



TODAY'S CALL TOPIC

DOE's Rooftop Solar Challenge Grant Opportunity

Speaker:



Hannah Muller
Solar Energy Technologies Program
 U.S. Department of Energy



Upcoming Events

JUNE 15-17, 2011

**Local Clean Energy
 Leadership Summit
 Washington, DC**

www.localenergysummit.org

June 9, 2011

For more information: www.climatecommunities.us



Upcoming Events

Local Government Clean Energy Leadership Summit

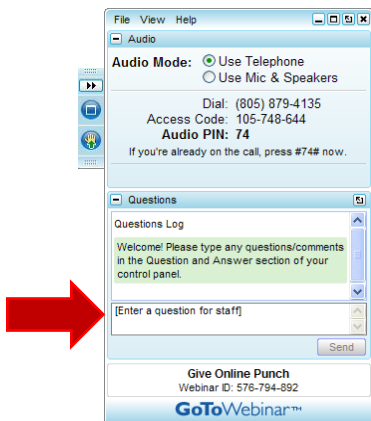
Washington, DC

June 15-17, 2011

- Major energy efficiency and renewable energy conference for local government sector.
- Demonstrate success of EECBG and other federal investments in local clean energy projects
- Share best practices.
- Urge Congress and the Obama Administration to make further clean energy investments in local governments.
- For more information, visit www.localenergysummit.org.



Asking questions



At any point during the presentation, you can type your question into the question text box and click send. All questions will be read aloud and answered at the end of the presentations, as long as time permits.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY



Rooftop Solar Challenge

Market Transformation Team
U.S. DOE Solar Program
June 2011

DOE Solar Energy Technologies Program

This Presentation Will Cover...

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

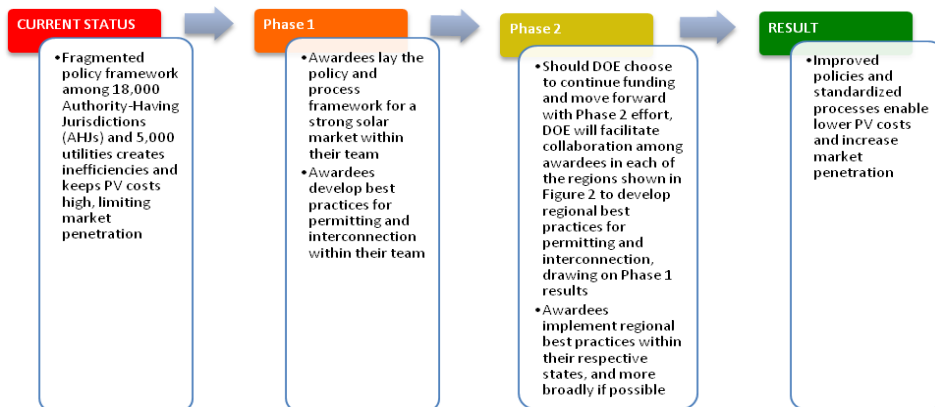
- Challenge Goal and Strategy
- Challenge Action Areas
- Eligibility Requirements and Forming Strong Teams
- Measuring Progress
- Sample Market Evaluation
- Funding Details
- Challenge Timeline
- How to Apply
- How Applications will be Evaluated
- Complementary Efforts

DOE Solar Energy Technologies Program

5

Challenge Goal and Strategy

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY



Federal Investment Leverages Local Action:

DOE will invest up to \$12.5 million to support up to 25 teams in Phase 1

Stakeholder Input:

The Challenge was designed based on input from hundreds of stakeholders, including comments received in response to a public Request for Information

DOE Solar Energy Technologies Program

6

Challenge Action Areas

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

Phase 1 Action Areas:

- **PERMITTING AND INTERCONNECTION PROCESSES:** Develop and implement a transparent, consistent, and expedient permitting and interconnection process for residential (less than approximately 10kW) and small commercial (less than approximately 300kW) rooftop PV systems, throughout all participating jurisdictions.
- **NET METERING AND INTERCONNECTION STANDARDS:** Improve interconnection and net metering standards, as evaluated by the Network for New Energy Choices grading scheme, for the primary load-serving utility in each participating jurisdiction.
- **FINANCING OPTIONS:** Increase distributed PV market activity in models other than self-financed ownership by enabling direct financing options, community solar programs, and/or utility-owned distributed generation and resolving legal issues around third party ownership models.
- **PLANNING AND ZONING:** Remove siting restrictions and incorporate favorable provisions in state and local codes and land use policies in every participating jurisdiction to maximize PV siting options.

Phase 2 Action Areas:

- **STATEWIDE IMPLEMENTATION OF STANDARD PERMITTING PROCESS:** Collaborate with other awardees in the region to develop standard permitting process based on results in Phase 1, then implement standard permitting process statewide.

DOE Solar Energy Technologies Program

7

Eligibility Requirements and Forming Strong Teams

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

Applicant entities must satisfy the following criteria:

- Located in the United States and
- State or territorial governments; or
- Local governments; or
- Consortia, made up of regional or statewide teams of local governments, large single jurisdictions, or Indian Tribes; or
- Non-profit or for-profit entities authorized to act on behalf of a consortia of state and/or local governments, and
- The total population represented by eligible entities for this FOA must be 500,000 or greater as defined by the 2010 report of the U.S. Census Bureau .

Letters of commitment / Letters of support:

- Applicants must provide a letter of commitment from each party contributing cost-share . At minimum this includes the chief elected official of each participation jurisdiction.
- Applicants must provide a letter of support from the respective State Energy Office or equivalent, and from the primary load-serving electric utility for each participating jurisdiction.

Forming strong teams:

Applicants are encouraged to partner with diverse stakeholders to ensure the buy-in and resources necessary to make progress under all action areas. Potential partners include:

- Utilities
- Solar companies
- Non-profit organizations
- State governments

DOE Solar Energy Technologies Program

8

Measuring Progress



- Point scoring approach allows jurisdictions to demonstrate progress through a variety of policy and program combinations
- Applicants will submit benchmark data with their application
- Teams must achieve a total score of 800/1000 at the end of Phase 1 in order to be eligible for a potential Phase 2
 - For awardees representing multiple jurisdictions, the overall score used to determine eligibility for a potential Phase 2 will be based on the lowest-scoring jurisdiction.
 - Awardees whose teams consist of multiple jurisdictions must demonstrate that they have implemented the use of a standard permitting template and a standard set of criteria for expediting certain types of projects, across all jurisdictions on the team, in order to be eligible for Phase 2, should DOE choose to proceed.
- Industry Verification
 - Teams must submit letters from at least two solar companies in the residential and commercial PV business confirming the reported data
- DOE will issue detailed instructions in June 2011 for completing initial benchmark

ACTION AREA	POINTS
Permitting Process	460
Application	110
Information Access	60
Process Time	110
Fee	30
Model Process	30
Inspection	80
Communication w/ Utility	40
Interconnection Process	110
Application	40
Information Access	20
Process Time	20
Inspection	30
Interconnection Standard	100
Net Metering Standard	100
Financing Options	150
Third Party Ownership (or equivalent)	90
Direct Finance Options	25
Community Solar	15
Other	20
Planning and Zoning	80
Solar Rights and Access	54
Zoning	20
New Construction	6
TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE	1000

Market Evaluation



Excerpt from Attachment 1 to Funding Opportunity:

Sub-Criteria	#	Question	Measurement Unit	Industry Verification?	RESIDENTIAL		COMMERCIAL	
					Options	Check Box	Options	Check Box
Application	1	To how many departments does an installer have to submit separate applications for a typical installation? (a municipal utility does not count as a city department here)	Multiple Choice	N	1		1	
					2		2	
					≥ 3		≥ 3	
	2	What types of departmental approvals are required for a typical installation? (check all that apply)	Multiple Choice	N	Building		Building	
					Electrical		Electrical	
					Fire		Fire	
					Mechanical		Mechanical	
					Planning		Planning	
					Plumbing		Plumbing	
					Structural		Structural	
				Zoning		Zoning		
				Other (*Specify) *		Other (*Specify) *		
				Civil		Civil		
				Electrical		Electrical		
				Environmental		Environmental		
				Fire Protection		Fire Protection		
				Mechanical		Mechanical		
				Structural		Structural		
				≤ half day		≤ 1 day		
				1 - 2 days		2 - 4 days		
				> 2 days		> 4 days		
				Online		Online		
				Email		Email		
				In person		In person		
				Mail		Mail		
				Online		Online		
				Email		Email		
				In person		In person		
				Mail		Mail		
Information Access	7	How is information describing the permitting process accessible? (Check all that apply)	Multiple Choice	Yes	Online and easily accessible		Online and easily accessible	
					Online		Online	
					Email		Email	
				In person/mail		In person/mail		
				Yes		Yes		
				No		No		

Funding Details

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

- DOE will select up to 25 teams for awards in Phase 1
- Phase 1 award range: \$250,000 to \$1,000,000
- **Cost-share requirements:**
 - 10% in Phase 1
 - 20% in Phase 2
- **Recognition:** Teams that achieve a score of 800/1000 at the end of Phase 1 will receive a highly publicized DOE designation that indicates that all jurisdictions on the participating teams have put in place a solar-friendly business environment
- **Eligibility for Phase 2:**
 - Restricted to teams that participated in Phase 1 and,
 - Achieved a minimum score of 800/1000
 - Received positive review of overall performance in Phase 1

How to Apply

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

- Submit Letter of Intent by **July 29, 2011**
- Applications due **August 31, 2011**
- Include project plan (up to 15 pages)
- Include letters of commitment and letters of support
- Include initial market evaluation (Attachment 1)
- Link to Funding Opportunity Announcement:
 - www.solar.energy.gov/challenge
- Q&A available at link above
- DOE will offer webinars for applicants throughout the summer. Dates will be posted at link above.

ENERGY Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy

ROOFTOP SOLAR CHALLENGE

Be part of a national effort to make clean solar electricity cost-competitive for your community.

[Join the Challenge!](#)

THE SOLAR MISSION
The Department of Energy is committed to providing the American people with clean, secure, and affordable energy. One of the ways we are doing this is by promoting the use of renewable energy sources, such as solar. The Rooftop Solar Challenge is a national effort to make clean solar electricity cost-competitive for your community.

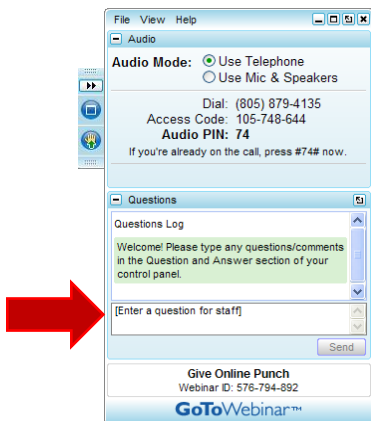
LETTERS OF COMMITMENT
Letters of Commitment are a key component of the challenge. They are a public statement of support for the challenge and a commitment to participate in the challenge. Letters of Commitment are required for all participating teams.

Building Blocks of Success
The challenge is designed to be a national effort to make clean solar electricity cost-competitive for your community. To succeed, teams need to have a strong business plan, a strong marketing plan, and a strong community support plan. The challenge provides a framework for teams to develop these plans.

Rooftop Solar Challenge
The Rooftop Solar Challenge is a national effort to make clean solar electricity cost-competitive for your community. The challenge is designed to be a national effort to make clean solar electricity cost-competitive for your community. The challenge provides a framework for teams to develop these plans.



Asking questions



At any point during the presentation, you can type your question into the question text box and click send. All questions will be read aloud and answered at the end of the presentations, as long as time permits.



Questions?