



Keep Rooftop Solar Growing With Equity & Climate Resiliency

Fires, air pollution, power outages and punishing electricity bills: these issues affect all Californians, but have a disproportionately greater impact on communities of concern.

Rooftop Solar, along with Battery Storage, is a Key Solution that Puts People at the Center of the Clean Energy Transition

Giving people tools to control their energy bills. The transition to clean energy doesn't work if people can't afford their electricity bills. Supersizing the utility grid without passing along savings to consumers is not a solution.

Fighting climate change. We cannot get to 100% clean energy solely with utility-scale renewables. Reliability issues, infrastructure costs and siting challenges threaten our climate change success if we put all of our eggs into the utility-scale basket.

Keeping the lights on. Local solar & storage is the only clean way to reduce the impact of power outages on our communities. Yet, state leaders continue to squander this opportunity to make our grid more resilient ([New York Times story](#) illustrates this).

Reducing the cost of operating the grid. Transmission & distribution costs are the main driver of ever-rising utility bills. Local solar and storage reduces both the cost of maintaining the current infrastructure, and the need to invest in future infrastructure. According to CALISO, local clean energy saved ratepayers \$2.6 billion in avoided transmission costs in 2018 alone.

Providing good-paying, local jobs in every community. Rooftop solar and storage supports 75,000 family-sustaining jobs in every corner of the state; more than all the utility companies combined.

California's plan to decarbonize must put people's economic needs at the center. That means ensuring growing, affordable access to rooftop solar and storage.

The New York Times *Its Electric Grid Under Strain, California Turns to Batteries*

When demand exceeded supply in a recent heat wave, electricity stored at businesses and even homes was called into service. With proper management, batteries could have made up for an offline gas plant.

Net Metering is the Cornerstone of Rooftop Solar & Storage

Net metering lets solar users give their extra solar energy to their neighbors for a bill credit. This commonsense transaction between solar users and the utility puts valuable local clean energy on the grid and reduces our reliance on far-away energy and long-distance power lines. Adding a battery provides even more value to the solar user as well as everyone in the community by helping make the sun shine at night.

Utilities Lobbying to Gut Net Metering

PG&E, San Diego Gas & Electric and Southern California Edison have proposed or are expected to propose the following:

- Make choosing solar more expensive, putting it further out of reach for middle and low-income households.
- Impose discriminatory new fees on all solar users that will further discourage solar adoptions.

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Credit: National Renewable Energy Laboratory

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We are in a climate emergency, compounded by an unreliable and costly electric grid. To help address these problems, the CPUC should use net metering to make rooftop solar and battery storage even more valuable and more accessible for California and its residents.

Keep rooftop solar growing. At minimum, maintain the current pace of rooftop solar adoptions.

Prioritize Equity: Bring rooftop solar + storage to more low-income families and Communities of Concern: Today, rooftop solar is growing in lower- and middle-income neighborhoods, including on affordable multifamily apartment buildings. We should accelerate this trend so that more of California's Environmental Justice and Social Justice (ESJ) communities and renters benefit from local clean energy.

Make Solar-Charged Batteries Standard with Rooftop Solar by 2030: Solar-charged batteries reduce strain on the grid; help accelerate the retirement of polluting fossil fuel power plants; and allow people to keep their lights on and food fresh during power outages without dirty and dangerous back-up generators. On the heels of California achieving one million solar rooftops last year, we should now strive for one million solar-charged batteries by 2030.

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