


A

An aerial photograph of a solar farm, showing rows of solar panels stretching across a landscape. The panels are arranged in a grid pattern, and the perspective is from a high angle, looking down at the rows. The panels are a mix of blue and green, likely due to different types of solar cells or the way they are being installed. The background is a clear blue sky.

HB19-1003 Community Solar

Rep. Chris Hansen
Rep. Alex Valdez
Sen. Mike Foote
Sen. Tammy Story

Outline

1. Motivation, Scope, Proposal
2. What is Community Solar
3. Importance of Community Solar Gardens
4. Community Solar in Colorado
5. Policy Revisions

Motivation & Scope



- “**Broader participation** in solar electric generation by Colorado residents and commercial entities” [1]
- Need to modernize statutes to increase access and lower costs for Coloradoans
- Applies to Investor Owned Utilities (IOU’s)
 - Black Hills and Xcel Energy

Mechanisms for Broader Participation

Decrease Cost to Develop CSGs

Remove outdated restrictions on CSGs
lower costs and allow better market operation

Increase Access

Ensure all customer types *are* participating

Lower Project
Costs



Lower
Subscription
Costs

What is a Community Solar Garden?

- Solar facility shared by multiple subscribers who receive compensation for their share of the power produced [2]
- NREL: only **22% to 27%** of households suitable for a rooftop PV system [3]

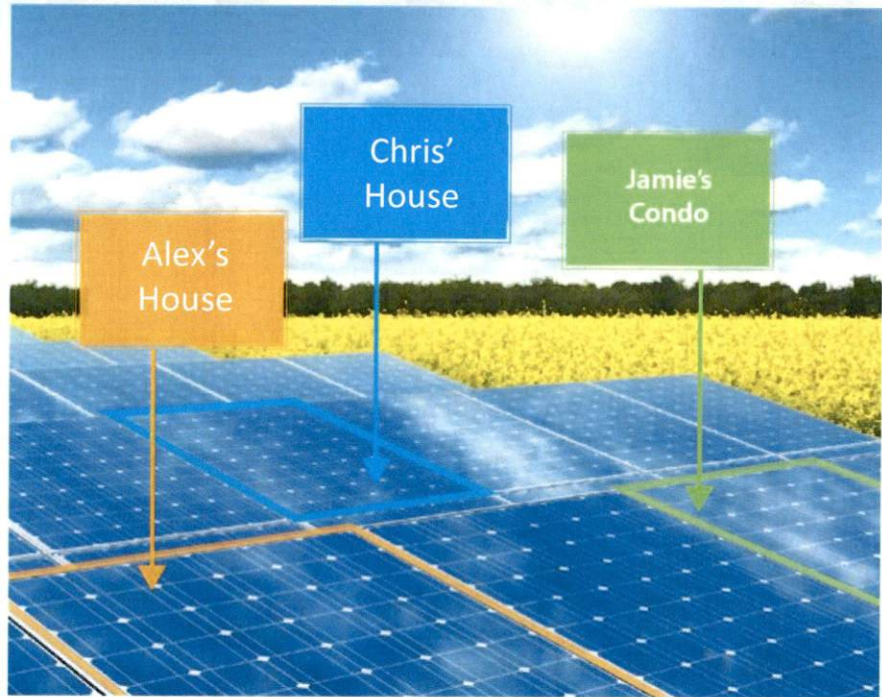


Image credit [3]

Why Use Community Solar?

An aerial photograph showing rows of blue solar panels installed on a green roof. The panels are arranged in a grid pattern, and the surrounding roof area is covered in grass. The image is partially obscured by a blue banner at the top of the slide.

- Renters cannot install rooftop PV
- Physical constraints (roof type, shading)
- Access to upfront capital
- Aesthetics of PV
- Maintenance
- Transferability

Why Are CSG's Impactful to Coloradoans?



- Customer choice
- Investment with payback period
- Competition and market for renewables
- Increase grid resiliency / security
- Increased public understanding of solar energy

Why Are CSG's Impactful to Coloradoans?



- Leverage economies of scale \$/watt ↓
- Avoid transmission losses / defer upgrades
- Increase access to renewables for residents, agricultural producers, low-income groups, renters