



## Solar Fights the Good Fight!



### FROM THE DESK OF THE CHAIRMAN



#### Barriers to Solar Adoption Stifle Economic Development

Last year, GA Solar joined with other stakeholders in successful negotiations with Central Georgia EMC to alleviate punitive and discriminatory fees aimed exclusively at solar customers. Since then, our members and their customers have encountered similar charges in other locations throughout the state.

Growing numbers of homeowners and businesses are looking for cleaner, and more economical, energy resources. As they do, these practices are increasingly coming into question, even as they quietly discourage local economic development. [Read More](#)

### An Interview with Paul Bowers, Georgia Power's CEO, on the Future of Utilities and the Grid

Bill Nussey, Freeing Energy, is a keynote speaker at this year's 10th Anniversary Southern Solar Summit in October 2018. He interviewed Paul Bowers back in January, 2018.

"... When I asked Paul to help me understand how utilities like Georgia Power see the future of the grid and the electricity industry, he graciously offered to share his perspectives on some of the most strategic questions facing the industry today..."

His answers may surprise you! [Read More](#)



### Solar Means Business 2017 Report

Major U.S. businesses are choosing solar at a rapid rate to power their operations. SEIA's Solar Means Business Report tracks a variety of commercial solar installations, including the top 25 corporate solar users, many of whom are



Fortune 500 companies.

Solar energy is a cost-effective way for businesses to generate the electricity they need for manufacturing, distribution, storage, retail, and many other applications. **Read More**

## JOIN US FOR A "LUNCH & LEARN"

GA Solar is partnering with the Green Chamber of the South to present a Lunch & Learn. The costs and hassles associated with local permitting and zoning can make or break a solar project, big or small. Join us for a conversation on best practices and more.



**Thursday, June 21st, 2018**  
**12:00pm - 2:00pm**  
**@ ASHRAE, 1791 Tullie Circle, NE, ATL, GA 30329**

***CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION & TO REGISTER!***

## More U.S. Jobs in Solar Than Coal and Nuclear Combined

A new report from a think tank headed by former Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz reveals an additional 100,000 jobs with a part-time solar component, and hints at the political powerhouse that solar is becoming. **Learn More**



## U.S. Companies Driving Renewables' Boom



When President Trump announced ... that the United States would exit the Paris climate deal, many of America's largest corporations said they would honor the agreement anyway, vowing to pursue cleaner energy and cut emissions on their own.

A year later, there's one area where that pledge is highly visible: renewable energy. Dozens of Fortune 500 companies, from tech giants like Apple and Google to Walmart and General

Motors, are voluntarily investing billions of dollars in new wind and solar projects to power their operations or offset their conventional energy use ... **Read More**

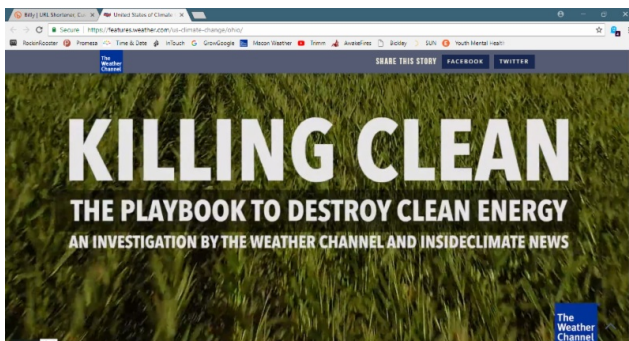


## Billions in U.S. Solar Projects Shelved After Trump Panel Tariff

President Donald Trump's tariff on imported solar panels has led U.S. renewable energy companies to cancel or freeze investments of more than \$2.5 billion in large installation projects, along with thousands of jobs, the developers told Reuters. **Read More**



## KILLING CLEAN: The Playbook to Destroy Clean Energy



**With scare studies, policy drafts and political donations, industry groups turned Ohio lawmakers against policies they once overwhelmingly supported.**

**[Click Picture to Watch the Video](#)**

## SAVE THE DATE!



**Bill Nussey**  
Author  
**Freeing Energy**  
KEYNOTE SPEAKER



**DATE:** Thursday, Oct 25, 2018  
**TIME:** 9:00AM - 6:00PM  
**LOCATION:** The Carter Center, ATL  
Stay Tuned For Further Details!



**Anya Schoolman**  
Exec. Director  
**Solar United Neighbors**  
KEYNOTE SPEAKER

## DeKalb County to Explore Feasibility of a Floating Solar Array

Floating solar panels could be headed to DeKalb County soon, and they do, in fact, float. They are designed to take advantage of the open space on top of a body of water. DeKalb is hoping to add some to a reservoir at the Scott Candler Water Treatment Plant in Doraville.



"...The placement of these solar cells on the surface of the ponds will inhibit some of the evaporation which saves a whole bunch of money, and then it also would cut down on the sun penetration which (c)ould grow algae ..." **Learn More**

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## GEORGIA SOLAR MISSION

To advance the sustainable economic and environmental benefits of solar energy for Georgia through education, advocacy, community and industry support.

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### Solar Farm Being Developed in Douglas: 20-Acre Site Will Provide Energy to Power 466 Homes



Cox Enterprises held a ribbon-cutting event earlier this month for one part of its Conserves Sustainability program, which celebrated its 10th anniversary last year. Douglasville's Turnipseed site is one of three Georgia solar farm sites, along with one more developed at Jacksonville, Florida.

In total, the newly installed 42,000 solar panels harness enough energy from the sun to produce 13 megawatts of power.

Together, the four locations will produce enough electricity to power 2,200 homes annually. [Learn More](#)

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Please consider making a donation to the Georgia Solar Energy Association. Your support helps to advance the solar industry in Georgia. Thank You!

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### Rush to Gas Risks Hundreds of Billions in Stranded Assets

The United States is in the middle of an unprecedented rush by both independent power producers and utilities to build natural gas plants and pipelines.



While natural gas has largely led capacity additions throughout the first two decades of the 21st century, the U.S. Department of Energy's Energy Information Administration (EIA) [forecasts that a stunning 21 GW of natural gas-fired power plants will come online in 2018](#), more than any year in at least a decade. [Learn More](#)

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We post articles daily on solar in Georgia, the southeast, around the United States and the world!

### Solar For Georgia's Nonprofits: Challenges & Opportunities

In 2015 Southface launched the Solar for Georgia's Underserved Markets Initiative to help our state's nonprofit organizations, communities of faith, municipalities, and multifamily affordable housing developments install solar photovoltaic (PV) systems.

A whitepaper, "Solar for Georgia's Underserved Markets," summarizes Southface's experiences in helping nonprofits go solar. [Learn More](#)



### Korean solar company to build 500 worker plant in Dalton



A South Korean company will create more than 500 jobs and invest \$150 million in a new solar module manufacturing facility near Dalton.

The company, **Hanwha Q CELLS Korea** ... is expected to start construction on the 44-acre property in Whitfield County and to hire primarily from the area, according to Carl Campbell, the executive director of the Dalton

Whitfield County Joint Development Authority. [Read More](#)

### Apple Hits 100% Renewable Energy

Apple has announced that its global facilities are now powered with 100% clean energy. This includes retail stores, offices, data centers and co-located facilities in 43 countries.

The company has also announced that nine additional manufacturing partners have committed to power all of their Apple production with 100% clean energy, bringing the total number of supplier commitments to 23. [Learn More](#)



### Ten Hotels in Atlanta's Buckhead CID to Install Solar

Some of Buckhead's biggest buildings may go greener with energy use reduction programs and solar power, according to Livable Buckhead Executive Director Denise Starling.

The organization recently recruited 10 Buckhead hotels to the Atlanta Better Buildings Challenge, a citywide



effort to reduce water and energy use by 20 percent by 2020... Livable Buckhead is a nonprofit that works to increase green space and sustainability and is spearheading PATH400, the multi-use path along Ga. 400. [Read More](#)

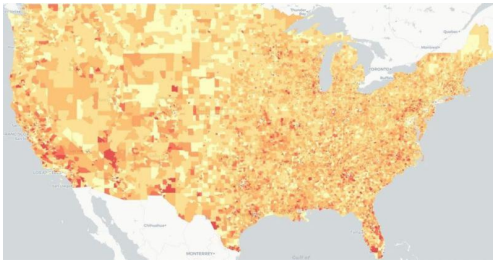
## Consider Becoming a Member of GA Solar!

**YOUR MEMBERSHIP  
& PARTICIPATION  
MAKES A DIFFERENCE!**



**Individuals, Nonprofits, Corporations, Cities, Counties, Come One Come All!**

## This Untapped Market Could Add 320 Gigawatts Of New U.S. Residential Solar Energy



Residential rooftop solar projects in the U.S. have historically been installed on wealthier, single-family households, meaning companies typically target higher-income households with their marketing efforts. Residential solar installations continue to grow across the country, but this focus is overlooking a massive growth opportunity: Low-to-moderate income (LMI) households.

A new **first-of-its-kind report** from the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) finds nearly half of all U.S. residential rooftop solar technical potential is on LMI households, and LMI solar capacity could total 320 gigawatts (GW) of potential solar installations across America. [Learn More](#)

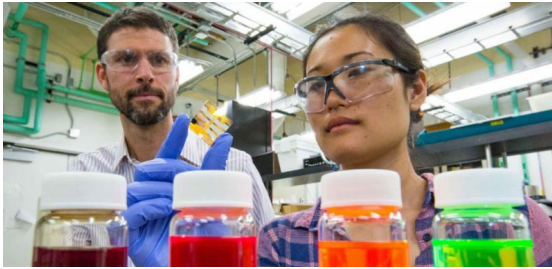
## Public Power Utilities Face Growing Risk From Renewables

"... Risks for utilities from the transition to a low-carbon electric grid center on the potential for stranded assets," Moody's explains in an announcement accompanying the report.



"Utilities may be required to shut down carbon-emitting generation assets — particularly coal plants — before the end of their useful lives. The ability to recover those capital costs while obtaining replacement power from another source could create affordability concerns if rate increases required are significant

## DoE Offers \$105 Million in Funding for Solar Research



The DOE has issued a call for projects to apply for funding in the areas of *grid integration*, PV, CSP and workforce diversity.

The DOE's Solar Energy Technologies Office (SETO) has announced that **it will be taking applications for \$105.5 million in funding** that has been made

available for solar research across a range of program areas.

SETO expects to fund around 70 projects which it says will address the "affordability, flexibility and performance" of solar technologies on the grid. [Learn More](#)

## Solar Investment Saw "Extraordinary Surge" in 2017

In 2017, solar energy dominated global investment in new power generation like never before, reports the United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment).

The world installed a record 98 GW of new solar capacity, far more than the net additions of any other power technology – including fossil fuels, nuclear or other types of renewable energy, says UN Environment. This 98 GW accounted for 38% of the net new power capacity coming on stream during 2017, the report says.

At \$160.8 billion, representing an 18% increase from the year prior, solar power also attracted far more investment. It made up 57% of last year's total of all renewables investments of \$279.8 billion, and it towered above new investments in coal and gas generation capacity, which were at an estimated \$103 billion, according to the findings. [Read More](#)



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