COMMUNITY SOLAR

Prioritizing economic development, consumer choice and grid reliability

WHAT IS COMMUNITY SOLAR

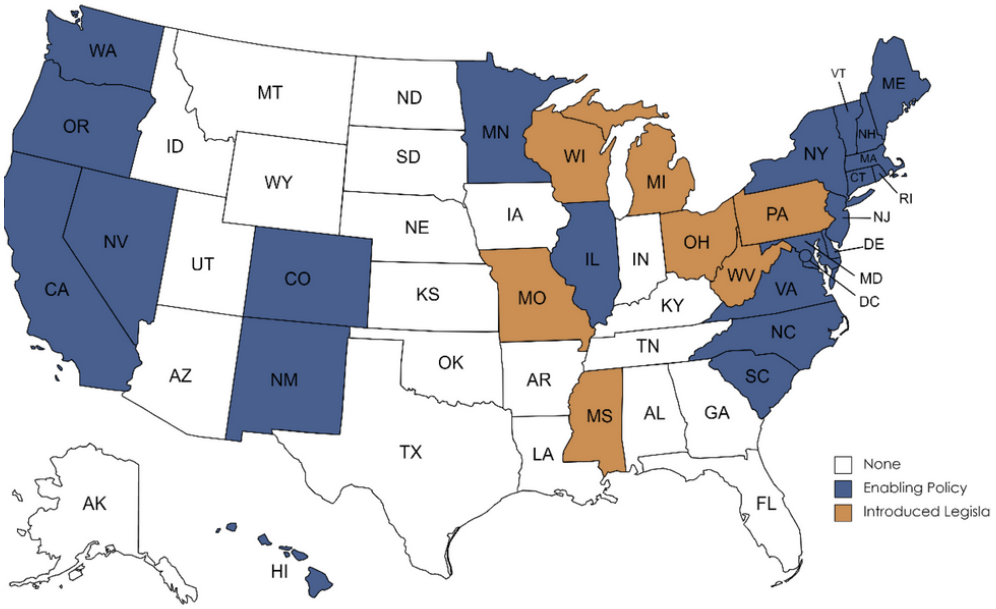
Community solar is a solar facility where the benefits of the electricity produced are shared by two or more electricity customers. A **community solar facility** is a solar photovoltaic system that allocates electricity to multiple electric consumers of an electric utility; is connected to a local distribution of the electric utility; is located either on or off the property of the subscribing electric consumers; and is owned by an electric utility, an electric consumer, or a third party.

BENEFITS OF COMMUNITY SOLAR:

- Increases national security by making the electric grid stronger and more resilient
- Saves individuals and small businesses money
- Expands consumer choice, especially in low-income and non-rural communities
- Generates income and financial security for landowners
- Creates American jobs
- Boosts local economies without raising taxes
- No new tax credits or subsidies are needed to bring this technology to market

STATES WITH EXISTING/PENDING COMMUNITY SOLAR POLICY

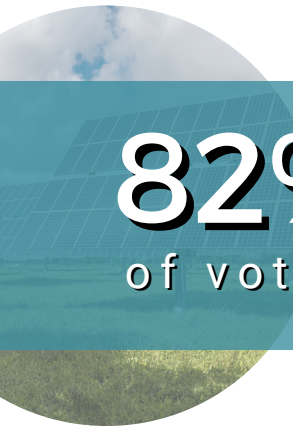
Map source: https://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy23osti/84077.pdf



COMMUNITY SOLAR 101:

Community solar arrays are located within a community where multiple customers can subscribe and receive a credit on their utility bill for their share of the power that's produced, just as if the panels were on their roof. Residents and small businesses sign up to receive energy generated from a certain number of panels. This can be purchased up front or as a "pay-as-you-go" subscription.

Some homes or businesses are limited in the ability to choose their energy supply due to physical attributes of the building or the status of ownership regarding their home or business. Community solar provides these homeowners, renters, and businesses access to the economic benefits of solar generation regardless of these limitations.



82%
of voters

Support a community solar project being developed in their community after learning that community solar projects are multiple customers purchasing shares of solar panel arrays that produce energy at an off-site location.

Source: www.conservativeenergynetwork.org/polling

HOW COMMUNITY SOLAR DEVELOPMENT CAN BE SUPPORTED:

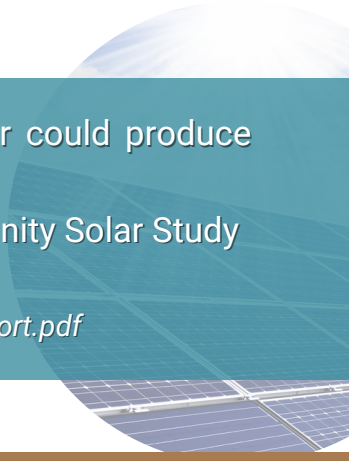
- Amend Section 111(d) of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to define community solar and ensure that electric utilities cannot prohibit community solar programs.

- Amend Section 112(b) of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to encourage state regulatory commissions to publish a report defining regulatory hurdles to community solar development in their respective State within two years, unless prior state action has already addressed those hurdles.

"Our study found that if the right policy levers are pulled, community solar could produce significant economic benefits for Arizona for the life of the program."

- Dr. Anthony Evans, Principal Investigator of Arizona State University Community Solar Study

The Potential Economic and Fiscal Impacts of Community Solar in Arizona
https://commsolar.wpenginepowered.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/ASU-Final-Full-Report.pdf



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