

My name is Mark Sandeen. I am the founder of RePower Partners, a Massachusetts solar development company and co-founder of MassSolar. MassSolar is a rapidly growing solar advocacy organization representing Massachusetts solar businesses, the 26,000 solar owners in Massachusetts, and community and environmental organizations. Go to our website SolarIsWorking.org to learn more about how Solar Is Working for the Commonwealth.

GROWING OUR SOLAR-POWERED ECONOMY

Who is MassSolar?

MassSolar is a collaboration of Massachusetts solar businesses, solar owners, environmental advocates, community organizations and motivated citizens. We are dedicated to:

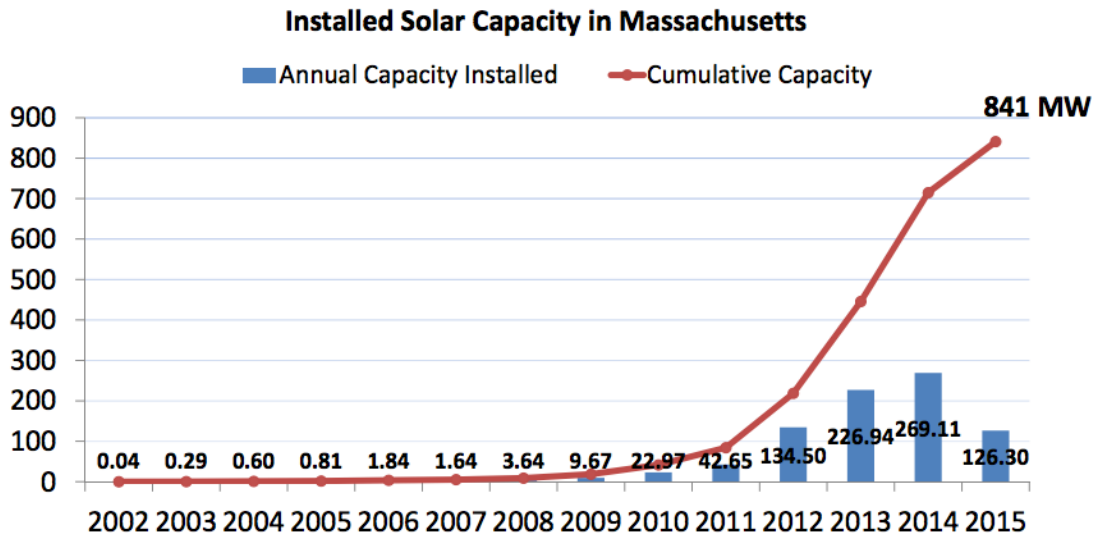
- Supporting the continued growth of the Massachusetts solar economy;
- Modernizing the electricity grid;
- Maximizing the potential of solar as a solution to climate change; and
- Ensuring that everyone has fair and equitable access to solar power.

Some of our affiliated organizations and companies:

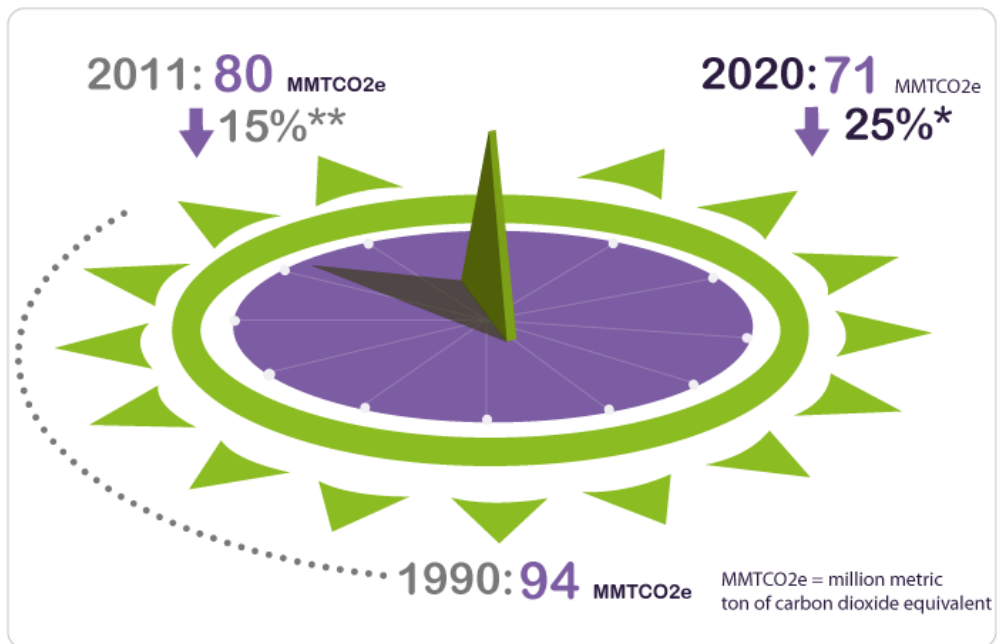


Net metering caps represent a clear and present danger to the future of the clean energy economy in the Commonwealth. Local businesses, municipalities, and residents waiting for community shared solar projects are being told their opportunity to go solar has been put on hold.

There are over 39 MW of public and private solar projects on hold today and that number is growing rapidly. That's 30% of all the projects that have been installed so far this year. And 30% of my own company's projects. There are more solar projects on hold today - than all the solar installed in the Commonwealth from 2006 through 2010.



Most of you remember that the Global Warming Solutions Act established emissions reductions goals of 25% by 2020 and 80% by 2050 and the net metering policies required to meet those goals. Net Metering policies that have enabled the creation of 12,000 solar jobs in Massachusetts. Net metering caps puts those jobs and our ability to meet our Global Warming emission reductions goals at risk.

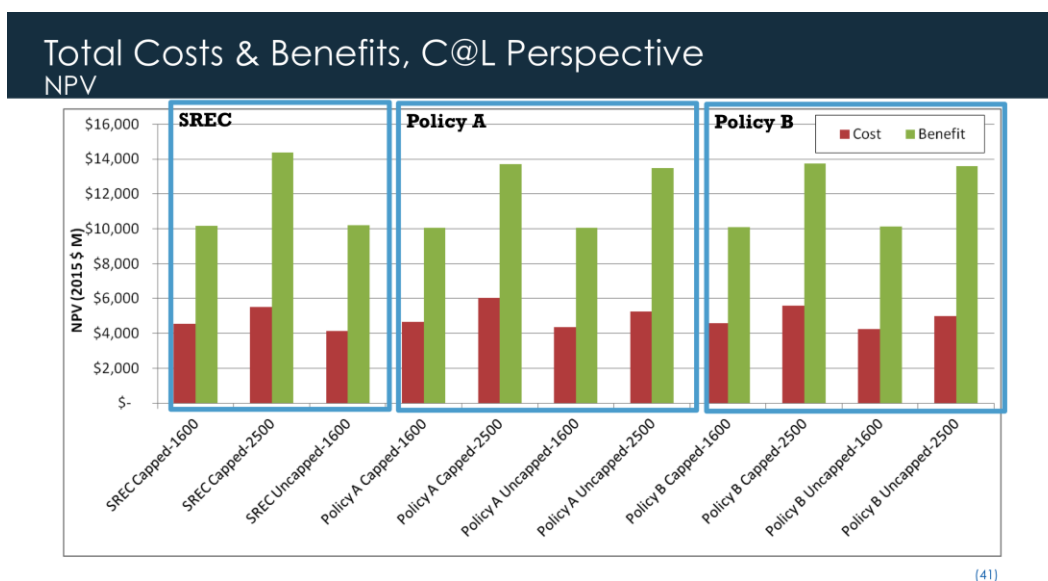


Let's talk about a couple of projects that have been put on hold.

Ed is a plumber in National Grid territory who is planning to build self-storage units on his property with 450 kW of rooftop solar. When his bank heard that the caps had been hit, they put the entire project on hold - including building the self-storage units. The net meter caps are not just hurting the solar industry, they are hurting Ed's business, the local builder's business who was planning to build the self storage units, Ed's bank, and the local municipality who was hoping to lock in stable solar electricity rates for the next 20 years.

A town in NSTAR territory, approved a 2 MW solar project on their landfill in February. But that project has been stalled for the last three months over legal concerns about the future of virtual net metering in Massachusetts. Who takes the risk if there is a change in law that affects the future of net metering? No one is sure. The project isn't moving forward until that legislative uncertainty is settled.

The Net Meter Task Force consultants prepared a detailed solar cost / benefits analysis considering 11 different scenarios. In every scenario, the benefits were worth more than double (2.2x to 2.7x) the costs and generated between \$5.4 and \$8.7 billion in net benefits to the Commonwealth at large.



So why are we waiting when in every scenario solar installations provide dramatic benefits to the Commonwealth at large?

MassSolar is here today, to ask for your help
To lift the net metering caps now,
To protect your constituents' fair and equitable access to community solar,
To grow our local clean energy economy, and
To achieve our Global Warming emissions goals.

MassSolar supports S 1770 / H 2852. An Act relative to net metering, community shared solar and energy storage sponsored by Senator Eldridge, Representative Calter, and Representative Mark.

GROWING OUR SOLAR-POWERED ECONOMY

How to keep our solar-powered economy growing

*An Act relative to net metering, community shared solar
and energy storage (S 1770/H 2852) proposes a long-term framework for solar*

1. Raises net metering caps to 1600 MW, exempts community shared solar and other small-medium solar projects from the net metering cap
2. Preserves virtual net metering in its current form
3. Removes key barrier to community shared solar
4. Establishes 20% by 2025 solar electricity goal
5. Enables energy storage

