



# More Solar Sooner in CT

## THE PROBLEM

The health and climate benefits of clean energy are widely understood. Less well appreciated is the fact that clean energy, and notably solar, offers Connecticut a path to lower energy costs.

Today, Connecticut is locked in an upward-sloping curve of ever increasing—and highly volatile—energy costs. These costs are largely beyond our control, subject to national and international geopolitical events and trends. As long as we continue to rely on fossil fuels, these costs will continue to rise and fluctuate.

If, instead, we transition to renewable energy sources such as solar and wind, we launch ourselves onto a downward-sloping energy cost curve. Making this change will require investments in:

- Renewable energy generation (e.g., solar, offshore wind)
- A reliable, modern grid, including storage and transmission
- Electrification of transportation (i.e., EVs) and heating (i.e., heat pumps)

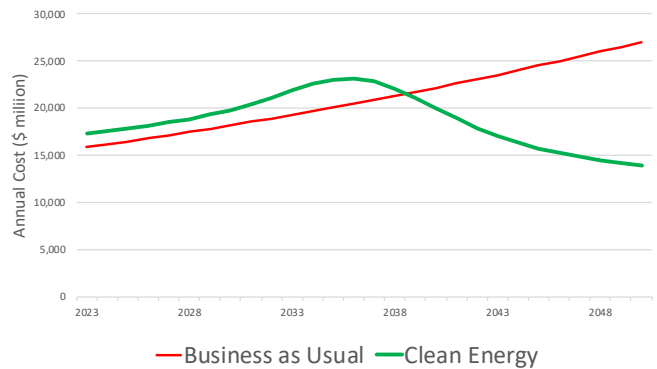
Fortunately, federal investments in clean energy, including the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) and Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) are available today to help pay for these investments without increasing energy costs in the near term.

## POLICY SOLUTIONS

We call upon our state leaders to increase solar deployments to 500 MW per year by 2027. We can do this through the following steps:

- Remove the caps on the Non-Residential Renewable Energy Solutions (NRES) program
- Expand and redesign the Shared Clean Energy Facility (SCEF) program, which expires in 2025, to unleash the massive demand for access to shared solar
- Implement uniform local property taxation of solar
- Clear solar interconnection queues and streamline future deployments
- Create a Solar Advancement Commission, to report back by the end of 2024, to draft policy recommendations to achieve the levels of solar deployment we need.

## Clean Energy is the Path to Lower Costs



*Federal incentives enable us to make the shift to downward-sloping costs.*

## FAST FACTS

- Connecticut currently spends \$15 billion each year on energy.
- If we stay on this path, that figure will rise to \$27 billion by 2050.
- If we transition to clean energy, we will spend *less* in 2050 than we do today.
- Making this transition requires investments in solar, wind, storage and a reliable grid.
- Federal dollars are available now to make these investments at no additional cost.
- To make this transition in time, we need to significantly increase the amount of solar we deploy each year to 500 MW by 2027 vs. 100-200 MW today.

1/5/24 v7.1

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