



# Latest rules for rural solar power generation

Should solar energy be located on farmland?

Locating solar energy on farmland could significantly increase the available land for solar development, while maintaining land in agricultural production and expanding economic opportunities for farmers, rural communities, and the solar industry.

Will agricultural land be used for solar energy?

Agricultural land in the U.S. has the technical potential to provide 27 terawatts of solar energy capacity. This is a quarter of the total U.S. solar energy capacity of 115 TW. Only 0.3% of farmland is expected to be used for solar energy by 2035. Will using land for solar panels drive up the price of food?

Is solar energy a good option for farmers?

Solar energy offers farmers the opportunity to harvest the sun twice--the same reason land is good for farming (flat, open areas), also makes it good for solar installations. The Solar Energy Technologies Office (SETO) is researching the opportunities and trade-offs of agrivoltaics.

What is solar power in your community?

Solar Power in Your Community serves as a guidebook to assist local government officials and stakeholders in increasing local access to and deployment of solar photovoltaics (PV). This 2022 edition highlights new technologies and strategies to maximize the benefits of solar to all communities.

What are Oregon's solar regulations?

They designate urban and rural boundaries and specify what areas can be used for industry and agriculture. Alexis Hammer, a policy coordinator at the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development said the framers of the state's regulations could not have imagined the modern demand for solar power 50 years ago.

Can solar power irrigation equipment?

Yes, solar can power irrigation equipment. Solar can offset power required for pumping and provide power to remote irrigation systems, requiring no grid connection. What type of farming equipment is suitable for use on land with ground-mounted solar facilities?

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