



GA Solar
GEORGIA SOLAR ENERGY ASSOCIATION



FROM THE DESK OF THE CHAIRMAN

As the solar revolution continues at a torrid pace, it's more important now than ever to keep up with the latest news, trends, policy, and players that shape and form the solar industry in Georgia. Let's face it, this is not always easy to do. It's challenging enough with our busy modern lives to balance work, family and community, let alone keep up with this rapidly changing industry. Which is why for one day each year GA Solar pulls out all the stops to bring industry stakeholders together under one roof to learn and network. Whether you're an industry insider, just getting into the market, a curious solar advocate, or student, you are invited to join us for the 8th Annual Southern Solar Summit on Thursday October 20th at Georgia Tech's GTRI Conference Center.

This year we have a stellar lineup including keynote speakers Terry Jester, a years-long solar veteran, and Tim Dwight, Atlanta Falcon fan favorite turned solar advocate. Hear from 4 of the 5 Public Service Commissioners with updates from this year's IRP. Find out how Stephanie S. Benfield, Atlanta Office of Sustainability, is turning Atlanta into a leader in solar and a model for local governments. Meet Dr. Marilyn Brown, Brook Byers Professor of Sustainable Systems at the Georgia Institute of Technology. Get an update from Georgia Power with Ervin Hancock. And get caught up with four panel and roundtable discussions featuring top industry experts discussing the latest industry trends.

This is the one day of the year you are urged to put your busy schedule aside, make the trip to Atlanta, and join us to learn and network as GA Solar brings the full range of industry ideas, experts, professionals and information together in one comprehensive event. Look forward to seeing you there!

Don Moreland, Chairman

8th Annual Solar Summit



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2016
GTRI Conference Center @ Georgia Tech

250 14th St., NW, ATL, GA 30318

DISCOUNT PRICING HAS BEEN EXTENDED!

Terry Jester, CEO of Silicor Materials and 37-year veteran of the solar industry, will give the AM Keynote Address. At the pinnacle of a career that has tracked the progress and development of the solar industry, Ms. Jester now heads a company that produces high-quality, environmentally sustainable solar silicon. Before joining Silicor she held engineering positions at SoloPower, SunPower, SolarWorld, Arco and Shell.



Tim Dwight, our PM Keynote Speaker, has a special connection to the Atlanta Falcons -- a 94-yard touchdown run in Super Bowl XXXIII. Following his stellar football career he tackled a new challenge: *solar energy*. Owner of Integrated Power Corporation (IPC) and co-founder of the Iowa Solar Energy Trade Association (ISETA), he was lauded in a recent *Sports Illustrated* profile for his tireless efforts to educate about the benefits of solar energy. Check out our **Atlanta Daybook** story!

SPORTS ILLUSTRATED: FROM KICK RETURNS TO SOLAR PANELS: TIM DWIGHT'S LIFE AS SOLAR ENERGY ADVOCATE

Click "register" for additional information & speakers:



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Clean Energy Atlanta Launches

ATLANTA ON TRACK TO CREATE LOW-COST FINANCING FOR GREEN ENERGY AT HOMES, BUSINESSES

Atlanta is moving forward with a long-awaited plan to provide property owners with 100 percent financing to install renewable energy and energy efficient products. The loans are to be repaid over an extended period with property taxes.



The idea is to nudge owners who may not make such improvements for fear of being stuck with a loan for solar panels, for example, that they'll have to pay even after they sell the property. PACE financing attaches the loan to the property. The loan is repaid with property taxes. It's name, PACE, stands for property assessed clean energy. [Learn More](#)

Companies Commit to 100% Renewables





MORE MAJOR COMPANIES COMMIT TO 100% RENEWABLES

Bank of America, Apple, Wells Fargo & Co., and General Motors (GM) are some of the latest big-name companies to join RE100, a global collaborative initiative of businesses committed to using 100% renewable electricity. **Over 80 companies worldwide**, including BMW, Coca-Cola, IKEA and Google, have joined RE100 so far, and the number of participants is expected to keep growing.

Already an established leader in renewable energy, with 93% of its global operations in 23 countries running on renewable power last year, technology giant Apple announced it, too, is joining RE100 and is committed to reaching the 100% mark. The Climate Group says Apple is most interested in working with RE100 on pushing renewable energy into supply chains.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

32,000 Nevada Solar Customers Breathe a Sigh of Relief

On (September 16th), the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada (PUCN) unanimously approved a measure to grandfather in pre-existing solar customers under the state's previous, more beneficial net energy metering (NEM) rules.

The decision is a welcome win for the solar industry, which has been fighting Nevada's notorious NEM revisions ever since the PUCN ruled to cut buyback rates and increase fees at the end of last year. [Read More](#)



Kings Bay Solar Facility Officially "On" Near St. Mary's

The Georgia Public Service Commission continues to oversee the construction of new solar energy fields,



Picture provided by GA Public Service Commission

particularly in southern Georgia.

Tuesday, the partnership of Georgia Power, The Commission and the U.S. military flipped the switch on the Kings Bay Solar Facility on the Submarine base near St. Marys. 133,000 solar panels will soon produce power to the base and surrounding community. A similar solar power field is now under construction on Fort Stewart as well. [Read More](#)

Utility And Solar Stakeholders *Unite* Under Massive Settlement Agreement In Colorado

In what Xcel Energy is hailing as the largest proposed deal of its kind in Colorado history, the utility and nearly two-dozen parties have reached a settlement agreement on a variety of key energy issues in the state, including solar.



The Colorado Solar Energy Industries Association (COSEIA), one of several solar stakeholders involved, has lauded the agreement and says it resolves a host of challenges facing the state's solar sector while setting the stage for progressive future energy policy.

[Read More](#)

Solarize Decatur DeKalb



The Solarize Decatur-DeKalb campaign held its first public meeting on 9/1 to a packed house. "Solarize" will make solar more affordable and accessible for the residents of the City of Decatur and DeKalb County. The Solarize Decatur-DeKalb coalition held a town hall meeting back in June to receive critical feedback from the 150 residents in attendance to guide the contractor(s) selection process. A request for proposal for bids went out on July 6th and was published in the local newspaper.

Visit www.solarizedecatur-dekalb.com for additional information.

Georgia Regulators Okay 1-MW Right-of-Way Solar Project

The Georgia Public Service Commission has approved the installation of a 1-MW solar project in the right-of-way along the Interstate 85 highway, according to the Ray C Anderson Foundation.

The solar pilot project will be installed along The Ray in Troup County. In 2014, the state of Georgia renamed a stretch of Interstate 85 as the Ray C Anderson Memorial Highway and the foundation has committed to making that road a model for future transportation.

The project is expected to be completed by December 2019. Potential benefits to the highway system, for instance, could include interstate lighting, the foundation said. According to the announcement, *the renewables right-of-way project is the first of its kind in Georgia*, while nationwide a half-dozen similar projects are operational. [Read More](#)



**PLEASE CONSIDER MAKING A DONATION
TO THE GEORGIA SOLAR ENERGY ASSOCIATION!**



Your support helps to advance the solar industry in Georgia. Thank You!



BLOOMBERG: Solar Rooftop Revolution Fizzles in U.S. on Utility Pushback

Rooftop solar, which has surged more than 1,000 percent since 2010, will barely grow at all next year.

Residential installations are expected to increase by 21 percent this year, but in 2017 the figure will inch upward by about 0.3 percent. The change comes as utilities push back against mandates to buy back the electricity and shifting tax policies curb demand. Throw in sliding electricity rates and it's clear the economic benefits of rooftop panels are no longer so obvious to consumers. [Learn More](#)

Solar in the SOUTHEAST

North Carolina Jumps to Second Place for Solar Energy

Florida Voters Overwhelming Approve Tax Break Solar Amendment

Florida Solar Energy Advocates Focus on Defeating Utility-Sponsored Amendment in November

Electric Utility in Texas, New Mexico Becomes First to Go Coal-Free in the Region, Embraces Solar

As Solar Cost Declines, Kentucky Must Catch Up or Lose Competitive Edge From Cheap Power



13 acres, 1.5 MW Jefferson County Community Solar Garden - Photographer: Andy Cross/Denver Post via Getty

Solar on the NATIONAL STAGE

Utilities and Solar Companies Want Market-Based Solutions to Facilitate Collaboration

U.S. Study Tracks 'Tremendous Amount' of Solar Policy Activity

U.S. Army Reaches 1 Billion in Energy Savings

Are Republicans or Democrats More Likely to Go Solar?

How Producing Clean Power Turned Out to be a Messy Business

It's the Dawn of the Community Solar Farm: It's Like Rooftop Solar Without Rooftops

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