

Private/Non-profit Collaboration in the Provision of Solar Energy to Moderate Income Homeowners

Or

*Norm builds a community solar
array!*

Norman Levy, MD

Swanwich Energy Committee

Who/Why

- Norman Levy-Retired physician
- Joined Norwich Energy Committee 2014
- Personal interest was extending benefits of energy efficiency and clean energy to low and moderate income Vermonters
- Very impressed by the Suncommon community solar model, and disappointed when they stopped expanding
- Learned how their model was financed
- Thought that at my financial level,
 - I could emulate that model on smaller scale
 - Offer to low/moderate income residents of my local community at a discounted price
- Could not do alone

Private/non-profit collaboration

- Private
 - Me-Investor/owner: Norm & Sun, LLC
 - Norwich Solar Technologies
 - Builders of array
 - Assistance in describing project to:
- Non-profit-Twin Pines Housing (Trust)
 - Primary source of affordable housing in Upper Valley
 - Builder of Starlake: 14 home affordable housing cluster in Norwich
 - Owner of land for array
 - Access to Starlake homeowners
- Starlake Homeowners

- 45 Kw AC/65 Kw DC array
- Provides electricity to 14 moderate income homeowners living in the Starlake Housing cluster In Norwich, VT. , an adjacent homeowner, and Cover Home Repair
- Provides electricity at 25% less than GMP rate
- Land owned by Twin Pines Housing-**Non-profit**
- Array built by Norwich Solar Technologies-**solar developer**
- Financed and owned by me: Norm & Sun, LLC-**private investor**



More Whys

- Why did I think I could do this?
 - Very generous subsidies inserted into the federal tax regulations in 1992 to encourage PRIVATE investment in renewable energy
 - Typically yield full return of initial investment in 5 years
 - The ability to recycle the returned funds and do it again
 - For me, charity on steroids
- Why am I telling this story?
 - To encourage others of similar means and desires to consider such a project
 - To let you know that solar developers have begun actively facilitating this "local impact investor" model

