

Promoting the economic and environmental benefits of solar energy through education, advocacy and industry support

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March 2021 eNews

## Georgia Senate Bill Shines Light on Solar Power



Georgia Senate Rules Chairman Jeff Mullis dropped Senate Bill 299 this week, a bill to improve the regulatory environment for solar and remove barriers to economic growth. Senate Bill 299 would remove barriers to solar energy that advocates say will help create thousands of new jobs.

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#### **Solar Energy Day Recap**

Hey Georgia, Three ways to get involved today!

#1

### Behind-the-Meter (BTM) solar working group.

We're starting a working group to support BTM solar. If you think BTM is important to you and your business, please send an email

to <a href="mailto:chairman@gasolar.org">chairman@gasolar.org</a>. Important matters require your attention and we're asking for your help.

#2

#### #shareyoursolar

The Georgia Solar Energy
Association wants to share solar
success stories with lawmakers
and elected officials. If you've
installed solar on your home or
business please take a moment
to complete our <u>#shareyoursolar</u>
<u>survey</u> for a chance to be



GA Solar hosted its first Solar Advocacy Day at the Georgia Capitol this year and it was a great success! All of us here at GA Solar greatly appreciate our members that could take part of their day to join us for this informative event!

Special thanks goes to our guest speakers Lieutenant Governor Policy Director, Mike Dudgeon, Chairman of the House Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications Committee, Don Parsons, and Georgia State Representative, Kim Schofield.

> Solar Advocacy Resources

# UGA survey: Most Georgians believe in global warming, favor more solar



What do Georgians think about global warming? Of registered voters surveyed, 77% say they believe global warming is occurring and when it comes to dealing with

featured in our newsletter and on social media!

#3

#### **Solar Company Census**

We're conducting a 2021 census to track the influx of new solar companies as a result of Monthly-Netting. Let us know of new solar companies working in your area by sending an email to census@gasolar.org.



Your donations - both small and large - to GA Solar supports our efforts to extend the benefits of solar energy to all Georgians and keep our solar industry strong.

#### Become a Member

GA Solar supports the development of a robust solar industry in Georgia through advocacy, education and outreach. We depend on membership and sponsorship contributions to make our work possible.

To view a PDF detailing the benefits of membership and sponsorship levels, **please click** here.

Georgia's future energy needs, 87% of those surveyed support building more solar power facilities.

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## Georgia Power now says Vogtle nuclear 'likely' to bust deadline



Georgia Power's parent, Atlanta-based Southern Company, now is acknowledging that the company is likely to miss the current deadline for completing the first of two new nuclear reactors at Plant Vogtle, a move that could further increase consumer costs on a project already years behind schedule and billions of dollars over budget.

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### Guest Blog by Bill Nussey: Natural gas was the biggest contributor to the Texas grid outage of 2021

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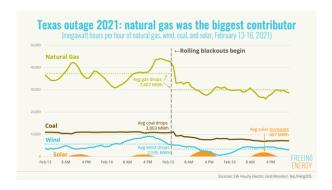








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The fact is that nearly every type of power plant fell short during the Texas outage, including nuclear, coal, natural gas, and wind. But it was natural gas, by far, that contributed to the power plant failures that ultimately took down so much of the grid. Solar actually increased its output during the outage, as compared to the days before

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## Lawmakers propose energy storage system tax incentive



Federal lawmakers have introduced the Energy Storage Tax Incentive and Deployment Act. The bipartisan legislation would create a standalone investment tax credit (ITC) for energy storage technologies for utilities, businesses, and homes.

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#### **Stay Connected**

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**#shareyoursolar** success photos. Keep them coming Georgia!

### **How Rooftop Solar Benefits Your Neighbors**



Homeowners who install solar on their roofs lower electricity costs for those around them, new study finds.

On average, homeowners who install solar on their roofs are helping to stabilize the grid, and as such, they are actually lowering electricity costs for their neighbors.

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# The race to zero: can America reach net-zero emissions by 2050?



Landscapes from coast to coast would be transformed, carpeted in wind turbines and solar panels, with enough new transmission lines to wrap around Earth 19 times. The populace would whiz past in their electric cars, to and from



Scott and Tina Wilkinson



Jared Jackson



Christopher Juckins



Cathey Houle

homes equipped with induction stoves and heat pumps. The air would be near-pristine. Hundreds of thousands of people who would have prematurely died from the toxic fossil-fuel age would still be alive.

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### Georgia Solar Company Bets Big on Batteries, featuring GA Solar Board Member, Seth Gunning



Lacking other incentives, rooftop solar customers need to bank their joules.

"The Georgia solar business is different than in, say, California or Minnesota. Until recently, Georgia utilities weren't required to offer net metering, where the utility gives you credit for the excess electricity your solar array puts on the grid during the day. That's why we install so many batteries...."

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Julius Hayden



Darren Hall

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