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Smarter Solar

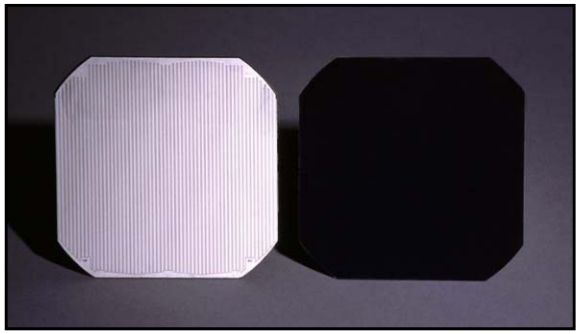
Testimony to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

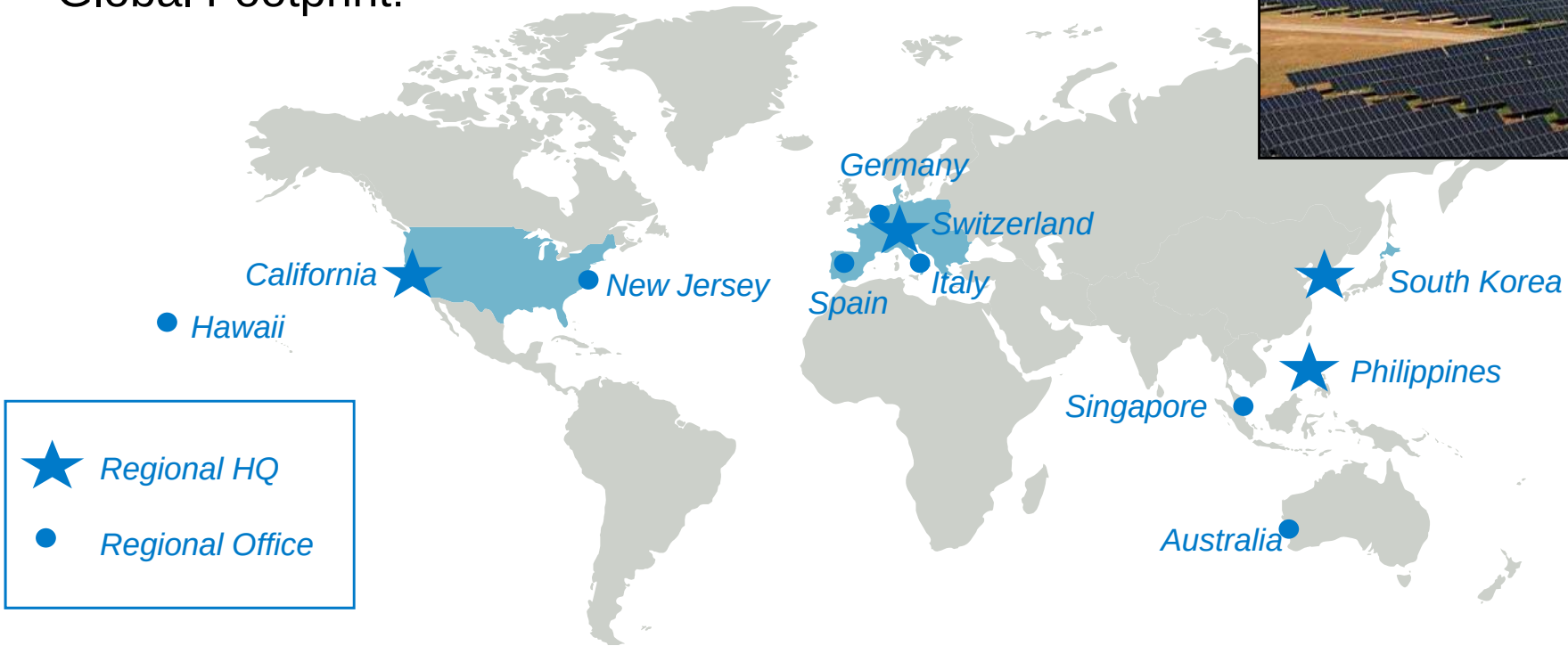
Thomas Leyden, Managing Director

October 29, 2008

SunPower Corporate Overview

- Incorporated in 1985
- HQ in Silicon Valley, California
- Nasdaq: SPWRA $1.4+ billion 2008 revenue
- Highest-performing solar electric systems worldwide
- Deliver most energy/m2
- Global Footprint:





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Market Sectors Cover All PV Applications

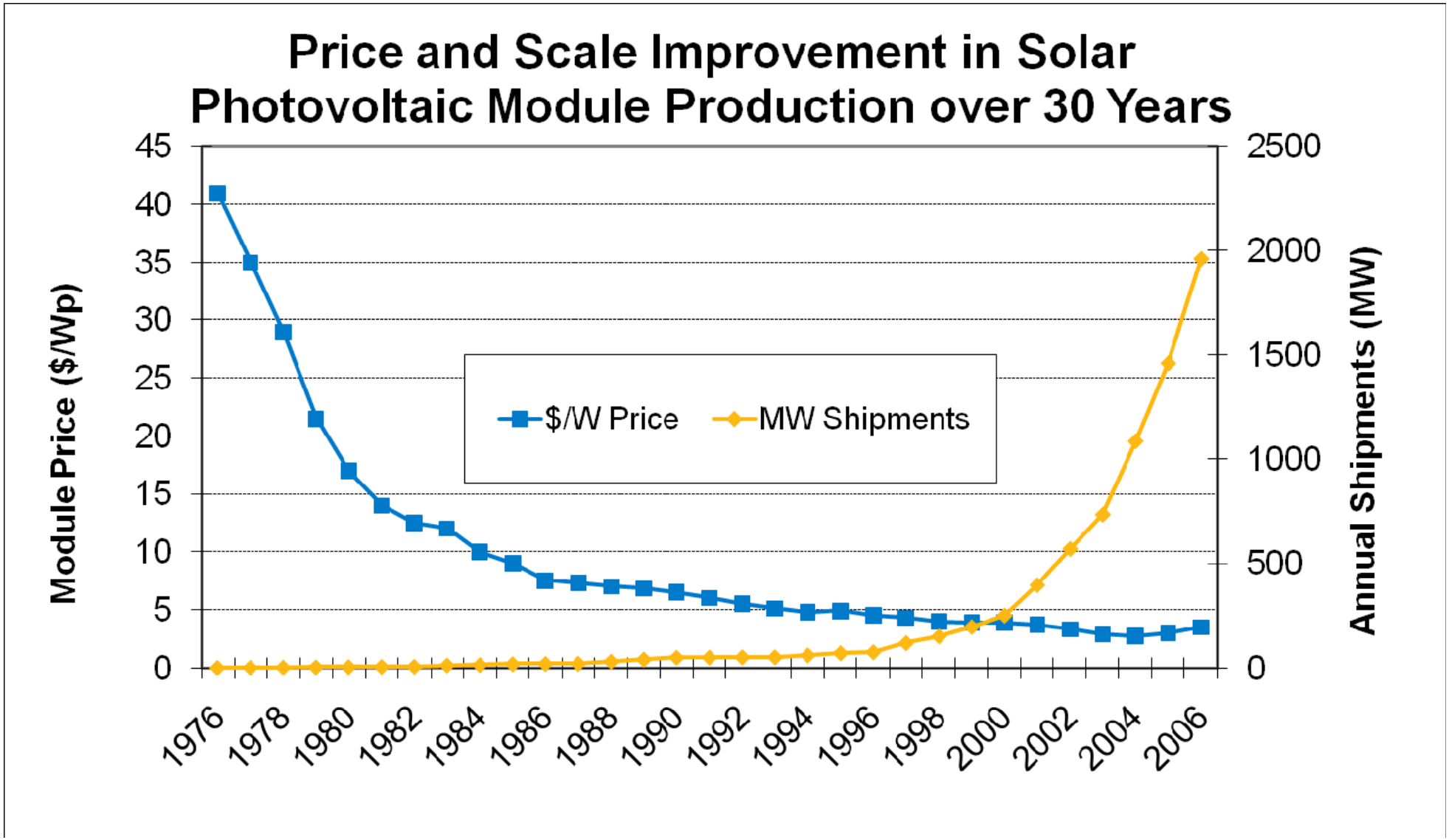
Residential Retrofit

New Production Homes

Commercial & Public

Power Plants

PV prices have fallen 10x in the last 25 years



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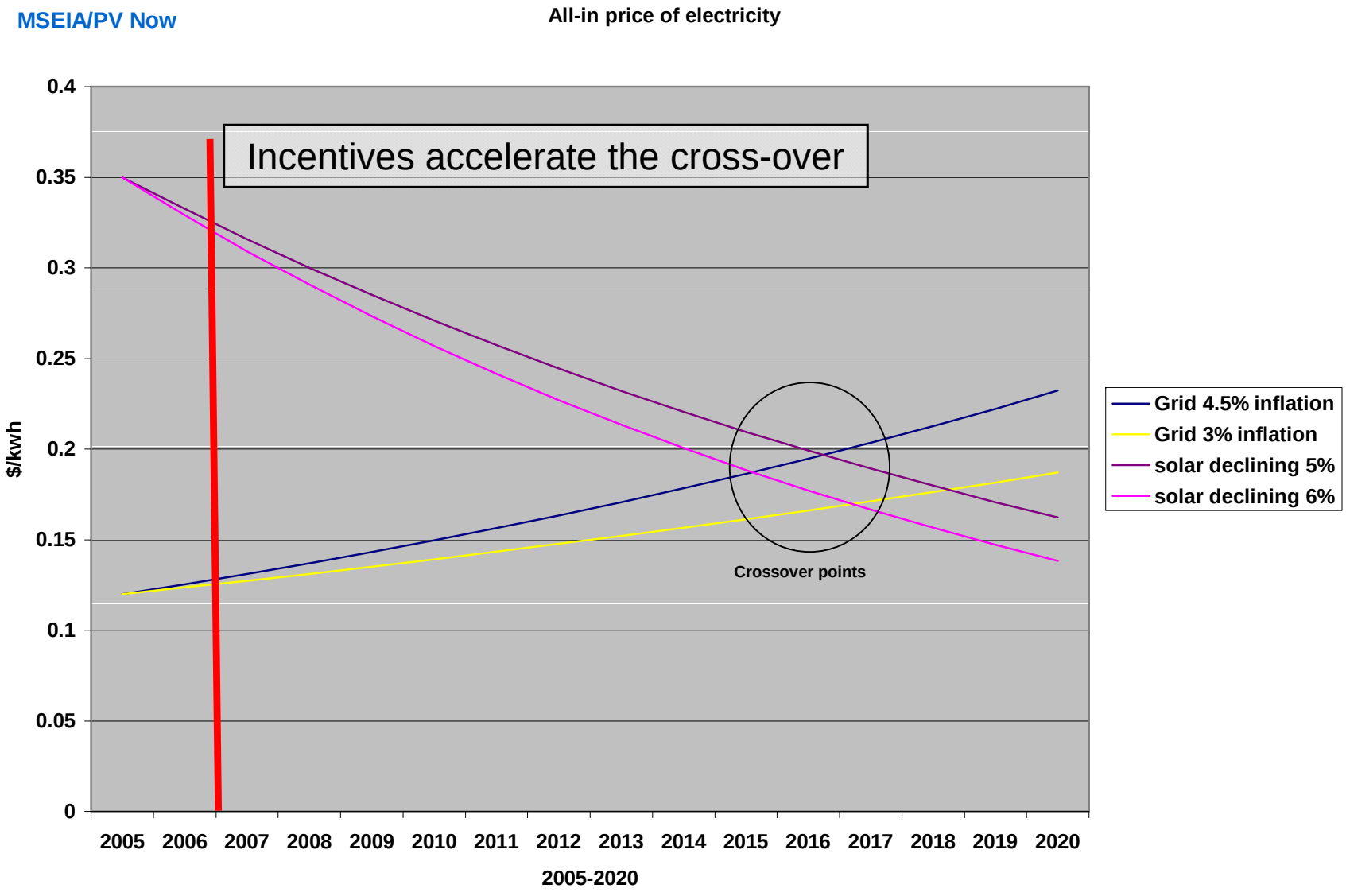
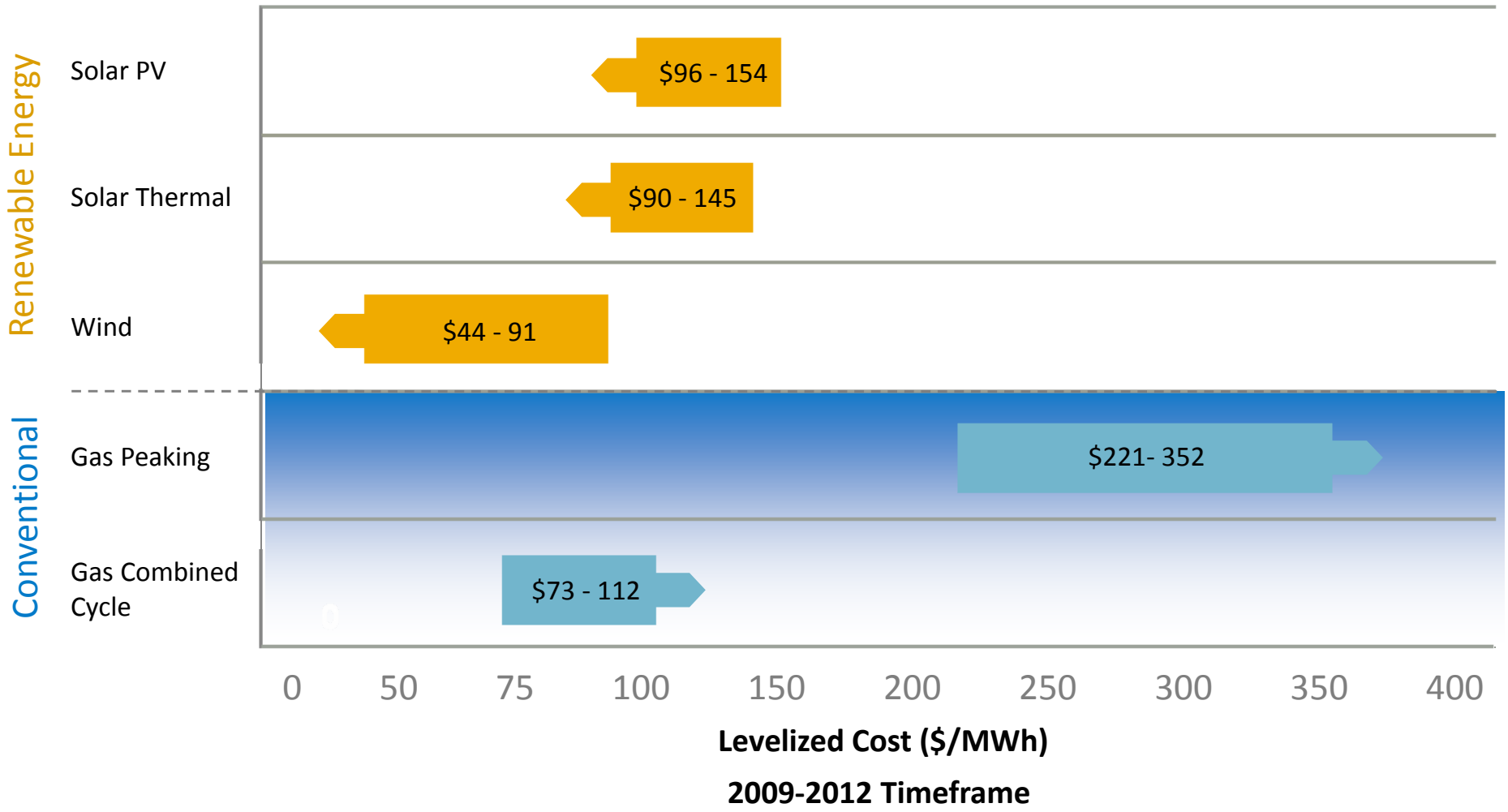
Reaching "Grid Parity"



Solar PV Is Cost Competitive



Source: Lazard, June 2008

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Key First Step in Federal Action to Support Solar

The New York Times

Energy Dept. Goes Green

A 205-kilowatt photovoltaic solar array was unveiled Tuesday on the roof of the Department of Energy's main building. Officials said the system at the Forrestal Building would generate about 200 megawatt hours of energy a year, up to 8 percent of the building's electricity load.

Newly passed federal 30% solar ITC extension will unleash private capital and bring us to grid parity within eight years

CHIP SOMODEVILLA/GETTY IMAGES

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Federal Solar Projects

USPS – Sacramento, CA

USPS – Oakland, CA

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Federal Solar Projects

US Navy, Ford Is. Pearl Harbor, HI

Air Force, March Air Reserve Base, CA

Federal Solar Projects

US Marine Base, Twenty Nine Palms, CA

GSA – Boston, MA

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Federal Solar Projects

USPS, San Francisco, CA

Coast Guard, Boston, MA

Federal Solar Projects

GSA – Los Angeles, CA

Fort Dix, NJ

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Federal Solar Projects

US Navy Base, Coronado, CA

USPS – San Francisco, CA

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Nellis Air Force Base, Las Vegas NV – 14MW

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What the Federal Government Can Do

Put underutilized federal assets to work generating clean energy. Examples:

- **Rooftops – over 170 million ft2 of federal buildings = Approx. 1,000 MWs of projects = power for 250,000 homes**

- **BLM Lands – Less than 1% of land = 70,000 MWs = enough power for 20 million homes**

- **Brownfields to Greenfields – Thousands of Superfund sites across the country**

What can solar offer?

- Jobs
  - Green collar jobs
  - Helps “Main Street”
  - Puts plumbers, electricians, roofers, steelworkers, engineers, and architects back to work in solar jobs
  - Helps revitalize manufacturing and high-tech sectors
- Save taxpayer $
  - Federal Gov’t is largest utility customer
  - Spends $5.8 billion annually on electricity costs
  - Unleash billions $ of private capital to build projects and save taxpayer $

What can solar offer?

- Security
  - Solar displaces natural gas electricity production
  - Hedge against future price inflation
  - Especially important with OPEC-like natural gas cartel
- Carbon Displacement
  - Climate crisis is the largest threat facing our nation and the world
  - Solar provides a carbon-free source of clean energy

Next Steps for Federal Support of PV

1. Give Federal Agencies authority to enter into 25 year PPAs (currently restricted to 10 years by GSA)
2. Provide direct appropriations for brownfields and buildings installing PV systems
3. Create solar specific ESPC mechanism or "SSPC"

Other Suggestions:

1. Work with state, city, and local governments to create solar jobs and solar installation programs
2. Loan guarantees for local governments (including libraries, ports, and other civic buildings)
3. Fund Green Schools program

Thank you

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Nellis Air Force Base

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