

Solar Powering Your Community

Permitting and Inspection



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Ryan Cook

Meister Consultants Group
ryan.cook@mc-group.com

Kathryn Wright

Meister Consultants Group
kathryn.wright@mc-group.com

Agenda

Morning Session: **Permitting**

Afternoon Session: **Zoning**

Morning Agenda: Permitting

Solar Markets and Technology

Permitting Best Practices

DVRPC Model Permitting Documents

Morning Agenda: Permitting

Solar Markets and Technology

Permitting Best Practices

DVRPC Model Permitting Documents

Solar Technologies



Solar Photovoltaic (PV)



Solar Hot Water



Concentrated Solar Power

Solar Technologies



Solar Photovoltaic (PV)

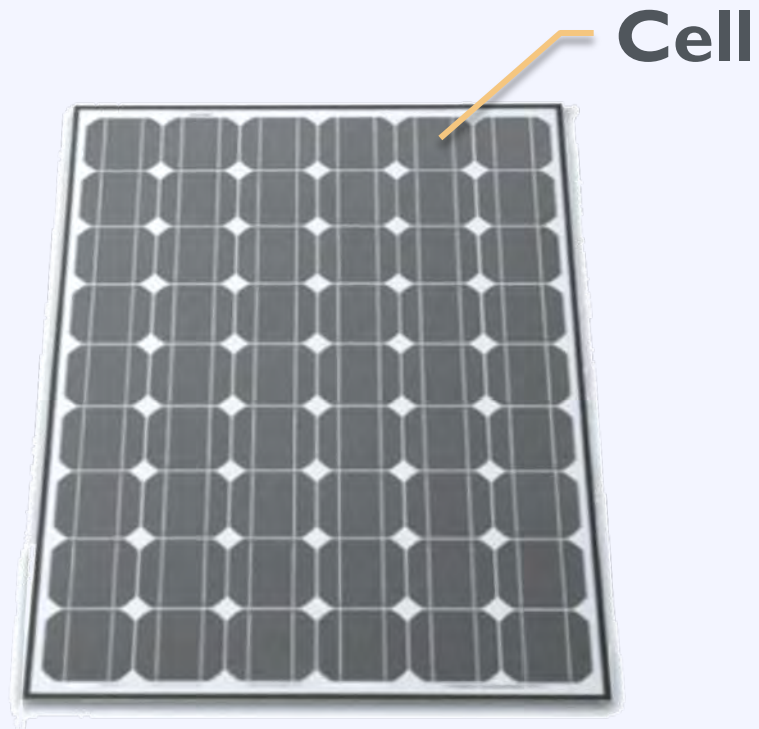


Solar Hot Water



Concentrated Solar Power

Some Basic Terminology



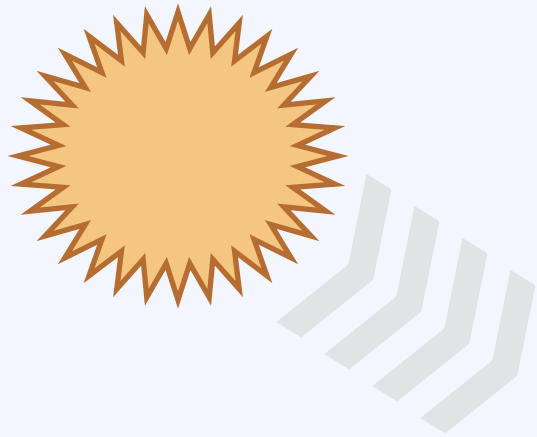
Panel / Module

Some Basic Terminology



Array

Some Basic Terminology



Production
Kilowatt-hour (kWh)

Capacity / Power
kilowatt (kW)

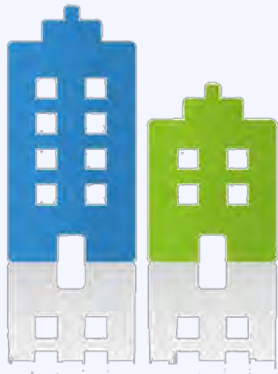
Some Basic Terminology



Residence
5 kW



Factory
1 MW+

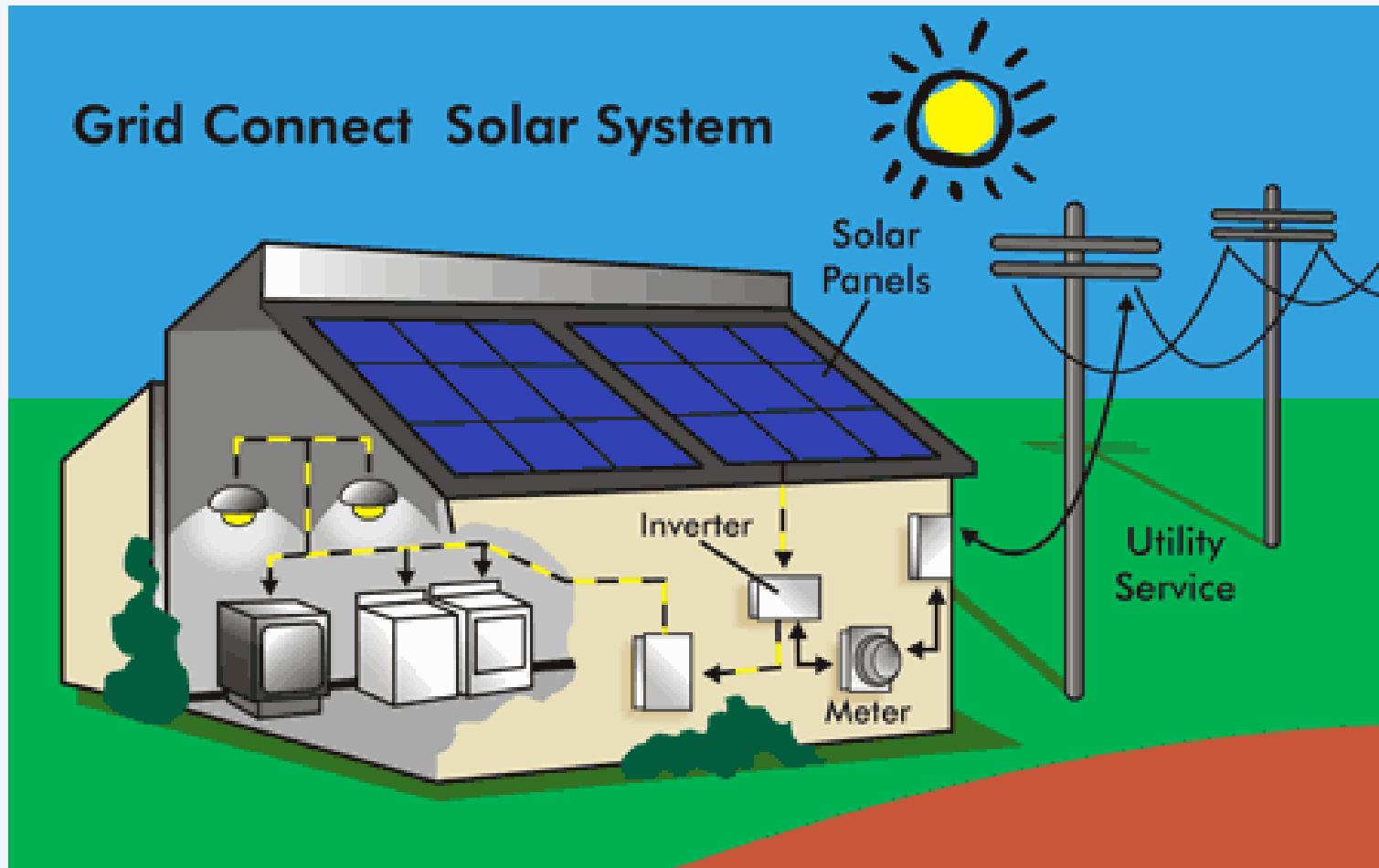


Office
50 – 500 kW



Utility
2 MW+

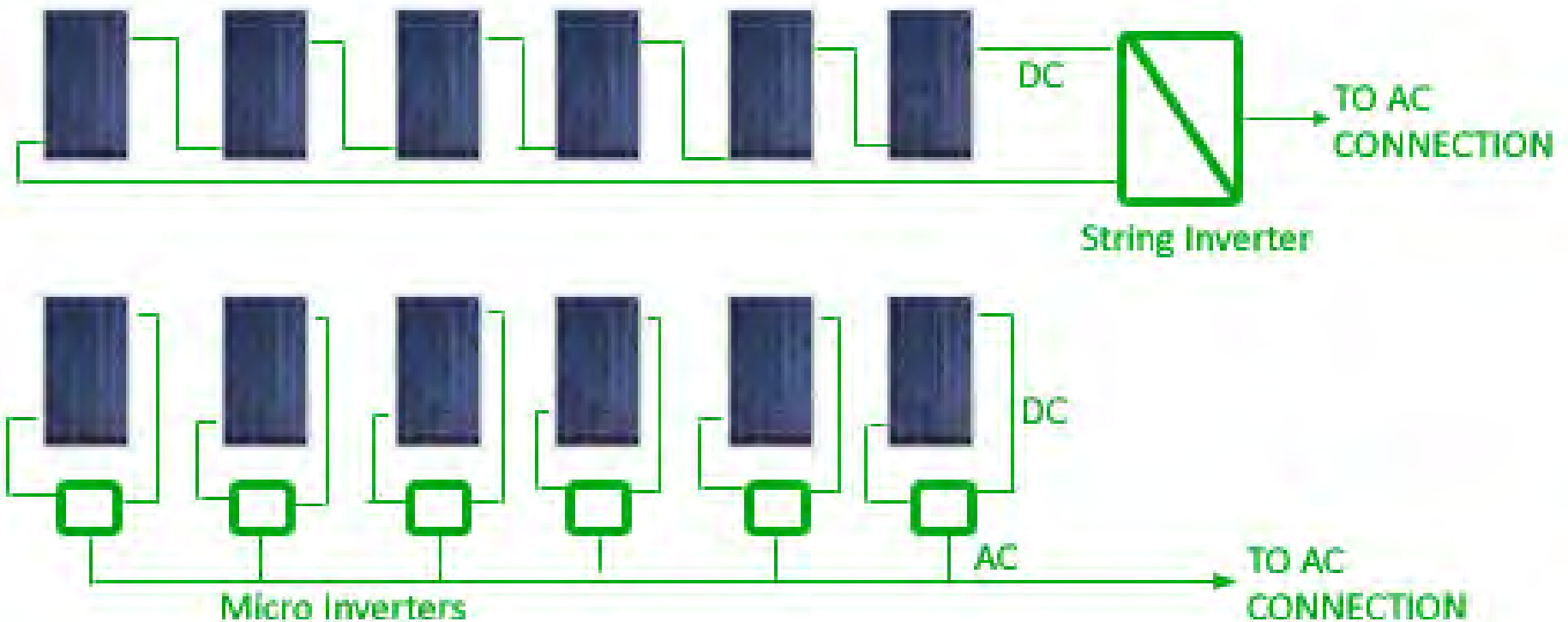
System Design



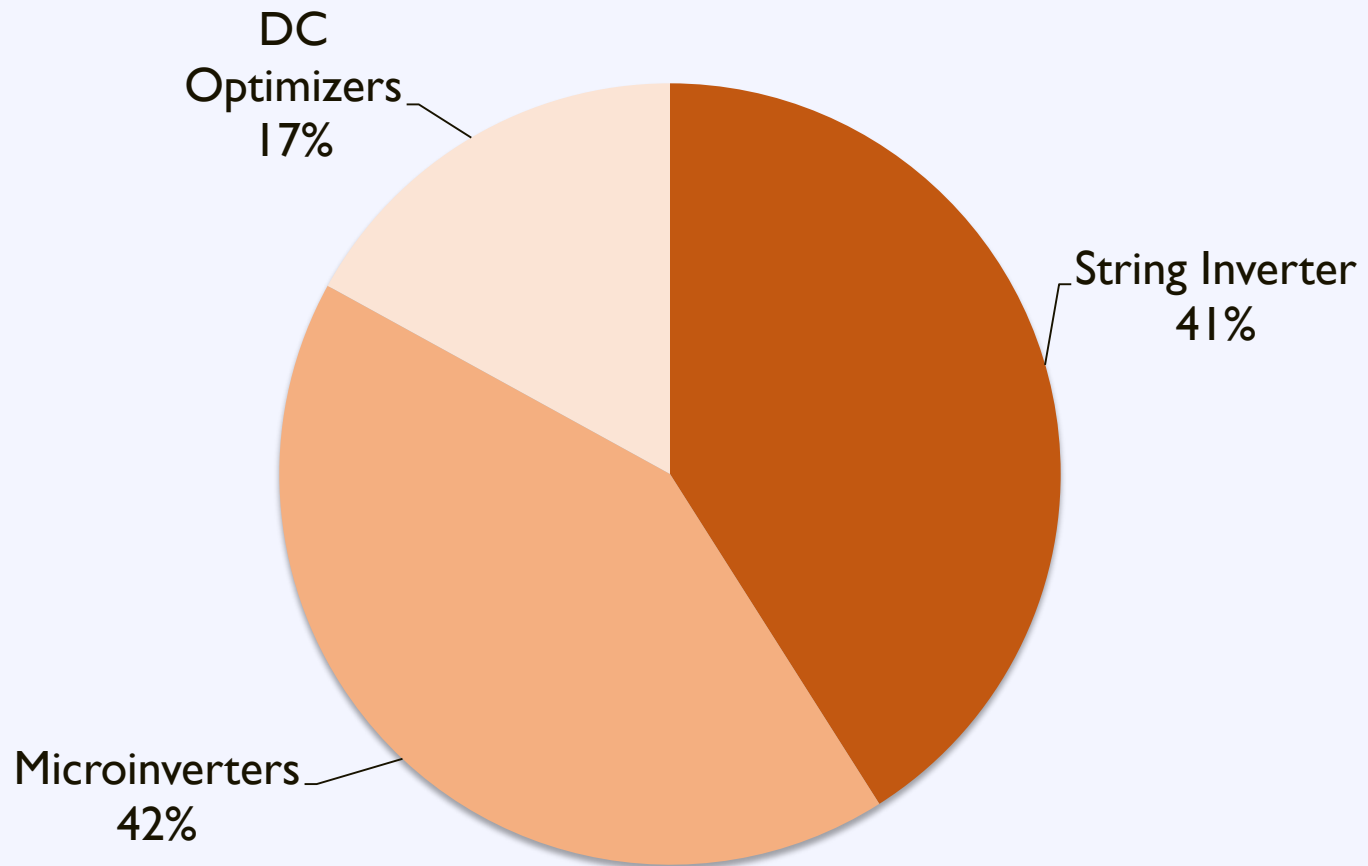
PV System Components



Inverter Technology



Inverter Technology



Solar Development in the US

In 2013, the US solar industry installed over

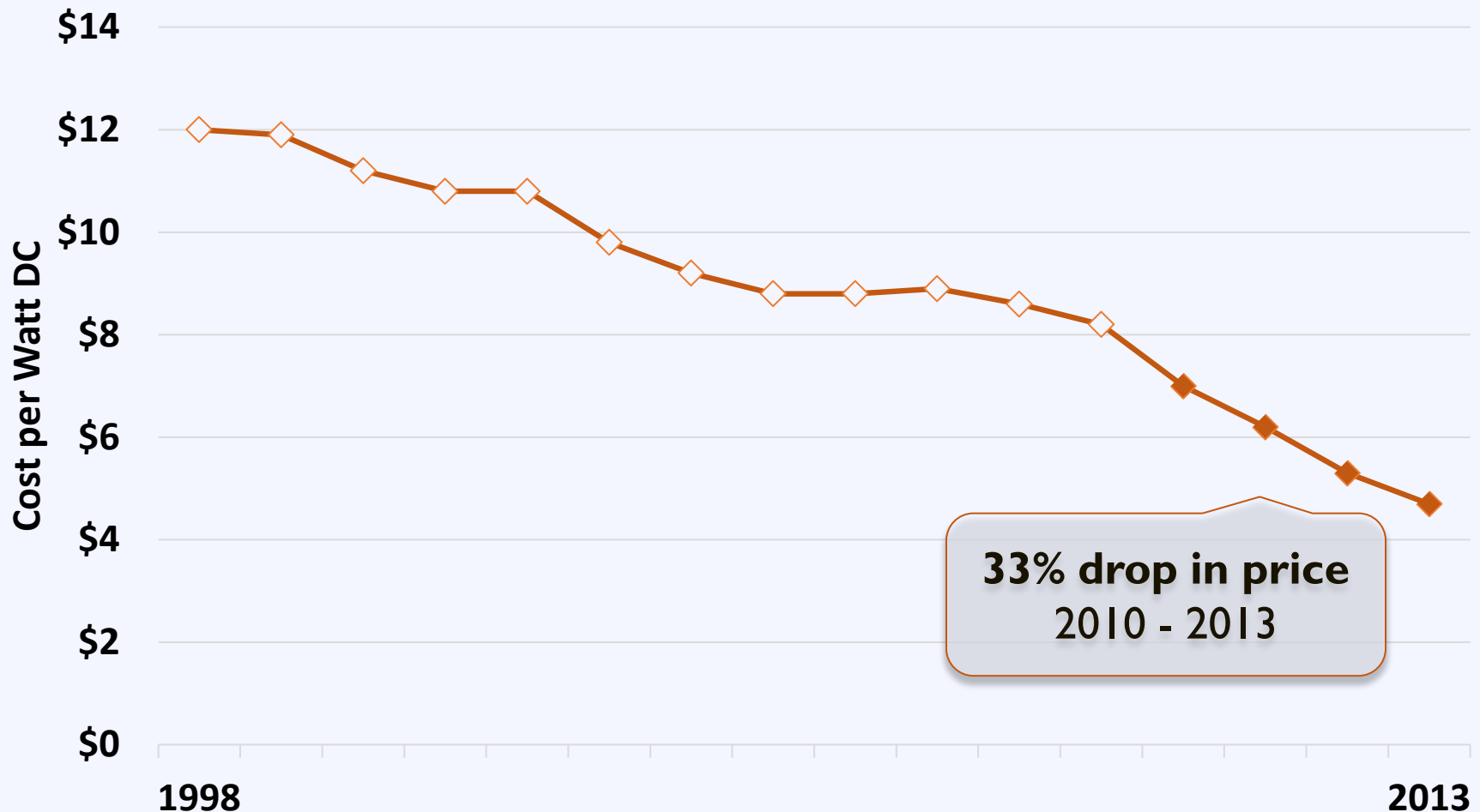
145,000 new solar installations

of which

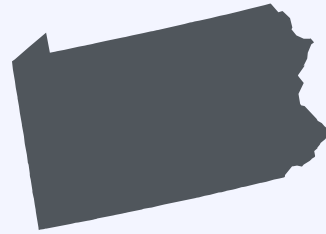
94% were residential projects

The Cost of Solar PV

US Average Installed Cost for Behind-the-Meter PV



Economic Development in PA/NJ



2014 Solar Companies

461

495

2014 Solar Jobs

2,800

7,200

National Ranking

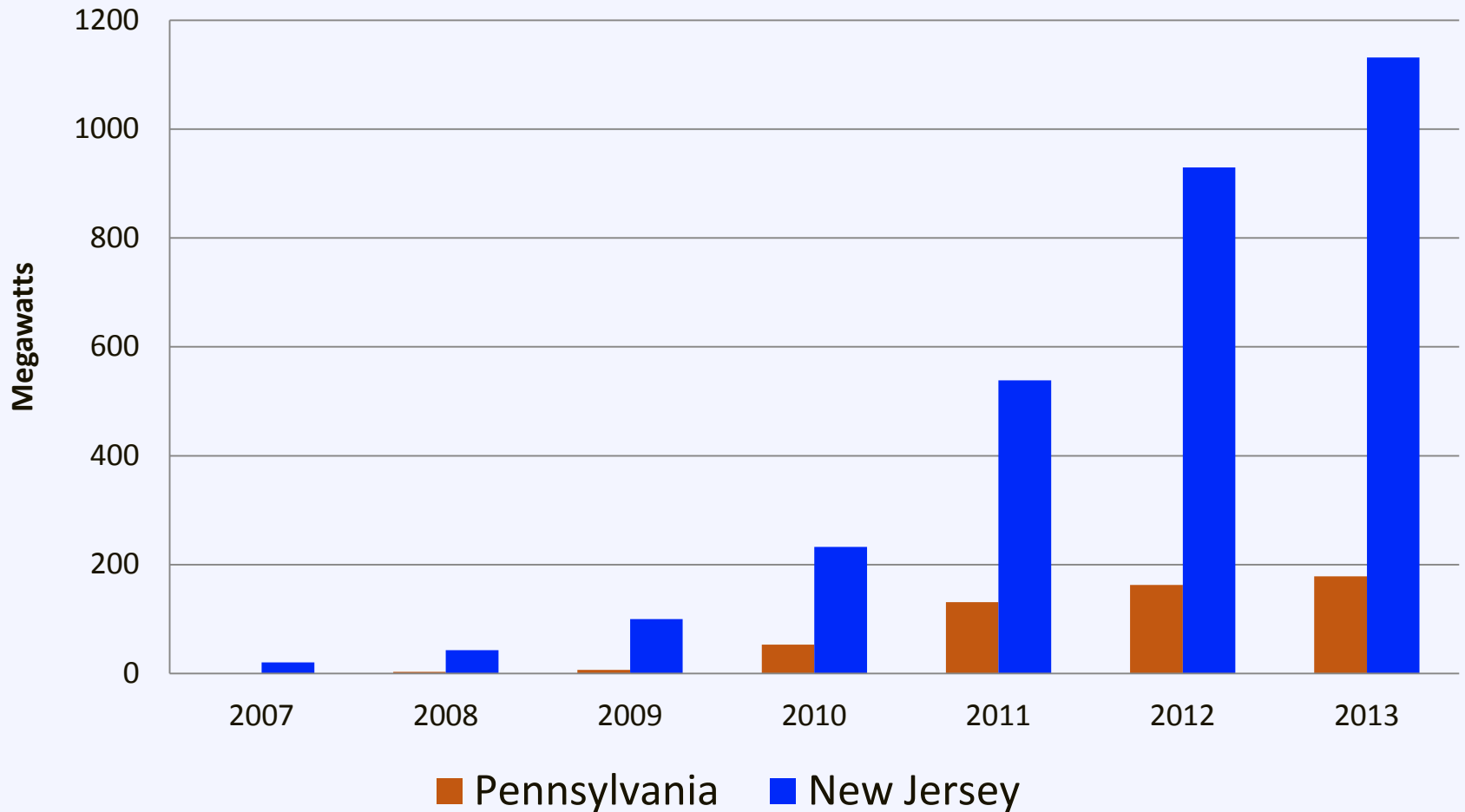
15

5

2014 Solar Companies	461	495
2014 Solar Jobs	2,800	7,200
National Ranking	15	5

PA & NJ Solar Market

Cumulative Installed Capacity



PA & NJ Solar Market

Pennsylvania



13

watts per person

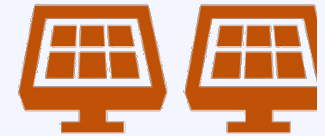
New Jersey



104

watts per person

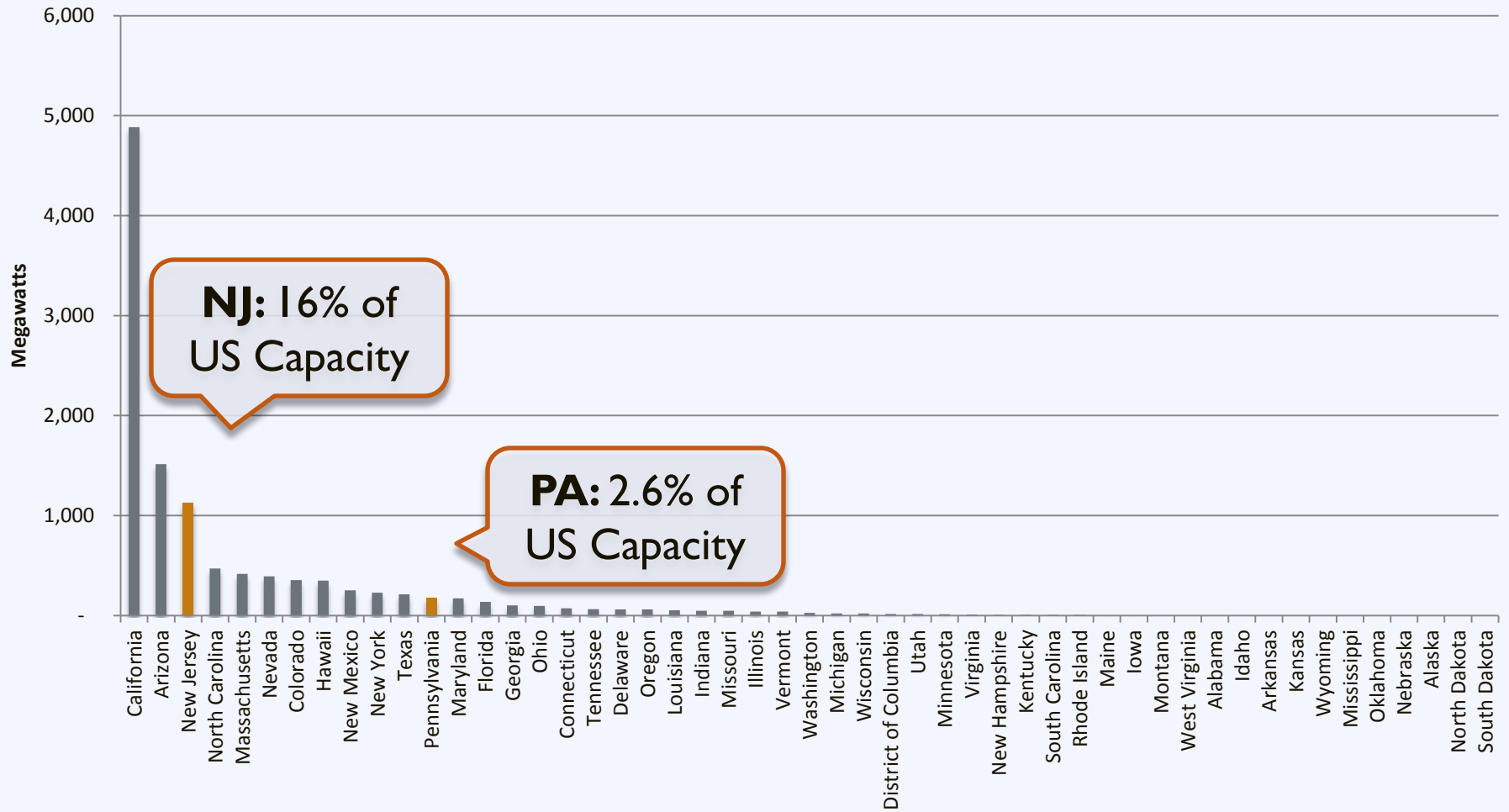
US



39

watts per person

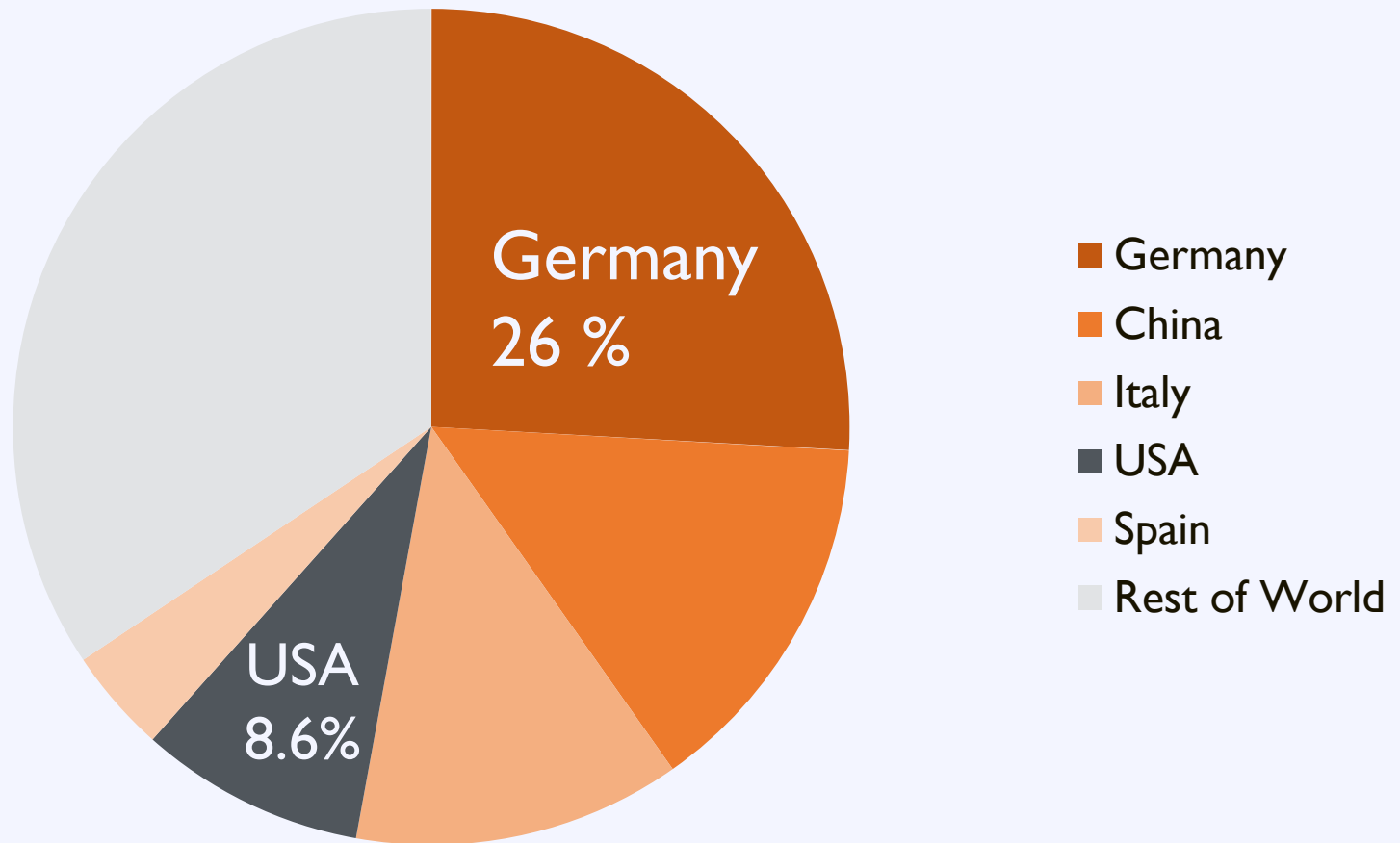
US Solar Market



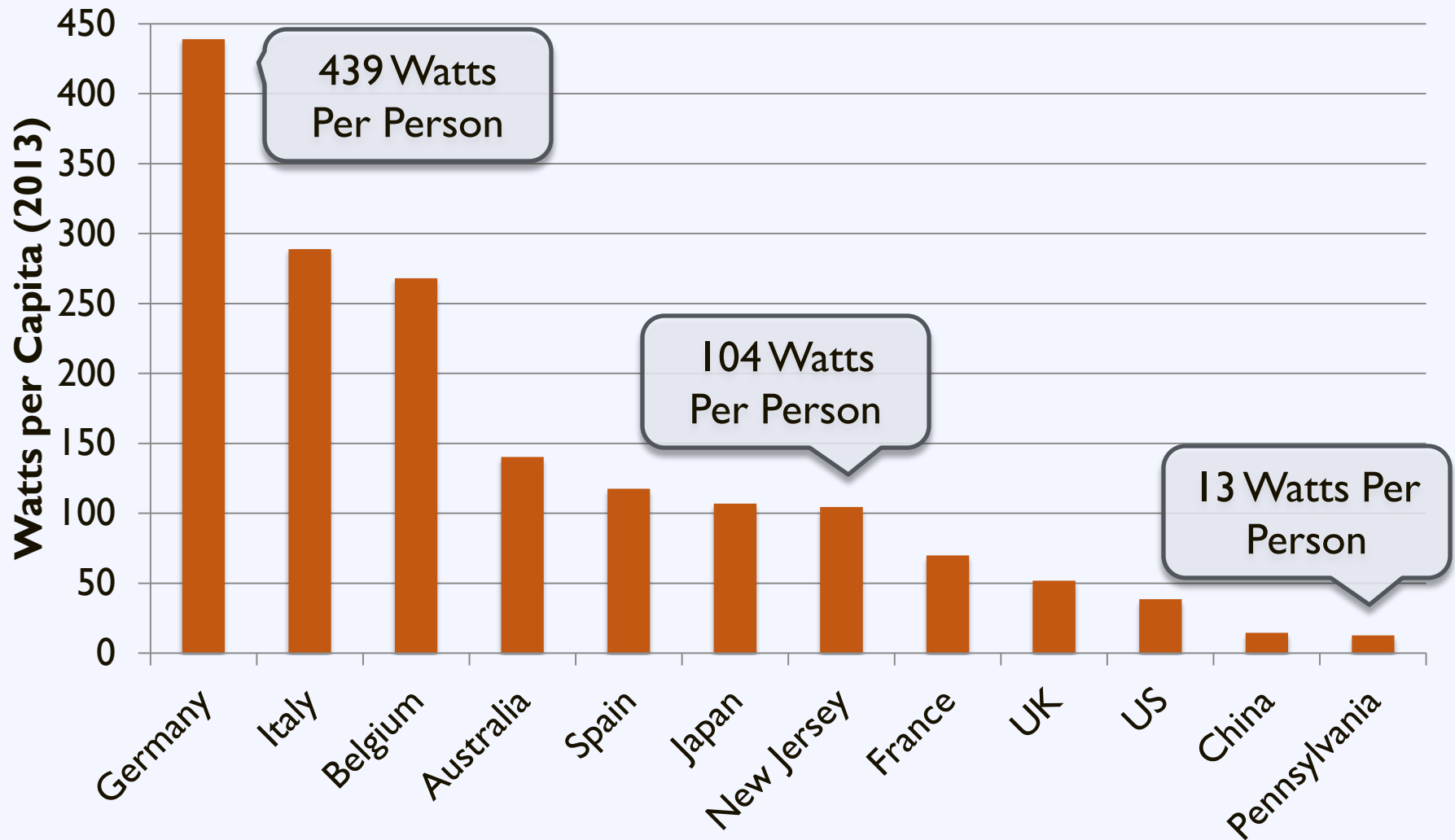
Source: U.S. Solar Market Trends 2013

World Solar Market

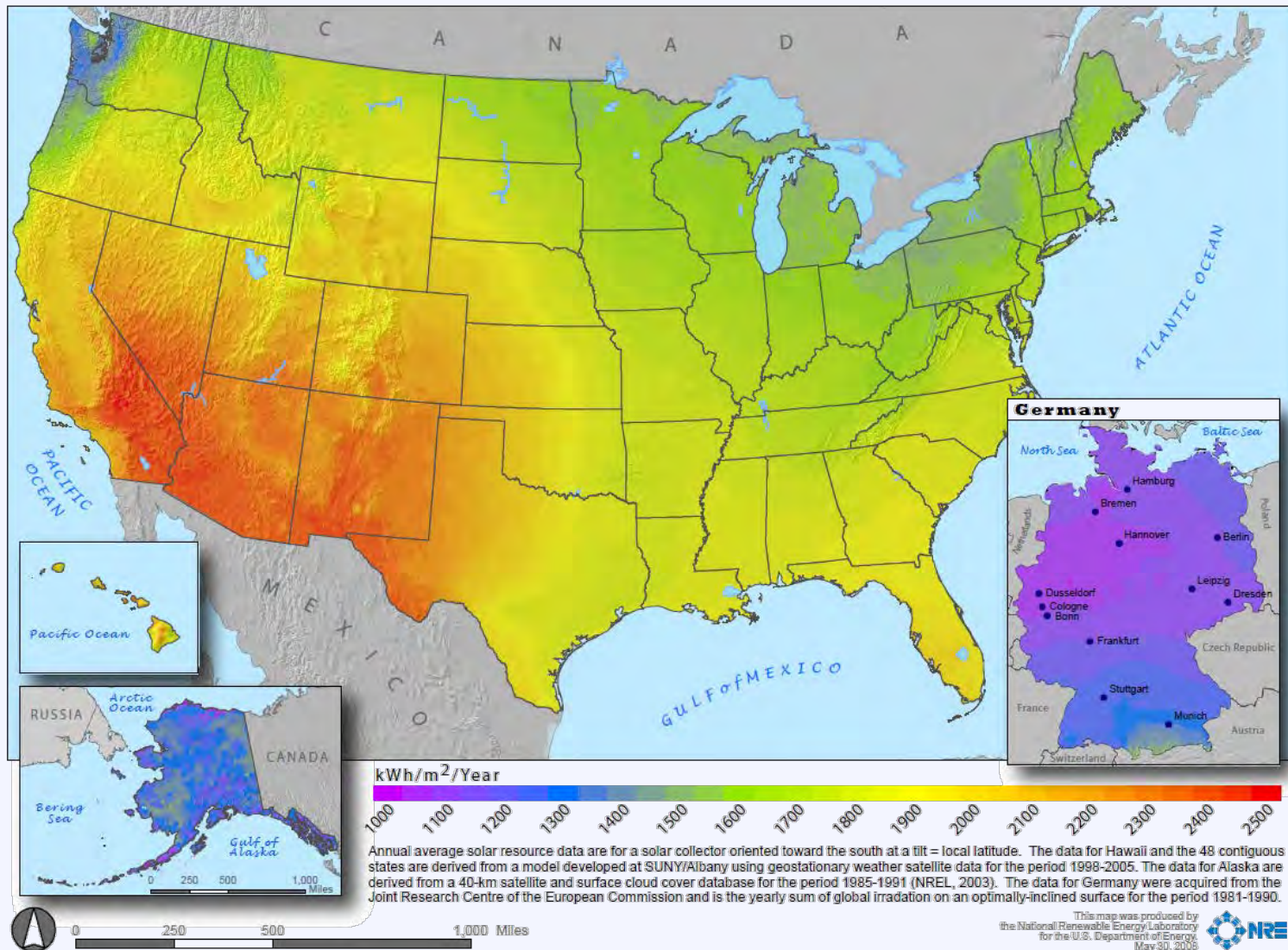
Top 5 Countries Solar Operating Capacity (2013)



Installed Capacity per Capita

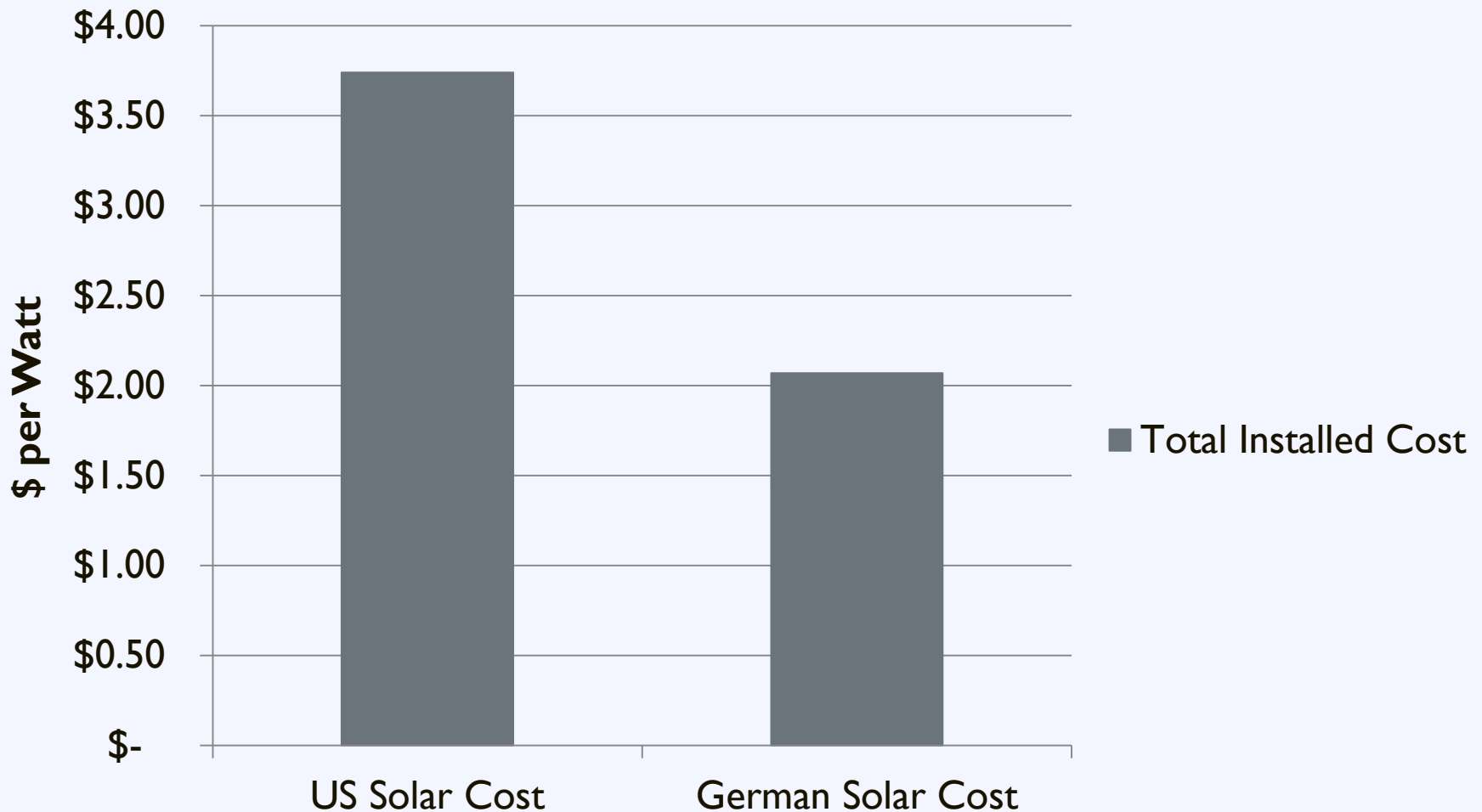


US Solar Resource



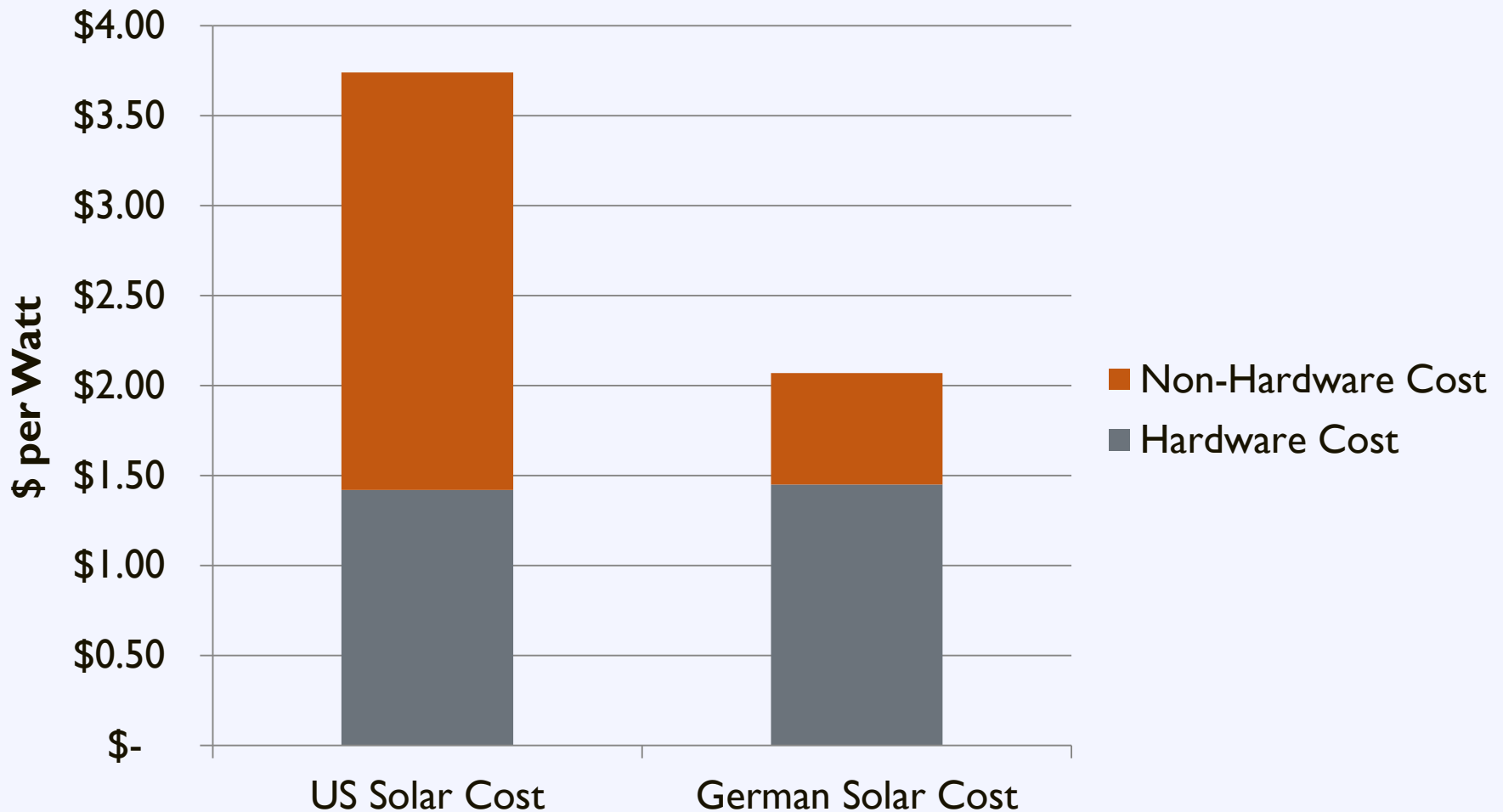
The Cost of Solar in the US

Comparison of US and German Solar Costs



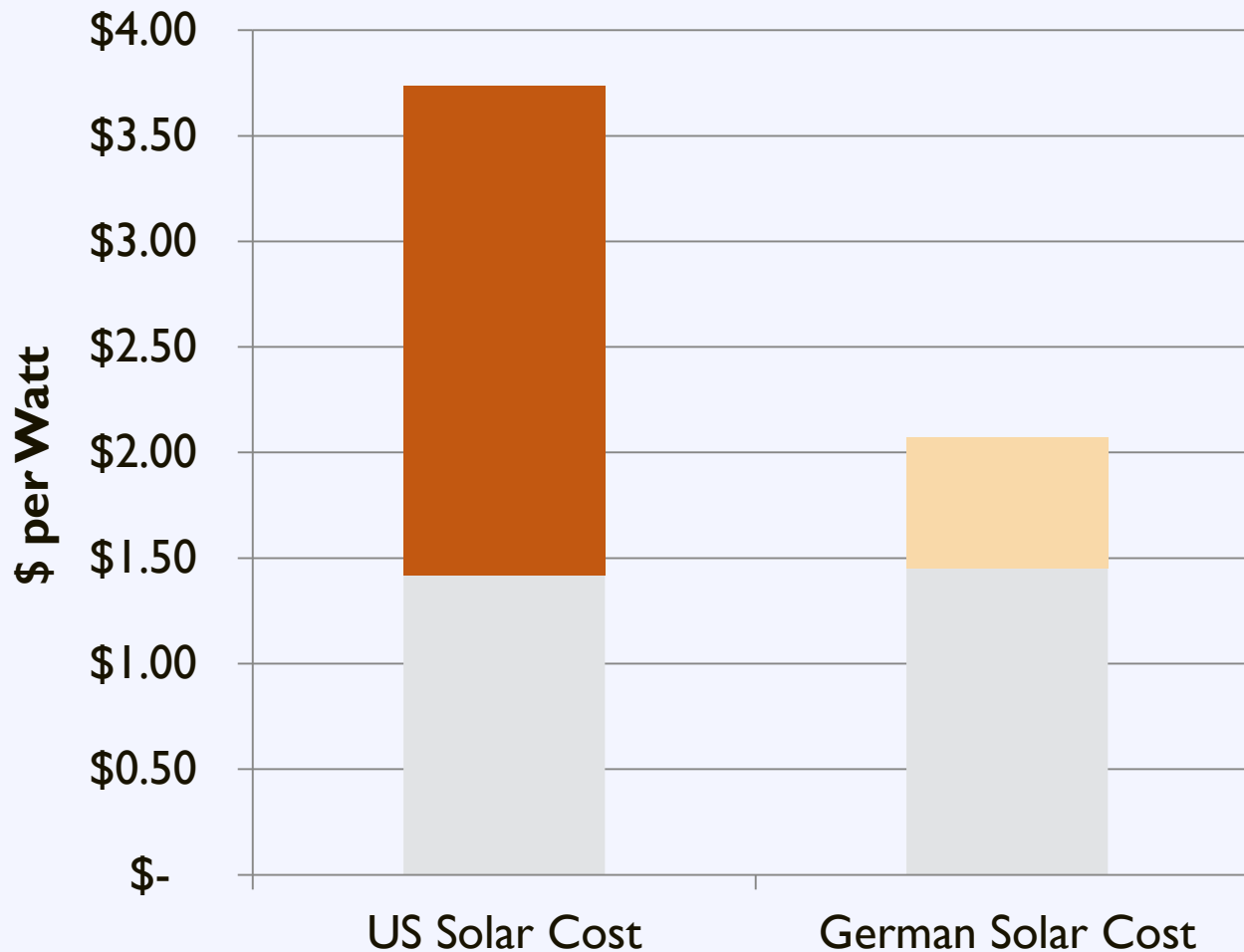
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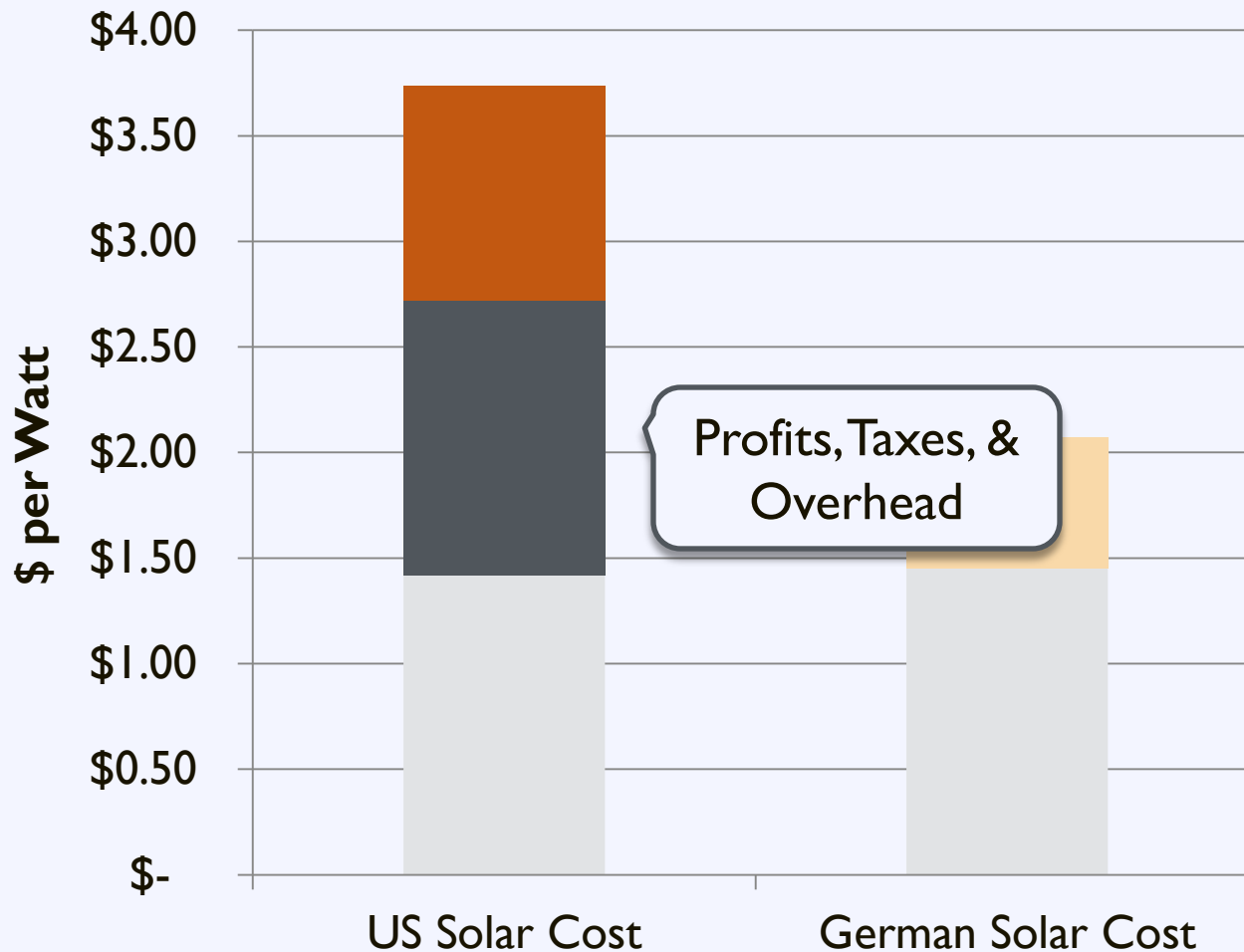
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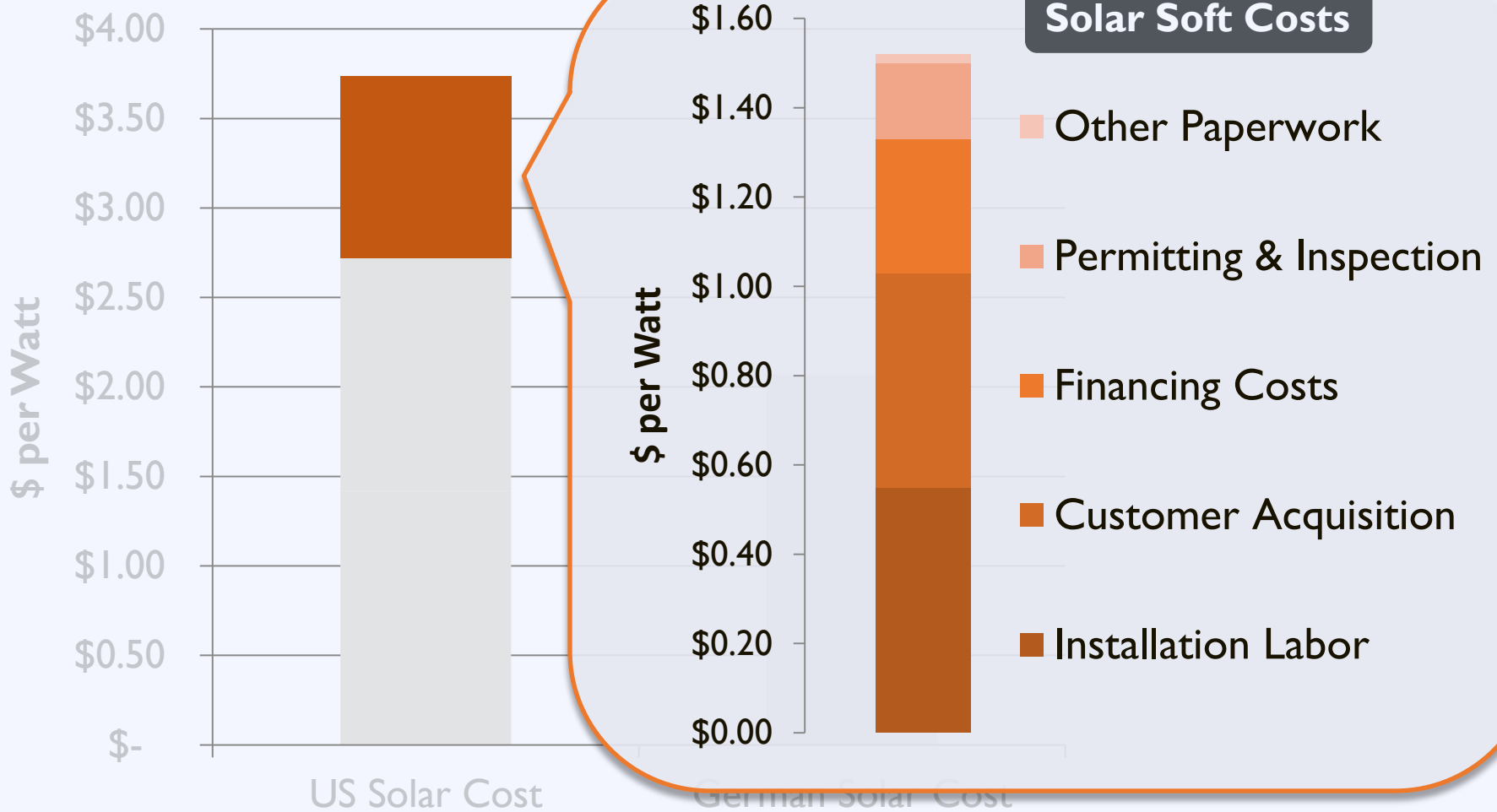
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Comparison of US and German Solar Costs



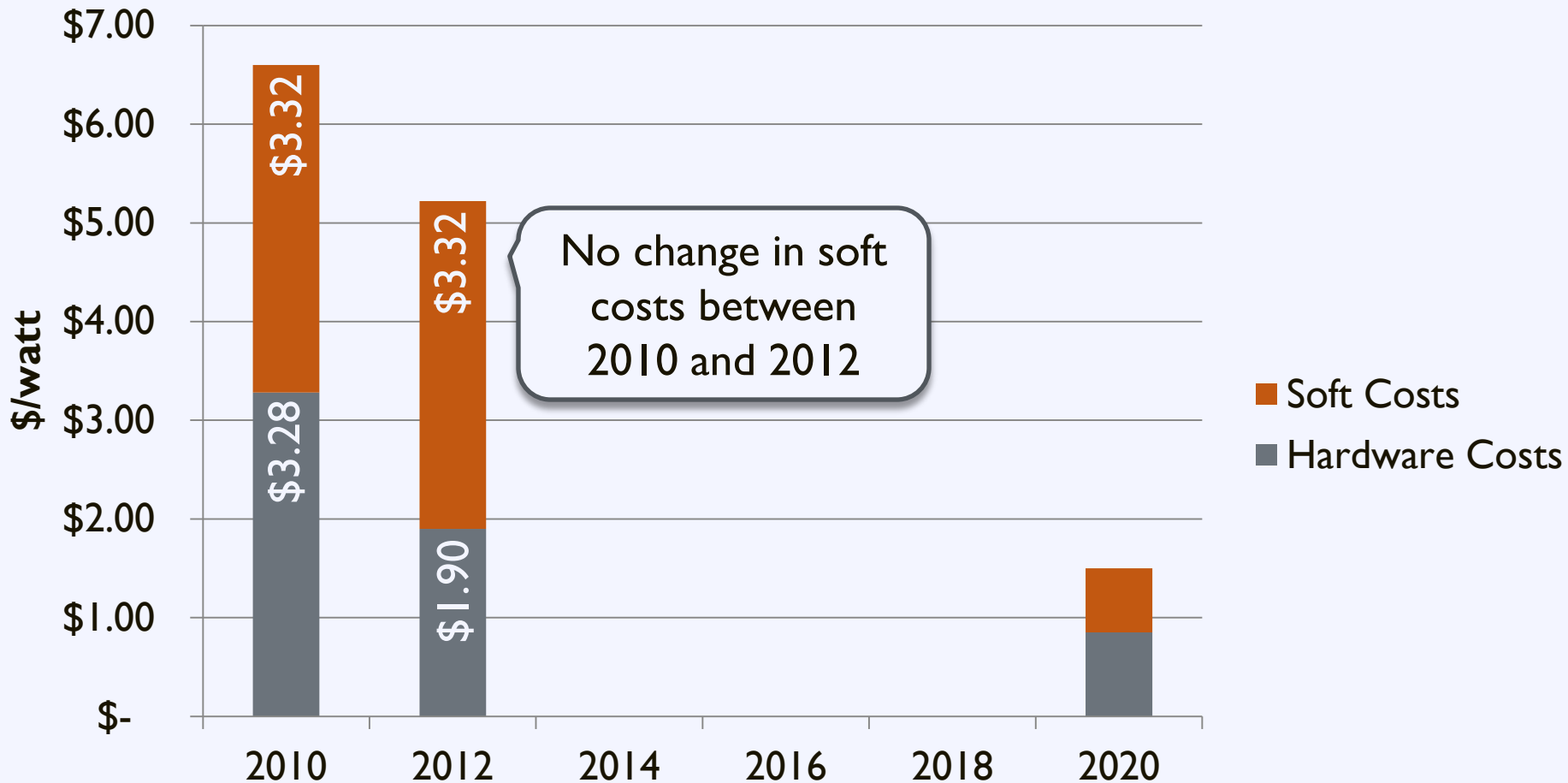
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Comparison of US and German Solar Costs



The Cost of Solar in the US

Change in Soft Costs and Hardware Costs Over Time



Challenge: Inconsistency

18,000+ local jurisdictions
with unique zoning and permitting requirements

Consumer Challenges



Installer Challenges

One in three installers avoid working in certain jurisdictions because of permitting difficulties

24% of permit applications must be resubmitted

Installers encounter jurisdictions without defined solar permitting processes in **11% of jobs**

Challenge: Local Difference

In jurisdictions with strong permitting policies and procedures, solar customers save

\$0.18/W (\$700 for a 5 kW system)

compared to jurisdictions with weak permitting processes.

Challenge: Installation Time



**New York City's
Goal**

100 days

from inception to completion



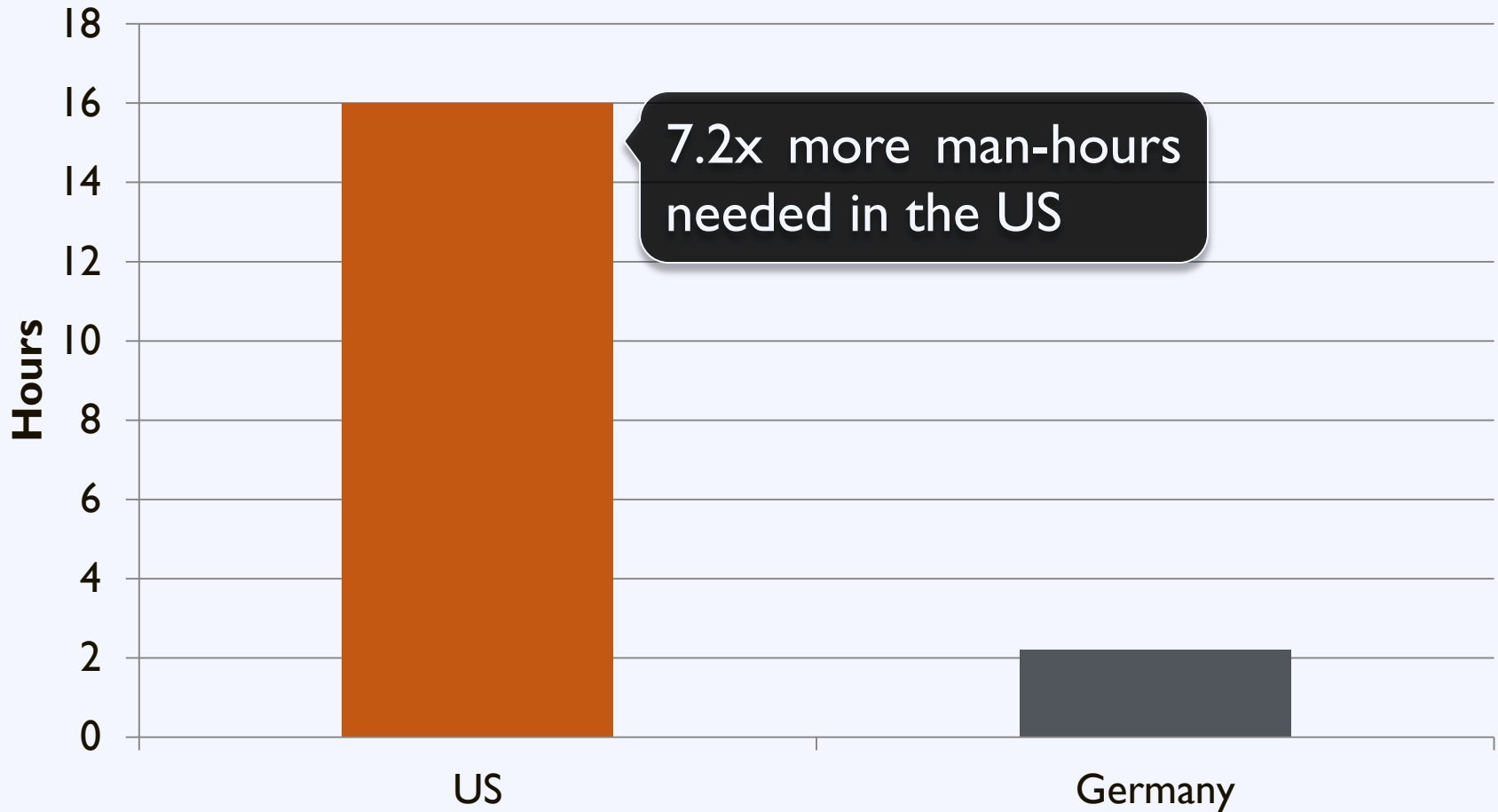
**Germany
Today**

8 days

from inception to completion

Time to Installation

Average Time to Permit a Solar Installation



Germany's Success

Consistency and Transparency

through

Standardized Processes

Morning Agenda: Permitting

Solar Markets and Technology

Permitting Best Practices

DVRPC Model Permitting Documents

Permitting Best Practices

I. Pre-Application

II. Application Submittal & Review

III. Inspections

Simplifying the Solar Permitting Process Residential Solar Permitting Best Practices Explained

To aid communities in designing effective and efficient solar permitting processes, the Interstate Renewable Energy Council, Inc. (IREC) and The Vote Solar Initiative have identified nine [Residential Solar Permitting Best Practices](#). This document provides additional context for these Best Practices and relevant resources to help communities implement them. For more detail on the examples of where the Best Practices listed below have been implemented as well as additional resources see [Sharing Success: Emerging Approaches to Efficient Rooftop Solar Permitting](#).

1. Post Requirements Online

What does this mean? The municipality should have a website that offers a one-stop location for residents, businesses and installers to get all necessary information on obtaining a solar permit in that municipality or region. In particular, the website should include a clear description of the requirements and process for getting a solar permit, including any necessary forms, and information on fees and inspections. The website could also contain checklists for the application and inspection requirements for solar.

Who is already doing it?

Solar One Stop (Pima County and City of Tucson, Arizona), solaronestopaz.org

San Jose, CA, www.sanjoseca.gov/index.aspx?nid=1505



Berkeley, CA, www.cityofberkeley.info/solarpvpermitguide

Why do it? Making these resources easily accessible to solar installers can reduce the number of questions that municipal staff have to answer and can improve the efficiency of the permitting process for all involved. In addition, it can help to increase the quality of applications submitted, which in turn decreases the time required for review. It also decreases the frustrating back-and-forth that installers and municipal staff may otherwise experience. Providing these resources can be particularly helpful for new installers or those that are new to that specific municipality. If a municipality has unique or unusual requirements, or has recently modified their process or requirements, the website is a good way for the municipality to identify these differences clearly to installers and residents.

Additional Resources

IREC Solar Permitting Checklists and Guidance Documents, www.irecusa.org/wp-content/uploads/permitting-handoutv6-1.pdf

IREC Inspection Checklist (coming soon)

Permitting Best Practices

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2. Implement an Streamlined Permit Process for Qualified Systems
3. Enable Online Permit Processing
4. Ensure a Fast Turn Around Time
5. Collect Reasonable Permitting Fees
6. Do Not Require Community-Specific License
7. Offer a Narrow Inspection Appointment Window
8. Eliminate Excessive Inspections
9. Train Permitting Staff in Solar

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Pre-Application Materials

Resource

IREC Solar Permitting Checklist Basics

Why do it?

- Minimize installer confusion and questions
- Increase rate of correct and complete applications
- Manage installer and owner expectations
- Get everyone on the same page

Just the Basics
Solar Permitting Checklists

Checklists are an integral part of the permitting process. They provide a simple list of required information for either the permit application or the inspection that follows. As such, they can serve as guides for solar installers as well as permit review staff and inspectors. Checklists can save staff time for the jurisdiction by reducing the number of inquiries received from installers, and can also save time and money for the solar installer by making requirements clear and transparent. They can also help to ensure that application and inspection requirements are applied consistently across the board to all installers. In some cases, jurisdictions require applicants to turn in the completed checklist as part of the application to help to verify that the application is complete. Some jurisdictions choose to provide even more information in other guidance documents, as discussed on the reverse side of this sheet.

Tips for Application Checklists

- ✓ List required forms, such as building permit application form, and where they can be located
- ✓ List and describe required diagrams or plans, including the number of copies needed
- ✓ List any other required documentation, signatures or approvals
- ✓ Describe the fee structure and options for payment
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Examples to check out

These jurisdictions have published checklists for solar permitting:

- Boulder County, Colorado
- San Jose, California
- Miami-Dade County, Florida
- Berkeley, California
- Tucson, Arizona
- Maui County, Hawaii

For more examples and discussion of permitting checklists and other guidance documents, see IREC's report, *Sharing Success: Emerging Approaches to Efficient Rooftop Solar Permitting*, available at: www.irecusa.org/wp-content/uploads/FINAL-Sharing-Success-w-cover-revised-final052012.pdf.

IREC Interstate Renewable Energy Council www.irecusa.org

Pre-Application Materials

Resource

IREC Solar Permitting Checklist Basics

What to do?

- Assemble all necessary solar permits
- Centralize online on dedicated solar permitting landing page
- Publish checklist explaining required permit steps

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Expedited Review



Expedited Review

Depth of Review



Expedient

Within established design parameters

Impacts are well understood

Quick, Easy, Cheap

Expedient

Outside of established design parameters

Review necessary to understand impacts

Standard

Flexible

Expedited Review

Depth of Review

Expedient

Within established design parameters

I-I. Example Design Criteria:

- Size < 10-15 kW
- Code compliant
- Weight < 5 lb / sqft
- 4 strings or less

Standard

Outside of established design parameters

Review necessary to understand impacts

Flexible

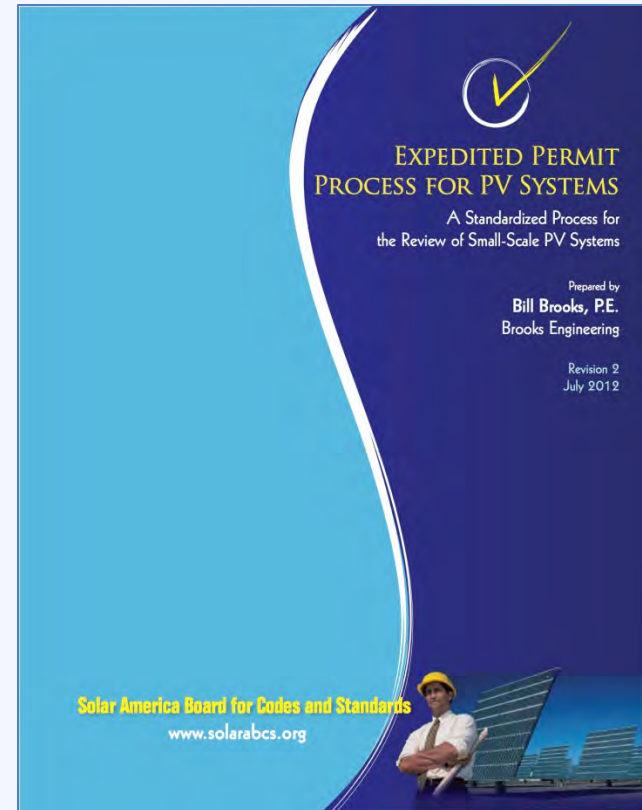
Expedited Permitting Process

Resource

Solar America Board for Codes & Standards

Expedited Permitting:

- Simplifies requirements for PV applications
- Facilitates efficient review
- Minimizes need for detailed studies and unnecessary delays



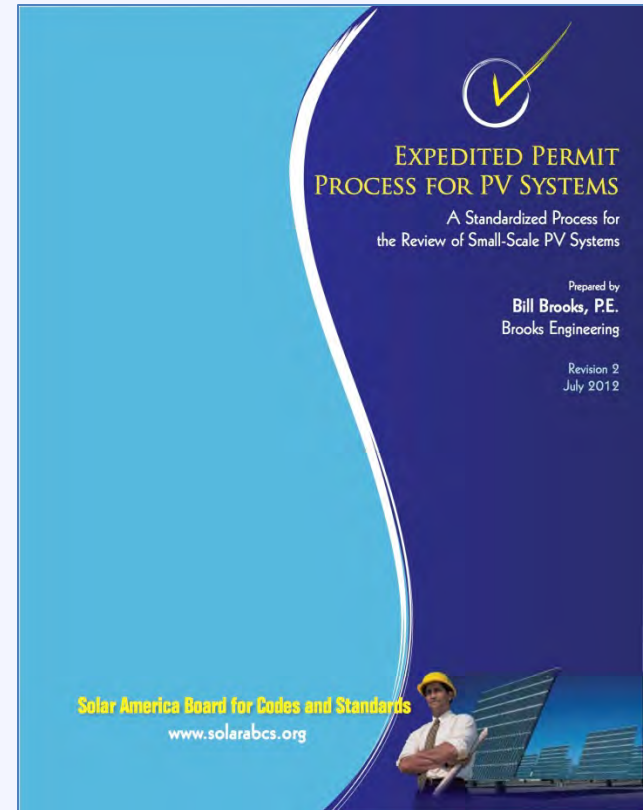
Expedited Permitting Process

Resource

Solar America Board for Codes & Standards

Permitting Checklist:

- Quickly identifies simple PV installations where simplified permitting is appropriate
- Estimated 50% - 75% of projects comply with Solar ABCs criteria



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Online Permitting

Resource

IREC Solar Permitting Checklist Basics

Why do it?

- Avoid installer office visits
- Data standardization and validation
- Integration with fee payment and inspection scheduling process

Just the Basics Solar Permitting Checklists

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Online Permitting

Resource

IREC Solar Permitting Checklist Basics

Quick and Easy

- Dedicated email address for solar permit submission

Comprehensive

- Fully online permitting application

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Fast Turn Around Time

Best Practice

- Coupled with electronic submission
- Over-the-Counter or Same-Day review for streamlined projects

Next Best Thing

- Only one in-person visit needed

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Permit Fees

Best Practice

- Levy permit fees to pay for necessary staff time, not as a revenue source, and not based on system cost
- **Residential Permits:** Flat and fair fixed fee
- **Commercial Permits:** Fee calculator based on staff time

Residential Permits: Flat Fees

Fee = (Est. Staff Time x Rate) + Additional Review

Residential Permits: Flat Fees

Fee = (Est. Staff Time x Rate) + Additional Review

Cover costs 80% of the time for review and inspection. Allow for one minor correction review.

Residential Permits: Flat Fees

Fee = (Est. Staff Time x Rate) + Additional Review

Additional reviews
or inspections incur
additional fees

Commercial Permits: Fee Calculator

$$\text{Fee} = (\text{Plan Review Hours} + \text{Inspection Hours}) \times \text{Rate} + \text{Issuance Fee}$$

Commercial Permits: Fee Calculator

Hours spent on:

- Electrical Plan Review
- Structural Plan Review
- Fire Review
- Planning Review
- Clerical Time

$$\text{Fee} = (\text{Plan Review Hours} + \text{Inspection Hours}) \times \text{Rate} + \text{Issuance Fee}$$

Commercial Permits: Fee Calculator

Hours spent inspecting:

- Building attachment
- Building racking
- Electrical work
- Fire safety

$$\text{Fee} = (\text{Plan Review Hours} + \text{Inspection Hours}) \times \text{Rate} + \text{Issuance Fee}$$

What's an Appropriate Fee?

One of Many Suggestions:

- **Systems under 4 kW:**
\$75 – \$200
- **Systems 4 kW – 10 kW:**
\$150 – \$400
- **Systems over 10 kW:**
\$15/kW – \$40/kW

Inspector Guidelines for PV Systems

Prepared for:

Renewable Energy Technology Analysis Project
of the
Pace University Law School Energy Project



Prepared by:

Brooks Engineering
873 Kells Circle
Vacaville, CA 95688
www.brooksolar.com



Version 2.1
March 2006

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Contractor Licensing

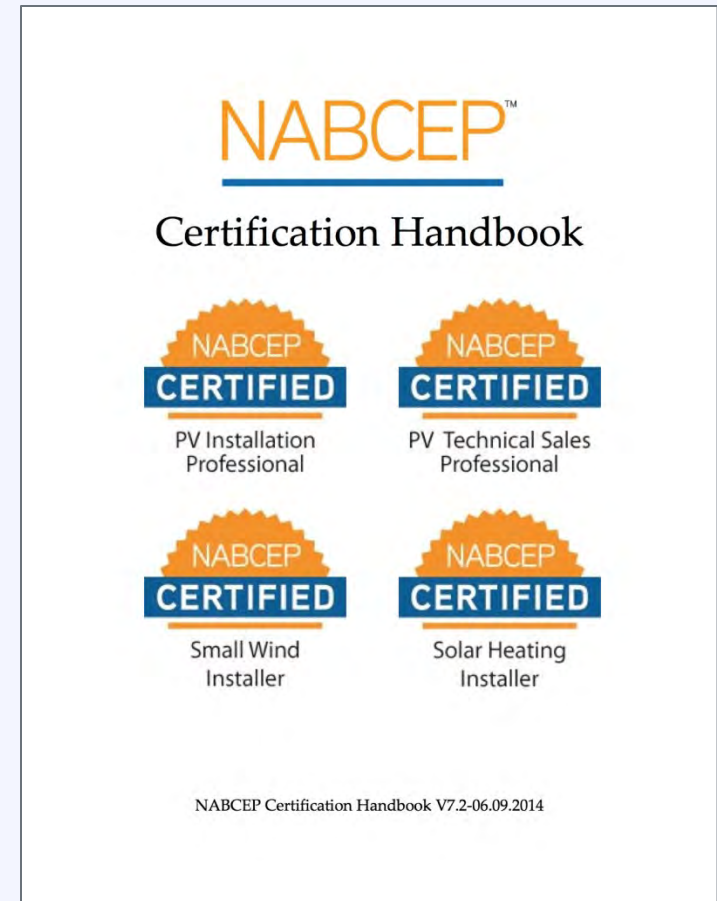
Best Practices

- Use existing national standard (e.g. NABCEP) for contractor licensing requirements
- Provide list of approved contractors to reduce customer anxiety and confusion

Contractor Licensing

NABCEP Certification

- Best practice standard for PV installer certification, recommended by IREC
- Qualifications
 - 58 hours PV training
 - 10 hours OSHA training
 - Mix of educational and professional experiences



Contractor Licensing

Expedited Permitting for Pre-Qualified Installers

- Based on NABCEP or other certification and successful local record
- **Connecticut:** Provides public list of local installers meeting certain criteria
- **Portland, Oregon:** Approved installers qualify for expedited online approval

Permitting Best Practices

I. Pre-Application

II. Application Submittal & Review

III. Inspections

1. Post Permitting Requirements Online
2. Implement an Streamlined Permit Process for Qualified Systems
3. Enable Online Permit Processing
4. Ensure a Fast Turn Around Time
5. Collect Reasonable Permitting Fees
6. Do Not Require Community-Specific License
7. Offer a Narrow Inspection Appointment Window
8. Eliminate Excessive Inspections
9. Train Permitting Staff in Solar

Inspection Window

Best Practice

- Provide contractor with specific inspection time
- Inspector calls contractor when en route to site

Next Best Thing

- Provide a two-hour inspection window

Permitting Best Practices

I. Pre-Application

II. Application Submittal & Review

III. Inspections

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6. Do Not Require Community-Specific License
7. Offer a Narrow Inspection Appointment Window
8. **Eliminate Excessive Inspections**
9. Train Permitting Staff in Solar

Eliminate Excessive Inspections

Best Practice

- Required only one inspection for standard, streamlined projects
- Conduct electrical, structural, and fire safety inspections as one
- Eliminate rough or in-process inspections
- Where possible, coordinate with utility interconnection

Permitting Best Practices

I. Pre-Application

II. Application Submittal & Review

III. Inspections

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8. Eliminate Excessive Inspections
9. Train Permitting Staff in Solar

Train Municipal Staff in Solar

Best Practice

- Offer special trainings to municipal staff
 - **New York:** NYSERDA PV Trainers Network
(trainings for code officials, inspectors, engineers & first responders)
 - **Solar Instructor Training Network**
(Regional Training Partner at Penn State University)

Next Best Thing

- Free online training by IREC at www.pvonlinetraining.org/

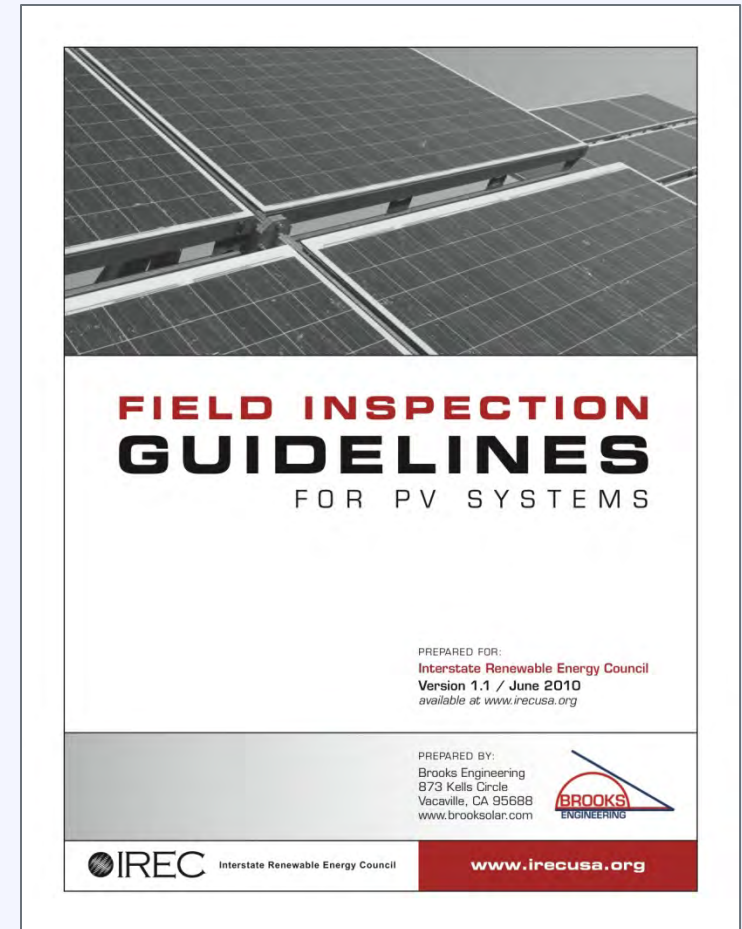
Train Municipal Staff in Solar

Resource IREC Field Inspection Guidelines

Provides detailed recommended approach for PV inspection

Notes common installer mistakes and items of note

www.irecusa.org



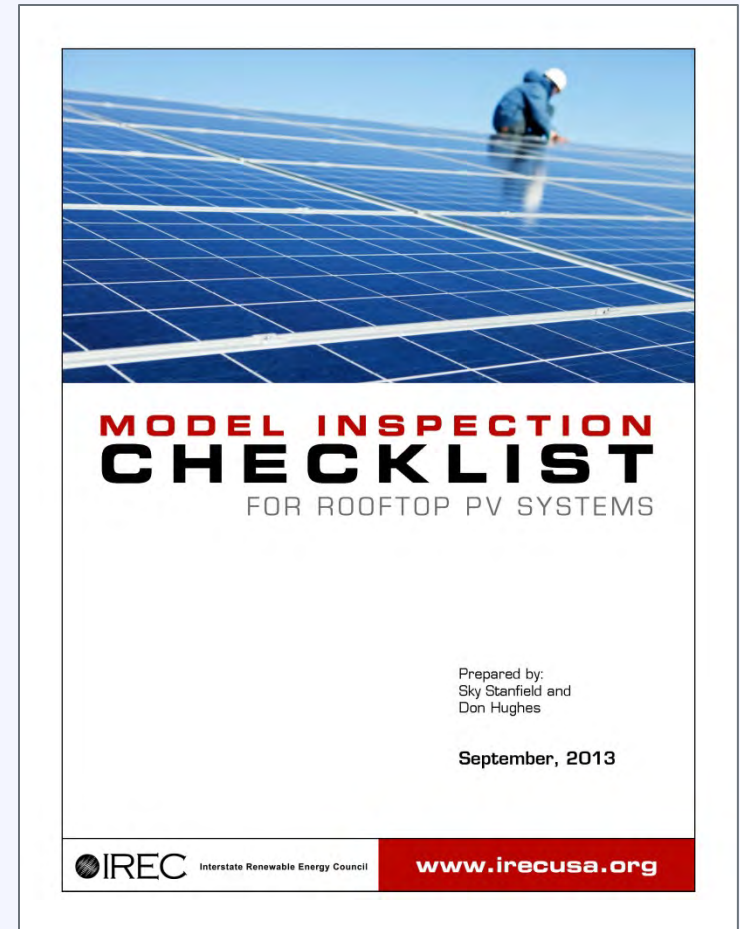
Inspection Checklist

Resource IREC Model Inspection Checklist

Why adopt a checklist?

- Provides clarity to inspectors and installers
- Ensures consistency in installation and inspection processes
- Can easily be updated as code requirements change over time

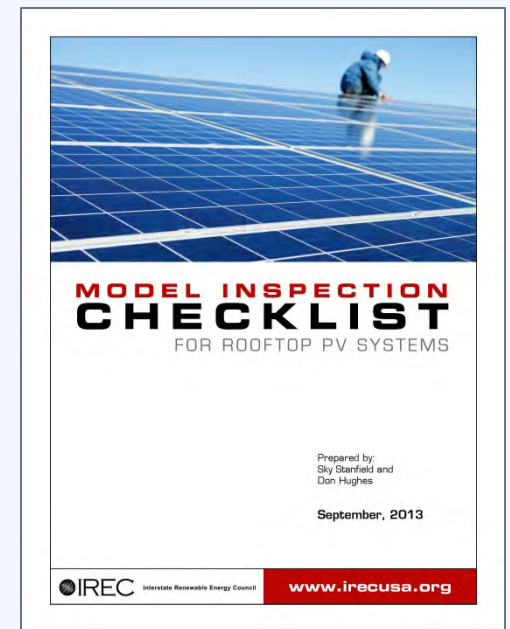
www.irecusa.org



Model Inspection Checklist

Inspection Elements

1. PV Array Configuration
2. Grounding
3. Wire Management
4. Conductors
5. Overcurrent Protection
6. Electrical Connections
7. Charge Controllers
8. Disconnects
9. Inverters
10. Batteries
11. Signs and Labels
12. Fire Safety



Permitting Best Practices

I. Pre-Application

II. Application Submittal & Review

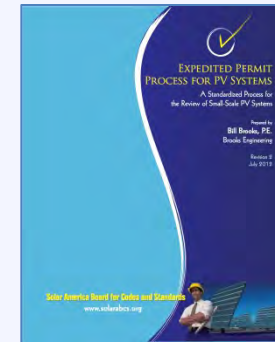
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9. Train Permitting Staff in Solar

Permitting Resources

Solar ABCs
www.solarabcs.org

Expedited Permit Process
for PV Systems

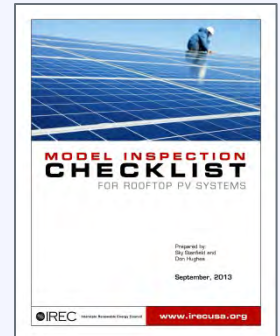
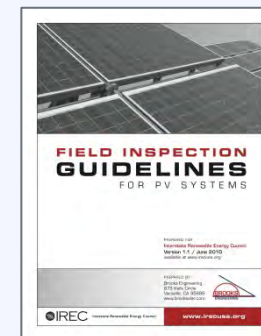


IREC
www.irecusa.org

Residential Solar Permitting
Best Practices Explained

Solar Permitting Checklists
Field Inspection Guidelines
for PV Systems

Model Inspection Checklist
for Rooftop PV Systems



Morning Agenda: Permitting

Solar Markets and Technology

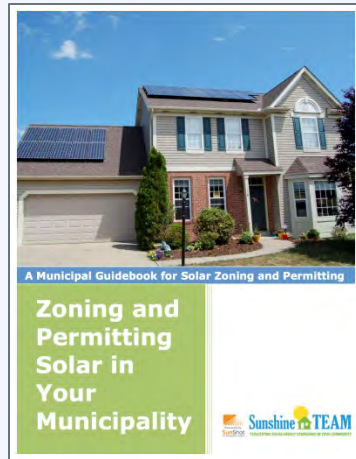
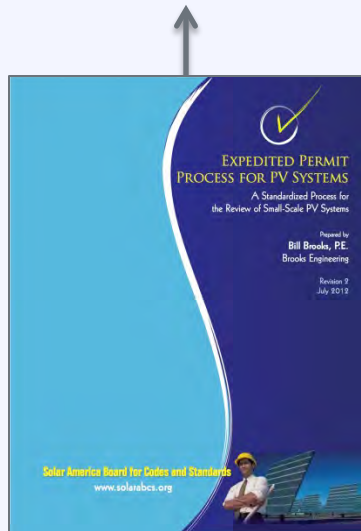
Permitting Best Practices

DVRPC Model Permitting Documents

Existing Resources

Solar America Board of Codes & Standards

Expedited Permitting Guide



PennFuture

Zoning and Permitting Guidebook

EnergizeCT

Rooftop Solar Permitting Guide



Massachusetts DOER

Model Permitting and Structural Review Process



DVRPC Solar Permitting Guide

Recommended Submissions

1. Existing Building or Electrical Permit
2. Additional Solar Information
3. Site Plan
4. Electrical Diagram
5. Equipment Spec Sheets
6. Attachment Details

Local Government Decision Points

1. Streamlined Permitting Process for certain systems?
2. Prescriptive Structural Review for certain systems?

Recommended Submissions

Additional Solar Information

Applicant & Site Information

- System description
- Owner and Installer contact information
- Installer qualifications (*NABCEP, UL, etc*)
- Building Type, Height, permit status

(rooftop systems only)

Recommended Submissions

Additional Solar Information

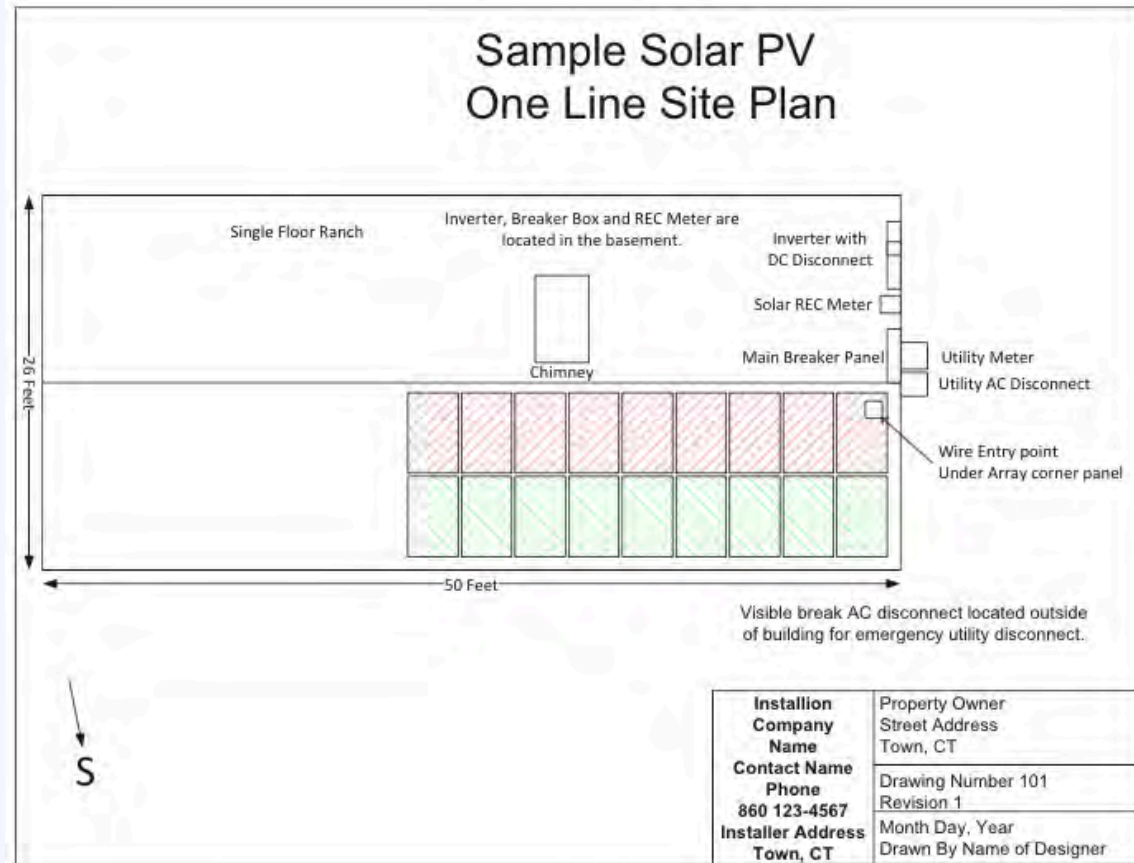
Electrical Information

- Electrical service size and type
- Main breaker amperage & change (if needed)
- Bus bar amperage
- Type of interconnect (load-side or supply-side)
- Location of electrical panel
- If load-side connection with subpanel intertie, subpanel bus bar amperage and breaker value

Recommended Submissions

Site Plan

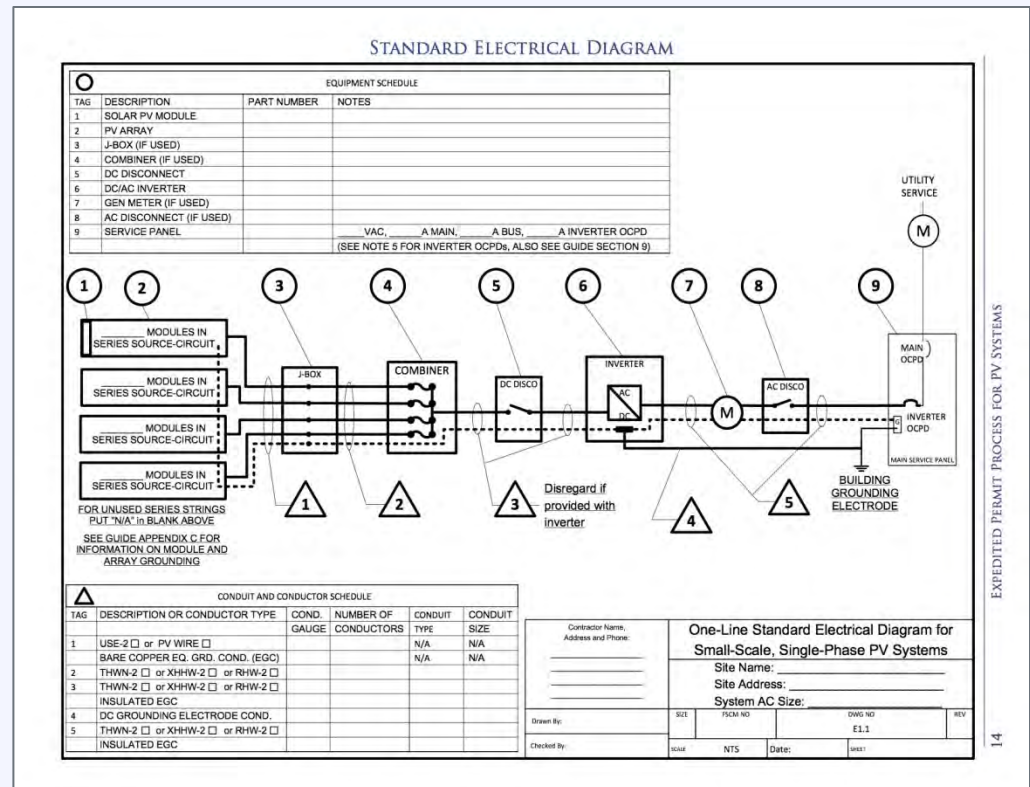
- Simple diagram
- Identify system components and location on site, as well as any setbacks
- Doesn't need to be to scale



Recommended Submissions

Electrical Diagram

- Standard Templates and notes provided
 - Standard system
 - Micro-inverters
 - AC module
 - Supply-side connection
- Intended to apply to majority of residential PV projects



Recommended Submissions

Spec Sheets

- Provide at least for inverter and module
- Make & model
- Voltage, overcurrent, other relevant specifications

Sunmodule®
SW 250 mono / Version 2.0 and 2.5 Frame

World-class quality
Fully automated production lines and seamless monitoring of the process and material ensure the quality that the company sets as its benchmark for its 2500 watt device.

SolarWorld Plus-Serting
Plus-Serting guarantees highest system efficiency. SolarWorld only delivers modules that have greater than or equal to the nameplate rated power.

25 years linear performance guarantee and extension of product warranty to 30 years
SolarWorld guarantees a maximum performance degradation of 0.7% p.a. in the course of 25 years, a significant added value compared to the two-phase warranties common in the industry. In addition, SolarWorld is offering a product warranty, which has been extended to 30 years.*

*In accordance with the applicable SolarWorld Limited Warranty at purchase.
www.solarworld.com/warranty

SolarWorld
We turn sunlight into power.

Sunmodule®
SW 250 mono / Version 2.0 and 2.5 Frame

SW-09-202504-01-2022

PERFORMANCE UNDER STANDARD TEST CONDITIONS (STC)*

	SW 250
Maximum power	250 Wp
Open circuit voltage	37.6 V
Maximum power point voltage	31.5 V
Open circuit current	6.88 A
Maximum power point current	6.05 A

*STC: 1000 W/m², 25°C, AM 1.5

PERFORMANCE AT 800 W/m², NOCT, AM 1.5

	SW 250
Maximum power	181.2 Wp
Open circuit voltage	34.6 V
Maximum power point voltage	28.5 V
Open circuit current	6.68 A
Maximum power point current	6.64 A

Other relevant specifications apply per full data sheet at 25°C at 1000 W/m² or 1000 W/m² at 25°C at 1000 W/m².

THERMAL CHARACTERISTICS

NOCT	46.7 K
TC1	0.014 1/K
TC2	0.003 1/K
TC3	0.004 1/K
Operating temperature	-40°C to 85°C

COMPONENT MATERIALS

Cells per module	60
Cell type	Monocrystalline
Cell dimensions	9.74 in x 6.34 in (246 mm x 160 mm)
Front	tempered glass (3x 3.0 mm)
Frame	Clear anodized aluminum
Weight	46.7 lbs (21.2 kg)

SYSTEM INTEGRATION PARAMETERS

Maximum system voltage (DC)	1500 V
Max. system voltage (USA, NEC)	600 V
Maximum reverse current	16 A
Number of bypass diodes	1
UL Design Load ¹⁾	Two cell system: 115 psf downward / 54 psf upward
UL Design Load ²⁾	Three cell system: 100 psf downward / 54 psf upward
UL Design Load ³⁾	Two cell system: 115 psf downward / 54 psf upward

*Please refer to the Sunmodule installation instructions for the details associated with these load cases.

ADDITIONAL DATA

Power Inference ¹⁾	-0.5% / 1.0 Wp
P-Box	IP65
Module efficiency	18.91%
Fire rating (UL 790)	Class C

VERSION 2.0 FRAME

- Compatible with "Top Climb" mounting methods.
- Compatible with "Bottom Climb" mounting methods.
- 4 bolts along the length of the module in the extended frame²⁾.

VERSION 2.5 FRAME

- Compatible with both "Top Climb" and "Bottom" mounting methods.
- Compatible with "Bottom Climb" mounting methods.
- 4 bolts along the length of the module in the extended frame²⁾.

1) Sunmodule is certified for the United States and Canada according to UL 1703 standard and listed for third-party installation. The laboratory may vary by model and region. Check with your qualified representative for the specific model and region. 2) For mounting on steel structures, 3) In accordance with the applicable code requirements. 4) In accordance with the applicable code requirements.

Recommended Submissions

Mounting Details

(Roof Systems)

- Racking System (make, model, type)
- Flashing description
- Fastener detail
- Treatment of dissimilar metals

Sample Solar PV Attachment Details

Oatey No-Calk Flashing Base of a Uni-rac two piece foot

Shingle Plywood Zinc 4 1/2 lags Flashing

Existing roof assembly 3 inches of thread Rafter

SS Cut Washer
SS Flat Washer Lag

Racking system is Uni-Rac, Solarmount with standard size rail.

Uni-rac supplies the lag screws and SS hardware necessary to ensure dissimilar metal compliance. Nowhere does the aluminum touch steel directly.

Type of sealant
All penetrations are sealed with an appropriate roofing sealant.
OSI RF-140 Black Magic Roofing & Flashing Sealant or equivalent.
An Oatey No-Calk Flashing will be installed to cover the mounting.

Installation Company Name	Property Owner
Contact Name	Street Address
Phone	Town, CT
Installer Address	Drawing Number 101
Town, CT	Revision 1
	Month Day, Year
	Drawn By Name of Designer

Recommended Submissions

Mounting Details

(Ground Systems)

- Racking System (make, model, type) & Spec Sheets
- Manufacturer's Pre-Engineered Document or PE Stamp
- Code Compliance Manual (optional)
- Distance to interconnection point
- Grounding details
- Height of system
- Relevant zoning information (e.g. setback)

Streamlined Permitting Process

1. Use a checklist to identify simple projects
2. For these projects, offer simple permitting process requiring minimal effort
3. For complex projects that don't pass the checklist, conduct standard in-depth permit review

Streamlined Permitting Process

Simplified Solar Checklist and Permit for the (City/Town/Other) of _____

Section 1. Timeline, Fees, and Submission

This application may be submitted via email to _____. It may also be submitted in person at _____. The fee for application processing is \$XX, due at time of submission and payable via _____.

Permit determinations will be issued within ___ days of receipt of a complete application and fee. Notice of an incomplete application will be provided within ___ days of receipt. If an inspection is required, it will be scheduled within ___ days of inspection request.

Section 2. Streamlined Permit Eligibility Checklist

Verify that the proposed installation complies with each item in the eligibility checklist below. If the installation does not comply with any item, the project cannot be permitted under this streamlined process and must be permitted through the (City/Town/Other) of _____'s standard permitting process. Any violations identified in the inspection process must be addressed and are subject to penalty.

1. CONTRACTOR REQUIREMENTS

The contractor performing the solar installation holds the necessary licenses and permits to perform this work in this jurisdiction, including (*list specific licensing requirements in jurisdiction*).

2. MAXIMUM CAPACITY

The capacity of the proposed PV project is less than 10 KW.

3. PROJECT LOCATION

The proposed PV project will be a rooftop system.

4. PROJECT CODE COMPLIANCE

The structure that the proposed project will be mounted on is code-compliant and the proposed solar installation is compliant with all relevant fire and electrical codes, including setback requirements

5. ZONING VARIANCE

The proposed solar installation will not require a zoning variance.

6. EQUIPMENT STANDARDS

The proposed equipment meets all relevant certification standards.

7. WEIGHT LIMIT

The system will have a distributed weight of less than 5 pounds per square foot and less than 45 pounds per attachment point to roof.

7. MODULE TILT

To mitigate wind loads, the proposed system will be mounted flush against the roof surface or tilted with no more than an 18 inch gap between the module frame and the roof surface.

8. ELECTRICAL CONNECTION

The proposed solar installation is composed of 4 series strings or less.

9. HISTORIC/ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW

The proposed solar installation is not located on a building subject to historic or architectural review.

Streamlined Permitting Process

Simplified Solar Checklist and Permit for the (City/Town/Other) of _____

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Streamlined Permitting Process

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Streamlined Permitting Process

Section 3. Streamlines Permit Application

1. SITE OWNER INFORMATION

Site Owner Contact Information

Name: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

Site Address

Street: _____ City: _____ Zipcode: _____

Parcel ID: _____

2. SITE INFORMATION

Building Type: Residential Commercial Number of floors: _____

Roofing Material: _____

Weatherproofing Method: _____

3. CONTRACTOR INFORMATION

Contractor Contact Information

Company Name: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

Business Address

Street: _____ City: _____ Zipcode: _____

License #: _____

Streamlined Permitting Process

4. SOLAR SYSTEM INFORMATION

Module Information

Quantity: ___ Manufacturer: _____ Model: _____

Inverter Information

Quantity: ___ Manufacturer: _____ Model: _____

Mounting System Information

Manufacturer: _____ Model: _____

Is the mounting system an engineered product designed to mount solar panels?

Yes No (provide structural attachment details in a letter certified by a design professional)

System Weight/Arrangement

Total weight of module and rails (lbs): _____

Number of Attachment Points: _____ Weight per attachment point (lbs): _____

Maximum spacing between attachment points (inches): _____

Total surface areas of modules (sqft): _____ Module weight per sqft (lbs): _____

Streamlined Permitting Process

5. SITE PLAN

Provide a site plan showing the location of solar system components and other equipment on structure (including, but not limited to, the solar array with orientation and tilt noted, electrical service connection, utility meter, and inverter).

6. ELECTRICAL DIAGRAM

Provide an electrical diagram showing PV array configuration, wiring system, overcurrent protection inverter, disconnects, required signs, and ac connection to building.

7. MANUFACTURER SPEC SHEETS

Provide manufacturer spec sheets for all system components.

Streamlined Permitting Process

Simplified Solar Checklist and Permit for the (City/Town/Other) of _____

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Prescriptive Structural Review

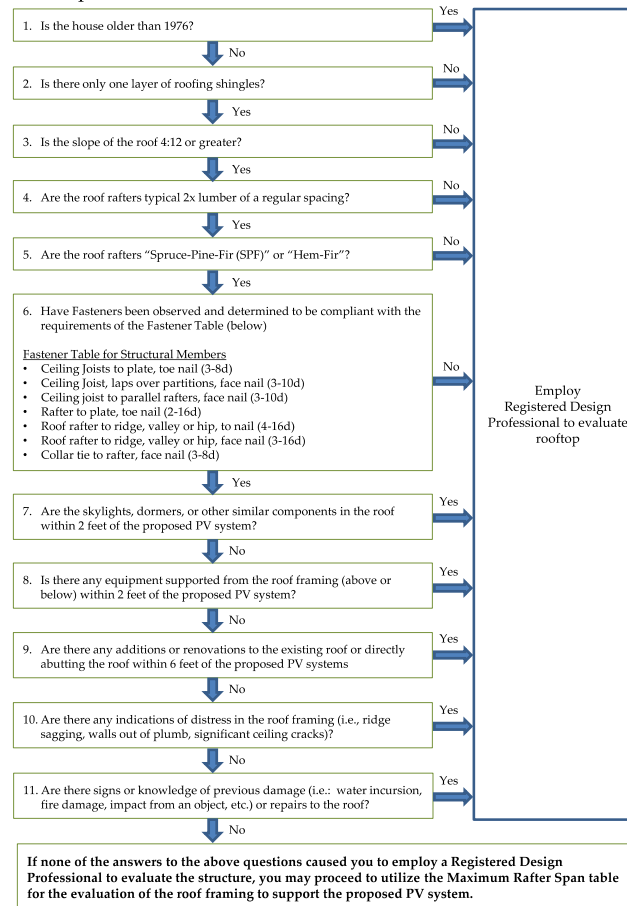
1. Determine whether wet stamps should be used for all, some, or no projects
2. If allowing prescriptive review for some projects, create eligibility checklist

Prescriptive Structural Review

NAVIGANT

Appendix B. Prescriptive Process for Structural Approval of Small PV Systems

Prescriptive Process Flowchart for Residential PV <10 kW



Prescriptive Structural Review

1. Is the house older than 1976?

Yes

No

2. Is there only one layer of roofing shingles?

No

Yes

3. Is the slope of the roof 4:12 or greater?

No

Yes

4. Are the roof rafters typical 2x lumber of a regular spacing?

No

Yes

5. Are the roof rafters "Spruce-Pine-Fir (SPF)" or "Hem-Fir"?

No

Yes

6. Have Fasteners been observed and determined to be compliant with the requirements of the Fastener Table (below)

Fastener Table for Structural Members

- Ceiling Joists to plate, toe nail (3-8d)
- Ceiling Joist, laps over partitions, face nail (3-10d)
- Ceiling joist to parallel rafters, face nail (3-10d)
- Rafter to plate, toe nail (2-16d)
- Roof rafter to ridge, valley or hip, to nail (4-16d)
- Roof rafter to ridge, valley or hip, face nail (3-16d)
- Collar tie to rafter, face nail (3-8d)

No

Yes

Employ
Registered Design
Professional to evaluate
rooftop

Prescriptive Structural Review

7. Are the skylights, dormers, or other similar components in the roof within 2 feet of the proposed PV system?

Yes



No



8. Is there any equipment supported from the roof framing (above or below) within 2 feet of the proposed PV system?

Yes



No



9. Are there any additions or renovations to the existing roof or directly abutting the roof within 6 feet of the proposed PV systems

Yes



No



10. Are there any indications of distress in the roof framing (i.e., ridge sagging, walls out of plumb, significant ceiling cracks)?

Yes



No



11. Are there signs or knowledge of previous damage (i.e.: water incursion, fire damage, impact from an object, etc.) or repairs to the roof?

Yes



No



If none of the answers to the above questions caused you to employ a Registered Design Professional to evaluate the structure, you may proceed to utilize the Maximum Rafter Span table for the evaluation of the roof framing to support the proposed PV system.

Prescriptive Structural Review

NAVIGANT

Appendix B. Prescriptive Process for Structural Approval of Small PV Systems

Prescriptive Process Flowchart for Residential PV <10 kW

