

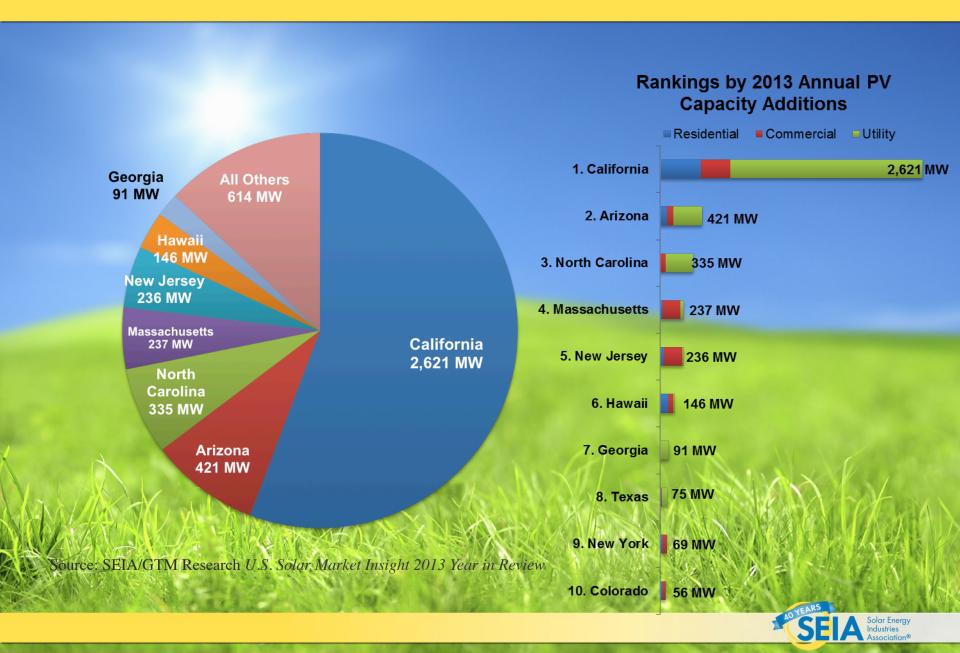
**Solar Power, NEM and Challenges to the Traditional Utility Model** 

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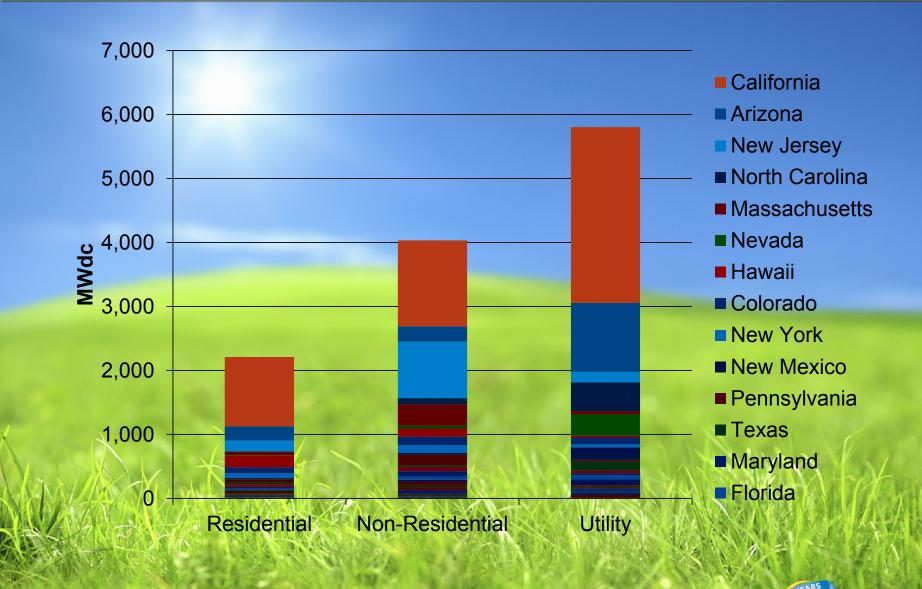
## **About SEIA**

- Founded in 1974
- U.S. National Trade Association for Solar Energy
  - 1,000 member companies from around the world
  - Members from across 50 states
  - Largest companies in the world as well as small installers
- Our Mission: Build a strong solar industry to power America
- Our Goal: 10 gigawatts (GW) of annual installed solar capacity in the U.S. by 2015

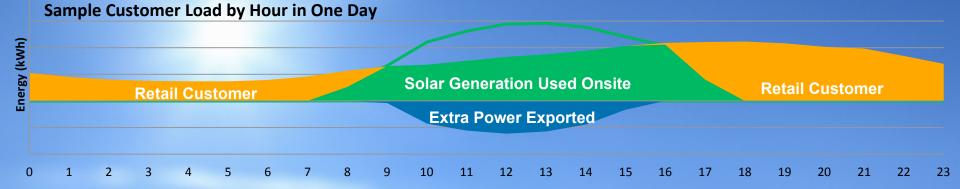
## **2013 State Performance**



## **Cumulative Capacity by State**



#### **How does NEM work?**



## Morning



In the morning hours when the solar system produces less electricity than needed, the customer will pull electricity from the grid.

#### Mid-day



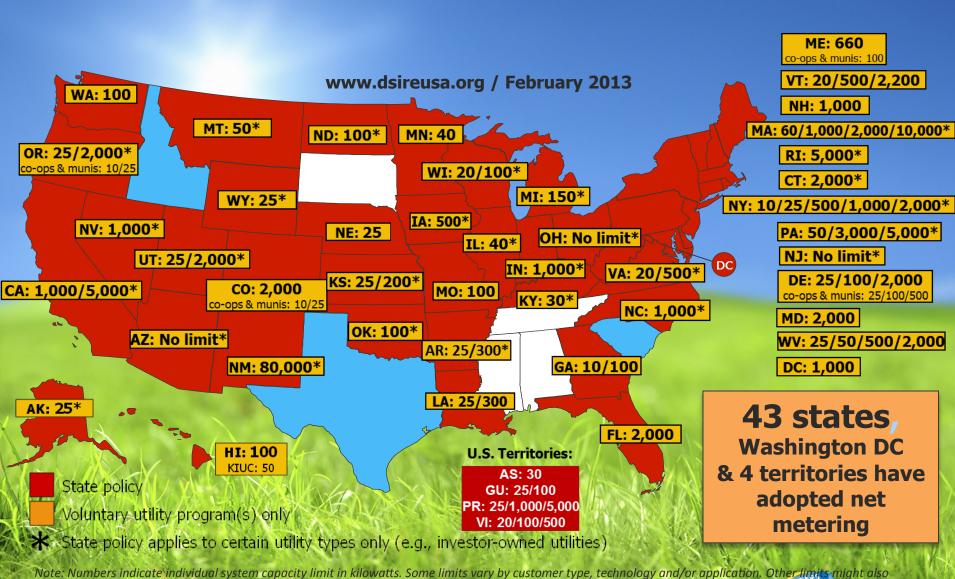
In the middle of the day when the solar system produces more energy than is needed onsite, the extra power is exported to the grid and the meter runs backward, building up a credit with the utility.

#### Evening



In the evening and night hours, the customer will again pull electricity from the grid. Credits from the exports go toward "netting out" usage on a month-to-month or annual true-up.

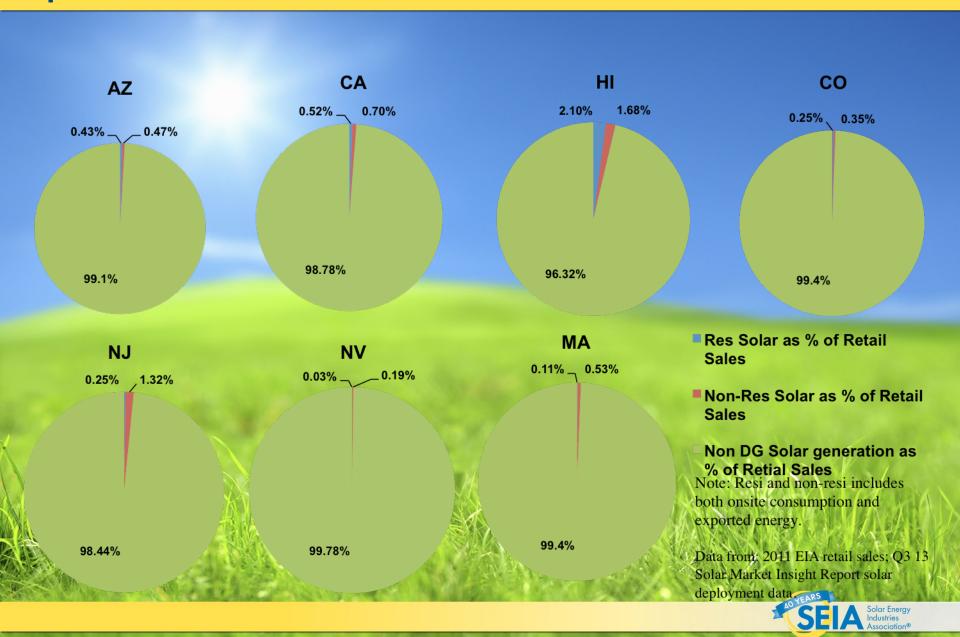
## **Status of Net Metering**



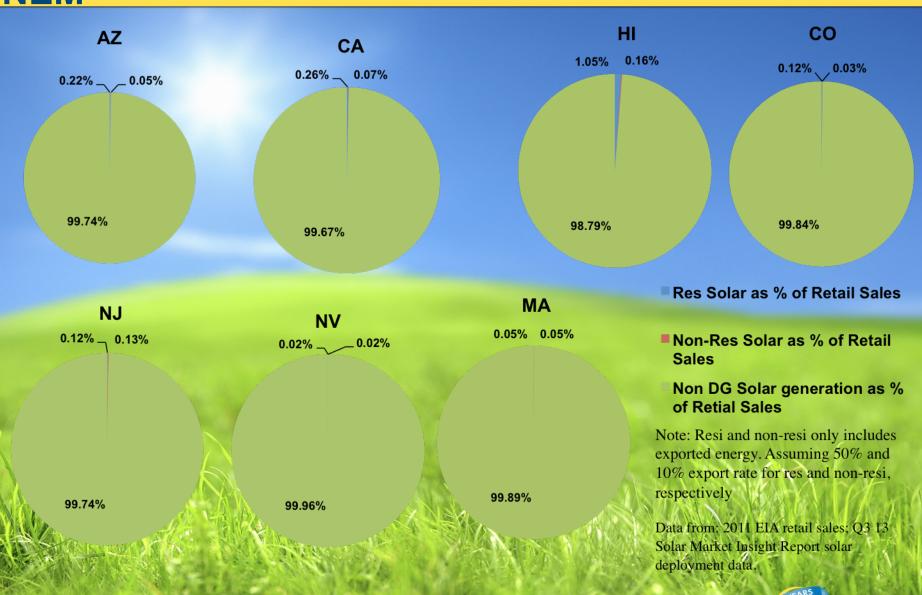
apply.

This map generally does not address statutory changes until administrative rules have been adopted to implement such changes.

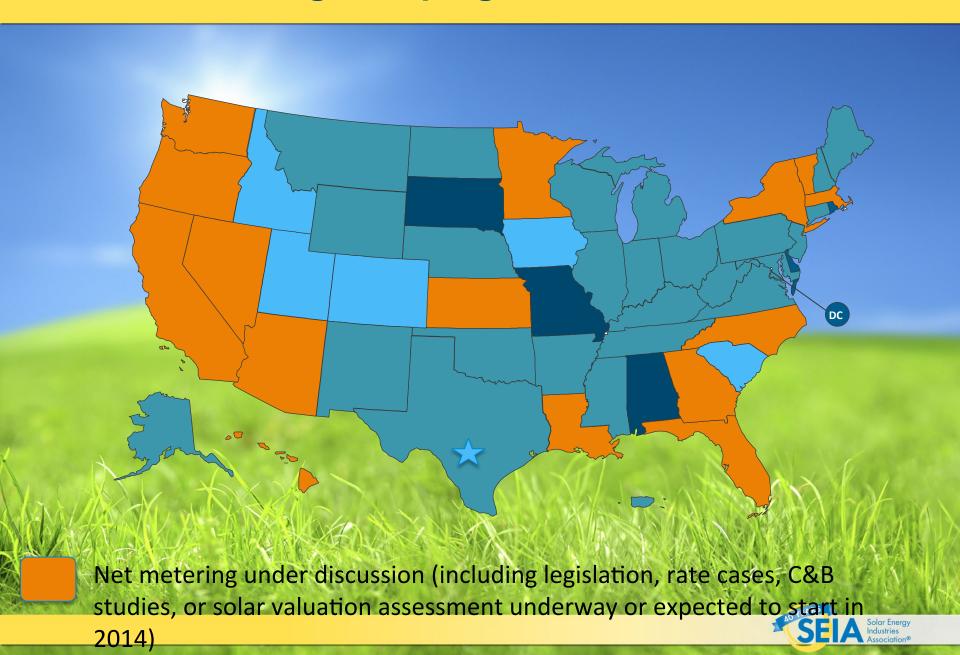
## Distributed Solar is a Tiny Fraction of Retail Sales, even in Top Solar States



# Distributed solar exports minimal amount through NEM



## **2014 Net Metering Campaigns/Dockets**



## **SEIA's Net Energy Metering Guiding Principles**

- 1. Right to self-generate, connect to the grid, and reduce grid electricity use.
- 2. Properly valuing solar electricity, and adequately compensating solar customers.
- 3. Non-discriminatory practices within cost of service recovery.
- 4. No net energy metering caps.
- 5. Statewide application.
- 6. Transparency, access to data.
- 7. Implementation best practices.



## **Challenges and Solutions**

- Technological and use changes are impacting the grid. Customers have more control and more access to data.
- The vertically integrated/cost of service/ guaranteed ROR model faces challenges.
- Acknowledging the change is key
- Changing rate design is critical
  - Rates can't be 100% volumetric
  - Benefits of technological and behavioral change should be recognized
  - Fixed costs for services should be valued
  - Cost recovery could be forward looking

## **California**

- Net Energy Metering (NEM) Grandfathering
  - The rules establish how long customers receiving full retail NEM service under ("NEM 1.0") will remain on their existing tariff. New NEM Program rules ("NEM 2.0") take effect on or before July 1, 2017 for all systems going forward
  - Establishment of a 20 year transition period from the date of interconnection for all customers taking service prior to the earlier of an IOUs respective NEM cap or July 1, 2017
    - Enabling transfer of system ownership without impacting NEM eligibility;
       however, relocation of the system will result in the customer being transitioned to NEM 2.0
    - System modifications may be made after the cut-off date, provided enhancements are no more than the greater of 10% of the existing system capacity or 1 kW and the system is sized to not exceed the customer's peak load
- NEM 2.0 proceedings have started, must be concluded by December, 2015.

## **California**

## Rate Design

- Residential Rate Design OIR
  - IOUs' Phase 2 (summer 2014) rate proposals were restricted to only incremental changes
  - IOU proposals for post-2014 rate design submitted Feb 28<sup>th</sup> most proposed an immediate collapsing of tiers to a two tier structure by 2018, with a fixed charge implemented over time, capped at \$10. One utilities proposed TOU be implemented post-2018.

#### Commercial Rate Design

- PG&E's GRC Phase 2 proposal limits A-6 eligibility; in settlement discussions
- SCE's Rate Design Window Application which proposes to retain the current 150 MW Option R (low demand change high volumetric rate/ friendly solar) cap; awaiting a scoping memo
- SDG&E's Rate Design Window Application which proposes changes to TOU periods for all customers

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## **Arizona**

- "Burns Innovation" docket holding a series of workshops
- Intent is to review the major innovations and technological areas that will have "the greatest potential to impact the current energy utility model", including:
  - Distributed Supply and Storage Resources Enabling Customer Self-supply; Utility-Scale Storage Technology and Transmission and Distribution Automation
- Energy Division will hold a series of NEM informal workshops
- Comments have been submitted re: scope and speaker recommendations
- After the workshops are held, Staff will draft a proposal for the ACC to consider adopting

#### **Massachusetts**

- Legislation: Very active and critical session, currently three Bills Of Interest
  - H4060/SB1978 Raise NEM CAP and create DPU review – SEIA sponsored bill
  - S2030 creates competitive procurement for large solar, create min bill for NEM customers only – utility sponsored bill
  - Rep. Cusack& Sen. Finegold (number TBD) establishes authority for state to conduct RFP for more renewables, including Canadian hydro

#### Minnesota VOST

- MN VOST Docket (E999/M-14-65)
- Utility implement at their discretion.
- Customer is charged for all energy consumed and credited for all energy produced (buy all sell all).
- A fixed price based on:
  - Avoided fuel cost
  - Plant O&M-fixed & Variable
  - Avoided Gen Capacity Cost
  - Avoided Reserve Capacity Cost
  - Avoided Transmisison Capacity Cost
  - Avoided Distribution Capacity Cost
  - Avoided Environmental Cost