

Solar Project Development Resource List

EPA's Renewable Energy Project Development Resource Directory

- **Toolbox for Renewable Energy Project Development**
<https://www.epa.gov/repowertoolbox/renewable-energy-project-development-resource-directory>

Solar Policy

- **Database of State Incentives for Renewables and Efficiency (DSIRE)**
<https://www.dsireusa.org/>
- **Utility Rate Database**
https://openei.org/wiki/Utility_Rate_Database
- **Solar Interconnection Standards and Policies**
<https://www.epa.gov/repowertoolbox/solar-interconnection-standards-policies>
- **Electricity Market Frameworks & Policies**
<https://www.epa.gov/repowertoolbox/understanding-electricity-market-frameworks-policies>

Renewable Energy Certificates

- **What is a Renewable Energy Certificate (REC)?**
<https://www.epa.gov/greenpower/renewable-energy-certificates-recs>
- **Video: How do RECs work?**
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=12VYXms6-c>
- **Renewable Electricity: How do you know you are using it?**
<http://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy15osti/64558.pdf>
- **Legal Basis of RECs**
<http://resource-solutions.org/site/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/The-Legal-Basis-for-RECs.pdf>
- **What is REC Arbitrage**
<https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2017-09/documents/gpp-rec-arbitrage.pdf>
- **What's the difference between RECs and Offsets?**
<https://www.epa.gov/greenpower/offsets-and-recs-whats-difference>
- **Renewable Energy Certificate Monetization**
<https://www.epa.gov/repowertoolbox/renewable-energy-certificate-monetization>

Solar Project Operations & Maintenance Considerations

- **Solar PV O&M Standards and Best Practices**
http://energy.sandia.gov/wp-content/gallery/uploads/SAND2014_19432.pdf

Making Solar & Environmental Claims

- **Guide to Making Claims About Your Solar Power Use**
<https://www.epa.gov/greenpower/guide-making-claims-about-your-solar-power-use>
- **Guidelines for Renewable Energy Claims**
<http://resource-solutions.org/site/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/Guidelines-for-Renewable-Energy-Claims.pdf>
- **Solar Energy on Campus: Renewable Energy Usage Claims**
<http://resource-solutions.org/site/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/Solar-Energy-on-Campus-I.pdf>
- **Making Credible Renewable Electricity Usage Claims**
https://www.theclimategroup.org/sites/default/files/downloads/re100_-_making_credible_renewable_electricity.pdf
- **National Association of Attorneys General's Environmental Marketing Guidelines for Electricity**
<https://www.epa.gov/greenpower/national-association-attorneys-general-environmental-marketing-guidelines-electricity>
- **The US Federal Trade Commission Green Guides**
<https://www.ftc.gov/sites/default/files/attachments/press-releases/ftc-issues-revised-green-guides/greenguides.pdf>
- **Environmental and Solar Claims Guidance**
<https://www.epa.gov/greenpower/making-environmental-claims>
<https://www.epa.gov/greenpower/solar-power-use-claims>

Greenhouse Gas Guidance: Purchased Electricity

- **Center for Corporate Climate Leadership**
<https://www.epa.gov/climateleadership/center-corporate-climate-leadership-indirect-emissions-purchased-electricity>
- **Greenhouse Gas Protocol: Scope 2 Guidance**
https://ghgprotocol.org/scope_2_guidance



Steps of Solar Project Development

Step 1: Institutional Goal Setting and Project Outcomes

- **Guide to Purchasing Green Power: Chapter 5**
<https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-08/documents/guide-purchasing-green-power-5.pdf>
- **EPA's Renewable Energy Project Development Toolbox**
<https://www.epa.gov/repowertoolbox>
- **National Renewable Energy Video: Goal Setting**
<https://youtu.be/dbmmL1iXdfY>
- **EPA's Guidance for Goal Setting Document**
<https://www.epa.gov/repowertoolbox/guidance-setting-renewable-energy-goal>
- **City & County (non-profit) – Goal Setting & Clarification**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dbmmL1iXdfY>

Step 2: Site Identification and Data Collection

- **EPA's Solar Site and Utility Data Spreadsheet**
https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-02/site_assessment_and_utility_data_spreadsheet.xls

Step 3: Solar Project Site Assessment

- **PVWatts® Calculator for Estimating Solar Project Output**
<http://pvwatts.nrel.gov/>
- **REOpt Lite for Site Economic Feasibility Assessments**
<https://reopt.nrel.gov/tool>
- **System Advisor Model (SAM) for Financial Analysis of PV projects**
<https://sam.nrel.gov/>
- **Google's Project Sunroof**
<https://www.google.com/get/sunroof>

Step 4: Solar Project Financing

- **Understanding Third-party Ownership Financing Structures**
<https://www.epa.gov/repowertoolbox/understanding-third-party-ownership-financing-structures-renewable-energy>

Step 5: Solar Request for Proposals (RFP)

- **Solar RFP Guide**
https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-01/documents/webinar_20140416_guide.pdf
- **Solar RFP Issuance Checklist for Facility Managers**
https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-01/documents/webinar_20140416_rfp_issuance_checklist.pdf
- **Key Elements of Solar RFPs**
http://www.nrel.gov/tech_deployment/state_local_governments/pdfs/stat_webinar_050113_presentation.pdf
- **Solar RFP Procurement Guidance**
[https://betterbuildingssolutioncenter.energy.gov/sites/default/files/attachments/Template%20RFP%20Draft%20\(050516\).docx](https://betterbuildingssolutioncenter.energy.gov/sites/default/files/attachments/Template%20RFP%20Draft%20(050516).docx)
- **Writing Solar RFPs**
<http://www.nrel.gov/docs/gen/fy16/66369.pdf>
- **Steps to Successful Solar RFPs**
<http://www.thesolarfoundation.org/steps-to-a-successful-solar-request-for-proposal/>
- **PV Cost Proposal Form**
https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-02/webinar_20140416_pv_cost_proposal_form.xlsx
- **PV System Requirements**
https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-01/documents/webinar_20140416_pv_system_requirements.pdf
- **RFP Vendor Response Checklist**
https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-01/documents/webinar_20140416_checklist.pdf
- **Solar Power Purchase Agreement Template**
<https://financere.nrel.gov/finance/content/terms-service-commercial-11>

Step 6: Assessing Solar Project Proposals

- **Webinar: Solar Procurement Templates and Tools for Higher Education**
<https://www.epa.gov/greenpower/gpp-webinar-solar-procurement-templates-and-tools-higher-education>
- **Levelized Cost of Energy (LCOE) Calculator**
https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-02/webinar_20140416_calculator_0.xlsx
- **Solar RFP Evaluation Matrix**
https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-02/webinar_20140416_pv_evaluation_matrix.xls
- **Institutional Solar Development Considerations**
<https://vimeo.com/252788996>