

Shared Solar: Creating Access and Advancing the Market

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Solar Powering Illinois

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IREC

- 501(c)(3) non-profit working to enable greater use of clean energy by:
 - Introducing regulatory policy innovations that empower consumers and support the transition to a clean energy future
 - Removing technical constraints to DER integration
 - Developing and coordinating national strategies and policy guidance centered on best practices and solid research
- Represented by Keyes, Fox & Wiedman, LLP

Why Shared Solar – residential consumer perspective?

I want to benefit from renewable energy generation,
but I...

- Rent my apartment
- Live in a multitenant building (e.g., a condo)
- Have insufficient or problematic roof space (e.g., too shady)
- Am just not interested in on-site generation (maintenance responsibility, aesthetic issues, etc.)

Only 25% of residential roofs permit on-site generation

Why Shared Solar – commercial customer perspective?

Most businesses are unable to invest in on-site solar projects

- Lease their place of business for tax purposes
- Do not own/lease their roof space
- Have insufficient or shaded roof space



Why Shared Solar – utility perspective?

According to SEPA:

- Contributes to the utility's reputation as THE leading provider of energy
- Solar adds to customer satisfaction and engagement
- Solar is a new source of local economic development
- Opportunity to locate solar where it may have optimal strategic benefit to the operation of the distribution system

Shared Solar: An Idea Whose Time Has Come

“The Power of Sharing in the Internet Economy” - Forbes

“The Sky’s the Limit for the Sharing Economy” - Fast Company

“The New Sharing Economy Values Access Over Ownership”

- CS Monitor



Utility associations are telling their members...

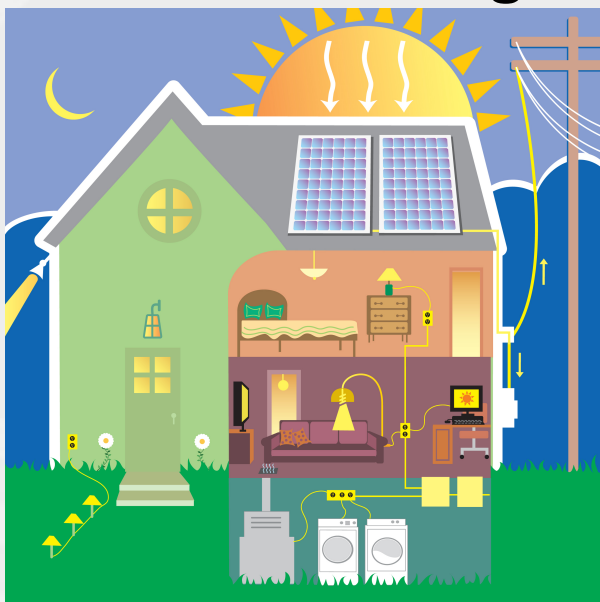
“Community Solar is an Attractive Fit for a Growing Number of Utilities”

Slide borrowed from Hannah Masterjohn, VoteSolar



Serving More Energy Consumers

Net Metering



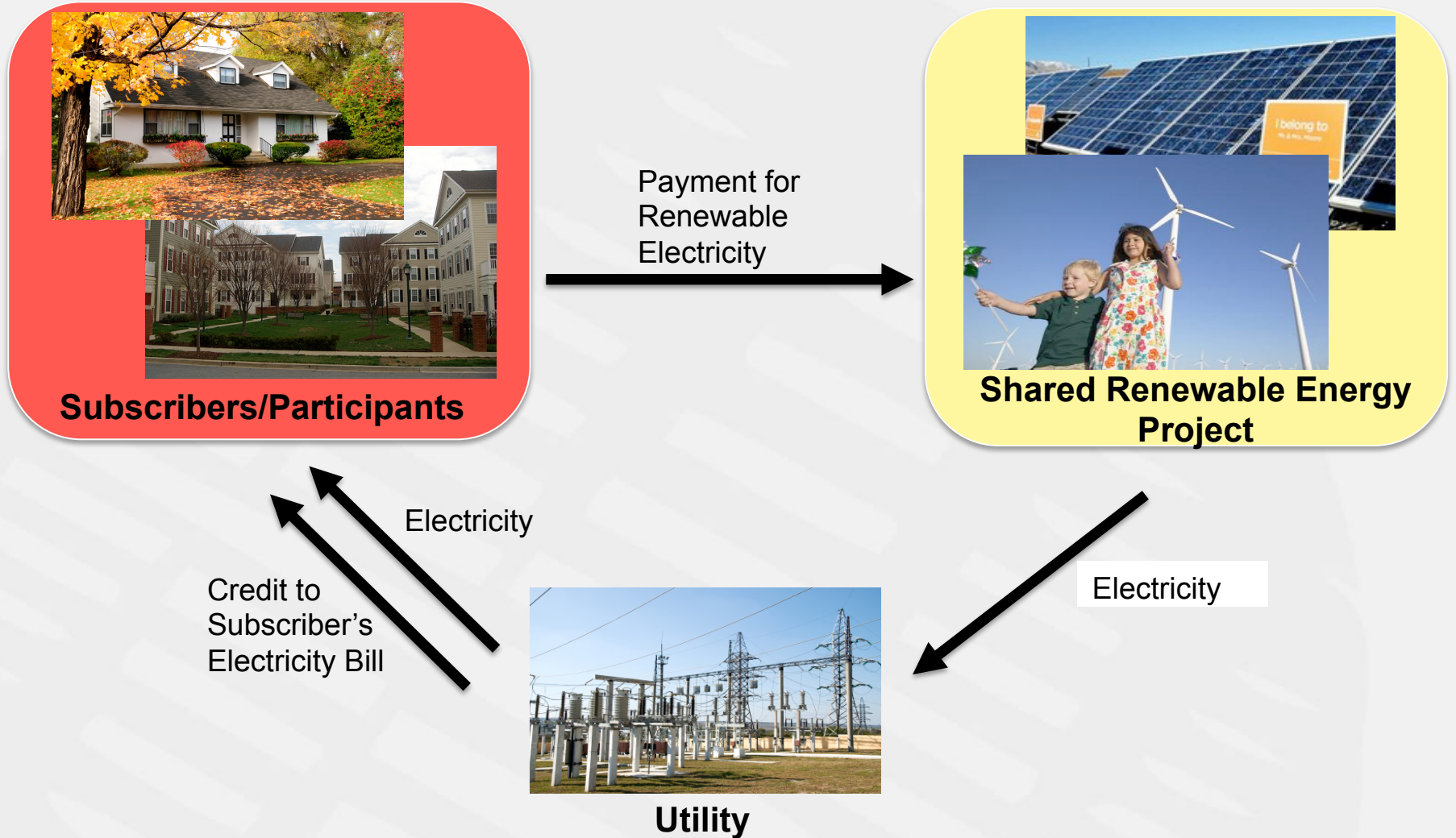
Shared Solar



Graphics from VoteSolar

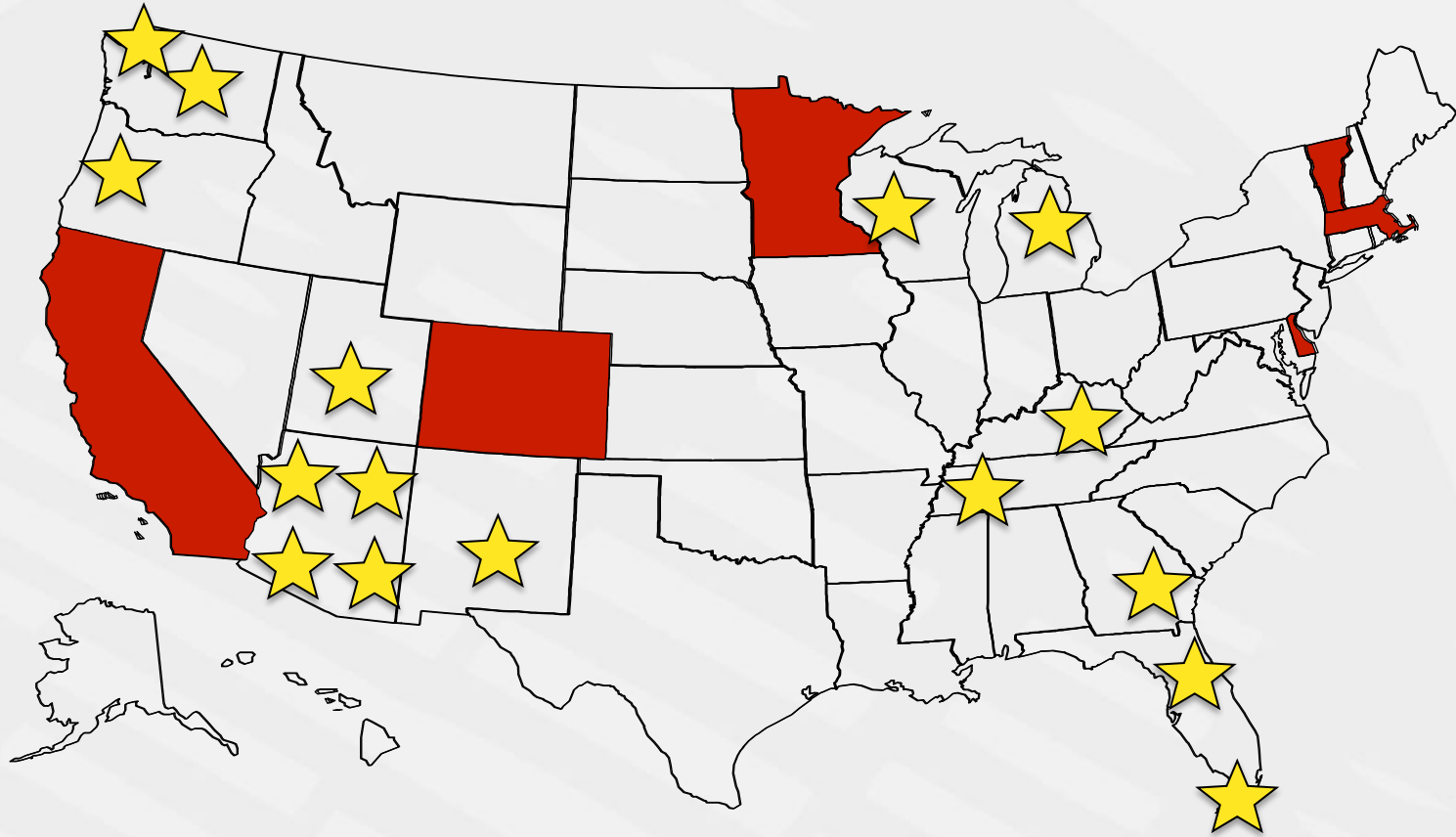
If just 5% of U.S. households invested in a 5-kW interest in a shared solar system...

... we'd see over 28 GW of additional solar capacity!



The 'No Roof' Solution = Everyone Can Participate
We can stop leaving customers out of the renewable energy market

Shared Solar Growth in the U.S.



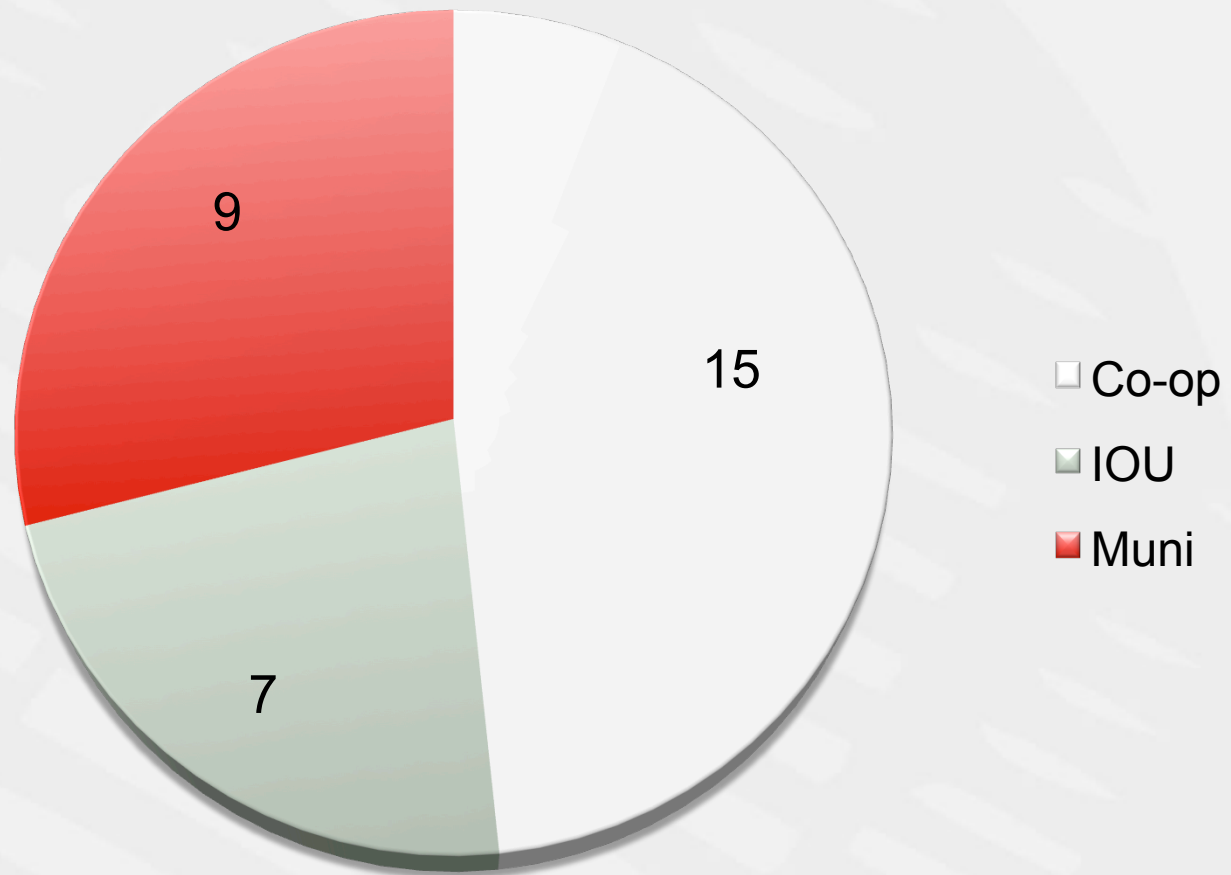
Statewide Programs



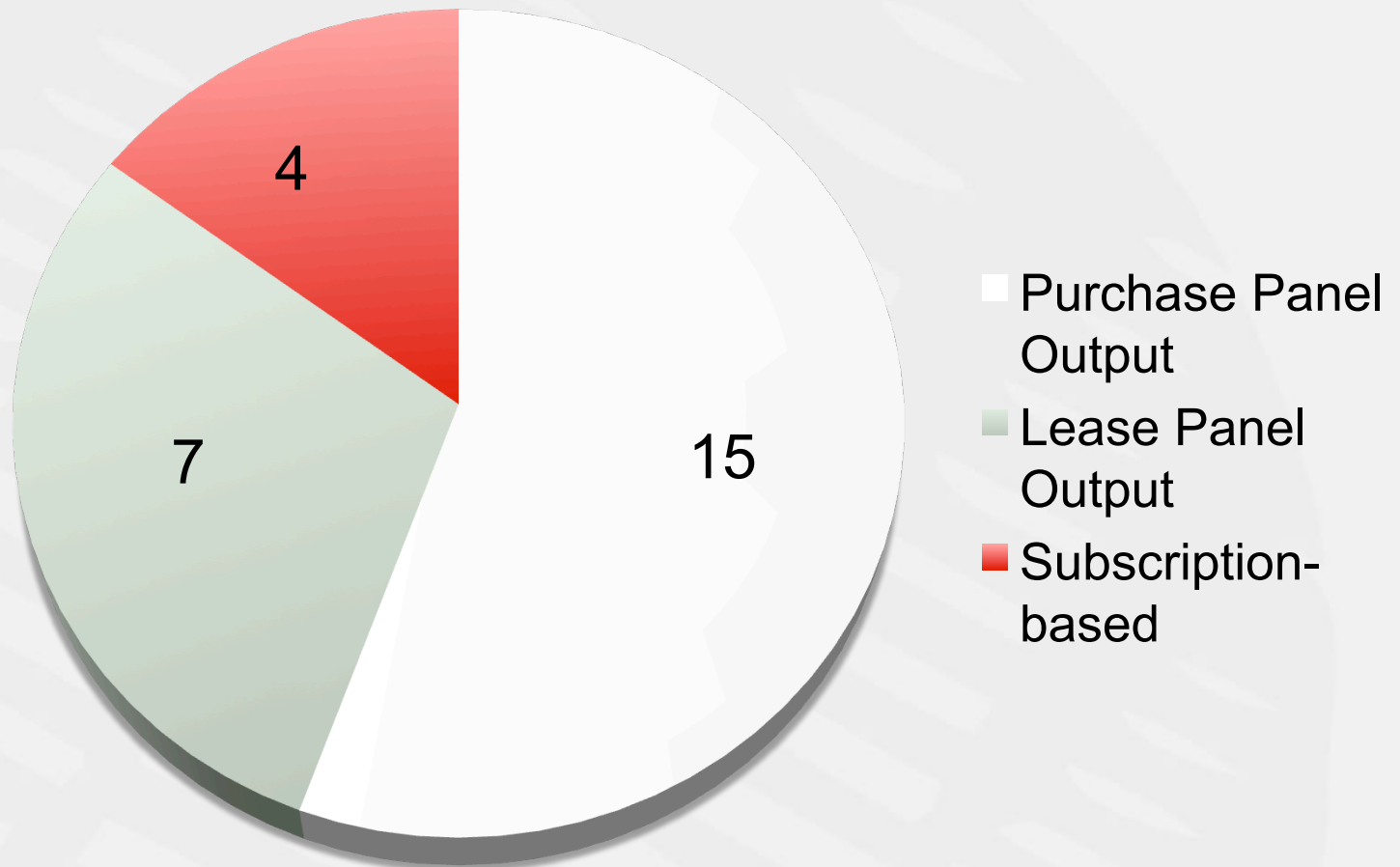
Voluntary Programs

2008

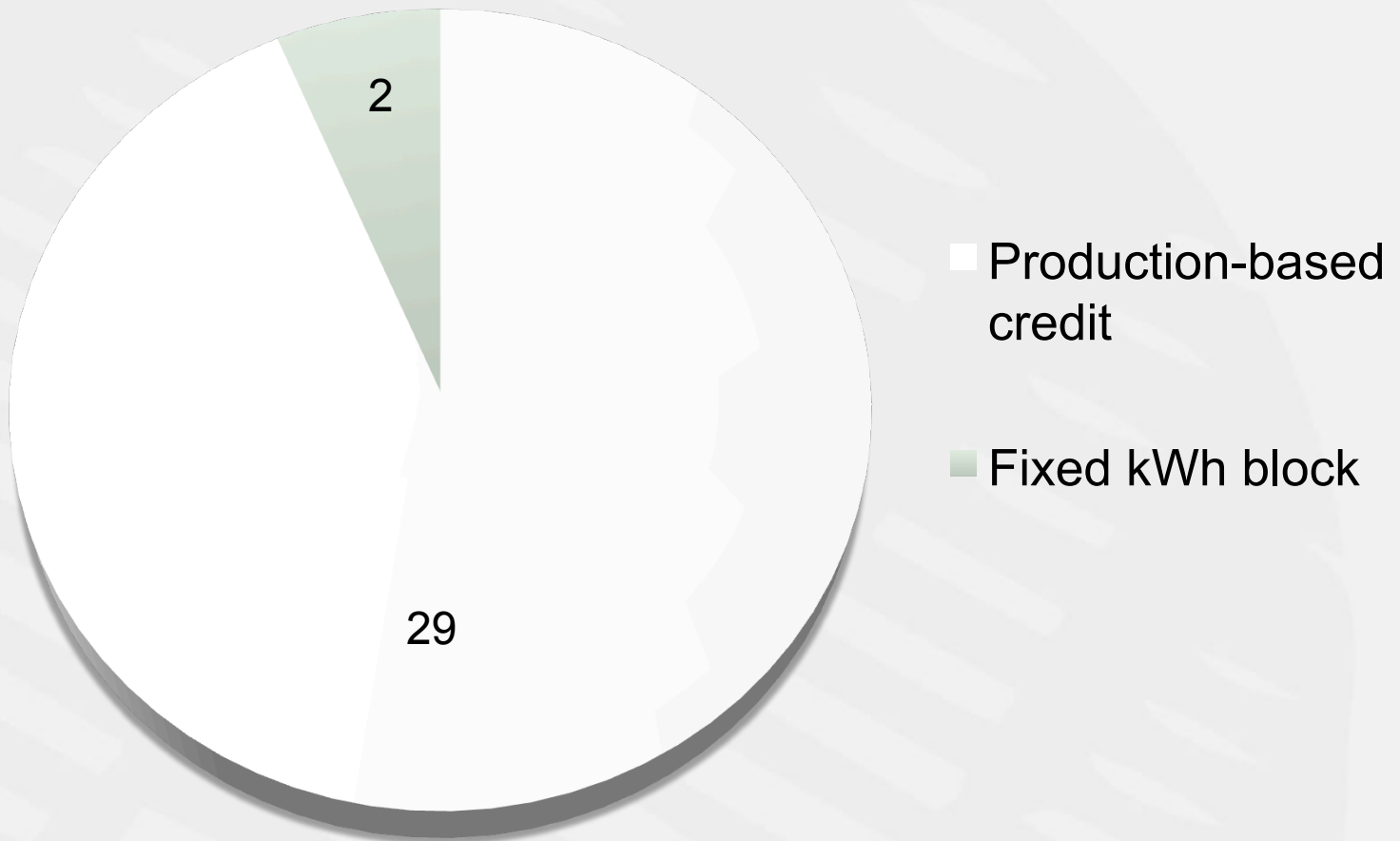
Type of Energy Service Provider



Participation Mechanism



Method for Allocating Benefits



Average Program Size



Coop – 213 kW



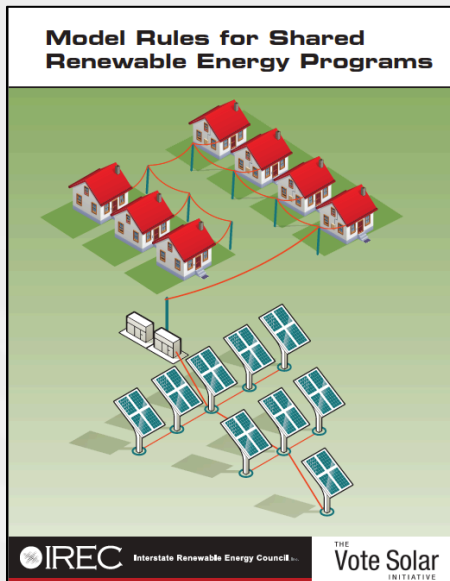
Muni – 479 kW*

* Excluding SRP 20-MW program

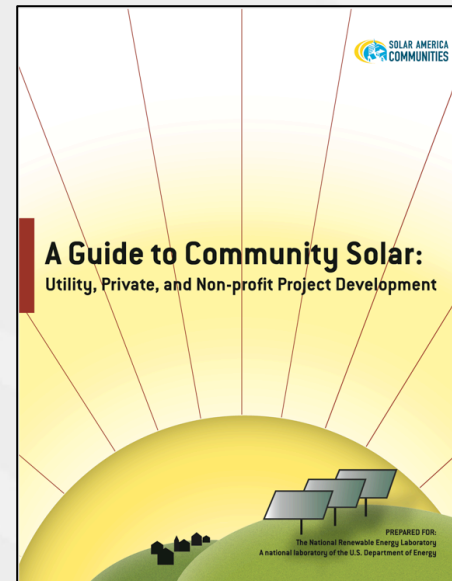


IOU – 5165 kW

Shared Renewables Resources



www.irecusa.org

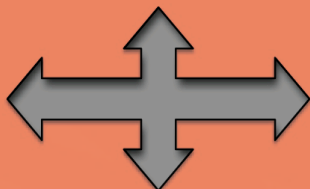


www.nrel.gov/docs/fy11osti/49930.pdf

- Shared Renewables HQ: www.sharedrenewables.org
- IREC Shared Renewables Program Catalog:
www.irecusa.org/regulatory-reform/shared-renewables

Guiding Principles for Shared Solar

1



Expand renewable energy access to a broader group of energy consumers

2



Produce tangible economic benefits on customers' utility bills

3



Remain flexible enough to account for energy consumers' preferences

4



Be additive to and supportive of existing renewable energy programs, and not undermine them

Critical Program Elements

1. Allocating the benefits of participation
2. Valuation of the energy produced
3. Program administration
4. Shared solar facility ownership
5. Shared solar facility size and location

There are several ways to design a program...
... choose what works for your community

Shared Renewables in Illinois?

Yes, the market needs some fixes, but...

- Municipal/county aggregation offers a pathway
- IL RPS SRECs can support systems under DG carve out

Questions?

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