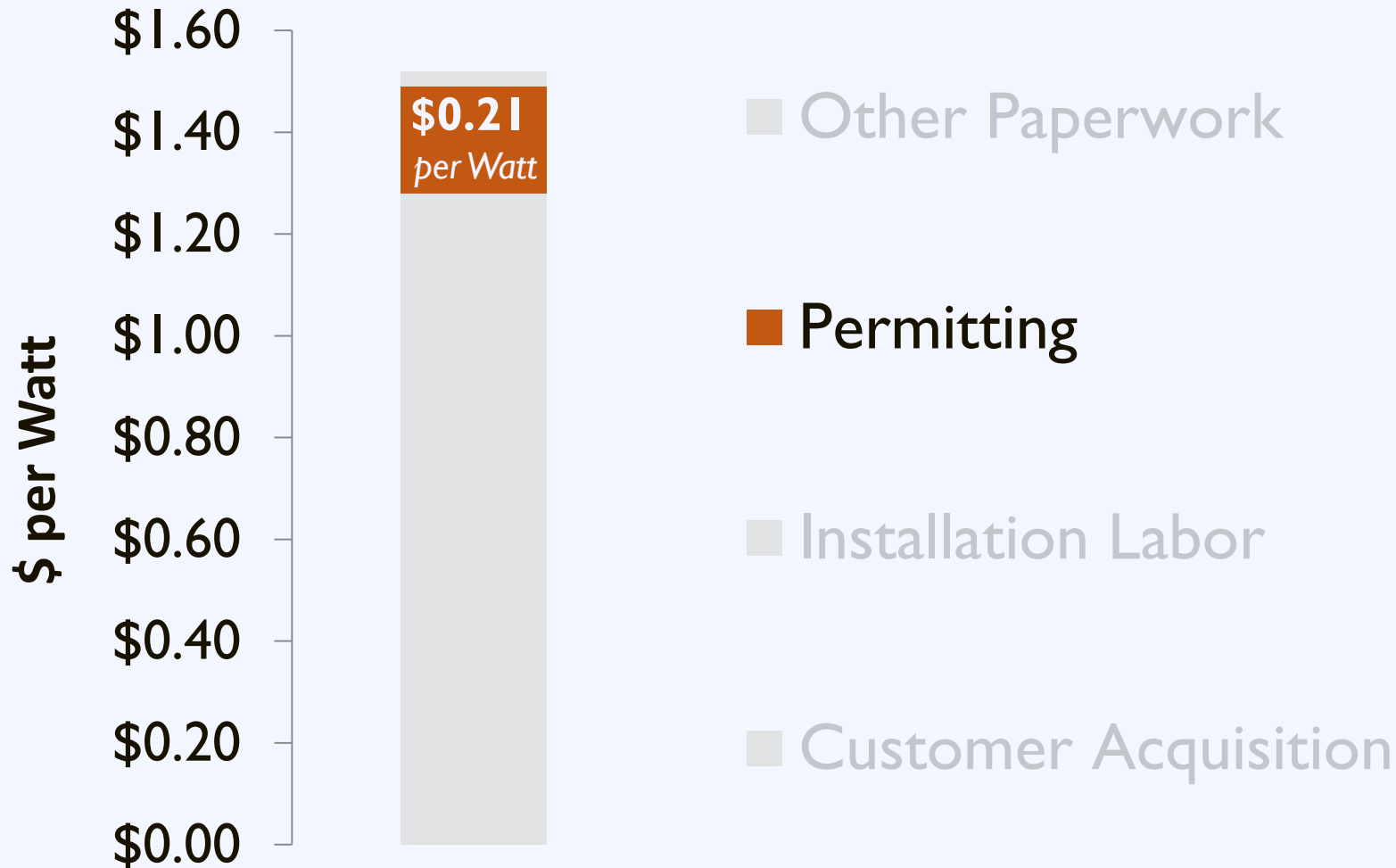
through

Standardized Processes

# Mitigate Soft Costs



# Mitigate Soft Costs





# Permitting

---

## Remove barriers by:

- Make qualified solar projects a by-right accessory use
- Modify regulations to clarify what types of solar projects are allowed where
- Streamline the permitting process

# Zoning Code: Solar Framework

Section	Topics to Address
<b>Definitions</b>	Define technologies
<b>Applicability</b>	Primary vs. accessory use
<b>Dimensional Standards</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Height</li><li>• Size</li><li>• Setbacks</li><li>• Lot coverage</li></ul>
<b>Design Standards</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Signage</li><li>• Disconnect</li><li>• Screening</li><li>• Fencing</li></ul>

# Zoning Codes: Small Scale Solar

## Typical Requirements:

- Permitted as accessory use
- Minimize visibility if feasible
- Requirements:
  - District height
  - Lot coverage
  - Setback



# Zoning Codes: Large Scale Solar

## Typical Requirements:

- Allowed for primary use in limited locations
- Requirements:
  - Height limits
  - Lot coverage
  - Setback
  - Fencing and Enclosure



# Zoning Code: Model Ordinances

Resource

## City of Milwaukee: Solar Permitting Guide

The screenshot shows the 'Milwaukee SHINES' website header with navigation links: About Us, Homeowners, Business Owners, Professionals, Resources. The main content area is titled 'City of Milwaukee: Solar Permitting Guide' and 'HOW TO INSTALL SOLAR: STEP BY STEP PROCESS'. It includes an introductory paragraph, a checklist section with three items, and a 'Solar Permitting Process' section. A right-hand sidebar contains social media icons, contact information for the Department of Community Development, and a 'Looking for Permits?' section.

**City of Milwaukee: Solar Permitting Guide**  
HOW TO INSTALL SOLAR: STEP BY STEP PROCESS

The City of Milwaukee Department of City Development (DCD) works to ensure the quality and safety of a solar electric and solar hot water installation. There are requirements to install solar in Milwaukee. This website provides an outline of the step-by-step permitting and inspection process that solar installers and homeowners must navigate.

**CHECKLIST:** Installers are encouraged to use these helpful checklists to aid in the process to make sure they have the materials needed when submitting permits for a solar project. Use the **SOLAR ELECTRIC** checklist or the **SOLAR HOT WATER** checklist depending on your installation.

- **Home or Business Owners:** For more information about solar energy, and how to connect with installers, incentives and resources, contact the City of Milwaukee's solar program, *Milwaukee Shines*.
- **Solar Installers:** For more information about state or federal incentives or training opportunities, visit our **FOR PROFESSIONALS** section or contact the City of Milwaukee's solar program, *Milwaukee Shines*.
- **SOLAR ELECTRIC REQUIREMENTS**
- **SOLAR HOT WATER REQUIREMENTS**
- **PERMIT SUBMITTAL PROCESS AND INSPECTION** (for PV or SHW)
- **INTERCONNECTION PROCESS AND INSPECTION** (only for PV)

**Solar Permitting Process**

**STAY CONNECTED**

**Questions? Contact Us**

► **DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**  
City of Milwaukee, 809 N. Broadway Street  
Zeidler Municipal Building, First Floor  
[DevelopmentCenterInfo@milwaukee.gov](mailto:DevelopmentCenterInfo@milwaukee.gov)  
414-286-8210; FAX: 414-286-0251

► **MILWAUKEE SHINES**  
Amy H...  
City of Milwaukee, 200 E. Wells Street  
City Hall, Room 502  
[solar@milwaukee.gov](mailto:solar@milwaukee.gov)  
414-286-5593

**Looking for Permits?**  
Can be submitted online (via e-Permits), mail, fax, or in-person.

Local Solar Zoning Ordinance Listed

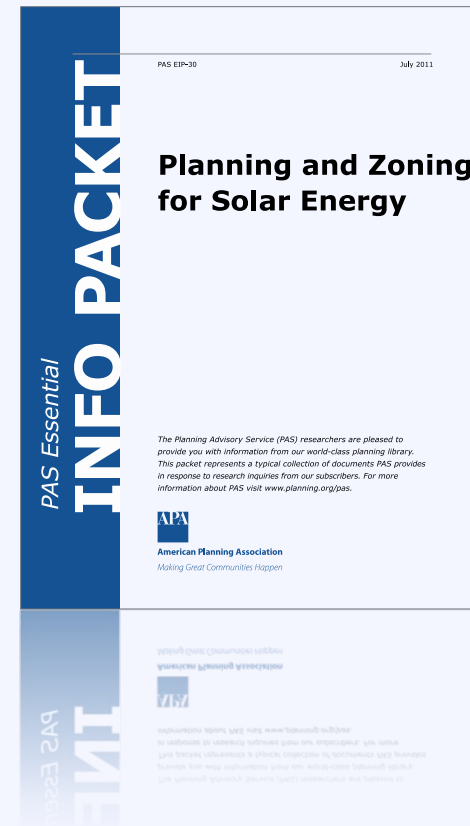
<http://city.milwaukee.gov/milwaukeeshines/GoSolarHowto/Solar-Permitting-Guide.htm>

# Zoning Code: Model Ordinances

## Resource Planning and Zoning for Solar Energy

This Essential Info Packet provides a number of articles and guidebooks to help planners plan for solar in their communities.

[planning.org/research/solar](http://planning.org/research/solar)



# The Permitting Process: Challenges

---

**18,000+** local jurisdictions  
with unique permitting requirements

# The Permitting Process: Challenges

---

Local permitting processes add on average

**\$2,516**

to the installation cost of residential PV



# The Permitting Process: Challenges



# Expedited Permitting

---

## Solar Permitting Best Practices:

- ✓ Fair flat fees
- ✓ Electronic or over-the-counter issuance
- ✓ Standardized permit requirements
- ✓ Electronic materials

# Expedited Permitting

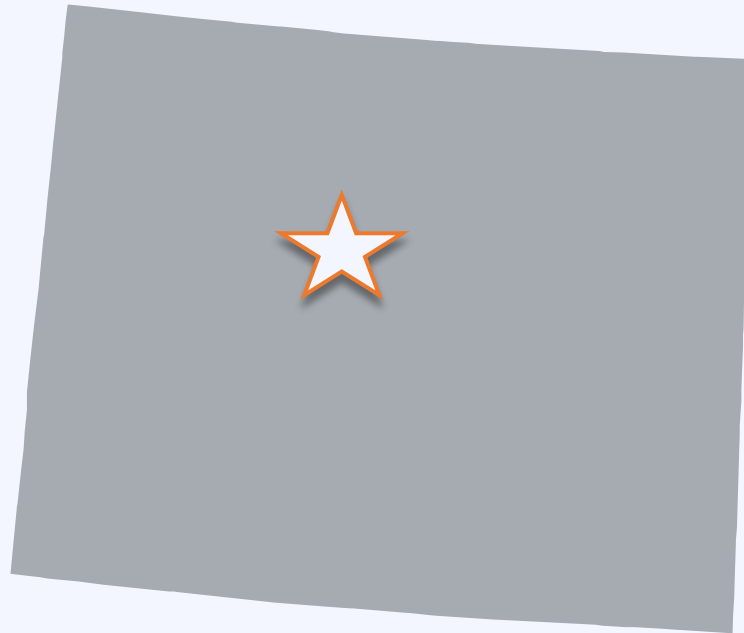
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## Solar Permitting Best Practices:

- ✓ Training for permitting staff in solar
- ✓ Removal of excessive reviews
- ✓ Reduction of inspection appointment windows
- ✓ Utilization of standard certifications

# Expedited Permitting: Case Study

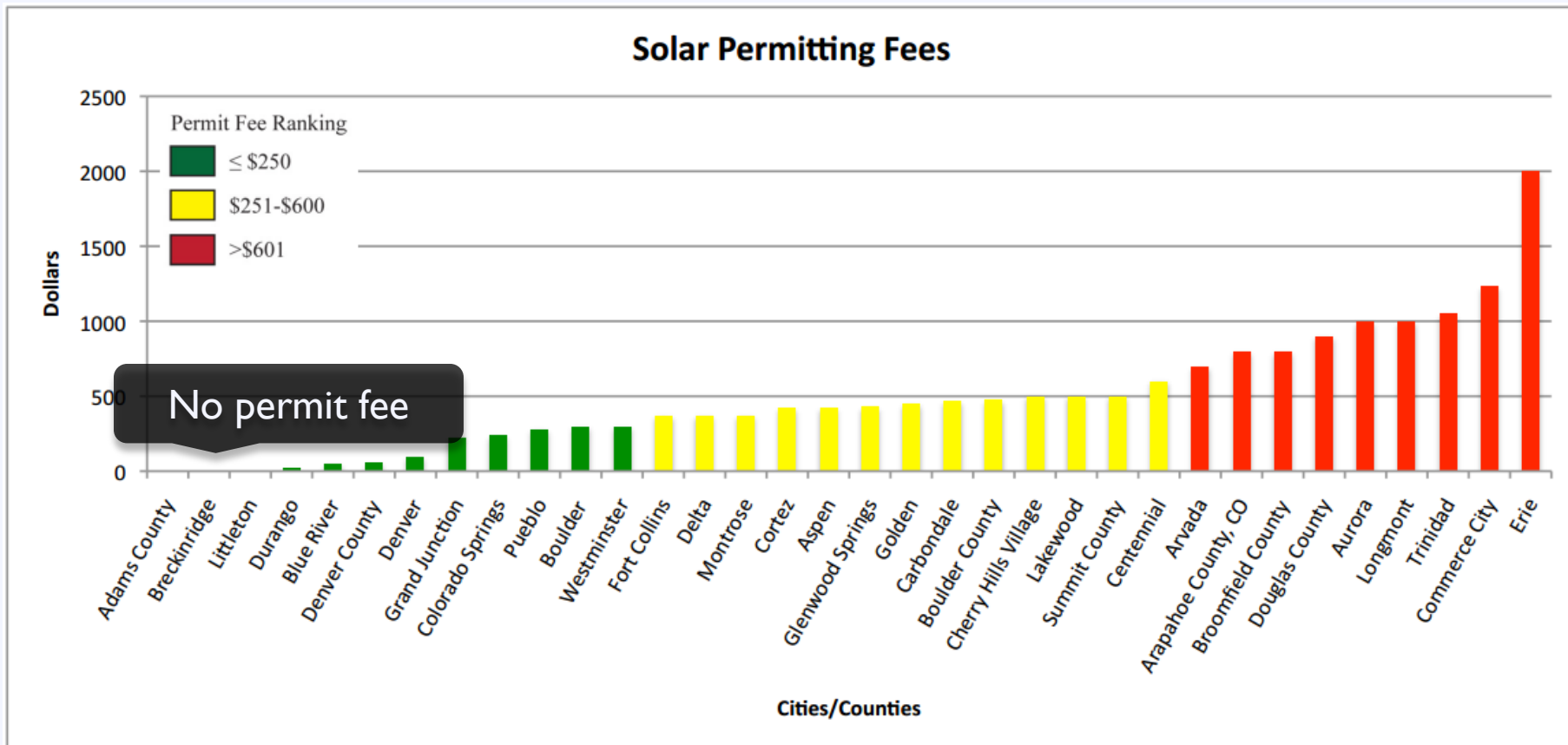
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**Breckenridge, Colorado**  
Population: 4,540

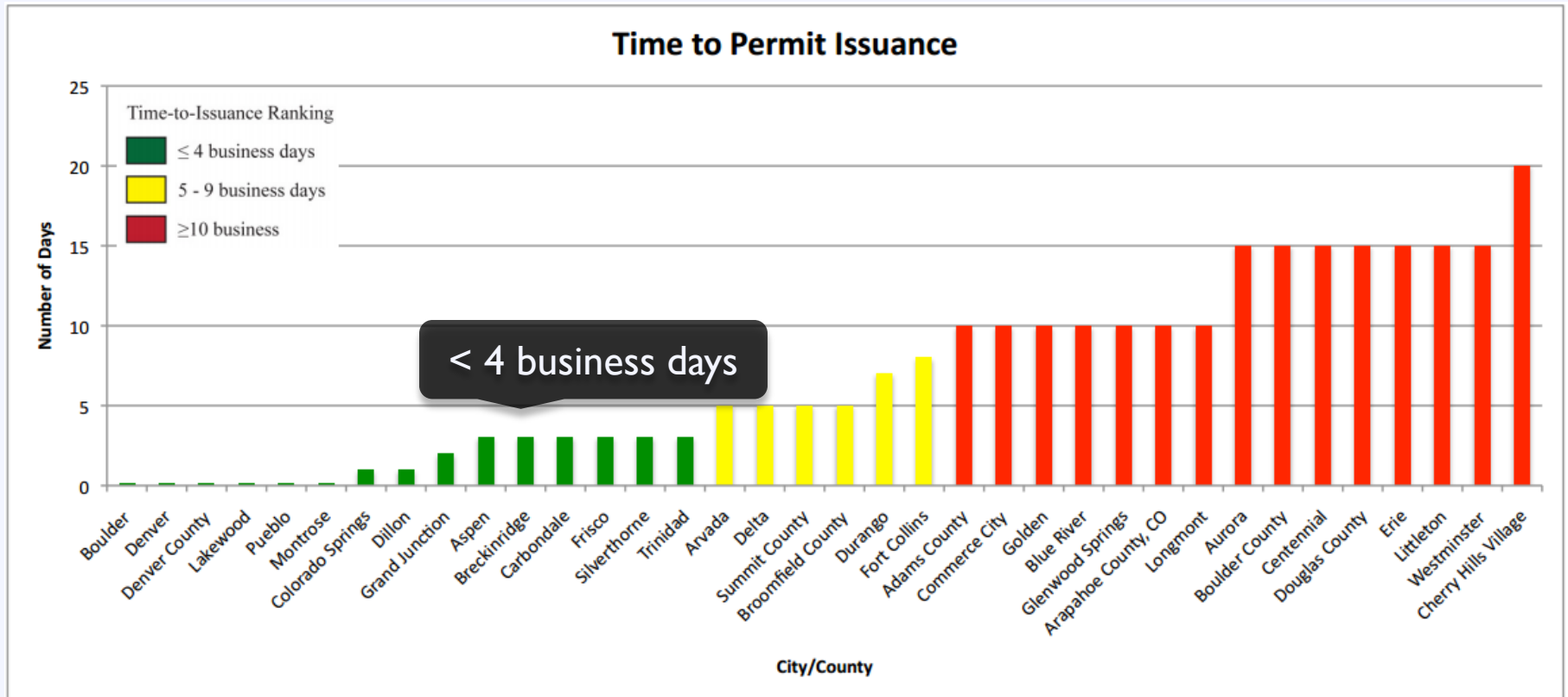
# Expedited Permitting: Case Study

Breckenridge charges no fees to file for a solar permit



# Expedited Permitting: Case Study

Breckenridge offers a short turn around time for solar permits



# Expedited Permitting: Case Study

Jobs | FREE RIDE | Forms & Documents | Town Calendar | Contact Us | Water Bill Access | Text Size + -

TOWN OF BRECKENRIDGE

BRECKENRIDGE COLORADO

Quick Links  
Search... GO

HOME ◊ ABOUT BRECKENRIDGE ◊ GOVERNMENT ◊ DEPARTMENTS & SERVICES ◊ ARTS ◊ RECREATION ◊ WHAT'S NEW ◊ I WANT TO...

**Electronic materials**

▼ Building Department

- Adopted Building Codes and Amendments
- Climactic and Geographical Design Criteria 2006 IRC Table R301.2(1)
- Permits and Applications
- Inspections
- Electrical, Mechanical & Plumbing Applications
- Hot Tub Permits
- **Solar Panel Permits**
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Contractor's Licensing

How Much Will My Permit

**Standardized permit requirements**

Departments & Services » Building Department

## Solar Panel Permits

[E-mail](#) [Print](#)

### BUILDING & PLANNING DEPARTMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR PHOTOVOLTAIC (SOLAR PANEL) INSTALLATIONS

The solar panel installer is responsible for insuring that all of the code requirements are met and permits issued.

Required permits are: Development, Building and Electrical Permits.

**Planning Department / Development Permit Requirements:**

- Outside of the Conservation District, [Class D Permit](#)
- Within the Conservation District, [Class C Minor Permit](#)
- Letter of approval from the Homeowners Association (strongly suggested)

Refer to the [Breckenridge Development Code](#), reference [Section 9-1-19, Policy 5 \(Absolute\)](#) regarding solar panel policies

**Building Department Permits / Building & Electrical Permit Requirements:**

- Meet with a Town of Breckenridge Planner (see above requirements)
- [Building Permit](#) (Submit a completed building permit application, along with two photovoltaic system electrical diagram drawings, stamped by a Colorado licensed engineer)
- [Electrical Permit](#)

**Contractor Requirements**

- Must be certified by North American Certified Energy Practitioners ([www.nabcep.org](http://www.nabcep.org))
- Must have a current Town of Breckenridge [Business License](#), available through the Town



# Expedited Permitting

## Resource Solar ABCs

### Expedited Permitting:

- Simplifies requirements for PV applications
- Facilitates efficient review of content
- Minimize need for detailed studies and unnecessary delays

**Solar America Board for Codes and Standards**  
Collaborate • Contribute • Transform

ABOUT US | CODES & STANDARDS | CURRENT ISSUES

### Codes & Standards

The Solar America Board for Codes and Standards (Solar ABCs) collaborates and enhances the practice of developing, implementing, and disseminating solar codes and standards. The Solar ABCs provides formal coordination in the planning and revision of separate, though interrelated, solar codes and standards. We also provide access for stakeholders to participate with members of standards making bodies through working groups and research activities to set national priorities on technical issues. The Solar ABCs is a centralized repository for collection and dissemination of documents, regulations, and technical materials related to solar codes and standards.

The Solar ABCs creates a centralized home to facilitate photovoltaic (PV) market transformation by:

- Creating a forum that fosters generating consensus 'best practices' materials.
- Disseminating such materials to utilities, state and other regulating agencies.
- Answering code-related questions (technical or statutory in nature).
- Providing feedback on important related issues to DOE and government agencies.

**Learn more about solar codes and standards development:**

The below organizations all publish codes and standards for PV products and each organization has its own process to develop and publish standards.

- [ASTM](#)
- [IAPMO Standards](#)
- [International Code Council](#)
- [International Electrotechnical Commission](#)
- [IEEE](#)
- [National Fire Protection Association](#)
- [SEMI](#)
- [Underwriters Laboratories](#)

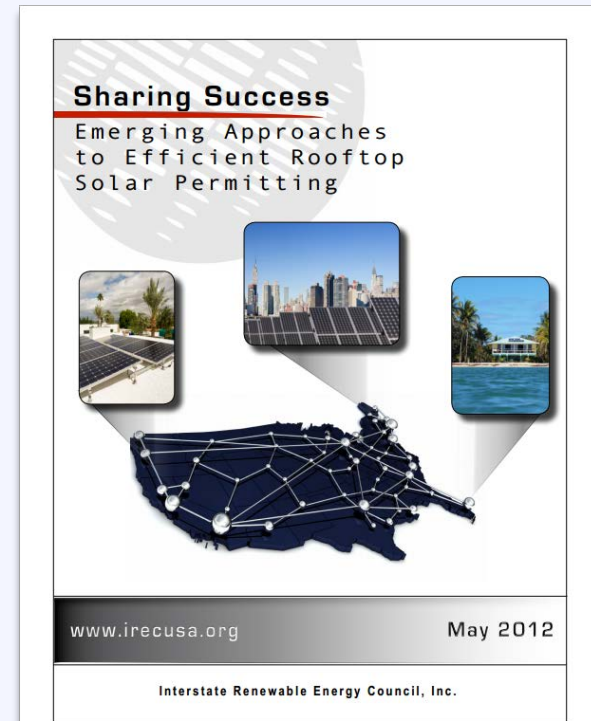


# Expedited Permitting

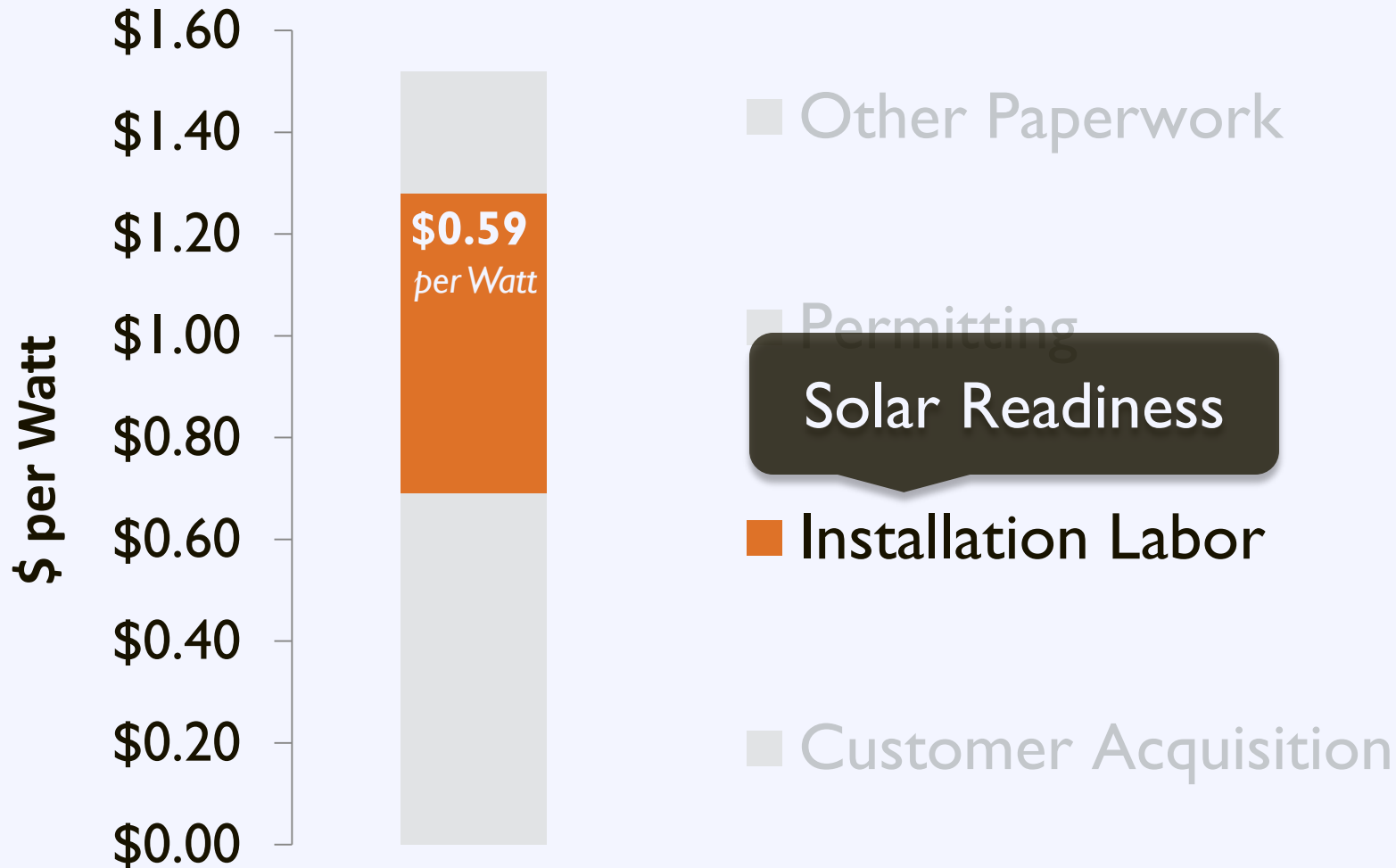
## Resource Interstate Renewable Energy Council

Outlines emerging approaches to efficient rooftop solar permitting

[www.irecusa.org](http://www.irecusa.org)



# Mitigate Soft Costs



# Solar Readiness

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Creating solar-ready guidelines and promoting energy efficiency at the outset can help make future solar installations easier and more cost effective.

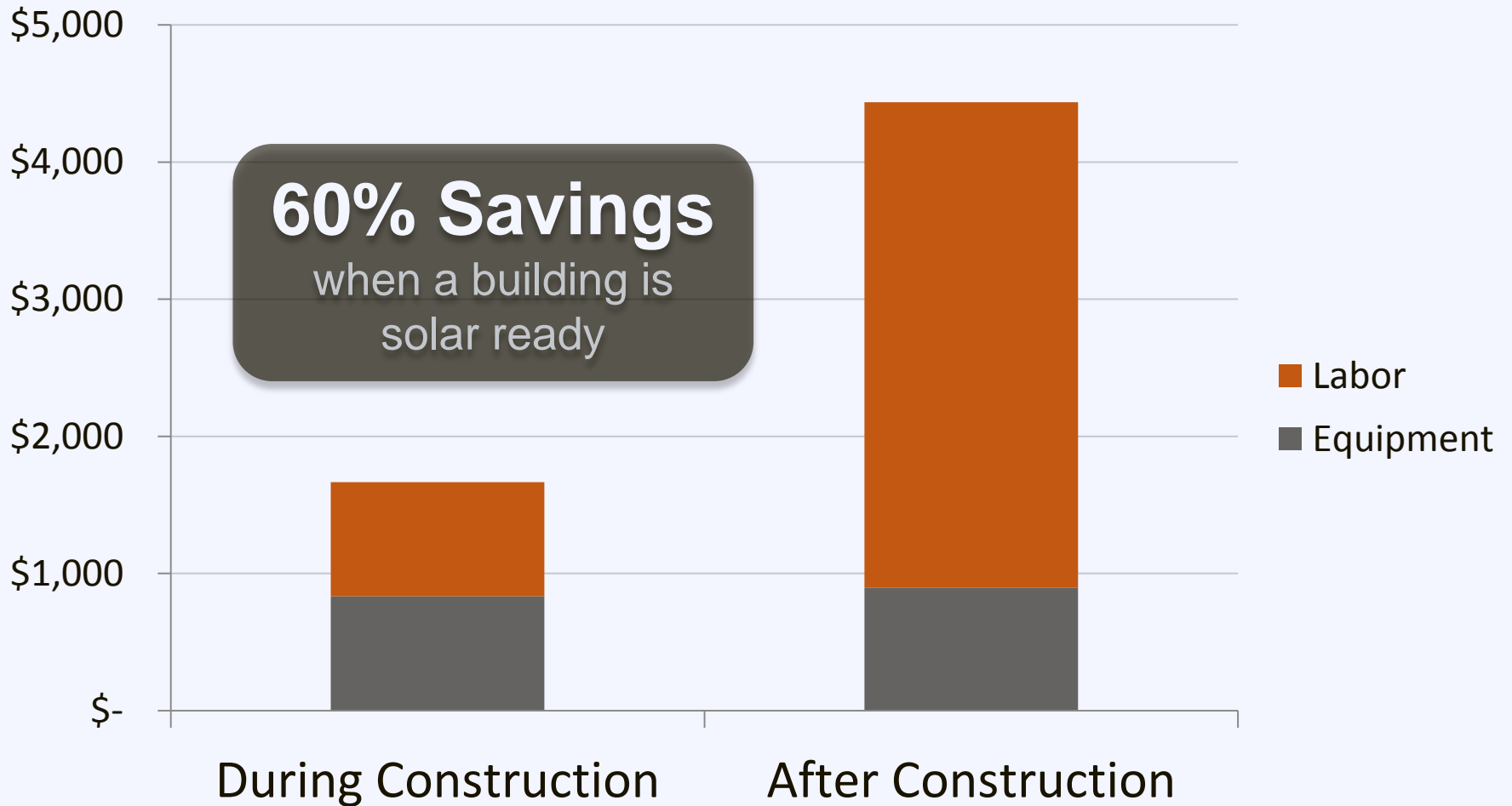
# Solar Readiness

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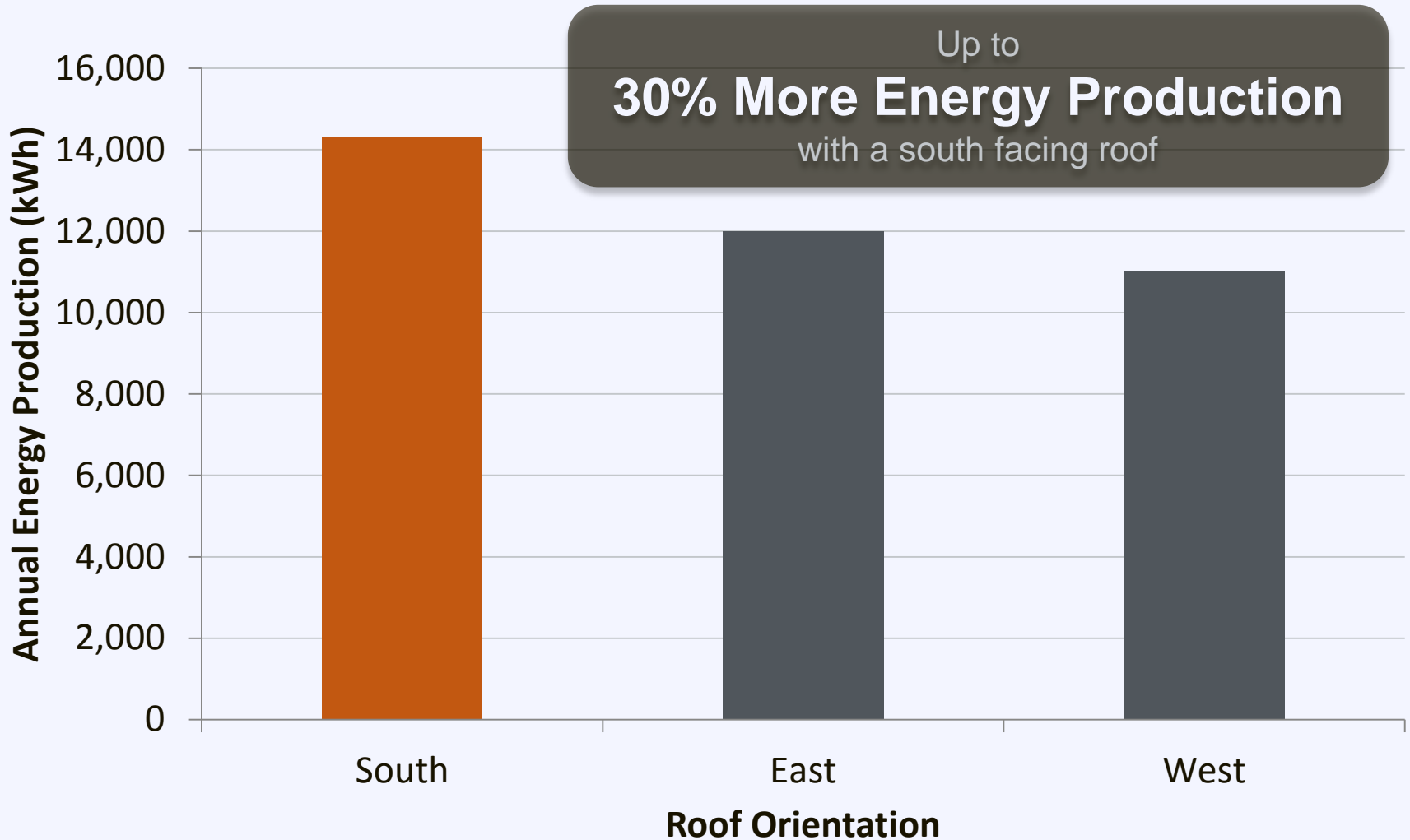
## Require builders to:

- ✓ Minimize rooftop equipment
- ✓ Plan for structure orientation to avoid shading
- ✓ Install a roof that will support the load of a solar array
- ✓ Record roof specifications on drawings
- ✓ Plan for wiring and inverter placement

# Solar Readiness



# Solar Readiness



# Solar Readiness

## Resource NREL

Creating a solar ready guide for buildings:

- Legislation
- Certification programs
- Stakeholder Education

[www.nrel.gov](http://www.nrel.gov)

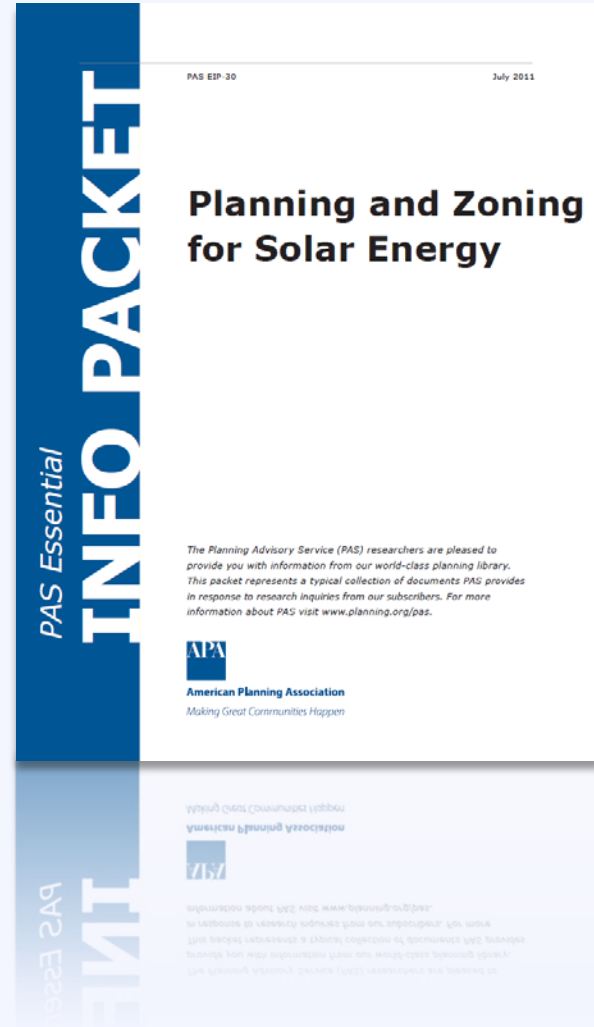


# Solar Readiness Model Ordinance

## Resource American Planning Association

Includes references to ordinances requiring solar-ready homes in select communities.

[www.planning.org/research/solar](http://www.planning.org/research/solar)





# Q & A

# Agenda

---

09:10 – 09:45 Introductions and Overview

09:45 – 10:10 Solar 101: Policy Environment and Economics

10:10 – 10:20 *Break*

10:20 – 10:40 Benefits and Barriers Activity

10:40 – 11:10 Creating a Solar Ready Community

**11:10 – 11:50 Growing Your Local Solar Market**

11:50 – 12:00

- Costs and Revenue
- Solar Project Finance
- Local Solar Programs

12:00– 01:00

# The Solar Equation

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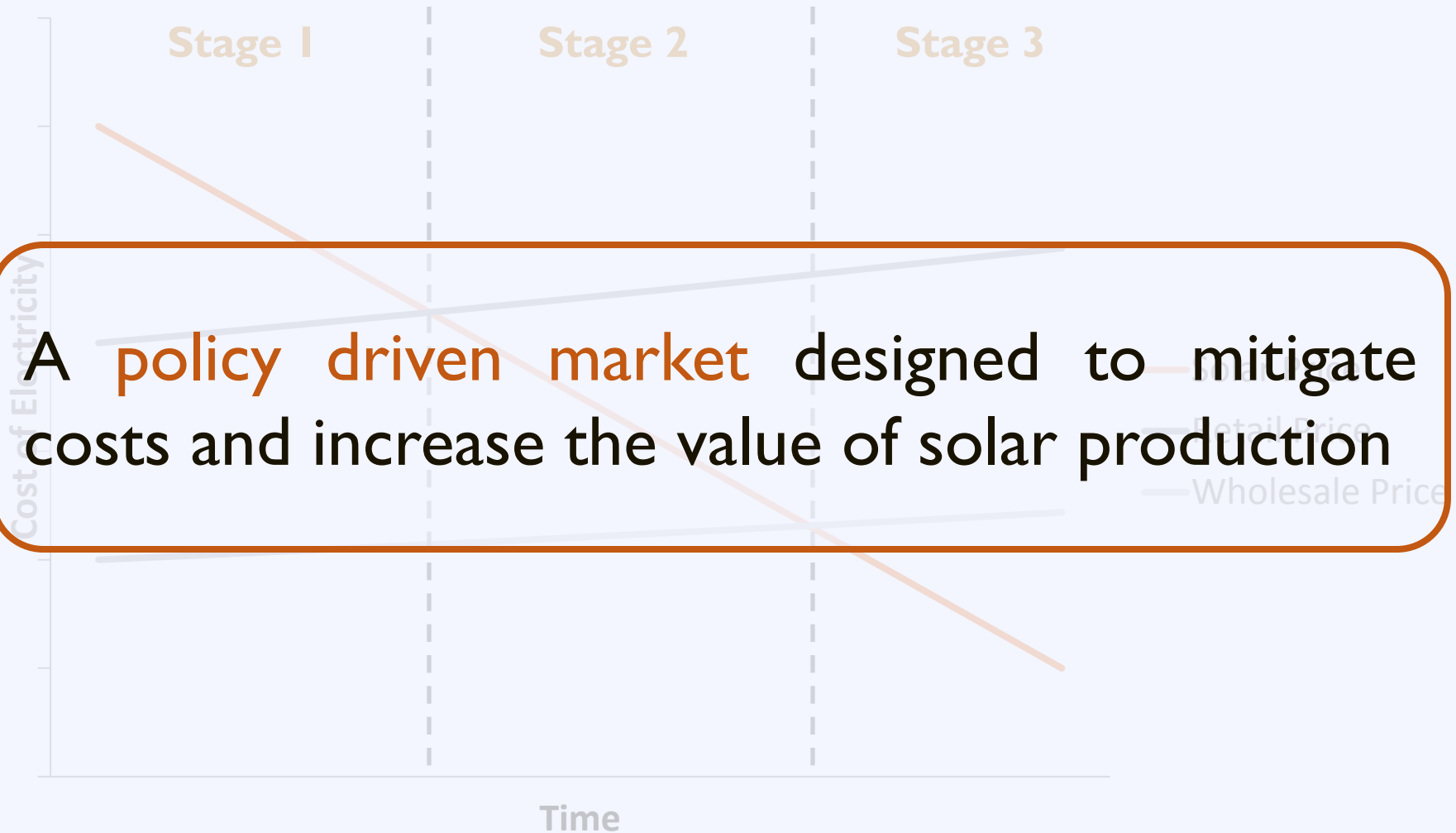
## Cost

- + Installed Cost
- + Maintenance
- Direct Incentive

## Benefit

- + Avoided Energy Cost
- + Excess Generation
- + Performance Incentive

# Solar Market: Stages



# The Solar Equation

---

## Cost

- + Installed Cost
- + Maintenance
- Direct Incentive

## Benefit

- + Avoided Energy Cost
- + Excess Generation
- + Performance Incentive

# Incentives

Federal

Investment  
Tax Credit

Accelerated  
Depreciation

QECBs

State

Production  
Tax Credit

State Loan  
Program

Sales Tax  
Exemption

# Incentives

Federal

Investment  
Tax Credit

Accelerated  
Depreciation

QECBs

State

Production  
Tax Credit

State Loan  
Program

Sales Tax  
Exemption

# Investment Tax Credit

---

**Type:** Tax Credit

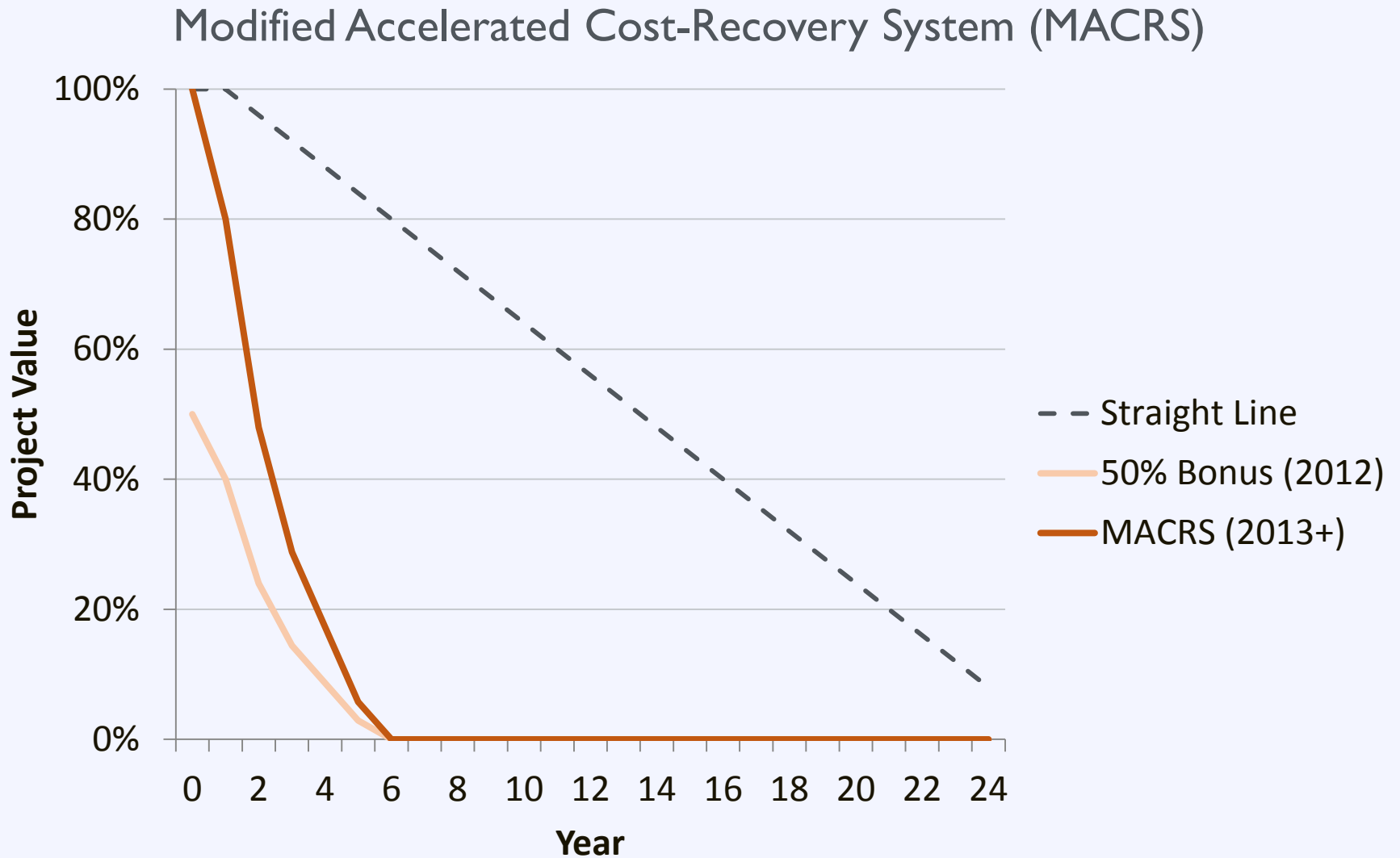
**Eligibility:** For-Profit Organization

**Value:** 30% of the installation cost

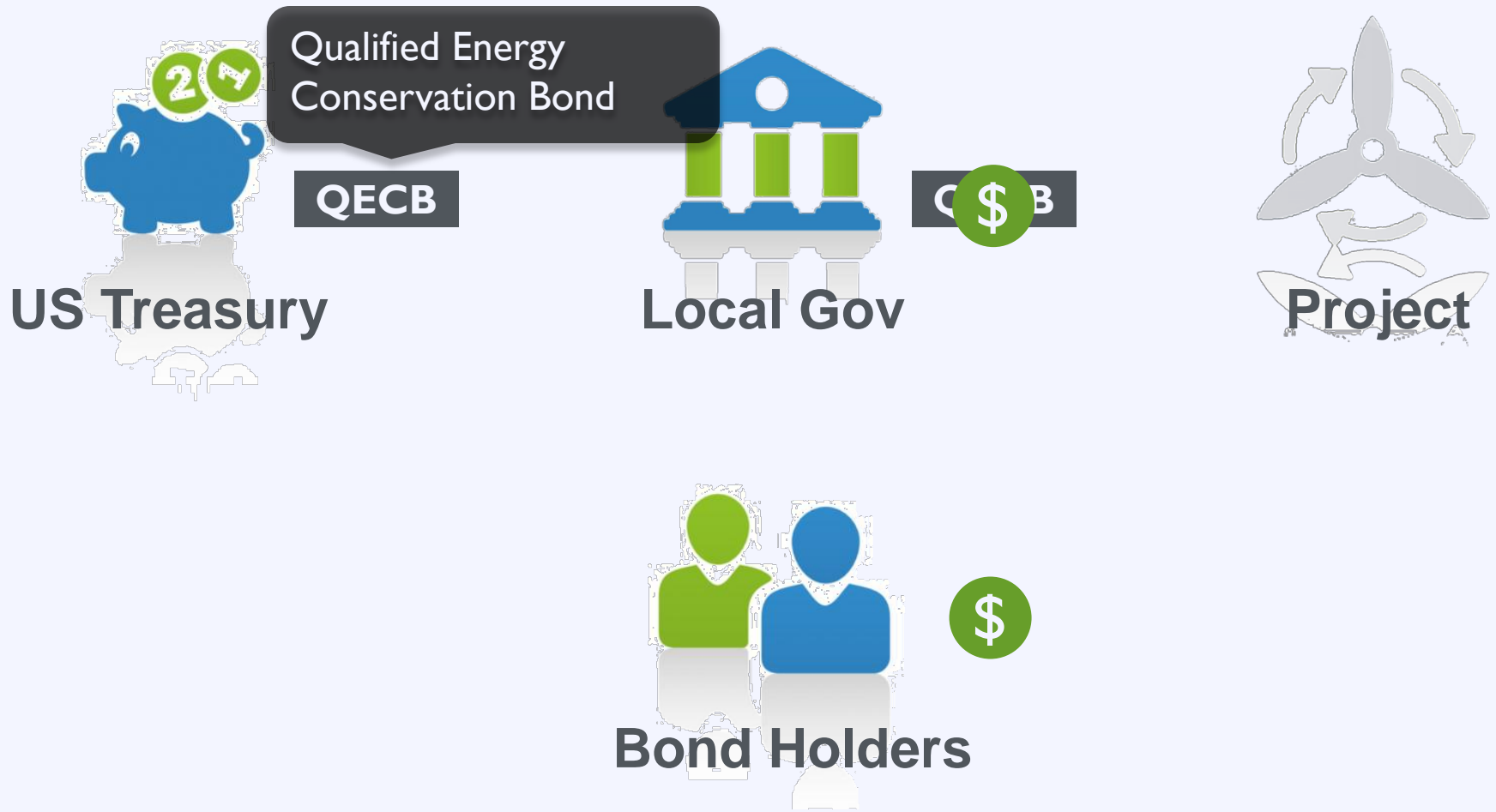
**Availability:** Through 2016



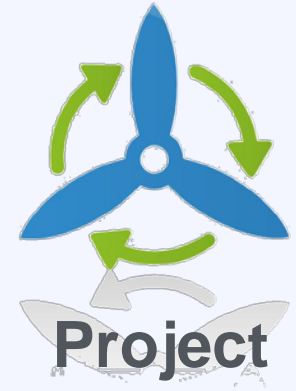
# Accelerated Depreciation



# Qualified Energy Conservation Bond



# Qualified Energy Conservation Bond



# Incentives

Federal

Investment  
Tax Credit

Accelerated  
Depreciation

QECBs

State

Production  
Tax Credit

State Loan  
Program

Sales Tax  
Exemption

# Production Tax Credit

---

**Type:** Tax Credit

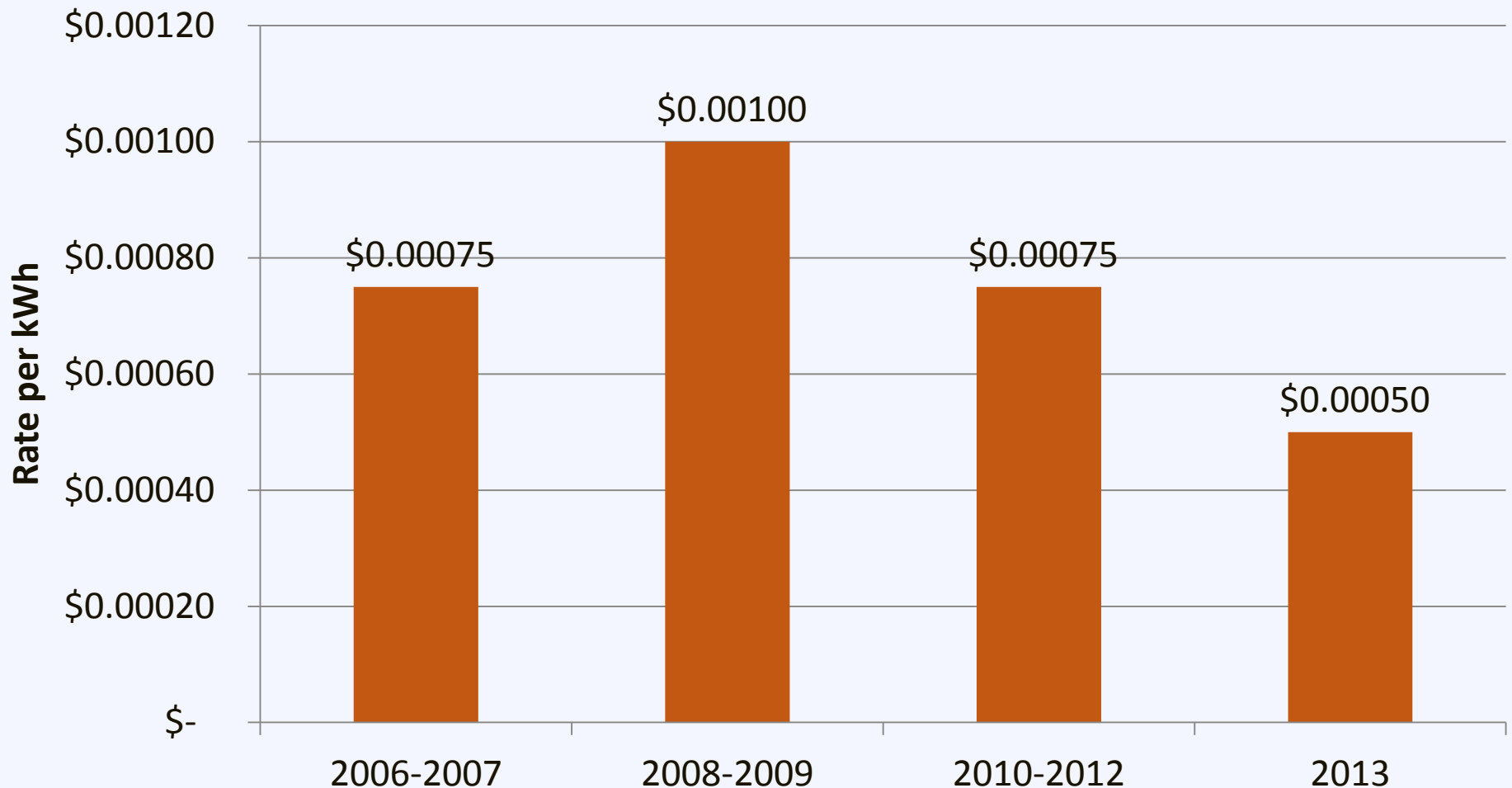
**Eligibility:** Corporations and Residents

**Value:** \$0.0005 per kWh for 10 Years

**Budget:** \$50,000 Corp. & \$50,000 Personal

# Production Tax Credit

## Tax Credit Rate Schedule



# State Loan Program

---

## **Dollar and Energy Savings Loan Program**

Makes available low interest loans for energy efficiency and renewable energy projects

# State Loan Program

---

**Type:** Revolving Loan Fund

**Maximum Loan:** \$125,000\* for prequalified loans

**Interest:** 2.5% – 5%

**Term:** 5 Years to 15 Years



# State Loan Program

Local financial institution approves loan

State Energy Office Purchases 50 – 75% of loan

Installation completed within 5 months

# State Loan Program

---

The State Energy Office's initial investment of

**\$11.1 Million** has leveraged

**\$218.5 million**

in loans from Nebraska financial institutions

# Sales Tax Credit

---

**Type:** Sales Tax Credit

**Requirement:** Minimum \$20 million investment

**Available Until:** January 1, 2019

# Ownership Options

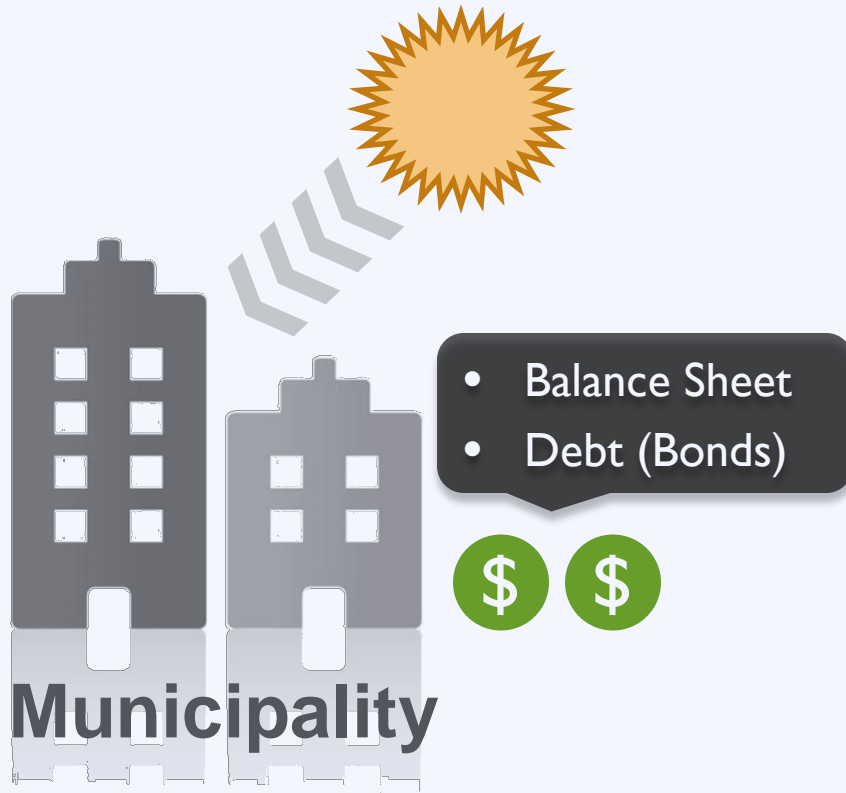
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Direct  
Ownership

Third-Party  
Ownership

Community  
Ownership

# Direct Ownership



# Direct Ownership

---

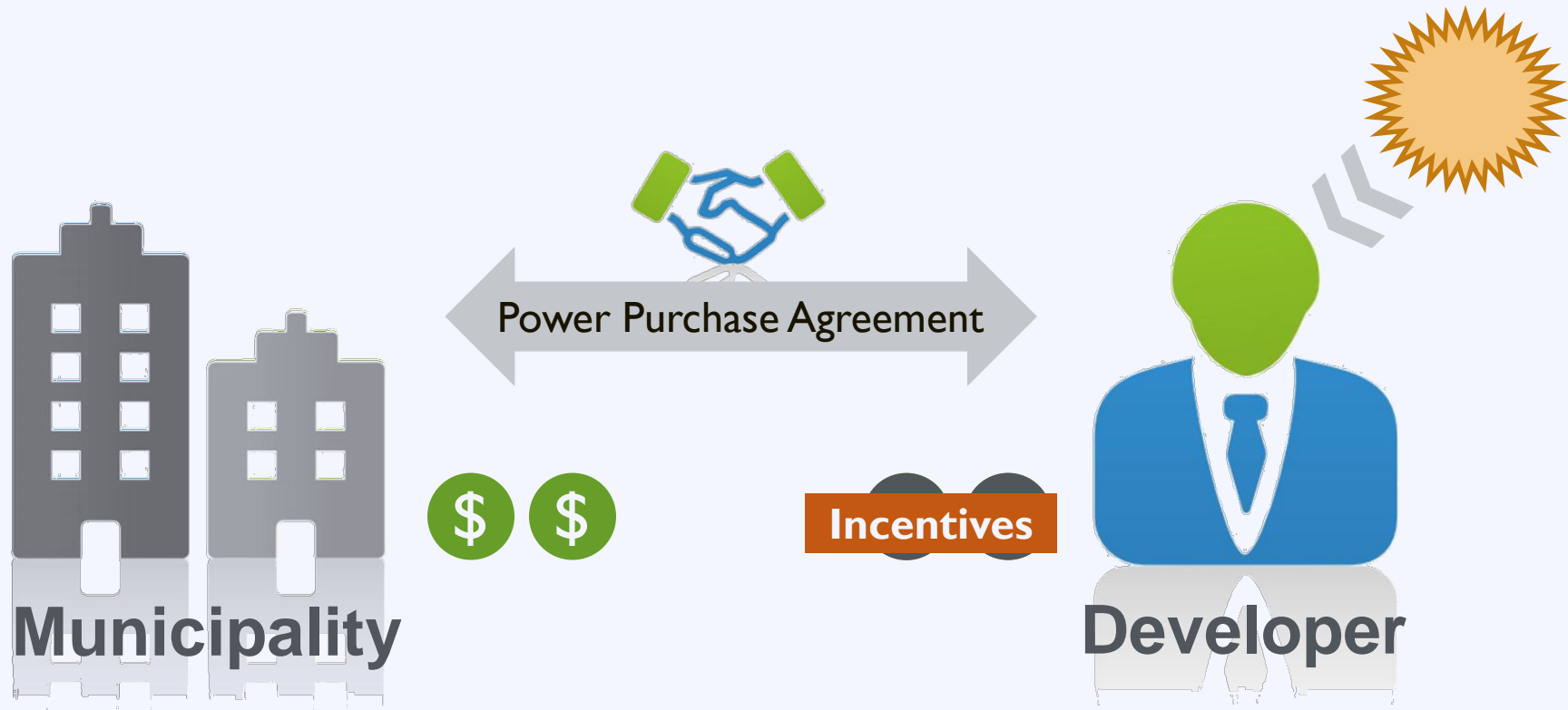
## Pros

- Low – cost electricity
- REC revenue
- Utilize cheap bond money

## Cons

- Large upfront cost
- Long term management
- Can't take tax benefits
- Development risk
- Performance risk

# Third Party Ownership



# Third Party Ownership

---

## Pros

- No upfront cost
- No O&M costs
- Low risk
- Predictable payments
- Tax benefits

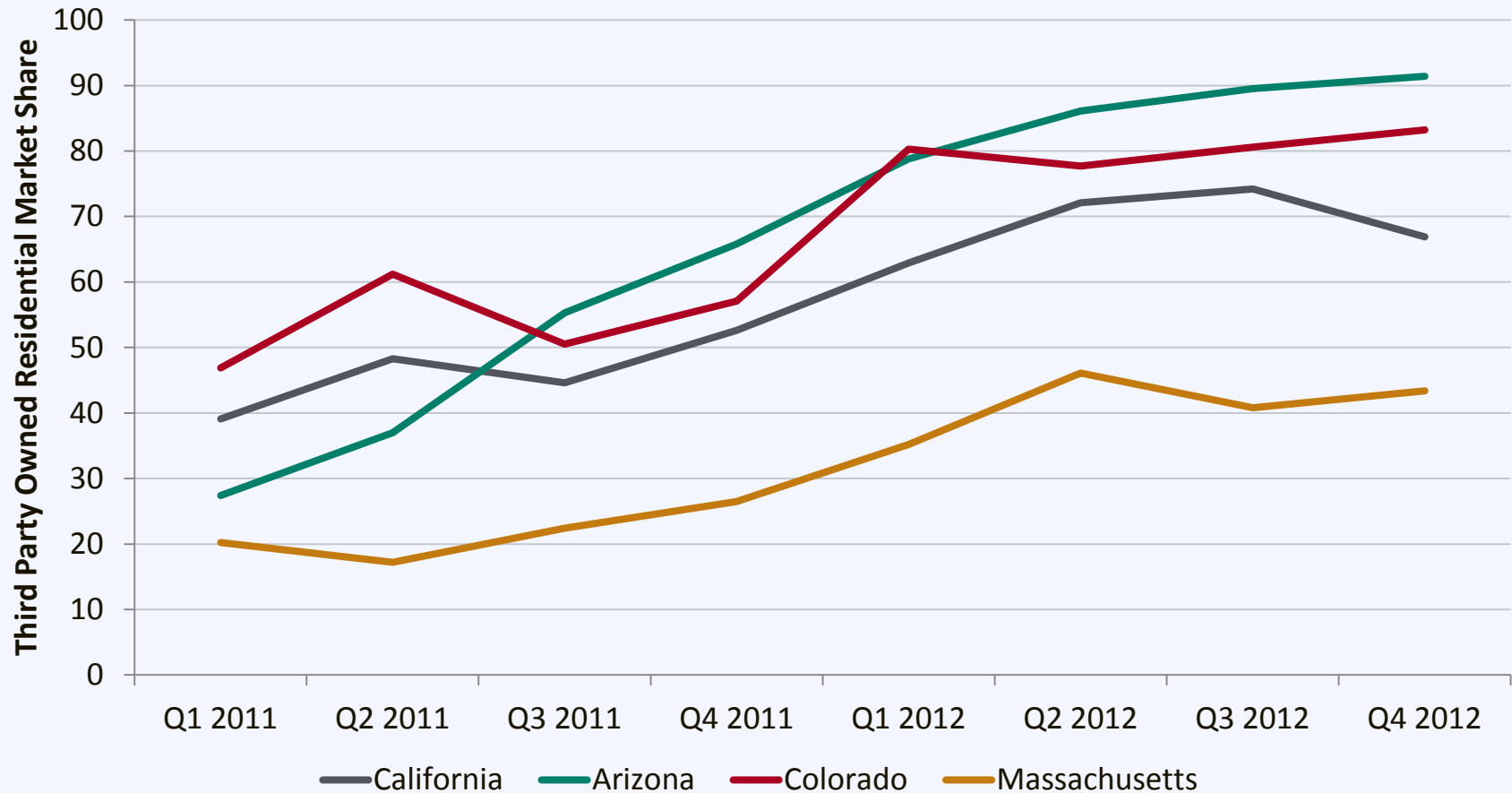
## Cons

- Don't keep RECs
- Can't use bonds



# Benefits of PPAs

Percentage of New Residential Installations Owned by Third Party in CA, AZ, CO, and MA



# Community Ownership



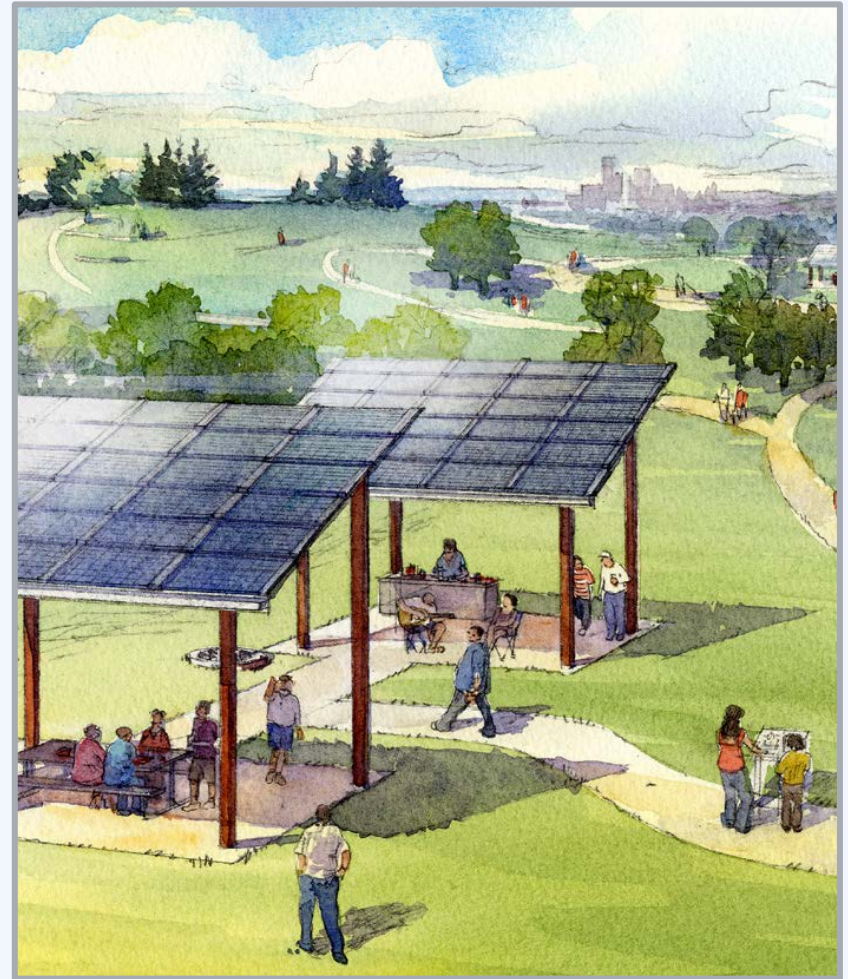
Community solar projects provides renters and homeowners without a feasible project the opportunity to invest in solar



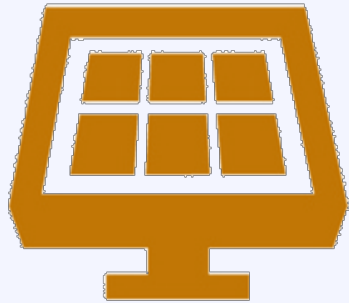
# Community Ownership

## Program Models:

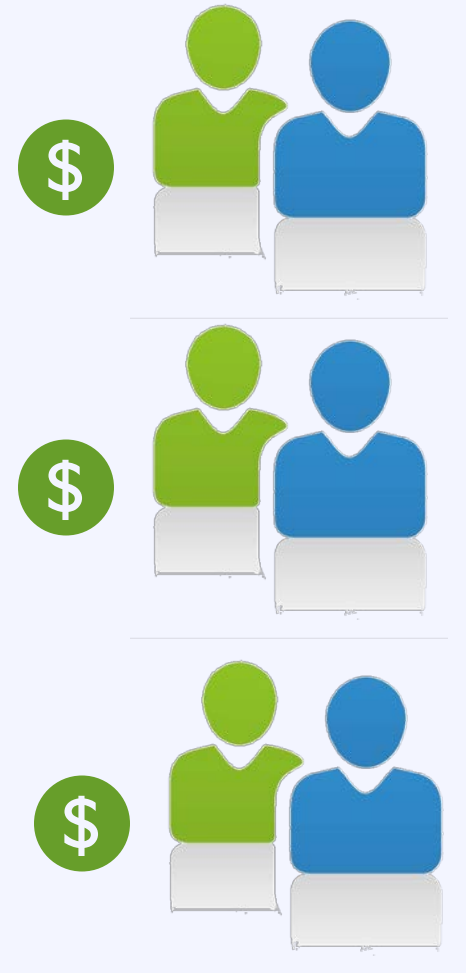
- SPE Model
- Investment Model
- Utility Model



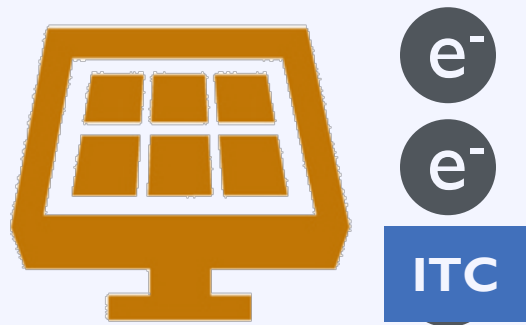
# Community: SPE Model



Solar Installation



# Community: SPE Model



Solar Installation



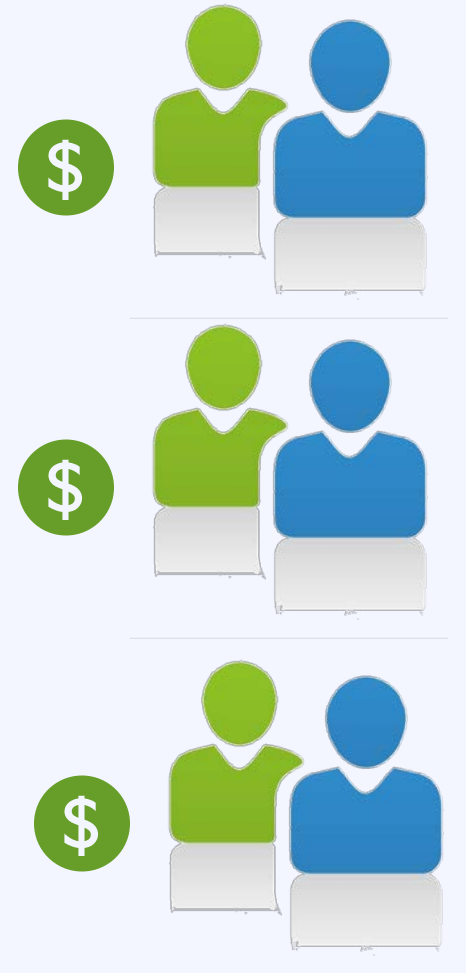
# Community Ownership

## Program Models:

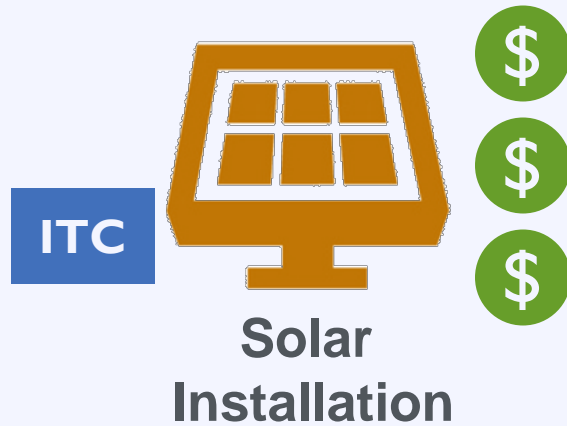
- ~~SPE Model~~
- Investment Model
- Utility Model



# Community: Investment Model

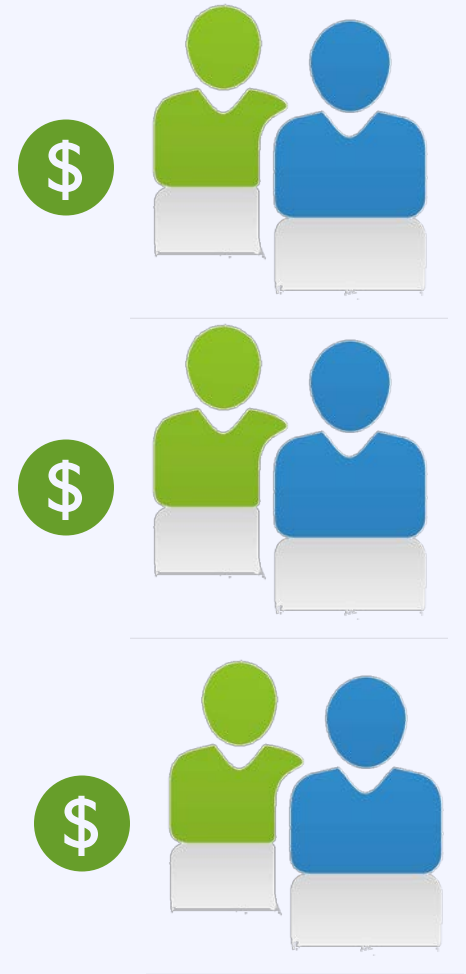


# Community: Investment Model





# Community: Utility Model

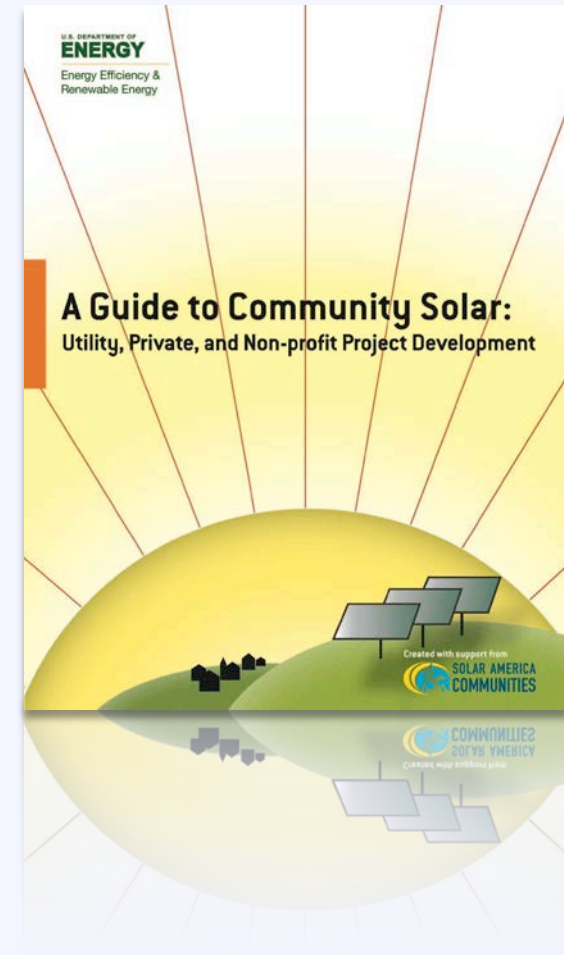


# Community: Resources

## Resource **A Guide to Community Solar**

A resource for community organizers and local government leaders who want to develop community solar projects.

[www.nrel.gov](http://www.nrel.gov)



# Programs to Grow your Solar Market



Solarize



Feed-in Tariff  
(CLEAN Contract)

# Solarize

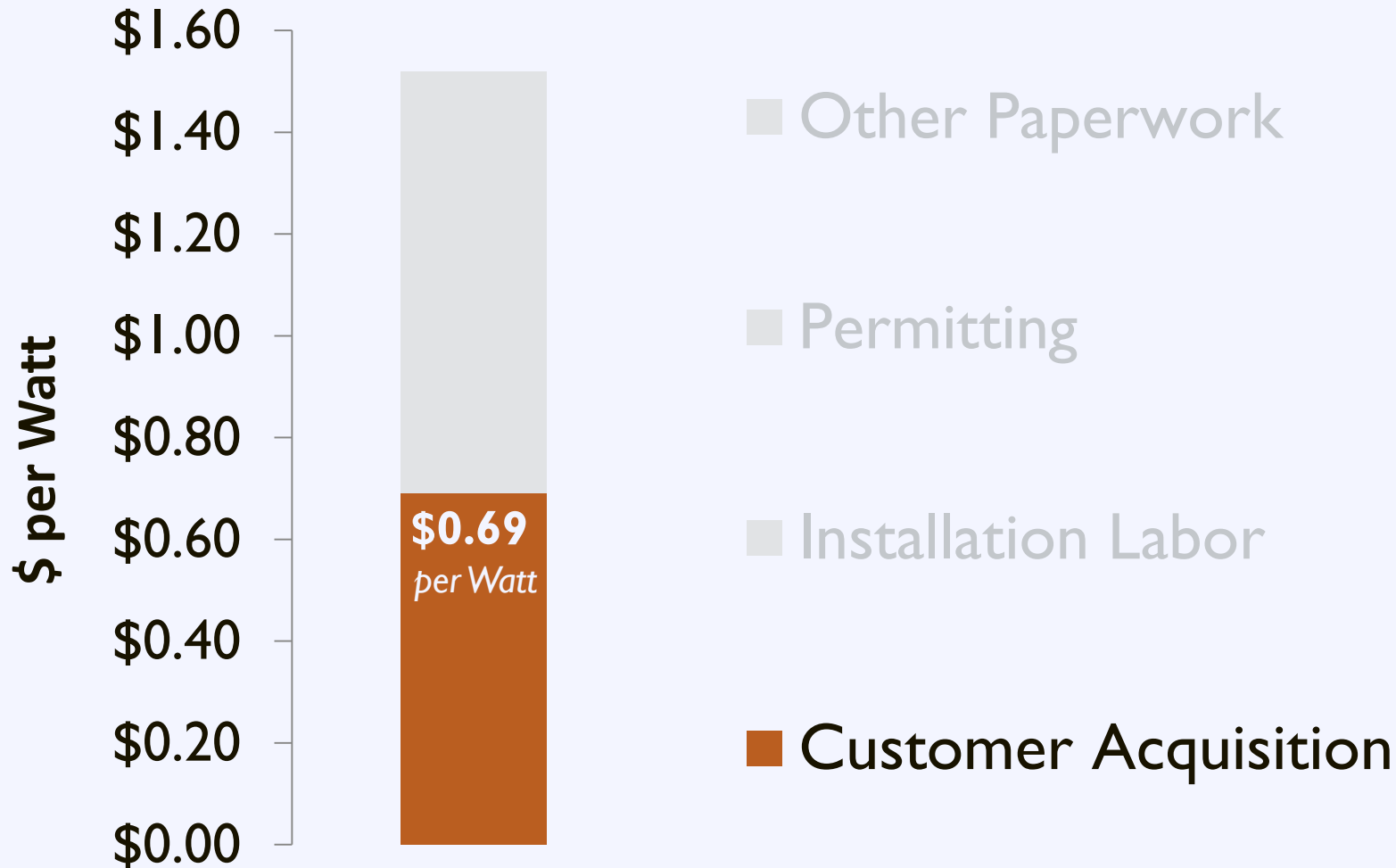
## Solarize Group Purchasing



solarize portland



# Solarize: Mitigate Soft Costs



# Solarize: Advantages

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## Barriers

High upfront cost



## Solutions

Group purchase

Complexity



Community outreach

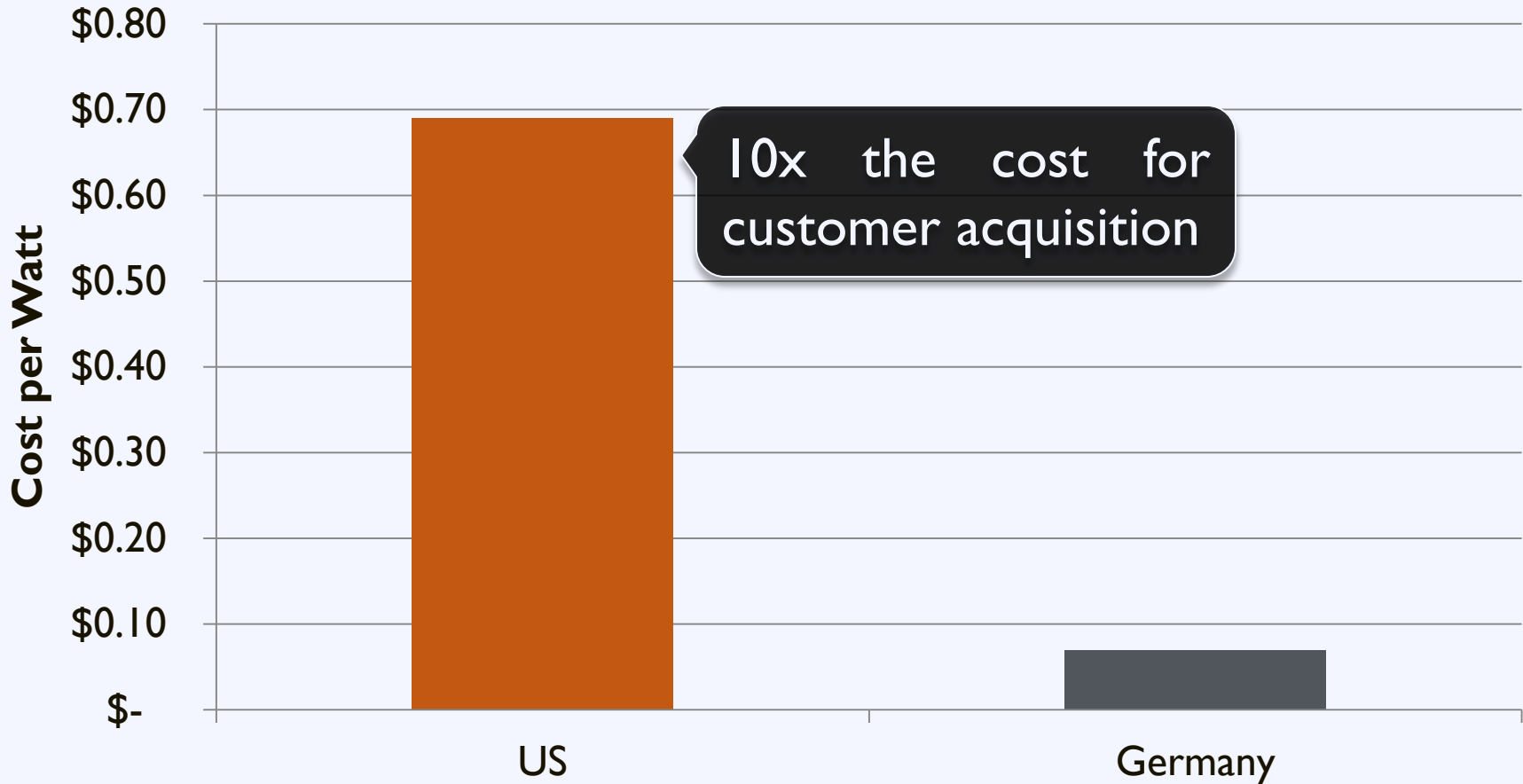
Customer inertia



Limited-time offer

# Solarize: Advantages

## Customer Acquisition



# Solarize: Advantages

---

## Benefits to Local Government:

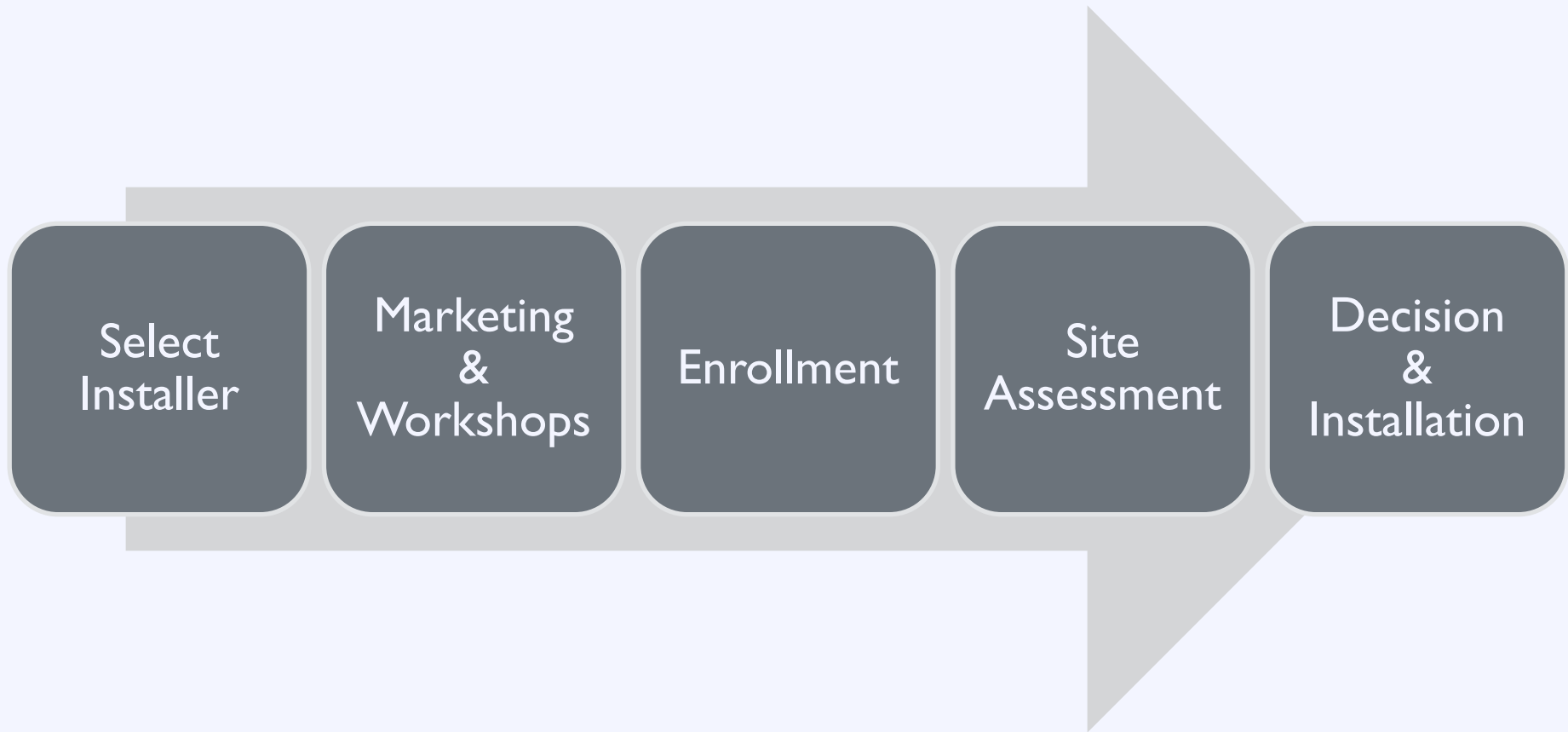
Low implementation cost: \$5,000 - \$10,000

Quick turn-around: 9 Months

Long-term impact: Sustainable ecosystem



# Solarize: Process



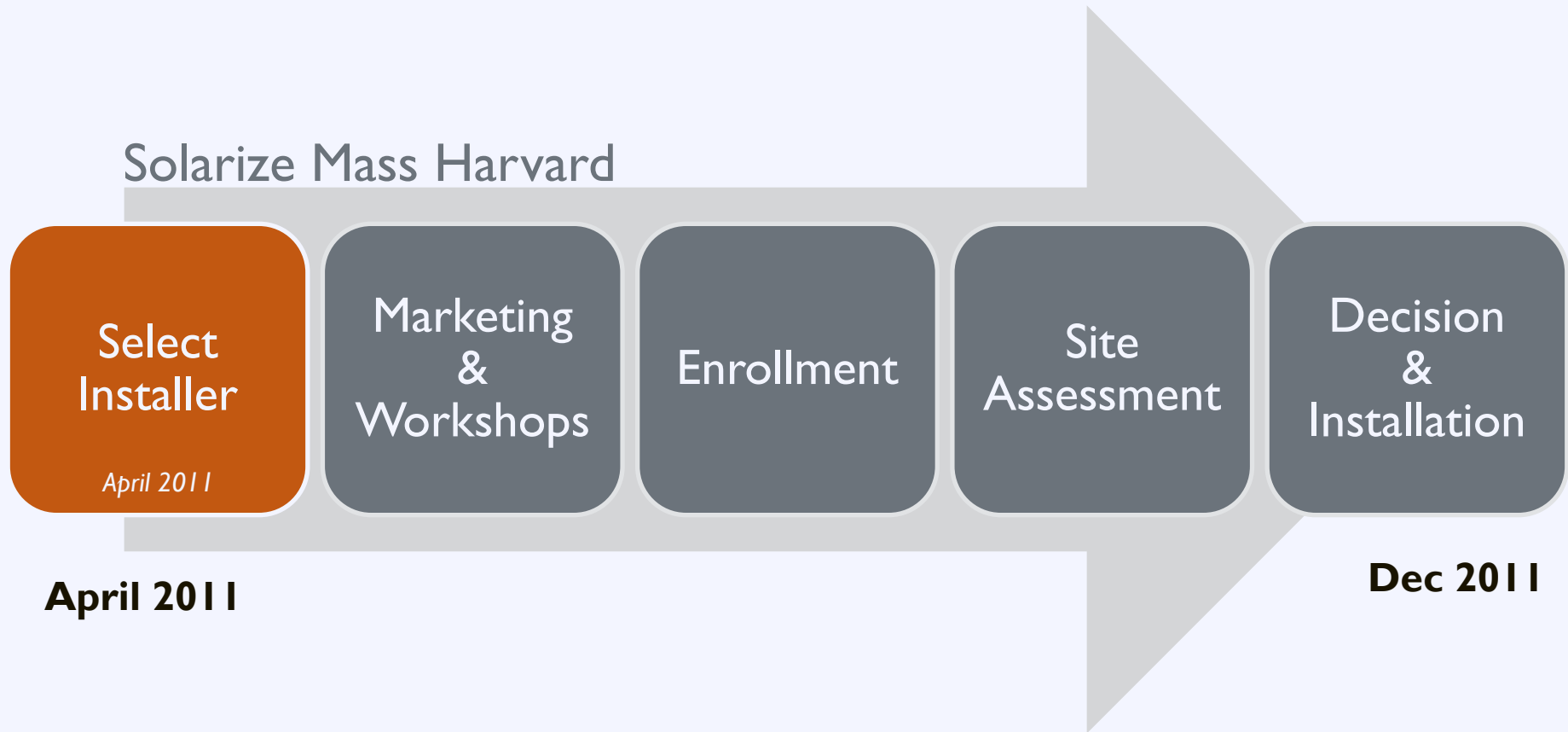
# Solarize: Case Study

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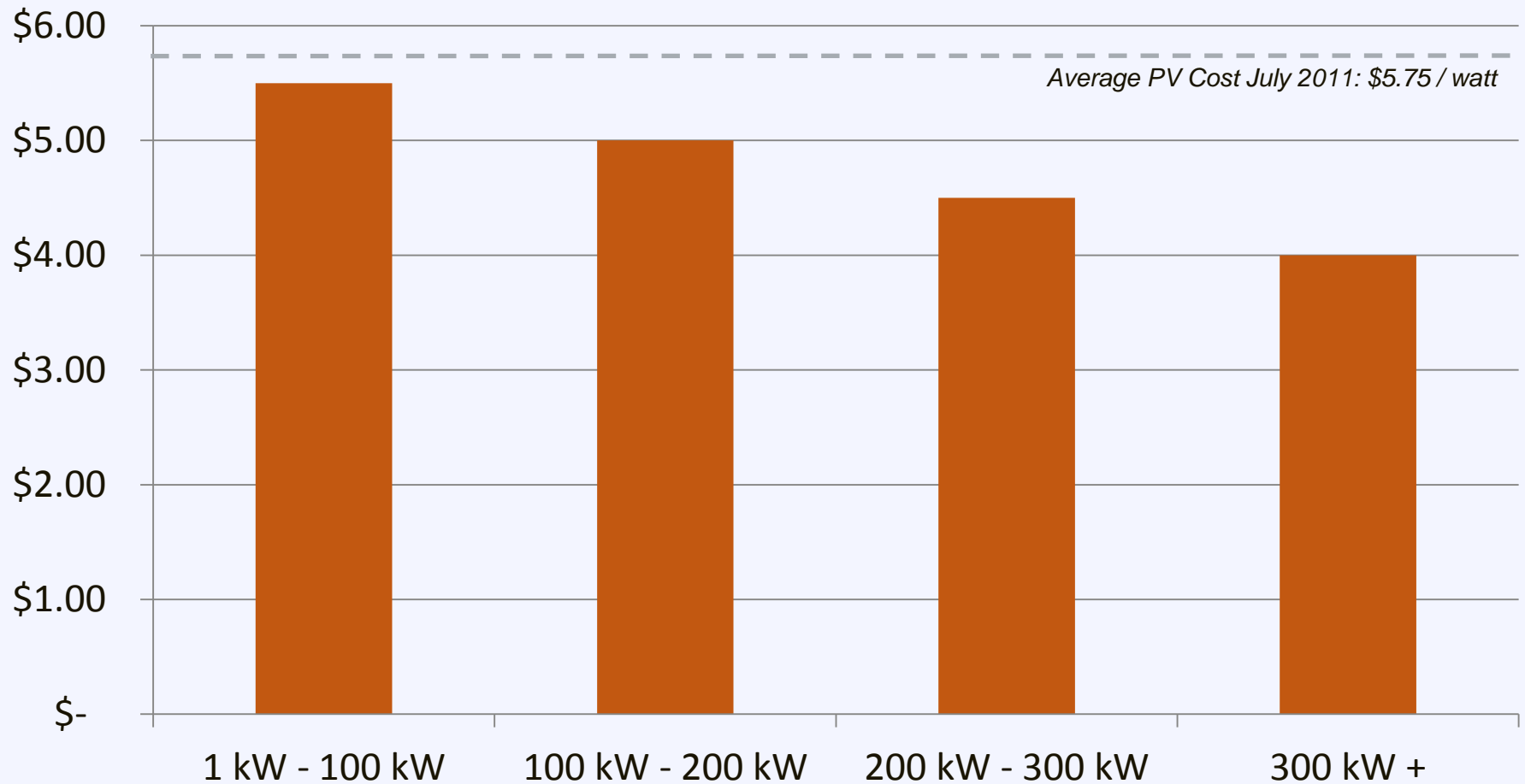
**Harvard, Massachusetts**  
Population: 6,520

# Solarize: Case Study



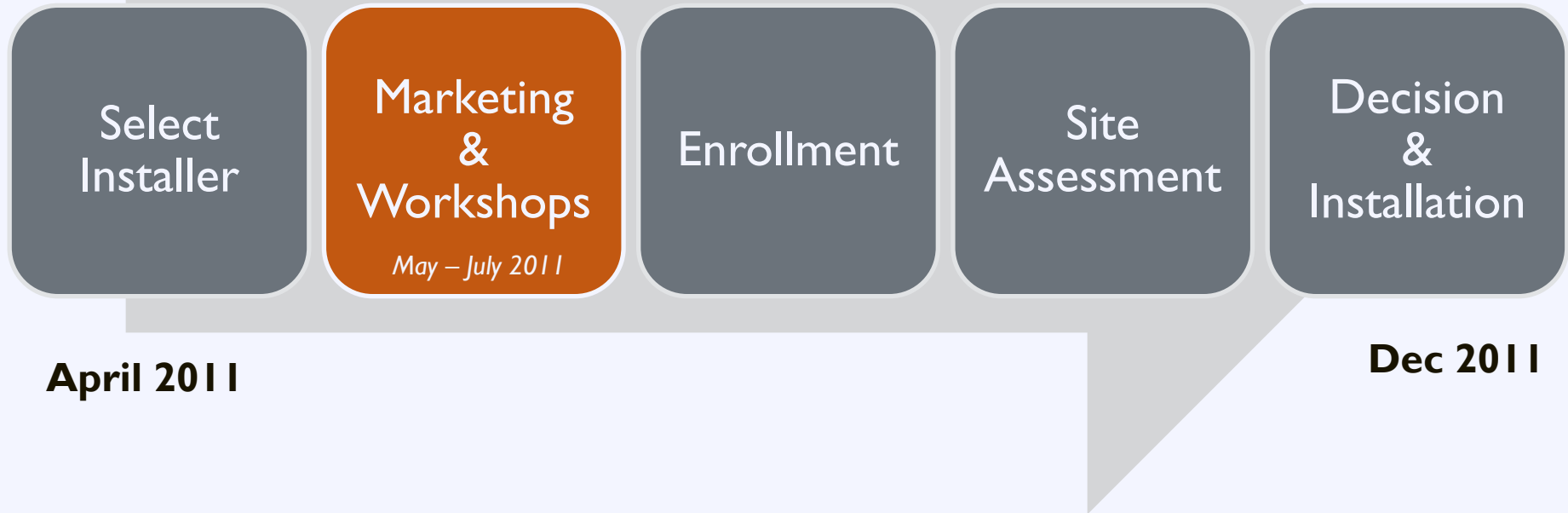
# Group Purchasing

## Harvard Mass Group Purchasing Tiers



# Solarize: Case Study

## Solarize Mass Harvard



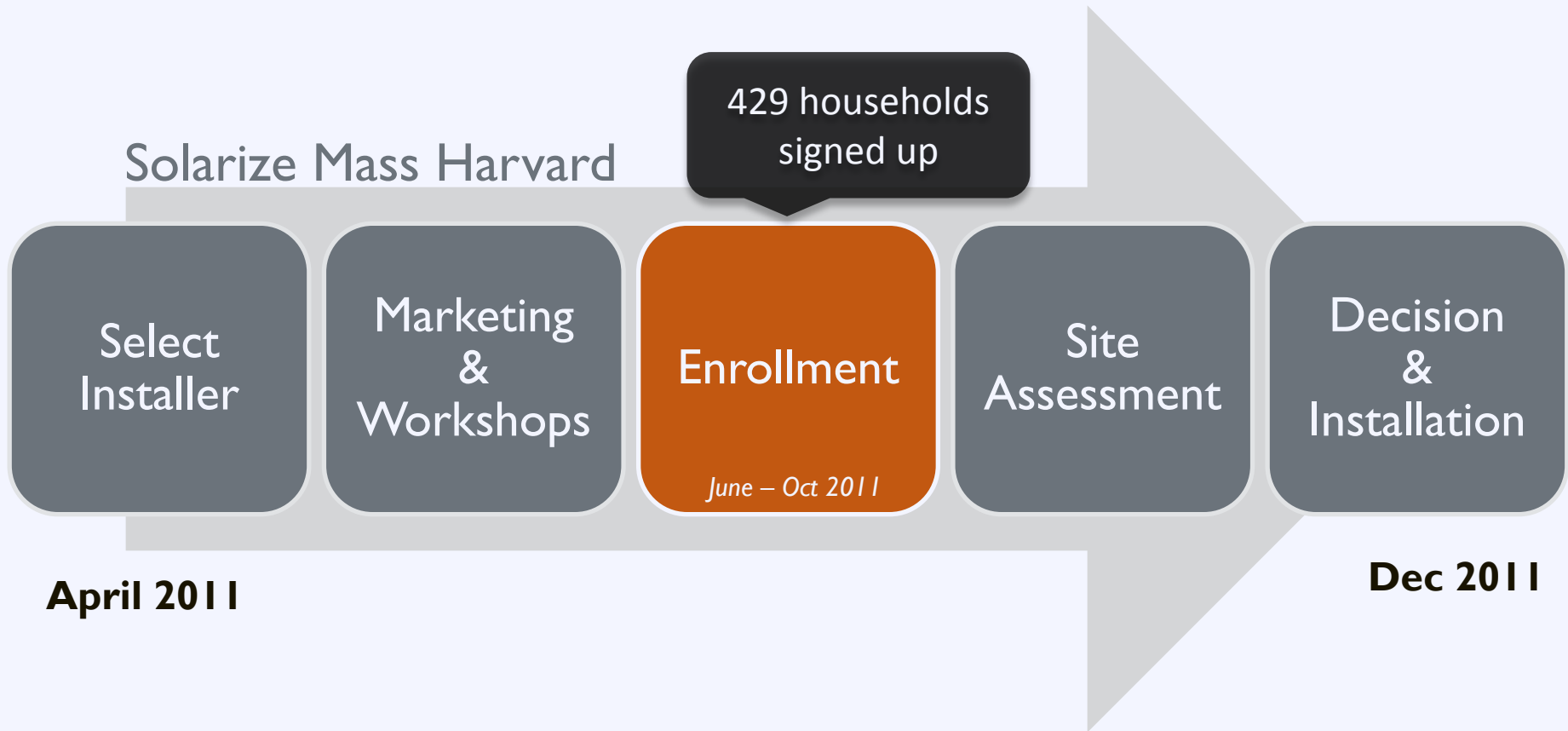
# Solarize: Case Study

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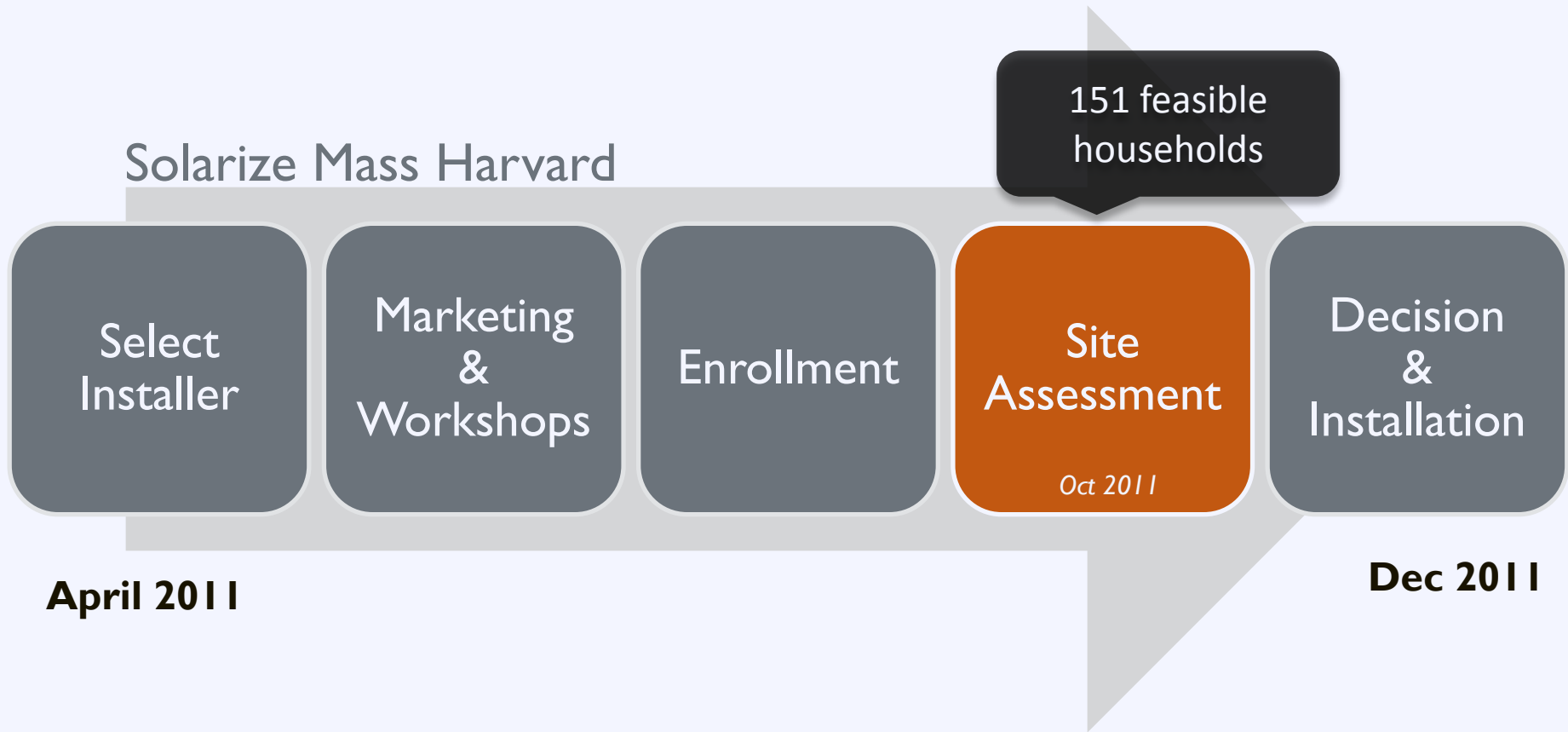
## Marketing Strategy:

- Electronic survey of 1,100 households
- Email newsletters and direct mailings
- Float in July 4 parade
- Articles and advertisements in local newspaper
- Facebook page and online discussion board

# Solarize: Case Study

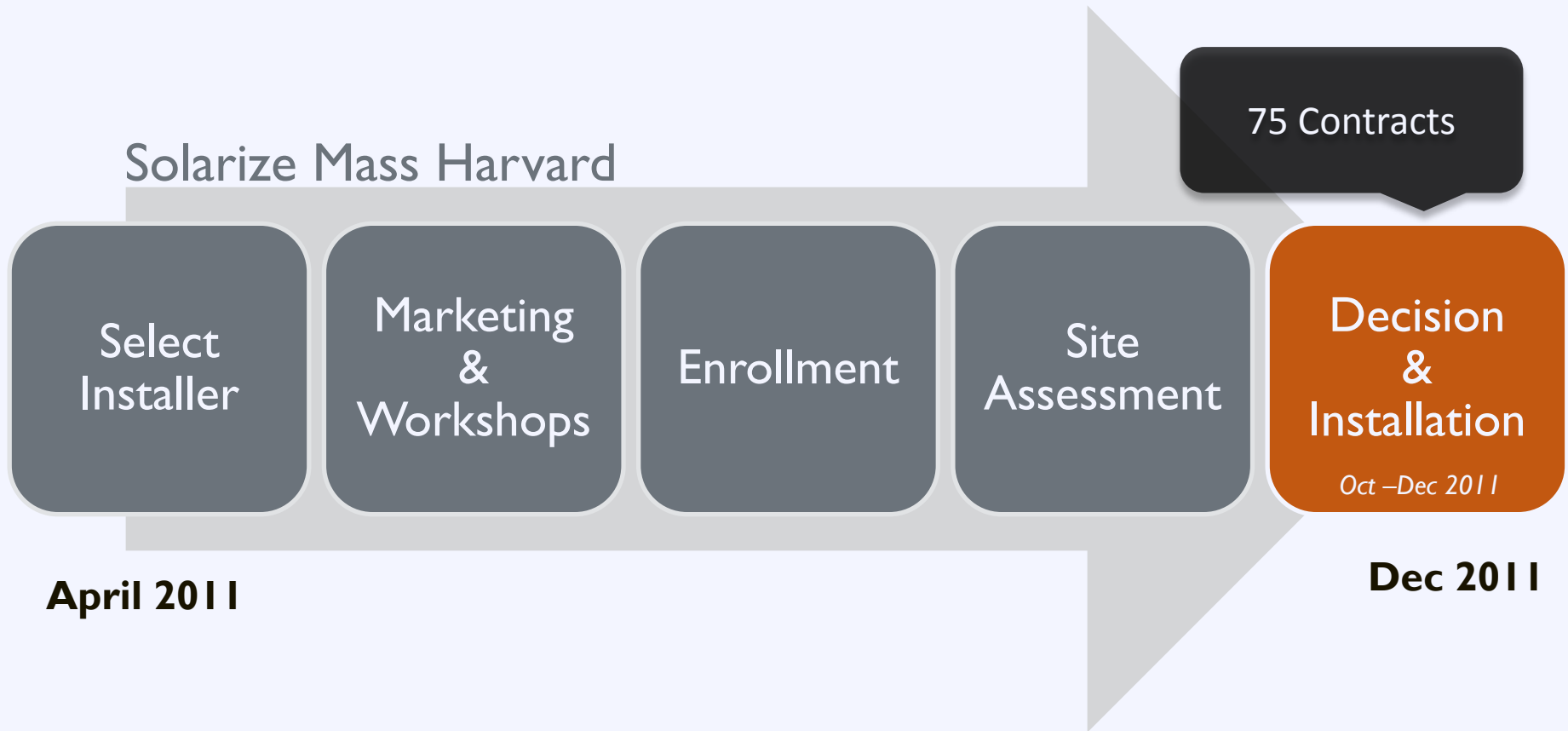


# Solarize: Case Study



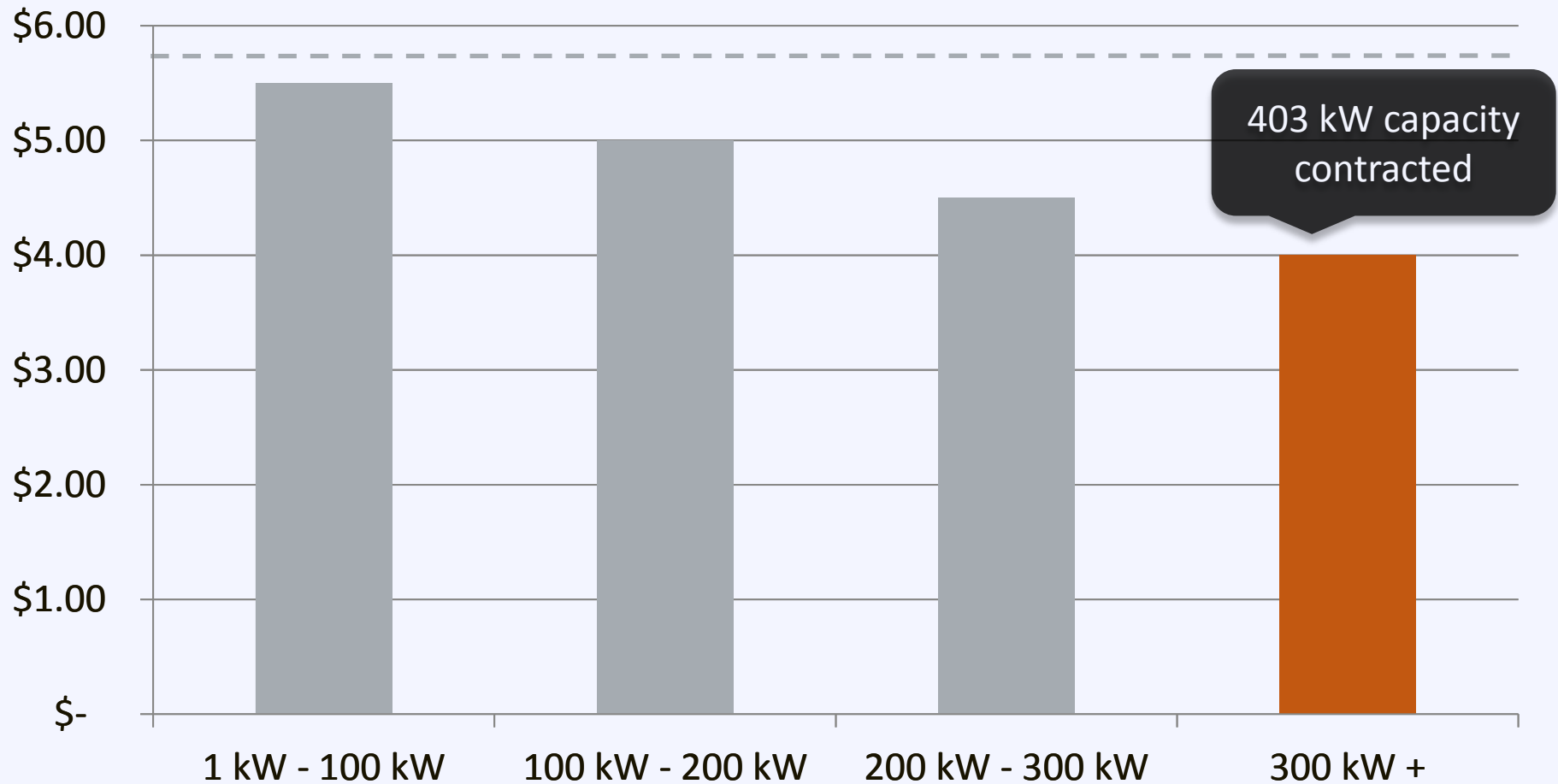


# Solarize: Case Study



# Group Purchasing

## Harvard Mass Group Purchasing Tiers



# Solarize: Case Study

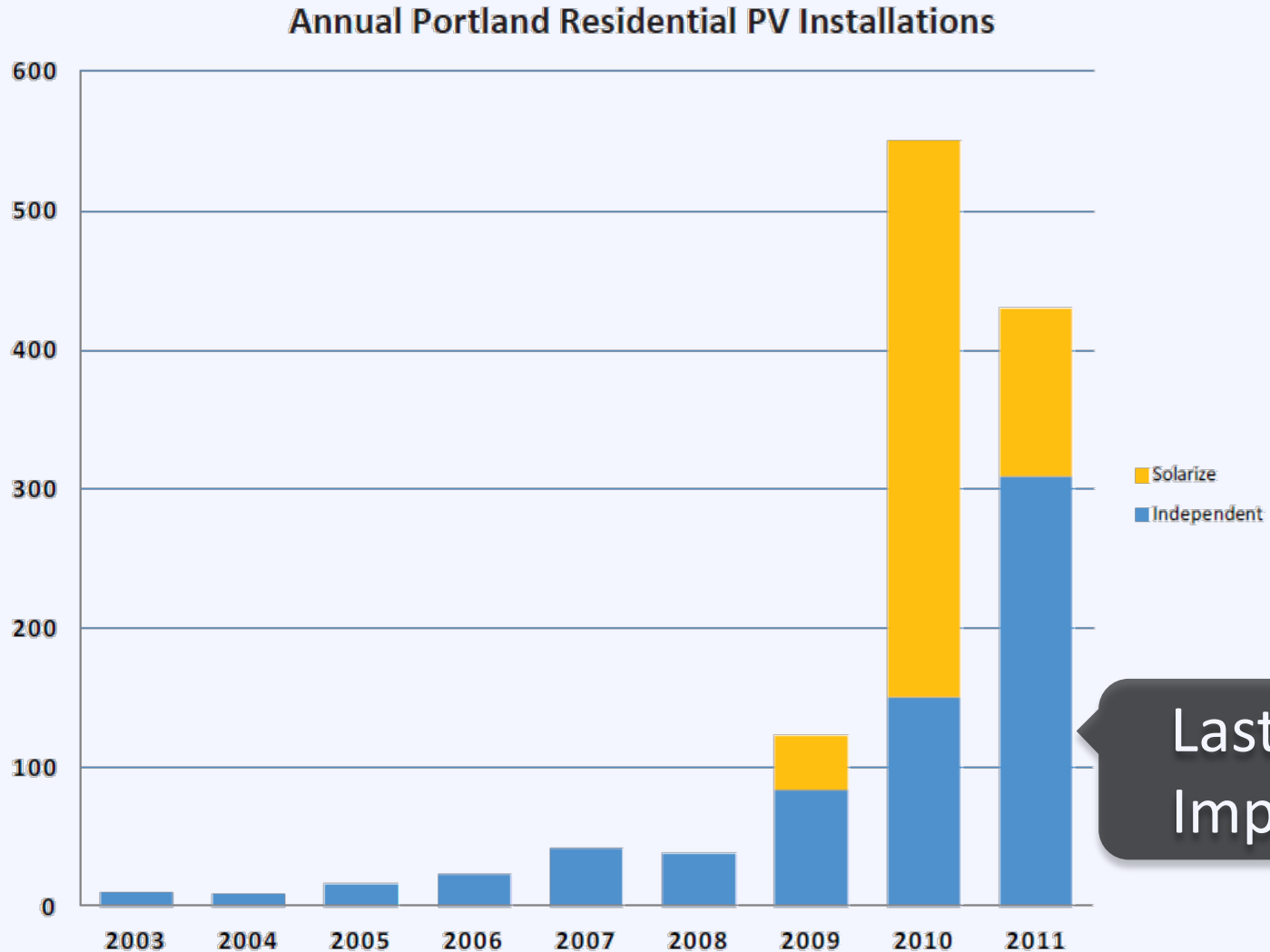
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**75** new installations totaling 403 kW

**30% reduction** in installation costs

**575% increase** in residential installations

# Solarize: Lasting Impact

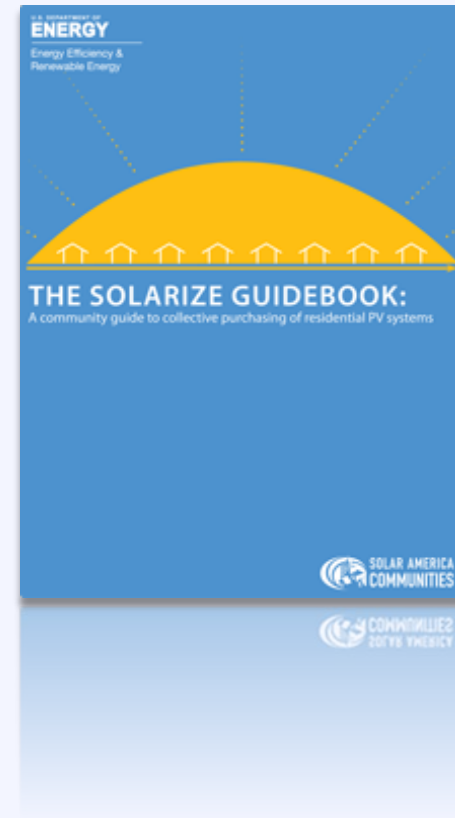


# Solarize: Resources

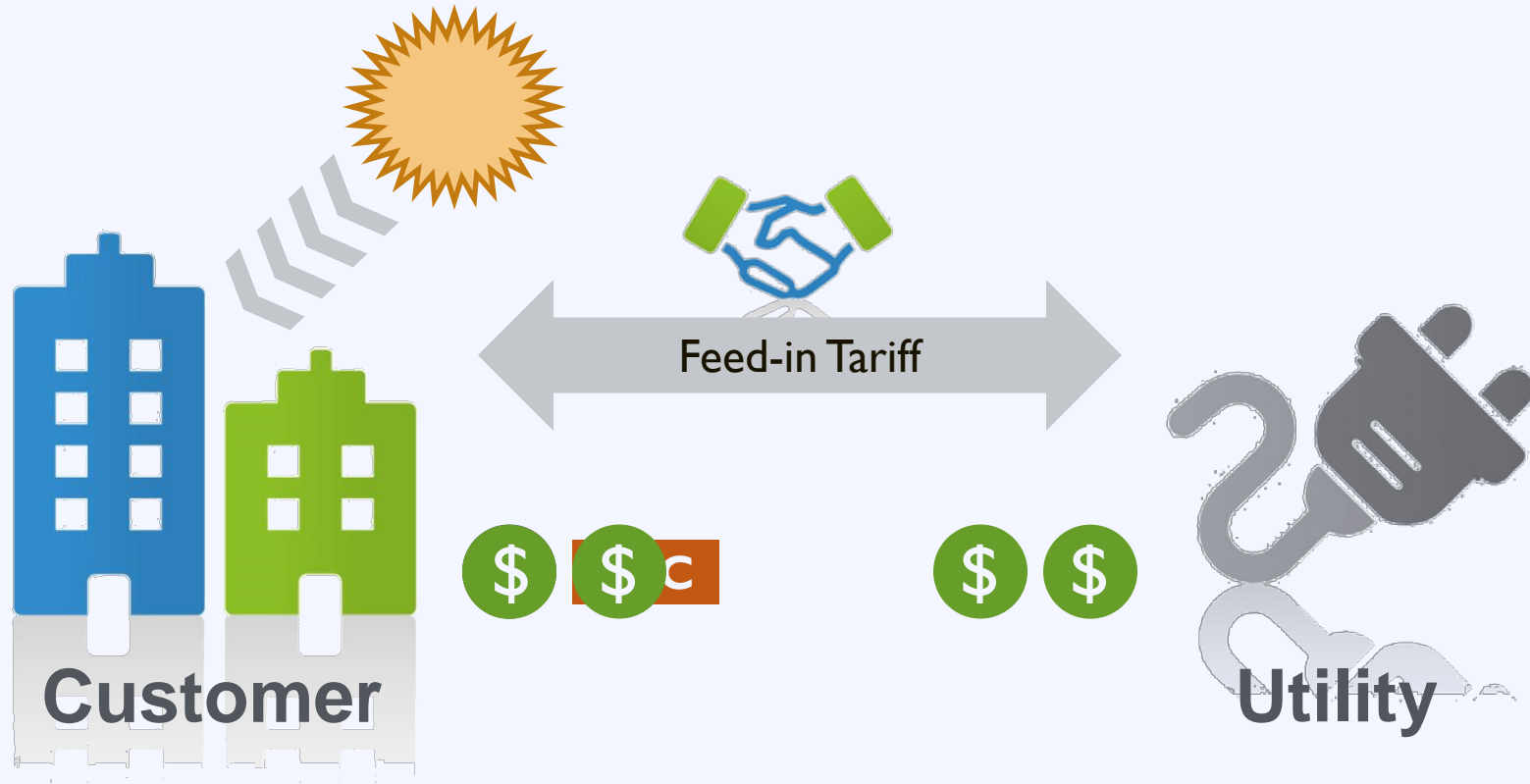
## Resource **The Solarize Guidebook**

A roadmap for project planners and solar advocates who want to create their own successful Solarize campaigns.

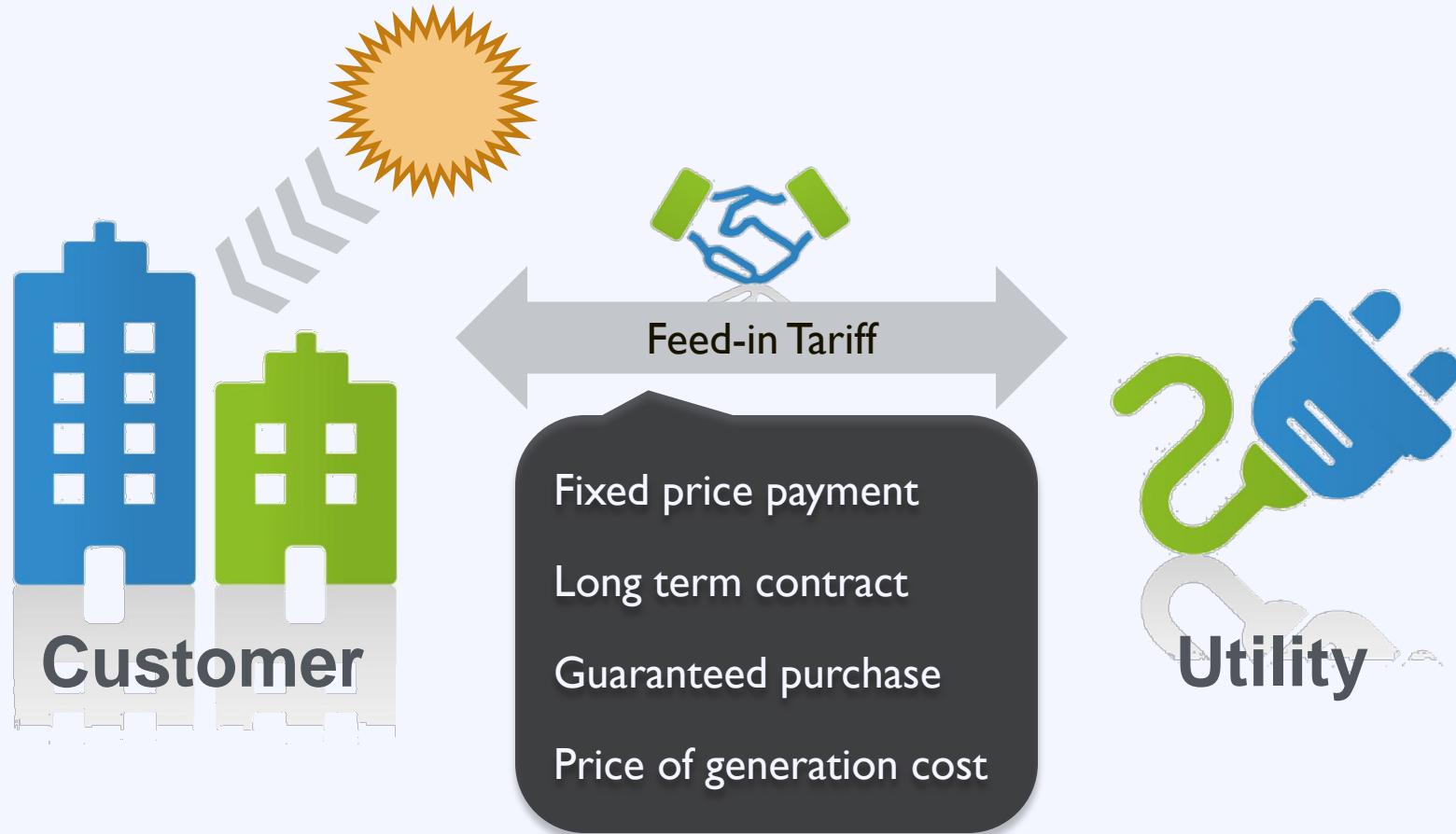
[www.nrel.gov](http://www.nrel.gov)



# Feed in Tariff



# Feed in Tariff



# Feed-in Tariff: Case Study



**Gainesville, Florida**

**Population: 125,326**



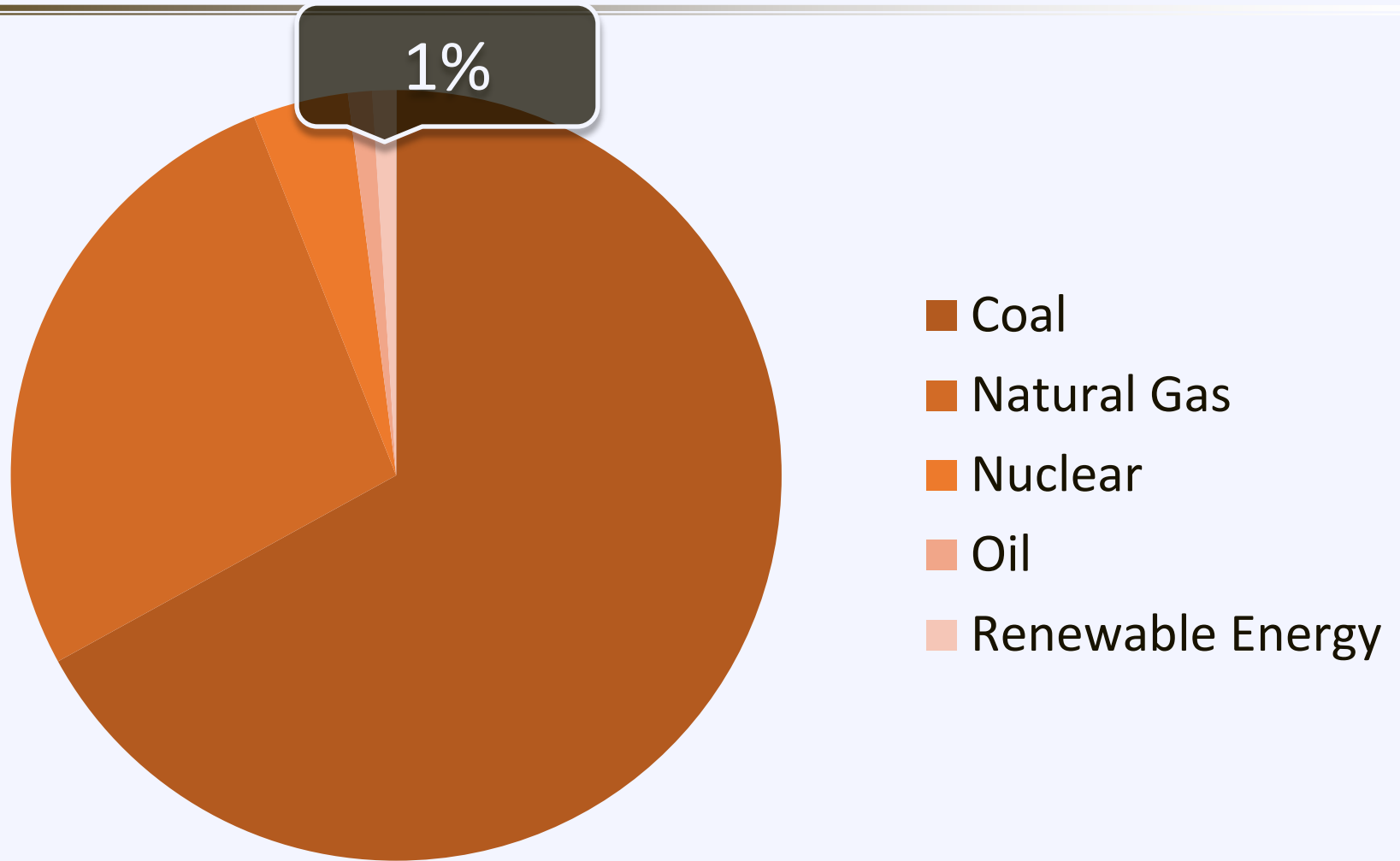
# Gainesville Regional Utility (GRU)

## Overview:

- 93,000 Customers
- Budget of \$385 million
- Largest customer is UF



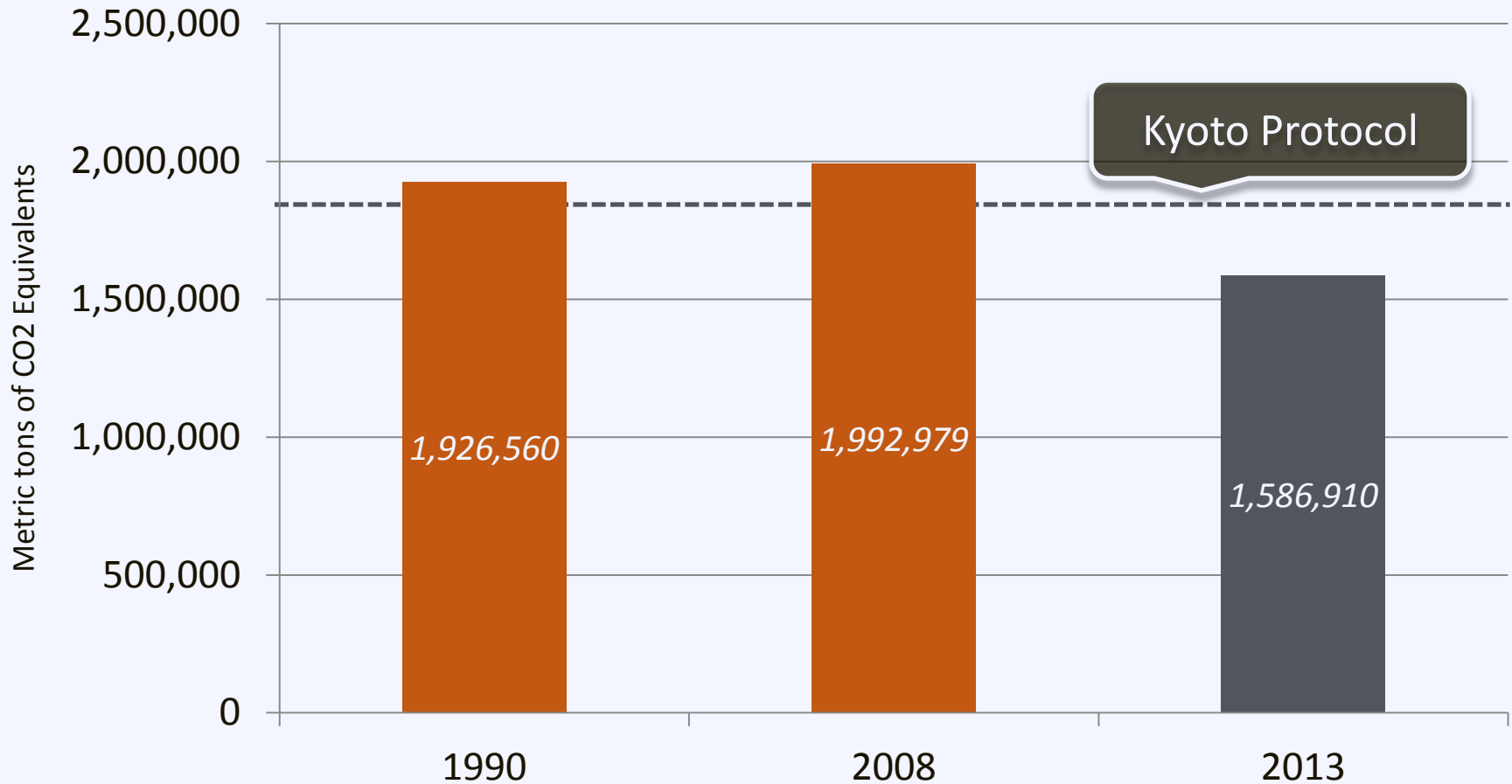
# Gainesville Regional Utility (GRU)



**Goal:** To reduce fossil fuel energy purchase by 143,000 MWh per year by 2016

# Gainesville Carbon Goals

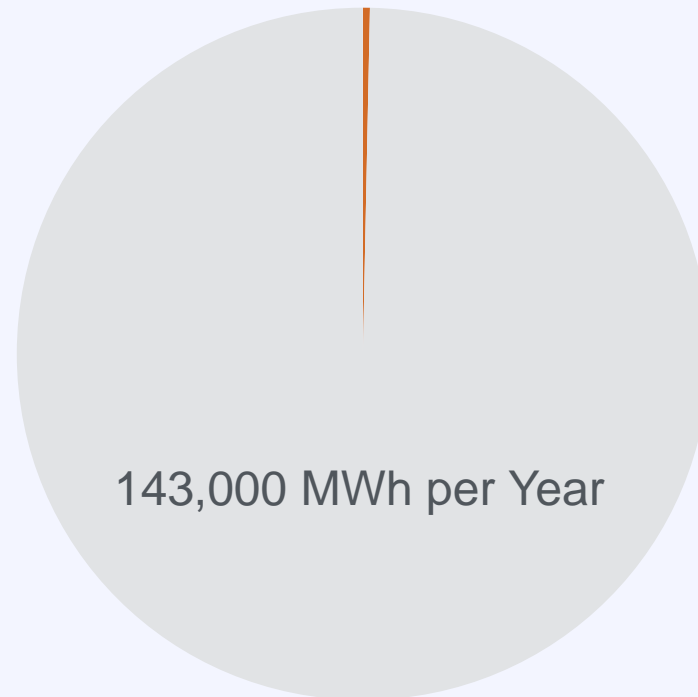
## Total Gainesville Carbon Emissions



Even with progressive solar programs in place, Gainesville was not meeting its goals

# Solar Rebate Program Results

Incentive program helped GRU reach 0.5% of Goal



# Feed in Tariff (FiT)



# GRU FiT: Program Design

**32 MW Capacity**

**2009**  
4 MW

**2010**  
4 MW

**2011**  
4 MW

**2012**  
4 MW

**2013**  
4 MW

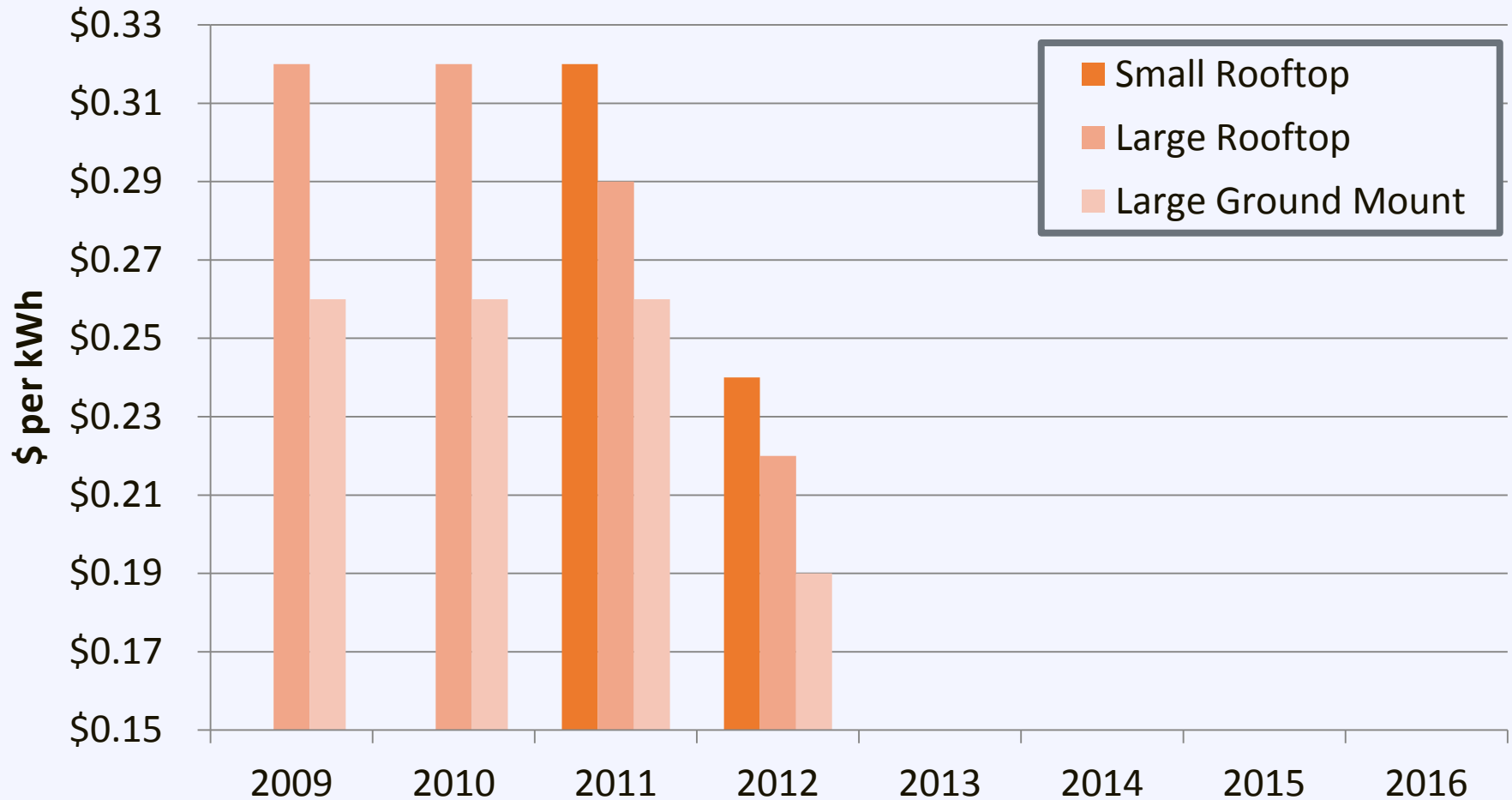
**2014**  
4 MW

**2015**  
4 MW

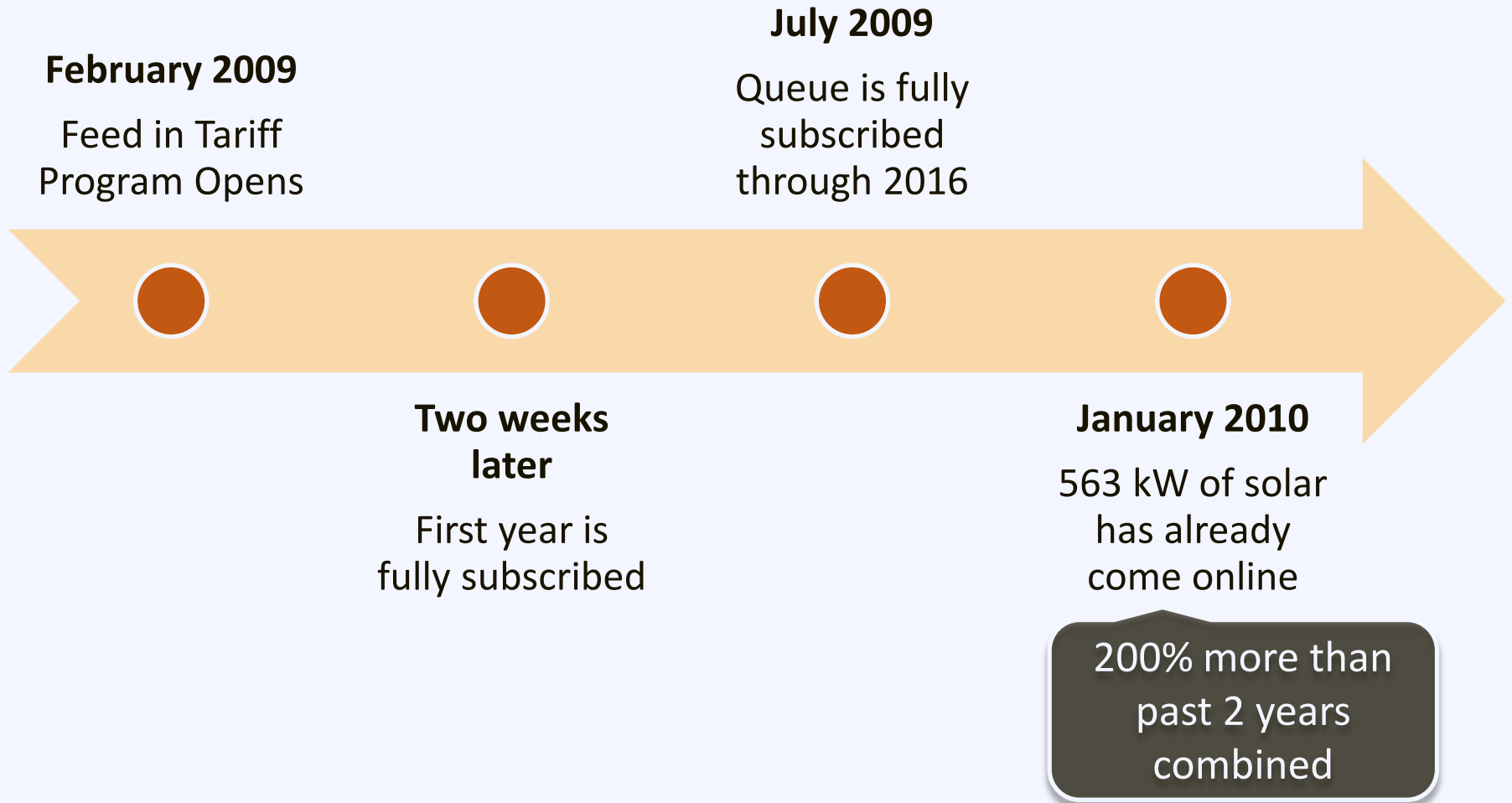
**2016**  
4 MW



# GRU FiT: Contract Rates



# GRU FiT: Launch Timeline



# GRU FiT: Launch Timeline

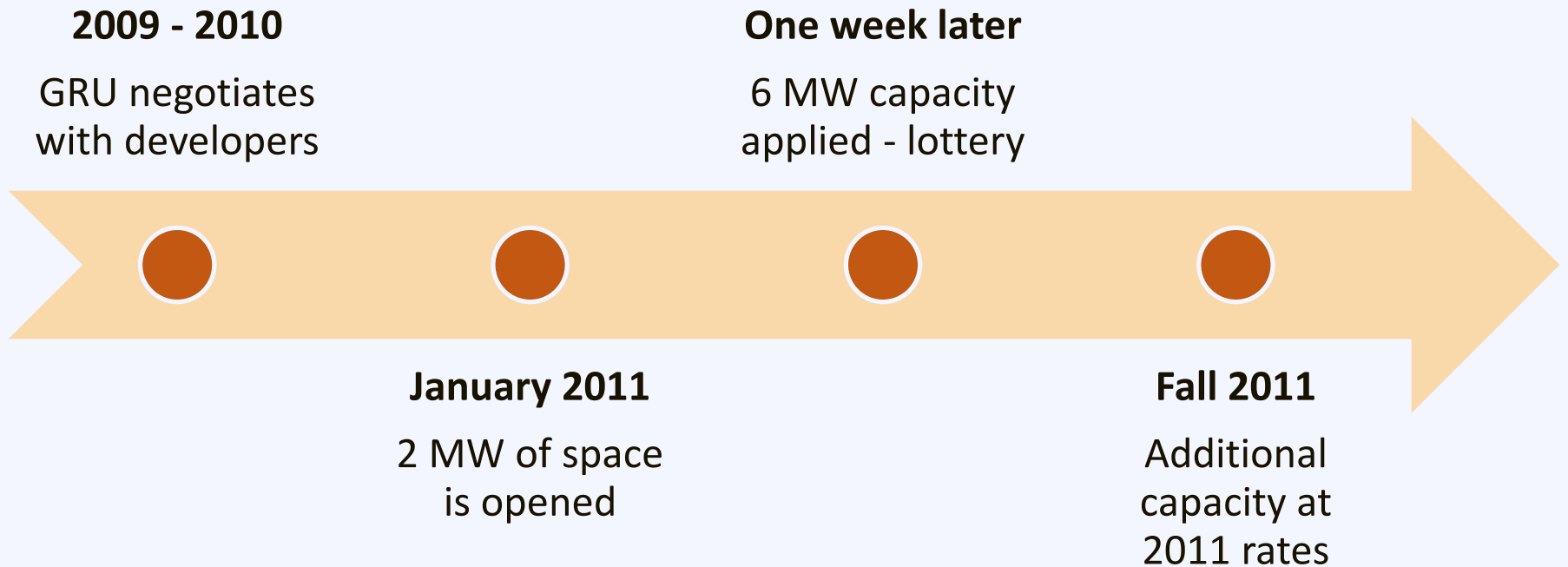
**February 2009**  
Feed in Tariff  
Program Opens

**July 2009**  
Queue is fully  
subscribed  
through 2016

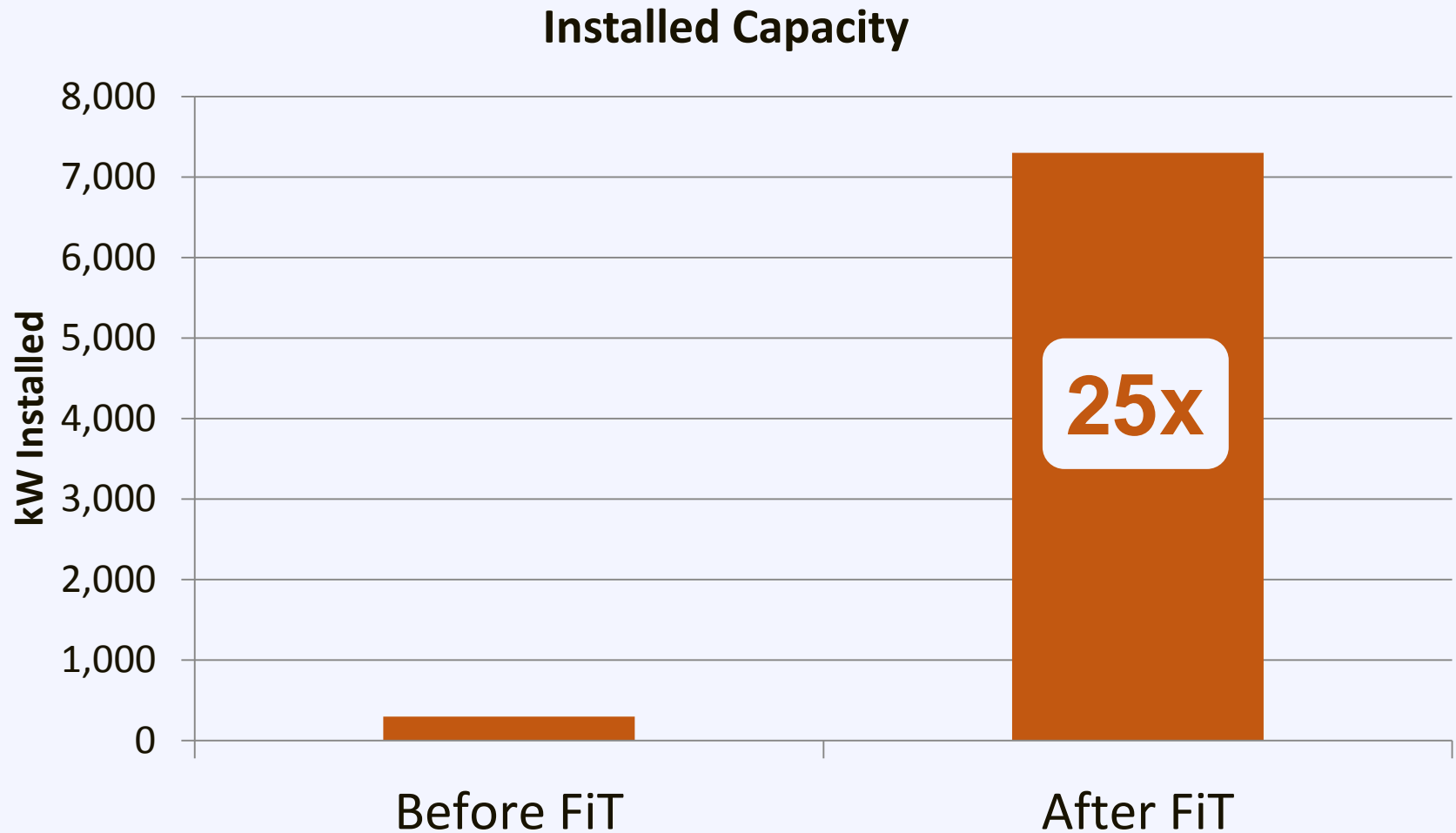
**Two weeks  
later**  
First year is  
fully subscribed

**January 2010**  
563 kW of solar  
has already  
been installed

# GRU FiT: Reconfiguring the Program



# GRU Fit: A Success



# GRU FiT: Cost

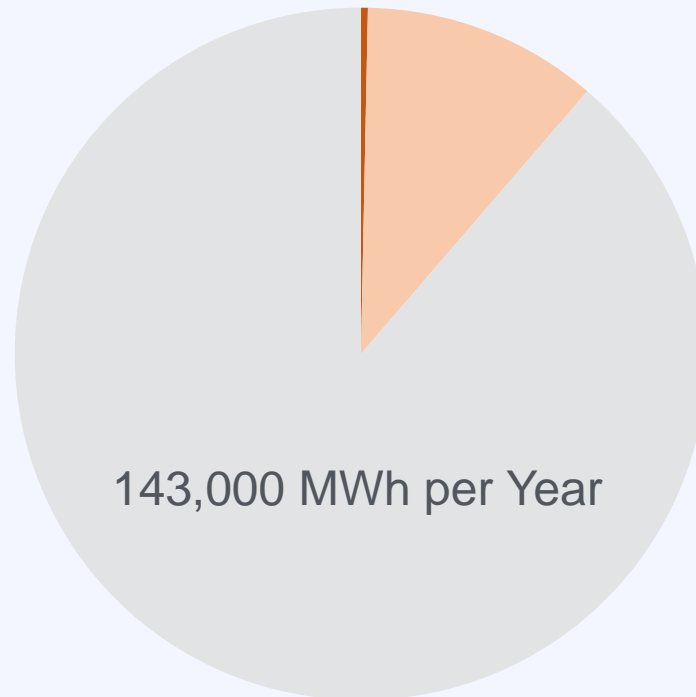
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\$1 per Month per rate payer

Similar cost as  
rebate program

# GRU FiT: Projected Impact by 2016

Expected to contribute to 11% of Energy Goal



The FiT program provides a better investment yield than the rebate program for the customer and utility



# Q & A

# Agenda

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- 09:10 – 09:45 Introductions and Overview
- 09:45 – 10:10 Solar 101: Policy Environment and Economics
- 10:10 – 10:20 *Break*
- 10:20 – 10:40 Benefits and Barriers Activity
- 10:40 – 11:10 Creating a Solar Ready Community
- 11:10 – 11:50 Growing Your Local Solar Market
- 11:50 – 12:00 *Break***
- 12:00– 01:00 Lunch and Local Session

# Agenda

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# Local Speakers

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- Robert Webber, Solar Electrician,  
ContinuingElectricalEducation.biz
- Michael Shonka, Nebraskans for Solar & MCC Instructor  
SolarOmaha.com
- Ken Deffenbacher, President-Elect of Nebraskans for Solar  
NebraskansForSolar.org

# Activity: Next Steps

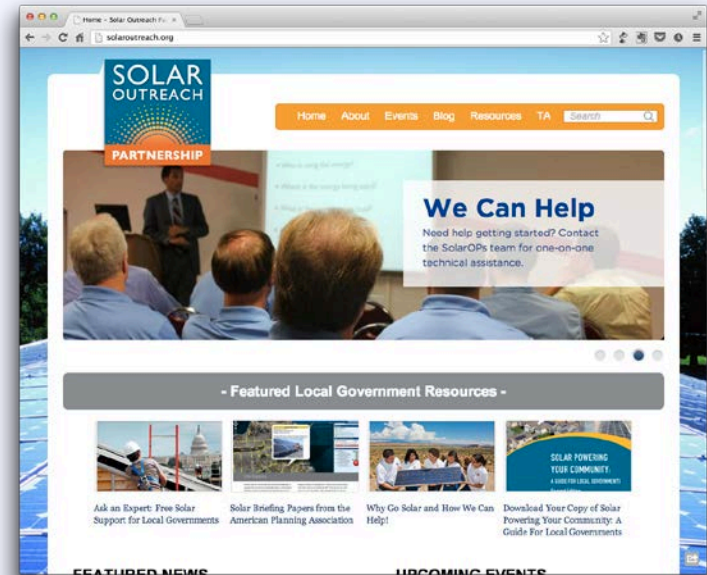
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**What do you pledge to do when you leave today's workshop? [Orange Card]**

# About the SunShot Solar Outreach Partnership

## Technical Support

- 'Ask an Expert' Live Web Forums
- 'Ask an Expert' Web Portal
- Peer Exchange Facilitation
- In-Depth Consultations
- Customized Trainings



[www.solaroutreach.org](http://www.solaroutreach.org)

For more information email: [solar-usa@iclei.org](mailto:solar-usa@iclei.org)



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