

Solar Salt Lake Program: Navigating new rules, new funding, and new opportunities



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We Partner to Build the New
CLEAN ENERGY ECONOMY



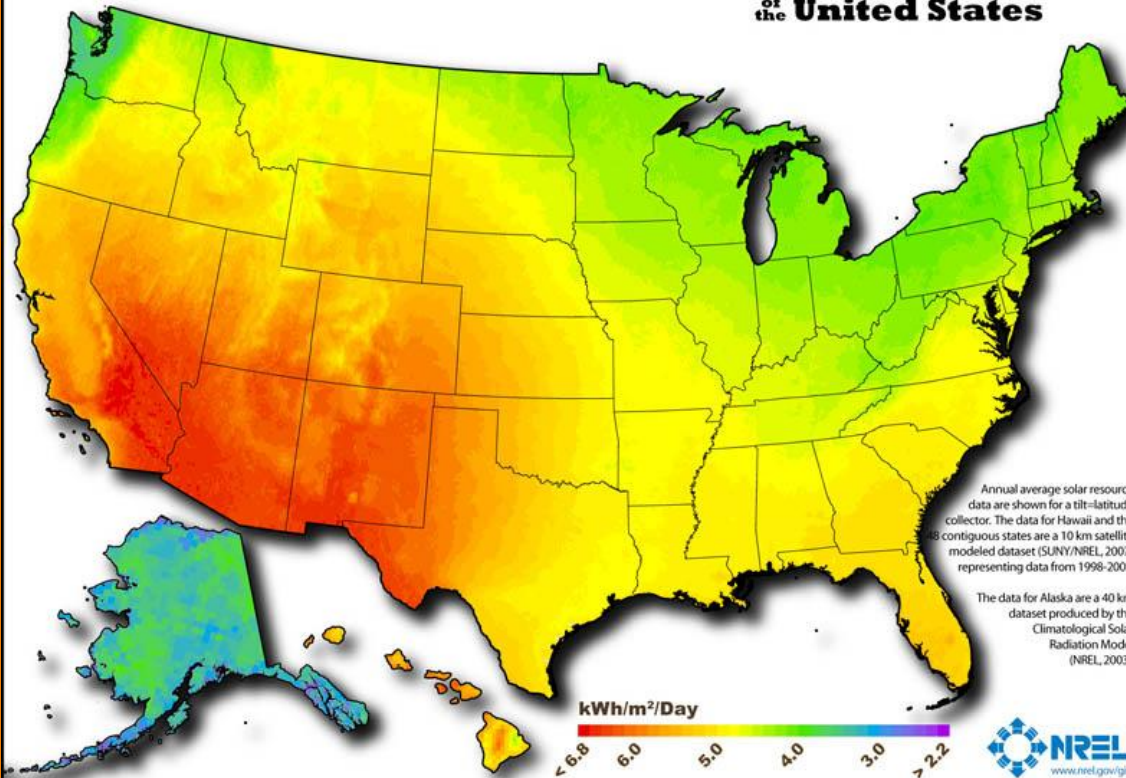
- Non-Profit Organization, Est. 2001
- Policy and Regulatory Advocacy
- Public Education & Outreach
- Diverse partnerships and diverse funding
- Solutions-oriented approach

www.utahcleanenergy.org

Utah is Indeed a Sunny State



Photovoltaic Solar Resource of the United States



Author: Billy Roberts - October 20, 2008

This map was produced by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory for the U.S. Department of Energy.

BUT...
Despite massive improvements in our net metering, program, barriers remain that limit solar industry interest in Utah

Third Party Financing



- Salt Lake County/Ballard Spahr Financing Study
- Salt Lake County ready to go forward with solar – BUT...
- LDS Church ready to pilot solar – BUT...

**Ambiguity in Utah Statute
and Utility Opposition to
Third Party Financing
stalled development**



Circling the Wagons



So we circled the wagons and came up with a strategy

- Diverse partnership/coalition of over 40 businesses and organizations plus the solar industry
- Participation in PSC Investigative Docket (outlined four possible pathways)
 - Rule making
 - Litigation of specific case
 - Safe Harbor or guidance language from PSC
 - Statutory Change



Reluctant Utilities

(Advancing solar while keeping the utility whole, financially)



Utility Concerns/Messaging

- Solar doesn't make economic sense vs. astronomical impact on system when solar market really takes off
- Solar not 100% coincident with Utah super peak demand; therefore, net metering customers not paying their way (socialization of costs/subsidization)
- Rate recovery, decoupling, and larger issues with PSC
- Retail wheeling of electricity (FERC addressed this issue, but not all were satisfied)
- Customer protections & unintended consequences

The Process



- Statutory Change Route
- Strong coalition, industry support of two lobbyist, strong legislative sponsors, good language
- Negotiations with Utility
 - Give and take, language concessions, limited scope
 - Utility pushed for Interim Legislative study of the ‘socialization of costs’ associated net-metering



End Result:

Utah takes another step forward



- HB145 – Allows third party financing for government entities, schools, and churches
- Salt Lake County can move forward with their solar plans
- LDS Church, schools, and other govts. likely to use this financing tool
- The solar industry and interested parties have one more tool to use to finance solar in Utah

We are taking a half step back with a new set of utility concerns, but as solar costs move toward grid parity – we need to figure out how to make it work for all parties – including the utility.

Resources



HB145 Bill Language

<http://le.utah.gov/~2010/htmdoc/hbillhtm/HB0145So2.htm>

PSC Investigative Docket on Third Party Financing

www.psc.utah.gov/utilities/misc/miscindx/0999912indx.html

Ballard Spahr Financing Study (Available on SAMCIN)

FERC Ruling regarding third party financing

<http://www.ferc.gov/whats-new/comm-meet/2009/111909/E-29.pdf>

Utah Clean Energy www.utahcleanenergy.org

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Thank You!



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