
Community Solar

Product Development Overview

December 2019



PSE's renewable products portfolio goals



Provide **options for customers** around clean energy



Support PSE's **carbon reduction and clean electricity strategy** by adding voluntary and portfolio renewable resources



Improve **customer experience** by meeting customer needs now and in the future



Enable **low-income customers to share in the benefits** of renewables



Partner with **communities** in PSE's territory

Community Solar overview



Challenge

PSE customers want to support solar development, but many face barriers to rooftop solar – including lack of ownership, up-front cost, and rooftop suitability. There is gap in offerings for these customers to support new, local projects and allow them to receive in the benefits.

Solution

Allow customers to share in the costs and benefits of new solar capacity in PSE's territory. Customers pay a monthly subscription to cover the costs of a local solar array. They see financial benefits in the form of avoided energy credits (and state incentives where applicable).



Target customers

- 1) Customer who face barriers to rooftop solar, yet want to support solar development in WA
- 2) Low-income customers who have been unable to share in the benefits of the clean energy transition



Key benefits

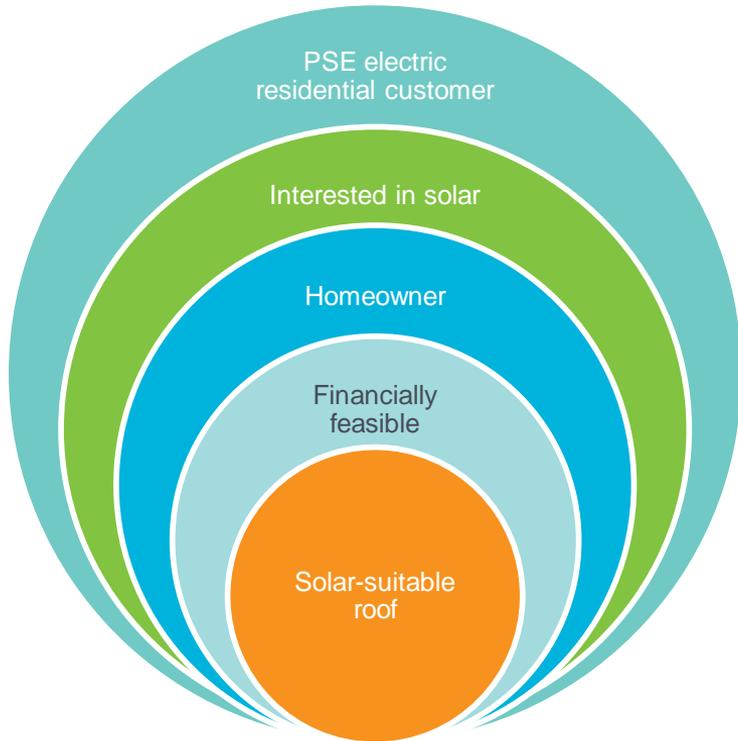
Customer choice - Provide clean products options for customers, meet demand for a program that support new, local solar

Community benefit – Provide a financial and administrative pathway for communities to see solar developed at their sites

Equity – Allow low-income customers to share in solar benefits

Carbon reduction – Provide clean energy to PSE customers

Low-income program



- Community Solar expands access to solar beyond customers who are able to invest in rooftop solar by removing barriers:
 - up-front cost
 - roof suitability
 - home ownership
- However, the monthly premium could pose an additional barrier for low-income customers.
- To reduce this barrier, a portion of the product will be reserved for low-income customers, who will observe bill savings.

Resource acquisition strategy

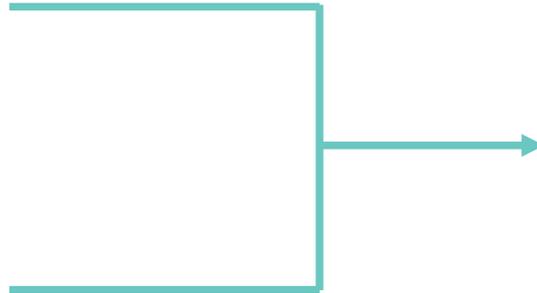
A central challenge for PSE in bringing a Community Solar program to market has been siting solar projects due to a number of resource issues. PSE has opted to take a proactive approach to bringing distributed resources online.



Community-located sites –
Release RFI for municipal or tribal rooftops/land, bundle and release RFP for development



Larger distributed sites –
Leverage project(s) in development in Kittitas County (5MW)



**Community Solar
projects online**

Process for siting community-located projects

PSE has taken a proactive approach to finding optimal solar sites in communities across its service territory. This strategy provides PSE's communities with a pathway to develop solar resources on their properties.



Release an RFI to public entities in PSE's service territory to surface solar sites



Select a package of solar sites for development, work closely with communities to build a path to development



Evaluate the sites received for system cost / benefit, community value, solar viability, and more



When the community-sited projects come online, use the energy to feed the Community Solar product