



Connecticut Green Bank - Solar Financing for Affordable Multifamily Properties

April 10th, 2019



Presenters



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CT Green Bank

- 1st Green Bank in US

Mission and Goals



Support the Governor's and Legislature's energy strategy to achieve cheaper, cleaner, and more reliable sources of energy while creating jobs and supporting local economic development

- Attract and deploy private capital to finance the clean energy goals for Connecticut
- Leverage limited public funds with multiples of private investment, returning and reinvesting public funds for further clean energy deployment
- Develop and implement strategies that bring down the cost of clean energy in order to make it more accessible and affordable to consumers
- **Support affordable and healthy buildings in low-to-moderate income communities by reducing their energy burden and addressing health and safety issues**

Definitions



“Multifamily”

- 5+ units
- Income eligible and market rate
- Private and non-profit owners
- Public housing authorities
- Senior / assisted living communities
- Condominiums
- Co-operatives

“Affordable”

- >60% of property’s units must offer rents affordable to tenants earning <80% of area media income (AMI)
- Affordable rents assume <30% of household income is spent on housing costs
- Affordable rent figures include all utility costs
- For condos and co-ops, total housing costs are considered, rather than rents
 - Mortgage
 - Insurance
 - Taxes
 - Utilities
 - Association Fees



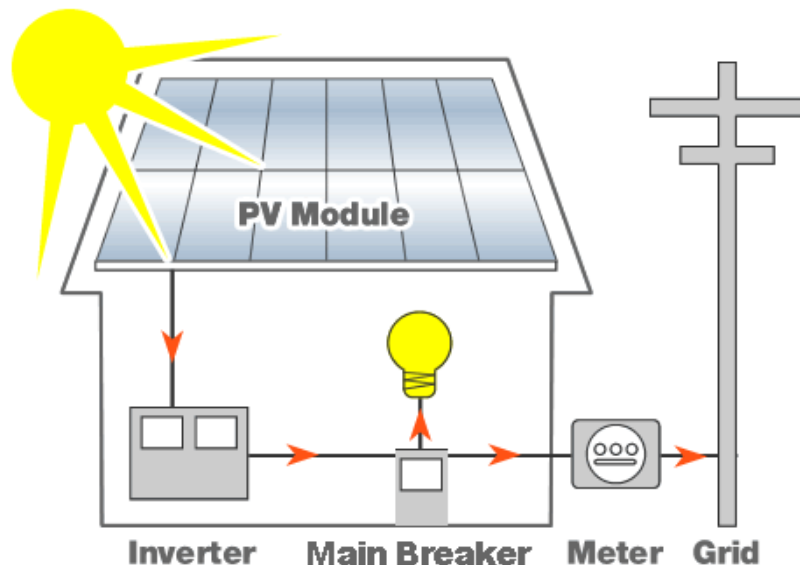
Solar 101



Solar PV systems use net metering

For multifamily properties, Solar PV systems are located **behind the meter**, meaning electricity is intended for onsite use, displacing grid consumption.

Net metering is a billing mechanism allowing electricity in excess of customer usage to be banked at the full retail rate and credited on an annual basis

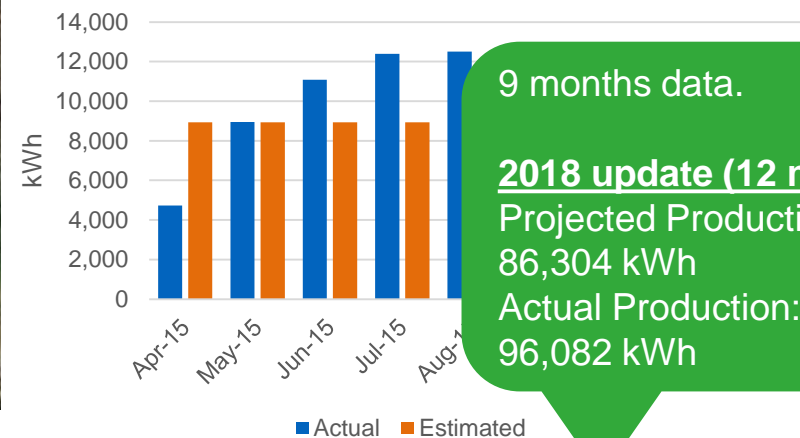


- At year end, excess electricity generation for the year is reimbursed at wholesale rate
- Wholesale rate generally much lower than retail electricity tariff

Net metering example – Ashford Senior Housing Center



Estimated vs. Actual Solar Power Generation
2015

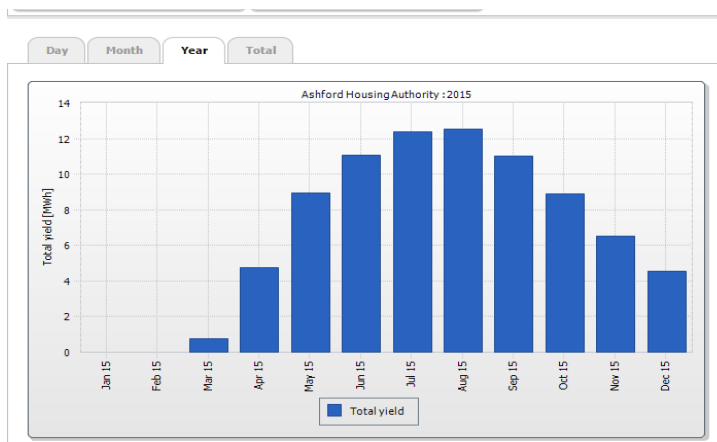


Estimated generation: 80,462 kWh

Actual generation: 80,724 kWh

Difference: 262 kWh

Note: Solar PV system is sized based on annual electricity usage



Two main types of incentives available in Connecticut

Of no financial benefit unless ITC owner has a federal tax liability

1. Federal Income Tax Credit (ITC) for PV owners

- a) 30% of qualified systems costs*
- b) Non-transferable and subject to 5-year recapture if sold or decommissioned
- c) Accelerated depreciation over 5-year period (MACRS)

2. State-level Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs)

Solar PV generation qualifies for Class I RECs for under Connecticut's Renewable Portfolio Standard

- a) ZREC / LREC contracts between utilities and renewable energy project owners provide 15-year fixed compensation for each MWh of electricity generated

Type	System size	Allocation
Small ZREC	≤ 100 kW	Lottery
Medium ZREC	> 100 kW & < 250 kW	Reverse auction
Large ZREC	≥ 250 kW & ≤ 1000 kW	Reverse auction
LREC	Up to 2000 kW	Reverse auction



CT Green Bank Solar Financing Programs



Solar Financing Programs



Solar PPA

Type
Rate
Term
Criteria

Solar projects
Fixed or escalating price
20 years
10%+ Year 1 Variable
Electric Rate Savings



LIME

Type
Rate
Term
Criteria

Affordable MFH
6.00-7.00%
5-20 years
1.1x+ project Energy
Savings Coverage Ratio*



C-PACE

Type
Rate
Term
Criteria

Market-rate projects
5.00-6.50%
5-25 years
1.0x+ Energy Savings
Coverage Ratio



* For solar projects; efficiency projects must be 1.3x+



Solar PPA



What is a Power Purchase Agreement (“PPA”)?



**Contract between
Seller (generates
electricity) and
Buyer (purchases
electricity)**

**Green Bank is
Seller: Oversees
development,
construction, &
asset management**

**[] is Buyer:
Purchases
electricity from
solar installed on
property**

What are the Benefits of a PPA?

**No upfront
costs (for PV
system)**

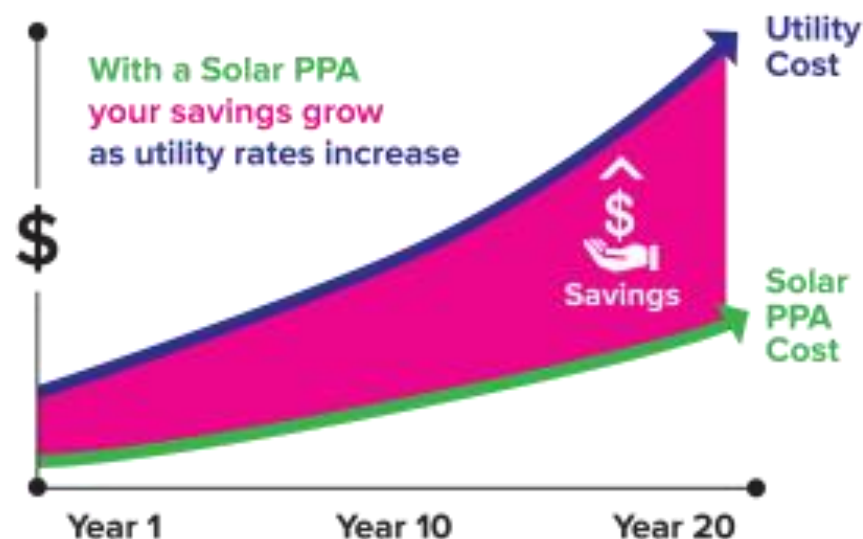
**Lock in
discounted
electricity rate**

**Positive cash
flow**

**CGB owns
operations &
maintenance
costs**

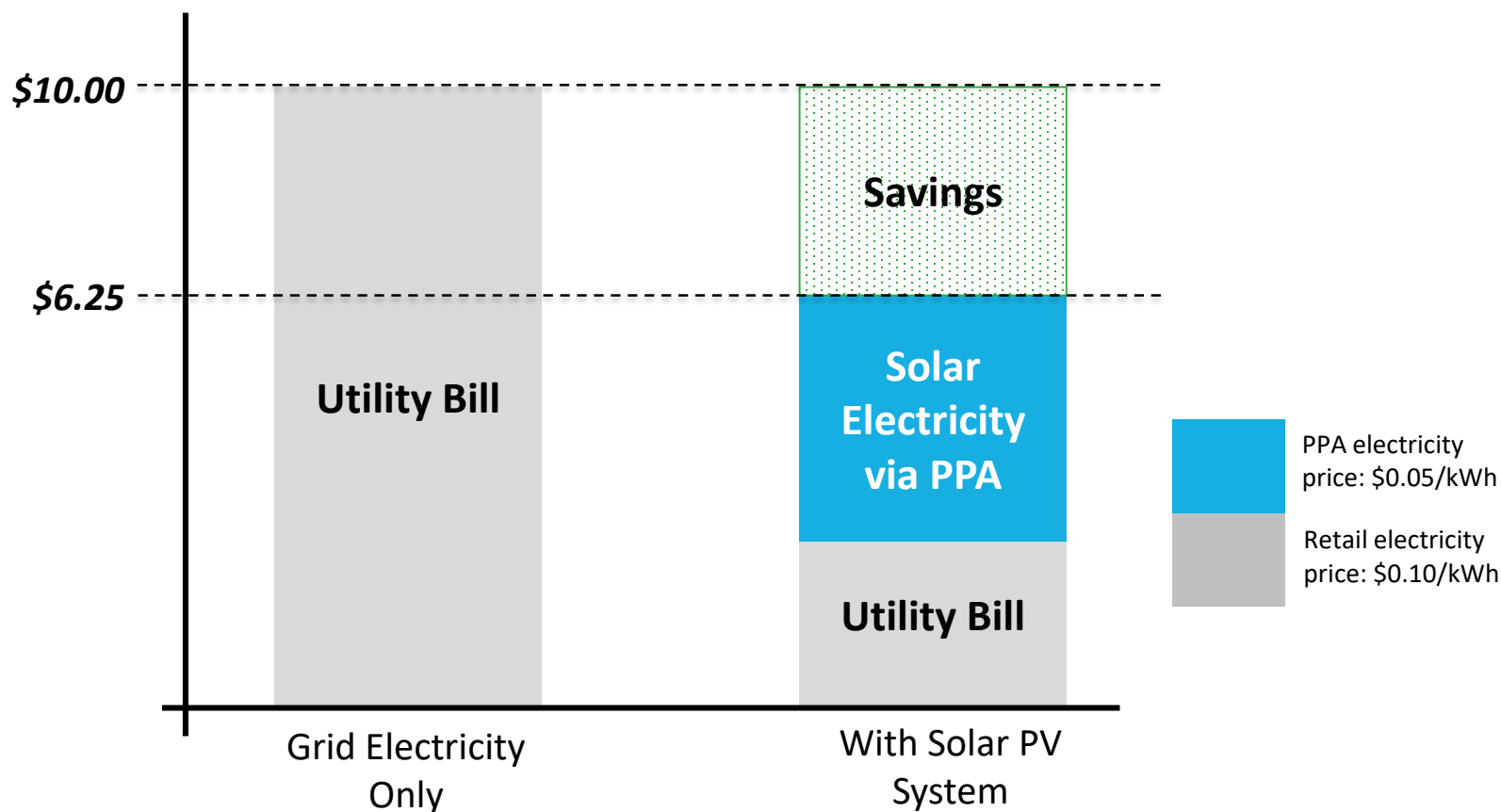
**Preserve
capital & credit
lines**

**Monetizes
value of federal
ITC**



What are the Benefits of a PPA?

The value of solar PV comes from electricity cost savings!





Loans – LIME & C-PACE



LIME Loan

Willington Woods



Description:	40.3 kW Solar PV system
Project Cost:	\$170,000
Loan Amount:	\$84,415
Estimated 2018 ROI	10.9%
Financing Terms:	10 years, 6.50%
Payback Period:	9.17 years

C-PACE Solar (not MFH, for reference only)



CREST MECHANICAL

LOCATION:

41 Walnut Street
Hartford, CT

BUILDING SIZE:

34,500 square feet

YEAR BUILT: 1925

TOTAL PROJECT COST:

\$145,000

C-PACE FINANCING: \$145,000

ENERGY UPGRADE: 55 kW roof
mounted solar photovoltaic system

TERM: 20 years

ANNUAL C-PACE ASSESSMENT:
\$11,904

ANNUAL ENERGY COST SAVINGS:*
\$20,897

LIFETIME ENERGY COST SAVINGS:
\$417,938

ANNUAL ENERGY SAVINGS:
203 MMBtu

*over the financing term



“The C-PACE program allowed me to access low-cost and long-term financing to further support our desire to deploy solar energy and stabilize our energy costs over the longterm.”

– PAUL BREGGIO

Product Comparison for Affordable MFH Properties



Solar PPA

- Off-balance sheet
- Ancillary project-related work may be financed (if identified prior to PPA execution)
- Monetizes and passes along financial benefit of ITC to property owner

LIME Loan

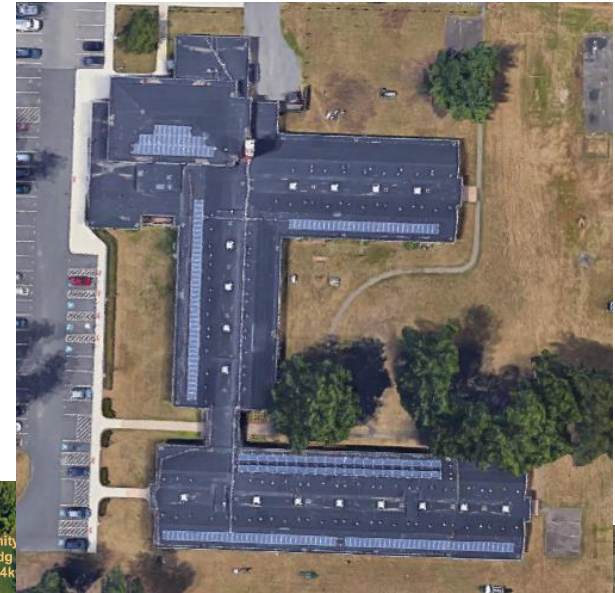
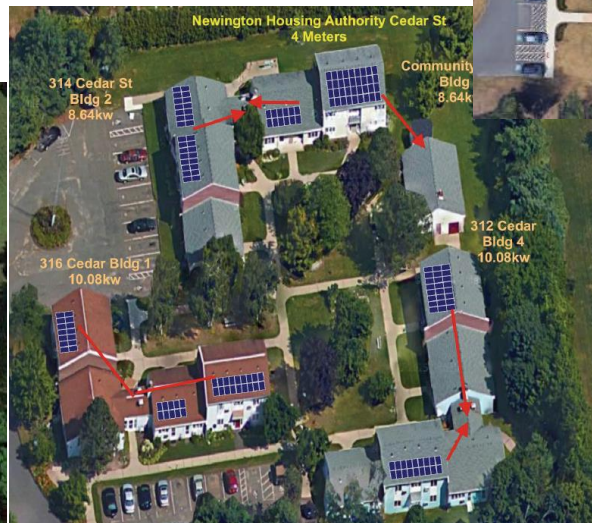
- Unsecured (UCC-1 filing)
- Ancillary project-related work may be financed (as identified prior to loan document execution, subject to ESCR reqs)
- ITC monetized by owner, independent of loan

C-PACE

- Secured to property (1st position lien)
- Ancillary project-related work may be financed (as identified prior to loan document execution, subject to ESCR reqs)
- ITC monetized by owner, independent of loan

Green Bank MFH Solar Financing to-date

- 30 solar projects
 - 19 PPAs
 - 11 LIME
- Average system size – 97 kW
- Average No. units - 70



Additional Information



- Solar PPA – 30 kW minimum system size
- Master Metered for Electricity or large common areas are best opportunities
- All MFH solar PPA projects will be required to have snow guards installed above property entryways as part of standard terms
- CT Green Bank developing snow guard solution for existing solar PPA lessees
- PPA projects have long development timelines – frequently 8 months or more. Fastest moving projects have an ***internal champion***
- 23 currently eligible installers – contact CT Green Bank for a list
- To get started, recommend seeking 2-3 project vendor quotes (like any home improvement)

Questions?



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