



**February 1, 2024**

Welcome to this month's issue of ***Solar Newsbriefs***, brought to you by the Washington State University Energy Program. Please feel free to forward this issue to those of your colleagues interested in solar energy. For archives of past *Solar Newsbriefs*, visit

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## **Oregon News**

### **Four Challenges Slowing the Transition to Distributed Energy Resources – From Oregon Industry Players**

Supply chain challenges and the need for software innovations are among the major impediments to transitioning to distributed energy resources and microgrids, said a panel of industry players speaking at The Great Transformation, a forum held Dec. 12 in Beaverton, Oregon... In addition, DERs need to be able to communicate with one another, utilities and energy aggregators. What's more, the clean energy industry should focus on building a trained workforce, panelists said—Lisa Cohn, *Microgrid Knowledge*, Dec 26, 2023: <https://www.microgridknowledge.com/distributed-energy-resources/article/33016806/four-challenges-slowng-the-transition-to-distributed-energy-resources-from-oregon-industry-players>

### **Tribes to Sponsor 1 to 3 GW of Renewables to Help Retire Dams and Restore Salmon**

An agreement among the U.S. Government, Washington, Oregon and four Native American tribes will facilitate the buildout of at least 1 GW to 3 GW of tribally sponsored clean energy capacity, the Biden Administration said... Federal funding potentially reaching more than \$1 billion will support the agreement, which began as a proposal to the Biden Administration from the four tribes and two states—William Driscoll, *pv magazine*, Jan 29, 2024: <https://pv-magazine-usa.com/2024/01/29/tribes-to-sponsor-1-to-3-gw-of-renewables-to-help-retire-dams-and-restore-salmon/>

## **Washington**

### **PUD Seeks to Ease Solar Cost Burden on Non-Solar Customers**

The potential impact of solar panels on utility customers and a couple financial windfalls were the subject of conversation at Wahkiakum County PUD Board of Commissioners meeting on Tuesday. General Manager Dan Kay said that he and Commissioner Dennis Reid would attend a Washington PUD Association meeting next week to hear about Washington State legislative priorities, and about a recent net energy metering study. According to Kay, the study looked at three things: the benefit-cost ratio to people who have a photo voltaic system, or solar panels; the benefit-cost ratio to people who don't have and likely can't afford a PV system; and a societal perspective—Diana Zimmerman, *The*

Wahkiakum County Eagle, Jan 4, 2024: <https://www.waheagle.com/story/2024/01/04/news/pud-seeks-to-ease-solar-cost-burden-on-non-solar-customers/23112.html>

### **Trinity Structures Deploys the First U.S. Off-Grid Electrified Structures for Costco's Fleet in its Largest Distribution Center**

Trinity Structures, trusted provider of turn-key electrification solutions and Costco's electrification partner, announces successful deployment of the first off-grid electrified structures for Costco's fleet in its largest distribution center in Mira Loma, CA... This milestone represents a significant leap for fleet electrification because it was achieved in only four months, accomplishing design, construction, and deployment with electrified structures that create, convert, and conduct solar energy—Trinity Structures, *Chinook Observer*, Jan 4, 2024: [https://www.chinookobserver.com/news/state/trinity-structures-deploys-the-first-u-s-off-grid-electrified-structures-for-costcos-fleet-in/article\\_01af3bf6-f50e-5aa7-a211-a2a6fdd898a3.html](https://www.chinookobserver.com/news/state/trinity-structures-deploys-the-first-u-s-off-grid-electrified-structures-for-costcos-fleet-in/article_01af3bf6-f50e-5aa7-a211-a2a6fdd898a3.html)

### **Inslee Praises Community Solar Project at Port of Camas-Washougal as ‘A Personal Joy’**

Gov. Jay Inslee visited Clark County’s biggest solar array Friday, which he called integral to Washington’s transition to clean energy... “This is a personal joy to me. It’s giving us optimism for our state,” Inslee said during a tour of Clark Public Utilities’ Community Solar East project... The [system of solar panels](#) — spread across five Port of Camas-Washougal buildings — will generate roughly 799 kilowatts of electricity. The system gives utility customers a chance to tap solar power without having to install solar arrays on their own homes—Lauren Ellenbecker, *The Columbian*, Jan 8, 2023: <https://www.columbian.com/news/2024/jan/05/inslee-praises-community-solar-project-at-port-of-camas-washougal-as-a-personal-joy/>

### **Fair Access to Community Solar Act Filed in Washington State**

The community solar market just got a boost in Washington. State Rep. David Hackney (D) and Sen. John Lovick (D) pre-filed both HB 2253 and SB 6113, respectively, which would expand equitable access to the benefits of locally sited solar power to all Washingtonians. The legislation, dubbed the Fair Access to Community Solar Act, will build upon previous legislative victories to help Washington meet its energy goals, create jobs, and grow a more sustainable economy—Kelly Pickerel, *Solar Power World*, Jan 9, 2024: <https://www.solarpowerworldonline.com/2024/01/fair-access-to-community-solar-act-filed-in-washington-state/>

### **Report: Wind and Solar Projects Cause Tax Shift in Washington**

Wind and solar power plants will raise property taxes on homeowners in some Eastern Washington counties, a burden that will get heavier unless legislators act, according to the Washington State Association of Counties... Property taxes from newly built energy installations enlarge local government budgets, but wind turbines and solar panels — unlike homes — depreciate in assessed value each year, regardless of the operator's profits—Don Jenkins, *Capital Press*, Jan 9, 2024: [https://www.capitalpress.com/ag\\_sectors/rurallife/report-wind-and-solar-projects-cause-tax-shift-in-washington/article\\_5a0dc68e-ae54-11ee-a196-930068363f23.html](https://www.capitalpress.com/ag_sectors/rurallife/report-wind-and-solar-projects-cause-tax-shift-in-washington/article_5a0dc68e-ae54-11ee-a196-930068363f23.html)

### **Puget Sound Energy, Form Energy Explore 10-MW, 100-Hour Iron-Air Battery Pilot**

Washington state utility Puget Sound Energy and energy storage developer Form Energy have entered

into a memorandum of understanding to look into deploying a multiday energy storage system in the utility's footprint, the companies announced last week. The collaboration will explore the potential of deploying a 10-MW, 100-hour energy storage pilot in PSE's service territory — tentatively scheduled to be deployed by the end of 2026 — using Form Energy's iron-air battery technology—

Kavya Balaraman, *Utility Dive*, Jan 9, 2024: <https://www.utilitydive.com/news/puget-sound-energy-form-energy-long-duration-iron-battery/704026/>

### **Washington Legislation Intends to Bring Fair Access to Solar for All**

State-level community solar programs are one way to level the playing field by bringing clean energy to all... Washington state was home to the country's first community solar project; however, it has some catching up to do as it now ranks 31st in deployment. To that end, Washington Representative David Hackney (D-King County) and State Senator John Lovick (D-Mill Creek) pre-filed both HB 2253 and SB 6113, respectively. These bills intend to expand equitable access to the benefits of locally sited solar power to all Washington rate payers—Anne Fischer, *pv magazine*, Jan 10, 2024: [https://pv-magazine-usa.com/2024/01/10/washington-legislation-intends-to-bring-fair-access-to-solar-for-all/?utm\\_medium=email](https://pv-magazine-usa.com/2024/01/10/washington-legislation-intends-to-bring-fair-access-to-solar-for-all/?utm_medium=email)

### **Governor Visits Washougal, Touts Community Solar Project**

During a visit to the Port of Camas-Washougal's industrial park in Washougal on Friday, Jan. 5, Washington Gov. Jay Inslee praised local efforts to bring solar power to east Clark County residents. "When I see a local community using their own moxie and teamwork, that's really thrilling. That's why I came today," Inslee said, referring to the Clark Public Utilities' community solar project located at the Port's industrial park—Doug Flanagan, *Camas-Washougal Post-Record*, Jan 11, 2024: <https://www.camaspostrecord.com/news/2024/jan/11/governor-visits-washougal-industrial-park-touts-community-solar-project/>

### **Meet Two Guests of Honor at Inslee's Annual State Legislature Address this Year**

Elisa Garcia traveled from Toppenish, Washington, with her daughter, Jasmin Alcantar, to Olympia on Tuesday for Gov. Jay Inslee's final State of the State address... Garcia was invited because her home is one of more than 30 farmworker households in the state that was reportedly outfitted with rooftop solar panels through a Department of Commerce pilot program. Garcia, a farmworker, supports her two daughters and one of her parents in their home... The solar panels have helped the Toppenish woman save money on her family's power bill—Ellen Dennis, *Spokesman Review*, Jan 11, 2024: <https://www.spokesman.com/stories/2024/jan/09/meet-two-guests-of-honor-at-inslees-annual-state-l/>

### **Benton County Wind Farm Proposal Slated for State Energy Siting Council Review**

A proposed wind turbine farm in Benton County that would be the state's largest if ultimately permitted is scheduled for an updated review next week by the Washington Energy Facilities Site Evaluation Council... In February 2021, EPSEC received a site certification application from Horse Heaven Wind Farm LLC to construct a renewable energy generation facility across thousands of acres of leased land near the Tri-Cities. As proposed, the facility would generate between 600 and 1,100 megawatts of electricity from over 200 wind turbines and extensive solar panel arrays, coupled with two battery energy storage facilities. If built, construction would be phased and operating life of the facility is

expected to be at least 30 years—Randy Bracht, *The Center Square*, Jan 17, 2024:  
[https://www.thecentersquare.com/washington/article\\_132b10d8-b592-11ee-b018-6fb921ad085e.html?utm\\_medium=email](https://www.thecentersquare.com/washington/article_132b10d8-b592-11ee-b018-6fb921ad085e.html?utm_medium=email)

### **Washington’s Solar Permitting Leaves Tribal Resources Vulnerable to Corporations**

In the autumn of 2021, an 800-page report crossed the desk of Washington state lands archaeologist Sara Palmer. It came from an energy developer called Avangrid Renewables, which was proposing to build a solar facility partly on a parcel of public land managed by the state. Palmer was in charge of reviewing reports like these, which are based on land surveys intended to identify archaeologically and culturally significant resources—B. “Toastie” Oaster, *High Country News*, Jan 19, 2024:  
[https://www.hcn.org/issues/56.2/energy-industry-washingtons-solar-permitting-leaves-tribal-resources-vulnerable-to-corporations?utm\\_medium=email](https://www.hcn.org/issues/56.2/energy-industry-washingtons-solar-permitting-leaves-tribal-resources-vulnerable-to-corporations?utm_medium=email)

### **OPALCO’s Next Community Solar Project is in the Works**

Across a 19-acre plot at Douglas and Bailer Hill roads, Orcas Power & Light Cooperative plans to install their latest community solar project on San Juan Island. The project, which was started before the COVID-19 pandemic and was subsequently delayed by the global health crisis, is currently in its permitting stages—Isabel Ashley, *The Journal of the San Juan Islands*, Jan 22, 2024:  
[https://www.sanjuanjournal.com/life/opalcos-next-community-solar-project-is-in-the-works/?utm\\_medium=email](https://www.sanjuanjournal.com/life/opalcos-next-community-solar-project-is-in-the-works/?utm_medium=email)

### **Washington State: Solar Panels will Damage Farm Soils**

The Washington State Department of Agriculture says solar installations will damage soils, disputing a claim by an energy company that 1,000 acres of prime farmland in Klickitat County could revert to agriculture in 25 years and be as productive as before... The soil may need decades to recover after the solar panels and posts are gone, she stated. "Even with decommissioning, WSDA does not expect the ground to meet pre-project agricultural viability."—Don Jenkins, *Capital Press*, Jan 25, 2024:  
[https://www.capitalpress.com/ag\\_sectors/rurallife/washington-state-solar-panels-will-damage-farm-soils/article\\_09f272ea-baf1-11ee-a225-eb49c72e324a.html](https://www.capitalpress.com/ag_sectors/rurallife/washington-state-solar-panels-will-damage-farm-soils/article_09f272ea-baf1-11ee-a225-eb49c72e324a.html)

### **Mill Creek Senator’s Bill would Expand Solar Power in WA Neighborhoods**

For one reason or another, rooftop solar is out of reach for a lot of people in the state. For Mason Rolph, a co-founder of Olympia Community Solar, his status as a renter is the obstacle... Rolph supports Senate Bill 6113, also known as the “Fair Access to Community Solar Act.” The bill, sponsored by Sen. John Lovick, D-Mill Creek, aims to boost access to community solar projects in the state, particularly for low-income households—Jenelle Baumbach, *HeraldNet*, Jan 29, 2024:  
[https://www.heraldnet.com/news/mill-creek-senators-bill-would-expand-solar-power-in-wa-neighborhoods/?utm\\_medium=email](https://www.heraldnet.com/news/mill-creek-senators-bill-would-expand-solar-power-in-wa-neighborhoods/?utm_medium=email)

## **National News**

### **Expanding Solar Energy Opportunities: From Rooftops to Building Integration**

When thinking of generating solar energy on buildings, most people think of rooftop solar panels—the rectangular, glass modules placed neatly on top of people’s homes. But solar technologies include much

more than just rooftop panels, and [building-integrated photovoltaics](#), also known as BIPV, takes the panel off the roof and, for example, puts it inside the roof itself... By generating clean energy onsite rather than sourcing electricity from the local electric grid, solar energy provides certainty on where your energy is coming from, can lower your electricity bills, and can [improve grid resilience and reliability](#), among the many environmental and financial benefits of solar energy—U.S. Department of Energy, Solar Energy Technologies Office, Jan 4, 2024: [https://www.energy.gov/eere/solar/articles/expanding-solar-energy-opportunities-rooftops-building-integration?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=govdelivery](https://www.energy.gov/eere/solar/articles/expanding-solar-energy-opportunities-rooftops-building-integration?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery)

### **How Cities Can Scale Onsite Solar with New Federal Incentives**

Last year, San Antonio set a new record of 75 days at or above 100°F. An innovative solar project approved by the City in November will not only provide a solution for beating the heat in the form of shaded solar canopies on parking lots, but also highlights how cities of all shapes and sizes can harness a new federal mechanism to cost-effectively invest in more clean energy— Jackie Lombardi, Hannah Perkins, Matthew Popkin, RMI, Jan 11, 2024: <https://rmi.org/how-cities-can-scale-on-site-solar-with-new-federal-incentives/>

### **BLM Analysis Aims to Optimize Solar Energy Development Throughout the West**

The Department of the Interior today announced an updated roadmap for solar energy development across the West, designed to expand solar energy production in more Western states and make renewable energy siting and permitting on America’s public lands more efficient—[Press Release], U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Jan 17, 2024: <https://www.blm.gov/press-release/blm-analysis-aims-optimize-solar-energy-development-throughout-west>

### **Microsoft will Buy Enough U.S.-Made Solar Panels to Power 1.8 Million Homes**

Microsoft has signed an eight-year deal with the largest U.S. solar manufacturer, Qcells, to supply the company with enough solar panels to add 12 gigawatts of solar electricity to the U.S. grid. For perspective, that’s about one-third of the solar power added to the U.S. electric grid in 2023, according to data from the Solar Energy Industries Associate and Wood Mackenzie. The panels are meant for solar farms that Microsoft is helping build to offset the electricity consumed by its ever-expanding data center footprint—Heather Clancy, *GreenBiz*, Jan 17, 2024: <https://www.greenbiz.com/article/microsoft-will-buy-enough-us-made-solar-panels-power-18-million-homes>

### **The Pentagon will Install Rooftop Solar Panels as Biden Pushes Clean Energy in Federal Buildings**

The Defense Department will install solar panels on the Pentagon, part of the Biden administration’s plan to promote clean energy and “reestablish the federal government as a sustainability leader”... The Pentagon is one of 31 government sites that are receiving \$104 million in Energy Department grants that are expected to double the amount of carbon-free electricity at federal facilities and create 27 megawatts of clean-energy capacity while leveraging more than \$361 million in private investment, the Energy Department said—Mathew Daly, *AP News*, Jan 17, 2024: [https://apnews.com/article/solar-panels-pentagon-biden-clean-energy-hawaii-d26968cc67fdd085d710d1a2b31959a2?utm\\_medium=email](https://apnews.com/article/solar-panels-pentagon-biden-clean-energy-hawaii-d26968cc67fdd085d710d1a2b31959a2?utm_medium=email)

## **U.S. Department of Energy to Announce Funding Opportunity for Clean Energy Technology Deployment on Tribal Lands**

Today, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs (Office of Indian Energy) issued a Notice of Intent (NOI) to release a \$25 million Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) this spring to support clean energy technology deployment on Tribal lands. Awards from this planned FOA are anticipated to range from \$100,000 to \$2.5 million or from \$250,000 to \$5 million, depending on the Area of Interest. Applications will be due about 90 days after the FOA is issued—United States, Department of Energy, Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs, Jan 17, 2024: <https://www.energy.gov/indianenergy/articles/us-department-energy-announce-funding-opportunity-clean-energy-technology-0>

## **The Largest US Solar + Storage Project is Complete**

Terra-Gen and Mortenson have substantially completed the Edwards & Sanborn Solar + Energy Storage project, the largest solar + storage project in the United States. Mortenson was the full engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) contractor on both the solar and energy storage scopes... This project stretches over 4,600 acres and includes more than 1.9 million First Solar modules. In total, the project generates 875 MWDC of solar energy and has 3,287 MWh of energy storage with a total interconnection capacity of 1,300 MW—Billy Ludt, *Solar Power World*, Jan 18, 2024: [https://www.solarpowerworldonline.com/2024/01/the-largest-us-solar-storage-project-is-complete/?mc\\_cid=5e11bb1ca4&mc\\_eid=f6a5058b4f](https://www.solarpowerworldonline.com/2024/01/the-largest-us-solar-storage-project-is-complete/?mc_cid=5e11bb1ca4&mc_eid=f6a5058b4f)

## **Feds Plan to Add Northwest, Western State Land to Potential Expansion of Solar Energy**

Millions of acres of federal public land in five Western states, including Idaho, could be opened up to solar energy production... The U.S. Bureau of Land Management announced Wednesday that more land in Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington and Wyoming is needed to support rising demand for clean energy and to meet President Joe Biden’s target of a 100% clean electricity grid by 2035... Bureau managers said they would make the permitting process on the land faster and easier because it’s already been developed or identified as posing a low risk of conflict with wildlife and critical habitat... The public can comment on the changes until April 18. For details, [go here](https://oregoncapitalchronicle.com/briefs/feds-plan-to-add-northwest-western-state-land-to-potential-expansion-of-solar-energy/)—Alex Baumhardt, *Oregon Capital Chronicle*, Jan 19, 2024: <https://oregoncapitalchronicle.com/briefs/feds-plan-to-add-northwest-western-state-land-to-potential-expansion-of-solar-energy/>

## **Agrivoltaics News**

### **Insect Populations Flourish in the Restored Habitats of Solar Energy Facilities**

Bumblebees buzz from flower to flower, stopping for a moment under a clear blue Minnesota sky. Birds chirp, and tall grasses blow in the breeze. This isn’t a scene from a pristine nature preserve or national park. It is nestled between photovoltaic (PV) solar arrays on rehabilitated farmland... Researchers at the U.S. Department of Energy’s (DOE) Argonne National Laboratory and National Renewable Energy Laboratory wanted to understand the ecological value of PV solar energy sites planted with native grasses and wildflowers. They examined how vegetation would establish and how insect communities would respond to the newly established habitat. The [five-year field](https://www.anl.gov/article/insect-populations-flourish-in-the) study looked at two solar sites in southern Minnesota operated by Enel Green Power North America—Marguerite Huber, *Argonne National Laboratory*, Jan 17, 2024: <https://www.anl.gov/article/insect-populations-flourish-in-the>

[restored-habitats-of-solar-energy-facilities](#)

### **Agriculturally Integrated Solar Takes Flight**

It's becoming increasingly evident that the integration of local grasses and flowers into solar power facilities, whether within the rows of modules or in the spaces between extensive solar panels arrays, enhances the value of neighboring agricultural operations. This growing body of knowledge empowers civil engineers and land management professionals to design solar facilities that not only coexist with but also complement the landscapes – often farmlands – they are situated in—John Fitzgerald Weaver, *pv magazine*, Jan 25, 2024: [https://pv-magazine-usa.com/2024/01/25/agriculturally-integrated-solar-takes-flight/?mc\\_cid=6b73081c44&mc\\_eid=f6a5058b4f](https://pv-magazine-usa.com/2024/01/25/agriculturally-integrated-solar-takes-flight/?mc_cid=6b73081c44&mc_eid=f6a5058b4f)

### **Vertical Solar Mount First of Kind to Achieve UL Certification**

Sunstall Inc. announced that Underwriters Laboratories (UL) certified its vertical PV mounting system, called Sunzaun... Sunzaun achieved rigorous UL2703 standards, making it the first vertical solar mounting system to achieve such certification for safety and reliability in the United States... The vertical configuration of the Sunzaun system saves space, allowing for energy production in limited spaces. Sunstall said the system is well-suited for agricultural lands, urban environments and areas with restricted land availability—Ryan Kennedy, *pv magazine*, Jan 22, 2024: <https://pv-magazine-usa.com/2024/01/22/vertical-solar-mount-first-of-kind-to-achieve-ul-certification/>

## **Community Solar**

### **New Federal Guidance Says LIHEAP Funds Can Cover Community Solar Subscription Fees**

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of Community Services has released new guidance that may make community solar much easier to access in low-income and disadvantaged communities. The guidance allows for funds from the HHS Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) to cover community solar subscription fees, removing a barrier to accessing community solar and its meaningful benefits—United States, Department of Energy, Solar Technologies Office, Jan 18, 2024: <https://www.energy.gov/eere/solar/articles/new-federal-guidance-says-liheap-funds-can-cover-community-solar-subscription>

### **Scale Microgrids' 500-MW Community Solar Deal Seen as Opportunity to Add Value to Microgrids**

Scale Microgrids has inked a 500-MW community solar deal, partnering with developer Gutami on a multistate project that includes energy storage in California, where Scale hopes the state's community solar legislation (AB 2316) to be approved with a minimum of four hours of storage capacity—Lisa Cohn, *Microgrid Knowledge*, Jan 22, 2024: [Click here to read more.](#)

### **Request for Information: Supporting Successful Solar Plus Storage Deployment Serving Low-Income and Disadvantaged Communities**

On January 23, 2024, U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Solar Energy Technologies Office (SETO) published a Request for Information (RFI) seeking input on supporting successful solar plus storage deployment serving low-income and disadvantaged communities... SETO requests feedback from industry, state, territory, Tribal, local government agencies, utilities, nonprofit organizations, solar

developers and installers, solar industry organizations, subscriber management organizations, community-based organizations, financial institutions, philanthropic organizations, academia, research laboratories, advocacy organizations, community action agencies, consumer protection organizations, environmental justice organizations, community members, and other stakeholders. Responses to this RFI must be submitted electronically to [equitablesolar@ee.doe.gov](mailto:equitablesolar@ee.doe.gov) no later than 5:00 pm on February 23, 2024. [For more information click here.](#)

## Workforce Development

### Solar Career Map

IREC's [Solar Career Map](#) explores an expanding universe of solar energy occupations, describing diverse jobs across the industry, charting possible progression between them, and identifying the sorts of credentials necessary to do them well. The map is divided into four sectors: Manufacturing, System Design, Project Development and Installation & Operations. The map explores 43 jobs across these four industry sectors, and identifies more than 60 routes to advancement between them. The Solar Career Map was built for a broad audience including job seekers, employers, educators, career advisors, policymakers, and workforce professionals. It is designed to explore the scope of an industry and its available opportunities rather than a specific job. The Solar Career Map website provides five additional supplemental webpages: About this Map, About the Industry, Competencies, Resources, and pertinent FAQs.

### IRA Creates 100,000 Clean Energy Jobs and Attracts \$110 Billion in Private Investments

Based on [tracking by nonpartisan trade group Environmental Entrepreneurs \(E2\)](#), since the passage of the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) of 2022, over 274 major clean energy projects have been announced across 41 states, leading to over \$110 billion in private investment announcements and the creation of over 95,000 jobs—Ryan Kennedy, *pV magazine*, Jan 22, 2024: [https://pv-magazine-usa.com/2024/01/22/ira-creates-100000-clean-energy-jobs-and-attracts-110-billion-in-private-investments/?mc\\_cid=c3ec8ae706&mc\\_eid=f6a5058b4f](https://pv-magazine-usa.com/2024/01/22/ira-creates-100000-clean-energy-jobs-and-attracts-110-billion-in-private-investments/?mc_cid=c3ec8ae706&mc_eid=f6a5058b4f)

## Reports

### Solar on Businesses, Schools, & Other Non-Residential Buildings Affect Residential Adoption Trends

Previous research has shown that social influence can drive rooftop solar adoption. Research to date has primarily focused on influence between households, but certain forms of social influence may also exist between non-residential and residential installations... In a new paper, researchers from Berkeley Lab, the National Renewable Energy Lab, and Tufts University explore whether and to what extent non-residential solar installations influence residential adoption trends in surrounding neighborhoods. The researchers reach three main conclusions—*Clean Technica*, Jan 16, 2023: <https://cleantechnica.com/2024/01/16/solar-on-businesses-schools-other-non-residential-buildings-affect-residential-adoption-trends/>

## Upcoming Conferences and Events



### **Successful Grant Applications for Tribal Clean Energy Projects (Webinar) Feb 15 10:00**

Please join the Office of Indian Energy for the first webinar of the 2024 Tribal Energy Webinar Series. Learn how to plan for and prepare a successful grant application from two Tribal communities. The Office of Indian Energy will also share opportunities and resources to support your energy vision, including no-cost technical assistance, policies impacting Tribal engagement with utilities, and funding opportunities. [Click here for more information and to register.](#)

### **2024 DOE Tribal Clean Energy Summit : Temecula, CA, Feb 27-28**

Approximately every two years, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Indian Energy along with other DOE offices convenes tribal leaders and energy stakeholders to exchange ideas promoting energy infrastructure development for tribes and tribal communities. [Click here for more information and to register.](#)

### **2024 Solar Power and Energy Storage Mountain West : Denver, CO Feb 26-28**

The 2024 Solar Power and Energy Storage Mountain West is presented by the Colorado Solar and Storage Association, the state's leading trade association for over three decades. The three days are designed to advance conference attendees understanding of new policy and opportunities to equip their business with the necessary skills to compete in the developing solar and storage industry. [Click here for more information and to register.](#)

### **Microgrid Knowledge Conference : Baltimore, MD, Apr 22-24**

Microgrid Knowledge (MGK) Conference 2024 is the intersection of education, advocacy and collaboration on the mission-critical pathway to NetZero unity. Register before March 17 to take advantage of Early Bird Pricing. [Click here for more information and to register.](#)

### **ASES 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual National Solar Conference Solar 2024 : Washington D.C., May 20-23**

This year's conference theme, "Connecting Technology & Policy," will promote the ASES mission to "accelerate equitable solar adoption and universal sustainable living by educating and building community." And will focus on models and tools for negotiating the challenges to advancing renewables by following justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion principles. [Click here for more information and to register.](#)

### **Community Solar Innovation Summit : Denver, CO, June 13-14**

This year, the Coalition and Community Solar Access (CCSA) and our members are launching the inaugural Community Solar Innovation Summit. This is CCSA's first self-hosted conference and 100% of Summit revenues will be invested back into opening, expanding, and protecting competitive, sustainable community solar markets—[Click here for more information and to register.](#)

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