

WASHINGTON SOLAR PLUS GOALS | June 29, 2017

This goal statement is the vision for what the Washington Solar Plus forum would like to accomplish. It is intended to inform the development of potential strategies and tools over the next six months, for implementation over the next few years. In looking forward to future growth of solar in Washington, the Forum envisions a future in which:

Access and benefits of solar energy equitably expand to all users, regardless of home ownership, income and wealth, or ratepayer class.

- More types of participants and ownership structures, including community ownership, are available and eligible for state incentives.
- Concrete targets for development of small rooftop, large rooftop, and utility-scale systems are adopted.
- Solar capacity increases, displacing fossil fuels.
- New policies aimed at increasing capacity, including incentives, do not create additional cost burdens on people with low incomes.

Solar benefits are targeted to disadvantaged or vulnerable communities.

- Solar projects are developed in environmental justice communities or in areas where energy sources with significant air pollution health impacts can be displaced.
- Solar is deployed to build community resilience in vulnerable areas.
- Solar assets are deployed to mitigate energy cost burdens, increase asset ownership, and build wealth for low income participants or communities.
- Solar projects are installed on or benefit public buildings, buildings owned by non-profit organizations, and affordable housing.

The solar industry is able to grow sustainably over the next five years, at which point grid parity is anticipated.

- A shared industry vision is developed through a solar business plan.
- Consumer knowledge, awareness, and understanding of solar opportunities is increased.
- Workforce needs are met by targeting opportunities for people of color, people from low- income communities, or those without post-secondary education to train for and obtain solar jobs with family-supporting wages.

The value proposition for solar power in Washington is improved.

- A comprehensive, statewide Value of Solar framework reflects the full extent of the societal, environmental, and utility values of solar and associated technologies.
- Soft costs are minimized.
- Demonstration projects are developed that integrate solar with storage other technologies that enhance resilience or distribution system value.
- A state solar resource map identifies the best sites for development; i.e. sites where additional transmission investment will be minimized.
- Market structures are identified to facilitate new business opportunities and revenue streams and eliminate current barriers for solar and associated technologies

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