

Sustainability Pioneers: Community Conversations

#4 The Way Forward: Community Energy Systems

February 13, 2017



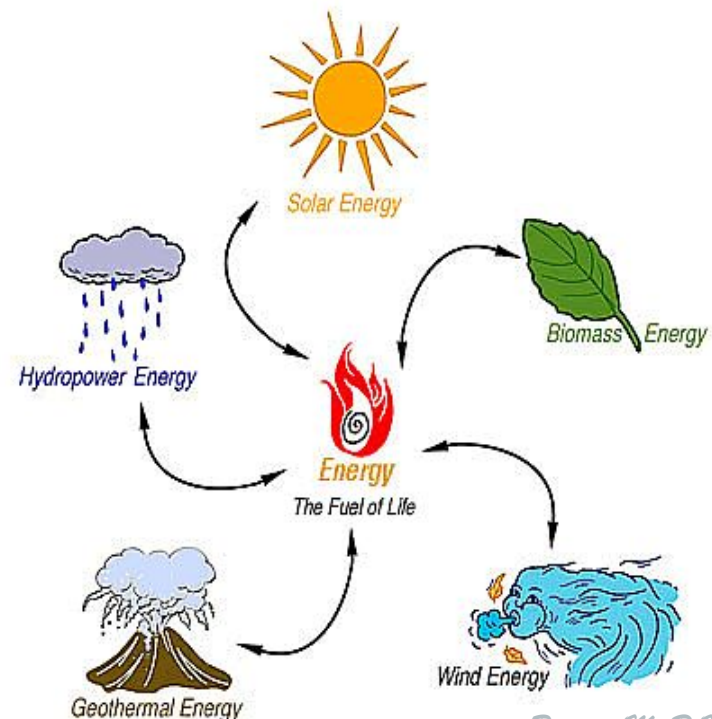


COMMUNITY ENERGY SYSTEMS

A Model for Public Ownership

Renewable Energy Systems

- Replace the 1800's technologies with renewable and sustainable energy **systems**
- Focus on meeting the **need for work**, not just replacing fuel sources.

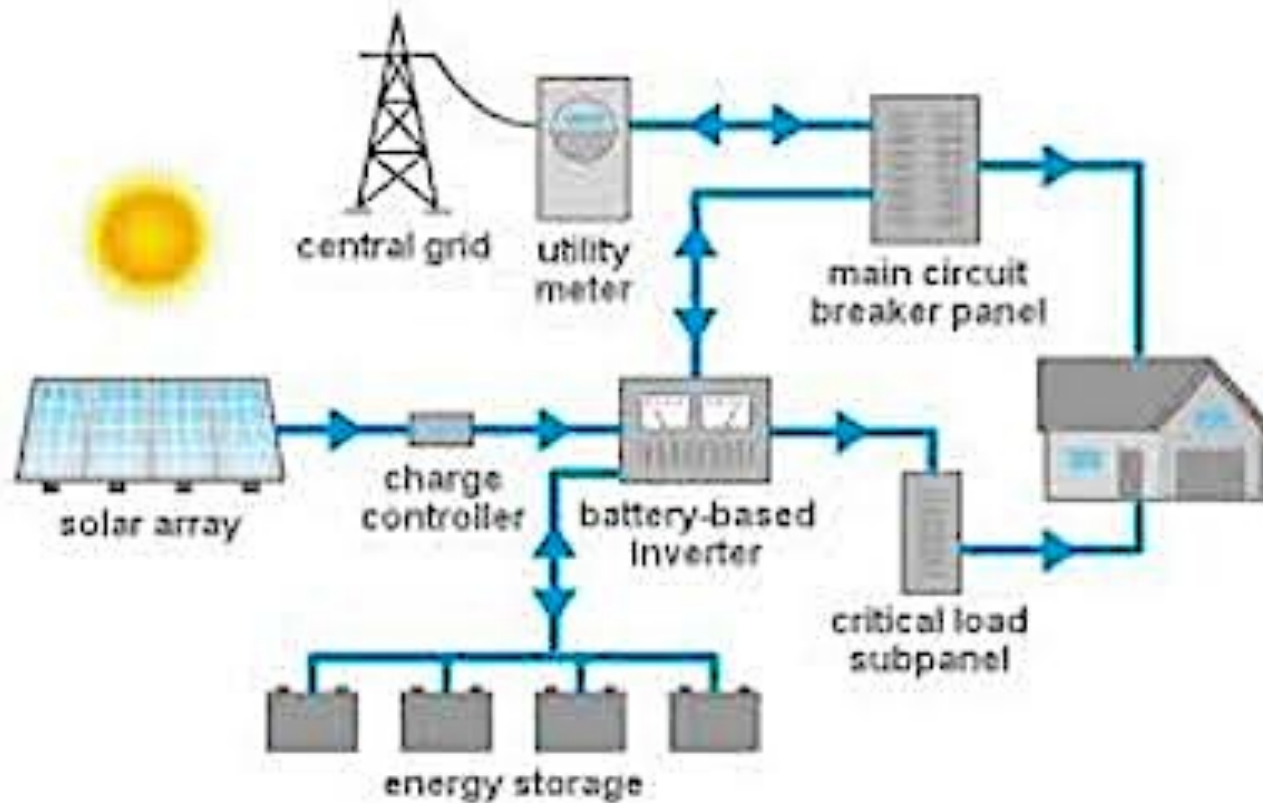


What is Community Solar?

- A voluntary program provides power and /or financial benefit to multiple community members who may or may not also own the system
- Allows participation from customers whose residence may not be suited for solar installation, or for whom financing is a barrier

www.solaramericacommunities.energy.gov

Community Energy Systems





Drake Landing Solar Community – Okotoks, Alberta, Canada

<http://inhabitat.com/a-unique-solar-powered-community-in-canada/>

Why Community Solar?

- ▶ Improved economies of scale
- ▶ Optimal project siting
- ▶ Increased public understanding of solar energy
- ▶ Generates local jobs
- ▶ Opportunity to test new models of marketing, project financing and service delivery

Where it is working already:

- Solar services co-ops such as Cooperative Community Energy, CA



. www.energy.gov/sunshot



**THE SAN FRANCISCO
ENERGY CO-OP**

Power is Everyone's Business

Where it is working already:

- Bulk purchasing efforts in Portland, OR (Solarize Portland!) and nationwide (1Block Off the Grid)
- Consolidates orders and work to gain better pricing



Solar American Cities program
www.doe.gov

Why a Cooperative?

voluntary
and open
membership

democratic
member
control

member
economic
participation

autonomy
and
independence

education,
training and
information

cooperation
among
cooperatives

concern
for
community



Voluntary and Open Membership

- Tax-payers and ratepayers finance this so everyone should have ability to participate
- Access even for people who do not own homes
- Access for people whose homes are not suitable



Democratic member control

- Members are the shareholders
- Members are the Board of Directors
- Representative operation



Mark your calendars:
74th ANNUAL meeting
Saturday, Sept. 7 @ 8 a.m.
Oak Ridge Boys Theatre
464 State Hwy 248 | Branson, MO

Note: NEW Location

Due to the change in this year's venue, admittance to the festivities will be limited to WRVEC members and members of their household.

Note: NEW Location

Featuring:
The Quebe Sisters Band

White River Valley Electric Cooperative
A Sustainable Energy Cooperative

Members Participate Economically

- Members contribute equitably to the capital for the operation of the cooperative
- Members own shares which are usually reinvested in the capital requirements of the operation
- When leaving the system, Members receive a cash value



ACTIVITY	
Beginning Balance	1,125.18
Less Retirement	26.72
Plus Allocation	35.23
Ending Balance	1,133.69

THIS IS NOT A BILL - DO NOT PAY
Explanation on reverse side

A Tecknate Energy Partner

Member Number 12572
Patronsage 662.76

Prepared
Post Cross Mail
U.S. Postage
Paid
La Crosse, WI
Permit No. 279

Autonomous

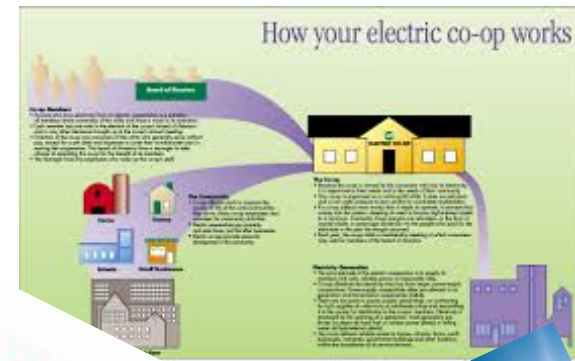
- Independent self-help organization
- Maintain independence in contracts with other entities, even governments
- Members control external funding agreements



Kodiak Energy Association 95% renewable

Education and Training

- Cooperative success depends on informed participants
- Education of customers/members ongoing
- Customers have a vested interest in efficiency and conservation



Cooperation among Cooperatives

- National Rural Electric Cooperative Association
- American Public Power Association
- Share emergency response
- Share purchasing
- Share information and training



Concern for Community

- Work for sustainable development of communities
- Connected to people as neighbors
- Mutually benefit



A Guide to Community Solar:

Utility, Private, and Non-profit Project Development



Created with support from

