

Can't Go Solar at Home ? . . . Try a Community PPA



Jim Pierobon

Standard Solar

Pierobon & Partners

TheEnergyFix.com

Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) Can Work for Individuals Too

- PPA defined: an agreement between a facility to host a PV system and purchase its electricity -- owned by a separate entity
- PPAs are growing among businesses
- Governments are getting in on the act
- Why not groups of individuals?

8 Prerequisites to a Community Solar PPA

1. Group of like-minded people willing to work on a PPA
2. Legal / policy framework led by an RPS (e.g. MD's)
 - a. 30% investment tax credit (*non-taxable income*)
 - b. RECs: one for each 1,000 kilowatt hours generated
 - c. Net metering: allows credit for and cash-out of excess generation

(cont'd)

8 Prerequisites to a Community Solar PPA *(cont'd)*

3. Other financial benefits, e.g. share of accelerated depreciation
4. Need to form LLC or some other business entity to own the systems + sign contracts with:
 - > *“LL” might stand for “lessons learned”*
5. Solar company to install and monitor/maintain

8 Prerequisites to a Community Solar PPA *(cont'd)*

6. Host facility to buy electricity for 20+ years
 - a. no up-front cash needed*
 - b. initial kWhr price 1-2 cents less than utility's rate*
7. Recruiting members – easier than you might think
8. Notify local utility – in advance – when ready to interconnect to grid

University Park Community Solar LLC

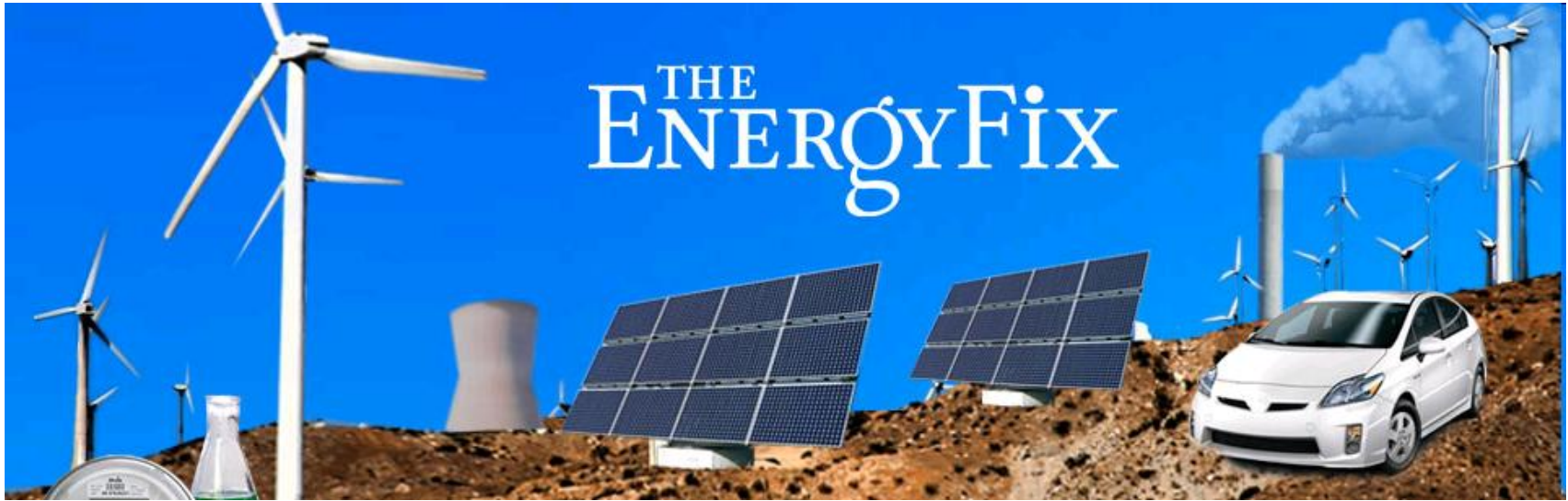
- 38 investors
- Average 'investment': \$4K
- 2+ years to make this happen
- Annual REC income est: \$8,400
- 7% annualized return
- Each person over 20 years will cut carbon emissions by 10 tons



MD's net metering law upgraded by state Senator – 2nd from right

Now for the result: a 22 kW solar system 'installed' . . . in 4 minutes





Jim Pierobon

jim@jimpierobon.com

301-520-1758

