





Scaling Up Community Solar in Alaska

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1 Introduction

Community Solar (CS) is a model of solar array ownership that allows multiple customers to buy, lease, or subscribe to a portion of a solar array or the energy that the array generates. Unlike traditional net metered solar power, which is installed on the customer property, a CS array can be located virtually anywhere in the utility service area.¹



Figure 1. Community Solar Basics²

CS projects have three key transactions: First, a group of participants voluntarily subscribe to or purchase a portion of a CS plant located off site. Second, the electricity generated by the CS array is fed directly into the grid. Third, participants receive agreed-upon compensation, such as an on-bill credit, for the electricity produced by their share of the CS project. CS projects can be managed entirely by the utility, jointly by the utility and a third party in a specific role (e.g. project developer, customer interface), or solely by a third party. CS goes by many names which can include shared solar, roofless solar, solar gardens, solar farms or community distributed generation. As per this definition, Alaska does not currently have any CS projects. As of June 2024, 7,869 MWac of total CS capacity, distributed across 3,406 projects in 45 states and the District of Columbia, was deployed in the United States. CS is now the fastest growing segment of the solar industry.³

2 Solar Policy and Market

2.1 Community Solar Policy

As of November 2023, 22 states, Washington D.C. and Puerto Rico have CS-enabling policies in place, while two states have rules which provide the utilities the option to create CS programs. Seven other states have introduced legislation to adopt CS enabling policies including Mississippi, Missouri, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Wisconsin⁴. These regulations establish a state mandate for CS or develop state-level programs that support or incentivize CS. These enabling policies may vary in scope; they primarily allow two key aspects i.e. 1) virtual net metering and net billing, and 2) third-party solar Power Purchase Agreements (PPA). Virtual net metering is a billing arrangement that allows multiple customers to benefit from a solar energy system, even if they are not directly connected to it. Participants subscribe to a portion of the CS project, and the generated electricity is fed into the grid. Each subscriber receives compensation for their share of the generated power typically through electricity bill credits. Some form of virtual net metering must exist for CS to work properly so that multiple customers can

¹In the typical model of net metering, participants receive bill credits for energy produced by their solar panels at the retail electricity rate. ²Solar Electric Power Association & Solar Market Pathways. (n.d.). Community Solar: Program Design Program. https://s3.amazonaws.com/ fonteva-customer-media/00Do000000Yi66EAC/Community%20Solar%20Program%20Design%20Models.pdf

 ³Xu, K., Chan, G., & Kannan, S. (2024a). Sharing the Sun Community Solar Project Data (June 2024). https://doi.org/10.7799/2438583
⁴Heeter, J., Xu, K., Grimley, M., Chan, G., & Dalecki, E. (2022). Status of State Community Solar Program Caps. https://doi.org/10.2172/1903764

offset their electricity consumption from off-site renewable energy generation⁵. To enable CS, third-party ownership must be allowed so customers can receive credit for solar energy produced from a solar array that they do not own and is not located on their property.

Currently, Alaska has regulations in place which do not allow third party solar PPA's or a mechanism for crediting of energy produced by a solar array on one customer's property to be utilized by a different utility customer. However, this could soon change with Senate Bill 152, titled "Saving Alaskans Money with Voluntary Community Energy." SB 152 was introduced in March 2023 and has successfully passed through the Alaska State Legislature and been signed by Governor Dunleavy⁶. This bill establishes a framework for Community Energy Facilities (CEFs) in utilities regulated by the Regulatory Commission of Alaska (RCA) and requires utilities to develop a community energy program for subscriber organizations requesting interconnection. In addition, the bill requires the utility to develop a community energy tariff and to determine the maximum nameplate capacity for CEFs. It also requires the RCA to adopt bill credit rates which consider the full economic value of CEFs. The bill allows third party ownership and net metering for CS projects. While SB 152 requires utilities to develop CS programs, it is not prescriptive of the structure of these projects. Future CS project designs can vary widely in features such as ownership, financing or participation structures. Moving forward, CS project design in Alaska will likely be dependent on participation of all interested parties, i.e. customers, private sector and utilities.

In 2022, 59% of CS projects across the U.S. were developed in states with enabling legislation, while 41% of CS projects were in states without enabling legislation, primarily Florida, Texas and Georgia. In states without legislative mandates, there has been significant growth where Investor Owned Utilities (IOUs) have created their own CS programs. These programs are limited by the capacity approved by regulatory commissions.

2.1.1 Low and Moderate Income Community Solar

CS initiatives are seen as pivotal in extending solar energy access, especially benefiting Low and Moderate Income (LMI) utility customers who may not be property owners or have the financial means for owning individual solar installations. However, ensuring LMI participation in CS can be challenging. To encourage LMI participation, CS program design and structures can be specified in legislation, or through regulatory commission processes⁷. As of June 2023, 17 states and the District of Columbia have enacted legislation aimed at expanding CS access for LMI households⁸. These efforts primarily focus on two types of policies: mandates ensuring a percentage of CS capacity and generation is reserved for LMI participants, typically ranging from 5% to 20% or higher, and participation incentives such as subsidies, financial incentives or grant programs designed to assist LMI customers in accessing CS.

2.2 Community Solar Finance

The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), enacted on Aug. 16, 2022, significantly enhanced benefits for CS installations by revamping the Investment Tax Credit (ITC) framework. ITC's and other tax credits are available for businesses and other entities like nonprofits and local and tribal governments that purchase solar energy systems. The investment tax credit reduces federal income tax liability by a percentage of the cost for installing a solar power system during the tax year⁹. Under the IRA, all solar projects under 1 MW now qualify for a base ITC of 30% (larger projects must adhere to specific labor requirements to earn this credit), with potential to increase further through various additional credits such as: 10% for meeting domestic content requirements, 10% for being located in an "energy community" like brownfield sites¹⁰, and an additional 10% for projects situated in low-income communities or on tribal land.

⁶Gilchrist, P. (2024). Dunleavy signs community renewables bill into law. *Newscenter Fairbanks*. https://www.webcenterfairbanks.com/2024/ 08/16/dunleavy-signs-community-renewables-bill-into-law/

⁵Virtual net metering is a billing arrangement that allows multiple customers to benefit from a solar energy system, even if they are not directly connected to it. Participants subscribe to a portion of the CS project, and the generated electricity is fed into the grid. Each subscriber receives compensation for their share of the generated power. More details on subscription models is provided in Section 3.

⁷For additional information on program structures which can encourage LMI participation in CS refer to Design and Implementation of CS Programs for Low- and Moderate-Income Customers.

⁸Xu, K., Chan, G., & Kannan, S. (2024b). Sharing the Sun: Community Solar Deployment and Subscriptions (as of June 2024), NREL/PR– 6A20–91361, 2468639, MainId:93139. https://doi.org/10.2172/2468639

⁹US Department of Energy Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy. (n.d.). Federal Solar Tax Credits for Businesses. https://www.energy.gov/eere/solar/federal-solar-tax-credits-businesses

¹⁰For purposes of the Energy Community Bonus Credit, a Brownfield site is defined in 42 U.S.C. § 9601(39)(A) as real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or

Projects targeting low-income residential buildings or qualified economic benefit projects can earn an extra 20% bonus ITC in exchange for enhanced subscriber bill savings. For instance, a hypothetical 750 kW CS project in South Fairbanks, designated as a "Justice40 Region/area" using domestic solar panels and serving low-income subscribers, could potentially qualify for a total tax credit covering 70% of its project costs¹¹.

Moreover, the IRA broadened eligibility for these incentives to include tax-exempt entities such as nonprofit organizations, public schools, faith-based institutions, local and state governments, tribal governments, and Rural Electric Cooperatives through a new "direct pay" provision (for projects under 2 MW). This provision allows these entities to receive federal solar incentives directly, while a credit transferability option (i.e., the ability to transfer the credit to a taxable entity in exchange for compensation) facilitates easier access to tax credit benefits for other organizations not eligible for direct pay.

There are longstanding and continuing efforts to give easier access to loans for Alaska energy projects. Two great examples are the Alaska-specific Power Project Loan Fund¹², with an interest rate of 3.92%, and the Alaska Energy Independence Fund, which is a subsidiary of the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC) and finances sustainable energy development¹³. Obtaining loan guarantees can be a challenge in rural Alaska, but two important programs that support loan guarantees are the Loan Programs Office (LPO) Tribal Energy Loan Guarantee Program (TELGP)¹⁴ and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)¹⁵. TELGP provides direct loans and loan guarantees, while REAP provides grants and loan guarantees for renewable energy including solar, and energy efficiency projects in rural areas with populations of 50,000 or less. In Alaska, all areas outside of the Municipality of Anchorage qualify as rural under the USDA definition. LPO provides a full guarantee on loans for up to 80% of project costs via the Federal Financing Bank. Interest rates for these are between 0.375% to 2% if eligible¹⁶. REAP provides grants up to a maximum of 50% of the total eligible project costs, up to \$1 million for renewable energy projects.

Most recently a team consisting of representatives from Alaska Energy Authority (AEA) and the AHFC, and another from Tanana Chiefs Conference, Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium and AHFC each received a \$62.5 million Environmental Protection Agency's Solar for All grant. These funds will be available for CS projects particularly for low-income and disadvantaged households in rural and urban parts of Alaska, and require no cost matching from the grantees¹⁷.

Further, besides federal renewable energy grant opportunities from the Department of Energy, there are two Alaskaspecific grant programs: The Denali Commission High Energy Cost Grants, which applies to communities where the cost of electricity is at least 275% of the national average, and the Renewable Energy Fund, administered by the AEA, which normally solicits for one round of applications per year¹⁸.

contaminant (as defined under 42 U.S.C. § 9601), and includes certain mine-scarred land (as defined in 42 U.S.C. § 9601(39)(D)(ii)(III)). A Brownfield site does not include the categories of property described in 42 U.S.C. § 9601(39)(B). Source: IRS Website

¹¹Justice 40 is an environmental justice initiative created by an executive order by the President. It requires 40% of the overall benefits of certain federal investments flow to disadvantaged communities (DACs). A community consists of people living near each other or those sharing a common condition. Disadvantage is assessed using a score derived from 36 indicators, including energy and housing burdens, park access, power outages, cancer rates and others. Higher scores indicate greater disadvantage. Census tracts with at least 30% low-income households and disadvantage scores higher than 80% of those in their state are classified as disadvantaged communities (DACs). DOE recognizes as disadvantaged those census tracts identified by the White House Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool

¹²Alaska Energy Authority. (n.d.-a). Power Project Fund. https://www.akenergyauthority.org/What-We-Do/Grants-Loans/Power-Project-Fund

¹³Gilchrist, P. (2024). Dunleavy signs community renewables bill into law. *Newscenter Fairbanks*. https://www.webcenterfairbanks.com/2024/ 08/16/dunleavy-signs-community-renewables-bill-into-law/

¹⁴Loan Programs Office. (n.d.). Tribal Energy Loan Guarantee Program. https://www.energy.gov/lpo/tribal-energy-loan-guarantee-program ¹⁵USDA Rural Development. (n.d.). Rural Energy for America Program Renewable Energy Systems & Energy Efficiency Improvement Guaranteed Loans & Grants. https://elpc.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/CommunitySolarReport_ELPC-v7.pdf

¹⁶US Department of Energy Loan Program Office. (n.d.). Credit-Based Interest Rate Spread for Title XVII. https://www.energy.gov/lpo/articles/credit-based-interest-rate-spread-title-xvii

¹⁷Alaska Engery Authority. (n.d.). Solar for All. https://www.akenergyauthority.org/What-We-Do/Federal-Funding-Opportunities/Solar-for-All

¹⁸Alaska Energy Authority. (n.d.-b). Renewable Energy Fund. https://www.akenergyauthority.org/What-We-Do/Grants-Loans/Renewable-Energy-Fund

2.3 Solar Market

The expansion of CS in Alaska hinges on solar workforce availability and solar pricing. The state's solar industry has seen substantial growth over the past decade, particularly in net metered solar systems in the Railbelt, where 2,766 systems were installed by the end of 2023, making up almost 16 MW of installed net metered capacity¹⁹.Currently, around 10 companies handle residential installations, with 4 dominating the market and employing approximately 60 workers during peak construction seasons²⁰. Although new installers are entering the market, there is perceived room for more. However, hiring skilled installers has become more challenging due to increasing demand and longer hiring times noted by industry experts. The cost of residential rooftop solar systems in Alaska decreased until 2022. Price increases since then are attributed to rising labor and material expenses²¹.

In Alaska a typical 6 kW rooftop array runs between \$19,000 and \$24,000 before tax credits, varying by home, region and installer. Some other examples of documented solar costs include a 563 kW array in Fairbanks installed in 2018 and costing \$1.90 per watt (in 2018 dollars)²² and a 1.2 MW array in Willow totaling \$1.27 per watt (in 2019 dollars)²³. An 8.5 MW array in Houston, Alaska, that was commissioned in fall 2023 sells power to Matanuska Electric Association starting at \$0.067 per kWh, with a yearly escalation of $1.5\%^{24}$. These dynamics illustrate both the potential and challenges facing Alaska's solar industry as it seeks to expand and mature.

3 Financing and Ownership models

CS projects offer a way for multiple customers to access solar energy even if they cannot install solar panels on their own property. They can be owned by a utility or a non-utility entity. Often programs can fall in the following buckets:

- 1. Utility ownership: In this model, a utility company owns and/or operates a solar project that is open to ratepayers. Customers can subscribe to the CS program and purchase a portion of the output from a shared solar array. The utility may be the host or have an agreement with another party that hosts the array on their site.
- 2. **Third-Party Ownership**: A third-party investor like a solar developer provides investment capital and owns all solar assets under an agreement with the site host and utility. This is one of the most commonly applied models. Newer variations of this model include a third-party flipped (or build-own-transfer) model where, the third-party investor owns, operaties and receives federal tax credits and project revenues for the first 5 to 10 years to gain a rate of return, at which time the ownership then transfers (i.e., "flips") to a community partner or utility. (Refer to **Figure 2**)
- 3. **Community Ownership**: The solar project and solar assets are wholly financed and owned by local individuals and entities. These can be examples of direct and indirect ownership. These entities or individuals can take the form of a non-profit, co-operative²⁵ or a Limited Liability Company (LLC)²⁶. Non-profit organizations, even when initiating projects, usually establish a blend of cooperatives or LLCs for ownership. When community groups intend to undertake a single project, LLCs often provide the most straightforward approach, whereas for organizations planning multiple projects, cooperatives, which subsequently own LLCs, are more frequently employed²⁷. (Refer to **Figure 2**)

¹⁹Pike, C. (2024). 2024 Alaska Railbelt Net Metering Update. https://doi.org/10.5281/ZENODO.11457794

²⁰It should be noted that there are other companies that focus on larger utility scale installations and their employment figures are not included in these numbers.

²¹Based on Chris Pike's discussions with solar installers for the solarize program in Alaska

²²Golden Valley Electric Association. (n.d.). GVEA's Solar Farm. *GVEA*. https://www.gvea.com/services/energy/sources-of-power/gveas-solar-farm/

²³Renewable Independent Power Products. (n.d.). Willow Solar Farm Update. https://acat.org/wp-content/uploads/Willow-Solar-Farm-Overview-ACAT-Dec-2019.pdf

²⁴Matanuska Electric Association. (2022). Tariff Advice Letter No. 535-18. https://rca.alaska.gov/RCAWeb/ViewFile.aspx?id=EA958042-D836-4012-883C-EEB7F5AEA03C

²⁵A cooperative is a business owned and controlled by its members, distributing benefits fairly among them based on their usage incorporated under state law.

²⁶Limited Liability Companies are entities owned by members, encompassing individuals, corporations, other LLCs, and foreign entities.

²⁷Sippert, E. (2022). Community-Owned Community Solar. Environmental Law an Policy Center. https://elpc.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/

The solar array owner or their designated representative is responsible for making lease payments to the land owner, maintaining the relationship with the utility and operating the solar array. The owner also hires a developer who builds the solar array.

In the utility lead model, the utility can own the CS project itself, or it can solicit and receive PPA bids from thirdparty developers, who own the CS project, and the utility offers subscriptions to the customers. The bids are evaluated based on the utility goals and a developer is selected based on criteria such as a competitive PPA bid price, project needs, project experience, interconnection experience, etc. The selected developer negotiates a PPA with the utility. A competitive PPA bid price that is accepted by a utility is dependent on the alternative, i.e. cost for the utility to build, own and operate a CS project, as compared to a third party taking on those roles.

In the third-party model, the solar developer is commonly the owner of the CS project and manages the subscriptions (or contracts that to another party). In community owned and third-party models, the utility has the least operational control, and is primarily responsible for administering the assignment of CS credits to bills.



Figure 2. Special Purpose Entity or Limited Liability Company²⁸

With the SB 152 mandate for CS projects, utilities can choose any ownership model. There is an increasing push by utilities to own CS projects and electric co-ops are well situated to do so. Utility ownership can reduce financing costs but it also shifts risk of non-performance of the systems onto their rate payers rather than pushing that risk onto the third-party developers. With limited experience in financing solar projects and solar project development, utilities may be incentivized to seek competitive PPA bids for CS projects. Third-party ownership provides several advantages, and aims to minimize costs through negotiations. However, transaction costs such as legal fees and financial due diligence can be significant, making it difficult or uneconomical to pursue this option for small project sizes. In such cases, utilities might not receive attractive PPA bids. If a utility wants to pursue the third-party model, and it does not receive attractive bids, it will need to determine its ability to absorb administrative costs by taking responsibility for subscriber acquisition and management, or they should consider bringing in federally available resources or restructure the project in a way that provides a viable path to subscriber bill savings.

To make CS projects financially attractive for solar developers, multiple utilities can coordinate efforts to jointly pursue CS programs which are larger in size, thus encouraging solar project development for a portfolio of projects, versus a small single CS project. In the same vein, utilities could co-locate CS projects with larger utility-scale

09/CommunitySolarReport_ELPC-v7.pdf

This report is available at no cost from the Alaska Center for Energy and Power (ACEP) at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks (UAF) at www.uaf.edu/acep/our-resources/index.php

²⁸SolSmart. (2017). Solar Energy Toolkit: Community Solar. https://solsmart.org/resource/community-solar

solar installations, to effectively reduce individual project costs and make CS feasible. Examples of such projects have been developed in utilities in Wisconsin, amongst others²⁹. CS mandates can create opportunities for solar developers and provide a point of market entry in markets that are vertically integrated. Existing grants and tax credit incentives (as described in section 2) can reduce costs and maximize returns for CS projects. CS projects also get access to larger federal tax incentives such as the low-income economic benefit bonus program in the ITC, thus making the model financially attractive for developers.

There are several subscription models used in CS projects³⁰ The main subscription models either rely on upfront capacity purchases (\$/kW), a monthly capacity lease payment (\$/kW) or monthly energy payment (\$/kWh). In the first model, subscribers typically pay for their subscriptions in advance and then receive monthly credits on their bills based on the electricity generated by their portion of the installation's capacity over a set period, usually 20 years. The second model involves a contract by customers to lease some capacity of CS every month for a fee (\$/kW). In the third subscription model which is commonly used, the customer purchases energy from a part of the CS installation for a fixed rate per kWh (i.e. \$/kWh). In this model, a CS customer will have two bills i.e. the utility bill and the CS bill. Subscribers receive a credit on their utility bill equal to the amount of electricity produced by their share of the solar project and thus the customer with a CS bill. A way to simplify this billing mechanism is to use consolidated billing or net crediting. The billing mechanism is simplified in utility owned CS models.

Without Community Solar	With Community Solar
Electric Utility Bill Basic Service Charge \$20 Supply \$56 Delivery \$40 Taxes \$10 Total \$126	Electric Utility BillBasic Service Charge \$20Supply\$56Solar Credits-\$50Delivery\$40Taxes\$10Total\$76
Customer owes = \$126	Customer owes = \$76 + \$40 = \$116 per month Customer saves with CS = \$126 - \$116 = \$10 per month

Figure 3. Community Solar Billing - Based on example by Citizens Utility Board (Illinois) 32

For example in **Figure 3** — a household has a \$126 actual electric utility bill (without CS). With CS the household will get a CS bill for \$40 (refer to Figure 3). Their portion of the CS plant produces \$50 worth of electricity (at retail rate), but is charged at a discount of 20% (i.e. 50 - (0.2*50) = 40). The distribution cost components are typically netted out of the retail rate when deriving the credit reflected on the customer's bill. This discount rate may be fixed by the CS provider, and thus the discount amount would increase if the retail rate of electricity increases. The customer will also receive a utility bill for the remaining electricity charges and costs, i.e. \$76, with a CS credit applied for \$50. In total the customer will pay \$40 on the CS bill, and \$76 on the utility bill, i.e. a total of \$116

²⁹For more examples, please refer to Lessons Learned: Lessons Learned: CS for Municipal Utilities, NREL (National Renewable Energy Laboratory ³⁰For more information on subscription models please refer to CS Program Design and Subscription Models and CS Pricing Models Overview | EnergySage

³¹US Department of Energy Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, NREL, & Berkley Lab. (2023). Community Solar: Overview, Ownership Models, and the Benefits of Locally-Owned Community Solar Projects. https://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy23osti/86210.pdf

³²Hannah. (2020). Clearway: CUB's evaluation of a new community solar offer. *Citizens Utility Board*. https://www.citizensutilityboard.org/ blog/2020/10/27/clearway-cubs-evaluation-of-a-new-community-solar-offer/

instead of \$126.

4 Case Study

Over the past decade, numerous Alaska entities have expressed interest or attempted to get regulatory permission to construct a CS project. These projects have varied in development maturity and size, and include proposals in Anchorage and Fairbanks as well as other locations. Under current regulations, it is possible that the RCA could permit some form of CS development, but success so far has been limited.

In recent years, Chugach Electric Association (CEA) has attempted to introduce CS projects, aiming to offer its residential and commercial members an opportunity to participate in renewable energy initiatives. Initially proposed in March 2018, the CEA tariff filing to the RCA for a CS project was rejected. However, a renewed effort in December 2023 saw success as the RCA approved a 500 kW solar facility on CEA owned land^{33,34}. This utility-led CS model allows customers to subscribe to up to 20 solar panels, approximately 7.8 kW, for a year-long period³⁵. Participants pay an annual subscription fee and receive energy credits based on the total production of their subscribed panels, similar to current net metering rules. CEA structured the program costs to be part of its base rate retail revenue requirement, with minimal impact anticipated on non-subscribing customer bills. While the RCA approved the project, the Alaska Public Interest Research Group (AKPIRG) opposed the proposal due to the project's high costs, and inability of the project to truly increase renewable energy construction in Alaska or to benefit low-income customers³⁶.

In addition to CEA, Golden Valley Electric Association (GVEA) has expressed concrete interest in pursuing CS projects. On Oct. 25, 2022, GVEA's Member Advisory Committee, via their CS Task Force, recommended to the Board of Directors to expeditiously move forward with a CS project³⁷.

5 Conclusions

Alaska shows significant potential for solar energy growth. This is a particularly conducive time for Alaskans to launch community solar projects because of new IRA tax incentives, Solar for All³⁸ funding and recent state legislation which encourages CS projects. SB 152, recently passed by the Alaska legislature, is a major step to allow growth of CS in the state. It directs utilities to set up community energy programs that facilitate interconnecting CS projects, while allowing flexibility in project design and execution. Several challenges must be overcome to achieve the true potential of community solar projects. Some of these challenges include: 1) Attracting private sector financing and companies to invest in CS in Alaska, given the scale of projects around the state, and hence associated costs; 2) Meeting workforce needs with increasing solar and CS projects around the state; and 3) Lack of experience of Alaska utilities with financing sustainable energy projects and working with independent power producers. To overcome the challenges faced by the CS market in Alaska, parties can learn from innovative models and approaches applied across the country.

³³DeMarban, A. (2024). Chugach files plan with regulators to create community solar farm that members can buy power from. *Anchorage Daily News*. https://www.adn.com/business-economy/energy/2024/01/06/chugach-files-plan-with-regulators-to-create-community-solar-farm-that-members-can-buy-power-from/

³⁴Regulatory Commission of Alaska. (n.d.). Letter from Regulatory Commission of Alaska to Chugach Electric Association. https://rca.alaska.gov/RCAWeb/ViewFile.aspx?id=46f6da2f-0829-4676-85c0-b3ef3ef00782

³⁵A member's onsite net metered generation capacity combined with the member's subscribed share of the CS installed capacity can not exceed 25 kW in line with current net metering rules.

³⁶Wight, P. (n.d.). Public Comments for TA425-121. https://rca.alaska.gov/RCAWeb/ViewFile.aspx?id=140869B2-571E-422C-B8D8-13E9766E7D1A

³⁷DeMarban, A. (2022). Alaska power companies look at building community solar farms that households can invest in. *Anchorage Daily News*. https://www.adn.com/business-economy/energy/2022/11/27/alaska-power-companies-look-at-building-community-solar-farms-that-households-can-invest-in/

³⁸United States Environmental Protection Agency. (n.d.). Solar for All. https://www.epa.gov/greenhouse-gas-reduction-fund/solar-all

Further Resources

- 1. A Guide to Community Solar: Utility, Private, and Non-profit Project Development (Book), Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy, NREL
- 2. Community Solar Best Practices Guide: Developing Projects with Meaningful Benefits | Department of Energy
- 3. Policy Guidebook: Expanding Solar Access through Informed Policy Decisions
- 4. Design and Implementation of Community Solar Programs for Low- and Moderate-Income Customers
- 5. Solar Financing & Ownership Options, University of Massachusetts, Amherst
- 6. What is Community Solar? And how can you sign up? | Canary Media
- 7. Minnesota's Community Solar Program Institute for Local Self-Reliance
- 8. Community Solar Program Design Models
- 9. Sharing the Sun: Community Solar Deployment and Subscriptions (as of June 2023)