STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
OFFICE OF ENERGY RESOURCES

Solar Stakeholder Meeting

Wednesday, July 30, 2025

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Agenda

1. Office of Energy Resources Introduction and general updates – Shauna Beland, OER
2. Solar Retailer Registration Process Update – Don DeFedele, Department of Business Regulation
3. REG Updates: Discussion in Support of First Draft 2026 Program Year Small Solar Prices - Tobin Armstrong, SEA
4. REG Brownfield Adder Update - Ryan Mulcahey, DEM
5. Update on net metering legislative changes - Mark Garland, Rhode Island Energy
6. Renewable Energy Fund Program updates – Karen Stewart and Jacob Curran, Renewable Energy Fund
7. REF Inspection Update – Matt Piantedosi, Ridgeline Analytics
8. Clean Energy Internship and Farm Energy Program – Abbie Hasenfus, OER
9. Wrap up

Office of Energy Resources General Updates

- Upcoming Date – next solar stakeholder meeting will be scheduled for mid-September at 9am on Zoom. More details and the agenda to come.

- Next DG Board meeting is scheduled for August 25, 2025 at 3pm

- Solar for All - we want to hear from you! Here is a poll for small scale installers. The questions are related to program design and the RI SFA website. Thank you for those who have already completed it.

Renewable Energy Growth Program Updates

Lots of stakeholder input, especially for small scale installers

SEA will give a presentation on the status of the adders and other updates

OER/SEA/RIE working on a MW allocation plan for 2026

Ceiling price development for small scale is underway, please consider replying to the survey

Rhode Island Solar Retailer Registration

- Registration required starting March 1, 2025 for all solar retailers
- Portal opened May 1, 2025 | Enforcement begins August 1, 2025
- Required documents: RI sales permit, insurance, employee roster, sample agreements
- Background checks required for all sales representatives
- Annual fee: $750 | Renewal: $750 | Late fee: $50
- Update employee rosters quarterly and notify DBR of changes within 10 business days
- Violations may lead to $5,000 fines or cease-and-desist orders
- Contact: DBR.Solar@dbr.ri.gov | (401) 462-9506

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Rhode Island REG Program:

Research, Analysis, & Discussion in Support of First Draft 2026 Program Year Small Solar Prices

July 30, 2025

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Overview of 2026 REG PY Considerations

- During 2024 PY development process:
  - PUC approved three-year set of ceiling prices for all classes other than Small Solar I and II ➔ **Need to set Small I and II for this year's pricing development**
  - PUC declined to approve a three-year MW allocation plan ➔ **Need to propose new 2026 MW allocation plan**
- In addition, passage of the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA) has resulted in changes to federal tax provisions impacting renewable energy more broadly ➔ **SEA to consider implications for all ceiling prices**
- Certain OBBBA implications related to Small Solar I and II are discussed in this presentation. However, research is ongoing, and implications for other renewable energy classes will be discussed at a later date

Timeline for 2026 CP Development Process

- **July 30** – First stakeholder meeting re: first draft Small Solar I and II prices
- **August 6** – Comments in response to first stakeholder meeting due
- **August** – SEA completes research regarding expected impact of OBBBA on REG-eligible projects
- **Early September** – Second stakeholder meeting re:
  - Second draft Small Solar I and II prices
  - Draft 2026 MW Allocation Plan
  - First draft of analysis re: OBBBA implications for solar >25 kW
- **Late September** – Revisions to analysis in response to stakeholder feedback, request for additional feedback, if necessary
- **September 29** – Presentation to DG Board re: analysis thus far
- **October 27** – Final recommendations presented to DG Board
- **November** – Filing before PUC

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Small Solar I and II Price Recommendations

Summary Results (¢/kWh)

- Draft 2026 prices for Small Solar I and II are provided below

Class	Tariff Term	Size Range kW (Modeled Size kW)	2025 Approved Price	2026 1st Draft Revised Price	% Change (2025→ 2026)
Small Solar I	15	≤15 (5.8)	33.85	39.45	16.5%
Small Solar II	20	>15-25 (25)	32.35	28.05	-13.3%

Stakeholder Feedback and Modeling Implications

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Installed Cost Assumptions & Methodology

- Robust data available from RI and other Northeast states for small solar, but data somewhat more limited for Medium, Commercial, and Large Solar classes
  - CT RRES and NRES program now more fully underway ➔ data utilized for all sizes
- As in prior years, SEA filtered data to remove outliers and to remove projects with characteristics that do not reflect the proxy projects modeled through REG (e.g., no storage, canopy projects, etc.)
- **Modeling Implication (M.I.):**
  - **Small Solar I and II continue to utilize the *median* installed cost data from NY, CT and MA programs, Energy Sage quotes, REF quotes, REG enrollments, and Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) regional data**
  - **Medium, Commercial, and Large Solar continue to utilize *average of median and 75th percentile* costs for NY Sun, CT NRES, MA SMART, REG Open Enrollment Data, and regional data from LBNL**

Year-on-Year Solar Cost Adjustment Assumptions

- Consistent with prior years, SEA computed year-on-year (YoY) technology cost decline assumptions (i.e., learning curve) derived from the National Renewable Energy Laboratory's (NREL's) Annual Technology Baseline (ATB), to capture fundamental cost declines for solar
  - Communication with NREL suggests that release of the 2025 NREL ATB is expected in the Fall → **SEA to use 2024 release for now**
- To reflect that technology cost declines and inflation are independent variables, SEA has calculated the total YoY adjustment to 2024 and 2025 installed cost data as the net difference between NREL ATB cost decline assumptions and inflation assumptions provided in the 2025 EIA Annual Energy Outlook (using Wholesale Price Index)
- **M.I.: SEA will use the values shown below for First Draft prices**

Metric	Category	2024 → 2026 Adjustment	2025 → 2026 Adjustment
2025 AEO Wholesale Price Index	N/A	-0.7%	-0.4%
2024 NREL ATB YoY CAPEX Cost Decline	Small	-1.7%	-0.9%
	Non-Small	-2.9%	-1.5%
Net Adjustment	**Small**	**-2.4%**	**-1.2%**
	Non-Small	**-3.5%**	**-1.8%**

Installed Cost Summary Results

- Installed cost results for all renewable energy classes are shown below
- Results for non-Small Solar renewable energy classes are for informational purposes only
- Overall, results show significant cost declines for Small Solar, with varied results for larger renewable energy classes
  - Results are directionally consistent with expectations re: economies of scale

	2025 PY Adopted (a)	2025 PY Market Average (b)	2026 PY – Updated Estimate (c)	% Change – 2025 Input → 2026 PY Input (c/a)-1	% Change – 2025 Average → Updated 2026 Input (c/b)-1
Small Solar I	**$4,270**	**$4,270**	**$3,553**	**-16.8%**	**-16.8%**
Small Solar II	**$3,942**	**$3,942**	**$3,284**	**-16.7%**	**-16.7%**
Medium Solar	$3,016	$3,422	$3,269	8.4%	-4.5%
Commercial Solar I	$2,821	$3,169	$2,911	3.6%	-7.8%
Commercial Solar II	$2,627	$2,916	$2,578	-1.9%	-11.6%
Large Solar I	$2,365	$2,508	$2,343	-0.9%	-6.6%

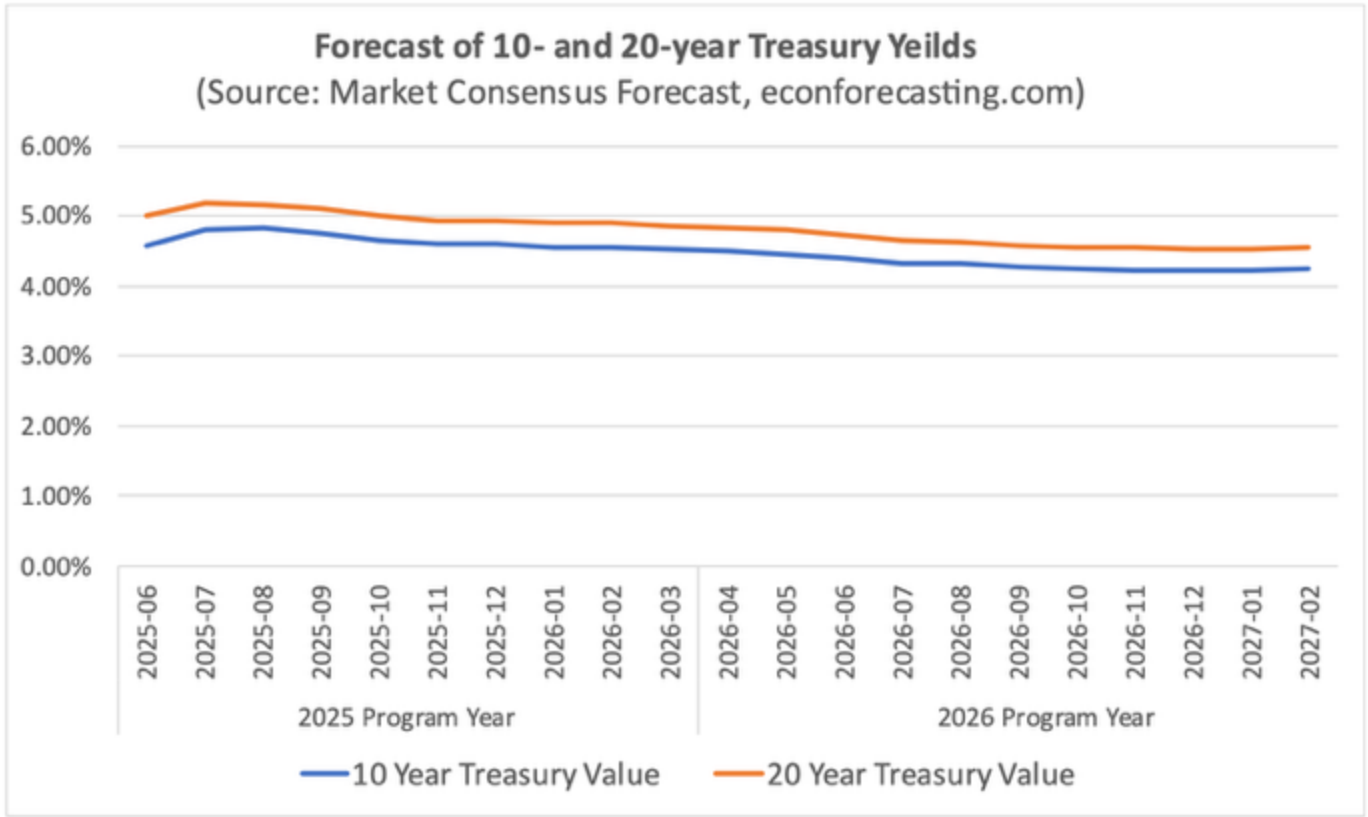
Note: Installed cost figures include certain adjustments to account for added costs not contained in state databases (e.g., RI-specific labor laws) – See Appendix B

Operating Expense Assumptions

- **Inverter Replacement Costs**
  - A developer suggested that inverter replacement costs for Small Solar I and II not covered by warranty are as high as $150/kW, but did not provide any documentation of such costs
  - **M.I.: No change for now given a lack of documented evidence, SEA will consider revisions in final draft pricing, and specifically seeks documented examples of quotes for inverter replacement**

Interest Rates (1)

- Consistent with SEA's approach during the 2024-2026 program development process, SEA utilizes forecasted 10- and 20-year Treasury yields as a basis for future interest rate expectations
- However, the Market Consensus Forecast SEA previously relied upon presents an outlook that suggests current rates will be sustained, consistent with a scenario where the economy **does not** fall into a recession
- Federal Reserve estimates risk of recession is currently ~30% ➔ SEA considering utilizing a weighted average of forecasts consistent with a scenario where the economy **does** fall into a recession
- **M.I.: Continue to utilize "Market Consensus" Forecast of Treasury Yields for now**
  - **Request feedback on alternatives**
  - **Continue to monitor forecasts and Federal Reserve reporting of risk of recession**



Interest Rates (2)

- Using the Market Consensus Forecast, inputs for Small Solar I and II are derived as follows:

	Small Solar I	Small Solar II
Debt Term (Years)	10	10
Expected Average Debt Rate 2026 PY (Extracted July 2025)	4.33%	4.33%
Risk Premium	3.25%	3.25%
Total Interest Rate	**7.58%**	**7.58%**

- These values are **lower** than those recommended by OER in PY 2025 (8.38% for both Small Solar I and II), but **higher** than those adopted by the PUC in PY 2025 (6.91% for Small Solar I and 6.78% for Small Solar II) given that the PUC chose to adopt Draft 1 pricing

Federal Tax Credits (1)

- July 4 - Public Law 119-21 (H.R. 1) – The One Big, Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA) signed into law, rolling back many of the tax credits and programs created by Public Law 117-169 – Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 (IRA), most notably:
  - Section 70506 terminates the Residential Clean Energy Credit as of December 31, 2025 ➔ **Impacts host-owned Small Solar I**
  - Sections 70512 and 70513 terminate the Clean Electricity Production Credit (CEPC) and Clean Electricity Investment Credit (CEIC) for certain projects ➔ **Impacts Small Solar II and larger.** Impacted projects include:
    - Facilities **placed in service after December 31, 2027**, except for facilities that begin construction within 12 months of the Law's enactment (i.e., July 4, 2026)
      - July 7 Executive Order directs treasury to ensure the "beginning of construction" standard is "not circumvented" via "artificial acceleration or manipulation of eligibility and … the use of broad safe harbors"
    - Facilities that commenced construction after December 31, 2025, with "material assistance" from a "prohibited foreign entity," subject to safe harbor tables issued no later than December 31, 2026
- **M.I.:**
  - **Small Solar I: Market dominated by host-owned (95% from 2021-25) ➔ Remove 30% ITC**
  - **Small Solar II: Assume that projects in PY 2026 can reach COD prior to December 31, 2027 ➔ retain 30% ITC, but request feedback on implications of "prohibited foreign entity" provisions**

Federal Tax Credits (2)

- The elimination of these incentives for certain projects (based on placed in service/commenced construction treatment) will likely increase the levelized cost of energy (LCOE) ➔ higher ceiling prices to allow projects to meet a reasonable rate of return
- However, mitigating factors, such as OBBBA's provision to make 100% bonus depreciation permanent, may also offset the upward cost pressure if developers are able to utilize
- Given this, the impact is not expected to be one-to-one—*for example, a 30% drop in the Investment Tax Credit (ITC) will not necessarily translate into a 30% increase in solar LCOE*—because **new financing structures and/or investors that can monetize permanent bonus depreciation and other non-ITC tax benefits are likely to emerge in response**
- **SEA's research efforts in the coming weeks/months will focus on what these new structures are likely to look like, and their implications for ceiling prices**

Bonus Depreciation

- OBBA **makes permanent the 100% bonus depreciation** option for energy production facilities placed in service before January 1, 2031
- In prior year's research efforts, despite the availability of bonus depreciation, market participants indicated **most tax equity investors that claim an investment credit did not utilize bonus depreciation**, to preserve their tax capital to invest in a higher volume of projects ➔ SEA assumed five-year schedule of the Modified Accelerated Cost Recovery System (MACRS) for depreciation
- However, given the phase-down of tax credits, SEA assumes that new financing structures are likely to emerge in response ➔ SEA to conduct fresh research on expectations regarding the ability to claim bonus depreciation post OBBA
- **M.I.: Given that OBBA did not eliminate 5-year MACRS, SEA will continue to assume 5-year MACRS for now, but will review based on research findings for Draft 2**

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Appendix A: Detailed Cost, Performance and Financing Assumptions

Summary: Solar <=25 kW Financing Assumptions

	Small I (1-15 kW)		Small II (15-25 kW)	
	2025 Adopted	***2026 1st Draft***	***2025 Adopted***	***2026 1st Draft***
Federal Investment Tax Credit (%)	30%	**0%**	30%	**30%**
% Debt	43.4%	**60.1%**	45.2%	**45.3%**
Debt Term (years)	13	**10**	10	**10**
Interest Rate on Term Debt	6.91%	**7.58%**	6.78%	**7.58%**
Lender's Fee (% of total borrowing)	4.25%	**4.25%**	2.3%	**2.3%**
Target After-Tax Equity IRR	7%	**7%**	12.5%	**12.5%**

Summary: Solar Cost & Production Assumptions

	Small I	Small II
Nameplate Capacity (kW)	5.8	25
Capacity Factor	13.4%	13.4%
Annual Degradation	1.0%	1.0%
Useful Life (Years)	25	25
Total Capital Cost * ($/kW)	$3,553 [$4,260]	$3,284 [$3,940]
Fixed O&M ($/kW-yr)	$29	$24
O&M Escalation Factor	2.0%	2.0%
Non-O&M Escalation %	2.0%	2.0%
Insurance (% of Cost)	0.0%	0.0%
Project Management ($/yr)	$0	$0
Site Lease ($/yr)	$0	$0
Property Tax/PILOT ($/kW)	$0	$5

* Values in [Purple Brackets] represent 2025 ceiling price inputs

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Appendix B: Detailed Capital Cost Data for Solar Projects

Small Solar I Installed Cost Summary Statistics

Small Solar I, Installed Costs										
0-15 kW										
Time Period		2024 (Full Year)					2025 (Partial Year)			
Dataset	Sample Size	Average ($/kW)	Median ($/kW)	25th Percentile ($/kW)	75th Percentile ($/kW)	N	Average ($/kW)	Median ($/kW)	25th Percentile ($/kW)	75th Percentile ($/kW)
MA SMART (Qualified & Operational)	156	$4,007	$3,786	$3,287	$4,425	11	$3,339	$3,009	$2,855	$3,574
CT RRES	5,442	$3,916	$3,917	$3,450	$4,391	N/A	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data
NY - NYSERDA Solar Electric Programs	12,985	$3,967	$3,769	$3,108	$4,607	5,316	$4,132	$3,944	$3,273	$4,800
RI Small Scale REG	78	$4,216	$4,179	$2,979	$5,333	21	$3,353	$2,510	$2,034	$4,917
RI REF	150	$4,542	$4,080	$3,622	$5,467	46	$3,827	$3,573	$3,190	$4,097
Energy Sage - RI Accepted*	N/A	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	N/A	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	*Withheld*
EnergySage - MA Accepted Bids*	N/A	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	N/A	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	*Withheld*
EnergySage - NY Accepted*	N/A	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	N/A	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	*Withheld*
EnergySage - CT Accepted*	N/A	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	N/A	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	*Withheld*
EnergySage - ME Accepted*	N/A	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	N/A	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	*Withheld*
EnergySage Accepted Averages	N/A	$3,062	$3,008	$2,917	$3,164	N/A	$2,911	$2,855	$2,788	$2,985
LBNL Tracking the Sun Advance Dataset RI	299	$4,360	$3,966	$3,498	$5,055	N/A	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data
LBNL TTS - All NE States	18,976	$4,480	$4,140	$3,278	$5,350	N/A	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data

*NOTE: SEA has withheld the state-specific summary statistics, since these values represent the output of non-public datasets that are normally provided for a fee that were generously provided to SEA by EnergySage specifically for this analysis.

Small Solar II Installed Cost Summary Statistics

Small Solar II, Installed Costs										
15-25 kW										
Time Period		2024 (Full Year)					2025 (Partial Year)			
Dataset	Sample Size	Average ($/kW)	Median ($/kW)	25th Percentile ($/kW)	75th Percentile ($/kW)	N	Average ($/kW)	Median ($/kW)	25th Percentile ($/kW)	75th Percentile ($/kW)
MA SMART (Qualified & Operational)	61	$3,371	$3,349	$2,680	$3,741	2**	$3,517	$3,517	$3,253	$3,781
CT RRES	550	$3,718	$3,700	$3,200	$4,150	N/A	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data
NY - NYSERDA Solar Electric Programs	1,354	$3,378	$3,185	$2,773	$3,719	618	$3,385	$3,115	$2,800	$3,809
RI Small Scale REG	3***	$4,336	$4,965	$3,839	$5,147	N/A	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data
RI REF	21	$3,624	$3,370	$3,017	$3,923	13	$3,406	$3,350	$3,188	$3,729
Energy Sage - RI Accepted*	N/A	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	N/A	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	*Withheld*
EnergySage - MA Accepted Bids*	N/A	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	N/A	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	*Withheld*
EnergySage - NY Accepted*	N/A	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	N/A	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	*Withheld*
EnergySage - CT Accepted*	N/A	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	N/A	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	*Withheld*
EnergySage - ME Accepted*	N/A	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	N/A	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	*Withheld*	*Withheld*
EnergySage Accepted Averages	N/A	$2,802	$2,814	$2,708	$2,891	N/A	$2,795	$2,787	$2,742	$2,831
LBNL Tracking the Sun Advance Dataset RI	17	$3,569	$3,496	$3,017	$3,796	N/A	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data
LBNL TTS - All NE States	2,527	$3,527	$3,265	$2,800	$4,000	N/A	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data

*SEA has withheld the state-specific summary statistics, since these values represent the output of non-public datasets that are normally provided for a fee that were generously provided to SEA by EnergySage specifically for this analysis.

**Excluded from analysis due to small sample size

***Averaged with 2024 RI REF due to small sample size

Medium Solar Installed Cost Summary Statistics

Medium Solar, Installed Costs										
>25-250 kW										
Time Period		2024 (Full Year)					2025 (Partial Year)			
Dataset	Sample Size	Average ($/kW)	Median ($/kW)	25th Percentile ($/kW)	75th Percentile ($/kW)	N	Average ($/kW)	Median ($/kW)	25th Percentile ($/kW)	75th Percentile ($/kW)
MA SMART (Qualified & Operational)	86	$2,908	$2,571	$2,225	$3,392	9	$2,152	$2,145	$2,021	$2,175
CT Residential Renewable Energy Solutions	35	$3,501	$3,512	$2,912	$3,838	N/A	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data
NY - NYSERDA Solar Electric Programs	412	$3,371	$3,200	$2,672	$3,776	172	$3,316	$3,149	$2,582	$3,807
CT NRES	195	$2,822	$2,706	$2,375	$3,062	N/A	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data
RI REG	24	$2,638	$2,537	$2,415	$2,989	7	$3,364	$3,460	$2,595	$4,019
RI REF	19	$3,238	$3,150	$2,650	$3,700	12	$3,144	$3,040	$2,405	$3,418
LBNL Tracking the Sun Advance Dataset RI	14	$3,271	$3,352	$2,814	$3,549	N/A	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data
LBNL TTS - All NE States	586	$3,215	$2,997	$2,454	$3,600	N/A	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data

Commercial Solar Installed Cost Summary Statistics

Commercial Solar, Installed Costs										
>250-1 MW										
Time Period		2024 (Full Year)					2025 (Partial Year)			
Dataset	Sample Size	Average ($/kW)	Median ($/kW)	25th Percentile ($/kW)	75th Percentile ($/kW)	N	Average ($/kW)	Median ($/kW)	25th Percentile ($/kW)	75th Percentile ($/kW)
MA SMART (Qualified & Operational)	19	$3,063	$2,668	$2,102	$3,948	N/A	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data
NY - NYSERDA Solar Electric Programs	43	$2,148	$2,130	$1,892	$2,455	30	$2,633	$2,240	$2,031	$2,813
CT NRES	7	$2,546	$2,259	$2,066	$2,750	N/A	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data
RI REG	11	$3,444	$3,602	$3,080	$4,000	N/A	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data
LBNL Tracking the Sun Advance Dataset RI	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data
LBNL TTS - All NE States	104	$2,469	$2,265	$1,999	$2,793	N/A	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data

Large Solar Installed Cost Summary Statistics

Large Solar, Installed Costs										
1-5+ MW										
Time Period		2024 (Full Year)					2025 (Partial Year)			
Dataset	Sample Size	Average ($/kW)	Median ($/kW)	25th Percentile ($/kW)	75th Percentile ($/kW)	N	Average ($/kW)	Median ($/kW)	25th Percentile ($/kW)	75th Percentile ($/kW)
MA SMART (Qualified & Operational)	2	$1,746	$1,746	$1,693	$1,799	N/A	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data
NY - NYSERDA Solar Electric Programs	28	$1,919	$1,735	$1,641	$2,158	9	$1,964	$1,720	$1,660	$2,038
CT NRES	27	$2,335	$2,255	$2,034	$2,683	N/A	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data
RI REG	1	$2,275	$2,275	N/A	N/A	N/A	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data
LBNL Tracking the Sun Advance Dataset RI	N/A	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data	N/A	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data
LBNL TTS - All NE States	34	$2,050	$1,895	$1,507	$2,495	N/A	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data

Solar Cost Adjustments

- The following costs are added onto the "base" costs derived through state databases

IC Cost Adder	IC Cost Adj.	Meter Relocation Adj.	Prevailing Wage Adj.	Electrician Labor Adj.
Small Solar I	N/A	N/A	N/A	$30
Small Solar II	N/A	N/A	N/A	$30
Medium Solar	N/A	$120	N/A	$30
Commercial Solar I	N/A	$60	N/A	$30
Commercial Solar II	N/A	N/A	N/A	$30
Large Solar I	$263	N/A	$28.75	$30

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REG Brownfield Adder

- The Public Utilities Commission recently granted regulatory approval for the creation of a new incentive-payment adder through the Renewable Energy Growth (REG) program for solar projects located on "preferred sites that require remediation" also known as "brownfields"

- DEM will be assisting Rhode Island Energy and the Office of Energy Resources with the implementation of this program by verifying that projects seeking the adder are located on brownfield sites.

- Individuals intending to apply for the adder must obtain written verification from DEM to include in the application package
  - Similar to the "Core Forest" process already in place

- DEM will soon be issuing guidance on obtaining the required verification

Rhode Island Energy™
a PPL company

Net Metering Legislative Changes Summary

July 30, 2025

Net Metering Legislation

Rhode Island Energy™
a PPL company

- Legislation amending the net metering statute was passed by the General Assembly on June 20, 2025
- Has since been signed into law by Governor McKee
- H5580/S0843aa

Summary of Changes

Rhode Island Energy™
a PPL company

	What is the change?	What does the change mean?
1	Definition of Eligible net-metering system	25kW and below can be sized without restrictions
2	Definition of Excess renewable net-metering credit	(1) Excess credit is worth wholesale ISO-NE energy clearing price instead of LRS for all accounts (2) 25kW and below can earn excess credits for all excess generation beyond 100% (no upper limit of 125%)
3	Renewable net-metering credit for remote public entity and multi-municipal collaborative systems shall not include the distribution kW-hour charge commencing January 1, 2060	Changed from 2050 to 2060
4	Addition of language allowing cashout	Addition of language allowing cashout (already incorporated in our tariff)

Process Impact - Q&A

Rhode Island Energy™
a PPL company

- The Company intends to file a tariff advice with the PUC in late August to reflect legislative changes; tariff effective date TBD
- The Company will now accept and process applications without sizing restrictions tied to usage for systems 25kW and below
    - Updates to process documentation underway
- Impact of the change to the Excess Renewable Net Metering Credit rate will not be seen until the CY 2025 Annual Reconciliation (complete by June 15, 2026)

Solar Installers: Share Your Insights!

Join a virtual focus group, help inform Rhode Island Energy's solar programs

- Discuss Net Metering and Renewable Energy Growth residential programs
- Sessions start as early as tomorrow, July 31, and run through early August
- Receive a $200 virtual Visa Gift Card for participating
- Hosted by Bellomy on behalf of Rhode Island Energy

Register: https://survey.bellomyonline.com/start.asp?SID=25161&SV=96

RENEWABLE ENERGY FUND
POWERED BY RHODE ISLAND COMMERCE

Rhode Island Solar Stakeholder Meeting
Renewable Energy Fund Updates

Summer 2025

Karen Stewart, Renewable Energy Fund Program Manager
Jacob Curran, REF Program Coordinator

2025 Grant applications to date

- Round 25-1
- Round 25-2

Fall Grant Round(s)

- Timeline changes
- Required Documents for expedited approval

Live Survey

- 2025 Fall grant round interest
- Potential grant round timeline

2025 Grant Round Results to date

- Round 25-1 & 25-2 Small Scale Grant requests:
$1,323,405.75 for 298 projects. 28 ESS applications

- Round 25-1 & 25-2 Commercial Scale Grant requests:
$1,462,601 for 47 projects. 2 Carports & 2 ESS apps.

*Commercial Scale round will close soon

- Blocks will close on the application due date or when available funds have been reached.
- Subject to change.
- Subject to availability of funds.

2025 Grant Rounds

Small-Scale & Commercial Rounds	Grant Request	Application Due Date
25-1	Small Scale: March 24th Commercial Scale: March 3rd	CLOSED
25-2	Small-Scale: July 11th Commercial-Scale: July 18th	Closed TBD (commercial open)
25-3	Small-Scale: September 12th (starting at 9am)	9/12 5pm (same day)
25-4	Small-Scale: TBD Commercial-Scale: TBD	TBD

- Blocks will close on the application due date or when available funds have been reached.
- Subject to change.
- Subject to availability of funds.

Early Fall round: 9/12/25

To expedite Round 25-3 Small-scale Applications:

1. Applicants should review applications for typos and required docs prior to submitting to avoid long review times.
2. Include project checklist if submitting 2 or more projects in application bundle.
3. Check system sizes and grant totals ($$) across all submitted documents.
4. Submit Exhibit As (<1 yr. old) with application.
5. Reply to Award REF emails ASAP ☺

2025 REF Process

Topic	Description
Exhibits	• Check the dates on Exhibit A docs prior to applying. Request new certificates as necessary to avoid grant approval delays. **Exhibits must be less than 1 year old.**
Contract Requirements	• All contracts should state REF Grant amount and subtract grant from total owed by customer.
Grant Agreements	• **Grant Agreements need to be signed before projects are interconnected.**
Completion Documents	• **Submit completion docs as soon as possible**. We process them as we receive them. • Respond to Ridgeline as soon as possible for earlier grant payment processing.

2025 REF Grant Round Live Survey

We would appreciate your participation in this live survey.

Results will be communicated via Solar Stakeholder email as soon as possible.

Thank you!

Contact Information

Website:

http://commerceri.com/finance-business/renewable-energy-fund/

Karen Stewart, REF Manager
(401) 278-9112
Karen.Stewart@commerceri.com

Jacob Curran, Project Coordinator
Jacob.Curran@commerceri.com

Meghan Leddy, URI Energy Fellow
Meghan.Leddy@commerceri.com

REF@commerceri.com

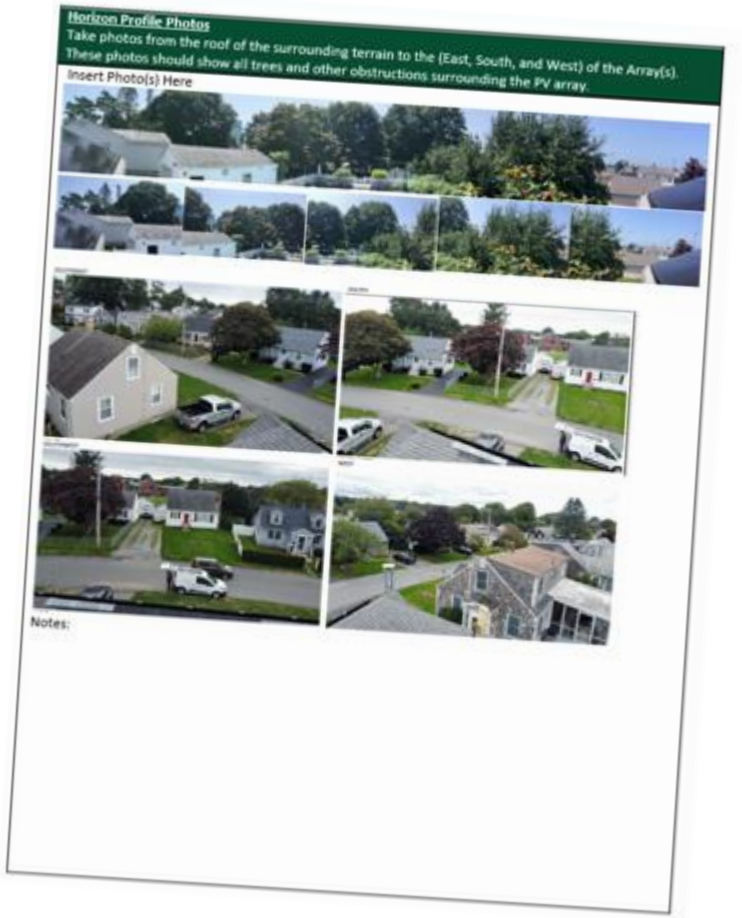
REF Inspections

Statistics, Common Violations,
& Best-Practices for an Efficient Review

REF Inspections

Outline

- Self-Inspection Statistics
- Self-Inspection Reports
  - Common issues
- Common Installation Violations
- Resources

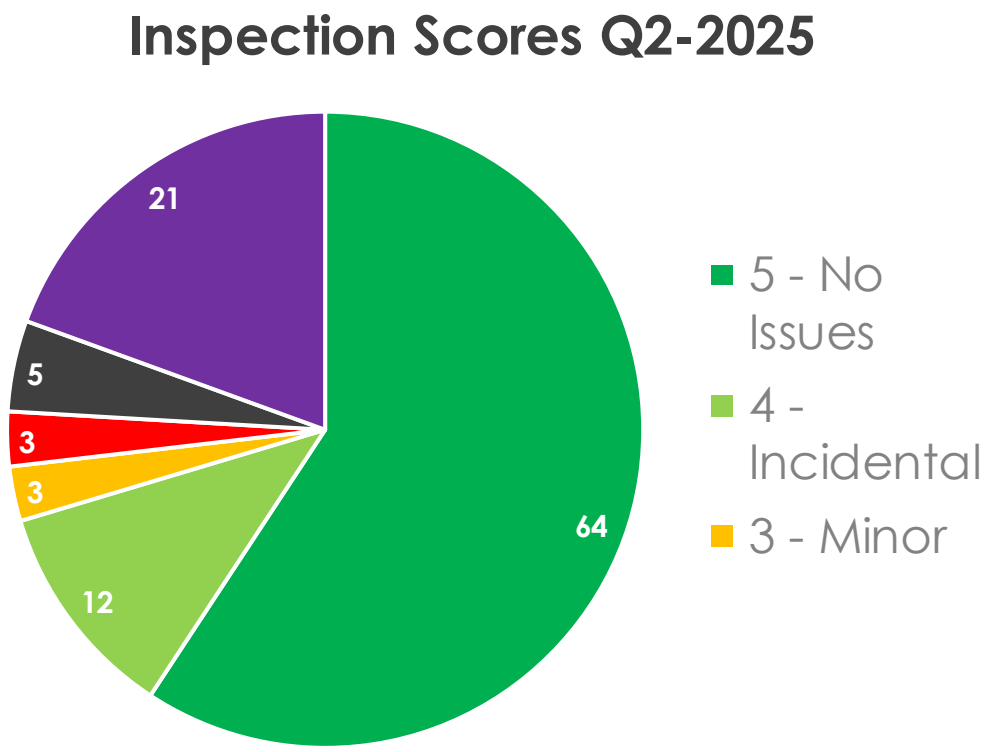


Self-Inspection Stats (Q2-2025)

- Average time a new inspection is in our queue: ***3 days***
- Installer average response time: ***14.5 days***

For this quarter:

- ***108*** *inspections*
- ***70%*** *scored 4 or 5*
- ***19%*** *unable to score*
  - *due to SI report quality*



Self-Inspection Reports

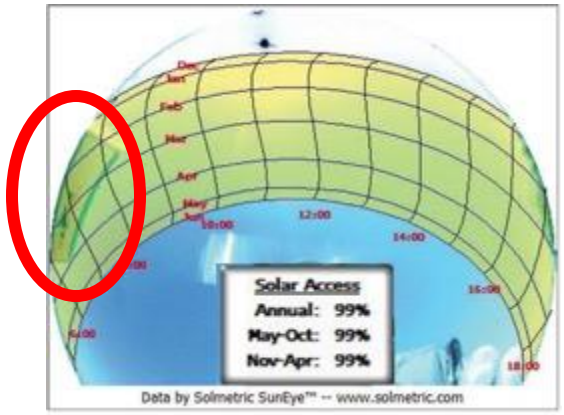
Best-Practices for an Efficient Review

- Fill in every (applicable) field
- Provide additional photos where necessary
  - See *Minimum Technical Requirements*
    - *Detailed list of required photos*
  - Overview of area, close-up of breaker/fuse rating, etc.
  - Add text descriptions to help reviewer
- Photos must be clear
  - File sizes will be very large. This is OK!!
- Provide links to download installation/correction photos
- Incomplete or illegible reports **will be returned**
- Incomplete responses **will not be reviewed**

Self-Inspection Reports

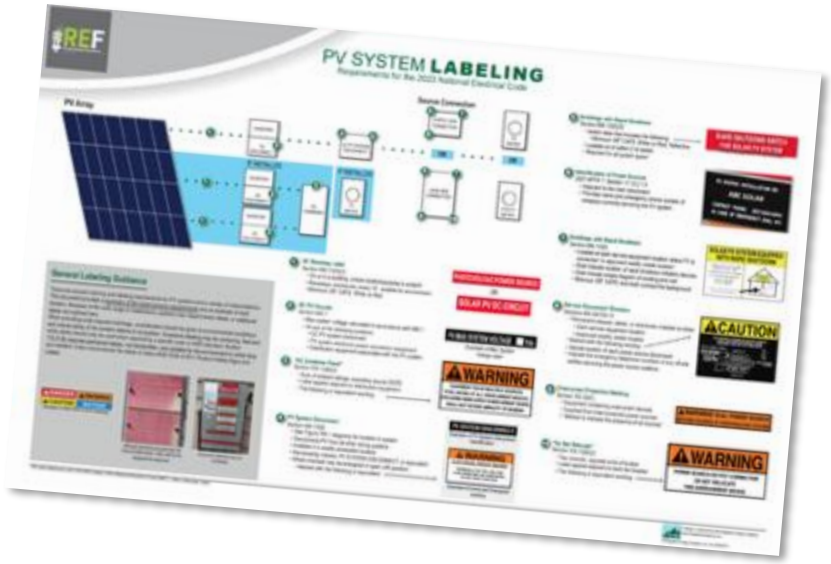
Common Issues

- Missing/illegible photos
- Equipment or system size discrepancy
  - Be sure the Project Completion form is accurate!
- Shade analysis issues
  - Improper tilt/Azimuth
  - Inconsistent array layout
  - Improper solar access
  - Model shows less than 100' obstruction radius



Common Installation Violations

- Labeling!
- Disconnect Sealing
- Grounding



Green Screw?

Buildings with Rapid Shutdown

NEC Section 690.56(C)(2)

- Switch label located <u>on</u> or <u>within 3'</u>, that includes the following:

RAPID SHUTDOWN SWITCH FOR SOLAR PV SYSTEM

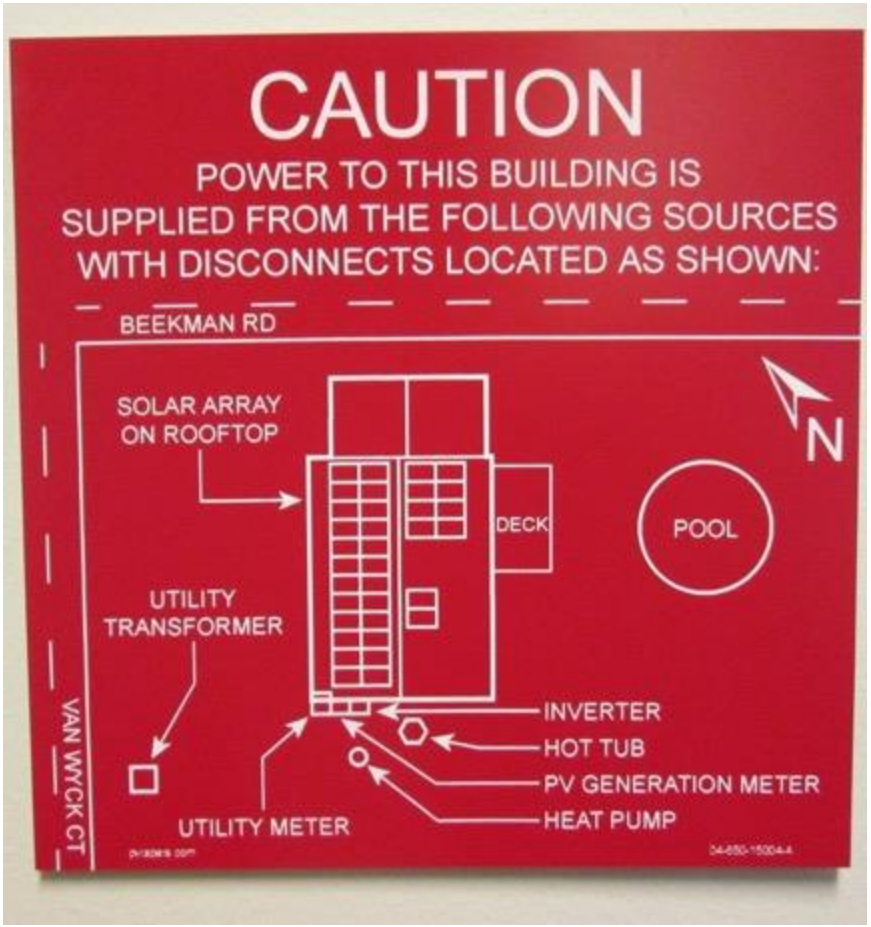
  - Minimum 3/8" CAPS
  - White on Red
  - Reflective

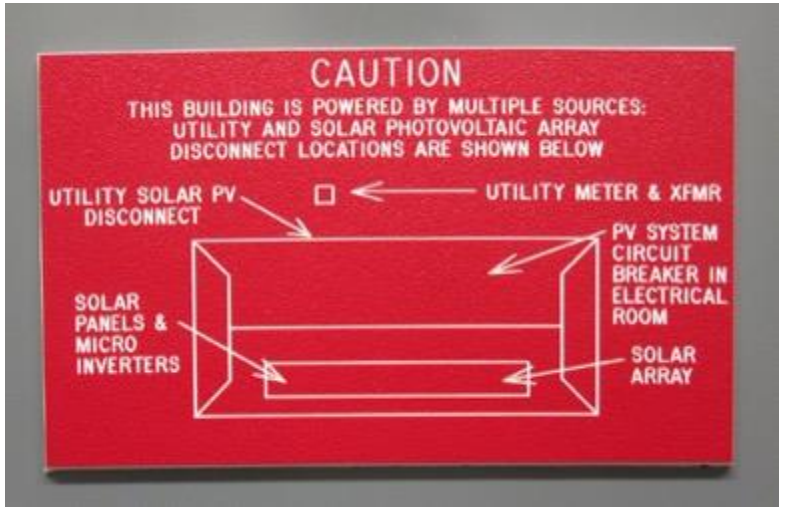
- ***Required for all system types!***

Service Disconnect Directory

NEC Section 690.56/705.10

Per 110.21(B)





Service Disconnect Directory

NEC Section 690.56/705.10

Per 110.21(B)

Disconnecting Means (Location)

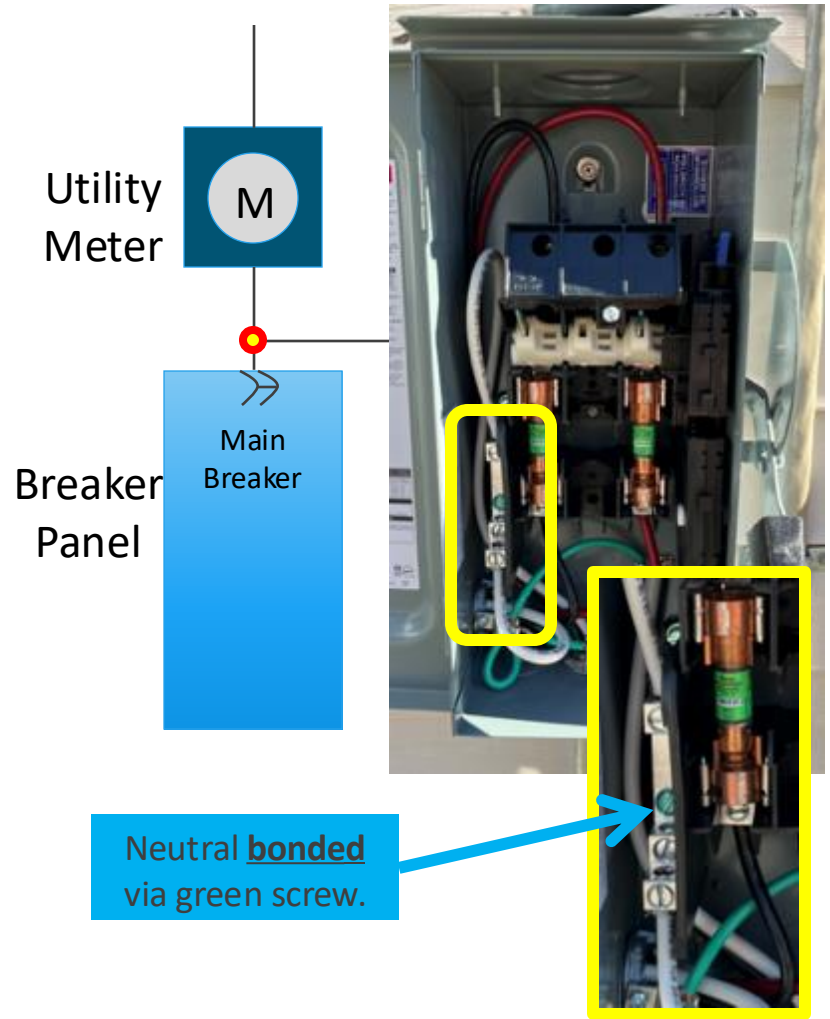
NEC Section 690.13(A) & 690.15(A)

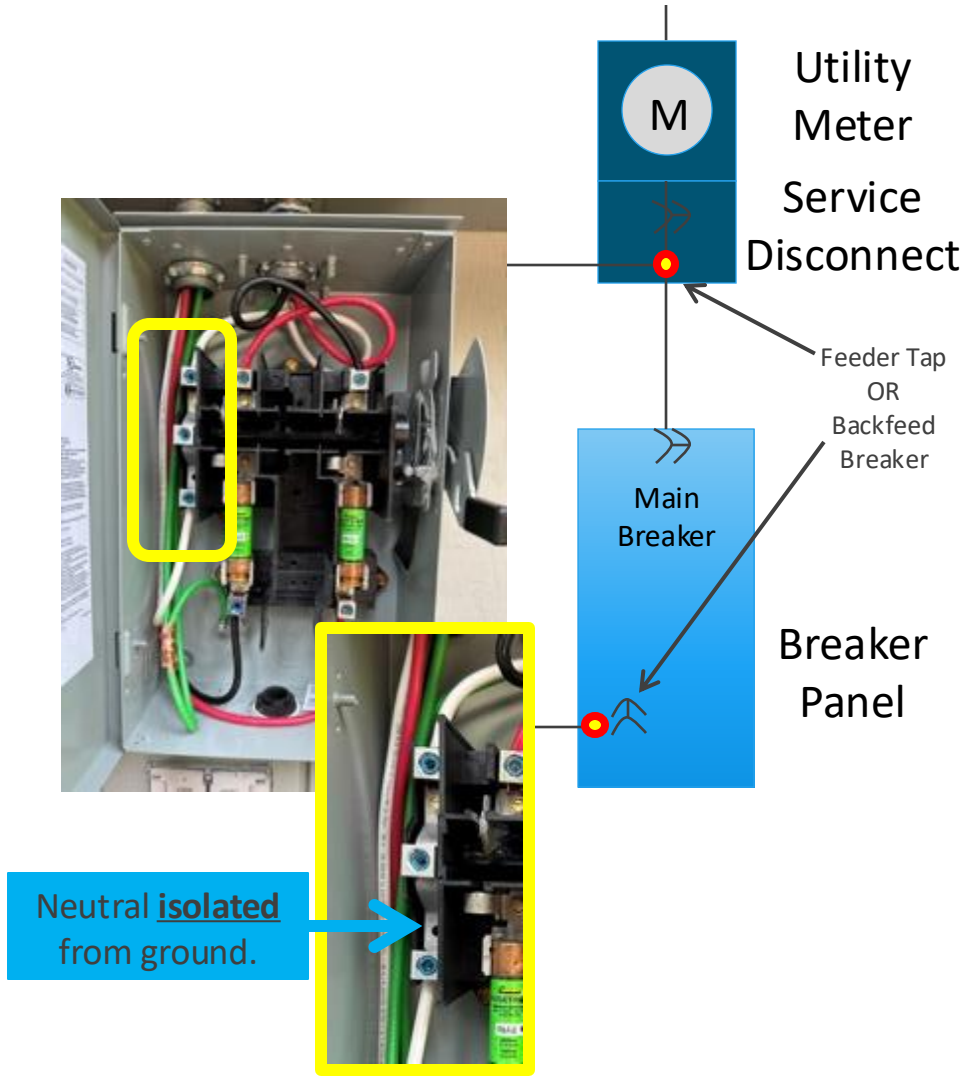
- Readily accessible location to unqualified persons
- If enclosure door or hinged cover, exposes energized parts (over 30V) when open:
  - Shall be locked or require a tool
  - *See NEC 110.25 for LOTO*

Enclosure Door "seal"

PV Grid Connections & Disconnect Grounding

705.11 Supply-Side
705.12 Load-Side/Feeder Tap





Additional Resources

REF Minimum Technical Requirements

https://assets.simpleviewinc.com/simpleview/image/upload/v1/clients/rhodeisland/REF_MTR_2024_11_1d9968b1-0f7c-41b9-a07a-6b3835ffbfb4.pdf

Labeling Guidance Document

https://assets.simpleviewinc.com/simpleview/image/upload/v1/clients/rhodeisland-redesign/PV_Labeling_2023_NEC_RI_REF_1_5b060fa4-60e9-4243-a3e8-cd768946f033.pdf

Self-Inspection Report Examples (PV & PV+ESS)

https://assets.simpleviewinc.com/simpleview/raw/upload/v1/clients/rhodeisland-redesign/RL_Commerce_RI_REF_PV_Self_Inspection_Lite_Report_2024_w_Examples_3810a2ab-d87a-4d2a-bf98-2358cfee5f39.docx

https://assets.simpleviewinc.com/simpleview/raw/upload/v1/clients/rhodeisland-redesign/RL_Commerce_RI_REF_PVESS_Self_Inspection_Lite_Report_2024_w_Examples_ac7930a9-0172-4367-8448-c7506637ca01.docx

Contact Us:

REFInspections@RidgelineAnalytics.com

RI Agricultural Energy Program

Fall deadline: Friday, November 7, 2025

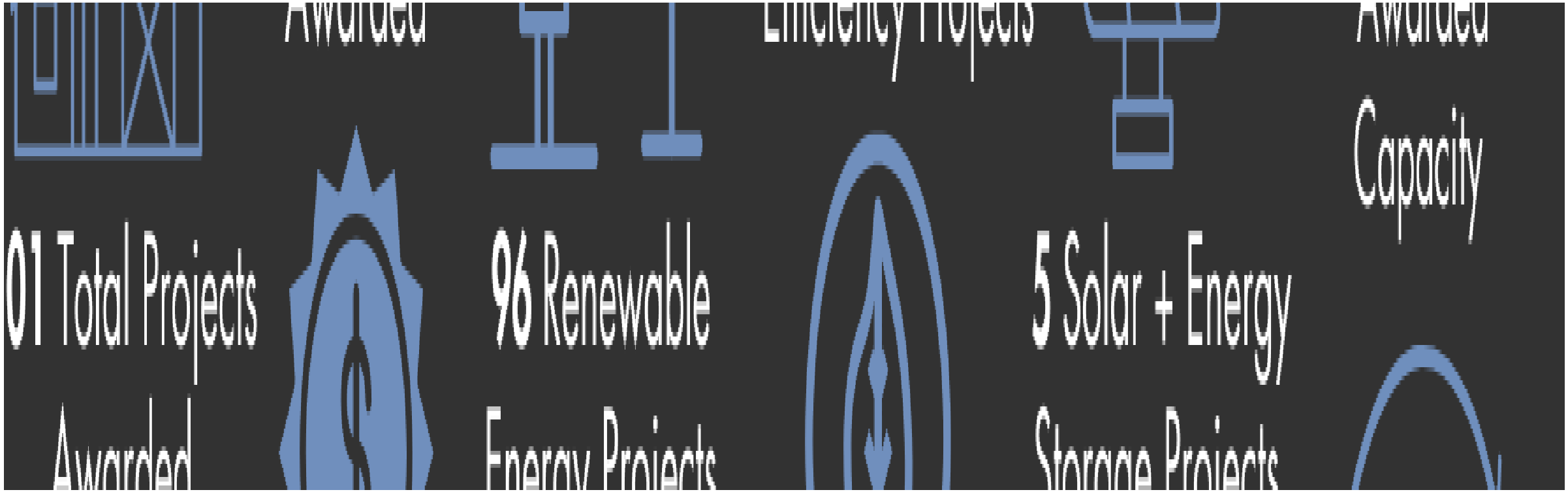
ROLLING DEADLINE:

To accommodate for recent changes to the federal ITC, applications will be accepted and approved on a rolling basis until the November 7th deadline.

Agricultural Energy Program

Provides grants to farmers in Rhode Island of up to $20,000 for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Projects

Since 2016:



RI Clean Energy Internship Program

RENEWABLE ENERGY FUND
POWERED BY RHODE ISLAND COMMERCE

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
OFFICE OF ENERGY RESOURCES

WORK IN CLEAN ENERGY

Hourly Rate	Weekly Rate	Program Cost per Intern
Up to 2 interns per company	Up to 40 hours	12 weeks
$15.00	$600.00	$7,200.00

The Clean Energy Internship Program

12 Week Internship with rounds in the Spring Summer and Fall.

Application Deadline August 15th 2025

Interns are placed with clean energy companies that offer industry experience

RENEWABLE ENERGY FUND
POWERED BY RHODE ISLAND COMMERCE

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
OFFICE OF ENERGY RESOURCES