Community Solar Fact Sheet

What is Community Solar?

- Community Solar makes it possible for anyone with an electricity bill to save with solar, even if they can't put panels where they live because they rent or don't have a good roof for solar.
- Legal in 22 states, currently illegal in West Virginia. West Virginia legislature needs to pass enabling legislation

How does it work?

- 1. These projects enable individuals, businesses, or organizations to purchase or subscribe to a "share" in a locally-sited community solar panel array
- 2. Community solar panels generate solar energy which goes to the grid
- Utility credits subscribers for the energy generated by their share of the project, lowering their bills

Who can participate?

 Individuals and families, schools, churches, hospitals, nonprofit organizations, farms, commercial businesses, communities and municipalities

What are the benefits?

- Lower electric bills from day one
- Lock in long-term affordable electricity rates
- Avoid utility rate increases
- Stabilize monthly budget expenditures
- Choose where your energy comes from!

How will community solar help West Virginia?

- Broaden access to affordable solar energy
- Expand local economic development throughout the state
- Create good local jobs
- Attract Employers to invest in West Virginia
- Energy freedom and competition

How can I help?

West Virginians should have the right to choose where their energy comes from. <u>Sign the petition</u> to urge your legislators to legalize Community Solar Programs in our state. For more information and to get involved, contact: Leah Barbor, Program Director, Solar United Neighbors of West Virginia, 304-212-88452, <u>Ibarbor@solarunitedneighbors.org</u>

