



## More Resources for Consumers

In addition to IREC's ***Be Solar Smart - A Checklist for Residential Consumers Considering Solar Energy***, the following resources will give you additional information and explanations.

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### **Residential Consumer Guide to Solar Power**

Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA)

This six-page guide informs potential solar customers about the financing options available, contracting terms to be aware of, and other useful tips.

<http://www.seia.org/research-resources/residential-consumer-guide-solar-power>

### **When going solar, should you lease or buy? The pros, cons, and costs of installing a solar photovoltaic system**

Consumers Report: February 27, 2015

<http://www.consumerreports.org/cro/news/2015/02/when-going-solar-should-you-lease-or-buy/index.htm>

### **Solar Power for Your Home: A Consumer's Guide.**

LSU AgCenter

This 20-page guide addresses the basics of a solar photovoltaic system, placing and sizing the system and covers buying or leasing including solar leasing versus ownership calculators.

[http://www.lsuagcenter.com/portals/communications/publications/publications\\_catalog/home%20improvement/energy/solar-power-for-your-home--a-consumers-guide](http://www.lsuagcenter.com/portals/communications/publications/publications_catalog/home%20improvement/energy/solar-power-for-your-home--a-consumers-guide)

### **Solar Power for Your Home**

Federal Trade Commission (FTC)

This FTC web page covers solar power options, determining if solar energy is right for you, buying or leasing a solar system and other important information.

<http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0532-solar-power-your-home>

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### **A Homeowner's Guide to Solar Financing: Leases, Loans, and PPAs**

The Clean Energy States Alliance and the Department of Energy's Sunshot Initiative have developed a Homeowner's Guide to Solar Financing that includes insight on leases, loans and power purchase agreements.

<http://www.cesa.org/assets/2015-Files/Homeowners-Guide-to-Solar-Financing.pdf>

### **Solar Leasing Disclosure Statement**

Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA).

This streamlined statement is designed to help solar customers understand the terms and costs of a solar lease. It is not intended to be a substitute for reading the contract, lease and other documents associated with a solar transaction.

[www.seia.org/sites/default/files/SEIA%20Solar%20Lease%20Disclosure%20Form%20%28fillable%29%20-%201.13.2016.pdf](http://www.seia.org/sites/default/files/SEIA%20Solar%20Lease%20Disclosure%20Form%20%28fillable%29%20-%201.13.2016.pdf)

### **Best Practices in Public Claims for Solar Photovoltaic Systems**

Center for Resource Solutions

This document presents a series of questions and answers regarding PV and the issues specific to selling and claiming Renewable Energy Certificates ("RECs"). Though the paper focuses mainly on photovoltaics, many of the issues discussed below pertain to other types of distributed generation.

<http://www.green-e.org/docs/energy/Solar%20FAQ%20and%20Claims.pdf>

### **Database of State Incentives for Renewables & Efficiency (DSIRE)**

North Carolina Clean Energy Technology Center

DSIRE is a comprehensive source of information on incentives and policies that support renewable energy and energy efficiency. Easy to use through a map and zip code search function.

[www.dsireusa.org](http://www.dsireusa.org)

### **North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners (NABCEP)**

NABCEP offers professional certification to renewable energy professionals throughout North America. You can search by state to find a certified professional.

[www.nabcep.org/certified-installer-locator](http://www.nabcep.org/certified-installer-locator)

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### **Clean Energy Credentialing Organizations**

Interstate Renewable Energy Council

This lists includes organizations in the clean energy sector that offer practitioner and hardware certifications.

[www.irecusa.org/workforce-education/credentialing-bodies](http://www.irecusa.org/workforce-education/credentialing-bodies)

### **Solar Licensing Database**

Interstate Renewable Energy Council (IREC)

This licensing database is a web-based resource with licensing requirements by state for installing photovoltaic and solar thermal systems. Easy-to-use search function by state.

[www.irecusa.org/workforce-education/solar-licensing-database](http://www.irecusa.org/workforce-education/solar-licensing-database)

### **Freeing the Grid: Best Practices in State Net Metering Policies and Interconnection Procedures**

Interstate Renewable Energy Council and Vote Solar

Net metering and interconnection are two policies that allow energy consumers to generate their own clean electricity without burdensome red tape and costs. This web-based grading system by state includes information and explanations of these policies.

<http://freeingthegrid.org>