

Solar Policy Update

Meeting Clean Energy & Open Space Goals

Tom Gilbert, Campaign Director, NJ Conservation
Rethink Energy NJ



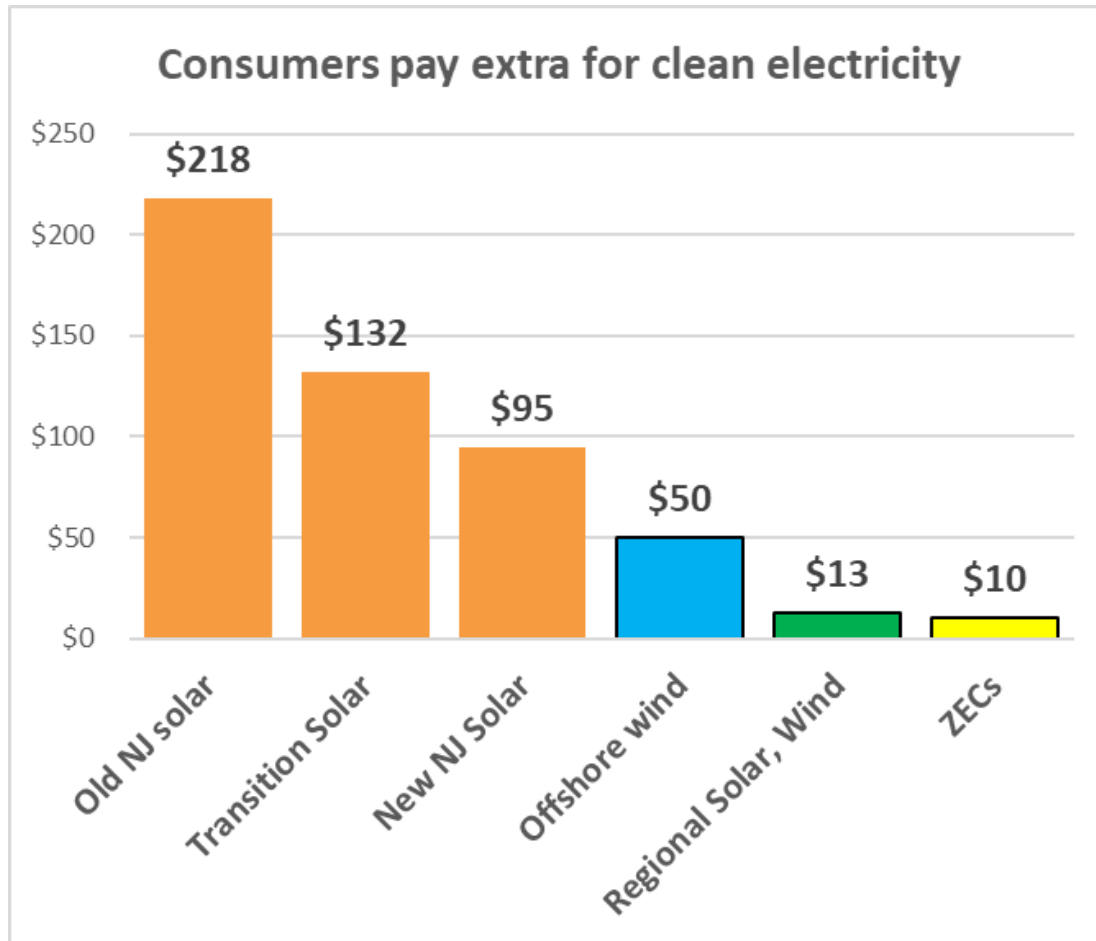
Solar in New Jersey

- New Jersey currently ranks 7th nationwide in installed solar photovoltaic (PV) capacity, with 3.3 GW installed as of early 2020
- Average incentive payments for new solar PV projects in New Jersey cost about 10-15 times more than incentives for comparable regional renewable energy projects
- NJ needs a judicious mix of low-cost regional clean energy resources, which maximize GHG emission reductions, and well-sited in-state solar
- Recent policies are reducing costs, expanding solar, addressing siting

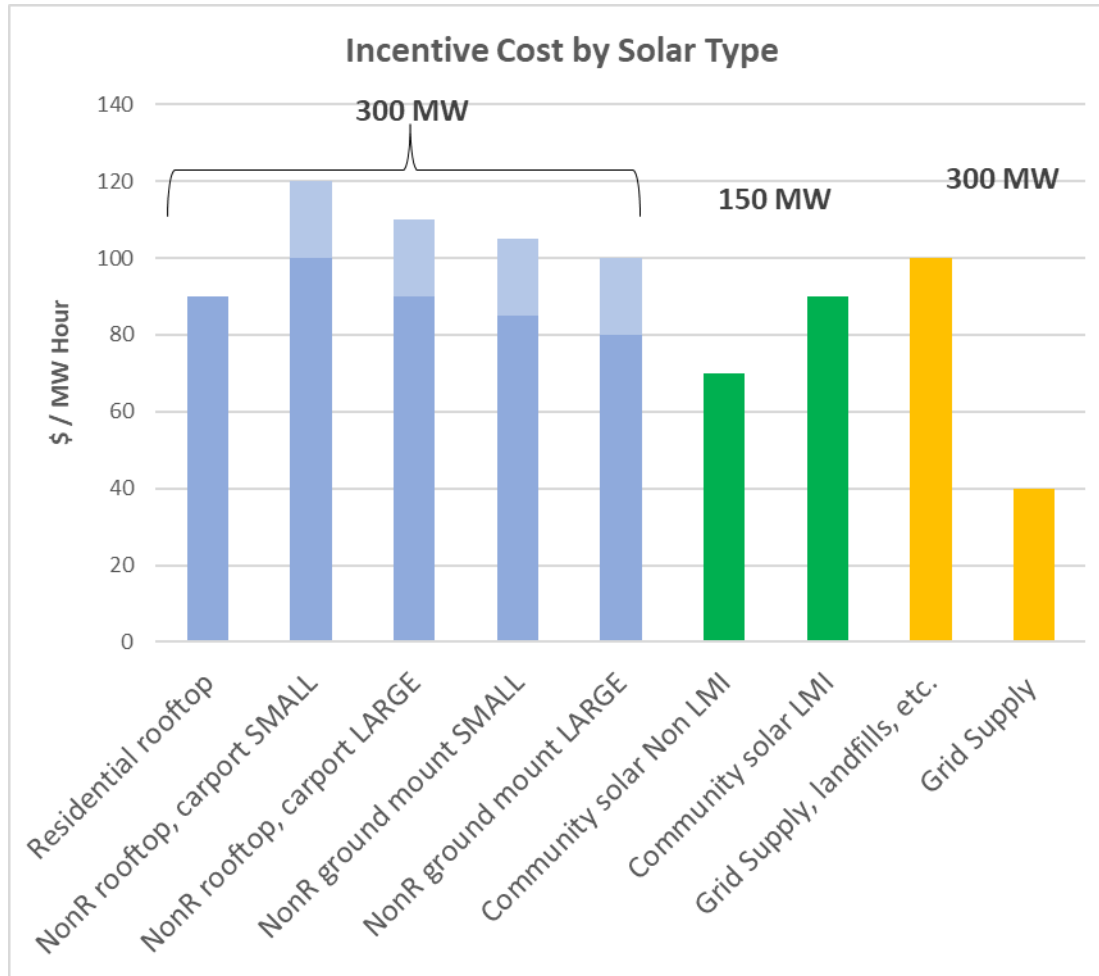
Solar Incentives

- Clean Energy Law: sunset SRECs → TRECs → successor
- Utility-scale solar legislation 2021
- Reducing cost of solar incentives
- Administratively set prices: rooftop, commercial, community solar
- Competitive process for utility-scale projects

Solar Costs



Solar Costs



Community Solar

- Makes solar available to renters, multi-family housing
- Benefits LMI communities
- First year: 75 MW Second year: 150 MW
- Prioritizes projects on brownfields, landfills, parking lots and rooftops
- Penalizes projects on farmland, forests

Solar Siting

Utility-scale solar law (S2605) siting provisions exclude:

- Prime/SWI soils in ADAs (after 2.5%, waiver up to 5%)
- Forests
- Highlands Preservation
- Pinelands
- Freshwater wetlands
- Green Acres
- Preserved farmland



Solar Siting

- Large projects proposed on prime farmland, forests
- “Inherently beneficial use”
- Dual-use solar legislation
- Importance of master plan and zoning



Going Renewable Can't Wait.

Online:

www.rethinkenergy.org

Twitter:

[@rethinkenergynj](https://twitter.com/rethinkenergynj)

Facebook, Instagram + YouTube:

[rethinkenergynj](https://www.facebook.com/rethinkenergynj)

