

# Rural photovoltaic panel power generation policy



## Overview

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This capstone report provides a comparative policy analysis of four states, Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, and New York, to examine how both local and state policies affect the deployment of utility-scale solar and align with community values, environmental protection, and.

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### Smart Solar? Policy Recommendations

With input from experts and AFT partners, AFT has developed a suite of policy recommendations for all levels of government that will protect farmland, farm viability, rural economies, and agricultural land

### Agrivoltaics Pathway

Permits can have a large impact on the timing of solar installation, so familiarize yourself with local regulations, permits, and zoning requirements for solar development on agricultural land. Check if



### AGRISOLAR POLICY GUIDE

These policy initiatives showcase a range of approaches to drive innovation in farmland solar, including market mechanisms, scoring systems, mandates, and voluntary programs.

### [Agrivoltaics , Solar Market Research & Analysis , NLR](#)

To meet renewable energy goals by installing large-scale solar operations, agricultural land may be taken out of food production, but agrivoltaics offers the potential to balance food



### [Policy Landscape For Rural Utility-Scale](#)



## Solar Deployment

The plan specifically addresses the role of solar energy in the county, which includes a discussion of the financial and environmental benefits the county derives from its current solar resources and a map of

## **Policies and Regulations , US EPA**

State Solar Carve-Out Programs  
Solar Interconnection Standards & Policies  
Understanding Electricity Market Frameworks & Policies  
Interconnection standards define how a distributed generation system, such as solar photovoltaics (PVs), can connect to the grid. In some areas of the United States, the interconnection process lacks consistent parameters and procedures for connecting to the grid or is unnecessarily complex. This drives up costs and causes delays, which can be sign See more on [epa.gov/nrel.gov](http://epa.gov/nrel.gov)



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The continued growth of the distributed solar market has prompted electric utilities, regulators, and others to consider improvements to the interconnection processes. Below are

## Agrivoltaics: An economic option for farmers and rural development

Agrivoltaics can reduce local opposition to solar projects on farmland and create new income

streams across rural stakeholder groups. Agrivoltaics significantly reduces water usage and



### [The Use and Potential of Agrivoltaics in the United States](#)

Agrivoltaics are the co-location of ground-mounted rows of solar photovoltaic panels to produce electricity together with raising certain types of crops or livestock or providing pollinator

### **The Potential of Agrivoltaics for the U.S. Solar Industry, Farmers, and**

For the solar industry, agrivoltaics has the potential to facilitate siting of solar installations, improve solar PV panel performance by cooling the panels, and lower operations and maintenance



### [Harvesting the Sun-Twice: Agrivoltaics and Rural Land-Use](#)

This dual land-use approach allows solar energy production to coexist with farming activities, from crop cultivation to livestock grazing and supporting pollinator habitats.

## **Contact Us**

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