



**suncommon**

Selectboard  
Town of Guildhall  
P.O. Box 10  
Guildhall, Vermont 05905

Greetings,

Your neighbors are helping families across Vermont repower our energy economy by hosting a Community Solar Array (CSA).

This new program will help achieve Vermont's ambitious goal of deriving 90% of our energy needs from renewables by 2050. Ours is among only a handful of states that allow a single solar array to benefit multiple electricity consumers. The formal term is "group net metering;" we call them Community Solar Arrays. Folks aren't connected to the array by wiring, but through the utility's billing process. CSA members get credits on their utility bill from the solar produced by their community system, typically zero-ing out their charges so they shift their payments to the solar panels. Oh, and they save money doing so.

Since the proposed array will be located in your town, Vermont law appropriately calls for us to notify you and provide you the renewable energy application we submitted. And as your new neighbor, we have shared in this mailing our Good Neighbor Agreement, making clear our commitments to the communities we serve.

Please contact me if you'd like to learn more about your opportunities to join this effort to repower our state. We love helping our fellow Vermonters go solar.

All the best,

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Solar Counsel

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## Our Purpose

SunCommon believes that everyone has the right to a healthy environment and safer world — and clean energy is where it starts. Energy from the sun can power our lives, heat our homes and fuel our cars. Our mission is to tear down the barriers to renewable energy. We do that by making it easy and affordable for all Vermonters to go solar. Chartered as a Benefit Corporation and certified as a B Corp, we have legal and moral imperatives that direct us to attend to the triple bottom line of people, planet and profit. In short, we're committed to improving our Vermont community and the people that live here.

## Vermont's Goal

Vermonters overwhelmingly support the state's official goal of having 90% of all our energy come from renewable sources by the year 2050.

## Getting There

To achieve this vision of clean, safe, in-state, renewable energy — Vermonters need to build it. In just our first two years, SunCommon has helped hundreds of Vermont homeowners go solar. But over half of all the folks who ask to go solar can't because their homes face away from the sun or are shaded by trees. Vermont needed a solution, so we created Community Solar, where lots of families can benefit from a single solar array in their community. We call them Community Solar Arrays, or CSAs. Each one stands about 10-feet tall and takes up an acre or so of land. We hope to build many of these around the state to help thousands of Vermonters repower our state.

## Being a Good Neighbor

It matters where and how these community-scale solar arrays are built. This is SunCommon's *Good Neighbor Agreement*, making clear our commitments to the communities we seek to serve.

- **Serving communities.** We are Vermonters. We operate in community. Whether it's staffing a booth at a community event or presenting to the Select Board or Energy Committee, we seek to share the beauty of solar — providing accurate and detailed information to our fellow Vermonters. We live with you and strive to be good neighbors.
- **Engage early on.** When we begin planning a Community Solar Array (CSA), we will first engage town officers and community leaders — to seek input on where and how the project is situated.
- **Community workshops.** Once the pieces of a CSA have come together, SunCommon hosts a community workshop to answer any questions about the project and share with members of that community the opportunity to join the CSA as a member.
- **Locals first.** CSA memberships are exclusively available first to residents of the array's surrounding community, bringing community together to build and benefit from the local solar system.
- **Looking good.** We want our solar arrays to look good. For roof-top installations, we design the system to incorporate the home's aesthetic. For community-scale solar, we listen to local ideas for how the array is designed to best fit into our beloved landscape.
- **The longterm.** SunCommon is responsible for maintaining our community arrays for the decades of their green-energy producing lives. We'll be around to make sure the array is in working order and the property looks sharp.
- **And let us know.** SunCommon is proud to be part of this new movement, and we want to get it right. So we seek feedback on how we're doing because we believe this is important work that we're doing with our fellow Vermonters.



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