



Acadia Center

Advancing the Clean Energy Future

Smart Solar Siting in New England

New England Consumer Liaison Group
March 14, 2019



The Clean Energy Future



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Another Side of the Clean Energy Future

Solar Panels on Farmland Stir Debate in Central Washington

After decades of growing alfalfa, Timothy hay and other crops, Jeff and Jackie Brunson want to lease part of their farm to a Seattle-based solar-power developer.

APRIL 25, 2016 6:00 AM

Solar sprawl: Vermont, the Solar Panels Everywhere State

Vermont Watchdog Report

Worry over solar sprawl spreads across Rhode Island

San Bernardino County bans large-scale solar, wind in some areas

California's largest county has banned renewable energy projects that doesn't serve local needs in 14 communities and "rural living" zoning districts, covering more than one million acres.

MARCH 1, 2019 CHRISTIAN ROSELUND

New Milford files another petition against Candlewood Solar project

By Katrina Koerting Updated 10:28 pm EST, Friday, March 1, 2019



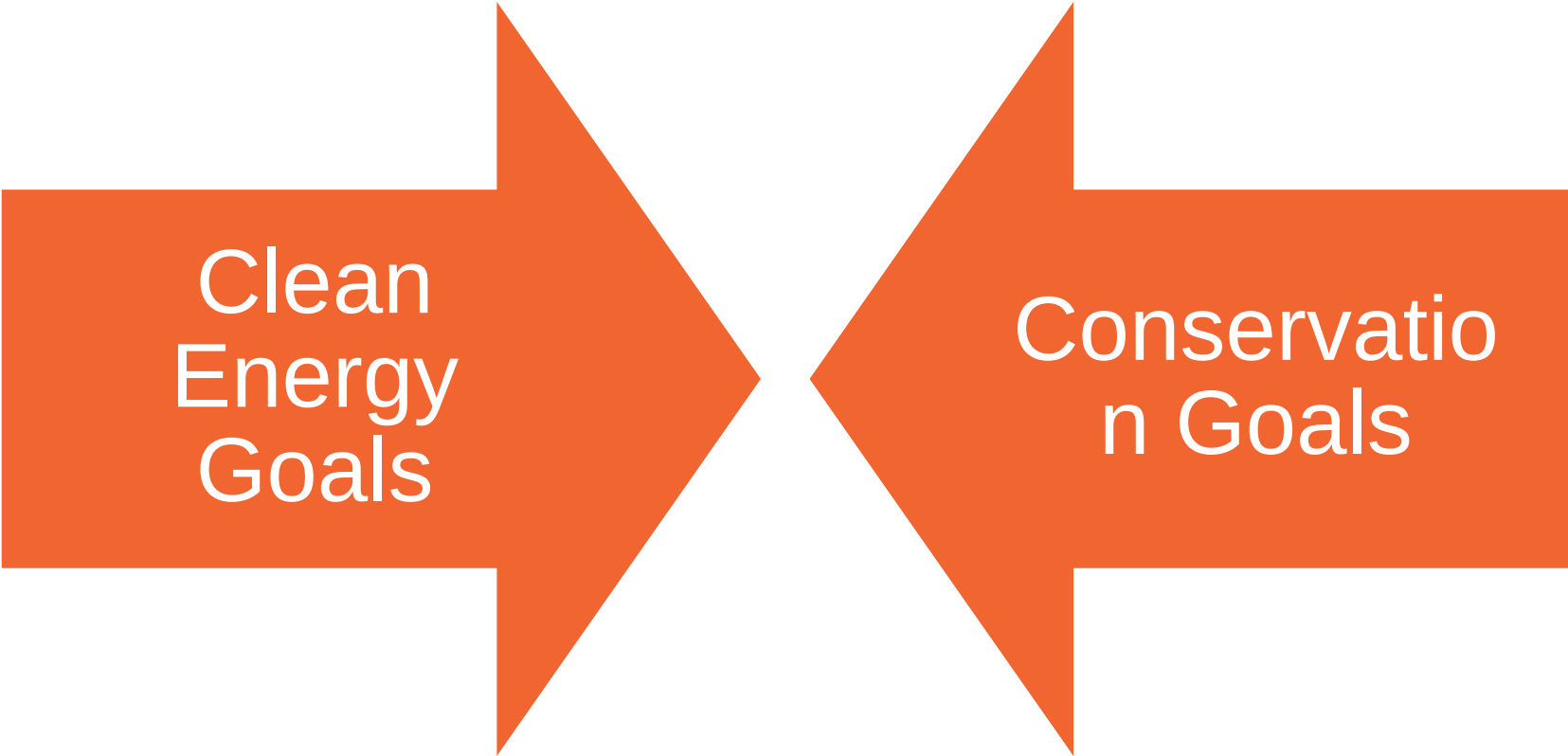
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We Can Do Both!



Clean
Energy
Goals

Conservation
Goals



Solar In Context

- Key Part of Overall Energy Transformation



TRANSPORTATION



GENERATION



BUILDINGS



GRID



CHOICE

- Solar Works with Energy Efficiency, Demand Management, On- and Offshore Wind
- Vast Untapped Solar Resources in New England



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How Much Solar?



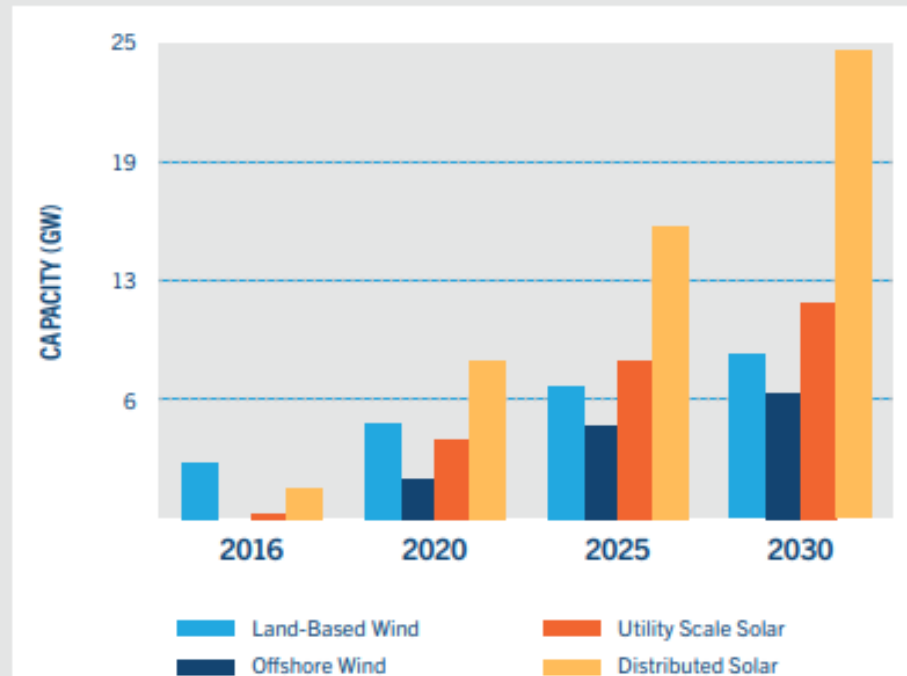
40% Class I Renewables
17,000+ MW of Solar
In New England
By 2030



How Much Solar? (Cont.)



Forecasted Renewable Energy Growth in New England & New York



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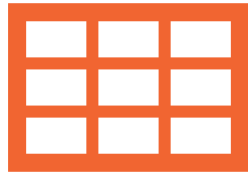
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Source: EnergyVision
2030



Where Do We Put It?



Grid Scale



Rooftop



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The Economics of Siting



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Source: Kearsarge Energy
via OER



Large-Scale Siting Considerations

- Farmland, Forest and Open Space
- Developed and Disturbed Properties
- State Versus Local Control
- Project Size
- Incentives and Disincentives
- Community Character

Smart Siting: 'More Than Enough'

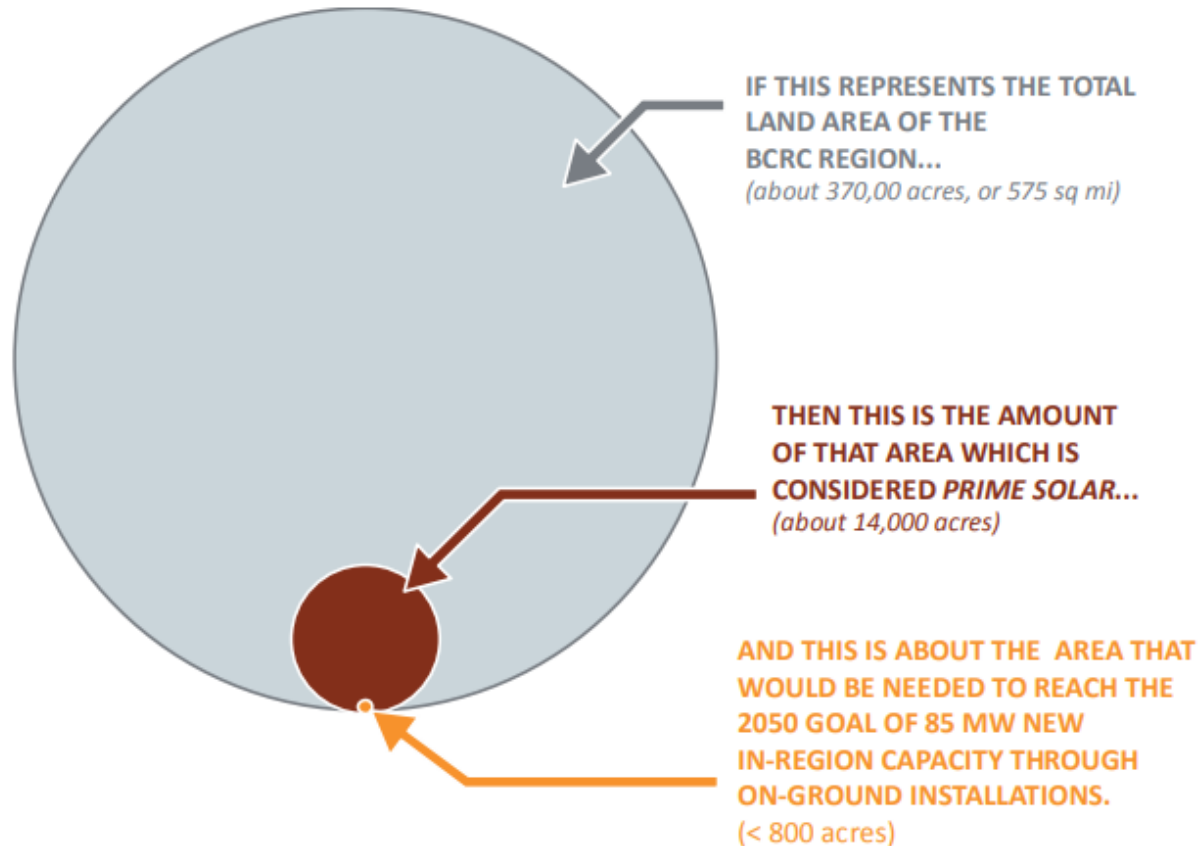


Figure 24. A Bennington County Regional Commission graphic showing more than enough prime solar land to site the targeted capacity of solar.



Rhode Island: A Case Study

- Rhode Island Renewable Siting Stakeholder Committee
- 13 Principles for Renewable Energy Siting
- Solar Siting Guidance and Model Ordinance
- Mapping Areas of Environmental Concern
- Incentives and Disincentives



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Comments?
Questions?



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