

Solar Powering Your Community

Addressing Soft Costs and Barriers



Powered by

SunShot

U.S. Department of Energy



Powered by

SunShot

U.S. Department of Energy

Autumn Proudlove

NC Clean Energy Technology Center

afproudl@ncsu.edu

Philip Haddix

The Solar Foundation

phaddix@solarfound.org



About the SunShot Solar Outreach Partnership



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

- 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**

Complimentary Services



Technical
Resources



Regional
Workshops



One to One
Assistance



Strategy
Session

Complimentary Services



Technical Resources

Helping Policymakers Understand Best Practices:

- Case Studies
- Fact Sheets
- How-to Guides
- Toolkits

www.solaroutreach.org



One to One Assistance

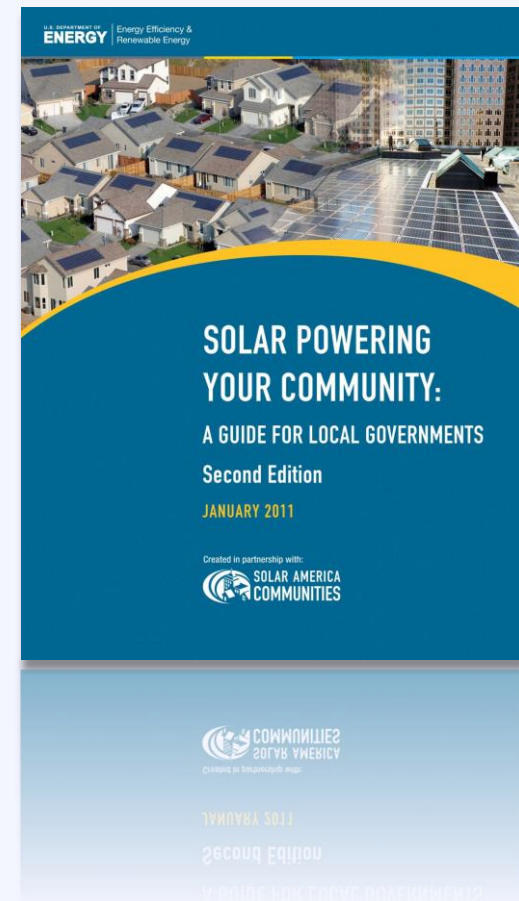
Technical Resources

Resource

Solar Powering Your Community Guide

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

www.energy.gov



Complimentary Services

Quickly get up to speed on key solar policy issues:

- Solar 101
- Planning for Solar
- Implementing an Ordinance
- Streamlining Solar Permits
- Growing your Market



Regional Workshops



Strategy Session

Complimentary Services



Technical
Resources



Regional
Workshops

Develop an
implementation
strategy for smart
solar policy



Strategy
Session

Complimentary Services



Technical
Resources



Regional
Workshops



One to One
Assistance

Receive customized
technical support on
implementation of
smart solar policy

After This Session

Talk to Us!

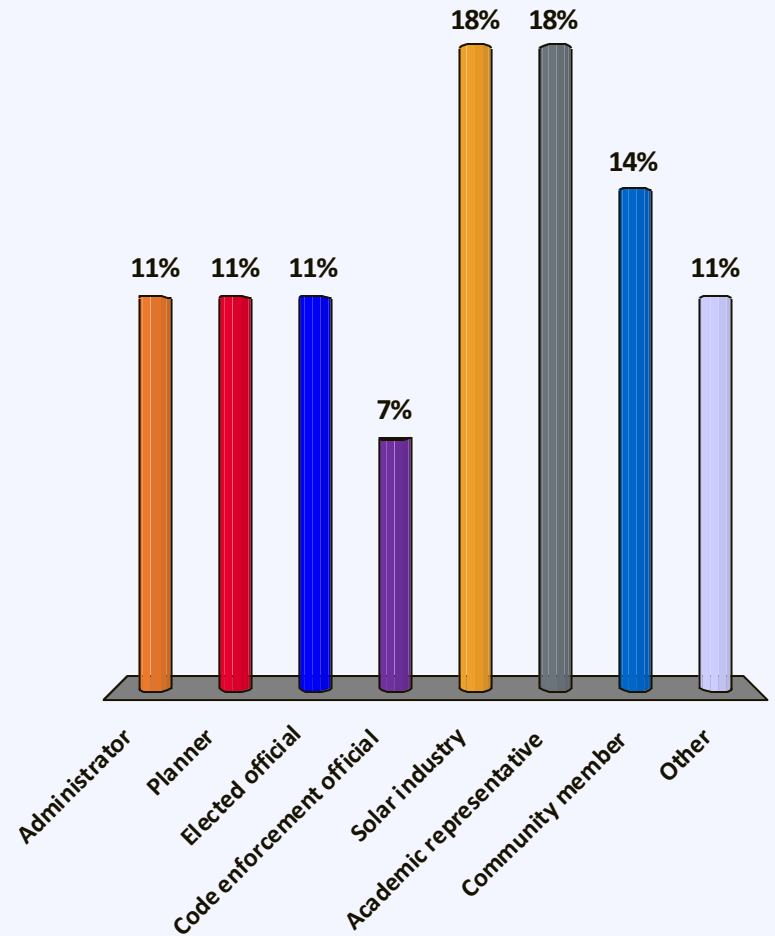
Sign up for a 20 minute
consultation to learn more about
our **free** services

See **Riana Ackley** to sign up.

We want to get to know you better

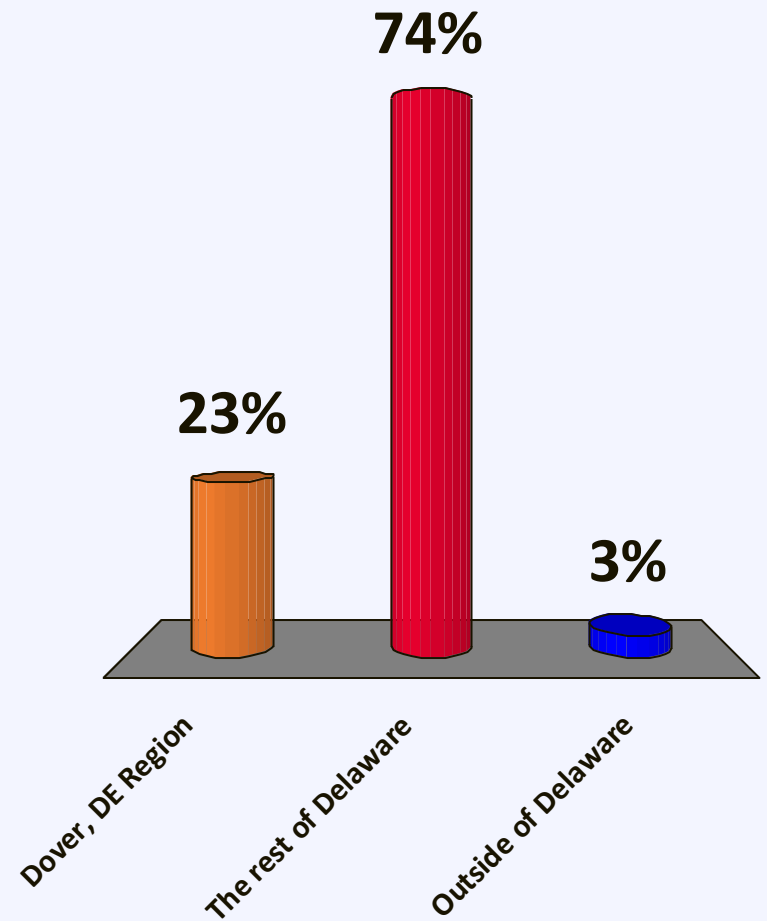
Who are you?

- A. Administrator
- B. Planner
- C. Elected official
- D. Code enforcement official
- E. Solar industry
- F. Academic representative
- G. Community member
- H. Other



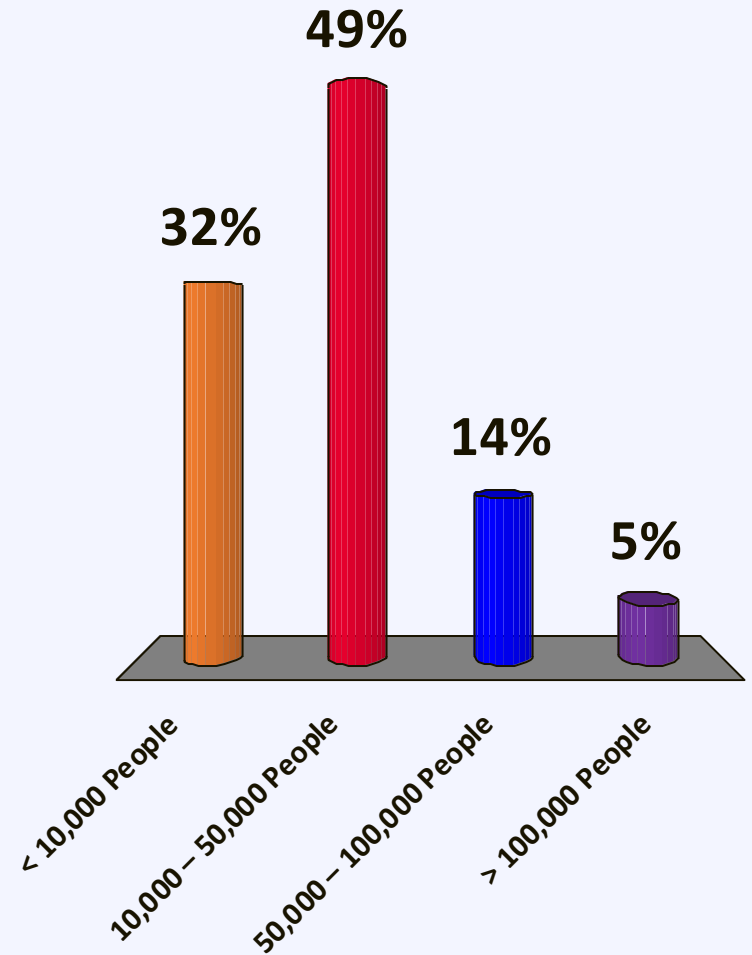
Where are you coming from?

- A. Dover, DE Region
- B. The rest of Delaware
- C. Outside of Delaware



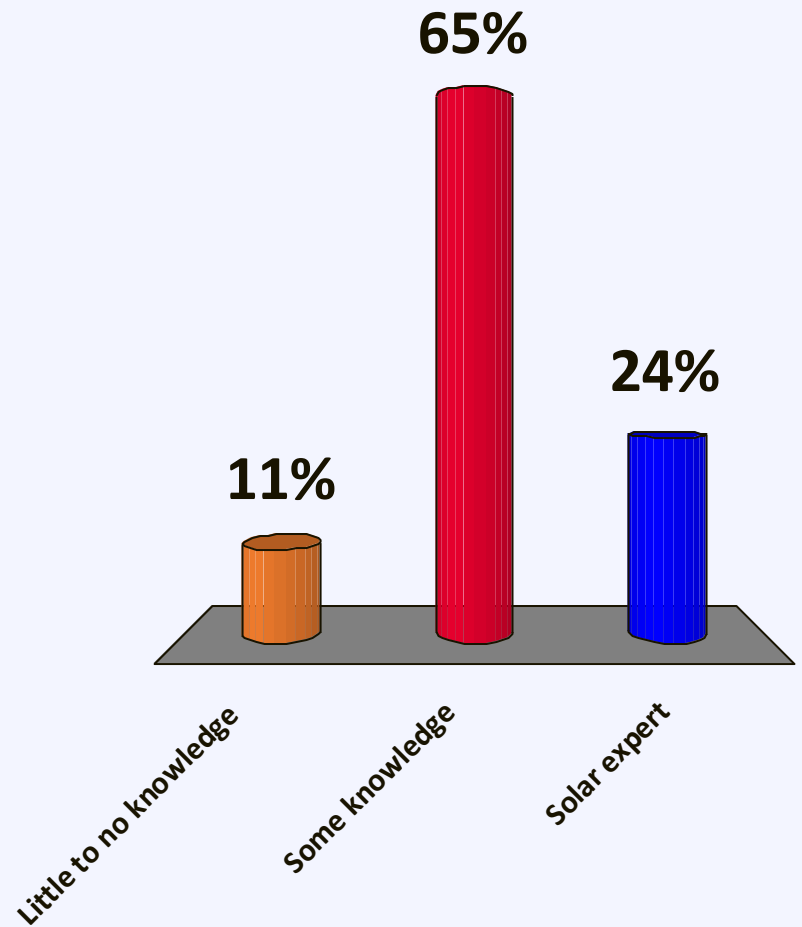
What size is your community?

- A. < 10,000 People
- B. 10,000 – 50,000 People
- C. 50,000 – 100,000 People
- D. > 100,000 People



How familiar are you with solar?

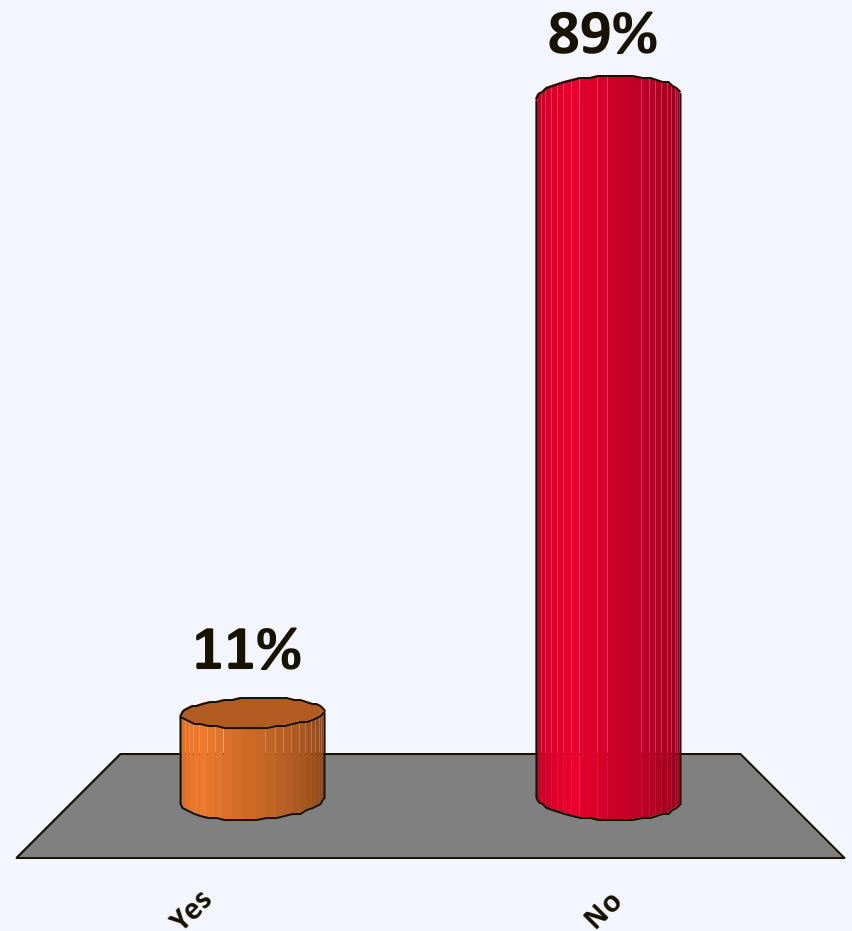
- A. Little to no knowledge
- B. Some knowledge
- C. Solar expert



Do you have solar on your home?

A. Yes

B. No



Solar Development in the US

In 2013, the US solar industry installed

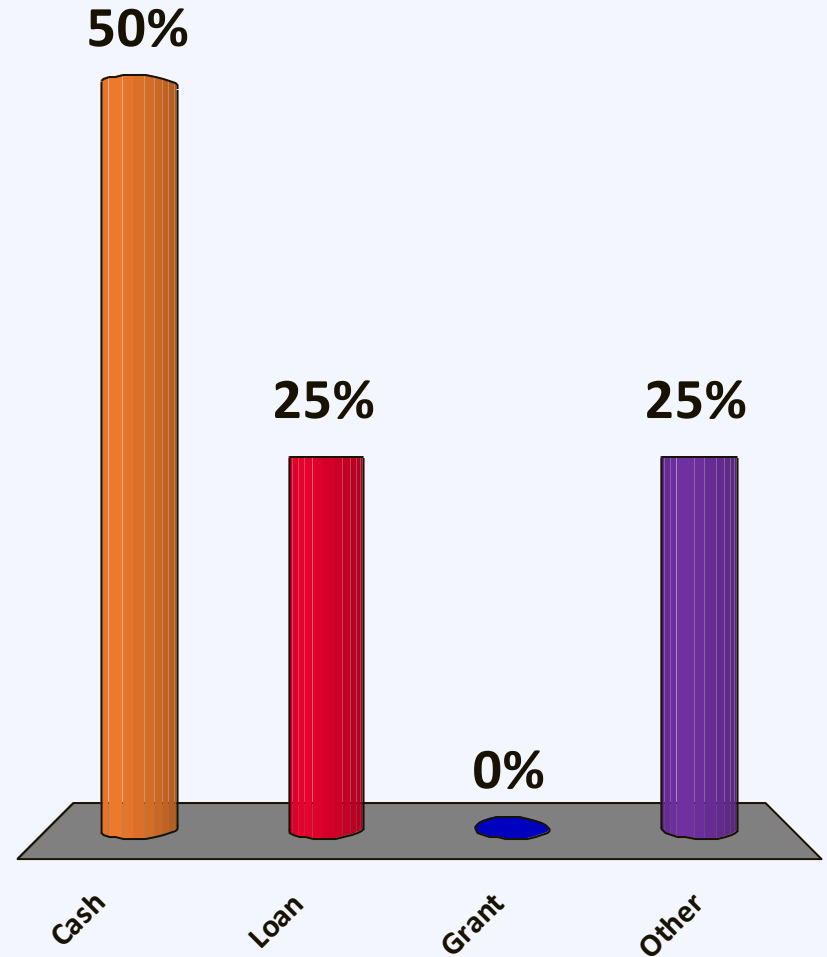
131,000 new solar installations

of which

94% were residential projects

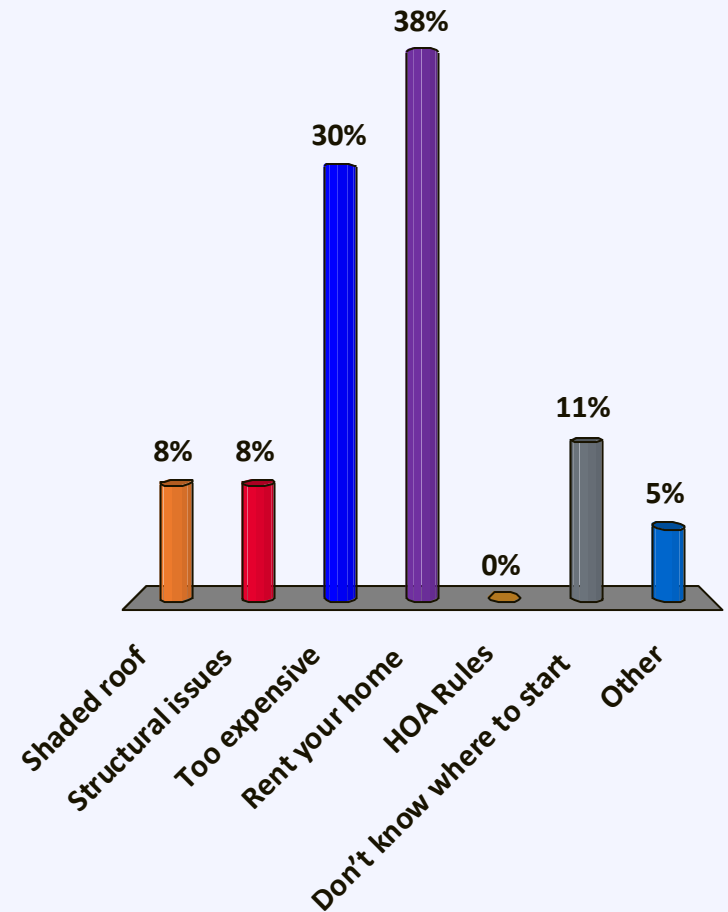
If you do have solar on your home: How did you finance it?

- A. Cash
- B. Loan
- C. Grant
- D. Other



If you don't have solar on your home: **Why not?**

- A. Shaded roof
- B. Structural issues
- C. Too expensive
- D. Rent your home
- E. HOA Rules
- F. Don't know where to start
- G. Other

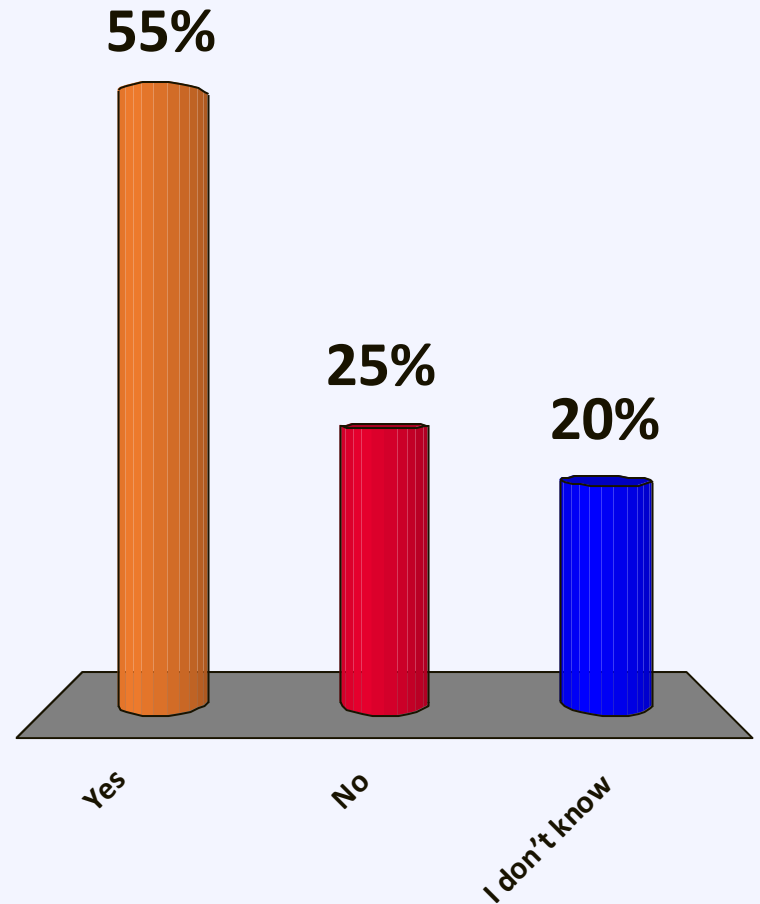


Does your local government have solar on public properties?

A. Yes

B. No

C. I don't know



Agenda

- 10:10 – 10:30 Putting Solar Energy on the Local Policy Agenda
- 10:30 – 10:50 State of the Local Solar Market
- 10:50 – 11:20 Federal, State, and Utility Policy Drivers
- 11:20 – 11:40 *Break and Grab Lunch*
- 11:40 – 12:10 Planning for Solar: Getting Solar Ready
- 12:10 – 12:45 Solar Market Development Tools
- 12:45 – 1:00 *Break*
- 1:00 – 2:00 Local Speakers
- 2:00 – 3:00 Developing and Solar Policy Implementation Plan for

Your Community and Next Steps

Agenda

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 10:10 – 10:30 | Putting Solar Energy on the Local Policy Agenda |
| 10:30 – 10:50 | State of the Local Solar Market |
| 10:50 – 11:20 | Federal, State, and Utility Policy Drivers |
| 11:20 – 11:40 | <i>Break and Grab Lunch</i> |
| 11:40 – 12:10 | Planning for Solar: Getting Solar Ready |
| 12:10 – 12:45 | Solar Market Development Tools |
| 12:45 – 1:00 | <i>Break</i> |
| 1:00 – 2:00 | Local Speakers |
| 2:00 – 3:00 | Developing and Solar Policy Implementation Plan for |

Your Community and Next Steps

Solar Technologies



Solar Photovoltaic (PV)



Solar Hot Water



Concentrated Solar Power

Solar Technologies



Solar Photovoltaic (PV)

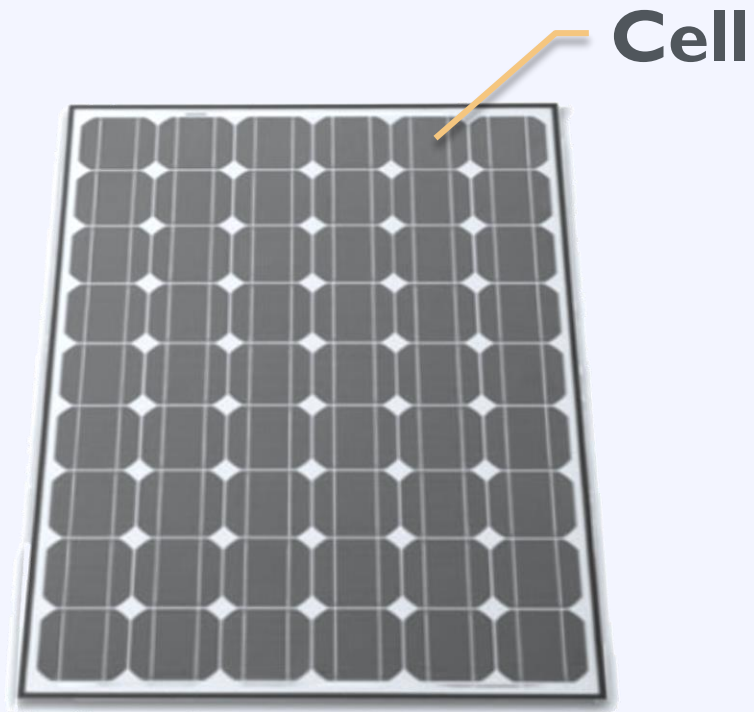


Solar Hot Water



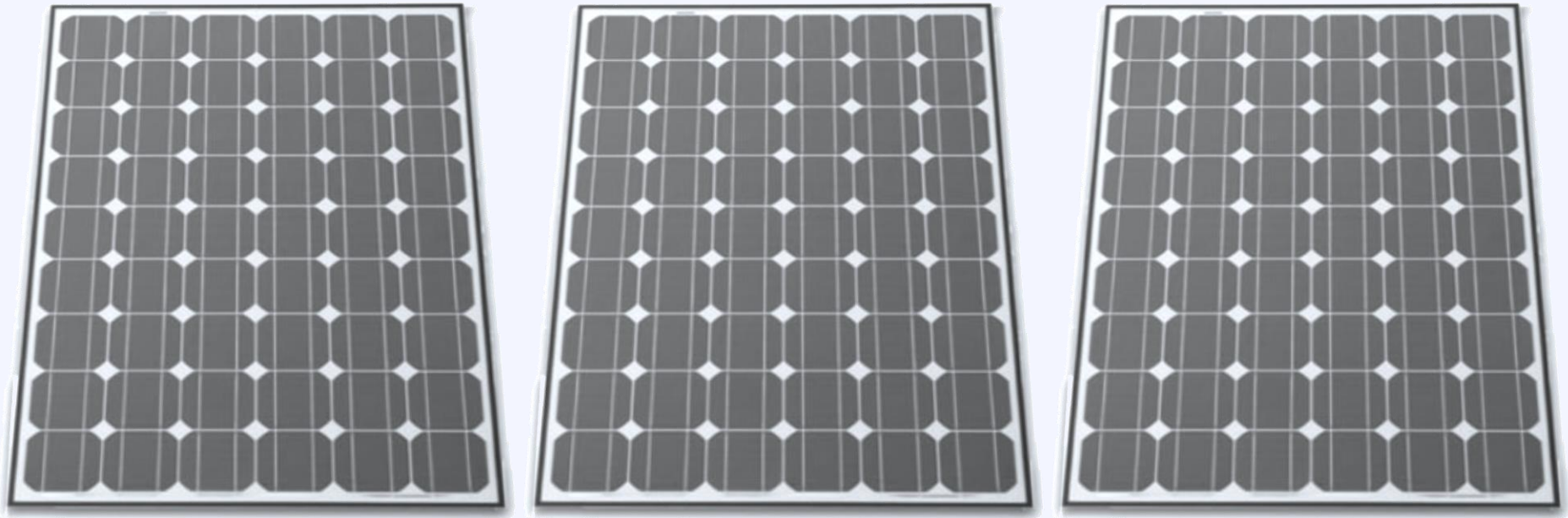
Concentrated Solar Power

Some Basic Terminology



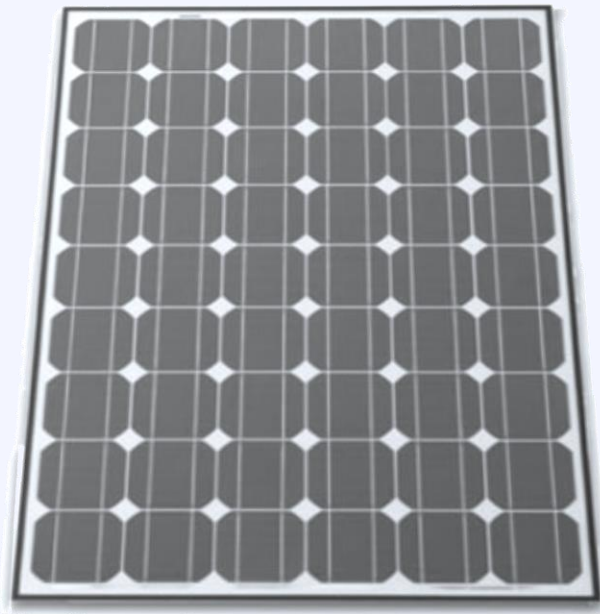
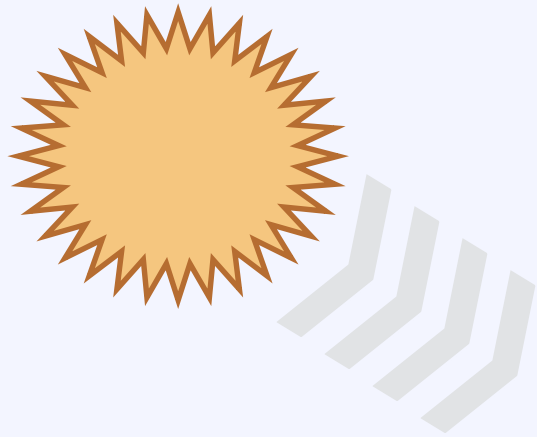
Panel / Module

Some Basic Terminology



Array

Some Basic Terminology



Production
Kilowatt-hour (kWh)

Capacity / Power
kilowatt (kW)

Some Basic Terminology



Residence
5 kW



Factory
1 MW+



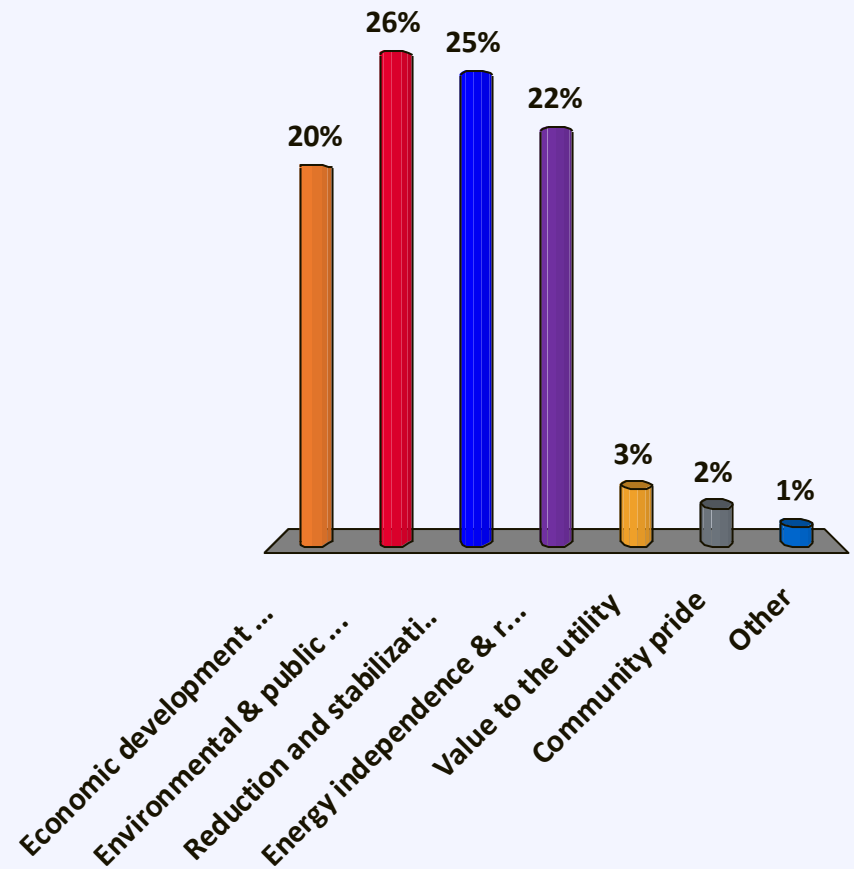
Office
50 – 500 kW



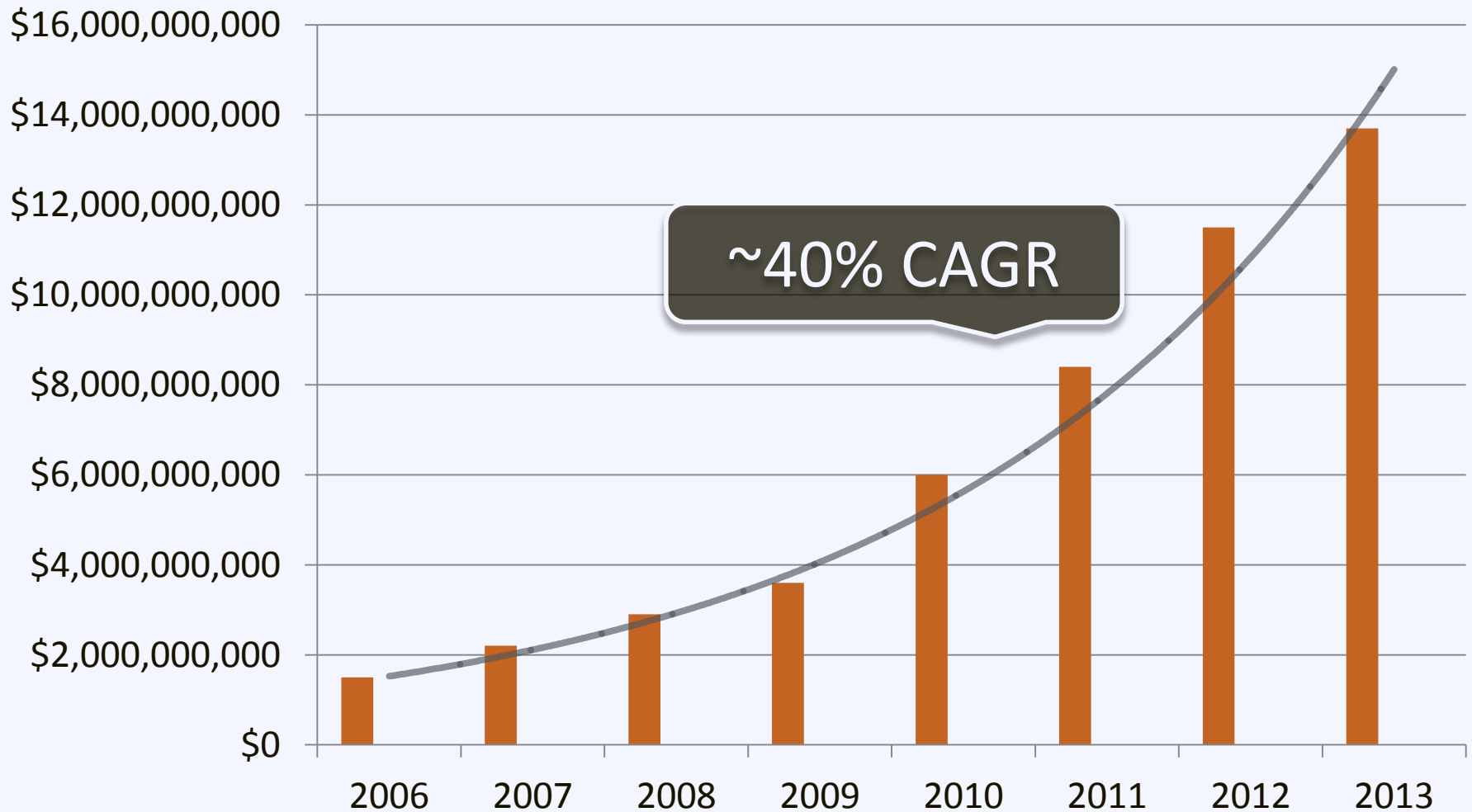
Utility
2 MW+

What are the top 3 benefits solar can bring to your community?

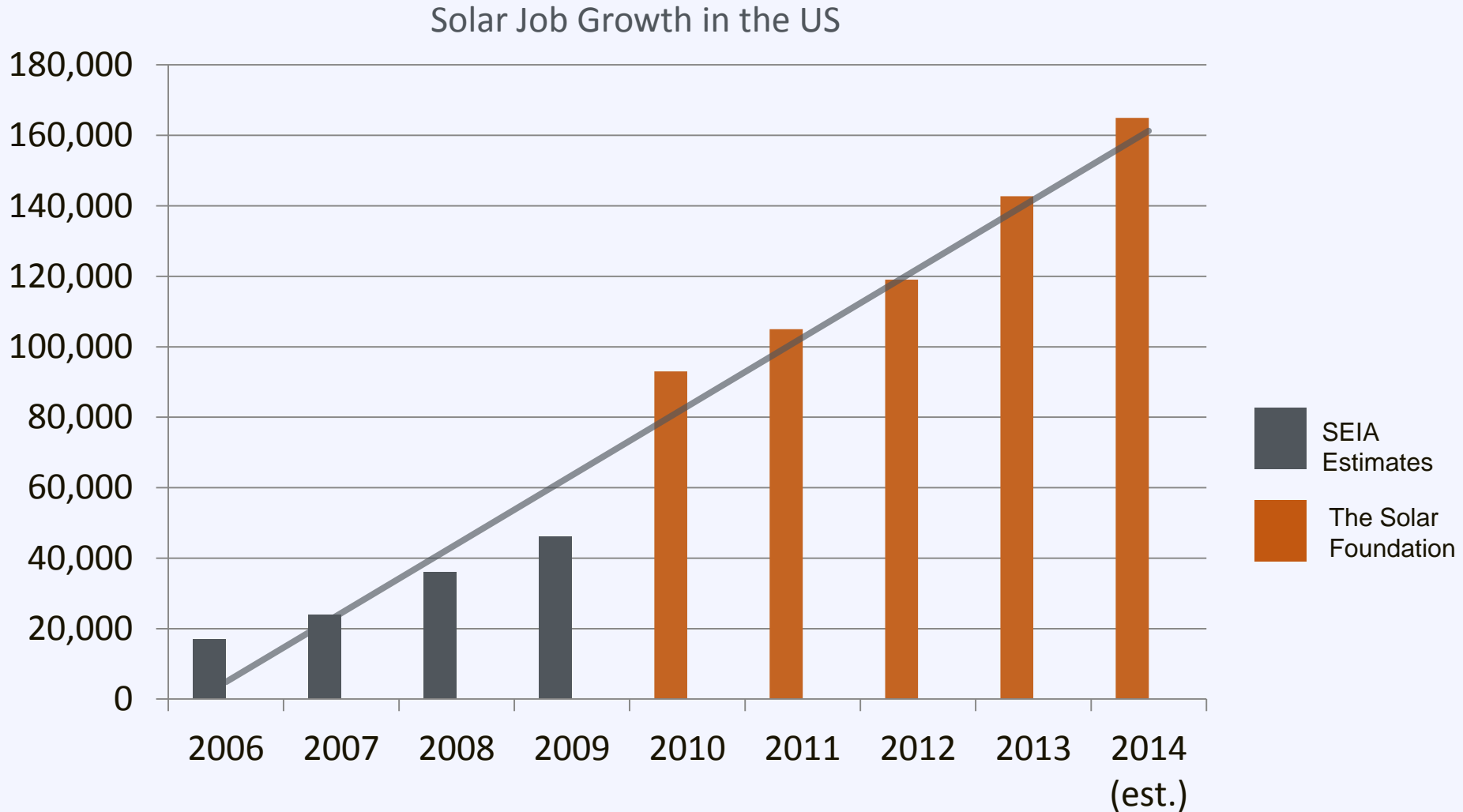
- A. Economic development & job creation
- B. Environmental & public health benefits
- C. Reduction and stabilization of energy costs
- D. Energy independence & resilience
- E. Value to the utility
- F. Community pride
- G. Other



Solar Economic Growth

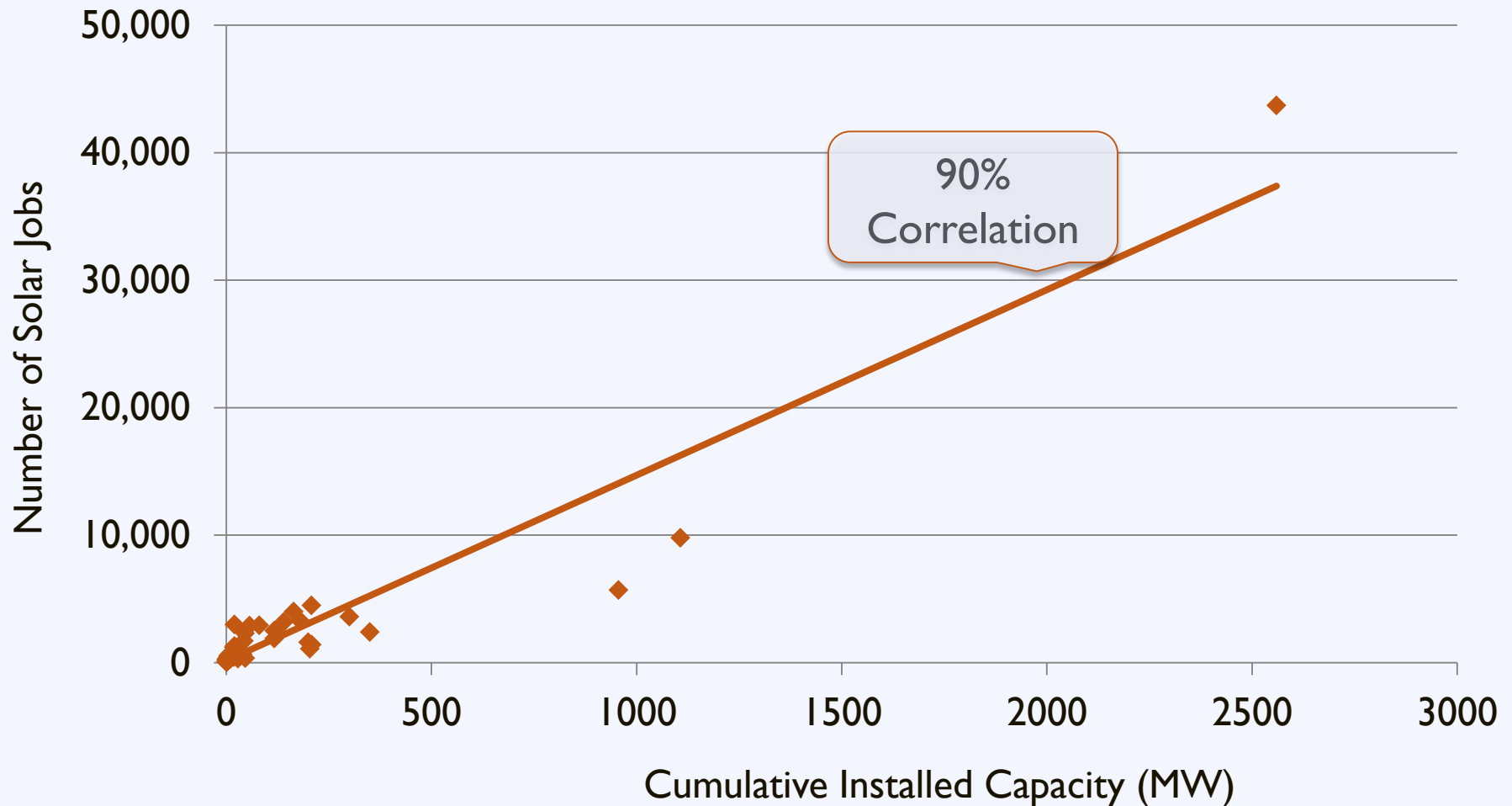


Solar Job Growth



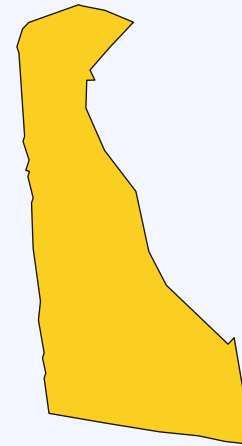
Job Creation

Correlation of Market Size & Jobs in Each State



The Local Economic Opportunity

1 Megawatt of Residential Solar
Development in Delaware:



33 Jobs *and* **\$4.1 Million**
In economic output

Economic Development in Delaware

There are currently

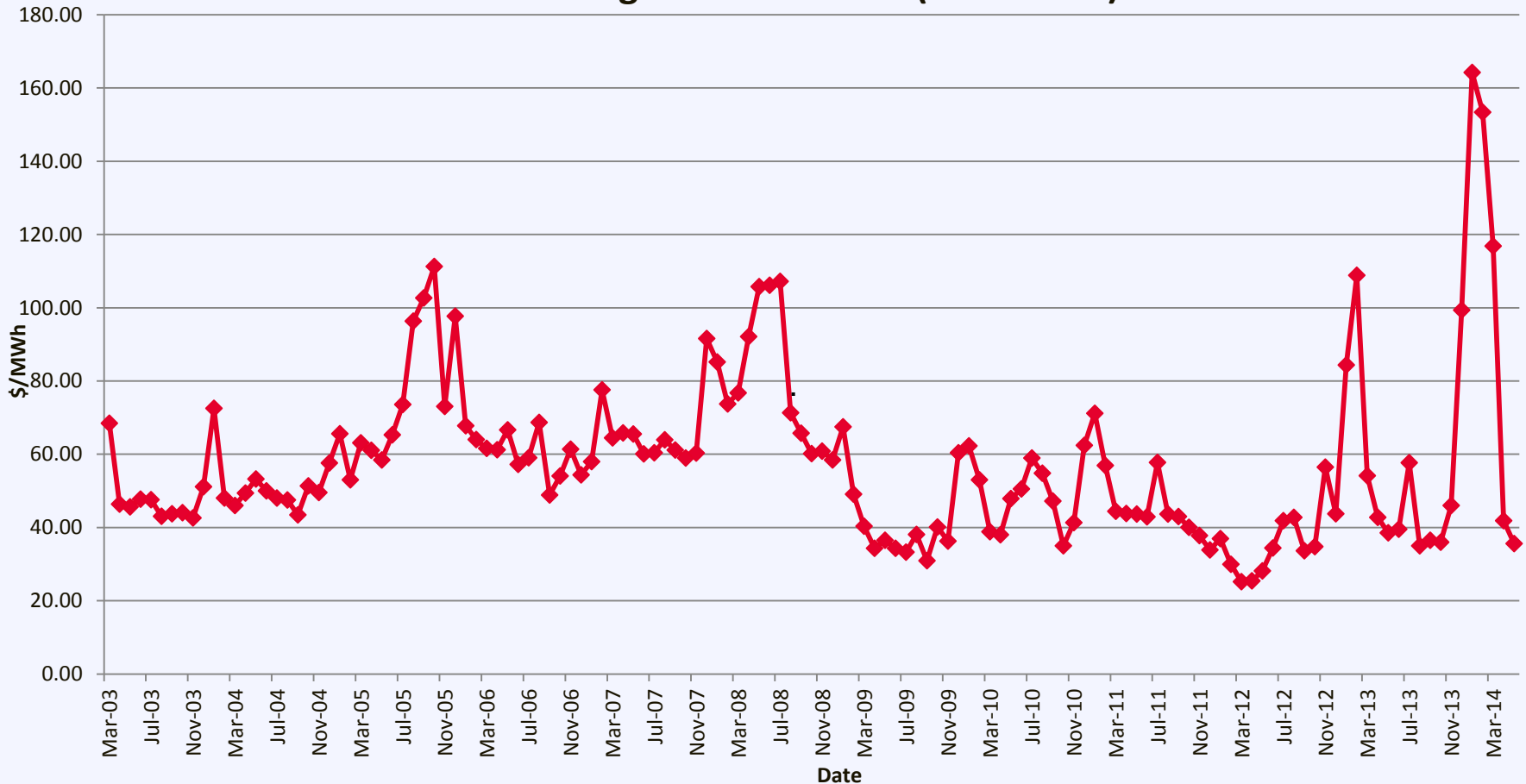
41 solar companies

that employ

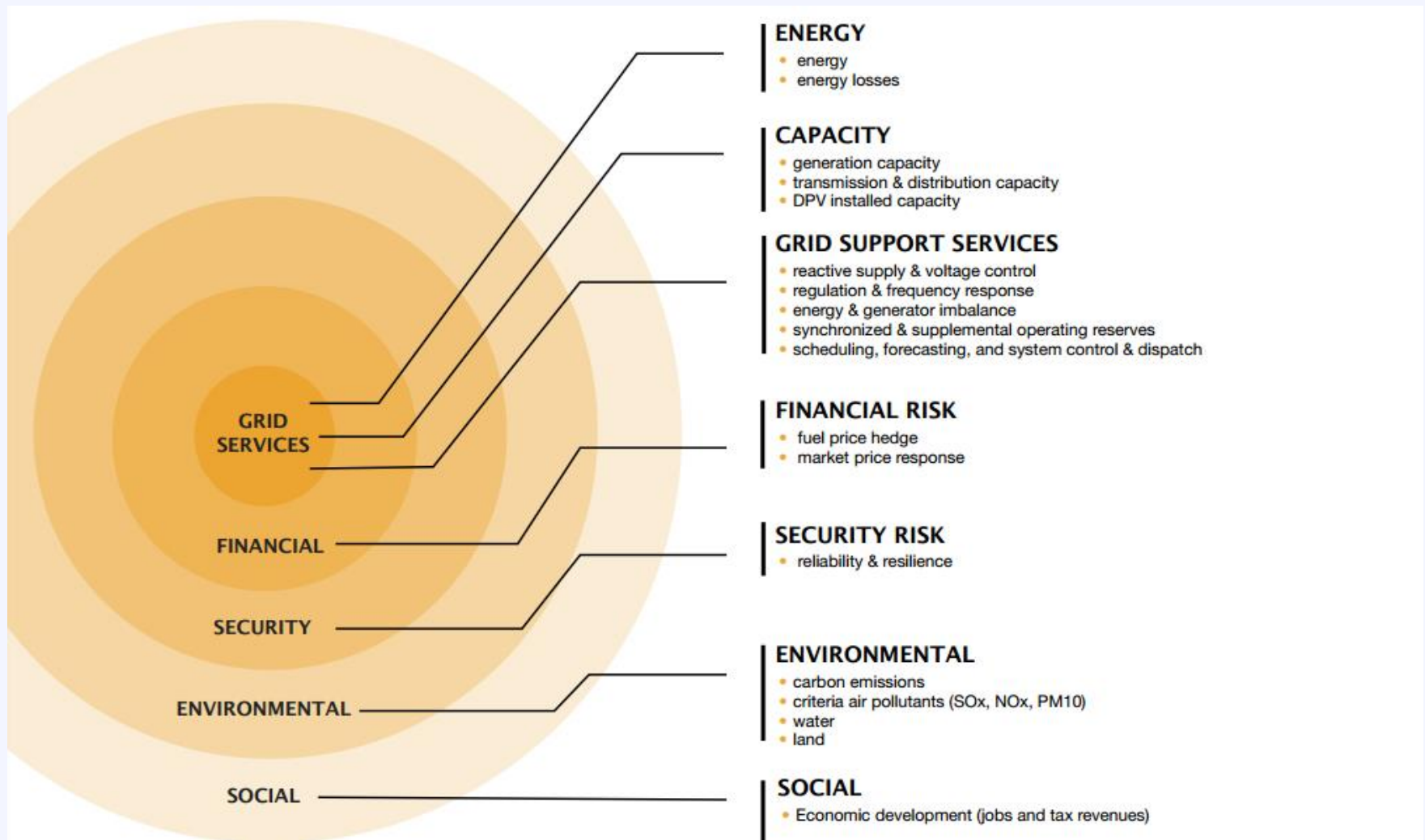
510 people

Benefit: Stabilize Energy Prices

Historical Avg Real-Time LMP (NEMABOS)



Valuable to Community & Utilities



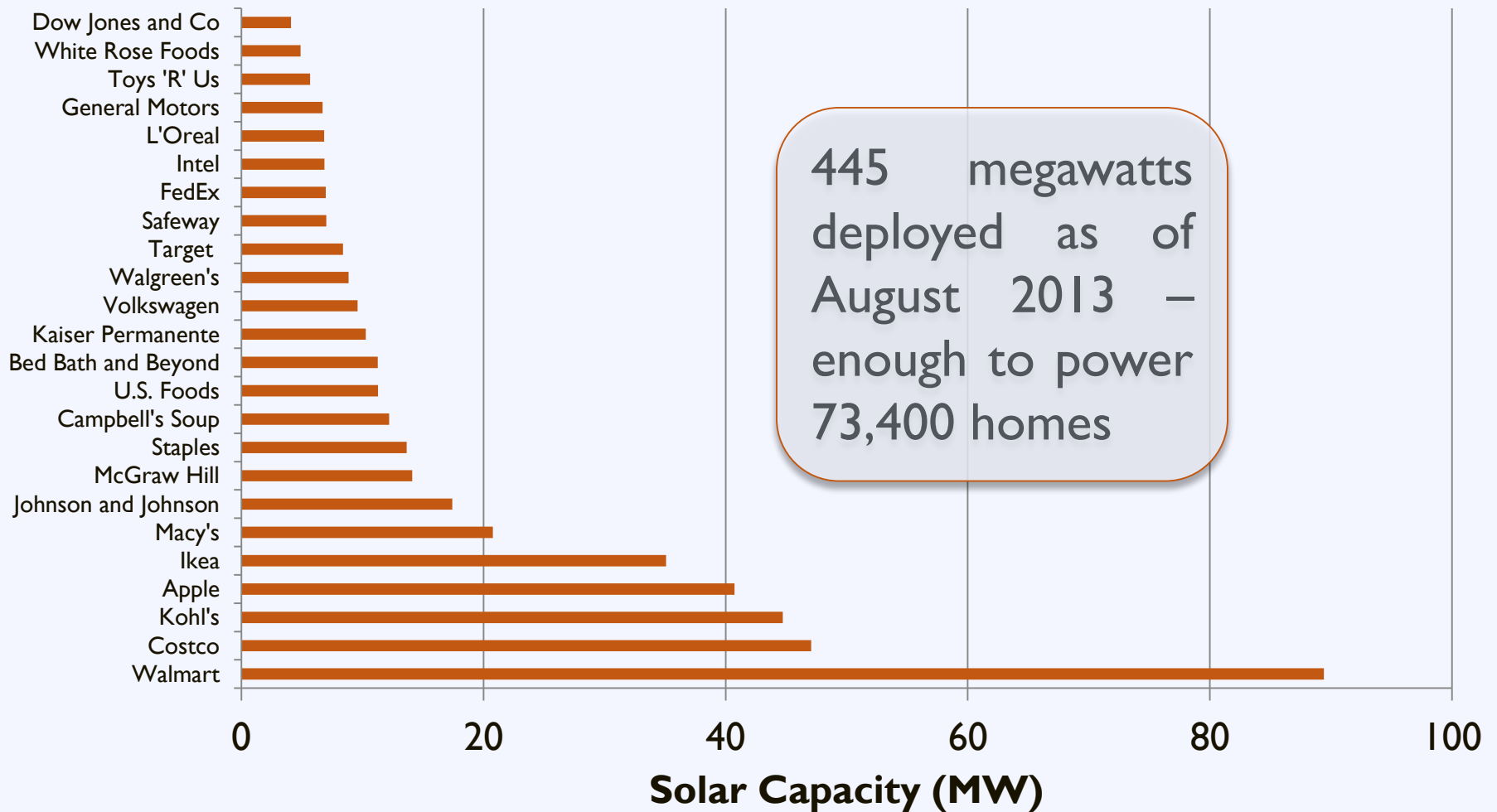
Smart Investment for Homeowners

Average Home Value Premium for Solar PV Systems in California



Smart Investment for Businesses

Top 20 Companies by Solar Capacity



Smart Investment for Governments



Smart Investment for Schools

Current:



×

3,752



=

\$77.8m

Potential:



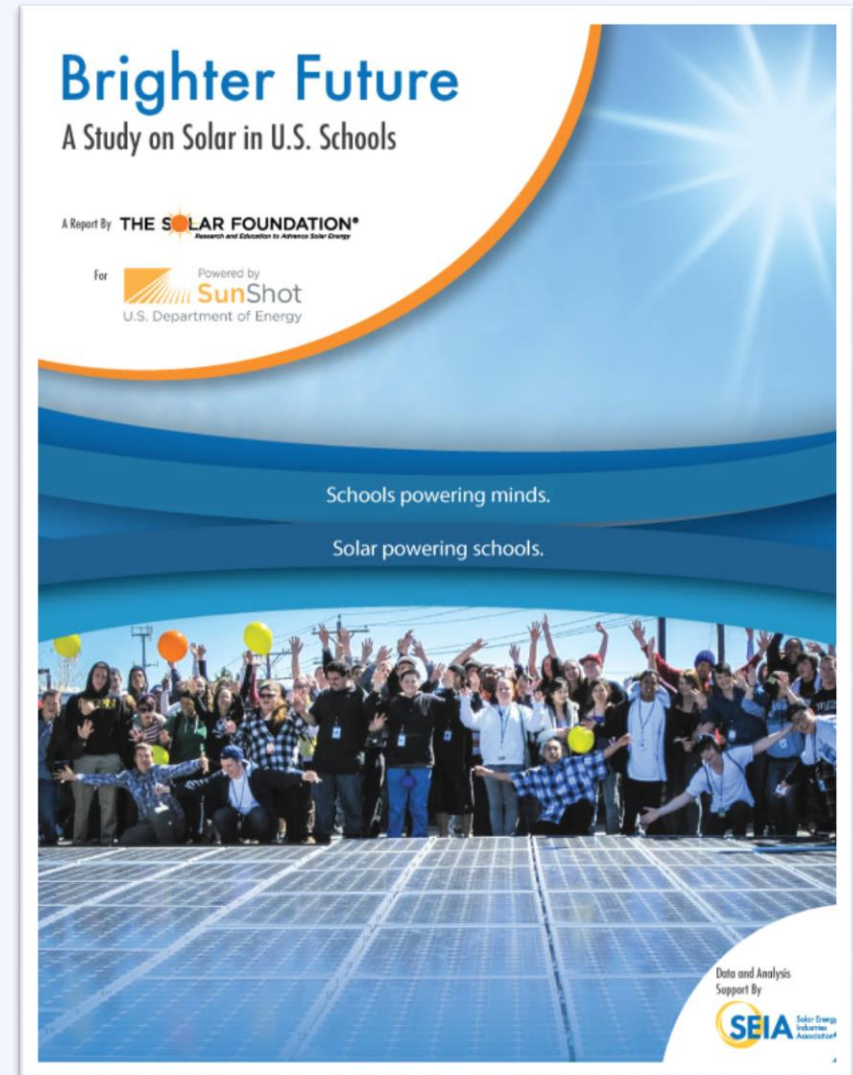
×

40,000 –
72,000



=

\$800m



Smart Investment for Schools

Currently only **nine K-12 Delaware schools** with solar

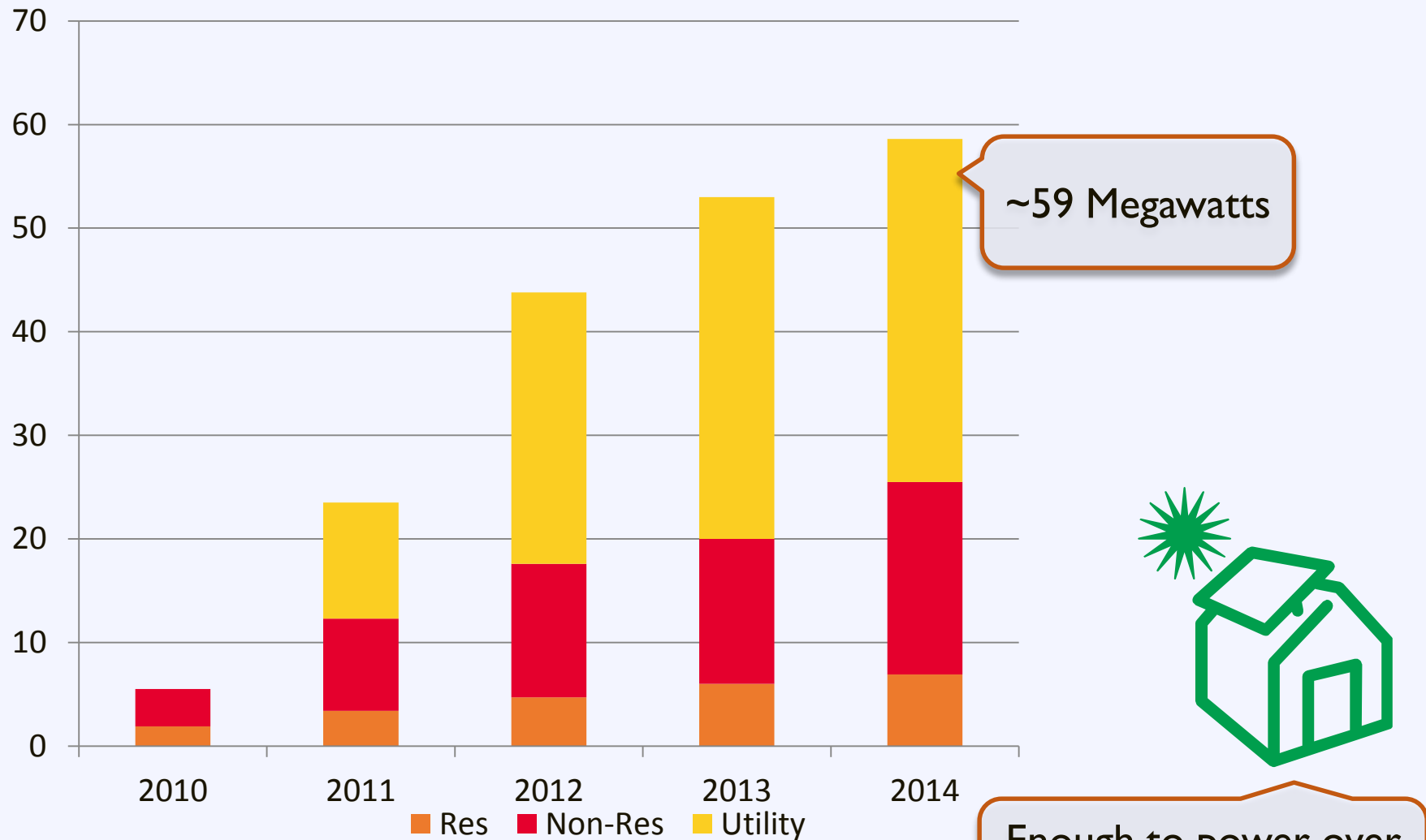
Up to **99%** of non-solar schools can “go solar” cost-effectively, with a **net present value of over \$8 million.**

Agenda

- 10:10 – 10:30 Putting Solar Energy on the Local Policy Agenda
- 10:30 – 10:50 State of the Local Solar Market**
- 10:50 – 11:20 Federal, State, and Utility Policy Drivers
- 11:20 – 11:40 *Break and Grab Lunch*
- 11:40 – 12:10 Planning for Solar: Getting Solar Ready
- 12:10 – 12:45 Solar Market Development Tools
- 12:45 – 1:00 *Break*
- 1:00 – 2:00 Local Speakers
- 2:00 – 3:00 Developing and Solar Policy Implementation Plan for

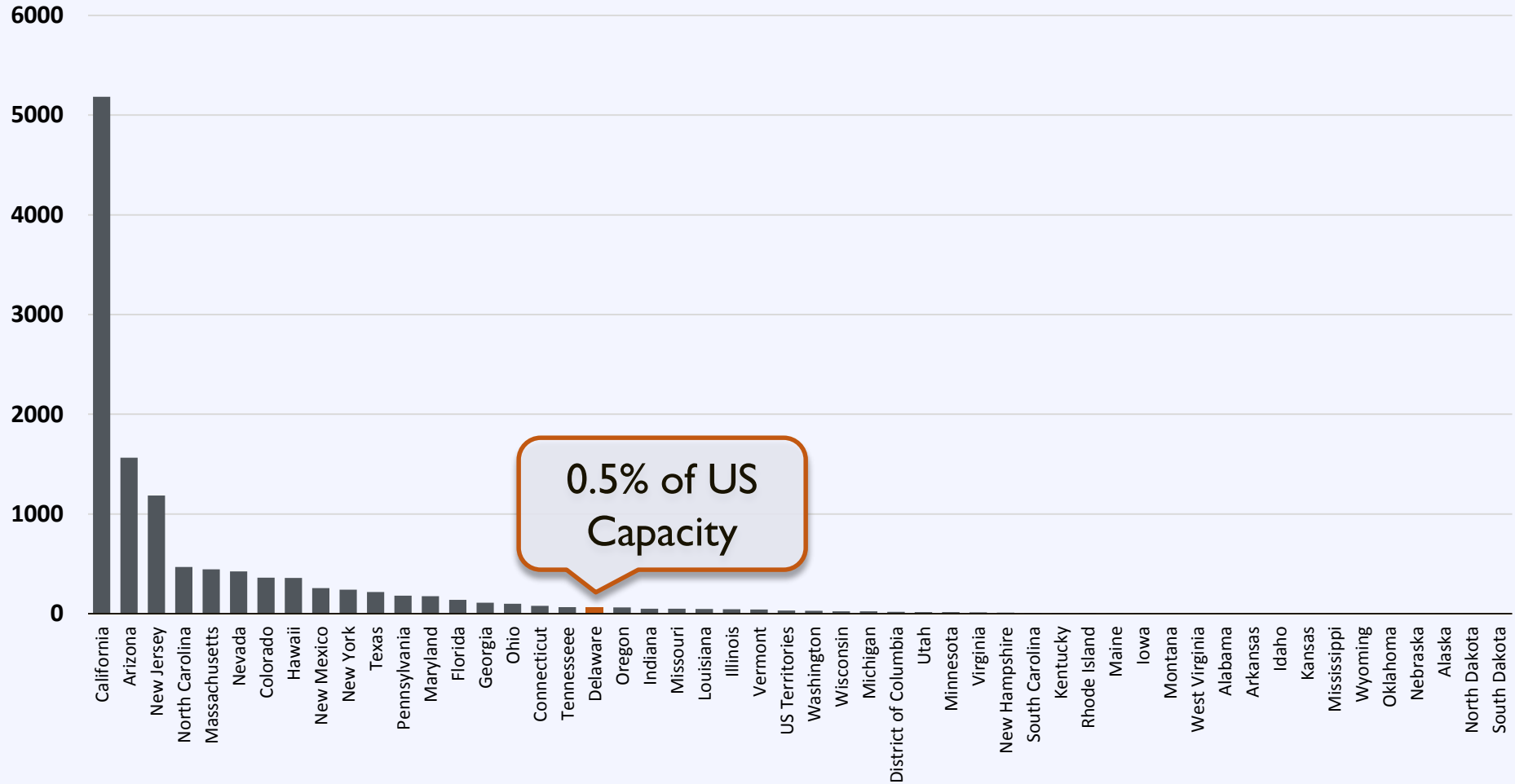
Your Community and Next Steps

Delaware Solar Market



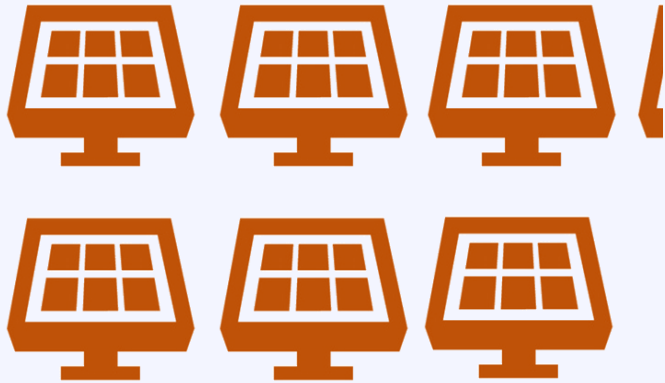
US Solar Market

Installed Capacity by State (MW) 2013



Delaware Solar Market

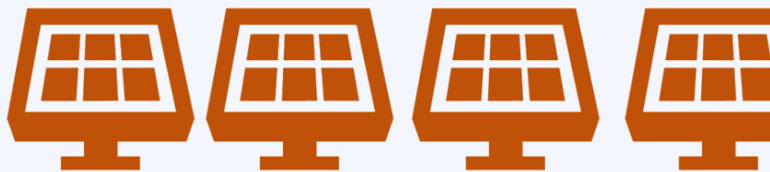
Delaware



61

watts per person

US

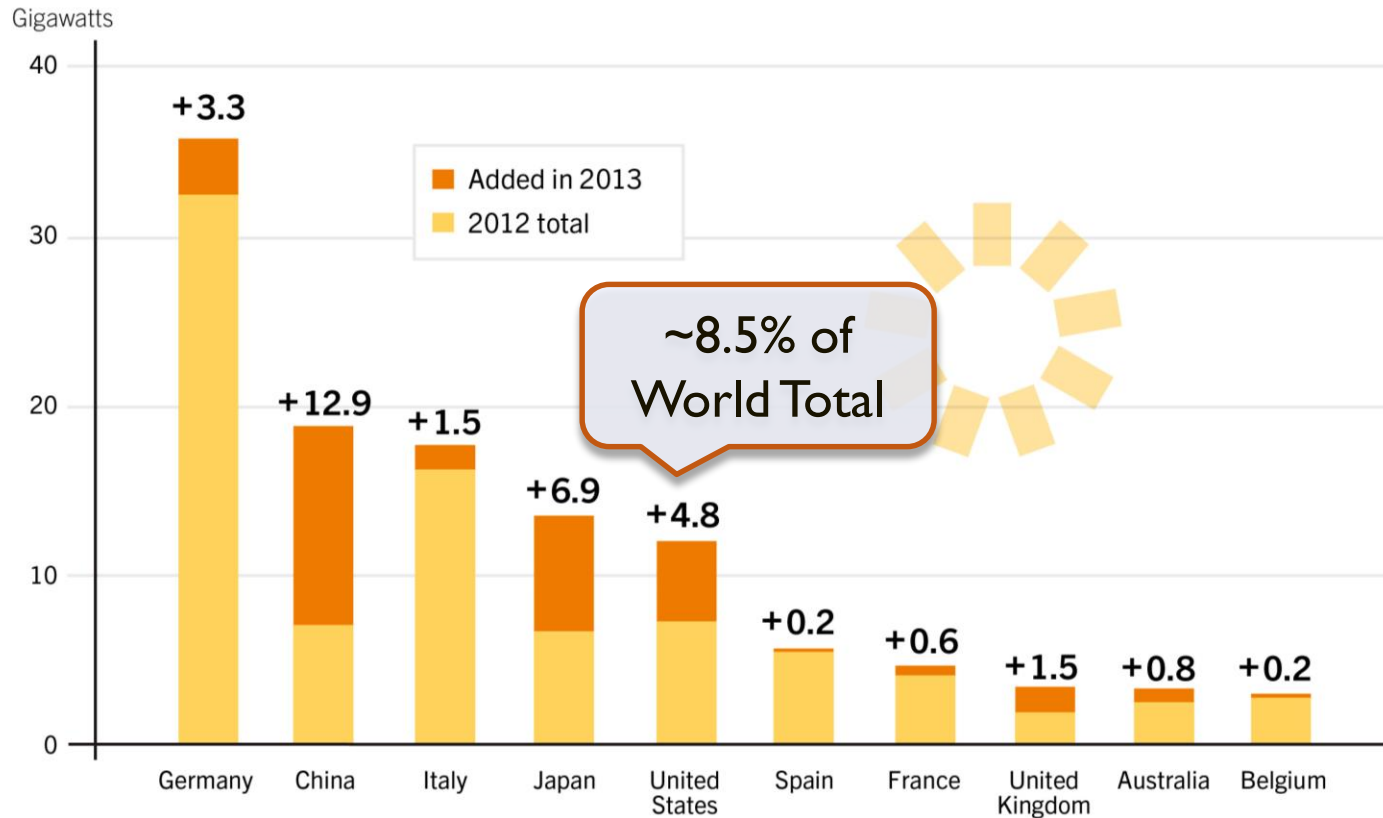


39

watts per person

World Solar Market

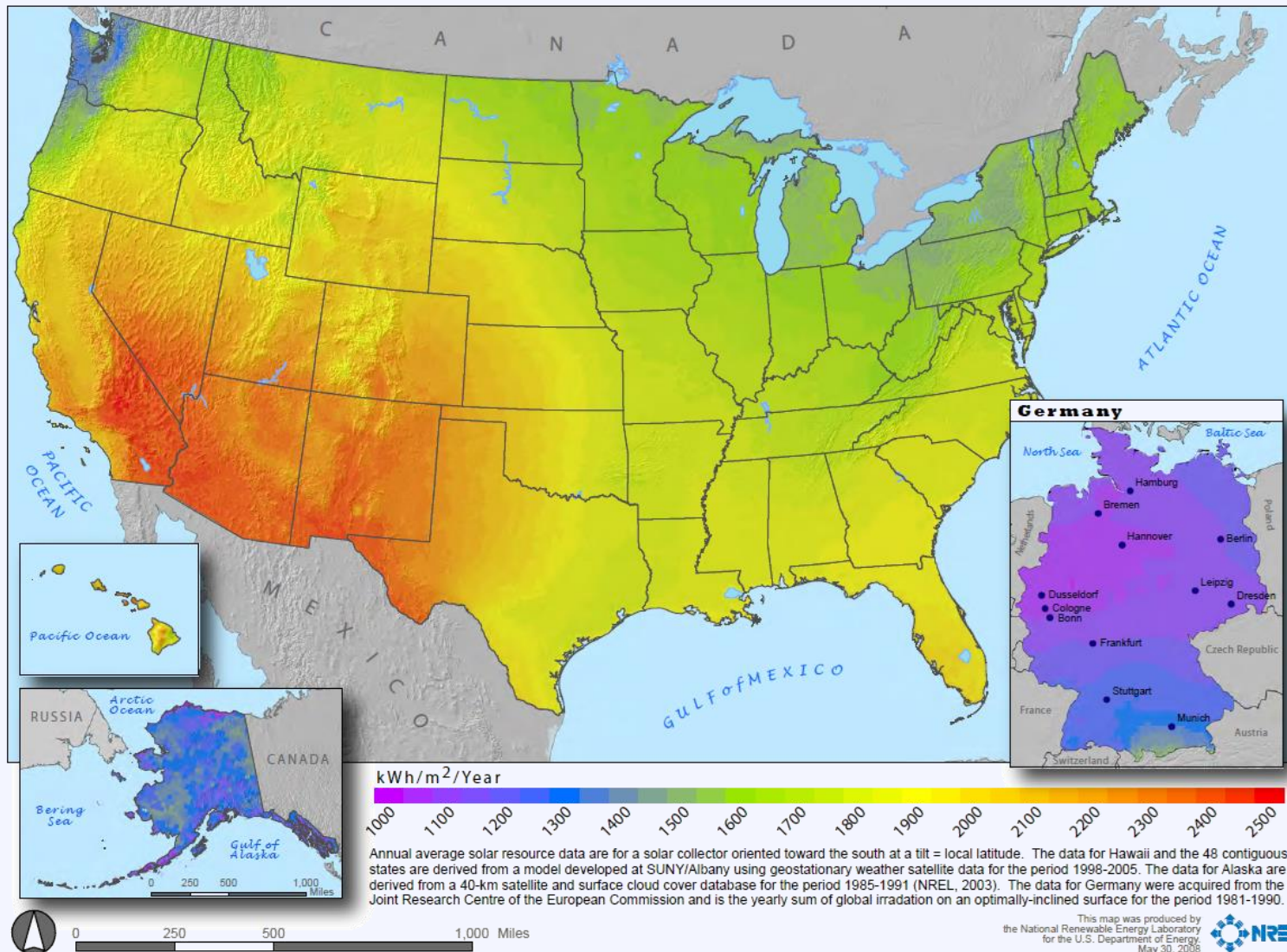
Solar PV Capacity and Additions, Top 10 Countries, 2013



REN21. 2014. *Renewables 2014 Global Status Report* (Paris: REN21 Secretariat).

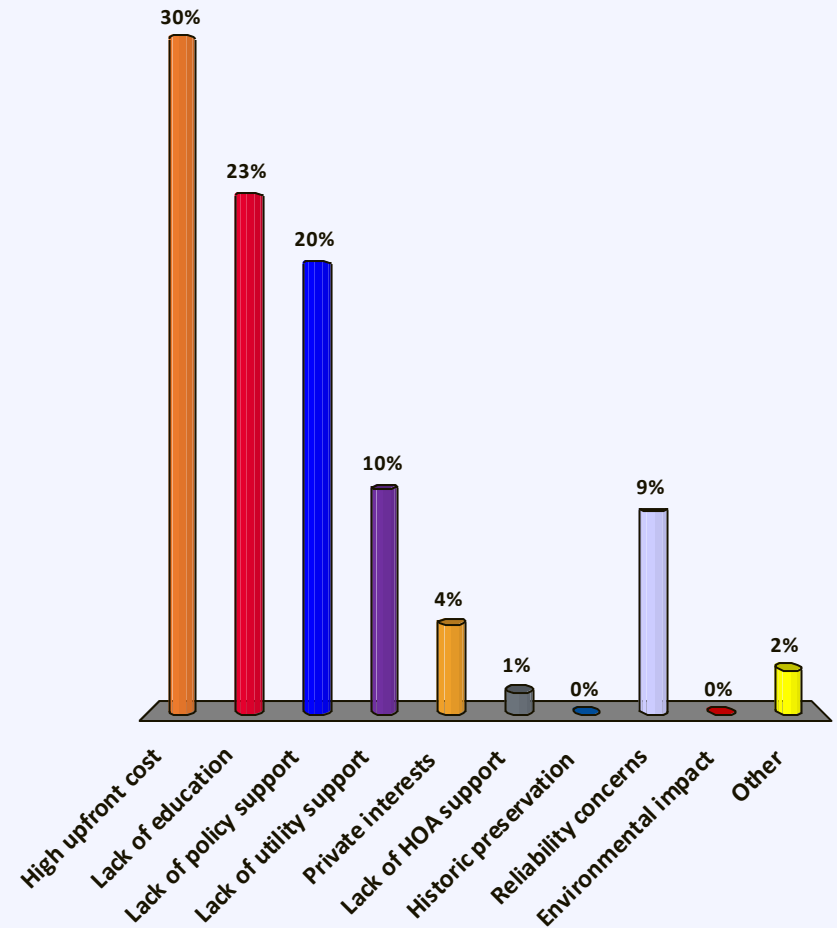


US Solar Resource



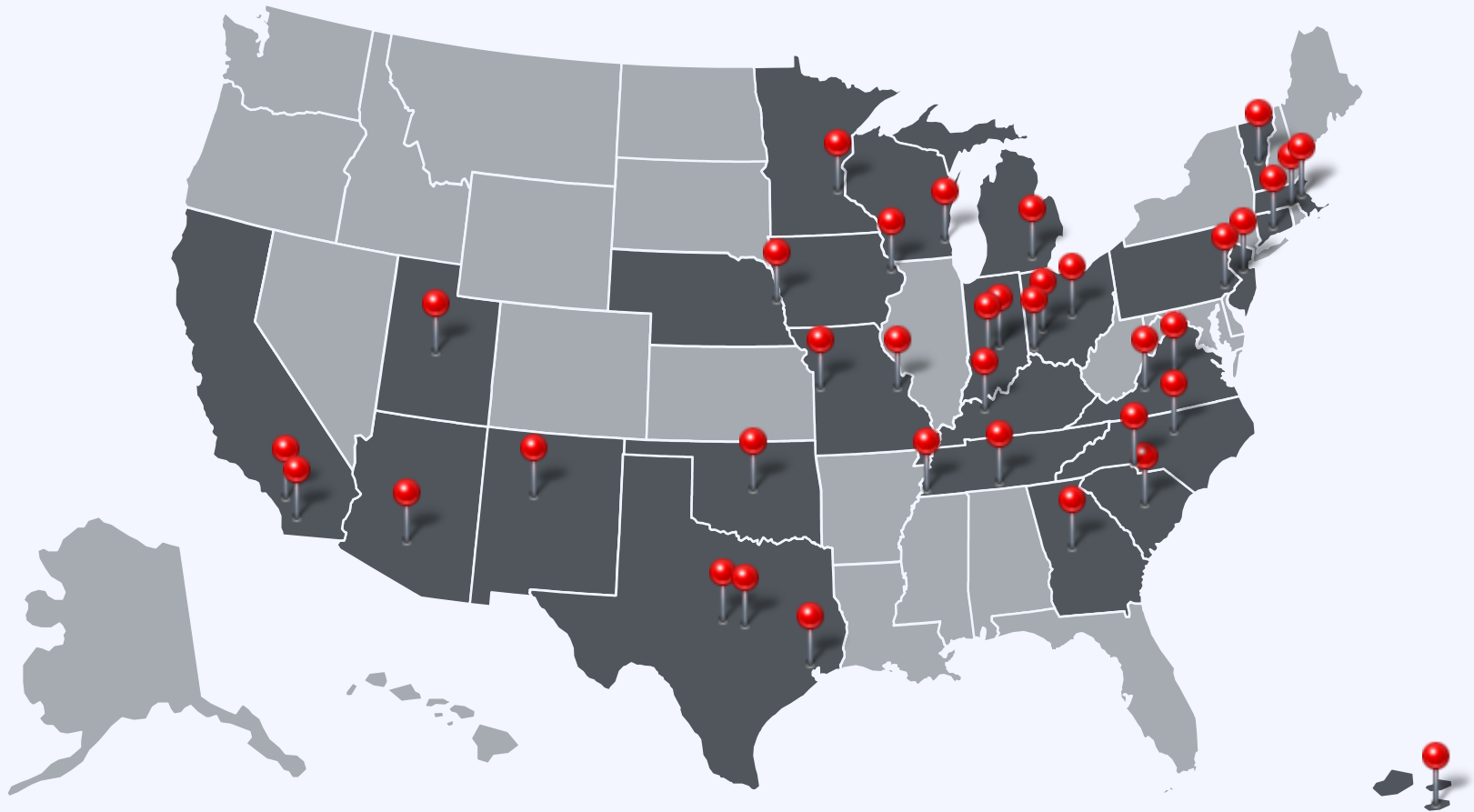
What are the top 3 barriers to solar adoption in your community?

- A. High upfront cost
- B. Lack of education
- C. Lack of policy support
- D. Lack of utility support
- E. Private interests
- F. Lack of HOA support
- G. Historic preservation
- H. Reliability concerns
- I. Environmental impact
- J. Other

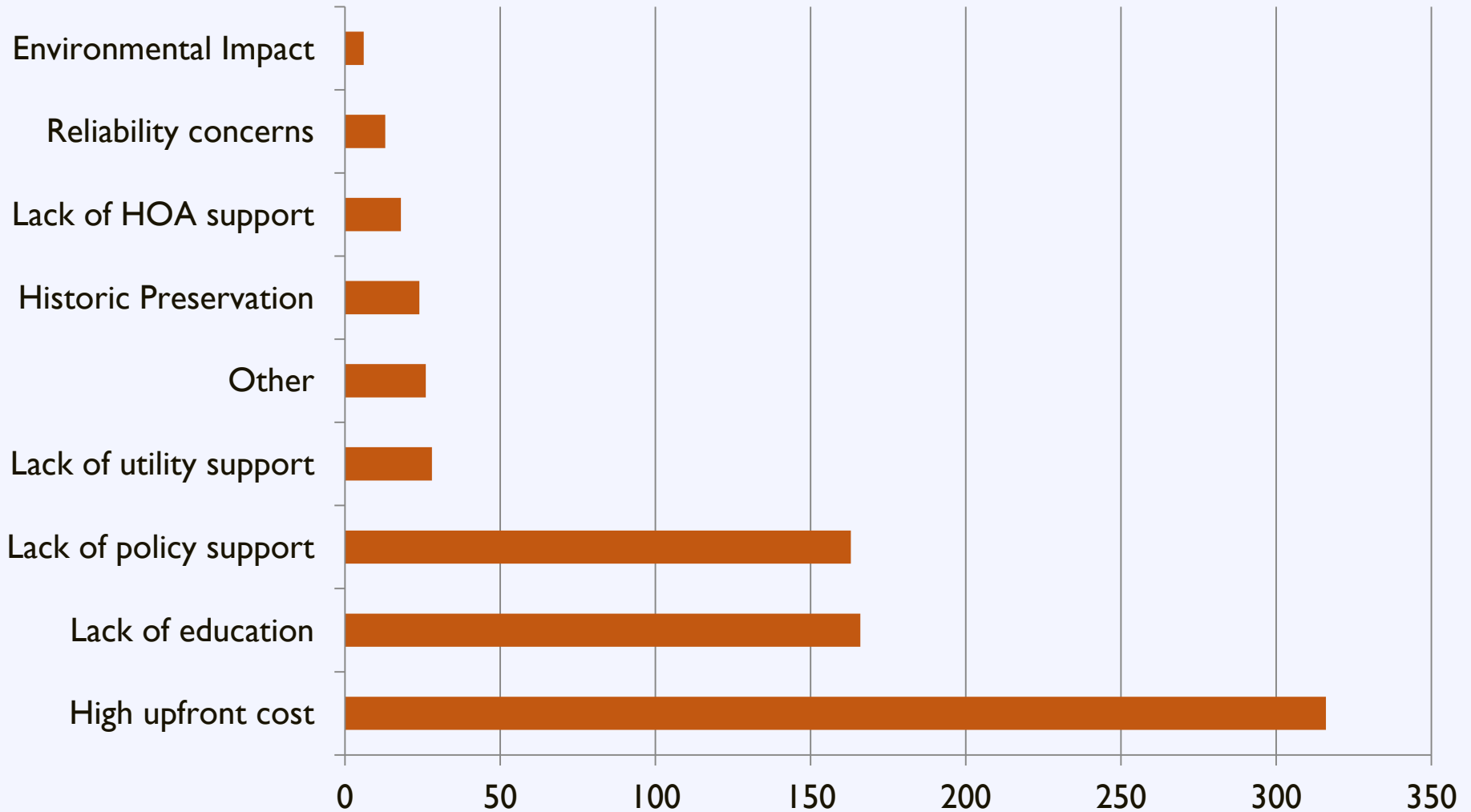


Regional Workshop Surveys

Q: What is the greatest barrier to solar adoption in your community?

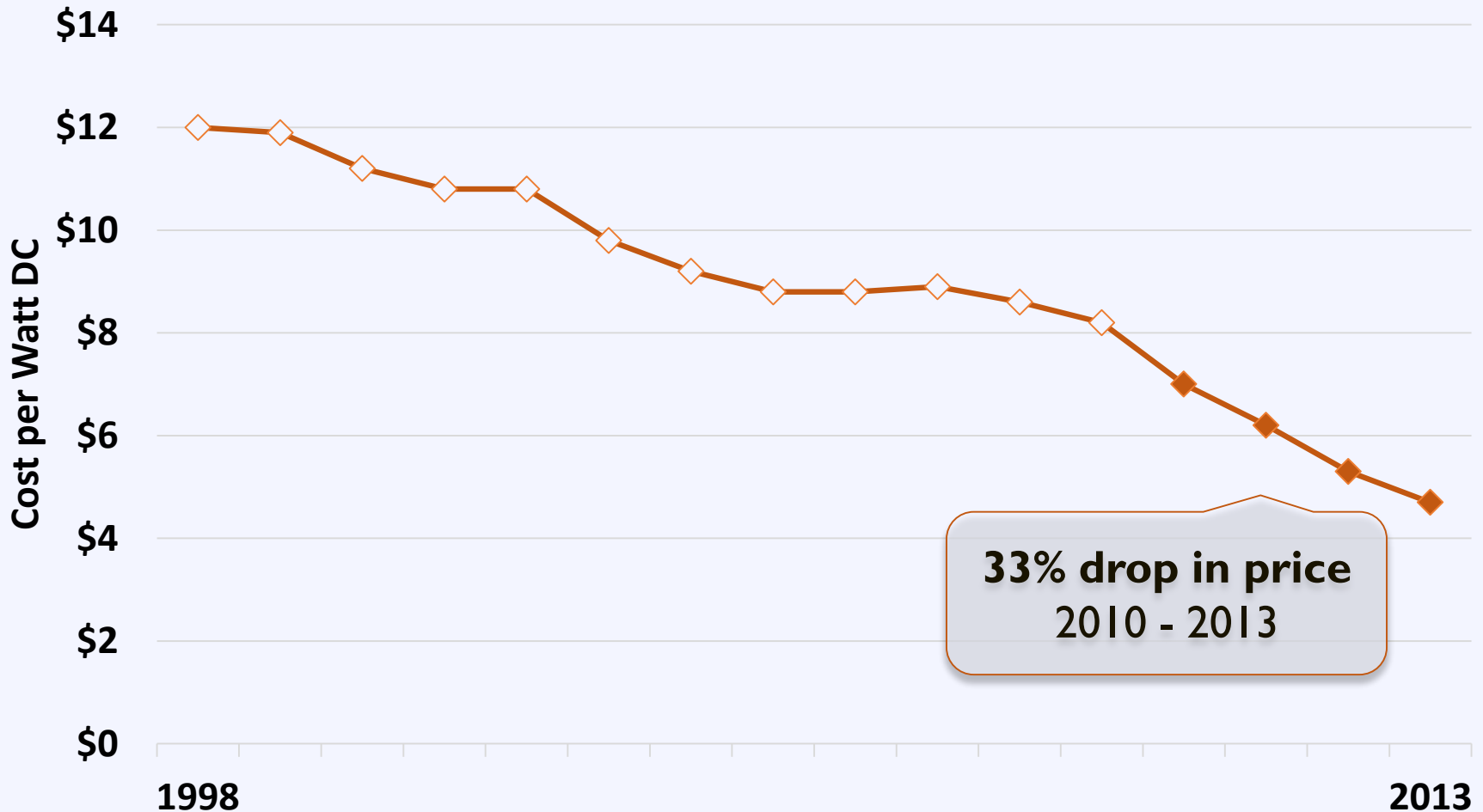


Activity: Addressing Barriers

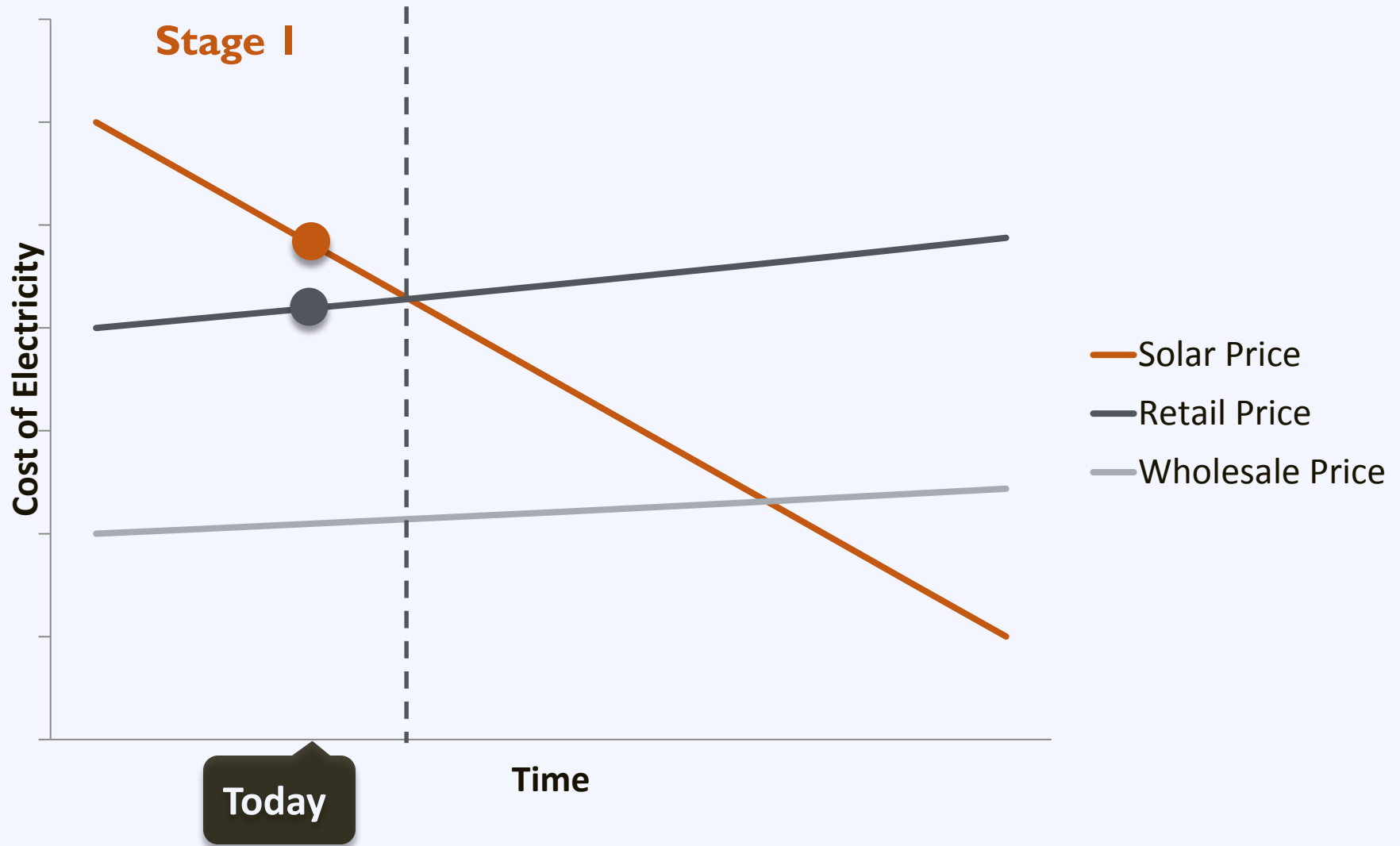


The Cost of Solar PV

US Average Installed Cost for Behind-the-Meter PV

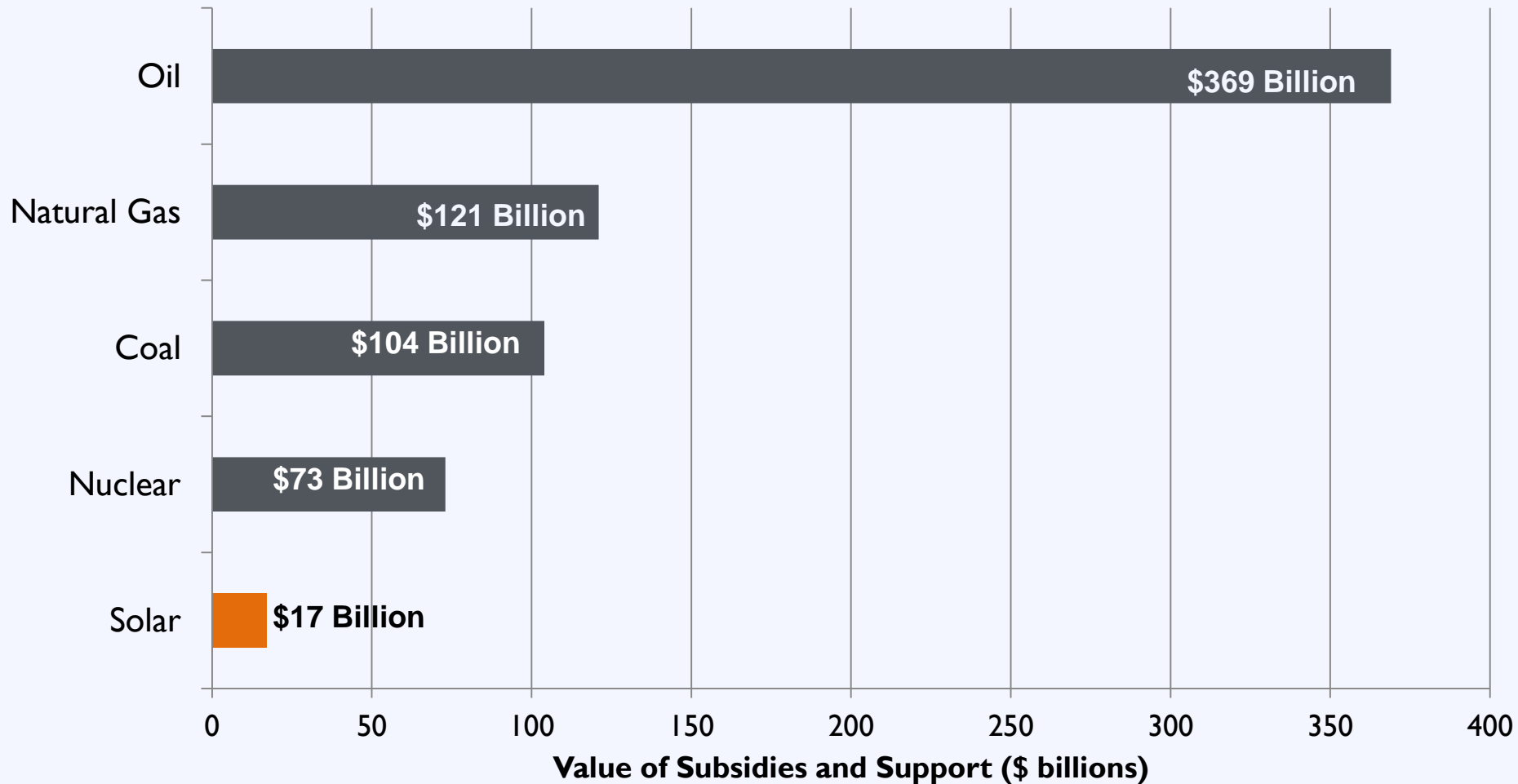


The Cost of Solar PV

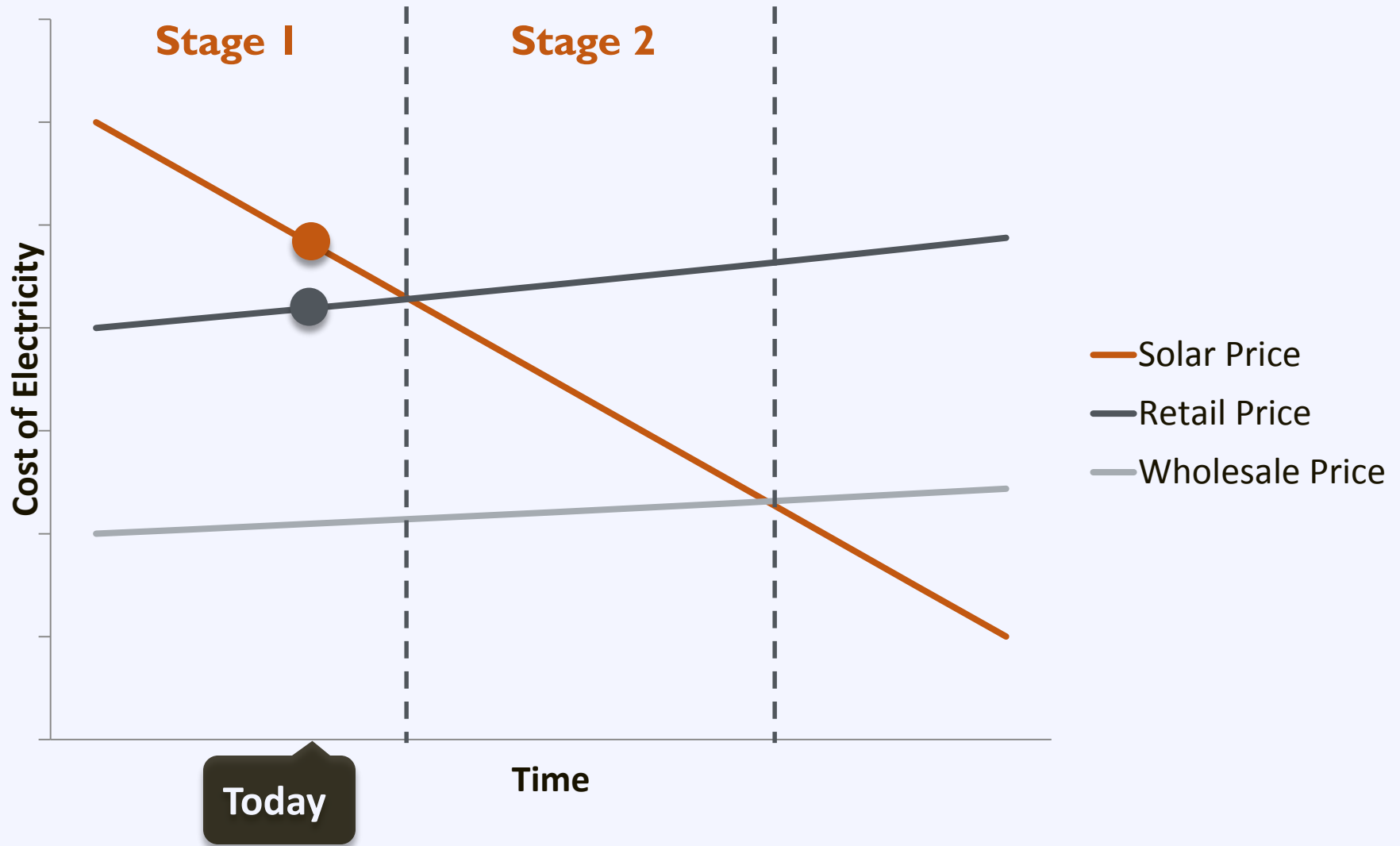


Subsidies and Support

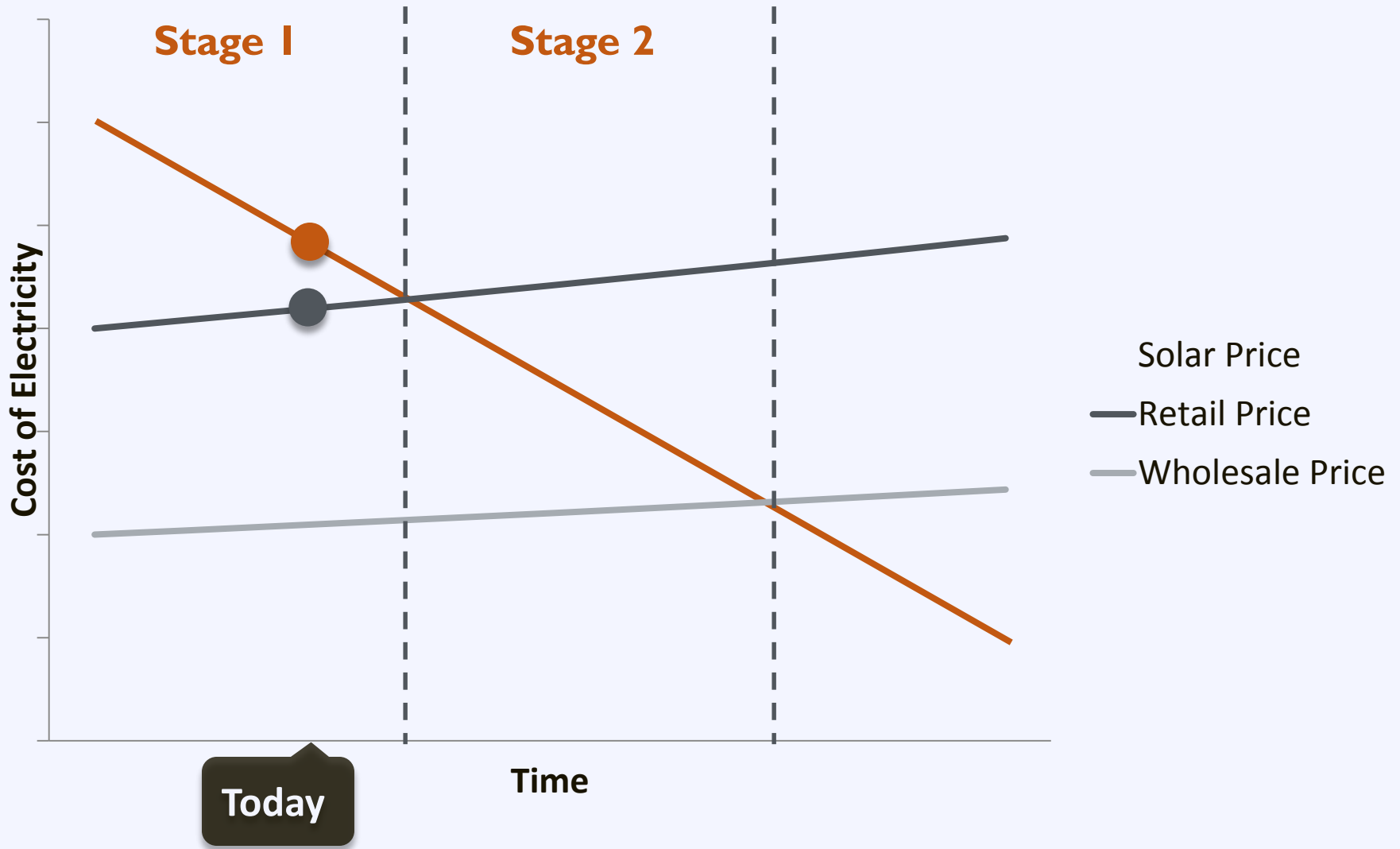
Subsidies for Conventional and Solar Energy, 1950-2010



The Cost of Solar PV

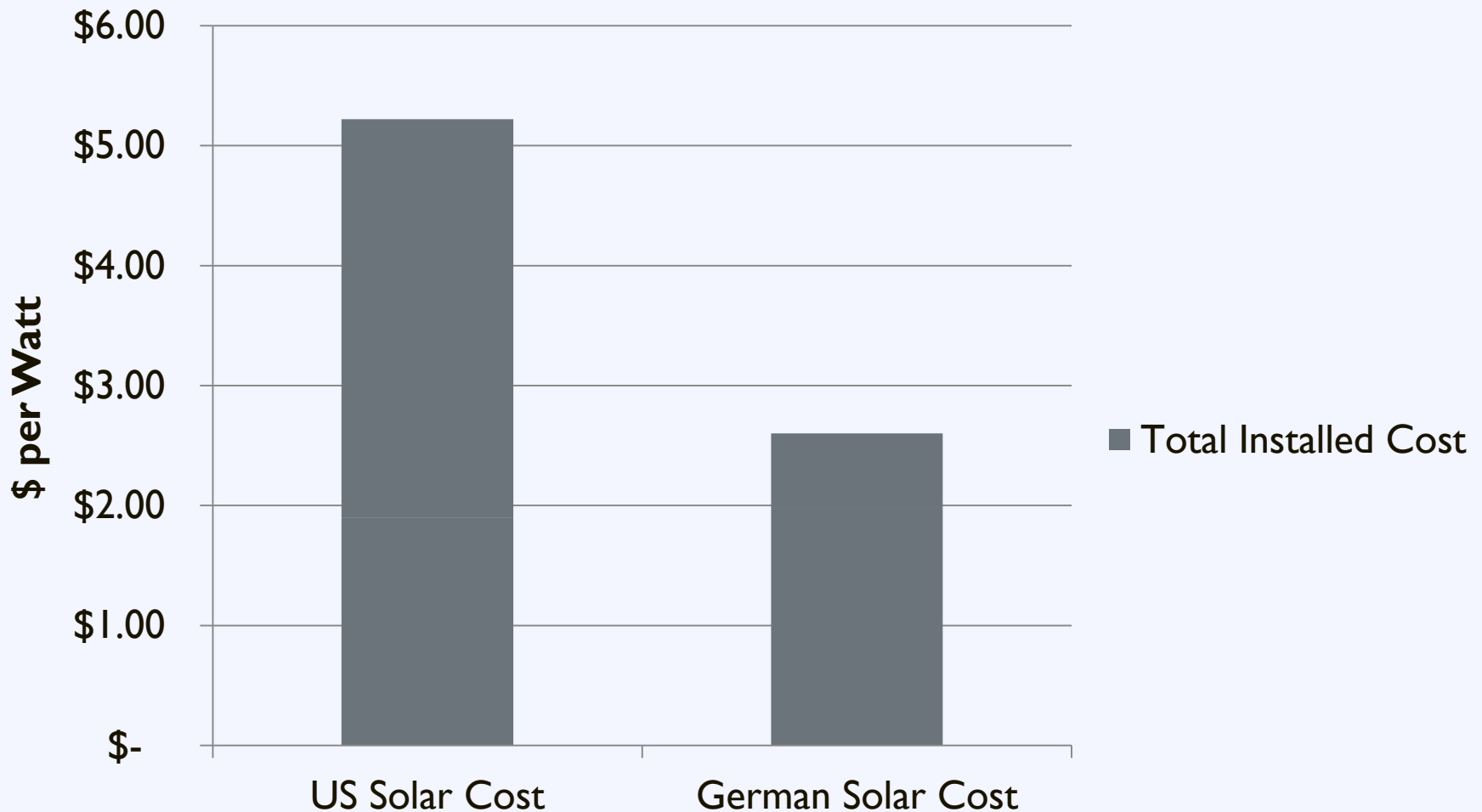


The Cost of Solar PV



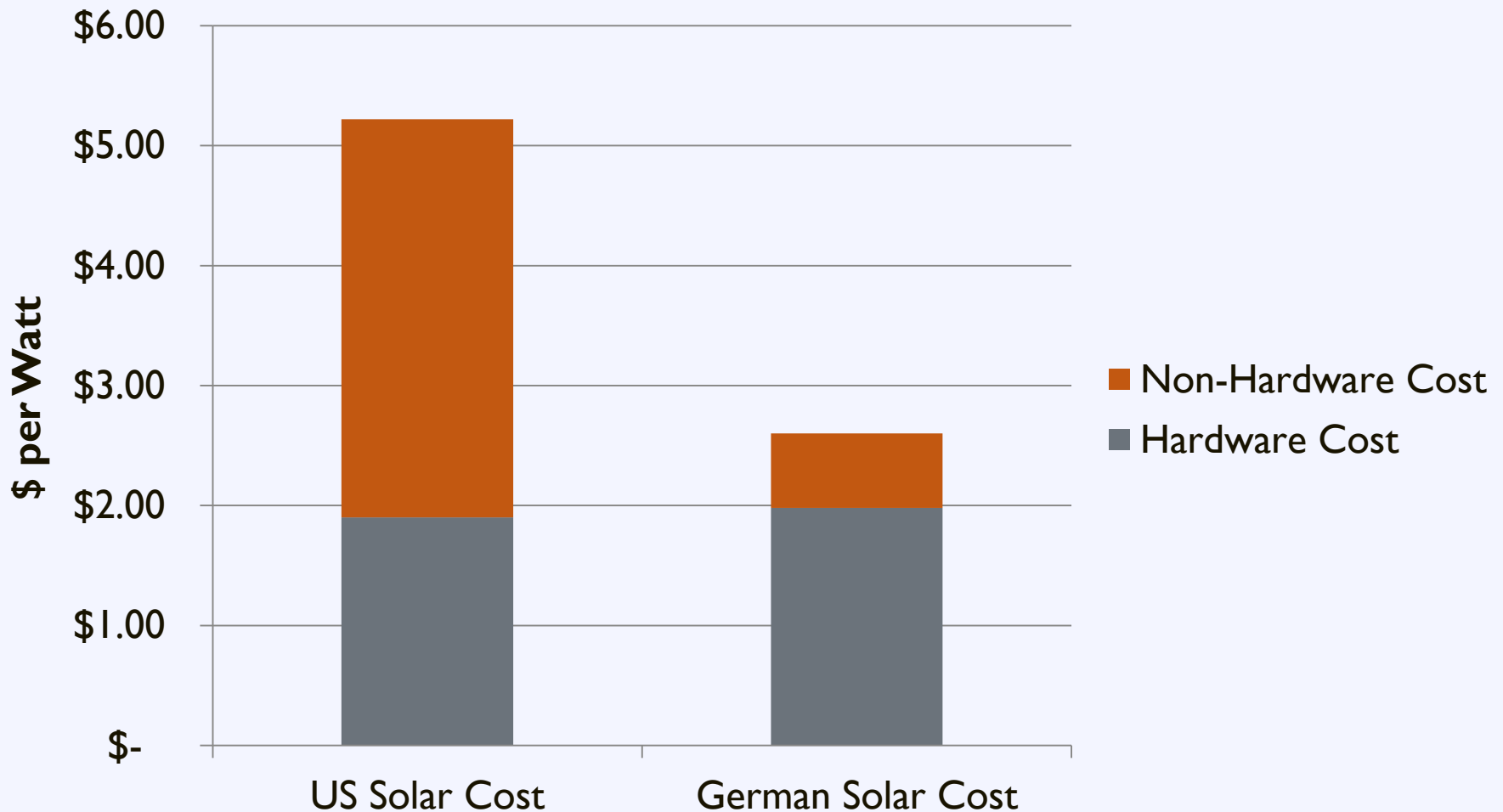
The Cost of Solar in the US

Comparison of US and German Solar Costs



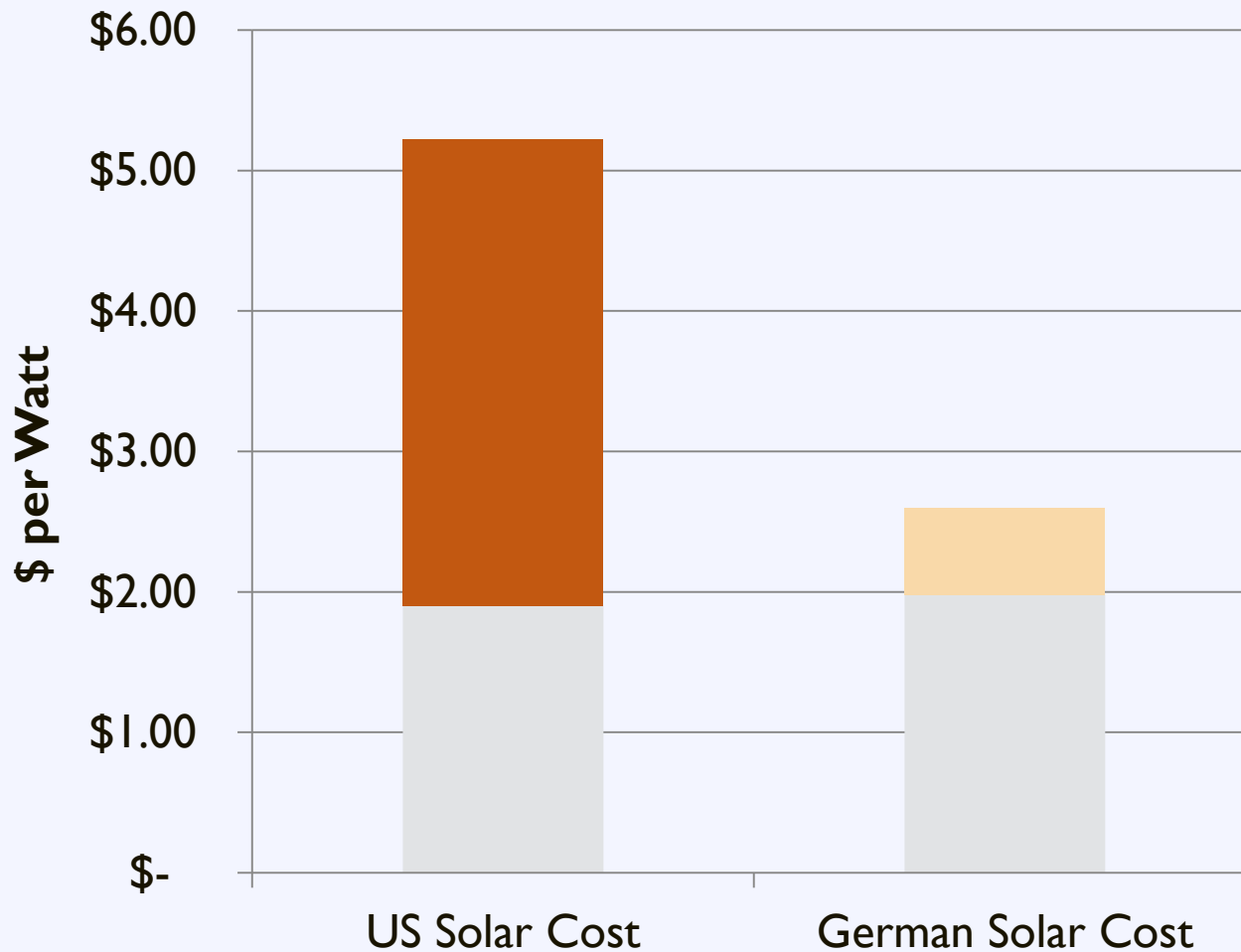
The Cost of Solar in the US

Comparison of US and German Solar Costs



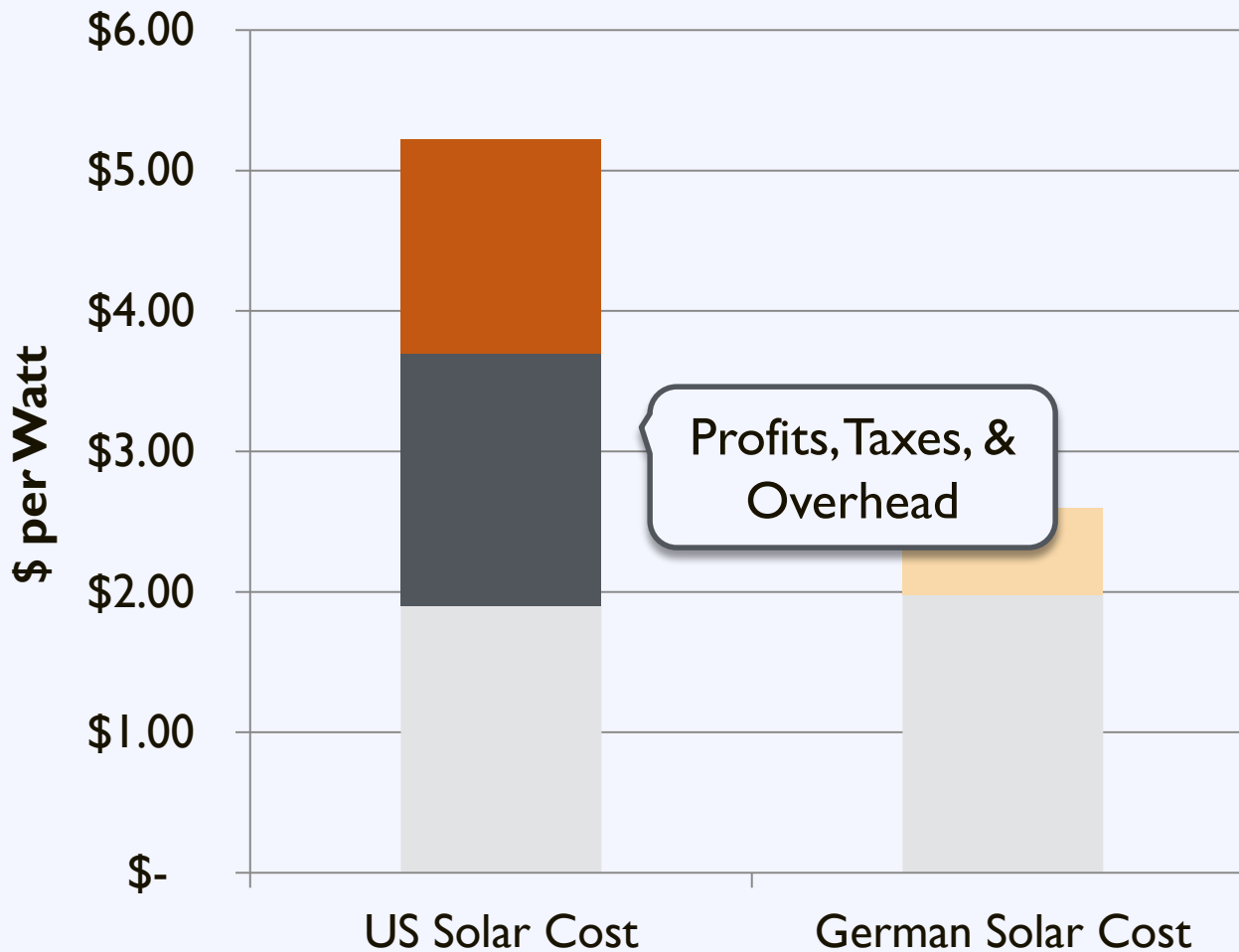
The Cost of Solar in the US

Comparison of US and German Solar Costs



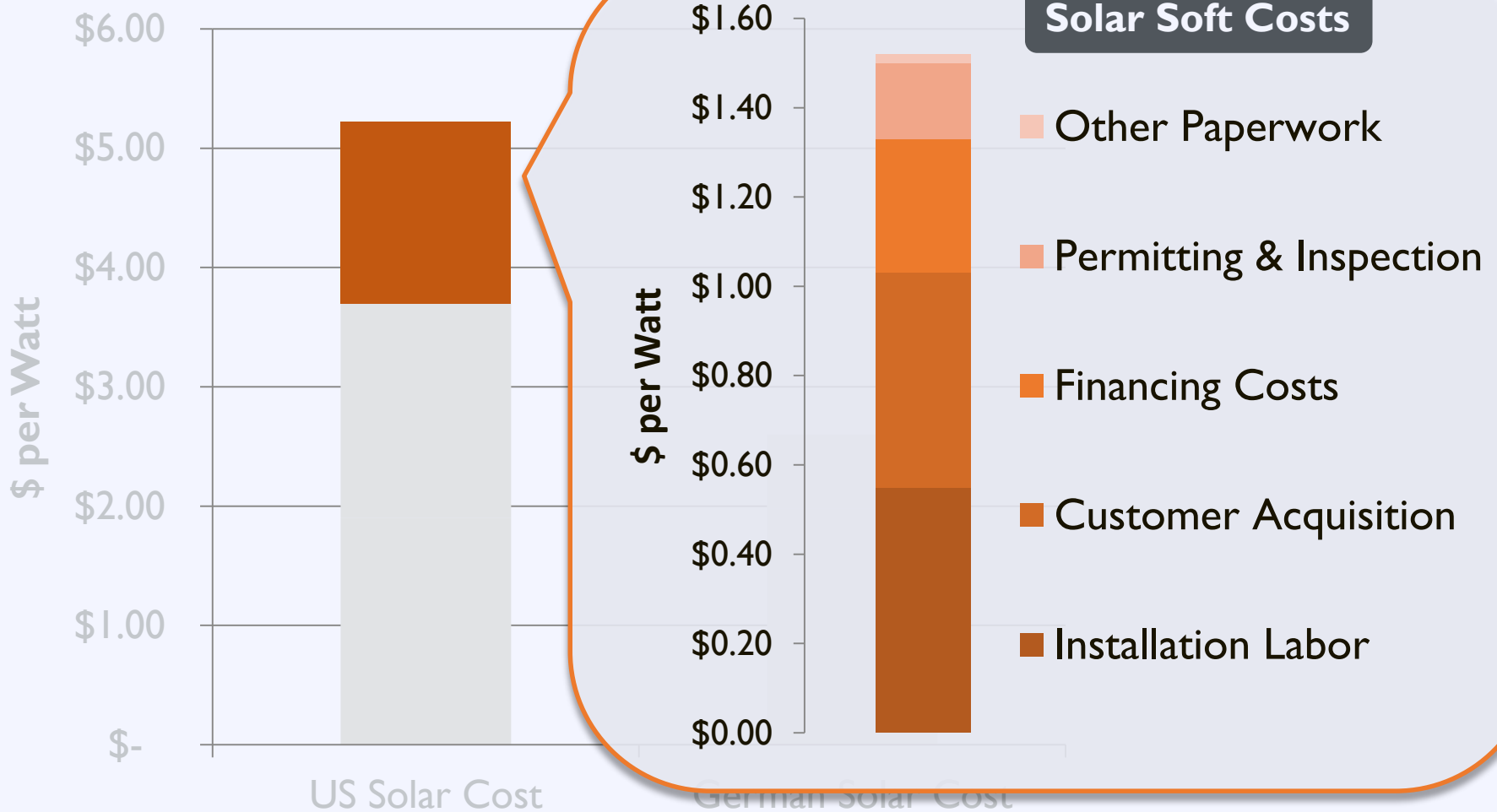
The Cost of Solar in the US

Comparison of US and German Solar Costs



The Cost of Solar in the US

Comparison of US and German Solar Costs



Challenge: Installation Time



**New York City's
Goal**

100 days

from inception to completion



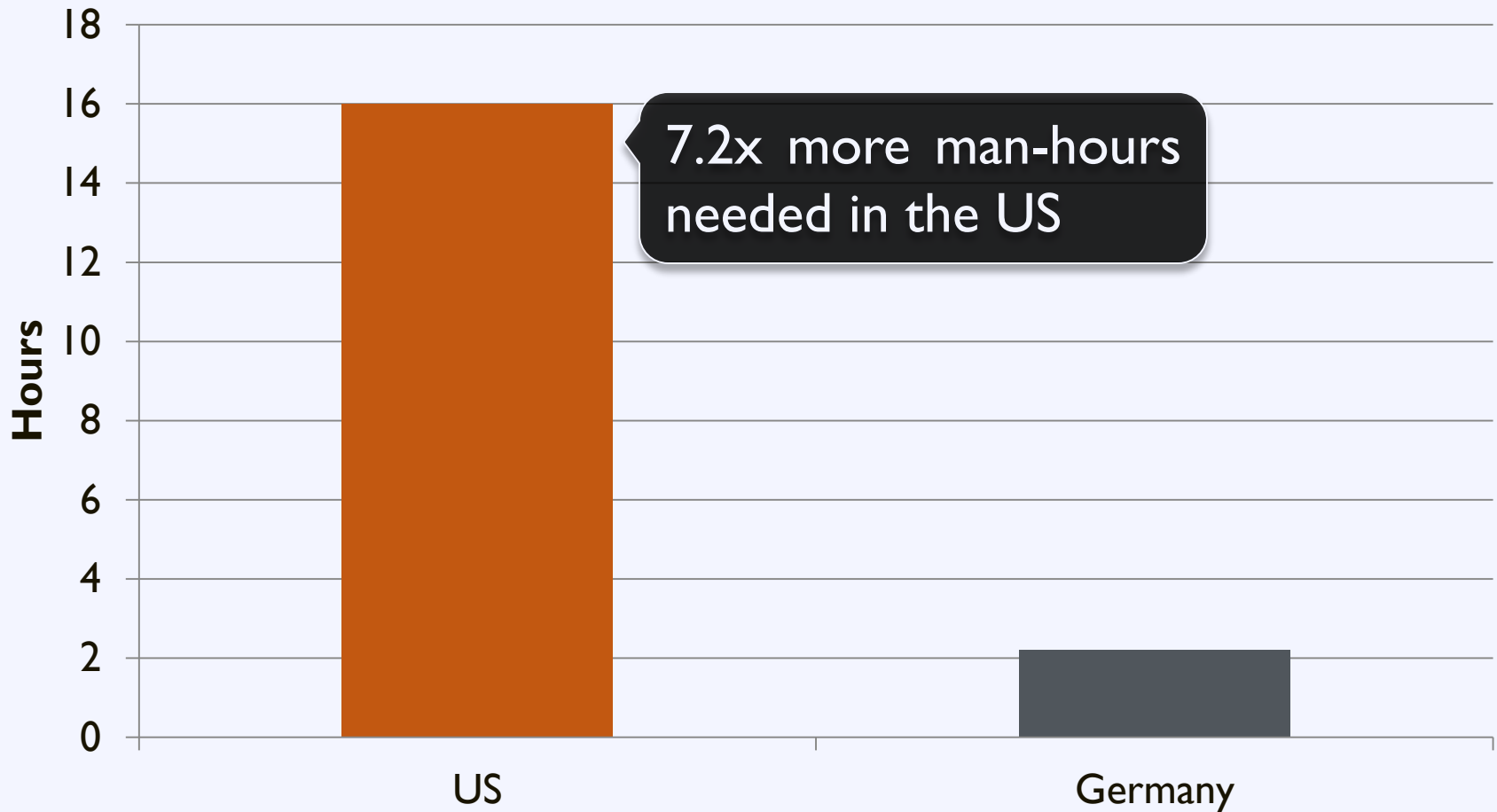
**Germany
Today**

8 days

from inception to completion

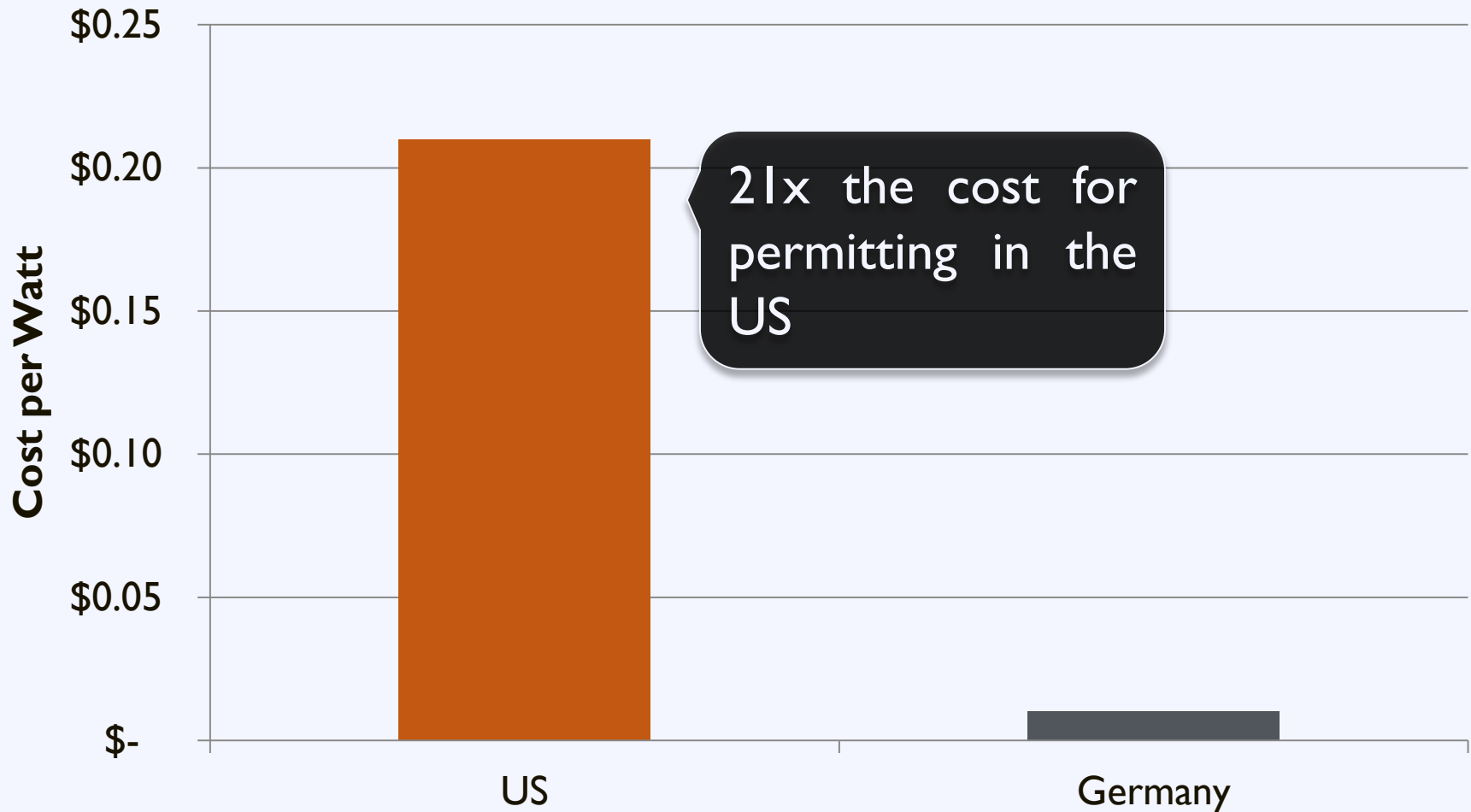
Time to Installation

Average Time to Permit a Solar Installation



Permitting Costs

Average Cost of Permitting in the US and Germany



Germany's Success

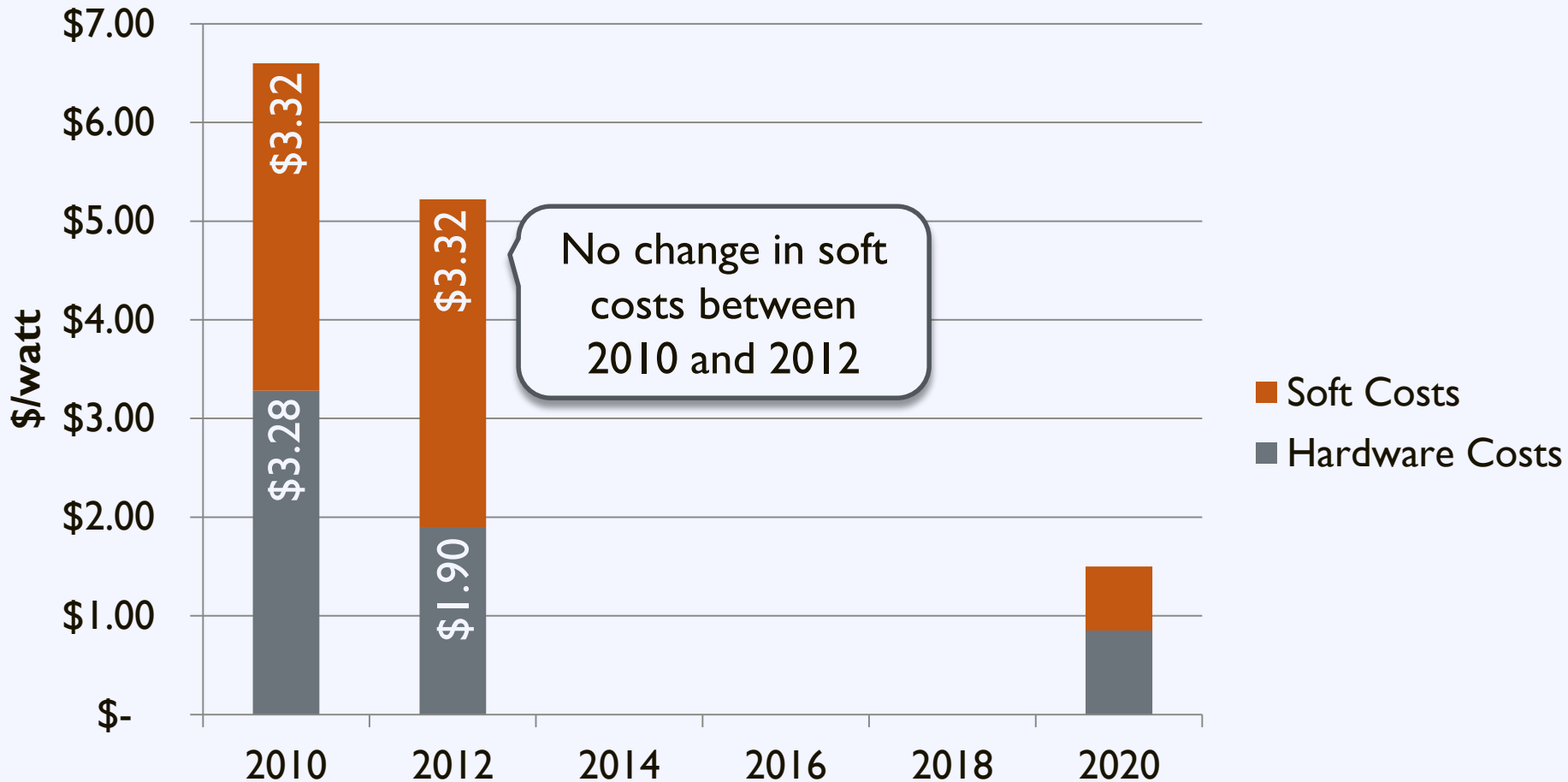
Consistency and Transparency

through

Standardized Processes

The Cost of Solar in the US

Change in Soft Costs and Hardware Costs Over Time



Workshop Goal

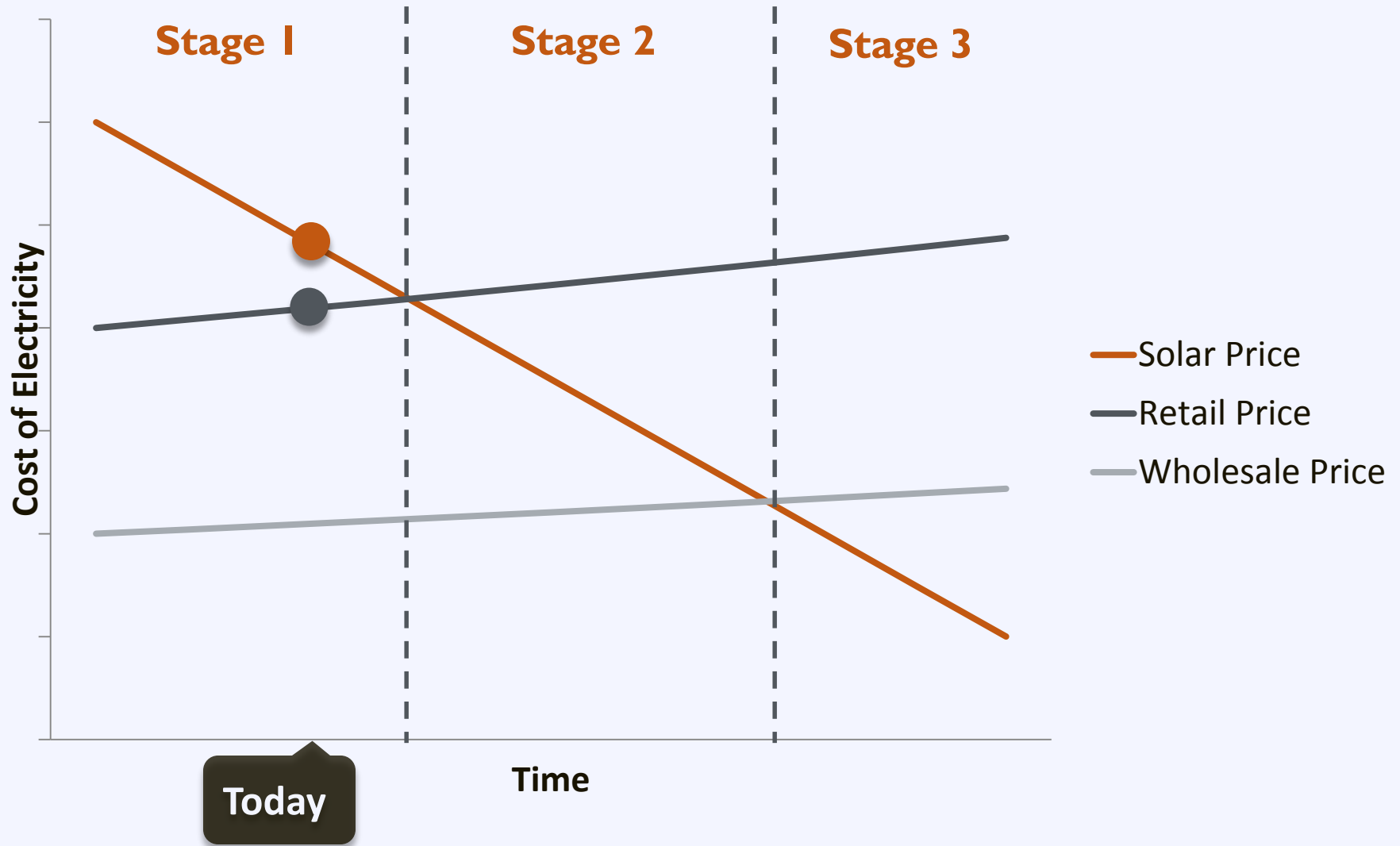
Enable local governments to replicate successful solar practices to **reduce soft costs** and **expand local adoption of solar energy**

Agenda

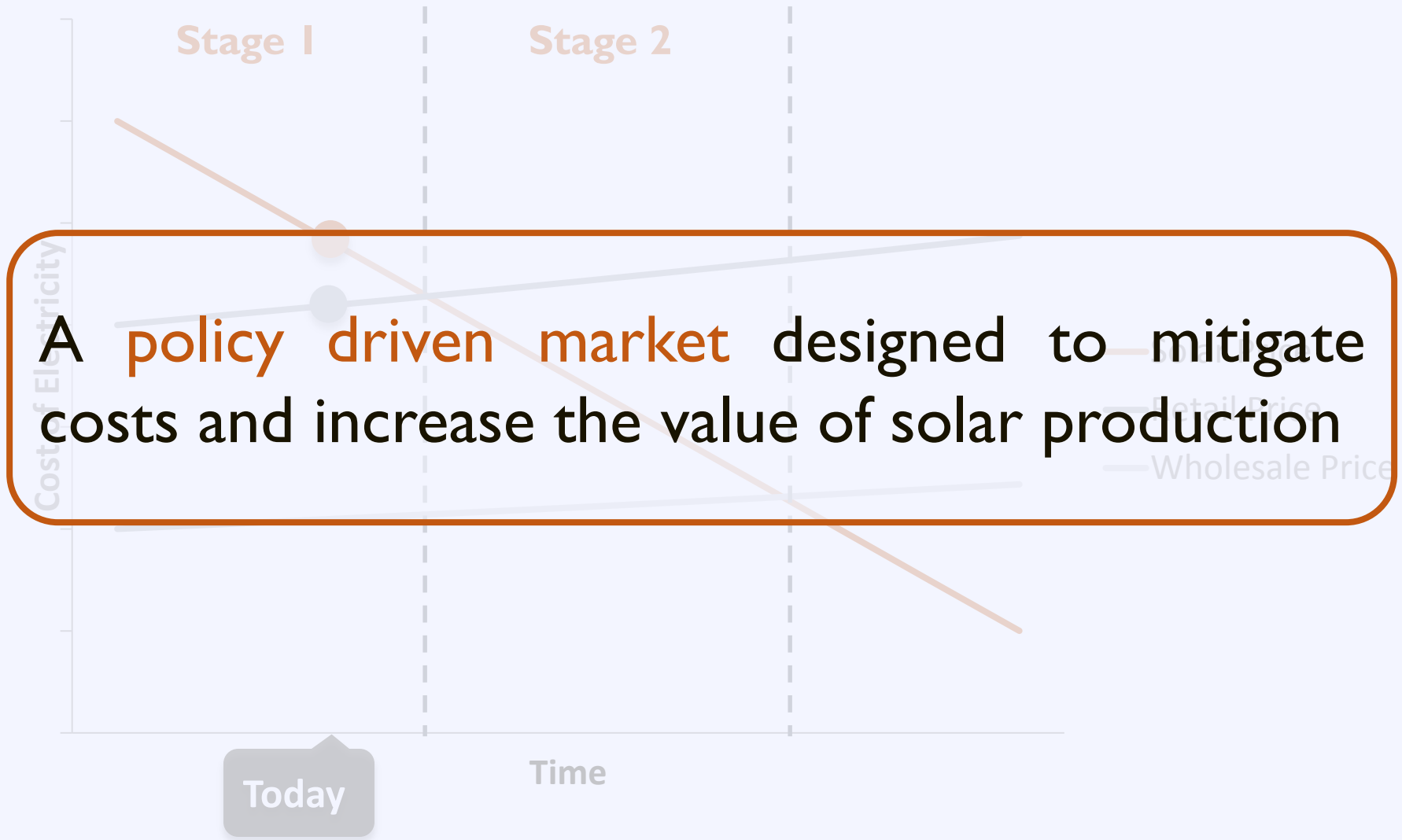
- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| 10:10 – 10:30 | Putting Solar Energy on the Local Policy Agenda |
| 10:30 – 10:50 | State of the Local Solar Market |
| 10:50 – 11:20 | Federal, State, and Utility Policy Drivers |
| 11:20 – 11:40 | <i>Break and Grab Lunch</i> |
| 11:40 – 12:10 | Planning for Solar: Getting Solar Ready |
| 12:10 – 12:45 | Solar Market Development Tools |
| 12:45 – 1:00 | <i>Break</i> |
| 1:00 – 2:00 | Local Speakers |
| 2:00 – 3:00 | Developing and Solar Policy Implementation Plan for |

Your Community and Next Steps

Solar Market: Trends



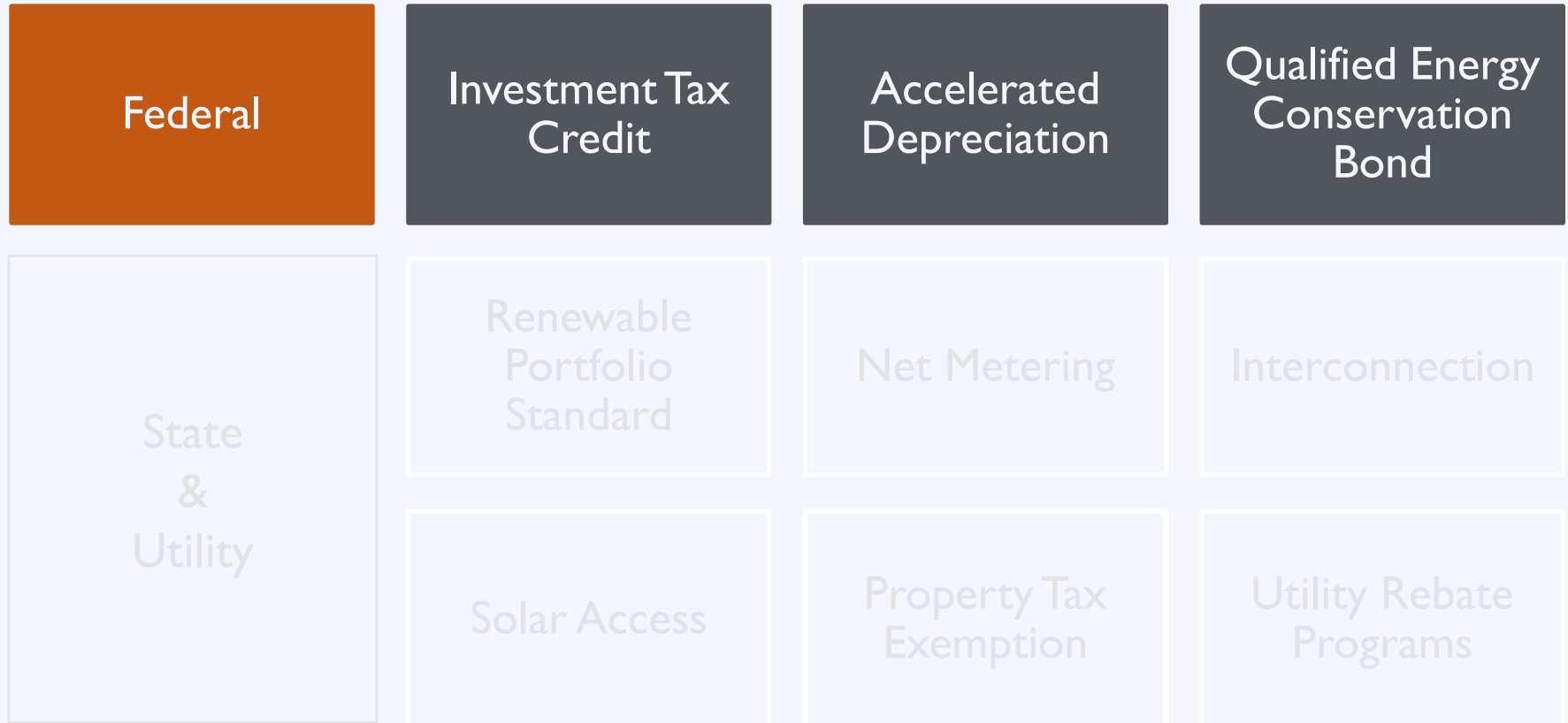
Solar Market: Trends



A Policy Driven Market

Federal	Investment Tax Credit	Accelerated Depreciation	Qualified Energy Conservation Bond
State & Utility	Renewable Portfolio Standard	Net Metering	Interconnection
	Solar Access	Property Tax Exemption	Utility Rebate Programs

A Policy Driven Market



Investment Tax Credit

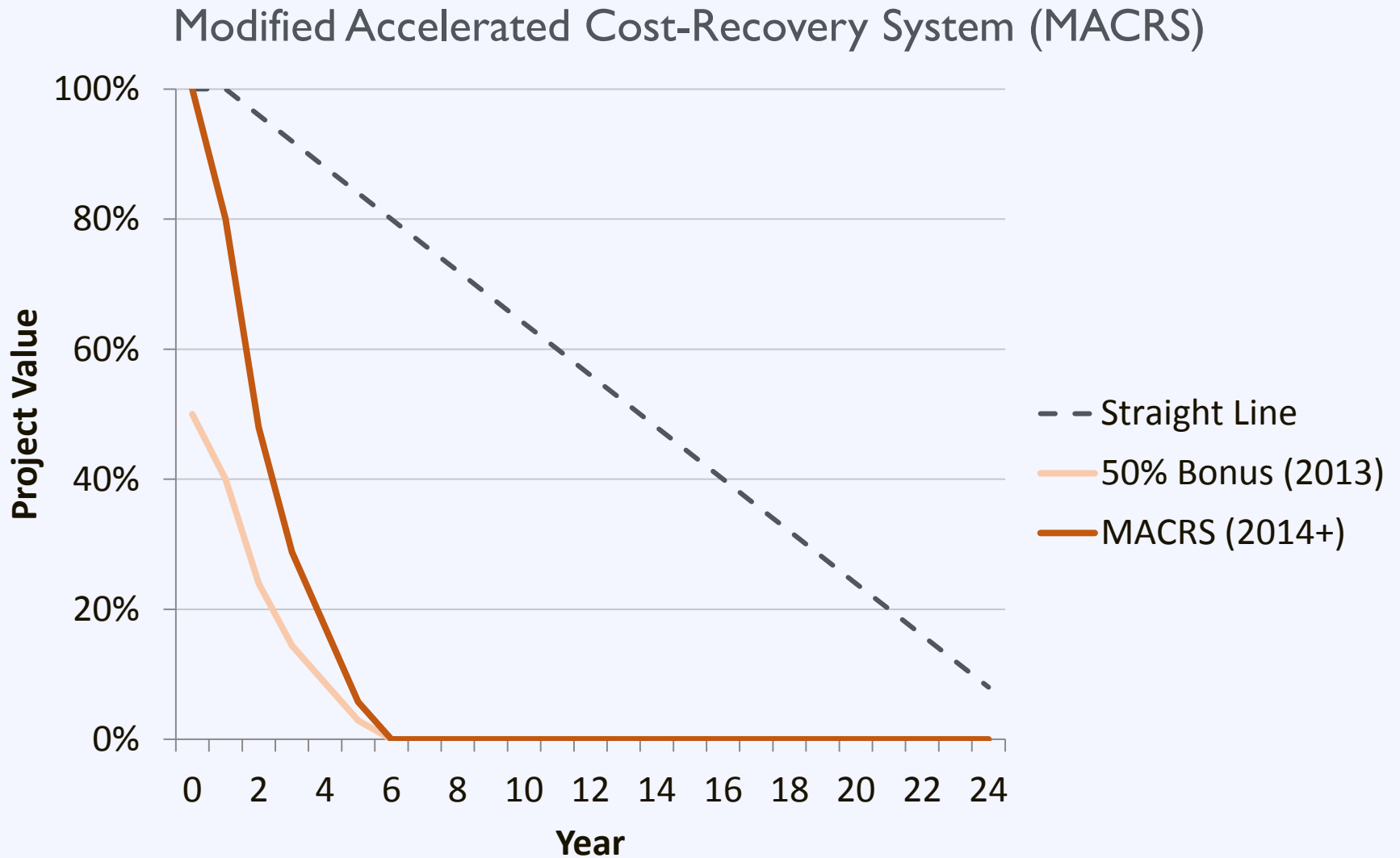
Type: Tax Credit

Eligibility: For-Profit Organization

Value: 30% of the installation cost

Availability: Through 2016

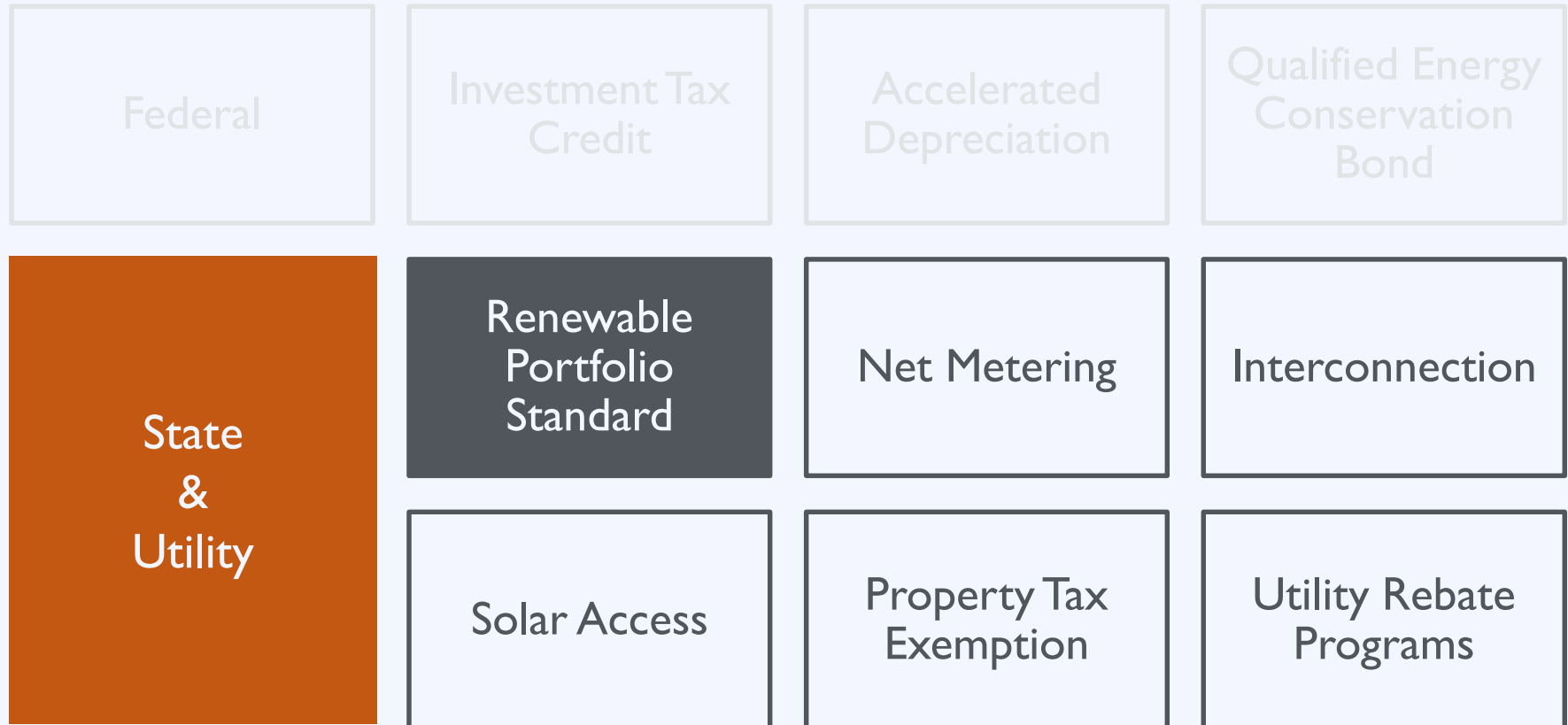
Accelerated Depreciation



Qualified Energy Conservation Bond

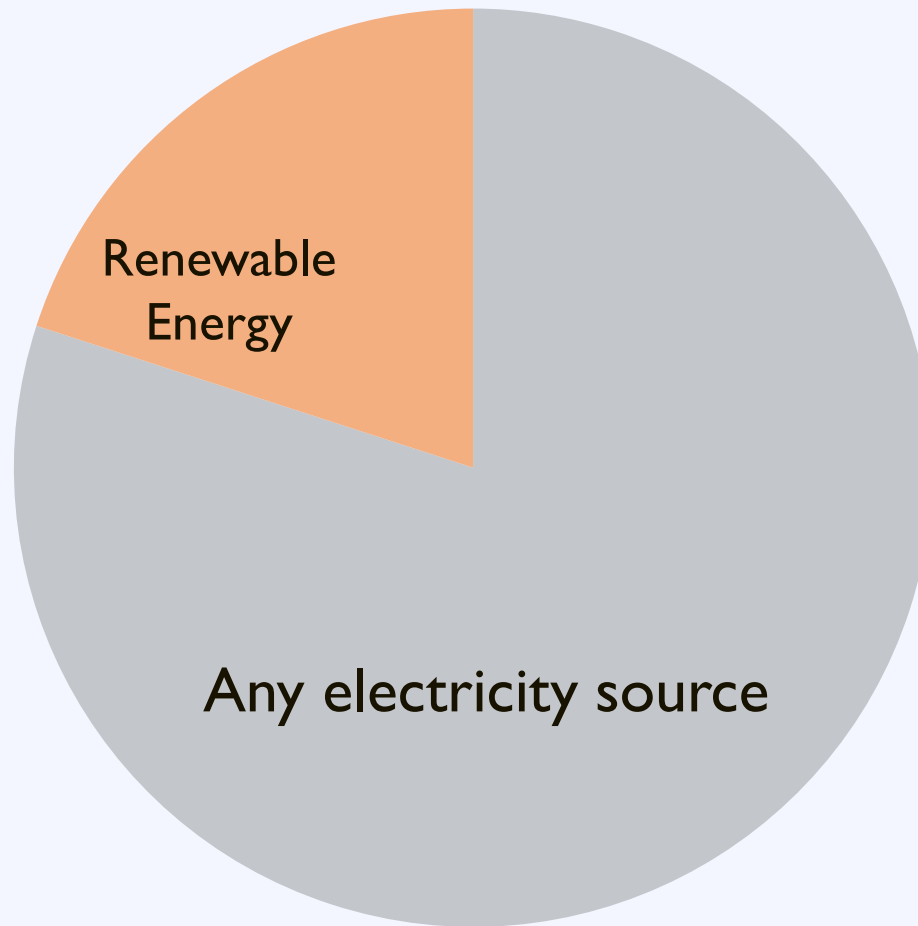


A Policy Driven Market



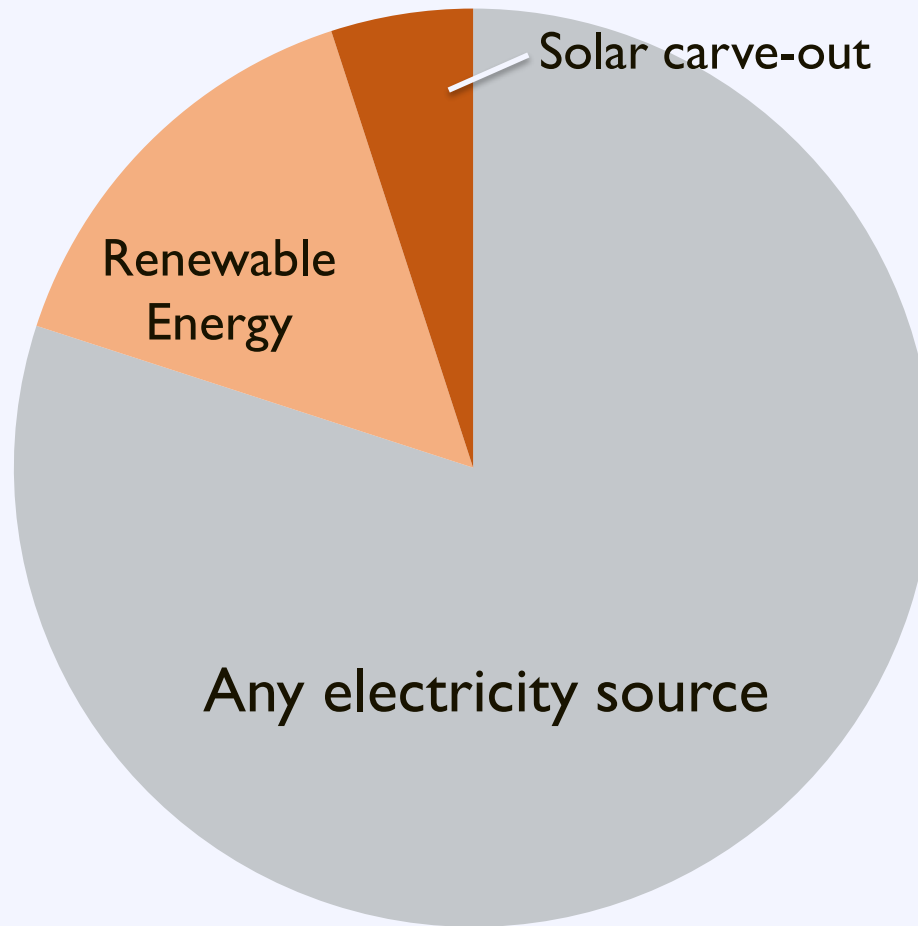
Renewable Portfolio Standard

Retail Electricity Sales

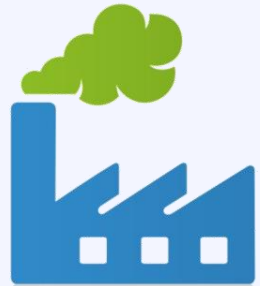


Renewable Portfolio Standard

Retail Electricity Sales



Renewable Portfolio Standard



Fossil Fuel



Renewable Energy

Two revenue streams



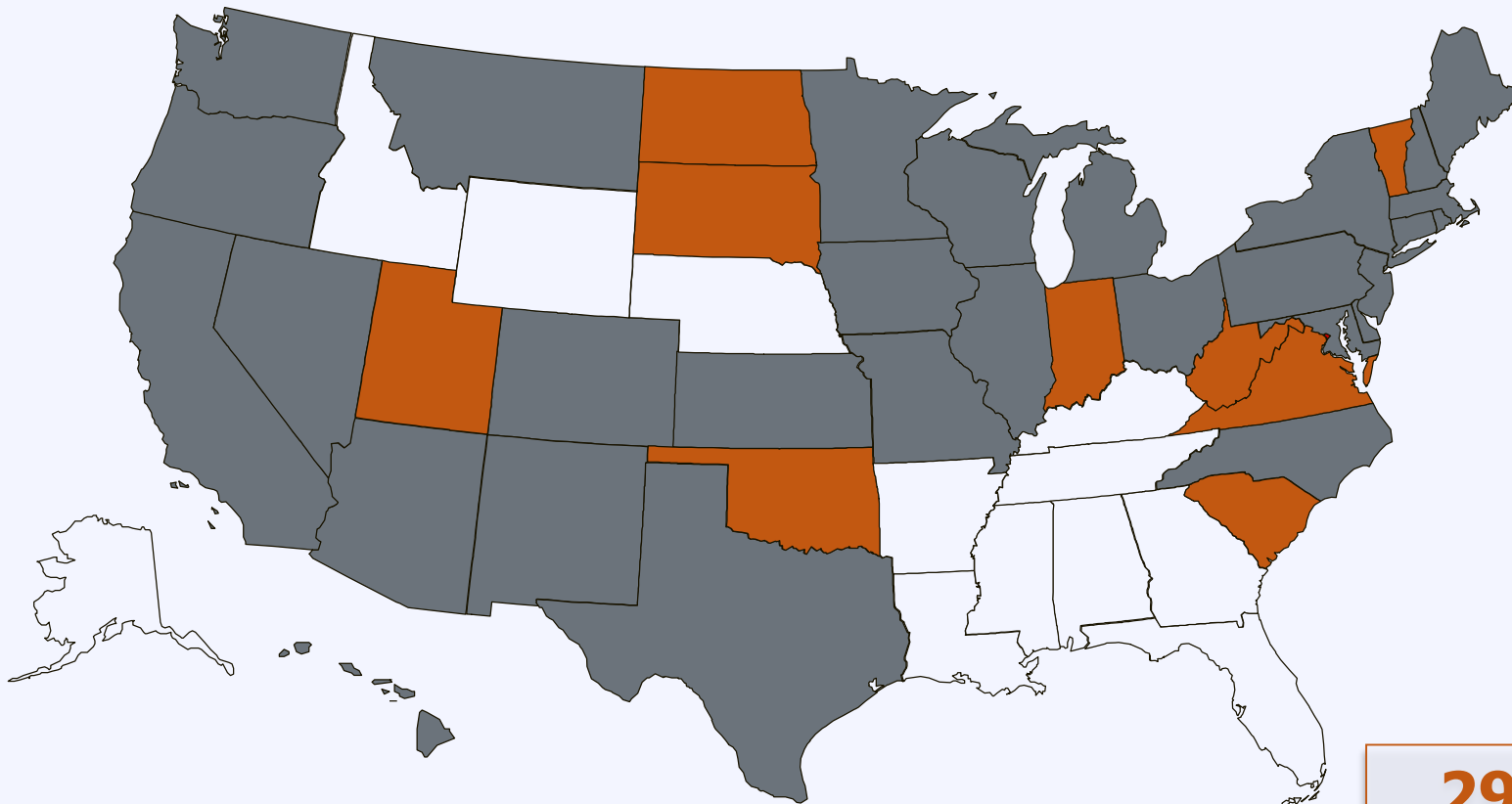
REC





Utility

Renewable Portfolio Standard

www.dsireusa.org / September 2014



 Renewable portfolio standard
 Renewable portfolio goal

29 states +
Washington DC and 2 territories have
Renewable Portfolio Standards
(9 states and 2 territories have renewable portfolio goals)

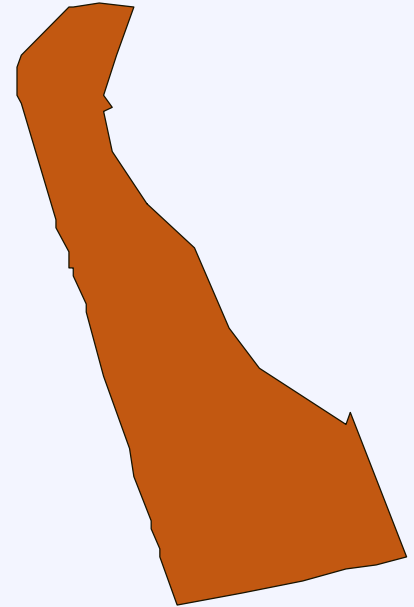
RPS Impacts: Solar Deployment

RPS and Solar/DG Status of Top Ten Solar States by Cumulative Installed Capacity (as of Q4 2013)

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

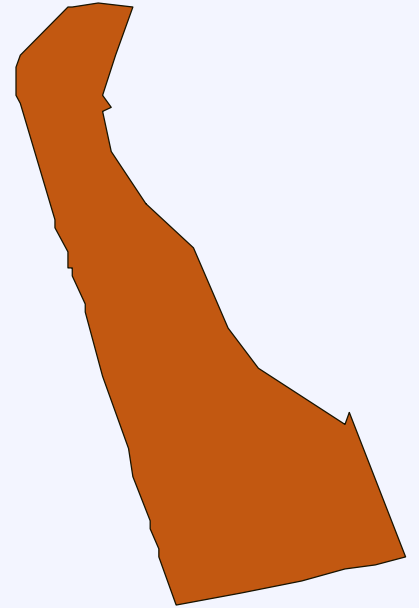
RPS: Delaware Overview

- Applies to IOUs, munis, co-ops, and retail electricity suppliers
- Standard increases annually until 2025
- 25% renewable energy by compliance year 2025-2026
 - 11.5% for compliance year 2014-2015

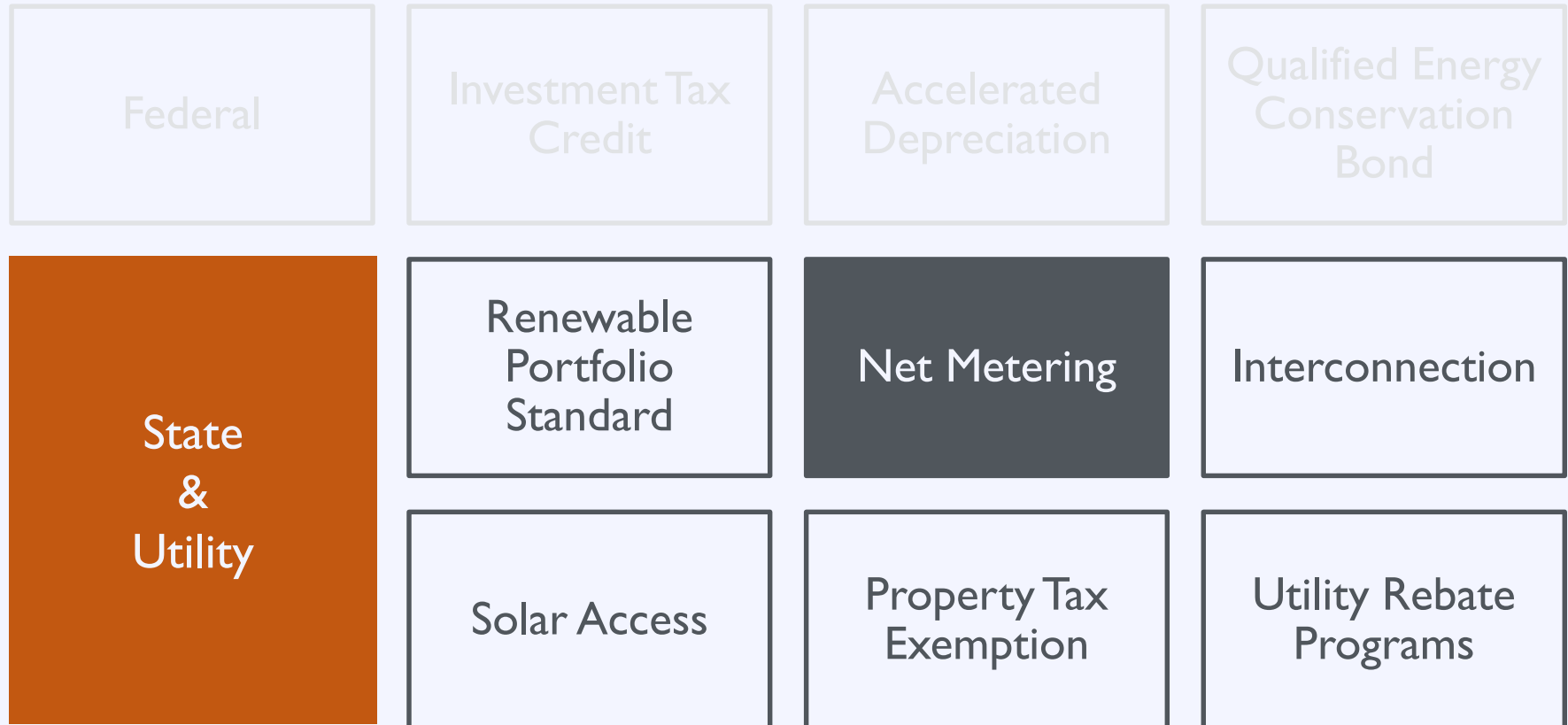


RPS: Delaware Solar Carve-Out

- Increases annually until 2025
- 3.5% solar by compliance year 2025-2026
- Solar Renewable Energy Certificates (SRECs) are used to demonstrate compliance
- Sept. 2014 online auction saw SRECs sell for \$55



A Policy Driven Market

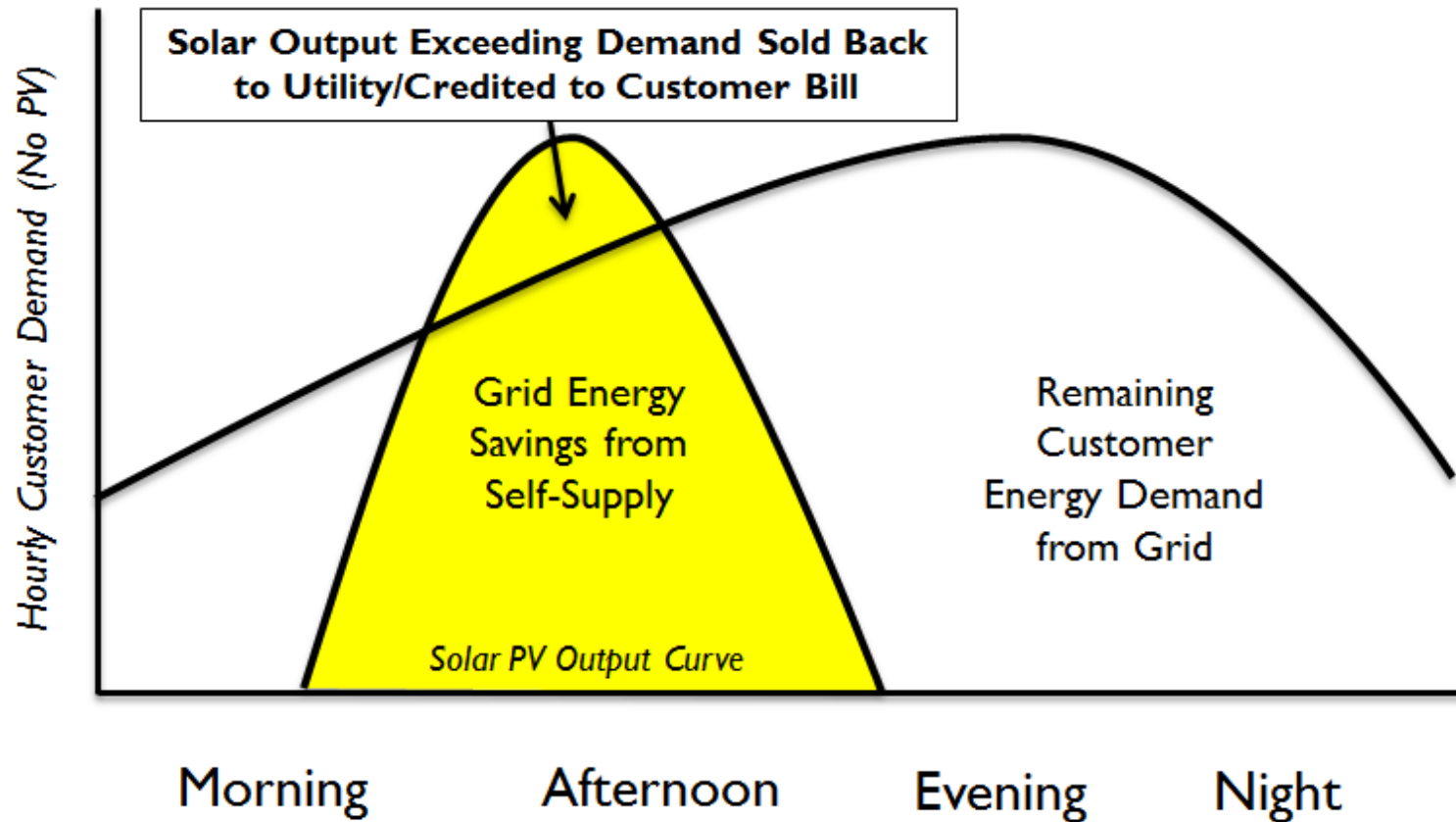


Net Metering

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

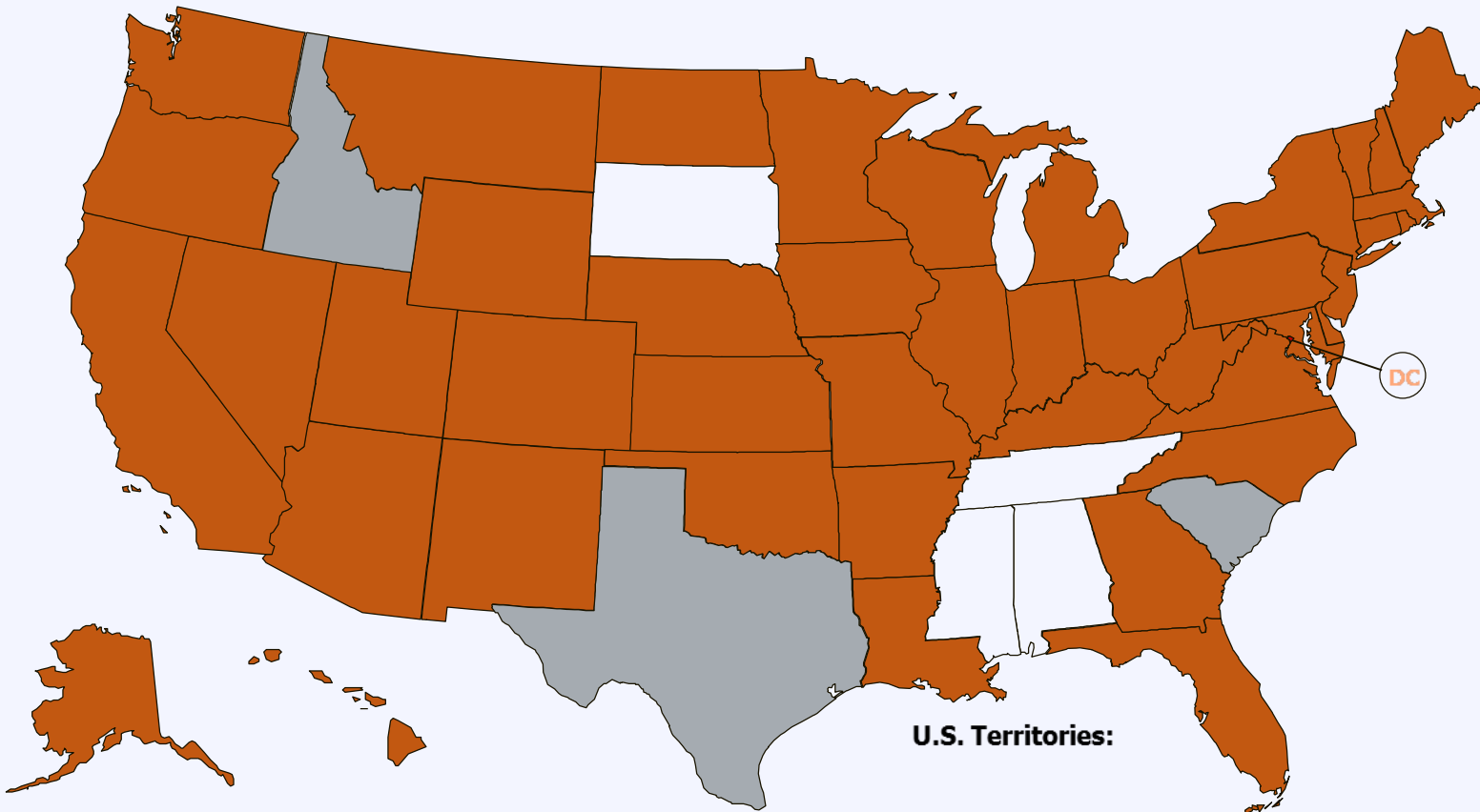
Selling Energy Back to the Utility: Net Metering



Net Metering: Market Share

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

Net Metering



- State policy
- Voluntary utility program(s) only

U.S. Territories:

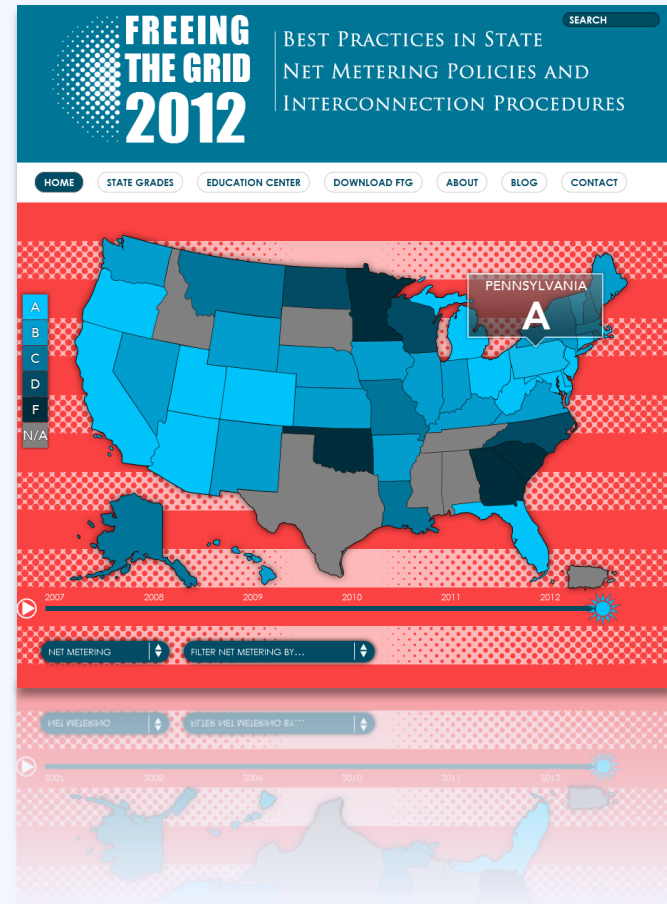
43 states +
Washington DC and 4
territories have Net
Metering Policies

Net Metering: Resources

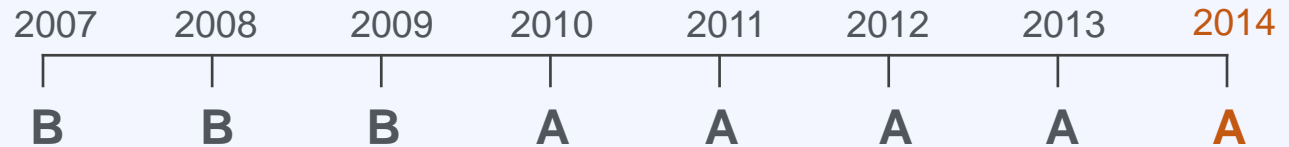
Resource **Freeing the Grid**

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

<http://freeingthegrid.org/>



Net Metering: Delaware



Net Excess Credit Value

Retail Rate



Credit Rollover

Yes- indefinite rollover with option of annual payment



System Capacity Limit

25 kW- Residential

2 MW- Non-residential (DP&L)

500 kW- Non-residential (DEC & munis)

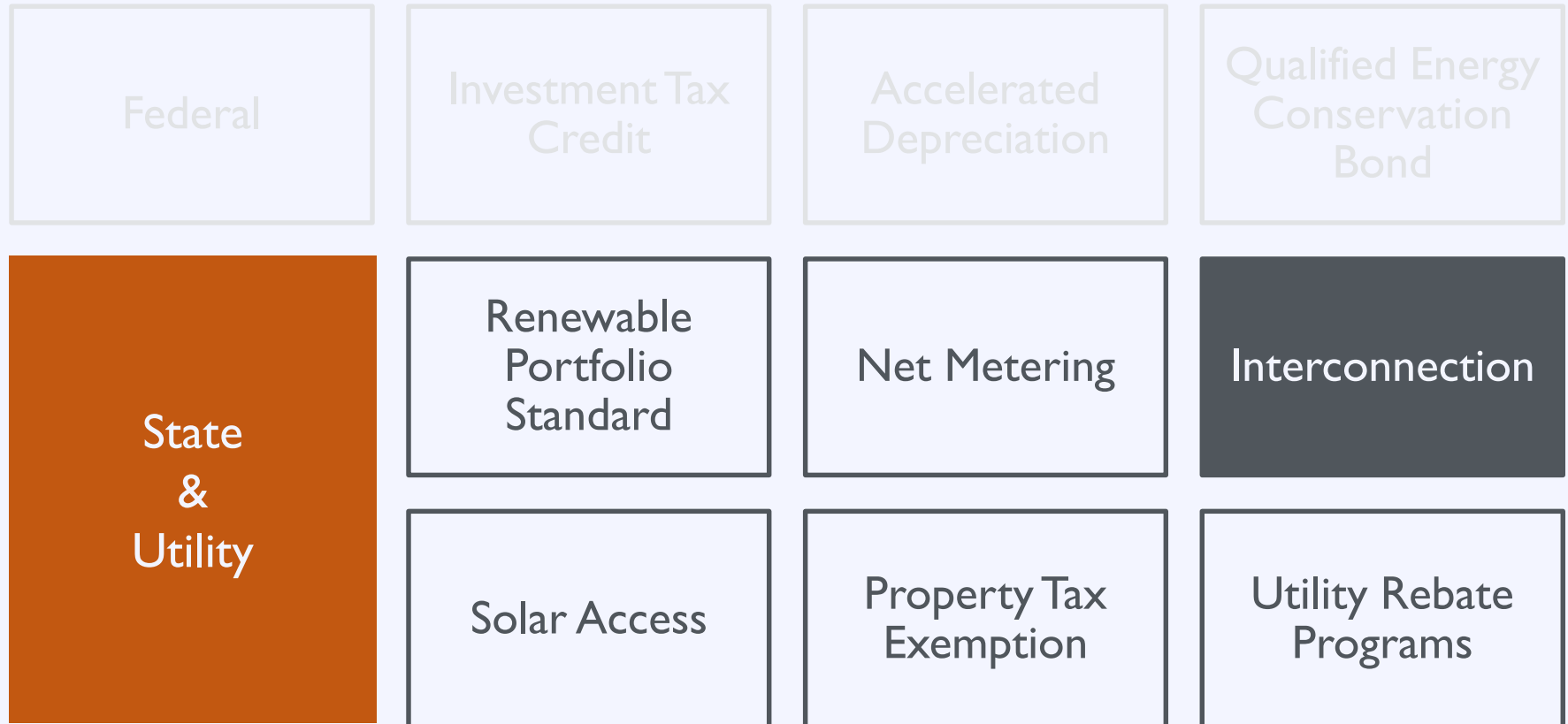
100 kW- Farm customers on res. rates



REC Ownership

Customer

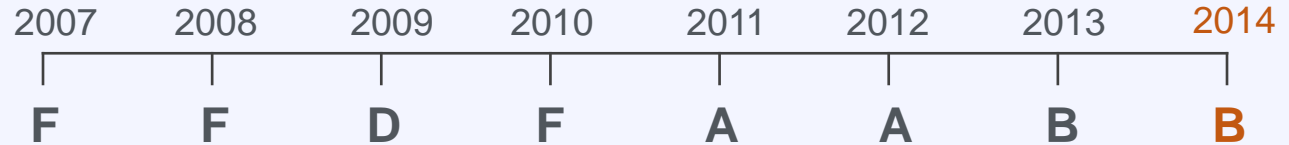
A Policy Driven Market



Interconnection

Standardized interconnection rules require utilities to provide a fair and transparent pathway for customer-generators and other developers of distributed energy resources to interconnect with the utility's grid.

Interconnection: Delaware



Applicable Technologies

Includes solar thermal electric & solar PV, among others



Applicable Utilities

All utilities



System Capacity Limit

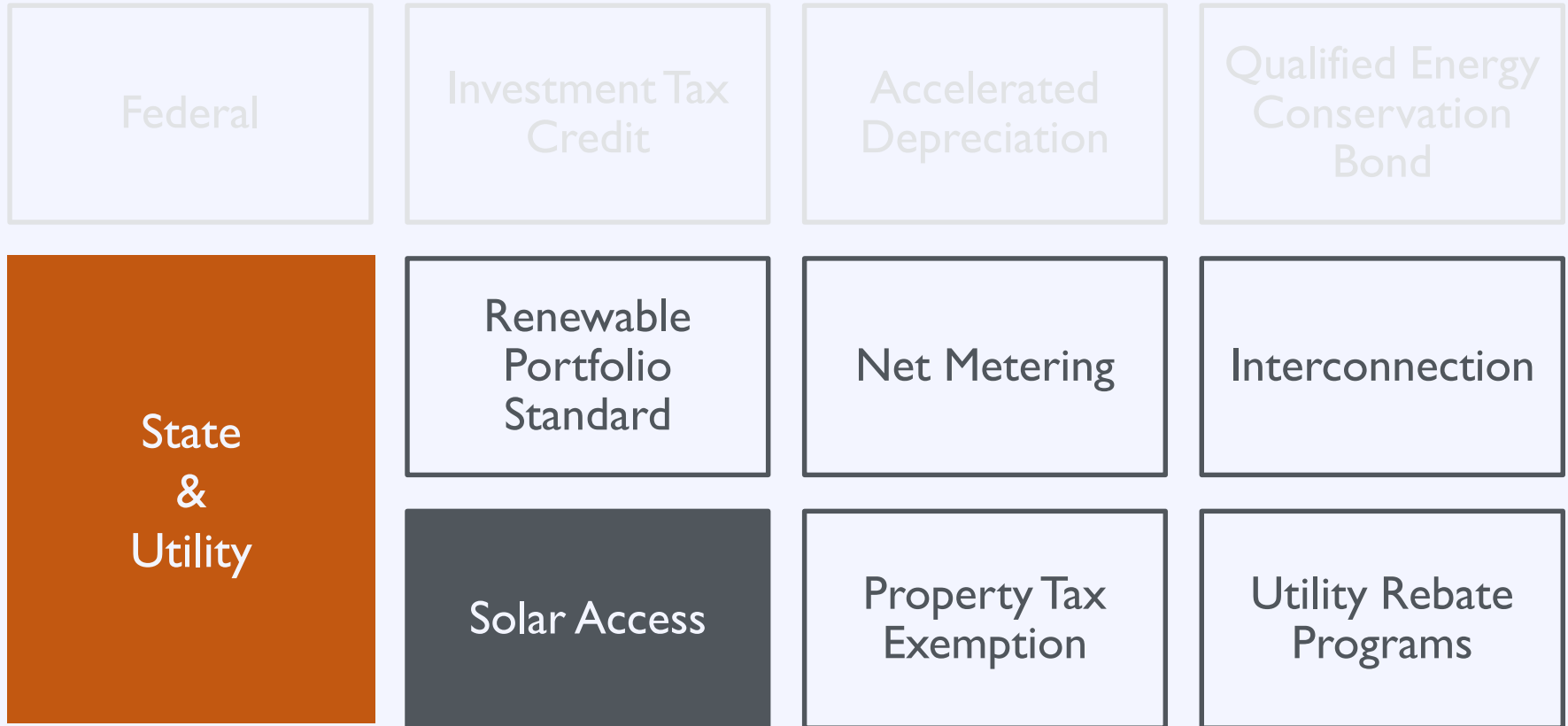
10 MW



Bonus

Electronic applications & agreements; insurance waived up to 25 kW

A Policy Driven Market



Solar Access



4525 Collins Ave, Miami Beach, FL

Eden Roc Hotel

Fontainebleau Hotel

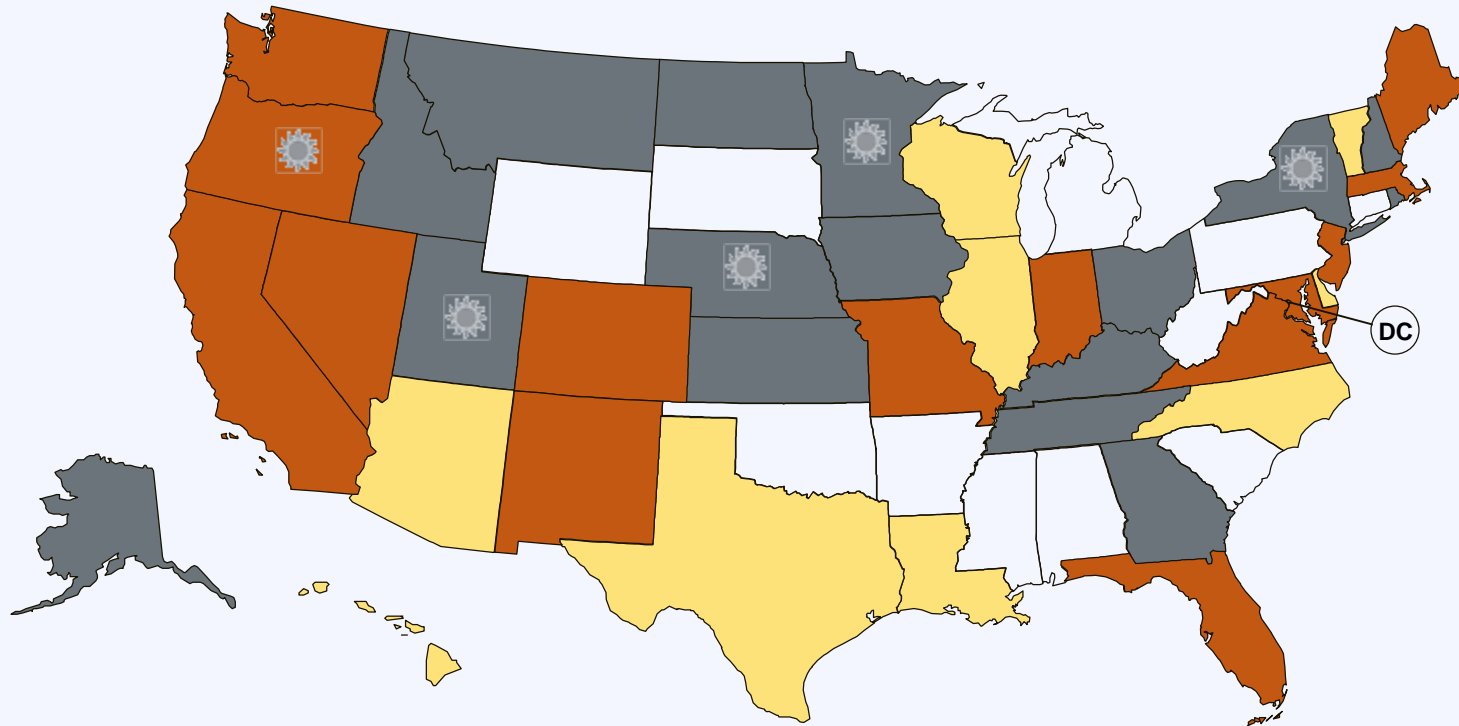
A landowner does not have any legal right to the free flow of light and air across the adjoining land of his neighbor

Solar Access

Solar 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

Solar Access



■ Solar Easements Provision

■ Solar Rights Provision

■ Solar Easements and Solar Rights Provisions

● U.S. Virgin Islands

☀ Local option to create solar rights provision

Delaware Solar Access Law

Solar Rights:

- Delaware solar rights law became effective in 2010
 - Prohibits private covenants that prohibit or unreasonably restrict the use of solar PV systems on residential rooftops
 - Only applies to single-family residences
 - Does not apply to covenants in existence prior to January 1, 2010

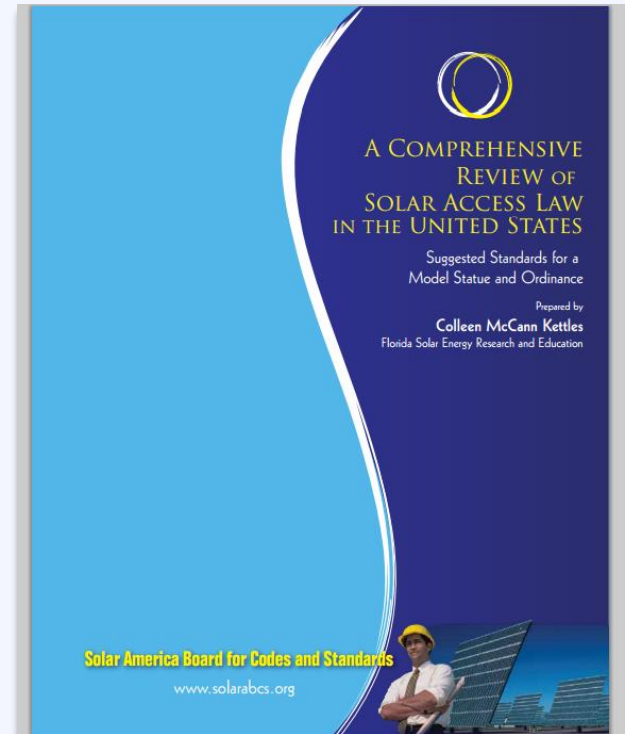
Solar Access

Resource

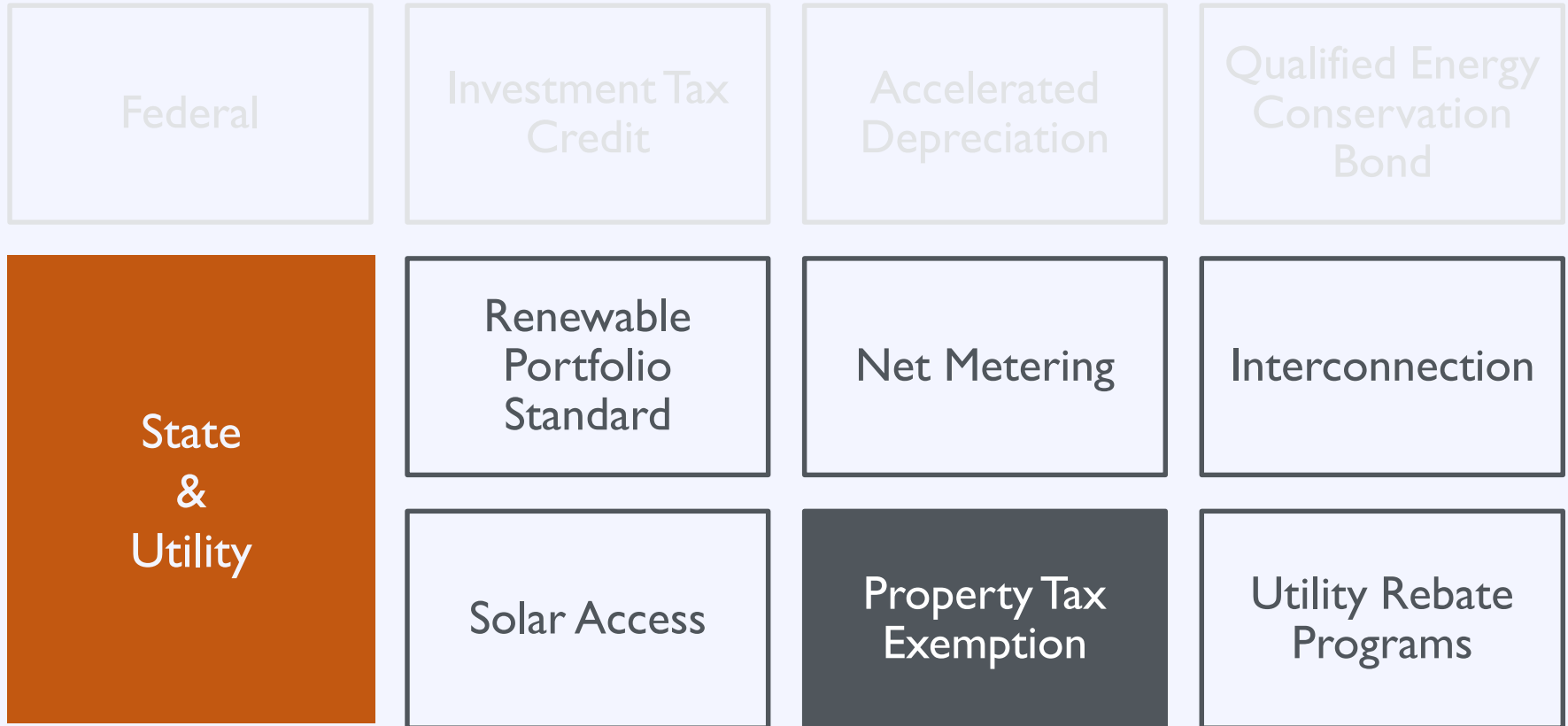
Solar America Board for Codes & Standards

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

www.solarabcs.org



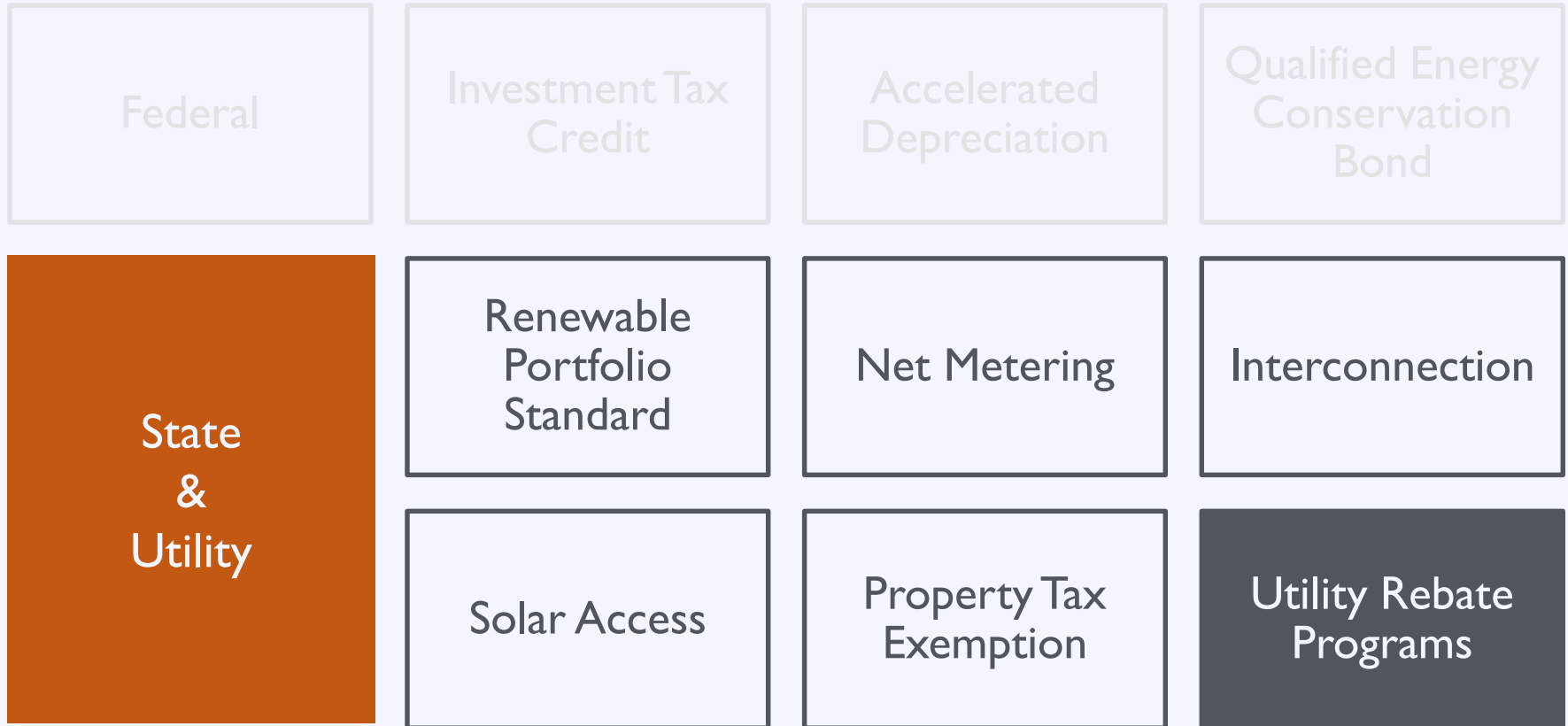
A Policy Driven Market



Property Tax Exemption

- Delaware does not have property tax laws specific to solar PV
- However, under state law, counties & other political subdivisions are prohibited from taxing tangible or intangible personal property
- Sussex & Kent counties classify all PV equipment as personal property, exempting it from property taxes

A Policy Driven Market



Green Power Program: DP&L

- Incentives available for solar PV and solar water heating systems
- 40% funding is available for residential customers
- Solar PV Rebates
 - \$0.25-\$0.85/W for residential & non-residential
 - \$1.00-\$1.75/W for non-profits
- Solar Thermal Rebates
 - \$1.00/ annual kWh (\$2.00/ annual kWh for non-profits)

Green Power Program: DEMEC

- Incentives available for solar PV and solar thermal systems
- Values vary by municipality
 - General incentives are 33.3% of PV installation costs and 50% solar thermal installation costs
- City of Dover and City of Milford have suspended their programs

Green Power Program: DEC

- Rebates for solar PV and solar thermal systems
- Solar PV incentives: \$0.45-\$0.90/W (\$0.52-\$1.05/W for non-profits)
 - Value depends upon system size
- Solar Thermal: 20% of installed costs

Agenda

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| 10:10 – 10:30 | Putting Solar Energy on the Local Policy Agenda |
| 10:30 – 10:50 | State of the Local Solar Market |
| 10:50 – 11:20 | Federal, State, and Utility Policy Drivers |
| 11:20 – 11:40 | <i>Break and Grab Lunch</i> |
| 11:40 – 12:10 | Planning for Solar: Getting Solar Ready |
| 12:10 – 12:45 | Solar Market Development Tools |
| 12:45 – 1:00 | <i>Break</i> |
| 1:00 – 2:00 | Local Speakers |
| 2:00 – 3:00 | Developing and Solar Policy Implementation Plan for |

Your Community and Next Steps

Agenda

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| 10:10 – 10:30 | Putting Solar Energy on the Local Policy Agenda |
| 10:30 – 10:50 | State of the Local Solar Market |
| 10:50 – 11:20 | Federal, State, and Utility Policy Drivers |
| 11:20 – 11:40 | <i>Break and Grab Lunch</i> |
| 11:40 – 12:10 | Planning for Solar: Getting Solar Ready |
| 12:10 – 12:45 | Solar Market Development Tools |
| 12:45 – 1:00 | <i>Break</i> |
| 1:00 – 2:00 | Local Speakers |
| 2:00 – 3:00 | Developing and Solar Policy Implementation Plan for |

Your Community and Next Steps

Effective Local Solar Policy

Local Solar Policy

Planning for Solar

Solar in Development Regulation

Effective Solar Permitting Process

Solar Market Development Tools

Effective Local Solar Policy

Local Solar
Policy

Planning for
Solar

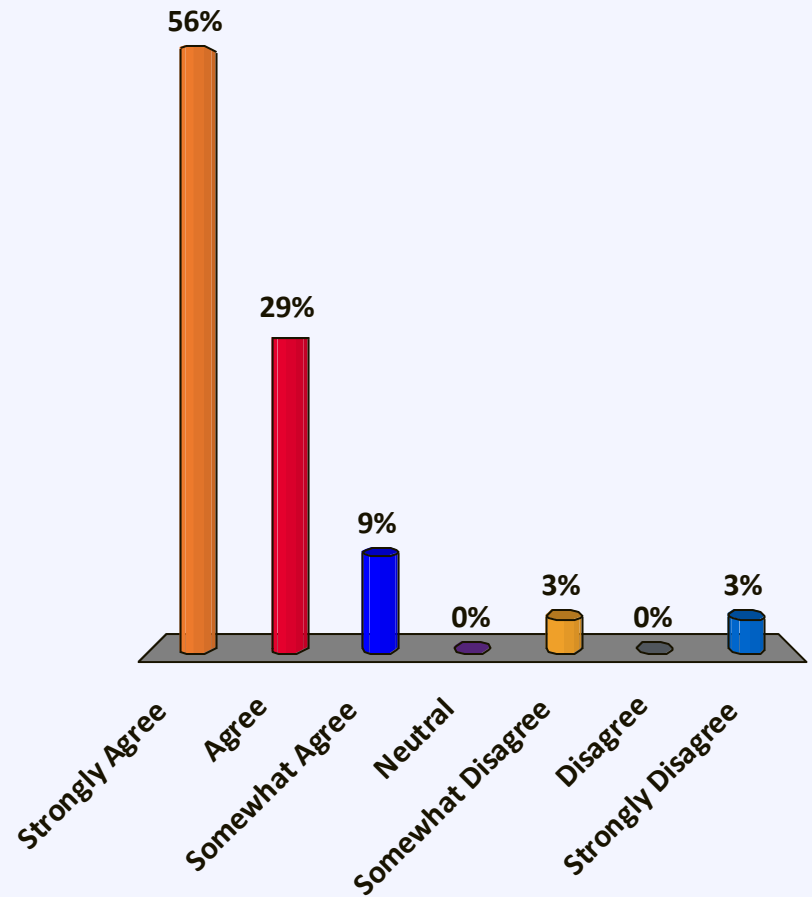
Visioning &
goal setting

Effective Solar
Permitting
Process

Solar Market
Development
Tools

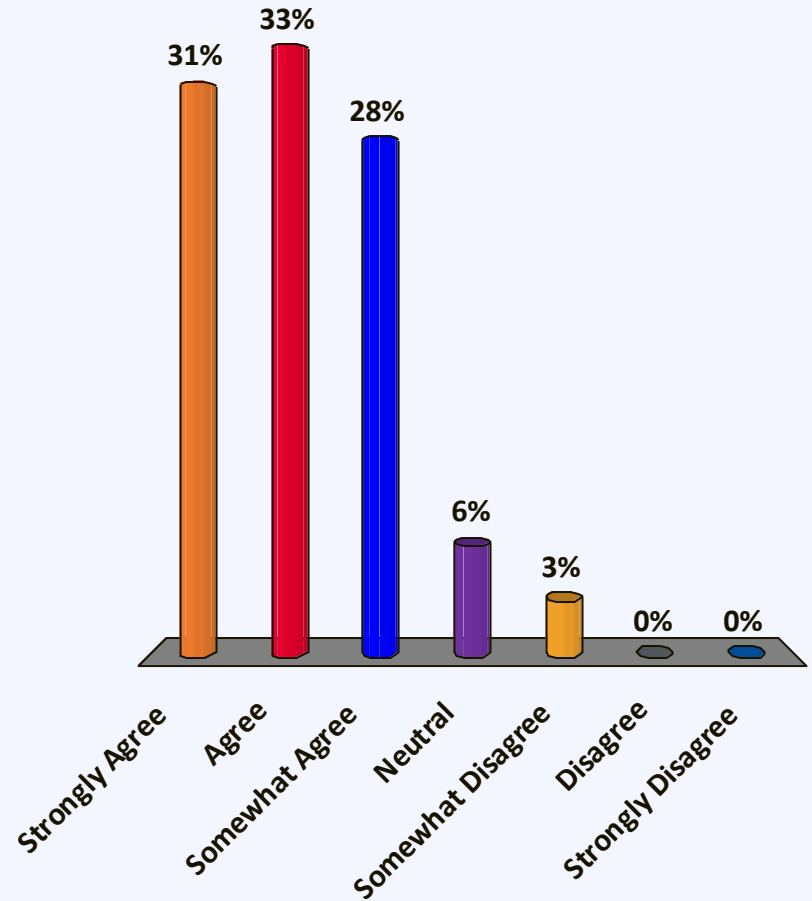
Solar advances your energy goals

- A. Strongly Agree
- B. Agree
- C. Somewhat Agree
- D. Neutral
- E. Somewhat Disagree
- F. Disagree
- G. Strongly Disagree



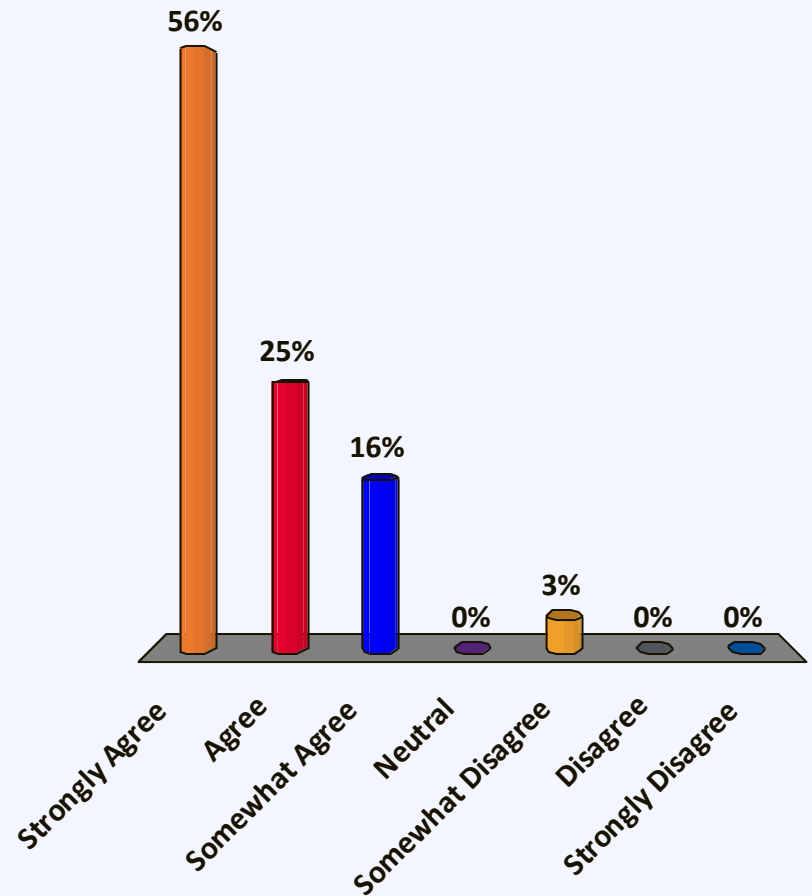
Solar advances your economic development goals

- A. Strongly Agree
- B. Agree
- C. Somewhat Agree
- D. Neutral
- E. Somewhat Disagree
- F. Disagree
- G. Strongly Disagree



Solar advances your environmental & health goals

- A. Strongly Agree
- B. Agree
- C. Somewhat Agree
- D. Neutral
- E. Somewhat Disagree
- F. Disagree
- G. Strongly Disagree



Visioning: Scales & Contexts

Poll

Is solar on residential rooftops appropriate for your community?

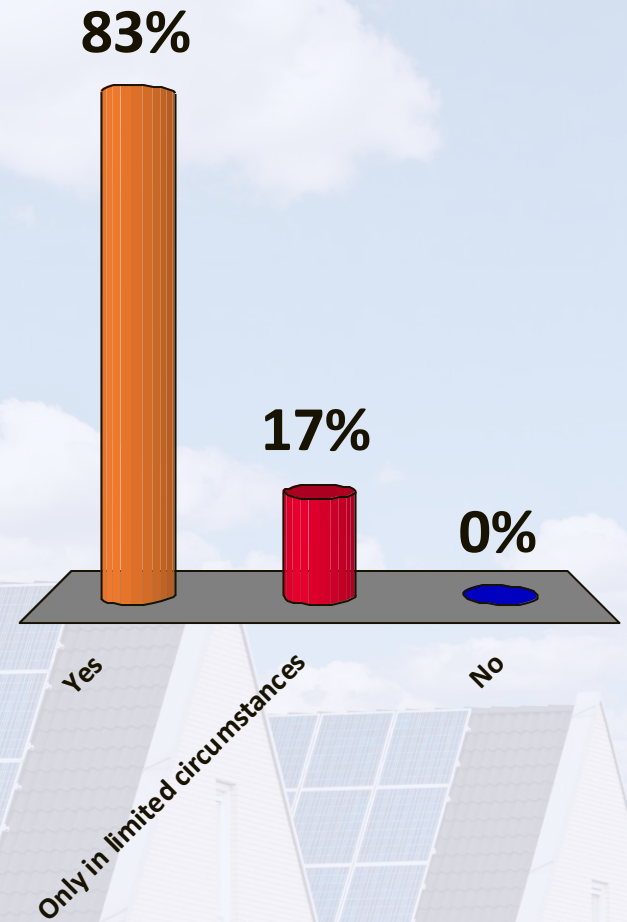


Visioning: Scales & Contexts

Poll

Is solar on residential rooftops appropriate for your community?

- A. Yes
- B. Only in limited circumstances
- C. No



Visioning: Scales & Contexts

Poll

Is solar on
commercial
rooftops
appropriate for
your community?

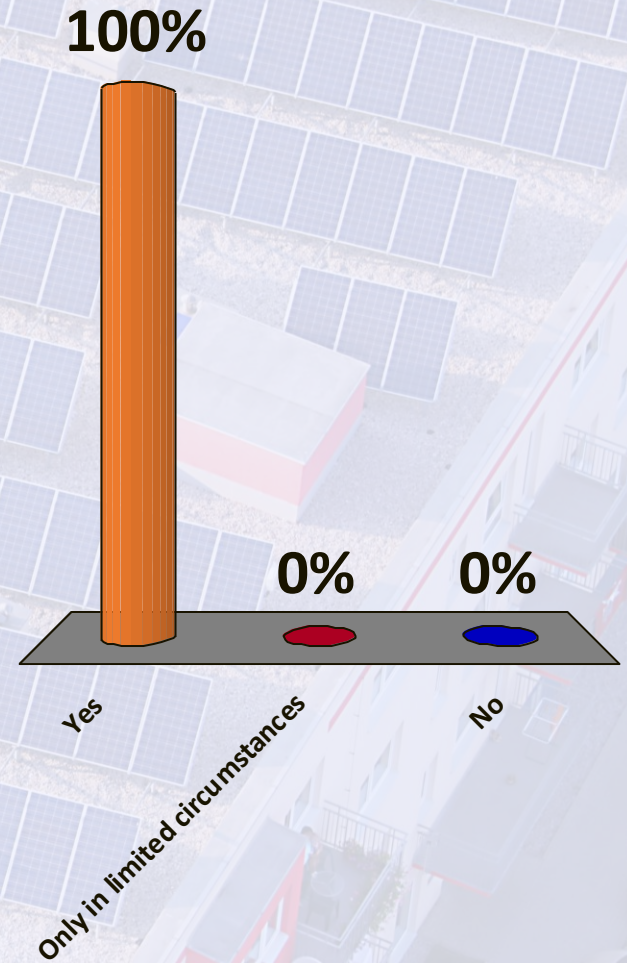


Visioning: Scales & Contexts

Poll

Is solar on
commercial
rooftops
appropriate for
your community?

- A. Yes
- B. Only in limited
circumstances
- C. No



Visioning: Scales & Contexts

Poll

Is solar on historic structures appropriate for your community?

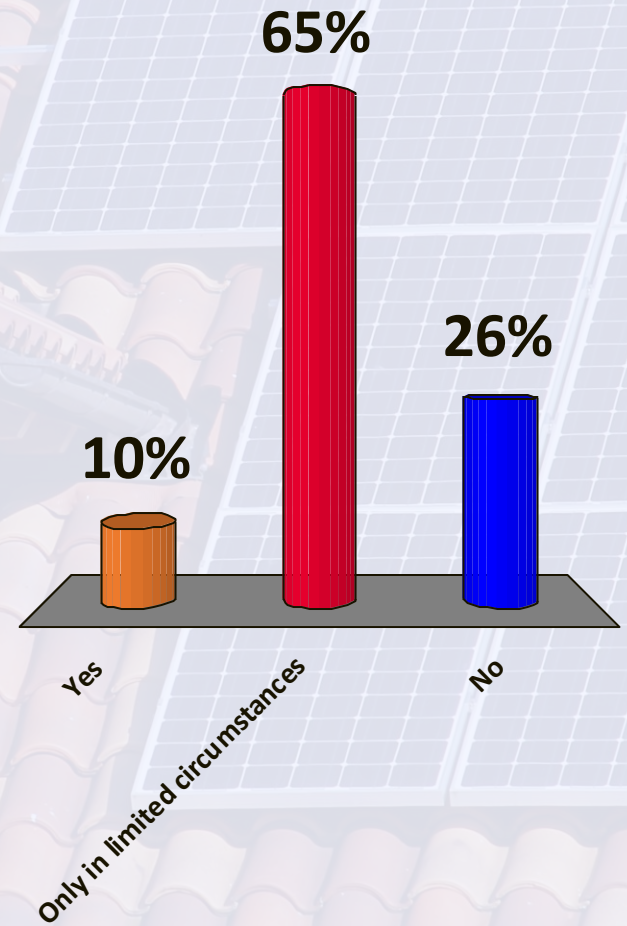


Visioning: Scales & Contexts

Poll

Is solar on historic structures appropriate for your community?

- A. Yes
- B. Only in limited circumstances
- C. No



Visioning: Scales & Contexts

Poll

Is solar on
brownfields
appropriate for
your community?

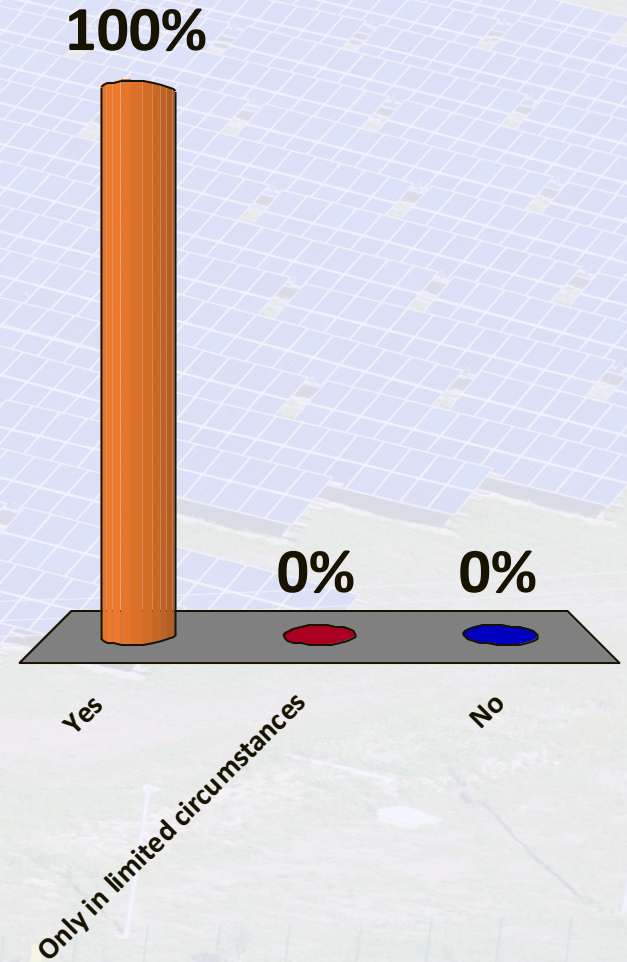


Visioning: Scales & Contexts

Poll

Is solar on brownfields appropriate for your community?

- A. Yes
- B. Only in limited circumstances
- C. No



Visioning: Scales & Contexts

Poll

Is solar on
greenfields
appropriate for
your community?

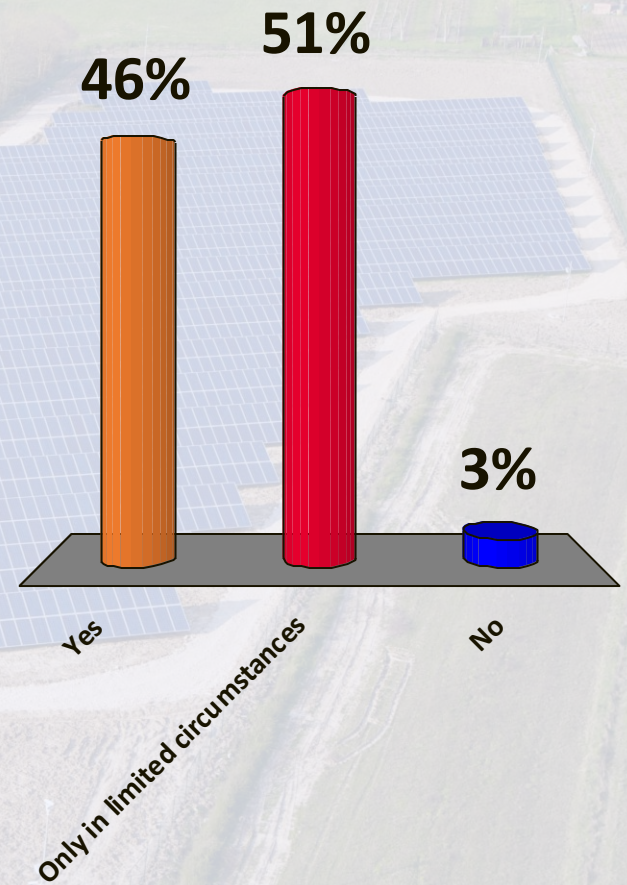


Visioning: Scales & Contexts

Poll

Is solar on greenfields appropriate for your community?

- A. Yes
- B. Only in limited circumstances
- C. No



Visioning: Scales & Contexts

Poll

Is solar on parking lots appropriate for your community?

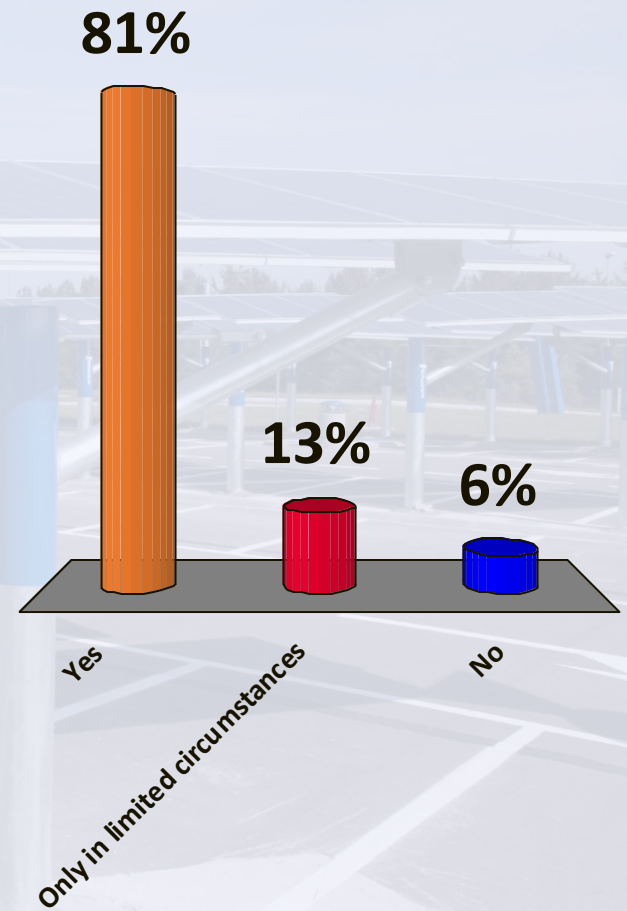


Visioning: Scales & Contexts

Poll

Is solar on parking lots appropriate for your community?

- A. Yes
- B. Only in limited circumstances
- C. No



Visioning: Scales & Contexts

Poll

Is building-integrated solar appropriate for your community?

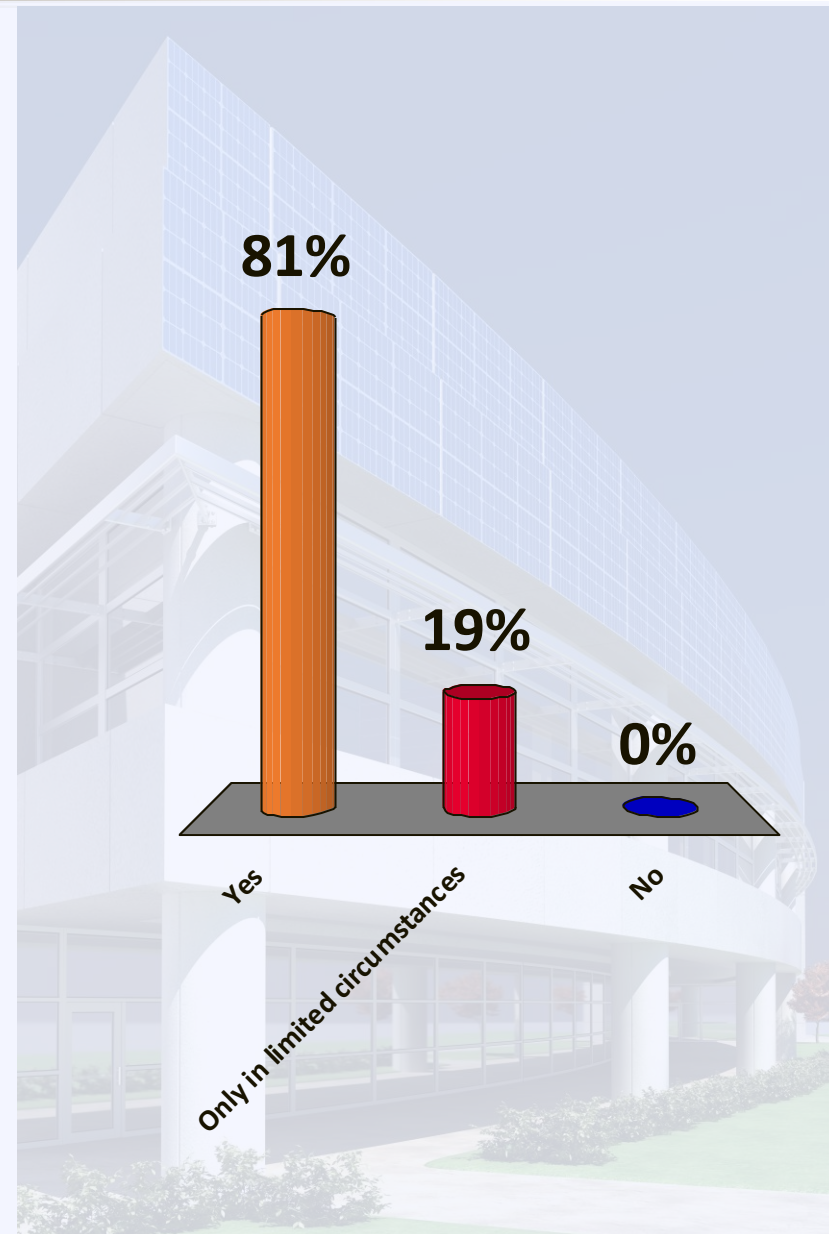


Visioning: Scales & Contexts

Poll

Is building-integrated solar appropriate for your community?

- A. Yes
- B. Only in limited circumstances
- C. No



Planning for Solar Development

Communitywide Comprehensive Plan

Neighborhood
Plans

Corridor Plans

Special District
Plans

Green
Infrastructure
Plans

Energy Plan

Climate Action
Plan

Solar in Dover Plans

Comprehensive Plan

Part II – Plan Goals: Natural Resources and Environmental Protection

Goal 3: *Encourage Green Development and Sustainable Energy Practices*

Begin the process of creating both Code amendments and/or policy amendments and revisions which encourage environmentally sensitive development and allow for emerging “green” trends to flourish in the City.

Recommendation 6: Research and Implement a Green Energy Program

- Revise the City Code to eliminate/minimize barriers to “green” and environmentally friendly development.
- The City should support the use of “green” development practices wherever possible.

Technical Resources

Resource

Planning for Solar Energy

A guide for planners on determining and implementing local solar goals, objectives, policies, and actions

www.planning.org



Effective Local Solar Policy

Local Solar
Policy

Planning for
Solar

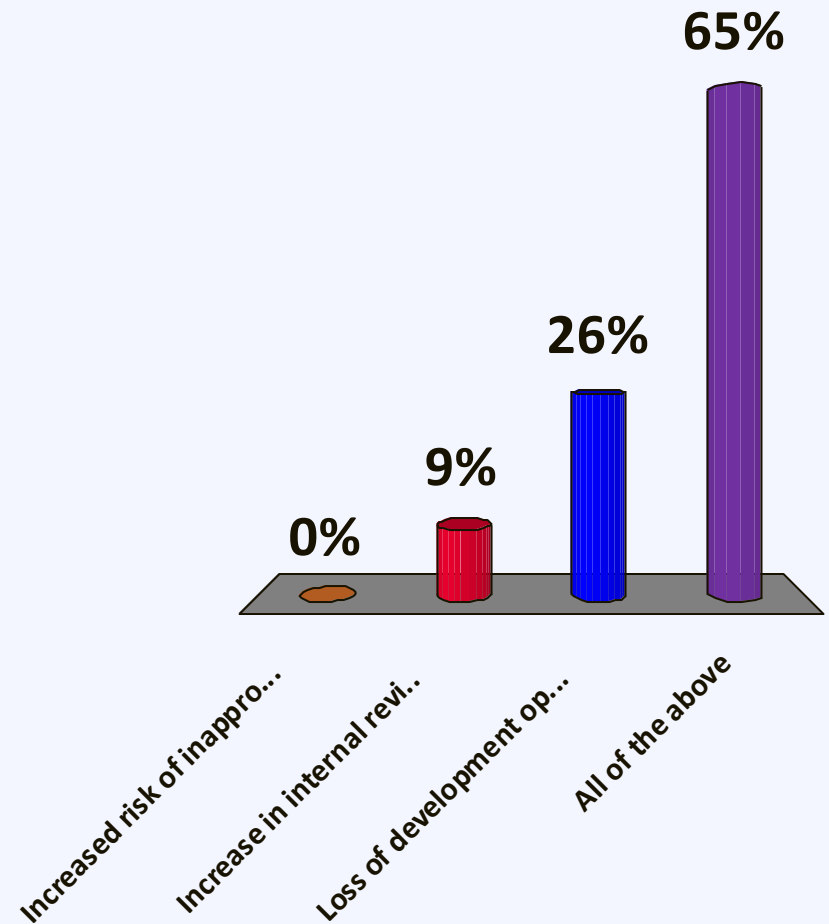
Solar in
Development
Regulation

Effective Solar
Permitting
Process

Solar Market
Development
Tools

What is the cost of convoluted regulations or “regulatory silence”?

- A. Increased risk of inappropriate development
- B. Increase in internal review costs
- C. Loss of development opportunities
- D. All of the above



Zoning Standards

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

Zoning Standards: Small Solar

Typical Requirements:

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



Zoning Standards: Large Solar

Typical Requirements:

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



Zoning Standards: Model Ordinances

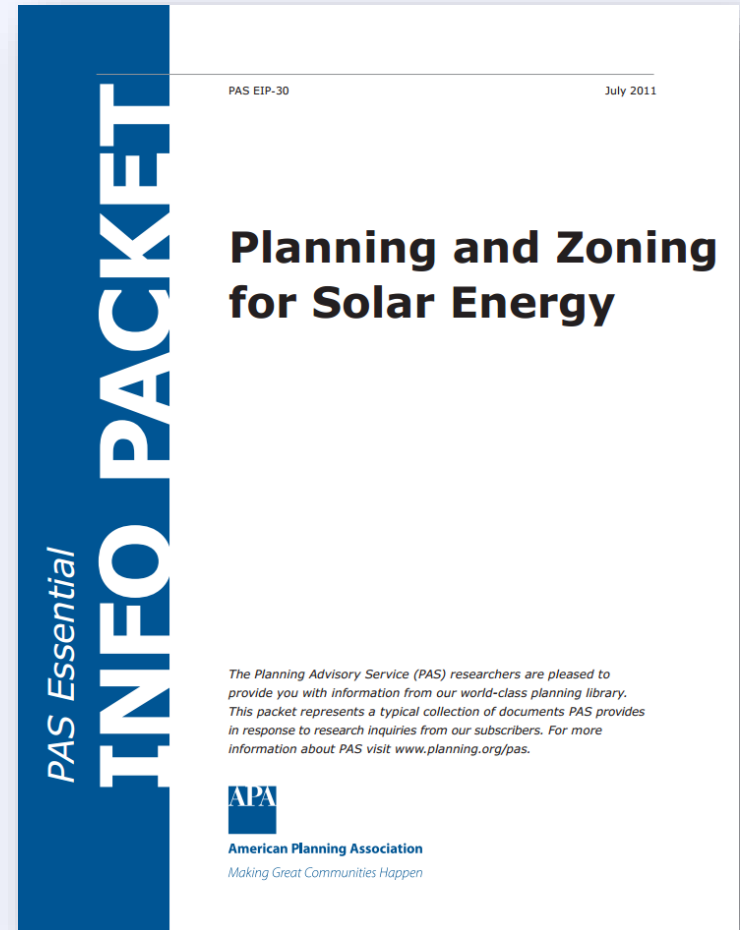
Resource

American Planning Association

Bethany Beach, Town of. 2010.

Ordinance no. 455: An Ordinance to Add A New Chapter 484 “Solar Energy Systems” To the Town Code of Bethany Beach.

Allows solar energy systems for on-site energy use as permitted accessory uses in all zoning districts. Encourages rooftop panels on side and back roof slopes rather than ground-mounted systems.



Zoning Standards: Historic

Typical Requirements:

- Prevent permanent loss of “character defining” features
- Possible design requirements
 - Ground mounted
 - Flat roof with setback
 - Panels flush with roof
 - Blend color



Source: SolarCentury

Zoning Standards: Historic

Resource

North Carolina Clean Energy Technology Center

Provides sample design principles and example regulations incorporating historic preservation into sustainability and energy projects.

Installing Solar Panels on Historic Buildings

A Survey of the Regulatory Environment

August 2012

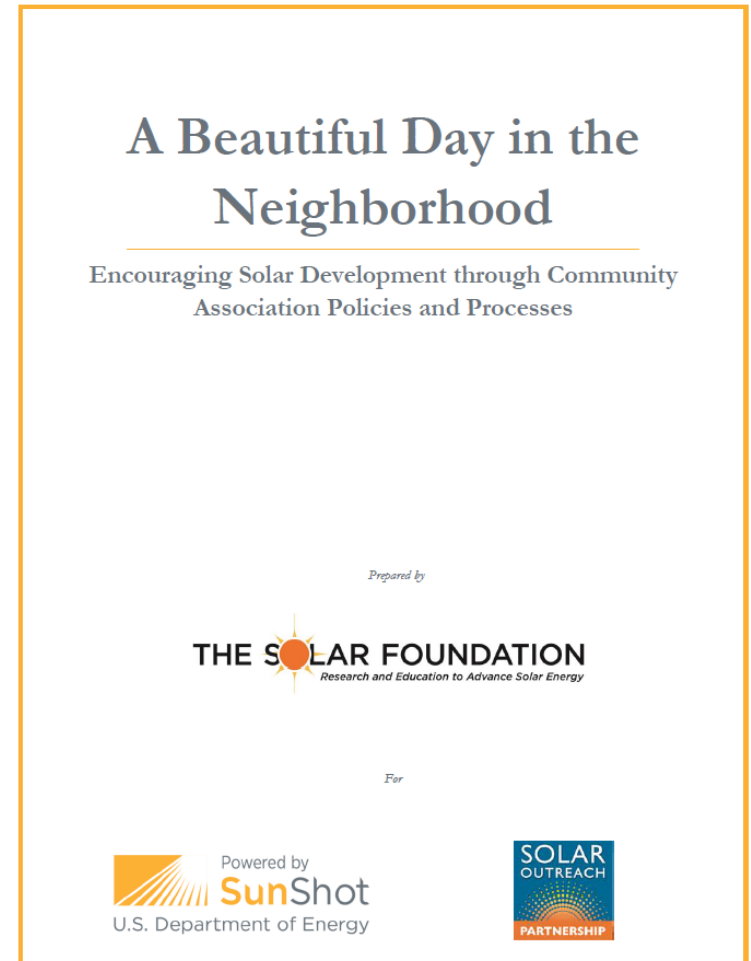
Prepared by



Private Rules on Residential Solar

Resource The Solar Foundation

Guide for HOAs on solar access law and simple recommendations for reducing barriers to solar in association-governed communities.



Solar in HOAs: Best Practices

- ✓ Provide clear, unambiguous design guidelines
- ✓ Post rules and requirements online
- ✓ Provide a list of all required documents
- ✓ Waive design rules that significantly increase cost or decrease performance
- ✓ Allow exceptions from tree removal rules for solar

Update Building Code

Solar Ready Construction:

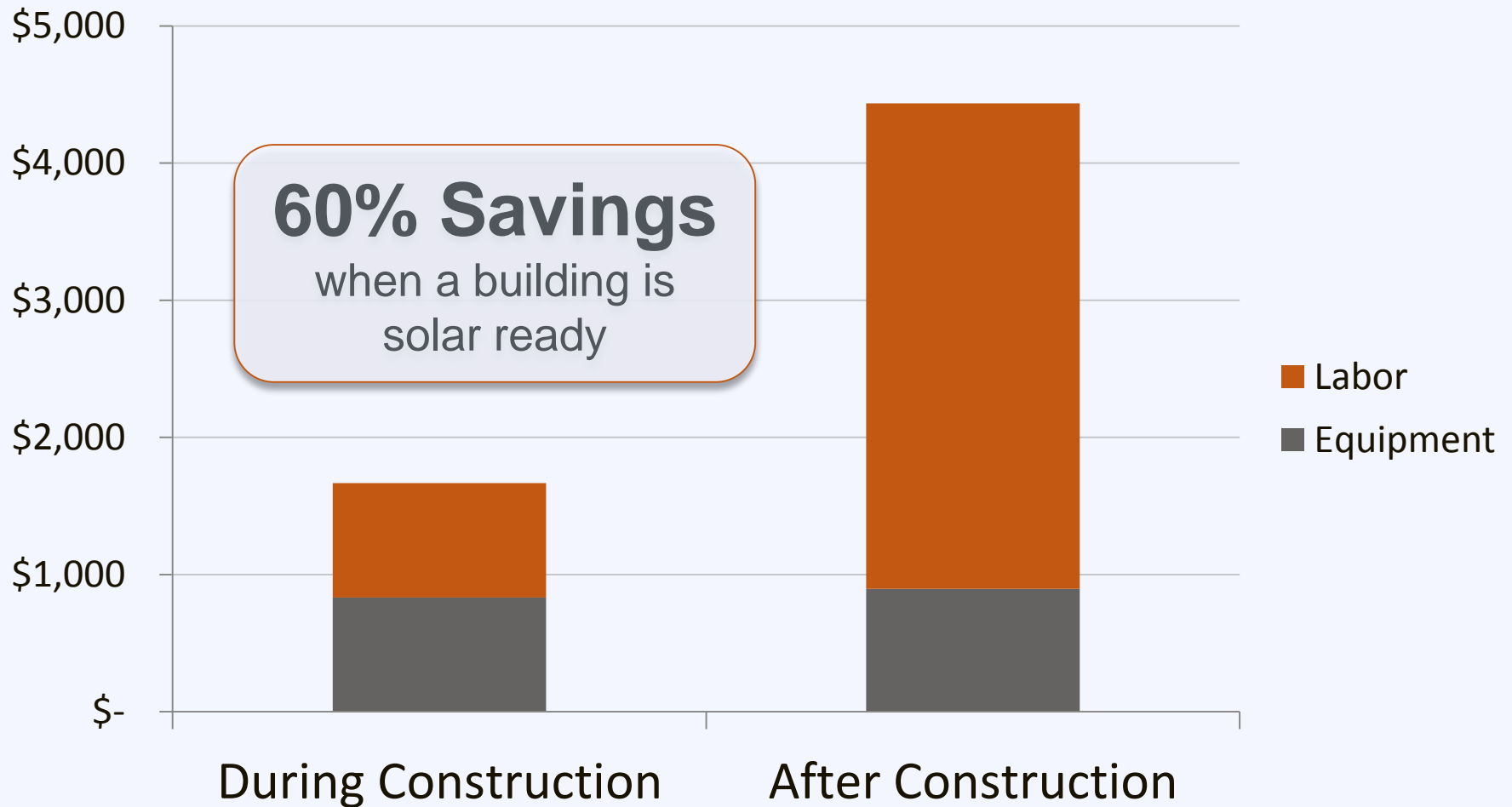
Preparing a building for solar at the outset can help make future solar installations easier and more cost effective.

Update Building Code

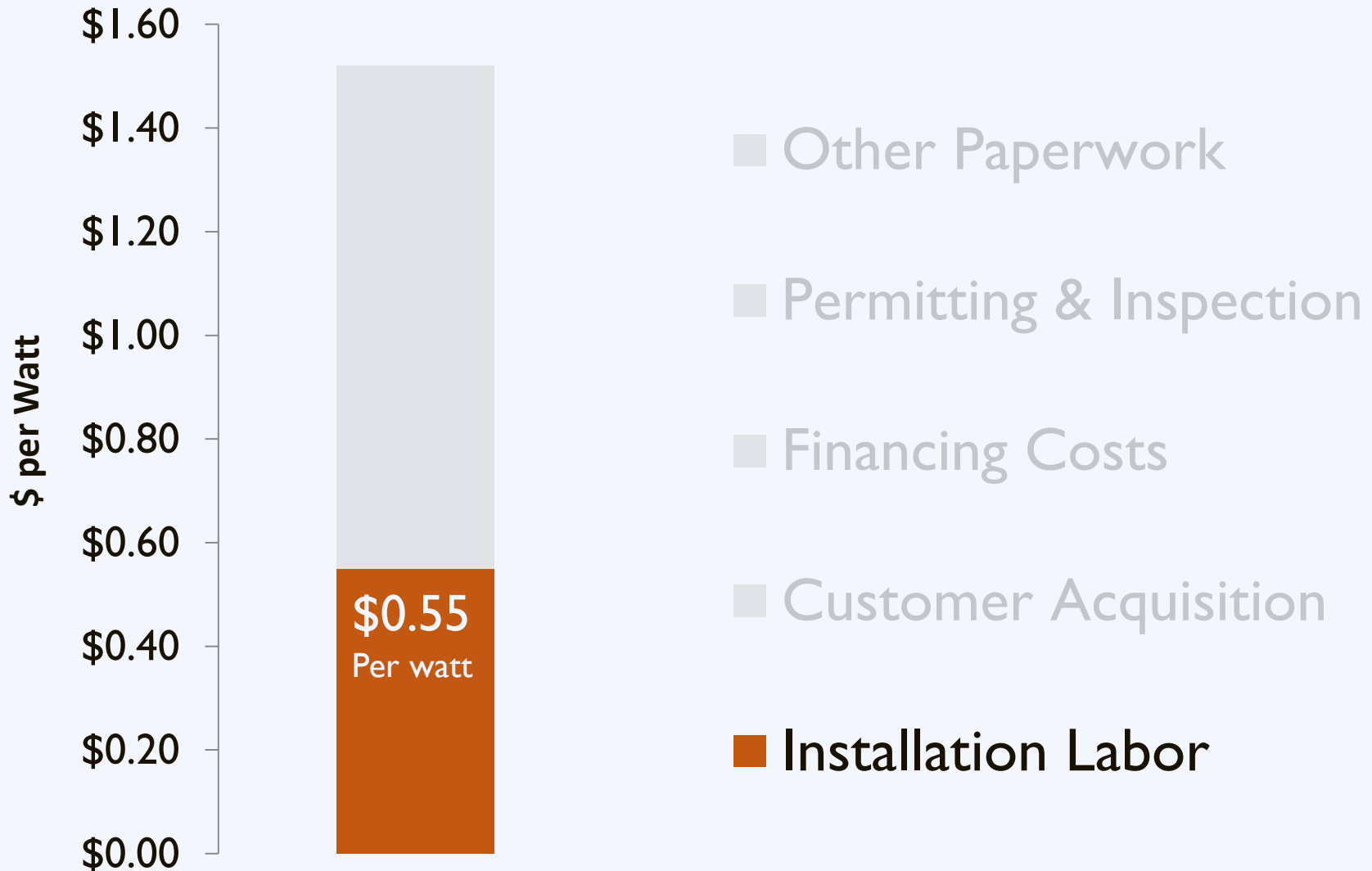
Require builders to:

- ✓ 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

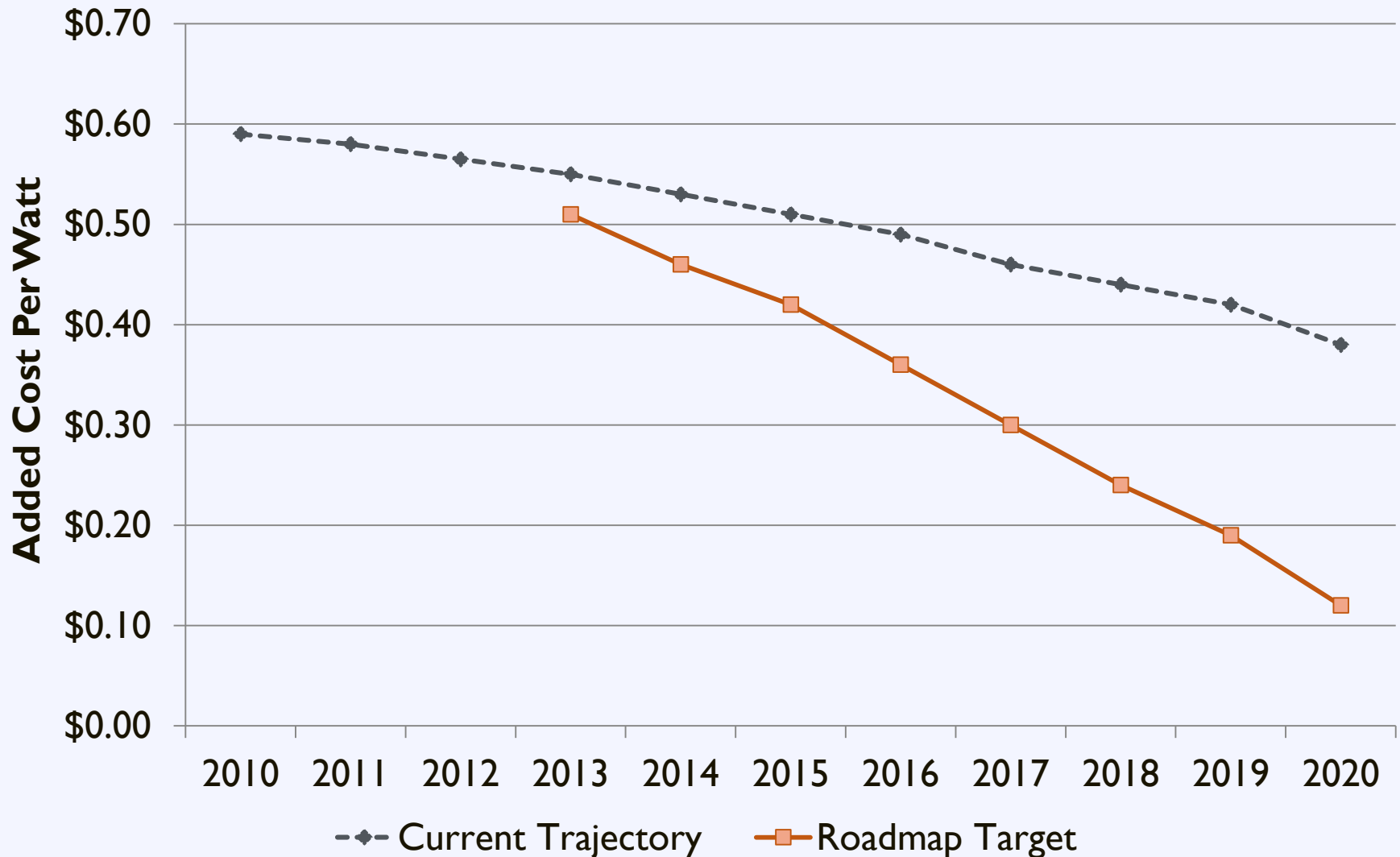
Update Building Code



Installation Soft Costs



Installation Labor Roadmap

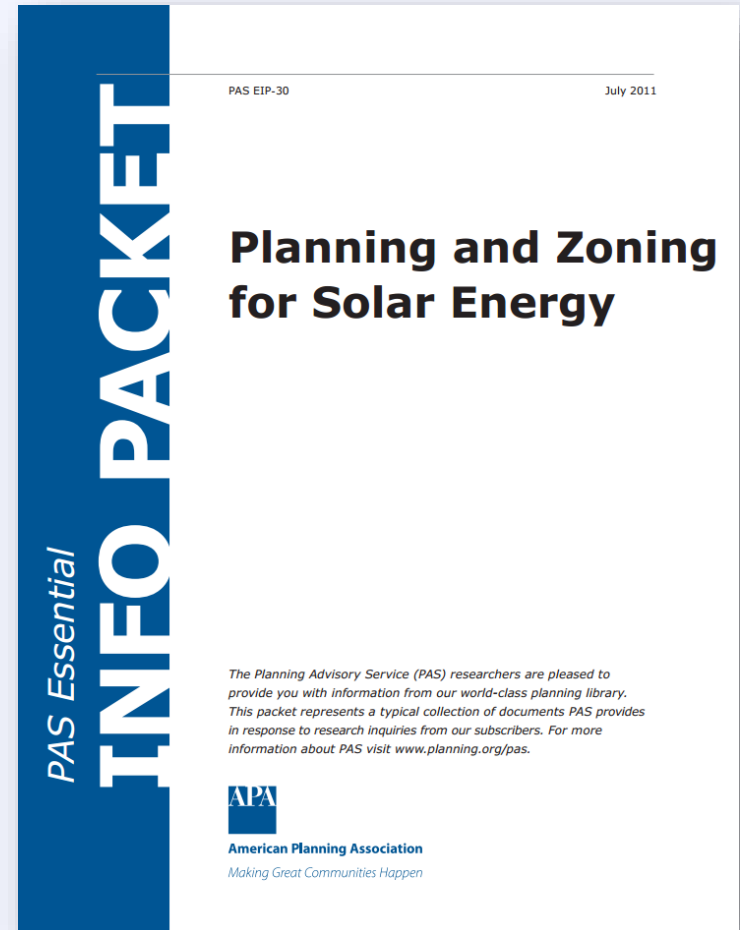


Zoning Standards: Model Ordinances

Resource

American Planning Association

This Essential Info Packet provides example development regulations for solar.



Effective Local Solar Policy

Local Solar
Policy

Planning for
Solar

Solar in
Development
Regulation

Effective Solar
Permitting
Process

Solar Market
Development
Tools

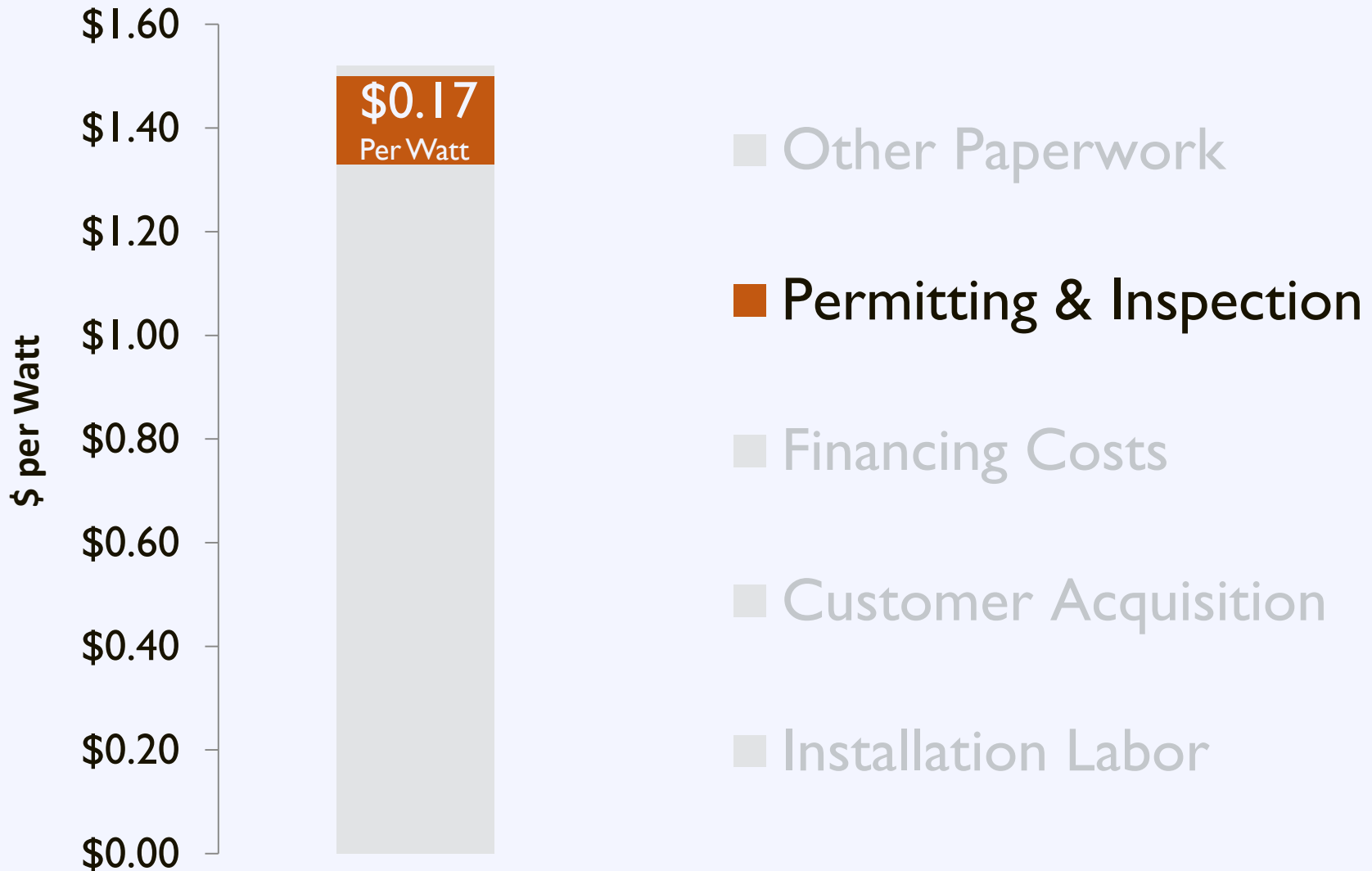
Challenge: Inconsistency

18,000+ local jurisdictions
with unique zoning and permitting requirements

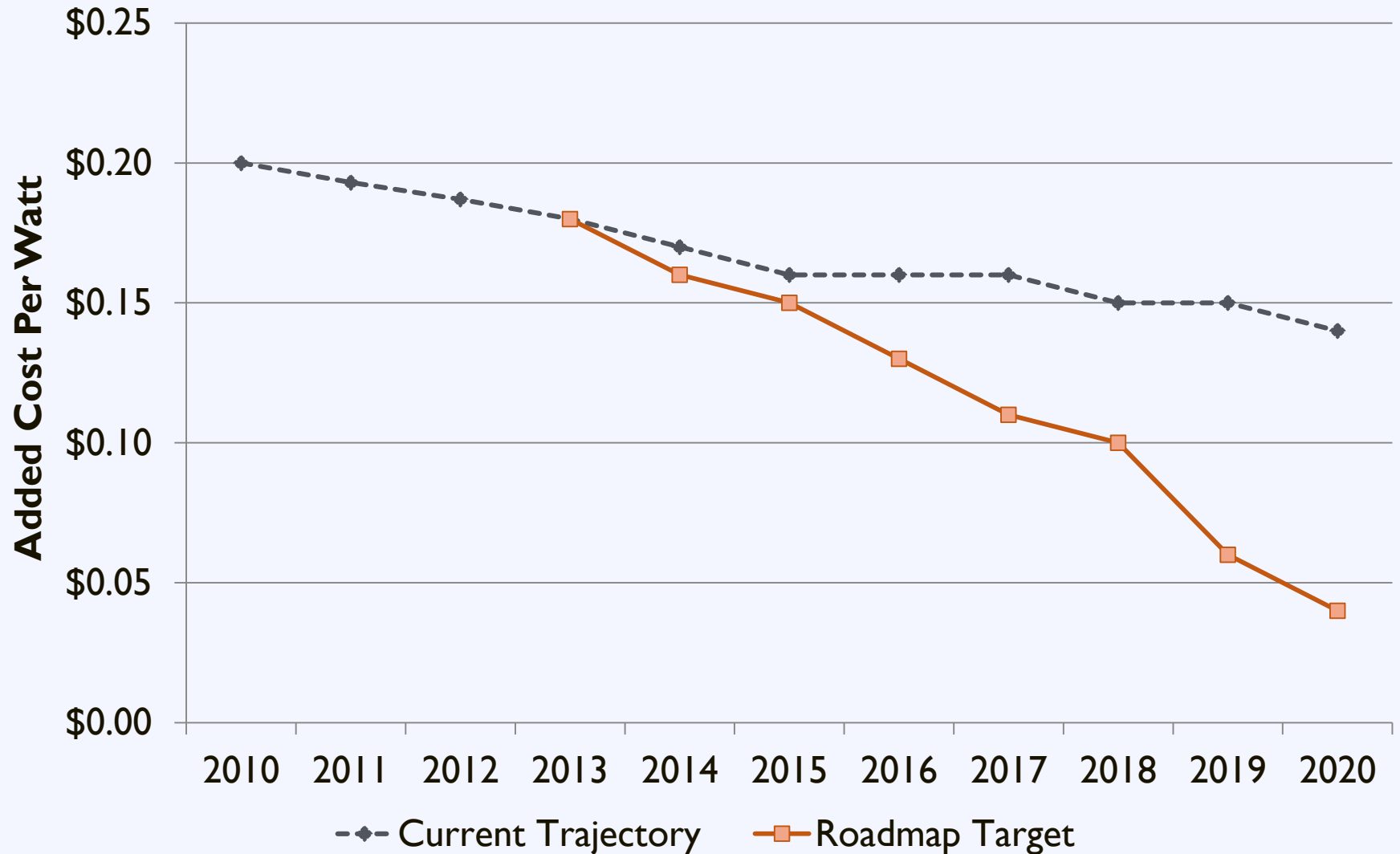
Consumer Challenges



Regulatory Barriers



Planning & Permitting Roadmap



Expedited Permitting

Solar Permitting Best Practices:

- ✓ Post Requirements Online
- ✓ Implement an Expedited Permit Process
- ✓ Enable Online Permit Processing
- ✓ Ensure a Fast Turn Around Time

Expedited Permitting

Solar Permitting Best Practices:

- ✓ Collect Reasonable Permitting Fees
- ✓ No Community-Specific Licenses
- ✓ Narrow Inspection Appointment Windows
- ✓ Eliminate Excessive Inspections
- ✓ Train Permitting Staff in Solar

Permitting: Best Practices

Resource Interstate Renewable Energy Council

Outlines leading best practices in residential solar permitting and provides examples of implementation.

Simplifying the Solar Permitting Process Residential Solar Permitting Best Practices Explained

To aid communities in designing effective and efficient solar permitting processes, the Interstate Renewable Energy Council, Inc. (IREC) and The Vote Solar Initiative have identified nine [Residential Solar Permitting Best Practices](#). This document provides additional context for these Best Practices and relevant resources to help communities implement them. For more detail on the examples of where the Best Practices listed below have been implemented as well as additional resources see [Sharing Success: Emerging Approaches to Efficient Rooftop Solar Permitting](#).

1. Post Requirements Online

What does this mean? The municipality should have a website that offers a one-stop location for residents, businesses and installers to get all necessary information on obtaining a solar permit in that municipality or region. In particular, the website should include a clear description of the requirements and process for getting a solar permit, including any necessary forms, and information on fees and inspections. The website could also contain checklists for the application and inspection requirements for solar.

Who is already doing it?

Solar One Stop (Pima County and City of Tucson, Arizona), solaronestopaz.org

San Jose, CA, www.sanjoseca.gov/index.aspx?nid=1505

Berkeley, CA, www.cityofberkeley.info/solarpermitguide

Why do it? Making these resources easily accessible to solar installers can reduce the number of questions that municipal staff have to answer and can improve the efficiency of the permitting process for all involved. In addition, it can help to increase the quality of applications submitted, which in turn decreases the time required for review. It also decreases the frustrating back-and-forth that installers and municipal staff may otherwise experience. Providing these resources can be particularly helpful for new installers or those that are new to that specific municipality. If a municipality has unique or unusual requirements, or has recently modified their process or requirements, the website is a good way for the municipality to identify these differences clearly to installers and residents.

Additional Resources

IREC Solar Permitting Checklists and Guidance Documents, www.irecausa.org/wp-content/uploads/permitting-handout6-1.pdf

IREC Inspection Checklist (coming soon)



Model Permitting Process

Resource

Solar America Board for Codes & Standards

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 the PV market transformation.

- Creating a forum that fosters generating consensus "best practices" materials
- 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.

- International Code Council
- International Electrotechnical Commission
- IEEE
- Underwriters Laboratories

I-I. Example Design Criteria:

- Size < 10-15 kW
- Code compliant
- Weight < 5 lb / sqft
- 4 strings or less

Agenda

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| 10:10 – 10:30 | Putting Solar Energy on the Local Policy Agenda |
| 10:30 – 10:50 | State of the Local Solar Market |
| 10:50 – 11:20 | Federal, State, and Utility Policy Drivers |
| 11:20 – 11:40 | <i>Break and Grab Lunch</i> |
| 11:40 – 12:10 | Planning for Solar: Getting Solar Ready |
| 12:10 – 12:45 | Solar Market Development Tools |
| 12:45 – 1:00 | <i>Break</i> |
| 1:00 – 2:00 | Local Speakers |
| 2:00 – 3:00 | Developing and Solar Policy Implementation Plan for |

Your Community and Next Steps

Effective Local Solar Policy

Local Solar Policy

Planning
Solar

Understanding solar financing
Expanding financing options
Addressing customer acquisition

Effective Solar
Permitting
Process

Solar Market
Development
Tools

The Solar Equation

Cost

- + Installed Cost
- + Maintenance
- Direct Incentive

Benefit

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

Ownership Options for Solar

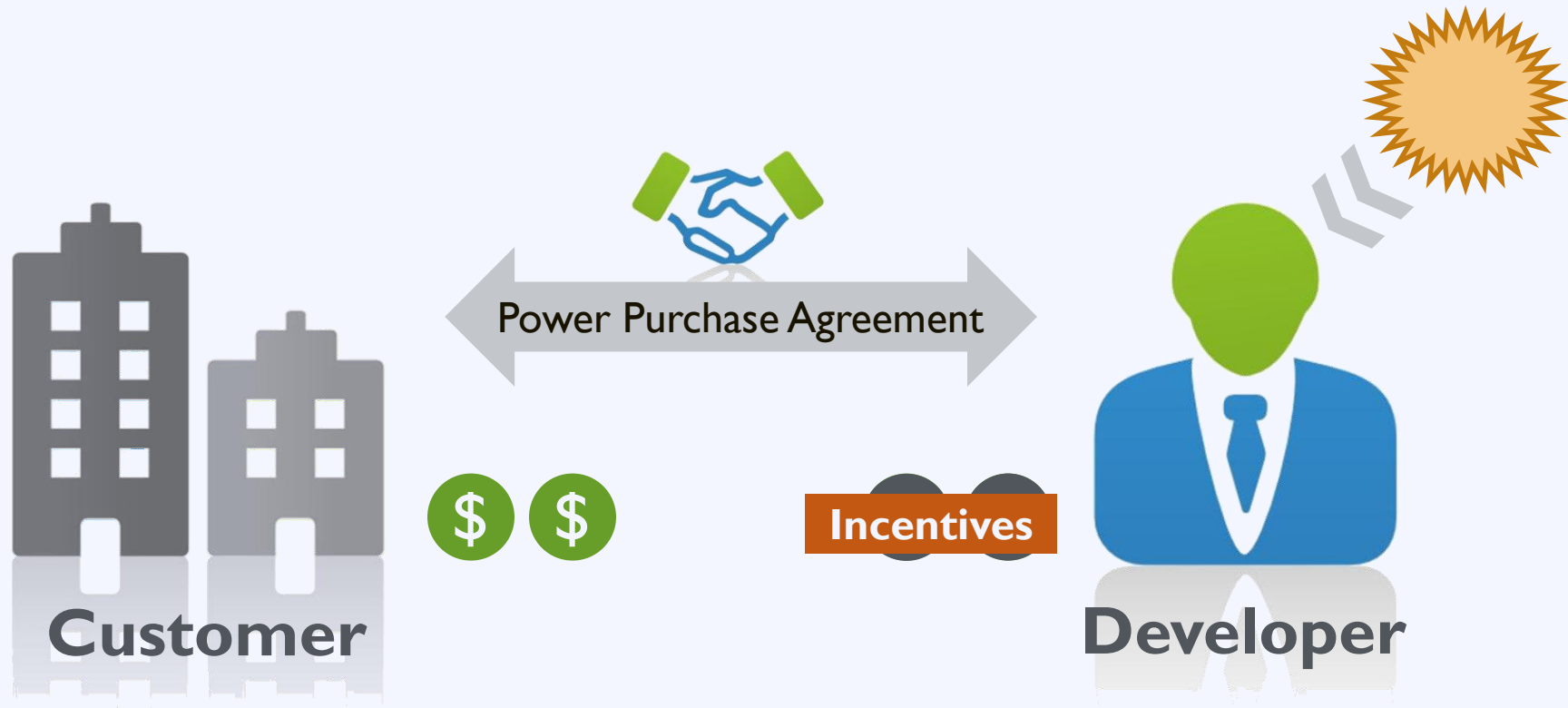
Direct
Ownership

Third-Party
Ownership

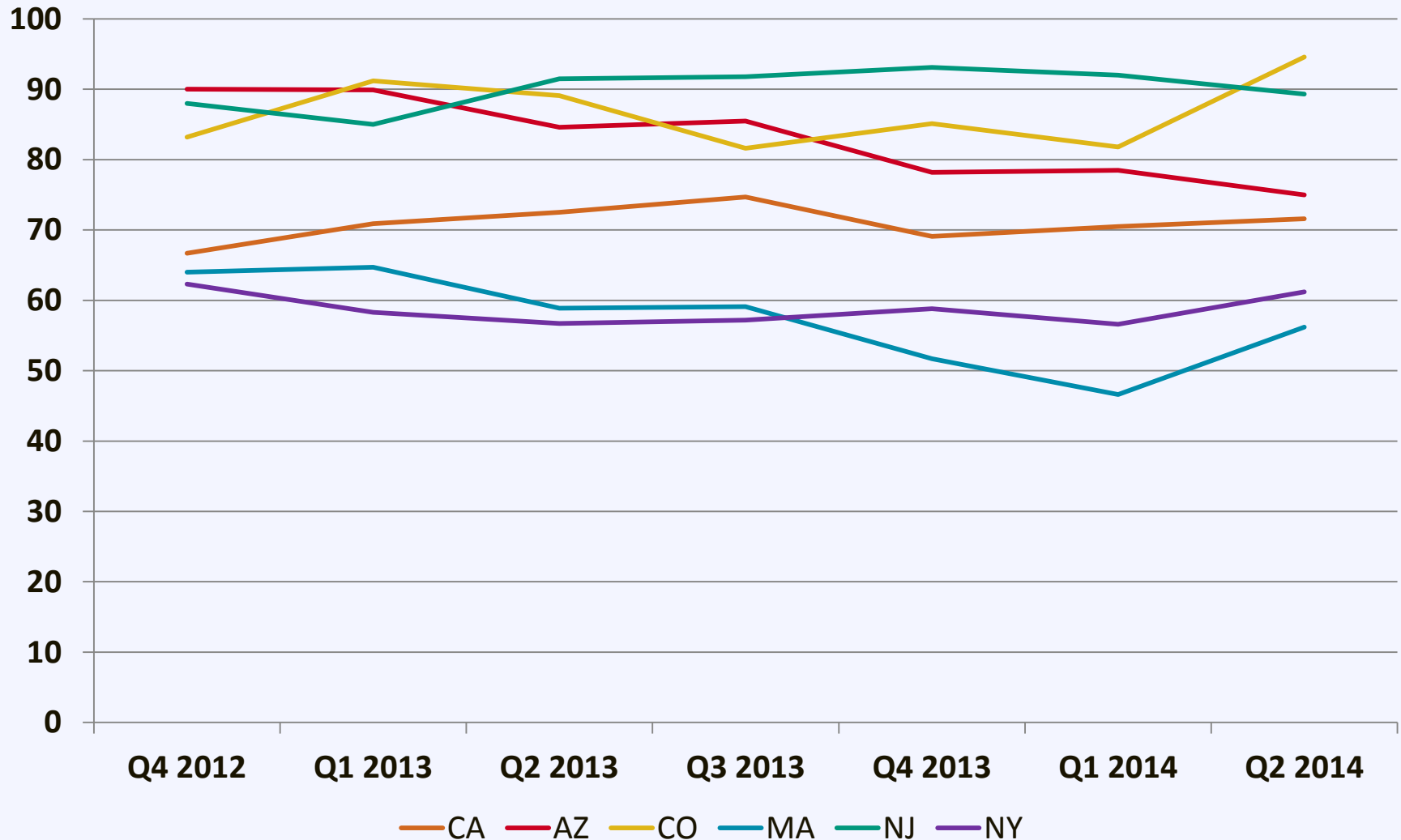
Direct Ownership



Third Party Ownership



Third Party Ownership



Third Party Ownership

Benefits

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

Drawbacks

- Investor needs higher ROI
- Not available in all states

Third Party Ownership



Ownership Options for Solar

Direct
Ownership

Third-Party
Ownership

Expand direct ownership
options by engaging local
leaders

Engage Local Lenders

Fewer than **5%**

of the

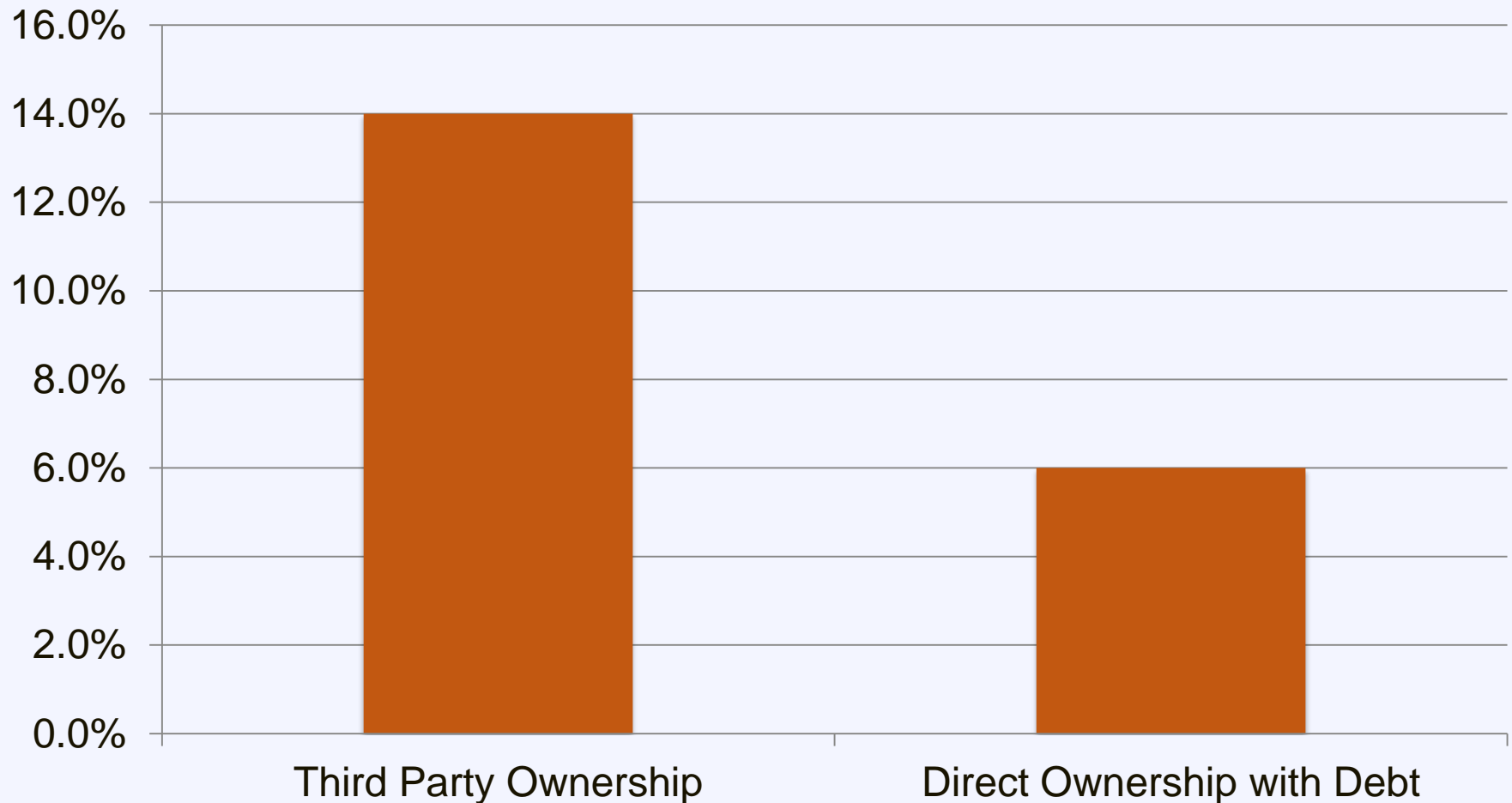
6,500 banks in the US

are

actively financing solar PV projects

Third Party Ownership: Cost

Weighted Average Cost of Capital

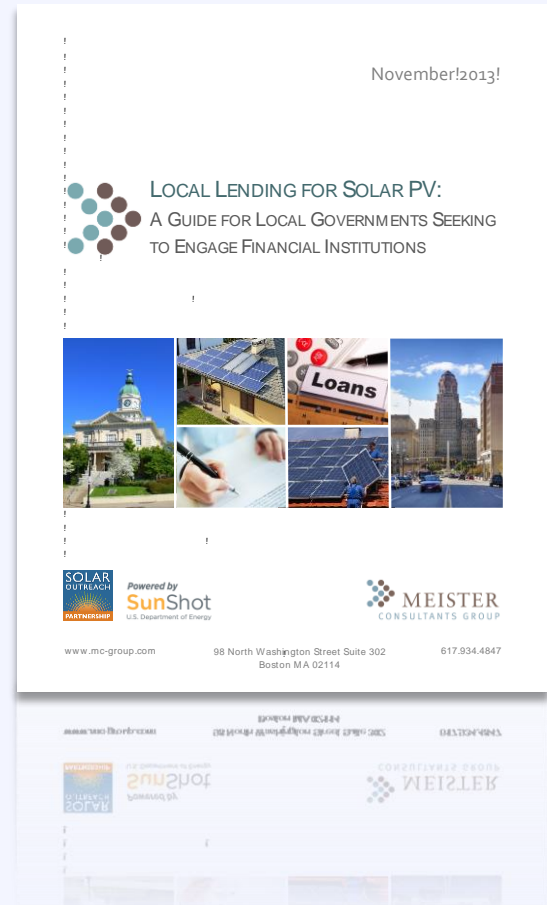


Engage Local Lenders: Resources

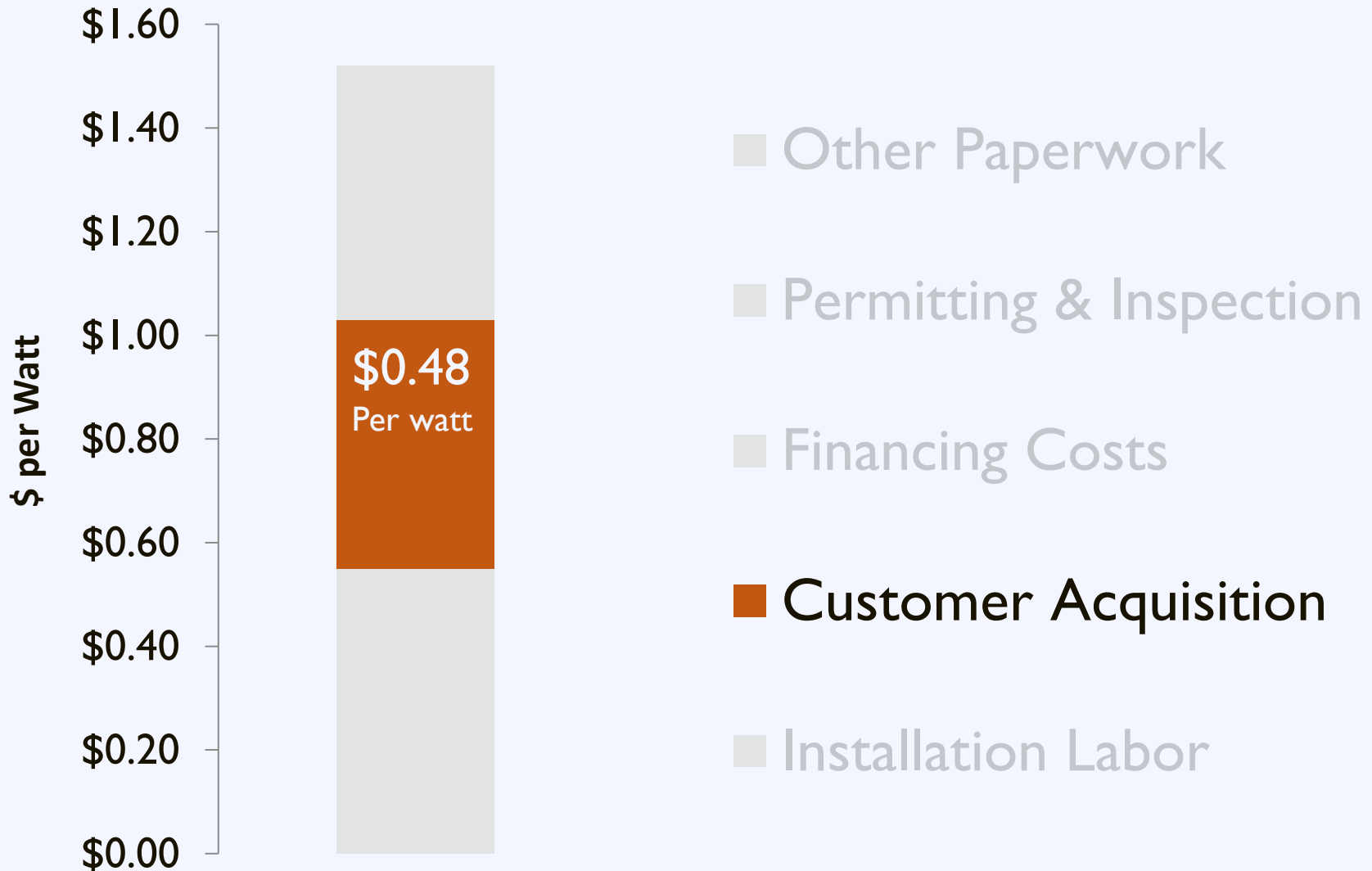
Resource Local Lending for Solar PV

A guide for local governments seeking to engage financial institutions

www.solaroutreach.org



Customer Acquisition



Customer Acquisition

5 % of homeowners that request a quote choose to install solar.

Customer Acquisition

Barriers

High upfront cost

Complexity

Customer inertia



The Solarize Program

Group purchasing for residential solar PV



Solarize: Partnership

**Program
Sponsor**

Community ties
Technical knowledge

**Solar
Contractor**

Solar installations
Volume discounts

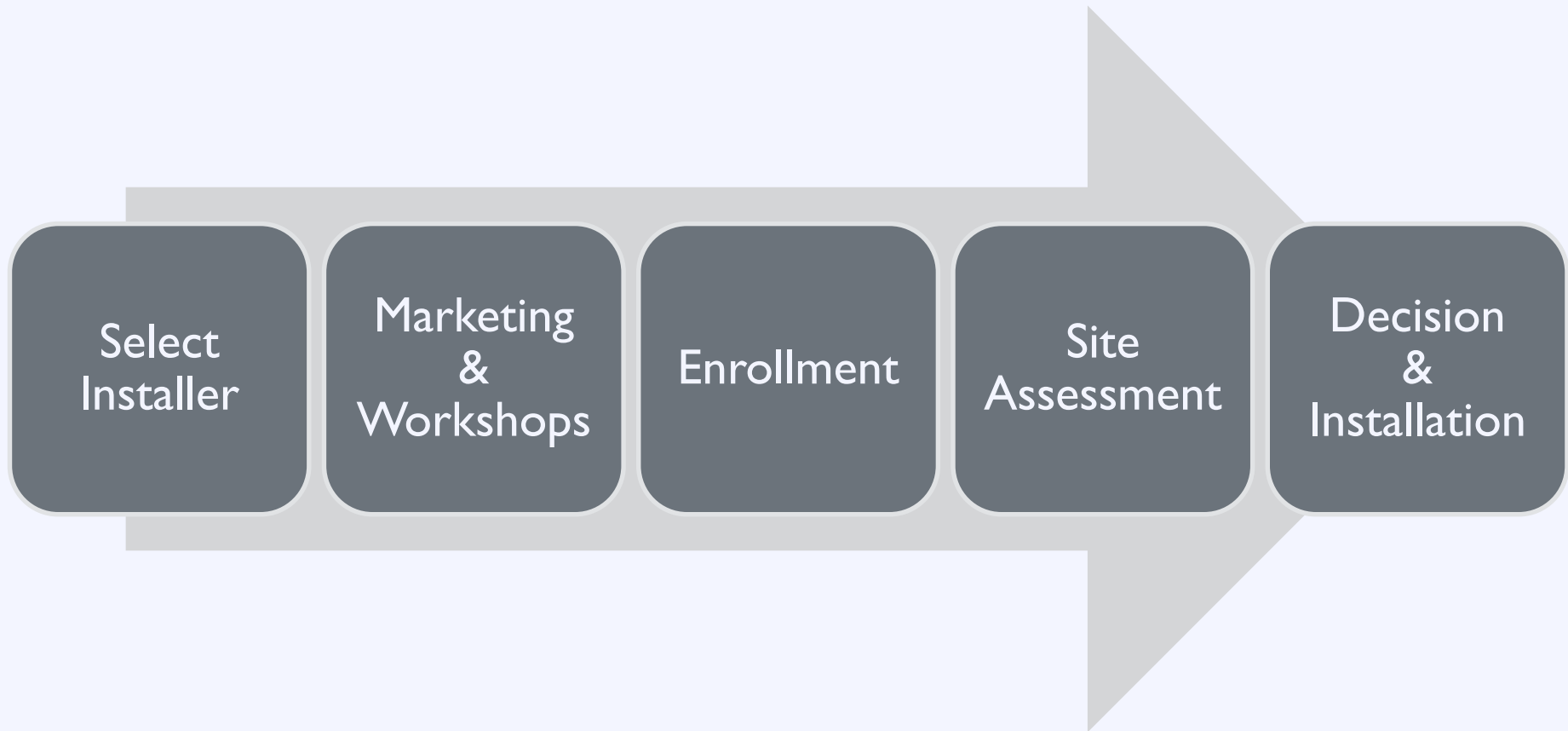
**Citizen
Volunteers**

Campaign support
Neighborhood outreach

**Community
Residents**

Program participation
Word of mouth

Solarize: Process



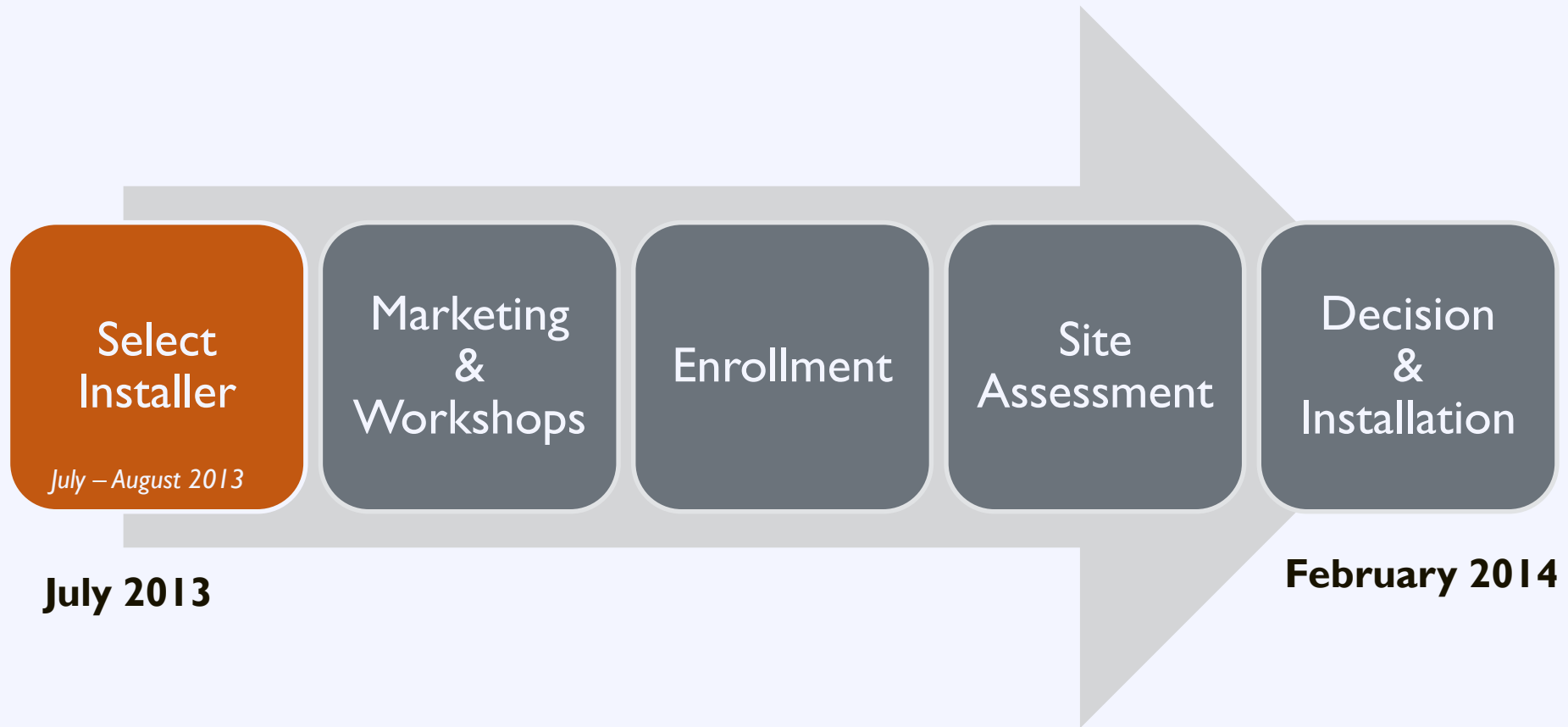
Solarize Plano: Case Study



Plano, Texas

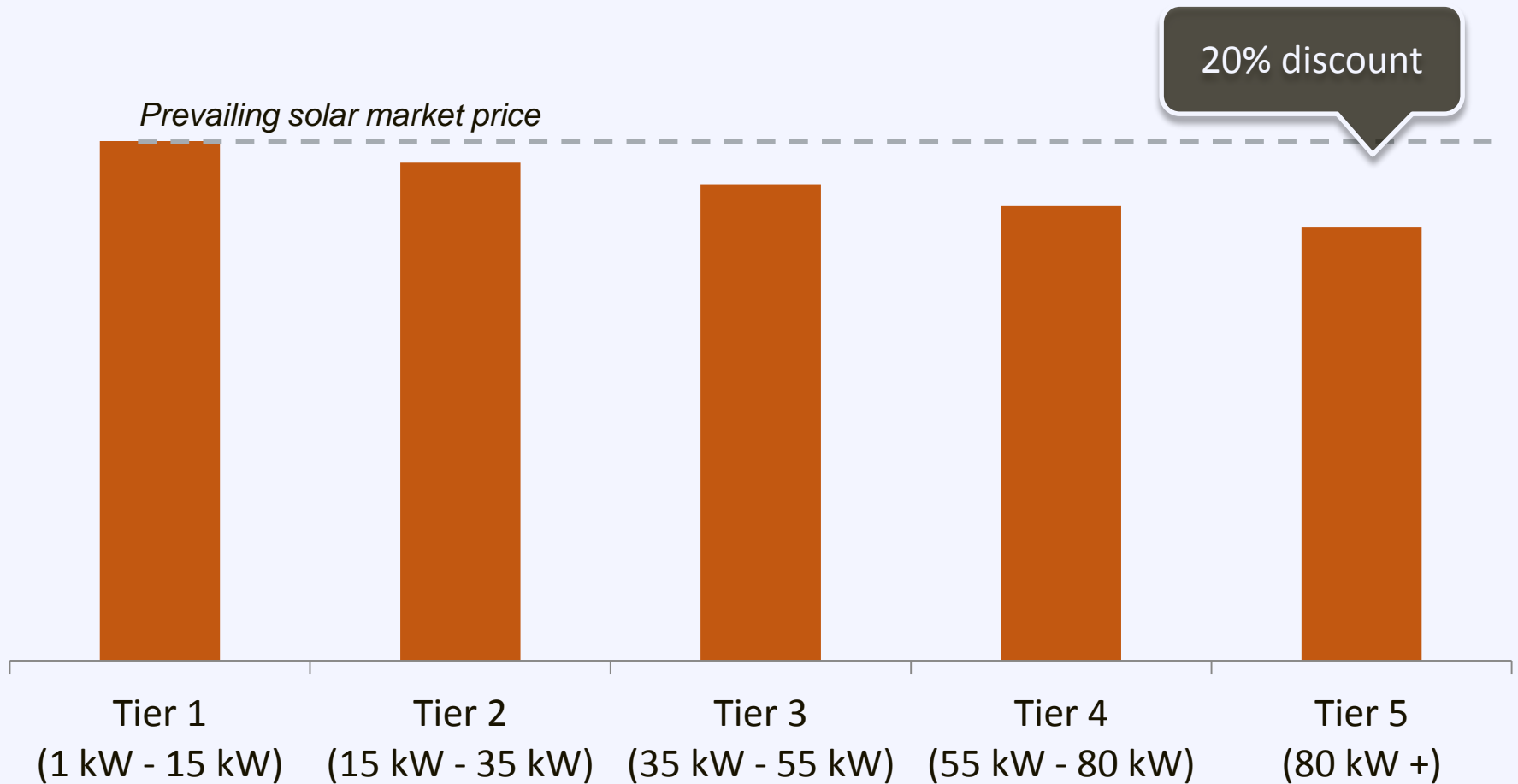
Population: 272,000

Solarize Plano: Case Study

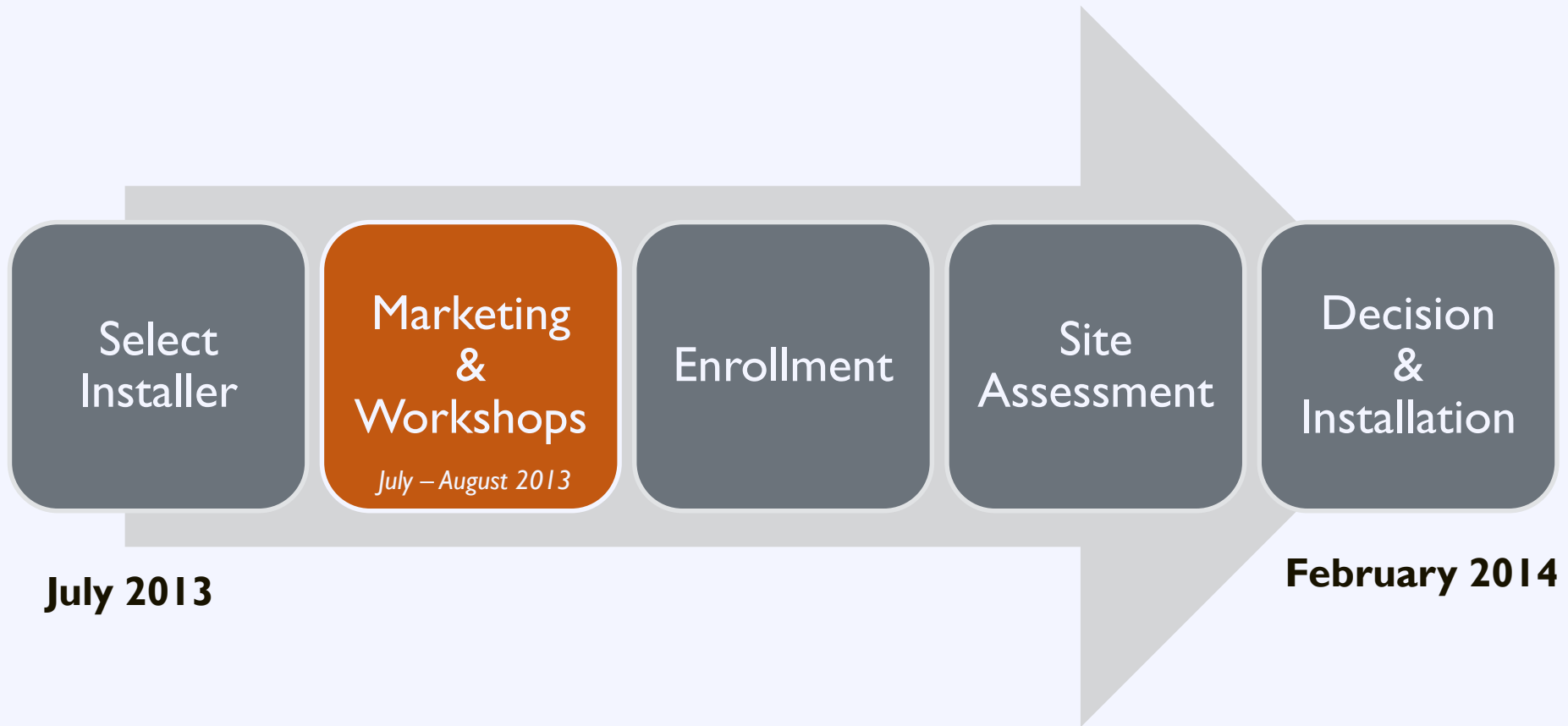


Solarize Plano: Case Study

Pricing Tiers



Solarize Plano: Case Study

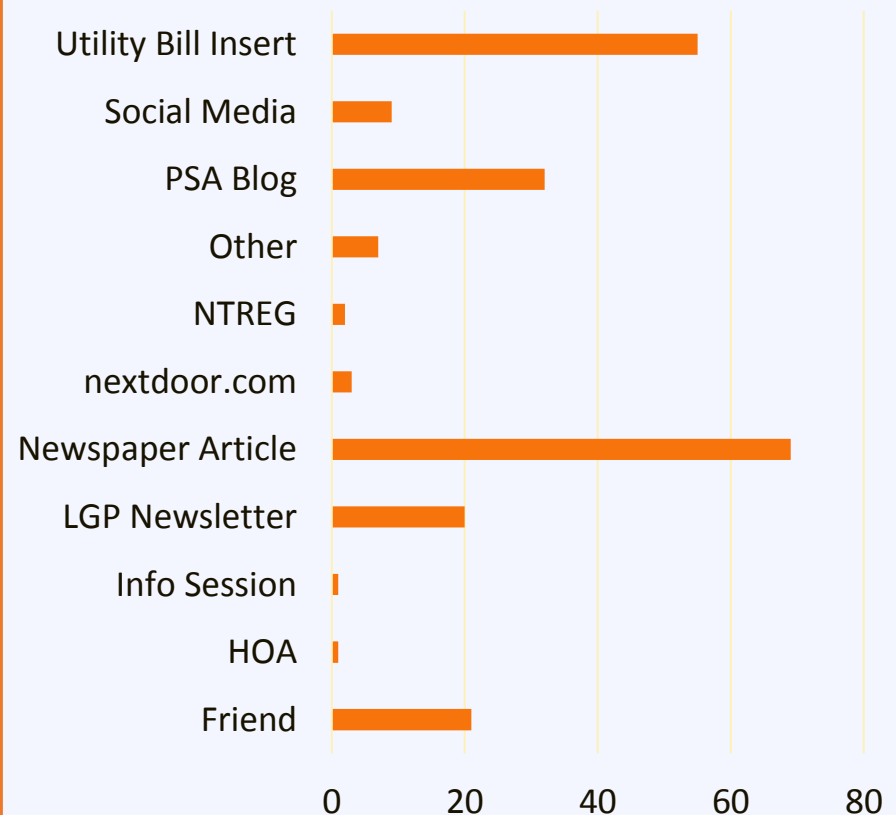


Solarize Plano: Case Study

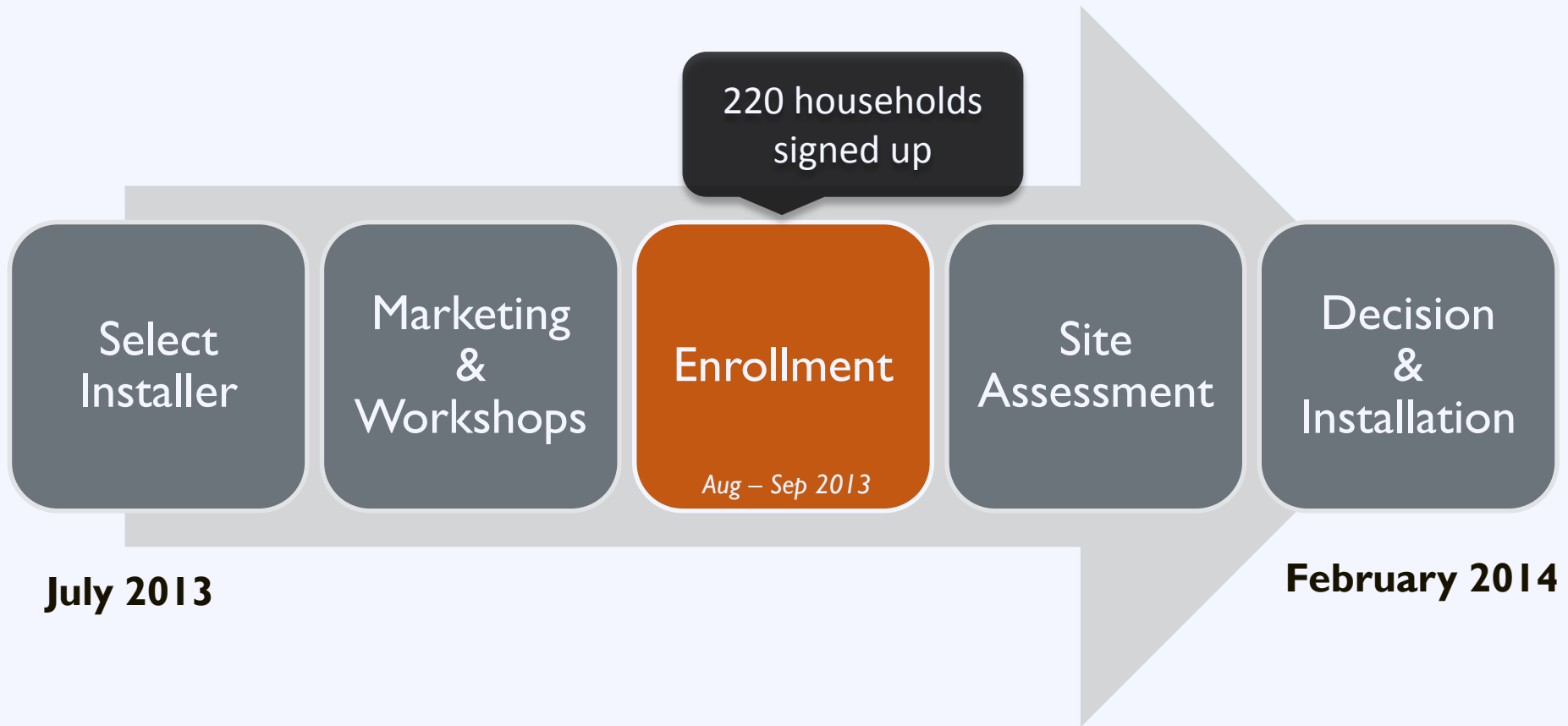
Marketing Strategy:

- Used Google for online communications
- Online Solar 101 presentations and videos
- Local newspaper and media
- Utility bill insert

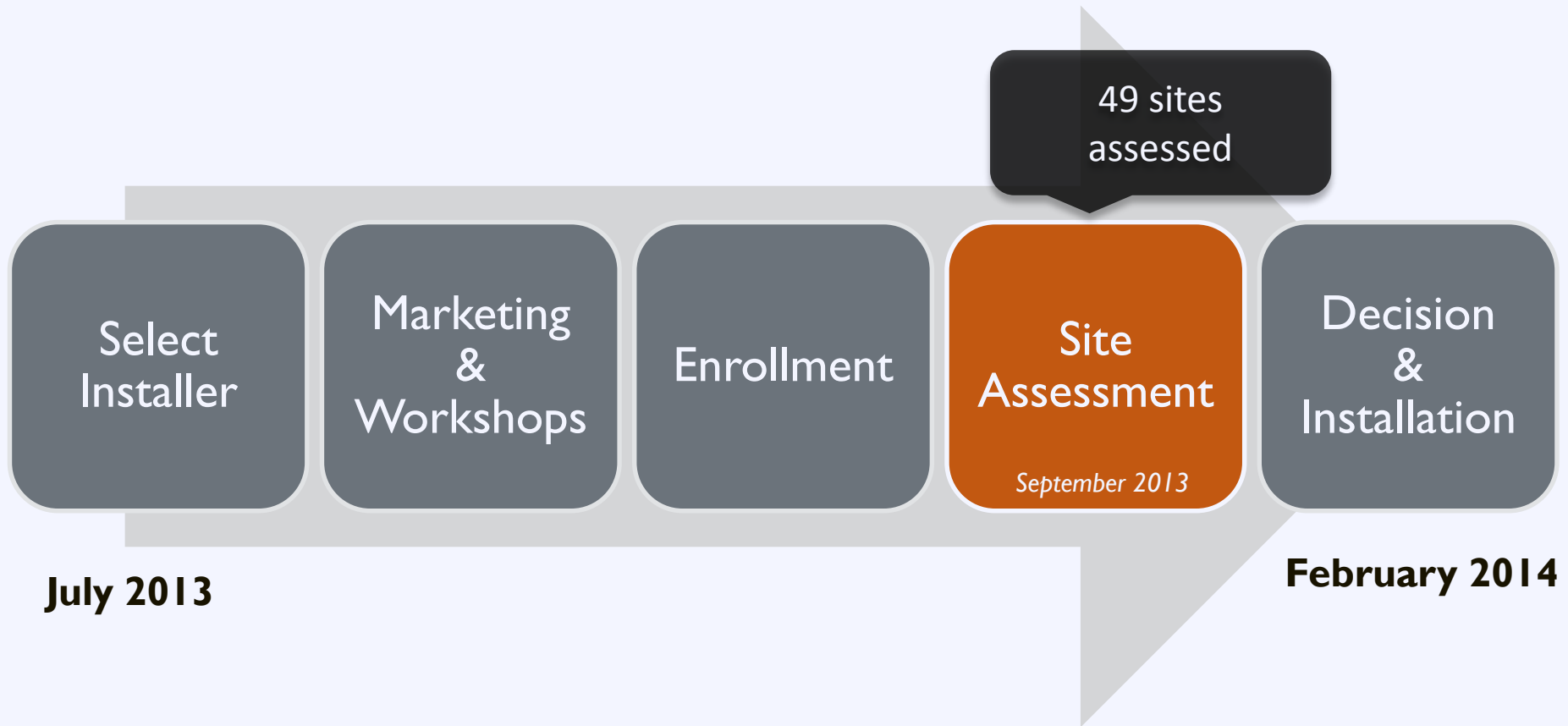
How did you learn about Solarize Plano?



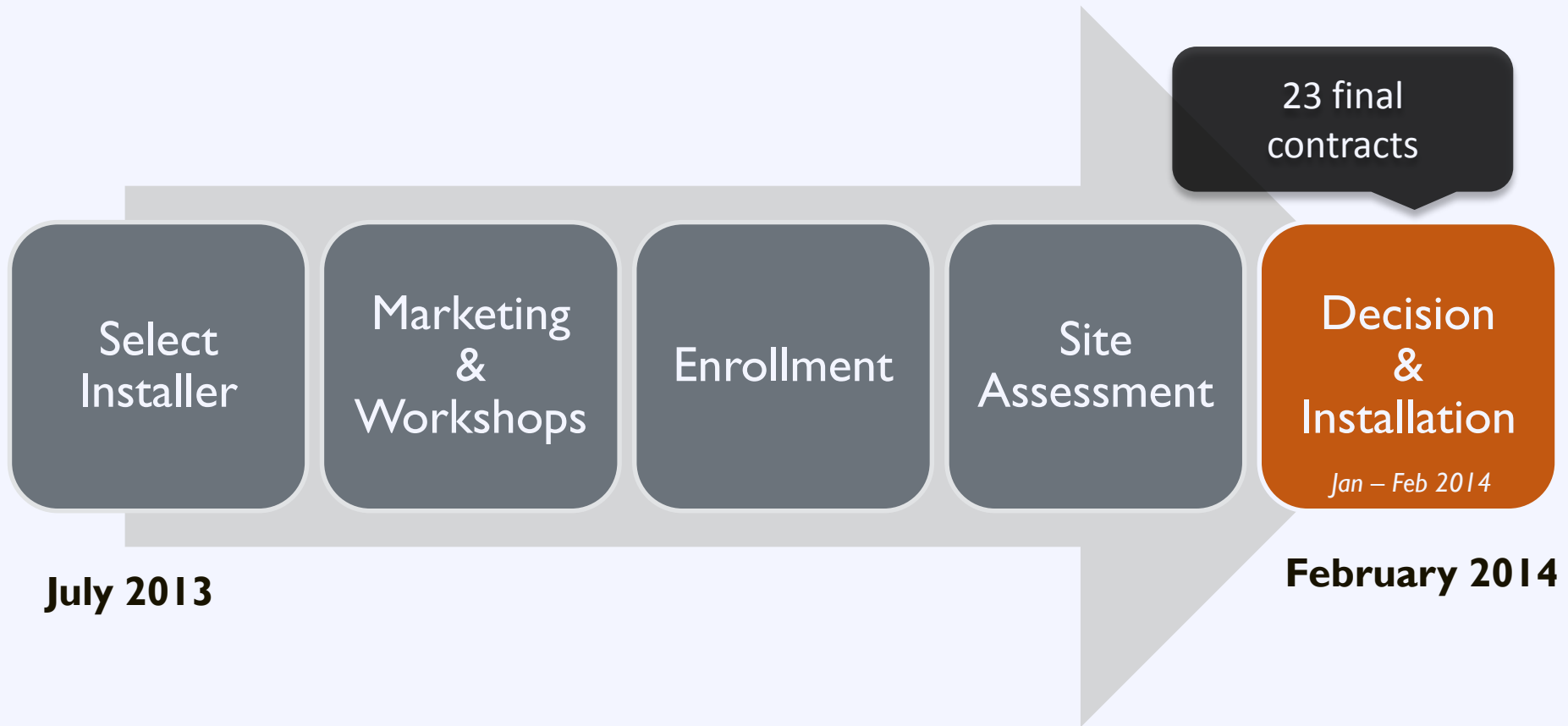
Solarize Plano: Case Study



Solarize Plano: Case Study



Solarize Plano: Case Study



Solarize Plano: Case Study

Results:

23 new installations totaling **112 kW**

45% of assessed sites signed contracts

20% reduction in solar price

Round 2 of Solarize Plano in 2014

5 new Solarize communities in Texas

The Solarize Program

Barriers

High upfront cost



Solutions

Group purchase

Complexity



Community outreach

Customer inertia



Limited-time offer

Solarize: Lasting Impact

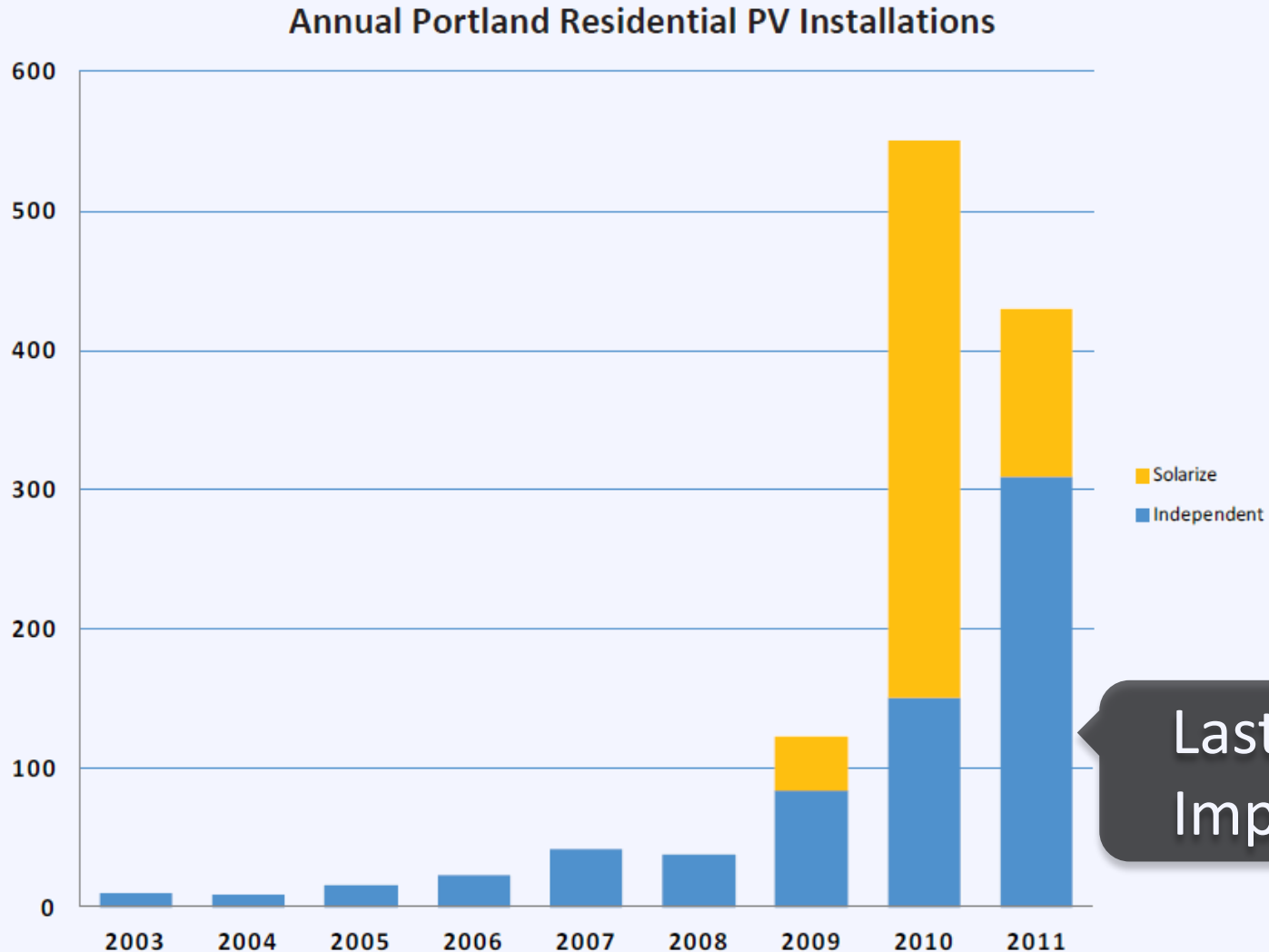
A household is

0.78% more likely to adopt solar

for

each additional installation in their zip code

Solarize: Lasting Impact

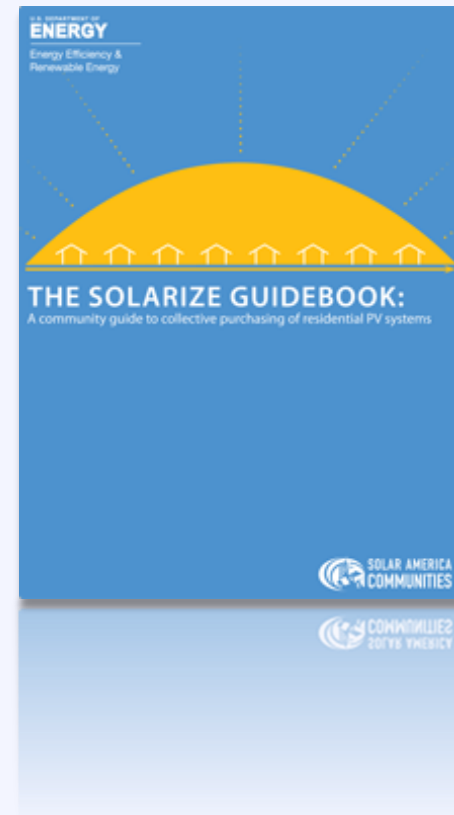


Solarize: Resources

Resource The Solarize Guidebook

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

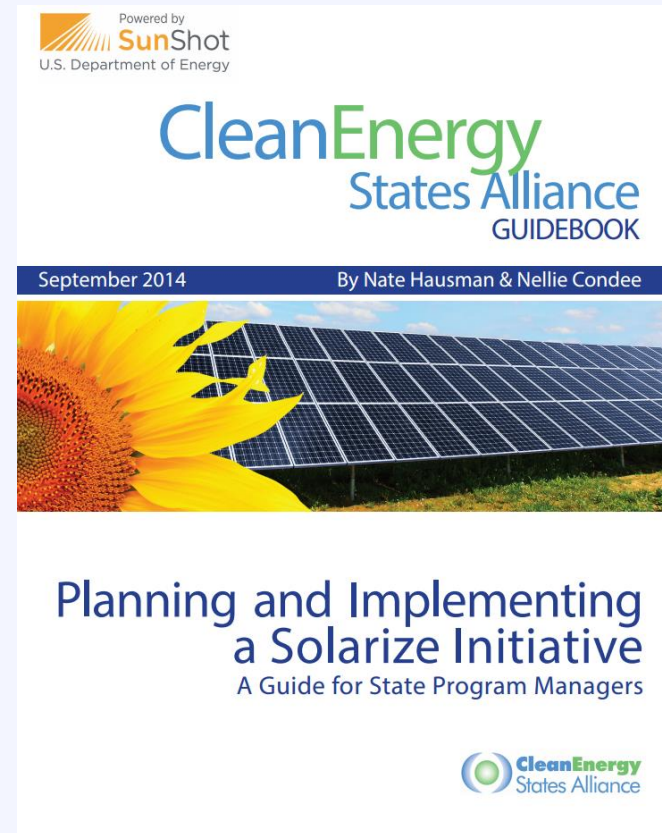
www.nrel.gov



Solarize: Resources

Resource Planning and Implementing a Solarize Initiative

Presents two successful state-driven Solarize programs (Solarize Mass and Solarize Connecticut) to provide best practices to stakeholders interested in replicating these successes.



Agenda

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| 10:10 – 10:30 | Putting Solar Energy on the Local Policy Agenda |
| 10:30 – 10:50 | State of the Local Solar Market |
| 10:50 – 11:20 | Federal, State, and Utility Policy Drivers |
| 11:20 – 11:40 | <i>Break and Grab Lunch</i> |
| 11:40 – 12:10 | Planning for Solar: Getting Solar Ready |
| 12:10 – 12:45 | Solar Market Development Tools |
| 12:45 – 1:00 | <i>Break</i> |
| 1:00 – 2:00 | Local Speakers |
| 2:00 – 3:00 | Developing and Solar Policy Implementation Plan for |

Your Community and Next Steps

Agenda

- 10:10 – 10:30 Putting Solar Energy on the Local Policy Agenda
- 10:30 – 10:50 State of the Local Solar Market
- 10:50 – 11:20 Federal, State, and Utility Policy Drivers
- 11:20 – 11:40 *Break and Grab Lunch*
- 11:40 – 12:10 Planning for Solar: Getting Solar Ready
- 12:10 – 12:45 Solar Market Development Tools
- 12:45 – 1:00 *Break*
- 1:00 – 2:00 Local Speakers**
- 2:00 – 3:00 Developing and Solar Policy Implementation Plan for
Your Community and Next Steps

Agenda

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| 10:10 – 10:30 | Putting Solar Energy on the Local Policy Agenda |
| 10:30 – 10:50 | State of the Local Solar Market |
| 10:50 – 11:20 | Federal, State, and Utility Policy Drivers |
| 11:20 – 11:40 | <i>Break and Grab Lunch</i> |
| 11:40 – 12:10 | Planning for Solar: Getting Solar Ready |
| 12:10 – 12:45 | Solar Market Development Tools |
| 12:45 – 1:00 | <i>Break</i> |
| 1:00 – 2:00 | Local Speakers |
| 2:00 – 3:00 | Developing and Solar Policy Implementation Plan for
Your Community and Next Steps |

Activity: Solar in Your Community

1. Recognize successes
2. Identify opportunities
3. Select strategies & best practices
4. Outline implementation plan
5. Discuss barriers to implementation

Activity: Solar in Your Community

Part I: Take 5 minutes to complete the questions in the *Developing Effective Solar Policies in Your Community* handout.



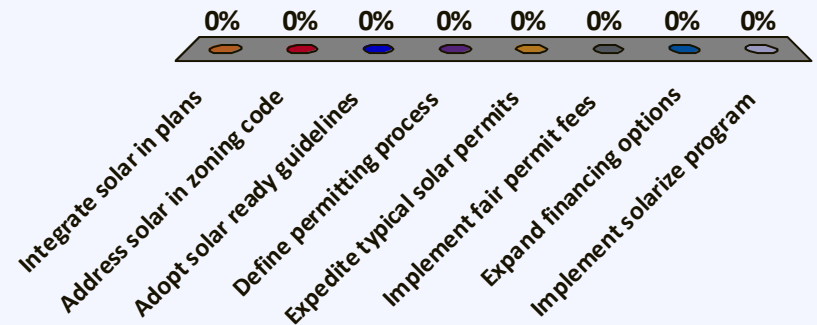
Activity: Solar in Your Community

Part 2: Spend the next 10 minutes discussing your responses to **Questions 8 – 12** with the others at your table. Discuss strategies for overcoming potential obstacles to implementation.



Which “best practice” did you select to pursue first?

- A. Integrate solar in plans
- B. Address solar in zoning code
- C. Adopt solar ready guidelines
- D. Define permitting process
- E. Expedite typical solar permits
- F. Implement fair permit fees
- G. Expand financing options
- H. Implement solarize program



How difficult will it be to implement this policy/program?

1. Very easy
2. Somewhat easy 0%
3. Moderate
4. Somewhat difficult
5. Very difficult

Very easy	Somewhat easy	Moderate
Somewhat difficult	Very difficult	

Discussion

What obstacles stand in the way of implementation?

Discussion

What are possible strategies to overcome those obstacles?

Activity: Next Steps

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

Next Steps

1. Meet with us for 20 minutes
2. Apply for **free Technical Assistance**
3. Complete a DOE solar policy audit
4. Host a in-person strategy session
5. Implement policy changes & programs



Powered by

SunShot

U.S. Department of Energy

Autumn Proudlove

NC Clean Energy Technology Center

afproudl@ncsu.edu

Philip Haddix

The Solar Foundation

phaddix@solarfound.org

