Facts about Solar Energy

Solar energy represents only 2.5% of energy sources in the US. However, as technology improves and becomes cheaper, adoption of utility-scale solar is rapidly increasing. It is estimated that solar will comprise 20% of electricity generation in the US by 2030.

Solar is cost-effective.

Solar is one of the cheapest energy sources available, and since solar energy is harnessed using technology, not fuel, the costs of solar will automatically decrease as technology advances. According to the financial advisory firm Lazard, the cost to produce 1 MWh of solar decreased by 86% from 2009 to 2017. Even without subsidies, in some places solar is the cheapest source of electricity in history according to a 2020 report from the International Energy Agency.

Solar benefits rural communities.

Most utility-scale solar farms are located in rural areas where farmers and ranchers may be looking to diversify their income. Rent payments are made to landowners for use of their land, providing landowners with an additional stable income, which allows local farms and ranches to be passed onto the next generations even as commodity prices are unstable. Solar energy is an appealing new cash crop to complement farming, ranching, or other practices. Furthermore, many municipalities use increased tax revenue provided by solar farms to fund long-needed road, school, and bridge repairs.

Solar creates jobs.

Solar power has created well-paying jobs for almost 250,000 people in the US alone, and according to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, solar photovoltaic installer is one of the fastest growing occupations in America. As solar costs decline, the demand for solar energy will increase, and solar jobs growth is expected to continue. Each of our solar projects employs several full-time, permanent, local workers, along with hundreds of tradespeople during construction.

Solar promotes a healthy environment.

Solar energy emits no air pollution like some conventional energy generation technology. Solar panels don't produce carbon emissions that cause acid rain or greenhouse gases. From January to June 2020, solar energy avoided more than 96 million metric tons of CO2 emissions. Since the energy harnessed by solar photovoltaics comes directly from the sun, no water is used to generate the electricity unlike other forms of energy generation technology.

Solar is sustainable.

The US has some of the world's richest solar resources. Solar is a renewable source of energy that harnesses the energy of the sun, which is inherently

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abundant, inexhaustible, and free, unlike fossil fuels that are finite and costly. On our solar farms, we burn no fossil fuels, require no transportation for fuel, and use very little water.