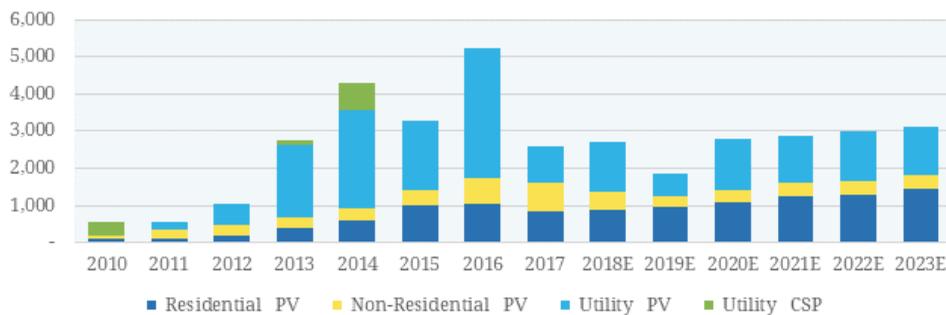


California has the largest solar market in the U.S. and has been a longtime champion of solar because of the many economic and environmental benefits it provides, including \$42 billion in investment in the state.

Solar supplies nearly 16 percent of California's electricity today, but it must play a bigger role if the state is to reach climate and energy goals. Despite successes and new policies, such as the residential requirement established by the California Energy Commission (CEC) in May, there is still a lot of work to do to achieve California's broader goals.

SEIA, the solar industry's national trade association, works with its members to expand markets, remove market barriers, strengthen the industry and educate consumers on solar energy benefits. We represent utility-scale generators, manufacturers, the companies that sell panels to homeowners — and everyone in between — before the CAISO, CEC, the Legislature, Public Utilities Commission (PUC), and other government agencies.

California Annual PV Forecast



2018 Priorities

This year, SEIA's advocacy priorities include:

Setting a long-term goal for renewable procurement

SEIA wants the Legislature to approve new Renewable Portfolio Standard legislation (such as SB 100) to clarify utility procurement obligations and encourage procurement of utility-scale solar. We are also engaged in utility Integrated Resource Planning (IRP) processes to ensure that utility scale and distributed solar are represented.

Modernizing the grid in a way that creates a level playing field for solar

Distributed energy resources, like solar, can provide power where it is needed most and help avoid investments that a utility would otherwise need to make. Today's electric grid must allow distributed energy technologies to flourish so they can provide reliable, low-cost power for consumers. SEIA is working to make this happen through rate cases and education efforts, including a white paper series that describes risks and opportunities in California.



Ensuring rate cases and NEM encourage solar use

We are ensuring that the California Public Utilities Commission encourages distributed solar on homes and buildings in rate cases and net metering rules. Among other benefits, distributed solar reduces stress on the grid and reduces infrastructure costs that, once approved, are locked in for years and passed on to ratepayers.

Solar access and customer choice

SEIA is ensuring that customers can choose from a suite of energy options that allow them to lower their bills and contribute to a more resilient, cleaner, and cost-effective power grid. This includes expanding clean energy access for low-income and disadvantaged communities that have traditionally borne the brunt of pollution from the electric sector. SEIA is supporting legislation and programs at the PUC, including a SEIA-sponsored offsite solar bill (SB 1399), improvements to the Green Tariff Shared Solar program, and advocating for a community solar program for disadvantaged communities.

Incorporating Solar into State's Codes and Standards

SEIA is at the forefront of the efforts to develop codes and standards to encourage more energy-efficient homes and buildings that save residents money and reduce emissions from buildings (about 40 percent of our carbon output). SEIA led the effort at the CEC to develop the nation's first solar PV mandate for new homes, as well as the Commission's incentive for energy storage in new homes. SEIA is also working with the Department of Toxic Substances on PV recycling standards.

Specific Initiatives

Legislation:

- **SB 100 and related legislation.** We are working to pass new legislation, including SB 100's 100 percent Renewable Portfolio Standard, to accelerate long-term procurement of utility-scale solar resources. This will ensure the state meets its greenhouse gas reduction goals cost effectively, while adding California jobs.
- **AB 813.** SEIA supports this bill from the chairman of the Assembly's Energy and Utilities Committee to regionalize California's energy market and enable higher penetration of renewables.
- **SB 1088 and Anti-Solar Language.** SEIA is fighting legislative language to eliminate distributed energy resource (DER) providers' ability to contract with utilities to make the grid more resilient, safer, and cost effective. DER should be playing this role in our modern grid.
- **SB 1399.** SEIA worked with Senator Scott Wiener to sponsor this bill. It would help public sector, non-profit, and commercial customers go solar by allowing them to partner with a solar project at an offsite location. The measure encourages beneficial land use in warehouses, brownfields, parking lots, etc. by allowing their owners to develop projects and serve load to municipal entities and businesses across town.

Regulation & Rate Cases:

- **Integrated Resource Proceeding (IRP).** SEIA is engaged in the PUC's IRP process to ensure that utilities follow through on the PUC's guidance to procure 9 GW of utility scale solar by 2030.
- **Utility Rate Cases.** SEIA is engaged in rate cases for the state's three investor-owned utilities, pushing for rates that reflect the full value of solar and storage and protect the value proposition for solar customers.
- **Net Metering (NEM).** SEIA led the industry effort to preserve net metering in the "NEM 2" proceeding, and we are working to ensure fair grandfathering treatment for NEM customers as policies evolve. SEIA will be leading the industry effort to ensure the right outcome in "NEM 3," which is expected in 2019.
- **Distribution Resource Planning.** SEIA is engaged in the PUC's enhanced distribution planning process to ensure utilities provide data and transparency for distributed resources to serve grid needs and save money. SEIA also is working to ensure that distributed energy resources are adequately considered by the utilities before they get approval for significant ratepayer funded distribution system investments.
- **Integrated Distributed Energy Resource Proceeding.** SEIA is working with the PUC to develop innovative ways to deploy distributed resources, such as new tariffs that compensate DER for advanced grid services.
- **Solar Valuation.** SEIA is working to ensure that solar and other distributed resources are fully valued and that solar customers are fairly compensated for the benefits their systems deliver to the grid.
- **Community Solar.** SEIA is working to improve the Green Tariff Shared Renewables program at the PUC to enable customers who cannot put solar on their homes to access offsite solar and lower utility bills.
- **Disadvantaged Communities Program.** SEIA wants the PUC to establish a community solar program that would serve disadvantaged communities and locate projects in these communities.

Other Policies:

- **CEC PV Mandate.** SEIA led the charge to establish the May 2018 PV mandate at the California Energy Commission. This bold, first-of-a-kind policy requires PV on all new homes and incentivizes energy storage. The mandate is expected to cut homeowner utility costs by more than \$80 per month.
- **PV Recycling.** SEIA is developing PV module recycling standards at the Dept. of Toxic Substances.

For more information on solar markets in California, please contact Rick Umoff, *Regulatory Counsel and California Director, State Affairs*, SEIA at rumoff@seia.org | 202-603-0883

About SEIA®:

Celebrating its 44th anniversary in 2018, the Solar Energy Industries Association® is the national trade association of the U.S. solar energy industry, which now employs more than 260,000 Americans. Through advocacy and education, SEIA® is building a strong solar industry to power America. SEIA works with its 1,000 member companies to build jobs and diversity, champion the use of cost-competitive solar in America, remove market barriers and educate the public on the benefits of solar energy. Visit SEIA online at www.seia.org.