Solar PV for <u>Metro DC:</u> Saving Money, Clearing the Air, Creating Jobs, and Reducing Our Carbon Footprint



July 15, 2010

**MWCOG Energy Advisory Committee Meeting** 

### **About Standard Solar**

- Mid-Atlantic's leading developer & installer of solar photovoltaic (PV) systems
- 8 employees in 2007; 80+ employees today
- Completed 6 MWs to date, on track for additional 4 MWs by year-end 2010
- Employees' career total: 40 MWs









### About Standard Solar (cont'd)

- On track to boost install total to about 10 MW by year-end 2010
- Capital available for PPAs from nation's #4 PPA capital provider, *Perpetual Energy Systems*
- Current 'commercial/govt' projects range from 150 kWs to 1+ MW
- GSA-listed









### **Standard Solar Installations in MWCOG Region**







# **Residential and Small Commercial Installations By Jurisdiction – June 2010**

12

- Montgomery County: 207
- District of Columbia: 74
- Prince George's County: 35
- Fairfax County: 28
- Frederick County: 26
- Loudoun County: 25
- Arlington County: 18
- Prince William County:







# Federal 'Green' Mandates Creating Regional 'Headwind' for Real Sustainability

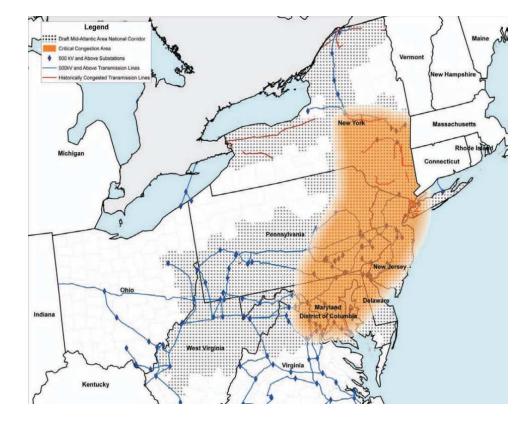
- Energy Policy Act of 2005
- Executive Order 13423, signed by President Bush in 2007
- Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007
- President Obama's goal Federal government's electricity from renewable sources:
  - = 12% by 2012
  - = 25% by 2025
- Federal 'Stimulus' projects have deadlines looming in 2011





### **Risks to Our Energy Security - Regionally**

- DC Region is part of the most stressed power grid in country
- Solar PV helps relieve this stress on hot summer weekdays
- Last Tues and Wed, DC region was very close to voltage reductions, possible brownouts or blackouts







# Maryland and DC Moved Quickly on Solar Grants, Virginia Poised to Catch Up

 New 'energy' leadership under Gov. McDonnell embarking on cleaner energy / jobs push matching NoVA's appetite for renewables

✓ voluntary RPS only

- 'Sunburst' projects in Maryland shovel ready
  - ✓ 2% of electricity from solar by 2022
- DC has new Director of DDoE
  - ✓.4% of electricity by 2020













# **Compelling Role for Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs)**

- No up-front capital needed
- Stabilizes price of electricity for 20+ years
- Developer provides O&M
- Minimal risk to host facility
- Growing experience with PPAs among businesses, governments, non-profits

PPA Primer / Update available from Standard Solar





# **Key PPA Elements**

#### • Electricity price: evaluate carefully

- Might be fixed or tied to local utility rate
- Escalation factor possible: 1-3% annually

### Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) – ownership must be clear

- 1 REC = 1 megawatt hour of electricity
- RECs are valuable to electricity suppliers meeting renewable electricity requirements (in MD & DC; not VA)
- Values vary widely; Maryland's RECs currently worth about \$350
- Brokering RECs is becoming its own industry





### **PPA Checklist:**

#### 1. ID the facility to 'host' the solar PV system

- a) Enough 'clear' space on roof or adjacent ground?
- b) Is host 'creditworthy'?
- c) Roof mounts generally sized @ 200 kW to 800 kW
  - *i.* Can roof support the PV system size?
- d) Ground mounts 1 MW and up
- 2. Standard Solar conducts site assessments
- 3. Standard Solar matches prospective systems with our capital partner Perpetual Energy Systems





# **PPA Checklist** (cont'd) :

- 4. Perpetual Energy Systems performs its due diligence
- 5. Letter of intent
- 6. Contact signed
- 7. Design and engineering specs drawn up
- 8. Utility notified for interconnection to grid
- 9. Installation commences

**10.Standard Solar provides monitoring system, O&M** 





# **Potential for 'Community' PPAs**

#### **University Park Community Solar LLC**

- 35 neighbors / investors
- Raised \$130,000
- 22 kW system on Church of the Brethren in University Park, MD
- 'model' can be replicated in MD & DC

• More info available at:

http://universityparksolar.com/





# Want to know more?



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