

# Million Solar Milestone



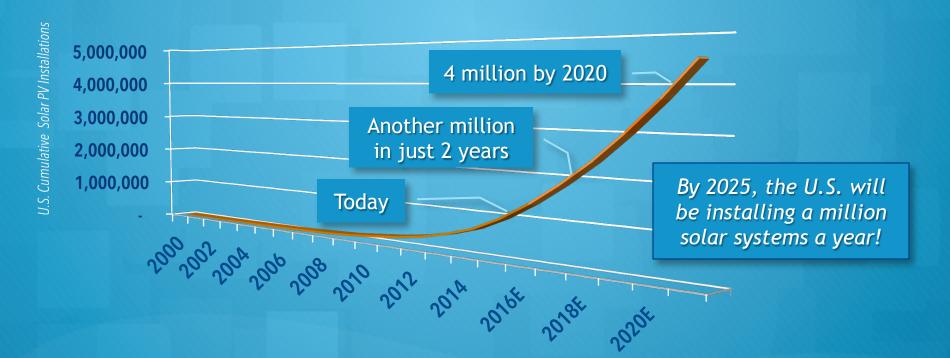




## Solar Declaration

# #MILLIONSOLARSTRONG

"The adoption of solar energy in America has reached a new height of one million installations nationwide. This milestone is the product of American innovation and ingenuity. It is the result of consumers, policy leaders, advocates and an industry of over 200,000 workers who have all helped make the nation's clean energy revolution a reality."



#### How much is a million?







Currently solar only supplies about 1% of U.S. electricity generation, but it is growing rapidly accounting for almost 30% of new capacity last year.

- \* Over 1,500 utility-scale installations account for the bulk of U.S. generation, with some recent projects producing power cheaper than any other source.
- \* Nearly 57,000 business and non-profits have installed solar, including many of America's most recognizable companies such as Walmart, Apple, and GM.
- \* Over 942,000 homeowners are producing their own-power, increasing family incomes while reducing their carbon footprint.

# How did we get here?

A combination of factors have allowed solar to scale from just 1,000 installations in 2001 to over a million today.

- \* Installation costs have dropped by more than 70% over the past decade, led by more efficient panels that are 66% cheaper than just 5 years ago.
- \* The predictability of the long-term 30% federal investment tax credit enacted in 2008 and extended in 2015 through 2021.
- \* State policies like net-metering and renewable portfolio standards provided stable policy environments that allowed solar to break into markets and thrive.



### Solar Means Jobs



# Solar Reduces Carbon



million CO<sub>2</sub> saved annually

Equal to

Driving a car 3.2 million times around



Equal to



Annual emissions from the state of Oregon

Equal to

Carbon sequestered by all national

park lands in the

lower 48

#### Low-Income Solar

Given the proven ability of residential solar systems to decrease monthly electric bills, rooftop solar could help relieve the disproportionate energy burden and become a source of ongoing wealth creation in lower income communities.

- Lower income households face a range of barriers to going solar, including being more likely to be renters or live in multi-tenant buildings, lacking access to financing, and owning property with deferred maintenance issues.
- Finding ways to enable lower-income Americans to benefit from solar will unlock huge new markets and is essential to reaching national energy goals.





2016

2009

1 million U.S. installations

2003

100,000 U.S. installations

10,000 U.S. installations

1,000 U.S. installations

1982

First U.S. megawatt-scale project installed

1977



U.S. Government launches Solar Energy Research Institute (later became NREL)

1974



Solar Energy Industries Association founded

1973



First U.S. PV solar home installed

1954



First solar PV cell patented by Bell Labs