



## THE PROBLEM

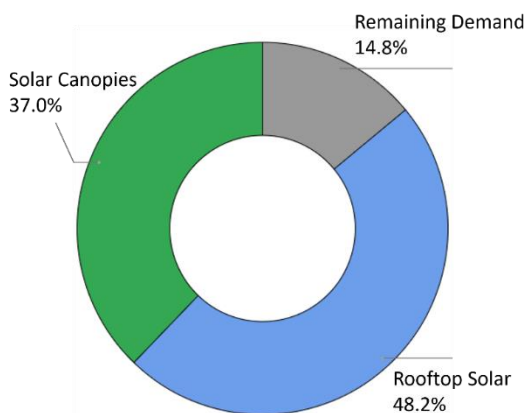
For Connecticut to meet its 100% zero-carbon energy targets by 2040 a significant amount of solar power must be sited within the state. However, solar developments continue to create land conflicts as they encroach upon agricultural and natural spaces. Large-scale, ground-mounted, commercial solar arrays have the potential to provide a significant amount of electricity to Connecticut, but distributed energy systems like solar canopies can provide alternatives to these land-intensive developments.

While the state's energy plans reference the production of solar energy in multiple different ways, there is no mention of solar canopies as a part of the evolving 100% renewable energy sector. This is a significant oversight as solar canopies have many unique benefits and can produce a significant amount of energy in Connecticut.

## FAST FACTS

Canopies reduce the need to encroach upon natural resources, are constructed upon impervious surfaces, & support a decentralized & resilient grid.

There are potentially **8,416 sites** across the state amounting to **7,021 MW** that could produce **9,042 GWh** annually.



Potential contribution of solar canopies and rooftop solar to meet Connecticut's electricity demand.



## POLICY SOLUTIONS

- 1. Create Adder Incentives for Solar Canopies and Related Infrastructure**  
Adder incentives can support specific types of renewable energy production such as solar canopies. An adder of \$0.06 per kWh produced would align CT with policies in MA and RI.
- 2. Expand or Remove Caps on Commercial Solar Development**  
Changes should include increasing the maximum Shared Clean Energy Facility (SCEF) Project Size to 5 MW.
- 3. Support An Equitable and Modern Grid**
- 4. Development Ameliorable Zoning Ordinances**

## MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about solar canopies in CT, contact:

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