

Town and School Solar in Vermont

Solar Models for Towns and Schools

Direct ownership (i.e, Town of Marshfield,
Thetford Elementary School)



Solar Models for Towns and Schools

Third-party ownership (i.e. Starksboro Town & Robinson Elementary School, Burlington HS and C.P. Smith Elementary School)



Funding/Financing

- Incentive/grant opportunities
- Solar adder for net metering/group net metering
- 30% investment tax credit
- Renewable Energy Certificates
- Municipal debt
- Crowdfunding

Aggregation

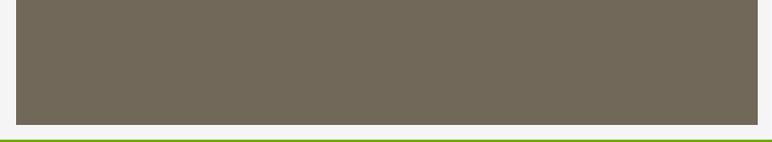
- PV Consortium Committee of Vermont Public School Supervisory Unions and Schools Districts – Act 156 AOE grant
- Competitive pricing, school bidding, expertise
- Competitive Energy Services selected in April, issued RFP in July
- 100 participants in 13 school districts and 4 towns; 2 developers chosen, 9.2 MW, 32% discount
- 4 MW under contract, 5 MW ran into NM cap

Tools and Templates

- www.vecan.net
 - Solar Group Net Metering Agreement Template for Towns and Schools
 - Implementing Solar for your Town or School District guide from S. Burlington EC
- VLS Energy Clinic - <http://www.vermontlaw.edu/academics/clinics-and-externships/energy-clinic>
- psb.vermont.gov
 - Citizen's Guide to the 248 Process
 - Statutes, Rules, Guidelines, and Procedures

Policy Landscape

- ITC reverts at the end of 2016
- Act 56: RES; setbacks; screening ordinances and bylaws
- Solar Siting Task Force
- Net metering: caps, and Act 99 redesign
- RPC planning
- Comprehensive Energy Plan



Thanks!

Anne Margolis

VT Department of Public Service

Anne.Margolis@Vermont.gov

802-828-3058

Supplemental Slides

Act 56

- RES:
 - Meet a 75% by 2032 total renewable energy requirement (55% in 2017)
 - Meet 10% of sales with distributed generation in 2032 (1% in 2017)
 - Meet 12% of sales with "energy transformation projects" in 2032 (2% in 2017)
- Setbacks and screening:
 - 15-150 kW: 40' highways, 25' properties
 - > 150 kW: 100' highways, 50' properties
 - Town screening ordinances/bylaws applied in 248, towns parties by right

Net Metering Processes

- **Systems \leq 15 kW solar:**

- Registration Form to PSB, PSD, and utility only.
- 10 day comment period. If no concerns raised, CPG is deemed issued on 11th day.
- Rule 5.110(A)

- **Systems \leq 150 kW**

- Application Form to PSB, PSD, and utility. If facility is not on existing structure, then a copy must go to ANR, local planning commission, municipal legislative body, all adjoining land owners.
- 10 day comment period for facilities on existing structures; 30 days for ground mounted facilities.
- Subject to minimum set back requirements: 40 feet from municipal highway, 25 feet from property boundary. §248(s).
- Rule 5.110(B).

Permitting

Least Process

Most Process

Net Metering
only
15 kw
Registration

Net Metering
only
150 kw
Application

Net Metering
only
500 kw
Petition

248(j)

Renewables
up to 2.2
MW

Full 248
Process

Net Metering Processes

- **Systems up to 500 kW** (up to 5 MW in special cases).
 - 45 day pre-filing notice period to PSB, PSD, ANR, adjoining property owners, utility, municipal legislative bodies, municipal and regional planning commission.
 - File petition, including exhibits and testimony with copy to PSD, ANR, utility, and local and regional planning commission. Notice of filing to municipal legislative body and adjoining property owners.
 - 21 day comment period.
 - Subject to minimum set back requirements: 100 feet from municipal highway, 50 feet from property boundary. §248(s).
 - Rule 5.110(C).
- **Systems > 500 kW** subject to regular 248 processes

CEDF 2014 Community Solar Grants

- Richford – Franklin Supervisory Union, roof of high school, 50 kilowatts, \$45,500 CEDF grant
- South Strafford – Town of Strafford and Newton School, field at 264 VT RT. 132, 65 kilowatts, \$32,250 CEDF grant
- Thetford – Thetford School Board, elementary school land, 141 kilowatts, \$125,000 CEDF grant
- Warren – Town of Warren, town land near elementary school, 162 kilowatts, \$80,000 CEDF grant
- Sharon – Town of Sharon, roof top project net metered to school, 12 kilowatts, \$15,000 CEDF grant
- North Thetford – United Church of Thetford, 15 kilowatts, \$13,750 CEDF grant
- Berlin – Town of Berlin, town offices roof top, 16.8 kilowatts, \$20,000 CEDF grant
- Shrewsbury – Shrewsbury Mountain School, 25 kilowatts, \$31,250 CEDF grant

Net Metering Caps (applications as of 11/5/15)

Utility	% PEAK
Barton	2.73%
BED	6.39%
Enosburg	1.80%
CVPS	
GMP	11.61%
Hardwick	16.77%
Hyde Park	13.33%
Jacksonville	14.60%
Johnson	0.57%
Ludlow	0.08%
Lyndonville	3.18%
Morrisville	7.35%
Northfield	2.56%
Orleans	0.59%
Stowe	1.83%
Swanton	0.69%
VEC	10.28%
WEC	12.17%