SUSTAINABLE SOLAR EDUCATION PROJECT

#### State Planning to Bring the Benefits of Solar to Low- and Moderate-Income Residents

#### **Available Resources**

June 14, 2017

Nate Hausman Project Director Clean Energy States Alliance



# Sustainable Solar Education Project Newsletter

The Sustainable Solar Education Project publishes a free **monthly enewsletter** highlighting solar equitability and consumer protection news and from across the country.

www.cesa.org/projects/sustainable-solar



#### Sustainable Solar Education Project Webinars

#### MAY 2017

Bringing the Benefits of Solar to Low-Income Customers

#### Thursday, May 18th, 1-2 pm ET

CESA will conduct a webinar on low-income solar program and policy design. The webinar will be based on a recently released CESA guide authored by Bentham Paulos titled <u>Bringing the</u> <u>Benefits of Solar to Low-Income Consumers</u>. The guide identifies successful and promising approaches, offers factors policymakers should consider, and provides policy and program design recommendations for bringing the benefits of solar to low-income consumers. <u>Register here</u>.

#### Crowd Financing Solar for Nonprofits Serving Low-Income Communities

#### Thursday, May 25, 1-2 pm ET

Nonprofit community service providers that serve low-income communities have faced challenges in financing solar for their own facilities. One answer that has emerged is crowdfunding, in which many individuals each provide a small amount of money for a project. Crowdfunding can involve donations, or it can involve investments, in which the individuals who participate expect a financial return. In this webinat, Andreas Karelas, Executive Director of RE-volv, and Todd Bluechel, Vice President of Marketing and Sales at CollectiveSun, will present two models that rely on crowdfunding to enable nonprofits to adopt solar. Requister here.

#### Community Solar for Low- and Moderate-Income Consumers

#### Thursday, June 1, 1-2 pm ET

Because community solar can be made accessible to renters and can include flexible terms, it holds promise for spreading the benefits of solar to low- and moderate-income (LMI) consumers. In this webinar, Kelly Roache, Senior Vice Program Manager at Solstoe, and David Miller, Senior Vice President at Alpine Bank, The Sustainable Solar Education Project provides information and educational resources to state and municipal officials on strategies to ensure distributed solar electricity remains consumer friendly and benefits low- and moderate-income households. The project is managed by the Clean Energy States Alliance (CESA) and is funded through the U.S. Department of Energy SunShot Initiative's Solar Training and Education for Professionals program

#### The Sustainable Solar Education Project Newsletter reports on issues related to solar equitability and consumer

protection

For more information about the Sustainable Solar Education Project, please visit our <u>website</u>.

<u>cesa.org/projects/</u> sustainable-solar



## Sustainable Solar Education Project Guides on LMI Solar Topics

- <u>Solar Information for</u> <u>Consumers</u>
- <u>Publicly Supported Solar Loan</u> <u>Programs</u>
- <u>Solar+Storage for Low- and</u> <u>Moderate-Income</u> <u>Communities</u>
- <u>Bringing the Benefits of Solar</u> <u>to Low-Income Customers</u>



### Webinar Recordings

- Low-Income Solar, Part 1: Lessons Learned from Low-Income Energy Efficiency Programs
- Low-Income Solar, Part 2: Using the Tools of Low-Income Energy Efficiency Financing
- Designing Publicly Supported Solar Loan Programs
- <u>Solar+Storage for Low- and Moderate-Income</u>
   <u>Communities</u>
- Bringing the Benefits of Solar to Low-Income Customers



### LMI Solar Models Webinar Series

- <u>Crowd-Financing Solar for Nonprofits Serving Low-</u> <u>Income Communities</u>
- <u>Community Solar for Low- and Moderate-Income</u>
   <u>Consumers</u>
- <u>Utility-Driven Solar Projects for Low-Income</u>
   <u>Customers</u>





### **Other CESA Resources**

 <u>A Homeowner's Guide to Solar</u> <u>Financing: Leases, Loans and</u> <u>PPAs</u> Available in English and Spanish



CleanEnergy

State Clean Energy Programs and Policies for Low-Income Residents

States Alliance

A Directory of

<u>Directory of State Clean Energy</u> <u>Programs and Policies for Low-</u> Income Residents





### CESA's State Clean Energy Program Directory Contents

Alaska	
Alaska Affordable Energy Strategy	
California	6
Single-Family Affordable Solar Housing (SASH) Program	
Multifamily Affordable Solar Housing (MASH) Program	7
Multifamily Affordable Housing Solar Roofs (MAHSR) Program	
California New Solar Homes Partnership	
California Solar Initiative Thermal Program	
California Low Income Weatherization Program (LIWP)	
Solar for All California	
Net Metering Program	
Colorado	
Colorado Rooftop Low Income Program	
Colorado Community Solar Gardens Low-Income Solar Demonstration Project	
Connecticut	
Connecticut Residential Solar Investment Program	
Solar For All Program	
Smart-E Loans	
Connecticut's Multifamily Market Programs	
District of Columbia	
Affordable Solar	
D.C. Solar for All	
Small-Scale Solar Initiative	
Multifamily Housing Energy Efficiency Rebates	
Hawaii	
Green Energy Market Securitization (GEMS) Program	

### CESA's State Clean Energy Program Directory Contents Continued

Illinois	
Illinois Solar for All Program	
Maryland	
Community Solar Pilot Program	
Multifamily Energy Efficiency Improvement Programs	
Massachusetts	
Commonwealth Solar	
Mass Solar Loan	
Affordable Access to Clean and Efficient Energy Initiative	
Community Clean Energy Resiliency Initiative	
SMART Program	
Minnesota	
Renewable Energy Grant Program	
Housing Fix Up Program	
New York	
New York Clean Energy Fund	
NY-Sun	
Affordable Solar	
New York Affordable Solar Predevelopment and Technical Assistance	
Low-Income Forum on Energy	
Shared Renewables Program	
Oregon	
Oregon Community Solar Program	
Washington	
Evergreen Sustainable Development Standard (ESDS)	
Ultra-Efficient Affordable Housing Demonstration	

### State Energy Strategies to Bring Solar to LMI Communities

- State partners
  - Connecticut
  - District of Columbia
  - Minnesota
  - New Mexico
  - Oregon
  - Rhode Island
- National labs
  - LBNL
  - NREL



U.S. Department of Energy



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### State Energy Strategies Key Steps

- 1. Involve stakeholders
- 2. Define research projects based on state needs
- 3. Undertake research
- 4. Each state develops strategies that matches its programmatic needs, demographic profile, solar potential, and financial resources.
- 5. States begin to implement strategies
- 6. Research support and technical assistance continue
- 7. States share information with each other throughout the process



A project to accelerate market development of clean energy technologies for resilient power applications that serve lowincome communities and vulnerable populations during power disruptions.

- Provides program guidance to policy makers
- Prepare reports and analysis on resilient power programs and project implementation, finance tools, and best practices



# Resilient Power Project Resources



- <u>McKnight Lane Redevelopment Project Overview</u>: A net-zero affordable housing project with resilient solar+storage technology for rural tenants
- <u>Solar+Storage Project Checklist</u>: A checklist to help cities or developers assess whether solar storage battery systems make sense for their buildings
- <u>Closing the California Clean Energy Divide:</u> <u>Reducing Electric Bills in Affordable Multifamily</u> <u>Rental Housing with Solar+Storage</u>



- <u>Resilience for Free: How Solar+Storage Could Protect Multifamily</u> <u>Affordable Housing from Power Outages at Little or No Net Cost</u>
- <u>What States Should Do: A Guide to Resilient Power Programs and Policy</u>
- <u>Solar Risk: How Energy Storage Can Preserve Solar Savings in California</u> <u>Affordable Housing</u>

## Solar Technical Assistance Team (STAT) Network

The STAT Network provides unbiased, timesensitive technical assistance on solar policies and issues for state and local government decision makers, regulators, and utilities.







Staff of state or municipal bodies or the bodies themselves may request state solar technical assistance. For more information, visit: <a href="https://www.nrel.gov/tech\_deployment/state\_local\_governments/stat.html">www.nrel.gov/tech\_deployment/state\_local\_governments/stat.html</a>



### Solar in Your Community Challenge

- A prize competition to expand solar electricity access.
- The U.S. Department of Energy is offering cash prizes and technical assistance over 18 months.
- Supports teams across the country in developing projects or programs that expand solar access to underserved groups, while proving that these business models can be widely replicated and adopted by similar groups.
- So far, 170 teams from across the country are participate. Teams selected may receive seed awards, technical assistance vouchers, and final prizes.
- Go to <u>www.solarinyourcommunity.org</u> to find out more.



#### TIMELINE

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Release of Official Rules: November 18, 2016 Early Application Deadline: January 6, 2017 Application Deadline: March 17, 2017 Late-Start Application Deadline: August 1, 2017 Seed Funding and Vouchers Awarded: April 2017 18-month Performance Period Begins: May 1, 2017 18-month Performance Period Ends: Oct. 31, 2018

### **Other Resources**

- Breaking Ground: New Models That Deliver Energy Solutions to Low-Income Customers (by Rocky Mountain Institute)
- <u>Bridging the Solar</u>
   <u>Income Gap</u> (by the GW
   Solar Institute)



- <u>Bringing Community Solar to a Broader Community</u> (by Fresh Energy)
- <u>Low- and Moderate-Income Solar Policy Basics</u> (an online primer by National Renewable Energy Laboratory)

#### More Resources

Low Income Solar Policy Guide

 (by GRID Alternatives, Vote Solar, and the Center for Social Inclusion)



- <u>Shared Renewable Energy for Low- to Moderate-Income</u> <u>Consumers: Policy Guidelines and Model Provisions</u> (by the Interstate Renewable Energy Council)
- <u>Solar For All: What Utilities Can Do Right Now to Bring Solar</u> <u>Within Reach for Everyday Folks</u> (by the Southern Environmental Law Center)
- <u>State Policies to Increase Low-Income Communities' Access to</u> <u>Solar Power</u> (by the Center for American Progress)

#### **Contact Information**

#### SUSTAINABLE SOLAR EDUCATION PROJECT

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