



**Thetford Strafford
Community
Solar!**

Informational Meeting
Thetford Community Center
March 10, 2016

Purpose of this gathering...

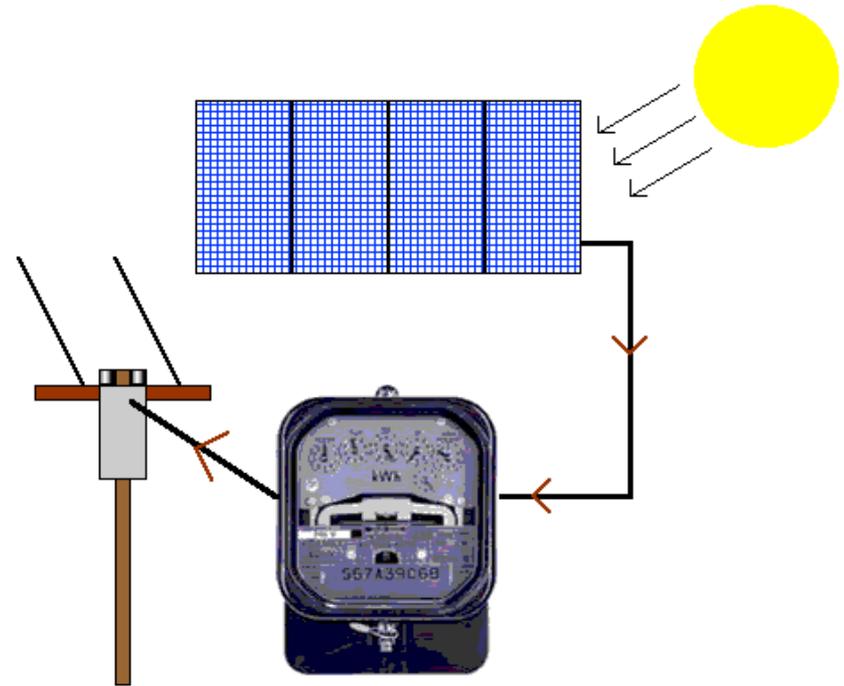
- To educate Thetford & Strafford residents about this special community solar opportunity
- To describe steps for participation
- To answer questions, and begin to enlist interested participants



First some vocabulary...

Net Metering

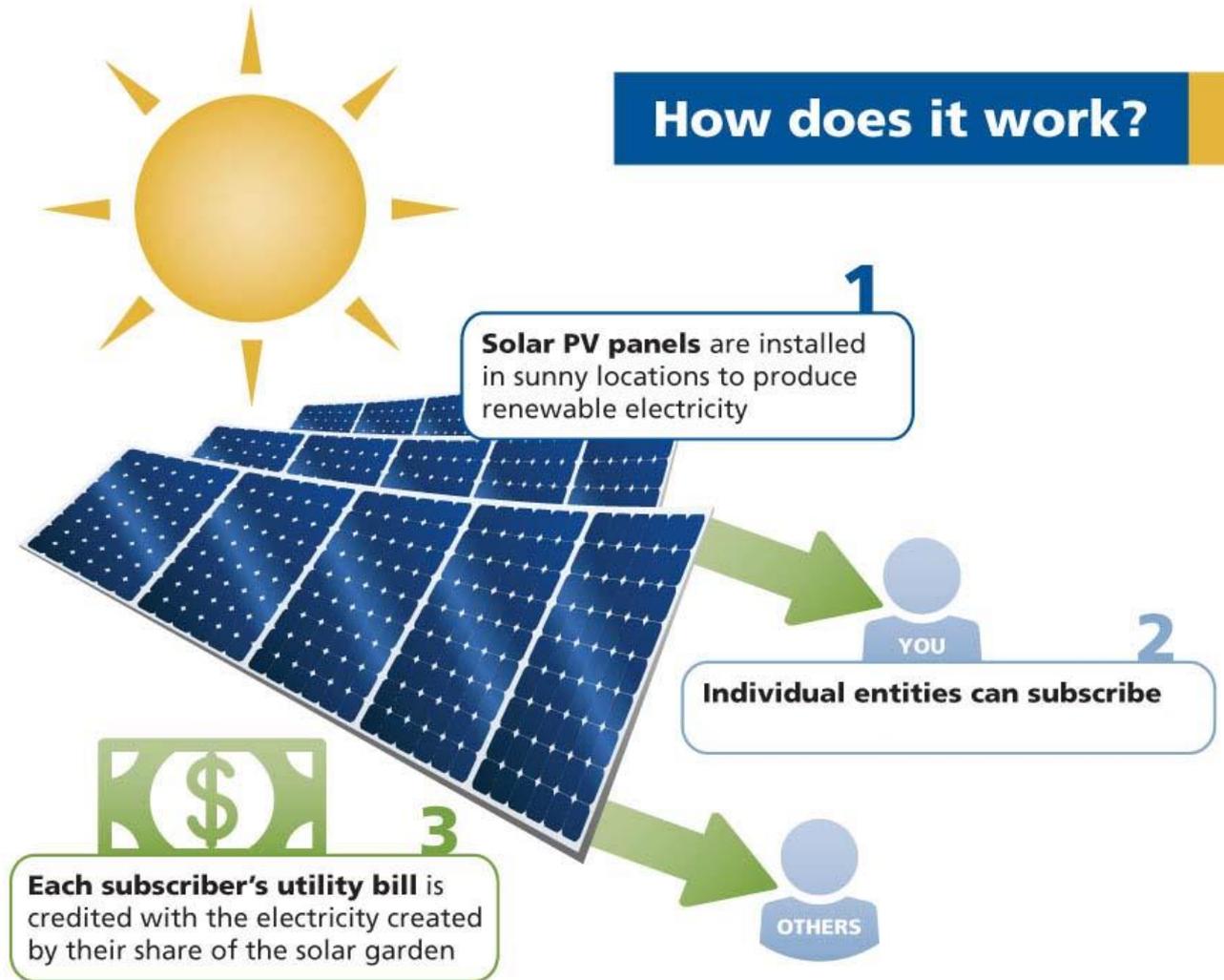
Allows electric customers to offset power costs by connecting customer-owned renewable generators to the utility grid



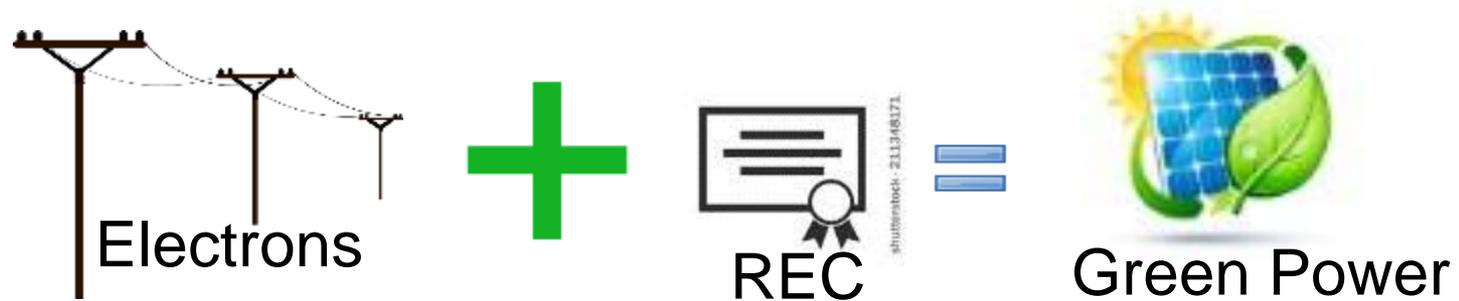
Group Net Metering or Community Solar

Allows individuals within one electric utility territory to form a group, to receive credit on their electric bills for the energy generated from a single renewable power project

Group Net Metering or Community Solar



Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)



- All grid-tied renewable-based electricity generators produce two distinct products:
 - Physical electricity
 - RECs - the environmental, social and other nonpower qualities of renewable electricity generation
- If the physical electricity and the associated RECs are sold to separate buyers, the electricity can no longer be called “renewable” or “green”

What is Thetford Strafford Community Solar LLC?

- * TSCS is a member-owned company created to build and operate a community solar array in which all RECs will be retained.



- * The TSCS array is intended to benefit the town of Thetford as well as residents of the two towns who want to invest in this member-owned project.

Why Community Solar?



- Have you wanted to “go solar” but the house and yard just don’t work for solar? Or do you rent but pay GMP each month?
- Is the smallest size solar array possible still too big for your home or your budget?
- Do you have solar already, but not quite enough? You can do both!
- Yearning for that renewably powered car or fossil fuel-free cold climate heat pumps?
- Help reach the state mandate 90% renewable by 2050 AND get 30% Federal Investment Tax Credit.

How Does It Work?

Member Investment

About \$1900 per share
(About \$2750 minus 30%
Federal Tax Credit)

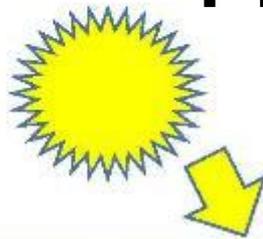
Member Annual Expense

\$20 - \$40 per share for
liability and casualty
insurance, state and
municipal tax, maintenance
and service

Member Credit

About \$200
value per share
each year

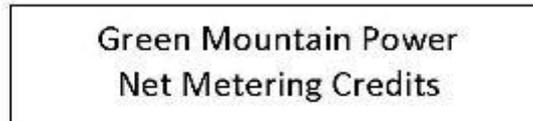
89%



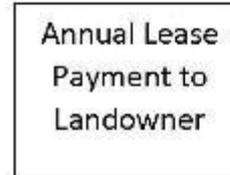
150 kW AC Array



About
185,000
kW/hours
per year



Green Mountain Power
Net Metering Credits



Annual Lease
Payment to
Landowner



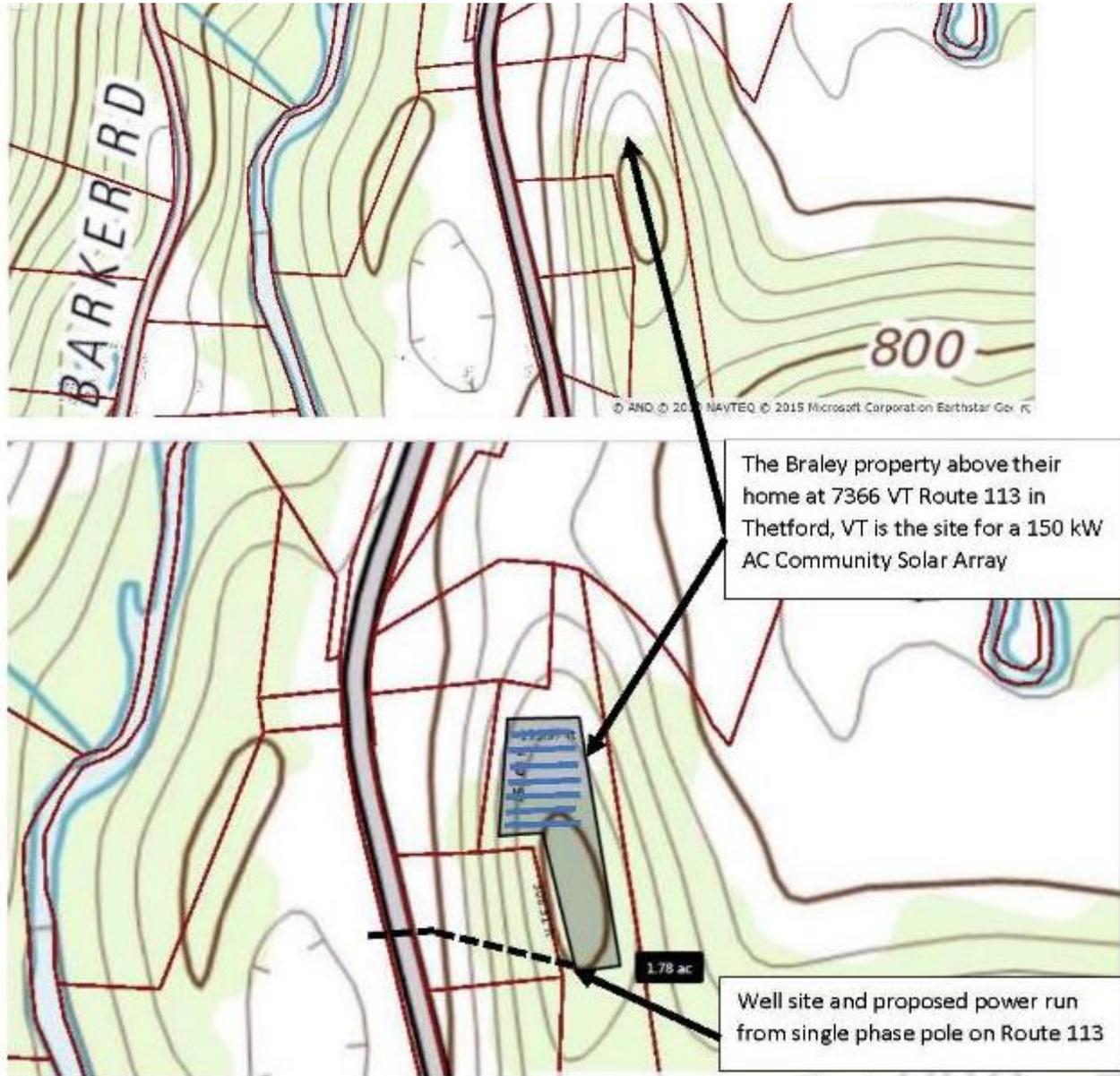
Local Non-Profit
pays 90%
normal electric
rate



11%

These figures are estimates based on experience from other projects.
Actual costs and returns for lease, installation, operations, and regulation are likely to vary over time.

Proposed Site for the 148.2 kW AC Solar Array

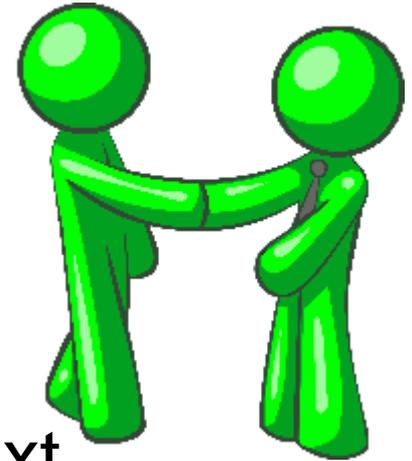




A Member-Owned LLC

- Thanks to work done by the Energy Clinic at the Vermont Law School and the Randolph Energy Committee, we have created Thetford Strafford Community Solar LLC (TSCS) – a member-owned company whose purpose is to build and operate the “Facility”.
- Copies of the Operating Agreement and Share Reservation Form are available for pick-up or can be emailed.

Becoming A Member



- * Determine the number of shares (3 panels, 960 kW) desired to meet your energy load and/or your budget (see next slide!)
- * Read through the TSCS Operating Agreement
- * Sign up before May 15 - \$100/share operating fee to reserve your shares. The share payment will be due in two installments (prior to construction, and after completion*)
 - * Construction estimated to be spring of 2017



Share Calculation

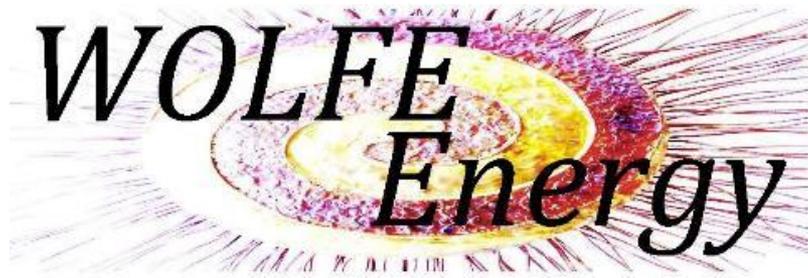
- Total kWh used in a year: _____ kWh/yr
- Divide by 365 days: _____ kWh/day
- Divide by 3 hrs/day per kW: _____ kW of solar
 - 3 hrs per day on average of full sun, more in summer, less in winter
- Multiply * 1000 for Watts: _____ W
- Divide by 960 W/share : _____ Shares
- Multiply * 1.11 for 11% of shares to town: _____ Shares
- Round down if you plan to do more energy efficiency;
Round up if you plan on investing in an electric car or heat pump (EV = 30 kWh/100 miles; HP depends on use
 - one home saw a usage of 1,300 kWh/yr heating)



Questions?

**Thetford Strafford
Community
Solar!**

Ask any member of the TSCS committee
– Bob Walker, Janet Cavanagh, Phebe
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