

# Community Solar in the Southeast Low Income: Barriers & Opportunities



December 11, 2017

# NC Clean Energy Technology Center

- Created in 1988 as a resource for renewable energy programs and information, training, technical assistance and applied research
- Operated by the College of Engineering at N.C. State University
- Funded by the General Assembly through the state Department of Environmental Quality; plus federal and state grants, and fee for service.

## Major Program Areas:

- Renewable Energy
- Clean Power & Efficiency
- Clean Transportation
- Economic Development
- Energy Policy
- Workforce Development
- Education & Outreach

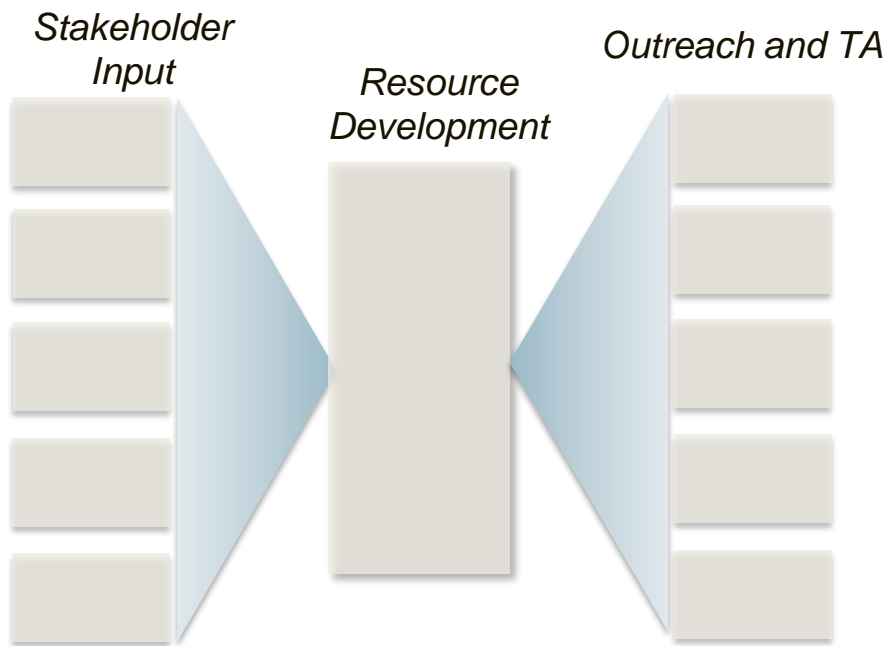
# Community Solar for the Southeast

- 3-year project funded through the U.S. Department of Energy's Sunshot program
- Goal is to accelerate the installation of community solar PV systems at municipal and cooperative utilities across the Southeast
- Community solar or community-scale solar are defined as 500kW to 10MW solar arrays connected to the distribution grid. This includes community solar as well as similarly sized arrays where the utility is the single off-taker

# Community Solar for the Southeast

NC CLEAN ENERGY TECHNOLOGY CENTER

## Partner Organizations



Rocky Mountain Institute Center, NC Justice Center, North Carolina Cooperative Extension, Savannah River National Laboratory, Fayetteville Public Works Commission, Roanoke Electric Cooperative, National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, ElectriCities Strata Solar, Geenex, Ecoplexes

## Key Milestones & Deliverables

<b>Year 1:</b>	Development of the <i>Guide to Designing and Implementing Community Solar Projects at Public Power Utilities in the Southeast</i>
<b>Years 2 &amp; 3:</b>	Direct outreach to every cooperative and municipal utility in AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, TN, SC, VA

# Community Solar for the Southeast

## Phase I Timeline- 2017 :

- **Already Completed:**
  - Pilot project with Fayetteville Public Works Commission (FPWC)
- **Occurring Now:**
  - Research and development of resources, incld technical services
  - Implementation Guide

## Phase II :

- 2018 provide technical assistance for community solar development to at least four utilities
- 2019 expand technical assistance services to 4-8 utilities

# Workshop Objectives

## **Task: Low and Moderate Income (LMI) Community Solar Strategies**

- A half-day, in person workshop will be held, facilitated by a state LMI advocate. The participants will discuss how a community solar program can address the needs of low-income customers.

**Deliverable:** Report on Community Solar Opportunities for LMI in the Southeast

**Aspirational Goal:** Work with a Coop or Muni in the Southeast to develop/implement Community Solar that includes low income members/residents

# Learn More: Contact Us!

## On The Web

- Technical Resources
- Policy Resources
- Webinars
  - Resource Assessment
  - Gap Analysis & Working Group Lunch

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