

This resolution can be used to build support for a specific shared solar project, or for shared solar in general. You can present it to government bodies such as Town Councils or Boards of Selectpersons, or to town entities like Clean Energy Task Forces or Conservation Commissions, or to civic and advocacy groups in your area like climate action groups or local chapters of state environmental organizations.

Resolution

Town/City of _____ or Organization _____

Supporting shared solar project(s)

Whereas, the benefits of solar energy in addressing the climate crisis and stimulating the economy are well-known; and

Whereas, it is the policy of the State of Connecticut to, in part, "... develop and utilize alternative energy resources, such as solar and wind energy, to the maximum practical extent ..." ¹; and

Whereas, Connecticut residents continue to pay among the highest electricity rates in the continental United States; and

Whereas, over 30,000 Connecticut residents have installed solar arrays on their properties², taking action against global warming, reducing their electricity bills, and helping to create over 2200 jobs in the state solar industry; and

Whereas, only about a quarter of state utility customers can install solar panels on their homes, because most residents live in multi-family or rental housing, or have roofs not suited to solar, or too much shade, among other reasons; and

Whereas, residential solar installations are made possible in part through CT Green Bank rebates, using about \$27 million annually contributed by all ratepayers through monthly electric bills, and all residents who contribute to the renewables fund should be able to benefit from it; and

Whereas, Connecticut in 2018 joined many other states in approving a limited shared solar program in Public Act 18-50 that will allow many more customers to participate in solar arrays away from their homes, with the benefits directly credited to their bills; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED THAT:

1. _____ [government body or organization] recognizes that Connecticut's climate and energy goals are more likely to be achieved if every resident has an equal opportunity to access clean energy sources.
2. _____ [government body or organization] encourages residents to participate in shared solar projects as they become available, especially low- and moderate- income households, who are often unable to install solar systems on their homes. [alternate: name a specific project under development]
3. _____ [government body or organization] calls on its elected representatives in the Connecticut General Assembly, Governor Lamont, and utility companies to support expanding shared solar legislation so that every resident has access to renewable energy and stable electricity costs, and encourages residents to become informed about the issue and communicate their views to their representatives.

¹ Energy Policy Act, CGS 16a-35k

² CT Green Bank – Residential Solar Investment Program report,

<https://www.energizect.com/sites/default/files/uploads/Data%20for%20Web%202018-06-30.xlsx>