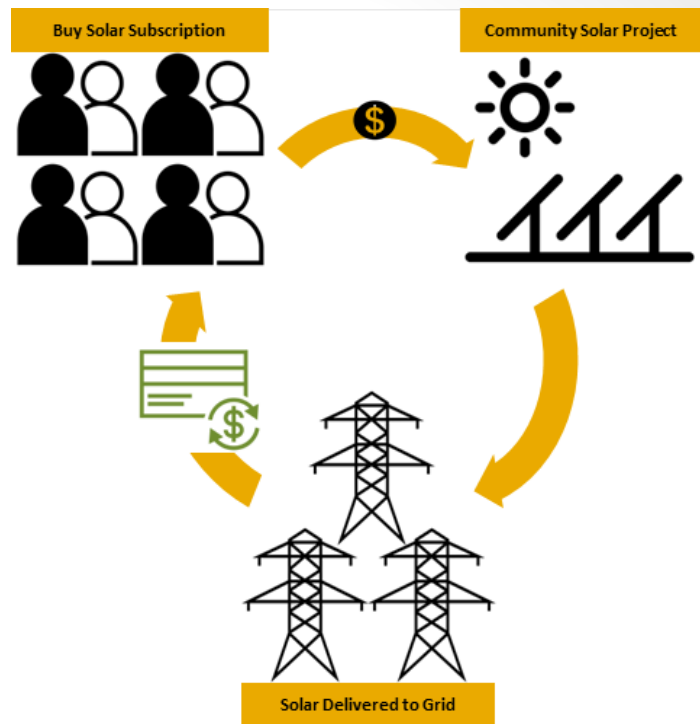


What is Community Solar?

A community solar system is a solar array or facility whose output is virtually divided among multiple participants, known as “subscribers”. Subscribers are often, though not necessarily, geographically remotely located from the community solar project: thus, community solar projects can be located in the same neighborhood as the subscribers or on the other side of the State, so long as they are all customers of the same utility. Subscribers can be residential, commercial, or industrial customers. Participation in a community solar project may be either:

- 1. Ownership:** Buying a share or portion of the community solar project or a number of panels within the community solar project; or
- 2. Subscription:** Paying for a portion or a share of the electricity output produced by the community solar project.

For either variation, there is a contract between the subscriber and the developer or owner/operator. The contract provides all the details of the arrangements and rights of each party. Subscribers receive a credit on their utility bill for their share of the solar energy. This is managed by the electric utilities as part of their current system that allows all New Jersey electric customers to buy their electricity (the commodity) separate from the delivery system – the distribution grid.



Benefits

- Enable access to solar energy for electric utility customers who have previously been unable to go solar, due to a variety of factors including cost, unsuitable roof, lack of roof control, etc.
- Enable low- and moderate-income households and environmental justice communities to access to clean energy and save on their electricity bills.
- Pursue local clean energy development that is tied to the communities without materially compromising the preservation of open space or protected lands in New Jersey.

Program Characteristics

Pilot Program:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3-year Pilot Program. • Pilot Program start: January 2019. • Projects selected via an application and competitive scoring. • Applications open: April 9, 2019 at 9:00 A.M. Applications close: September 9, 2019 at 5:00 P.M. • Size limit for individual community solar pilot projects: 5MW.
Size:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual size limit: 75MW for year 1. At least 75MW for years 2 and 3. • Minimum 10 subscribers, maximum 250 subscribers per 1MW installed capacity.
Siting:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community solar projects will not be located on preserved farmland. • Preference given to projects located on brownfields, landfills, areas of historic fill, and impervious surfaces.
Credit value:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bill credit set at retail rate minus non-bypassable charges.
LMI access:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 40% of the Pilot Program is reserved for Low- and Moderate-Income projects. • Option for further 10% of program capacity dedicated to low-income projects in years 2 and 3.

For more information:

<http://njcleanenergy.com/renewable-energy/programs/community-solar>

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