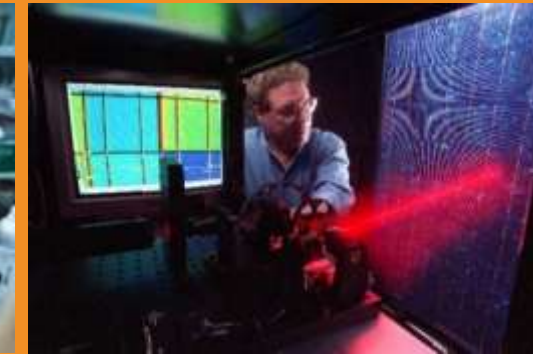


U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

Office of ENERGY EFFICIENCY
& RENEWABLE ENERGY

SOLAR ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES OFFICE



Overview: Solar Energy Technologies Office

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Solar Energy Technologies Office Overview

WHAT WE DO

The Solar Energy Technologies Office (SETO) funds early-stage research and development in three technology areas: photovoltaics (PV), concentrating solar power (CSP), and systems integration with the goal of improving the **affordability**, **reliability**, and **performance** of solar technologies on the grid.

HOW WE DO IT

Advance solar technology to drive U.S leadership in innovation and reductions in solar electricity costs.

Enable solar to **support grid reliability** and pair with storage to provide new options for **community resilience**.

Provide **relevant and objective technical information** on solar technologies to stakeholders and decision-makers.



SETO Subprograms

PHOTOVOLTAICS

R&D advancing photovoltaic technologies to improve efficiency and reliability, lower manufacturing costs, and drive down the cost of solar electricity.

CONCENTRATING SOLAR POWER

R&D to develop low-cost concentrating solar-thermal technologies, which incorporate thermal energy storage to provide electricity when the sun is not shining, and which can be utilized for desalination, process heat, and fuel production.

SYSTEMS INTEGRATION

RD&D to enable solar energy to support grid reliability and security like conventional generator technologies while coupling with energy storage and smart load management to provide new opportunities for enhanced resilience.

BALANCE OF SYSTEMS SOFT COST REDUCTION

Reducing the non-hardware costs of solar (e.g., siting, permitting, installation, interconnection, financing) by providing information and analyses, and developing new tools, best practices, and workforce training.

MANUFACTURING AND COMPETITIVENESS

Supports activities that amplify the impact of R&D projects and enable the private sector to develop and sustain new solar products with a focus on technologies with the strongest opportunities for manufacturing in the U.S.

What's next *for* SOLAR?

Solar Energy Technologies Office Fiscal Year 2020 Funding Program

\$125.5 Million for Advanced Solar Energy Research

On February 5, 2020, the U.S. Department of Energy Solar Energy Technologies Office announced funding for up to 80 projects that advance research in solar energy technologies. These projects will help achieve the solar office's goal of improving the affordability, performance, and value of solar technologies on the grid.

Funding Opportunity Topic Areas

- Photovoltaics Hardware Research
- Integrated Thermal Energy Storage and Brayton Cycle Equipment Demonstration (Integrated TESTBED)
- Solar Energy Evolution and Diffusion Studies 3 (SEEDS 3)
- Innovations in Manufacturing: Hardware Incubator
- Systems Integration
- Solar and Agriculture: System Design, Value Frameworks and Impacts Analysis
- Artificial Intelligence Applications in Solar Energy with Emphasis on Machine Learning
- Small Innovative Projects in Solar (SIPS): PV and CSP

SETO 2020 Timeline



SETO 2020 FOA WEBINAR

February 12 at 2:00 p.m. ET

REGISTER NOW: energy.gov/seto-webinars

**Funding Opportunity
Announcement (FOA):**
Solar Energy Technologies
Office Fiscal Year 2020
(SETO 2020)



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National Community Solar Partnership



The National Community Solar Partnership is a coalition of community solar stakeholders working to expand access to affordable community solar to every American household by 2025.

Goals of the Program

- ❖ All Americans have a choice and sufficient education to make an informed decision about participation
- ❖ Overall energy cost burden does not increase as a result of participating in community solar
- ❖ Communities realize supplementary benefits and other value streams from community solar installations, such as increased resiliency and workforce development

Topics Areas of Interest and Approach

Initial Topic Areas of Interest

- ❖ Inclusive community solar models that enable market adoption in underserved communities
- ❖ Community solar models that reduce energy bills for multifamily affordable housing dwellers and owners
- ❖ Utility partnerships around community solar models to expand solar access in their communities

Approach

- ❖ Network Infrastructure: Partners have access to an online community platform, virtual and in-person meetings, webinars and other tools to engage with U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) staff and each other.
- ❖ Technical Assistance: Partners have opportunity to access technical assistance resources from DOE, its National Laboratories, and independent third-party subject-matter experts for support on unique local challenges.
- ❖ Collaboration: Multi-stakeholder teams of partners form groups around specific goals to address common barriers to solar adoption by learning from each other and sharing resources.

Interested in Joining the Network?

Visit: energy.gov/community-solar
Email: community.solar@ee.doe.gov

Thank You!

Elaine Ulrich, Ph.D



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