



2016 Solar Technical Assistance for States Call for Letters of Interest

Critical Question

What strategies can your state use to stimulate economic development through the deployment of solar photovoltaic (PV) technologies?

Potential Sub-Questions

Sub-questions are encouraged, but they should be directly relevant to an active program and policy design.

1. What suite of solar PV policies and finance or incentive programs could be implemented in your state to maximize economic development opportunities?
2. If your state agency implements a solar policy or program or set of policies and programs, what economic development impacts can be expected?
3. What tools can be used for program evaluation?
4. How can your state prepare for future energy needs while maximizing economic development through the deployment of PV technologies?
5. What economic development impacts would a vibrant and robust solar market provide in your state?
6. What are best practices for solar development have been implemented in other states that could apply to your state?

Letters of Interest

As part of this research project, the Solar Technical Assistance Team (STAT) Network will invite a state or multiple states to assist in addressing this critical question or sub-questions. Commitment and engagement by the selected state(s) throughout the time period of assistance (through September 30, 2016) and beyond is crucial. To be considered, a state must submit *a signed letter of interest (LOI) from a high-level official* who is part of the legislative or executive branch. The full LOI should include:

- 1) An explanation as to why your state is interested in this critical question and its associated sub-questions. Your state may also suggest additional sub-questions.
- 2) A designated staff member who will be the primary point of contact with the STAT Network and will collaborate on various tasks including stakeholder engagement, data acquisition, and outreach during the specified time frame.
- 3) A statement of commitment indicating a willingness to fully cooperate with the STAT Network and to actively participate in this effort.
- 4) An agreement to share appropriate data sources.

The letter of interest may include other relevant information about the need for analysis, existing economic or solar market conditions within the state, or documentation that demonstrates commitment by officials within the state to engage in this process. Letters of interest, including all appendices, should not exceed five pages.

Audience

State officials, state agencies, and their staff.

Deadline for Letters of Interest

Responses must be submitted to NREL at stat@nrel.gov no later than **5 p.m. ET on February 22, 2016**.

Time Period of Assistance

The comprehensive research and analysis provided to the selected state(s) through this effort will begin in March and be completed by September 30, 2016.

The STAT Network will provide the selected state(s) with detailed analysis, applying research findings within the jurisdictional context of the selected state(s).

About the Solar Technical Assistance Team Network

The STAT Network is a project of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) SunShot Initiative implemented in partnership with the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) and with assistance from National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO) and the Clean Energy States Alliance (CESA). In support of SunShot Initiative goals, the STAT Network seeks to:

- 1) Reduce non-hardware costs of solar PV
- 2) Lower barriers to solar PV deployment
- 3) Facilitate growth of the solar PV market.

The STAT Network aims to provide technical assistance that can be useful in regions beyond the immediate jurisdiction requesting assistance.

In addition, the STAT Network provides unbiased information about solar policies and issues for state and local government decision makers, regulators, and utilities. In addition to offering direct, time-

sensitive solar technical assistance and expert testimony on solar policy best practices in response to specific requests for assistance, the STAT Network intends to analyze a critical question impacting the solar market in one or multiple states.

Questions

Questions about this effort may be submitted to the STAT Network at stat@nrel.gov. Questions may also be directed to NREL's STAT Network partners.

- Melissa Savage at NASEO, msavage@naseo.gov
- Nate Hausman at CESA, nate@cleangroup.org

