

Identifying Benefits, Barriers, and Solutions to Low Income Community Solar for Cooperative and Municipal Utilities in the Southeast United States

December 11, 2017

12:00pm – 4:30pm

Green Square Building
217 West Jones St, Training Room 210, Raleigh, NC 27603

A workshop focused on identifying benefits, barriers, and solutions to providing community solar to low-income communities served by Cooperative and Municipal Utilities in the Southeast United States. This half-day workshop will include representatives from Cooperative and Municipal Utilities, Solar Developers, as well as participants from non-profits that represent the interests of low-income individuals and government entities.

Agenda

I. Welcome & Introductions

II. Working Lunch: National Perspective on Community Solar for Low Income Communities.

Laurel Passera from the Coalition for Community Solar Access will tell us about the national landscape of community solar projects with respect to low income communities.

III. Understanding the Numbers

In this session, we will examine fictitious examples of community solar projects for an electric cooperative and a municipal electric provider. Total cost of the projects, the role of subsidies, and legal and/or regulatory constraints, and more, will be discussed.

IV. Low Income Program Design.

In this session, we will continue the discussion of the fictitious case studies to better understand what is needed for a community solar project to provide a benefit to low income communities.

V. Identifying Benefits, Barriers and Potential Solutions

In this session, the group will discuss what variables – policy and regulatory conditions, economic conditions, etc – are needed to make low-income community solar work.

VI. Closing & Next Steps

What next steps are needed to bring the benefits of community solar to our most vulnerable communities.