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## Utility CLEAN programs driving distributed solar

July 29, 2013 | By [Barbara Vergetis Lundin](#)

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Georgia Power, Long Island Power Authority (LIPA) and Fort Collins Utility (FCU) are joining utilities in Sacramento, CA, Los Angeles, CA, and Gainesville, FL, in implementing CLEAN Programs, with the Georgia, New York and Colorado utilities planning to bring a total of 840 MW of solar energy online by 2016.

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Credit: The White House/Wikimedia Commons

Georgia Power will expand its Advanced Solar Initiative (ASI) from 210 MW to 735 MW, as approved by the Georgia Public Service Commission (PSC) -- at least 190 MW of which is distributed solar being brought online through a CLEAN Program.

"Commissioner McDonald's motion adding 525 MW of solar to our 20-year energy plan is a hedge against more coal regulation and natural gas price volatility," said Georgia PSC

Commissioner Tim Echols.

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TOOLS

Increasing local renewable generation is a smart economic investment for utilities across the country. LIPA is also pursuing greater distributed solar energy through a CLEAN Program. The day after the Georgia Power announcement, LIPA announced plans to expand its CLEAN Solar Initiative (CSI) from 50 MW to 150 MW. The CSI expansion includes a premium of 7 cents per kilowatt-hour for solar projects sited at critical points on LIPA's grid, which will enable the utility to defer expensive transmission investments.

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"LIPA's detailed assessment that distributed generation can provide at least 7

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cents per kilowatt-hour of incremental value by avoiding additional costs associated with transmission-dependent generation provides an important lesson for the rest of the country," said Craig Lewis, executive director of the Clean Coalition. "The locational value of wholesale distributed generation is substantial and the compensation of such will ensure that energy generation is deployed where it is needed most -- and in a timely fashion."

**Reprint**

Just last week, FCU unveiled its Solar Power Purchase Program -- a CLEAN pilot program that will bring 5 MW of distributed solar online by 2015 and serve as a model to expand local renewable generation throughout Colorado.

For more:

- visit this [website](#)**Related Article:**[LIPA largest CSI on Eastern Seaboard](#)

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(Frost & Sullivan) Enterprise Content Management Energy Industry: Increase Safety And Reliability, Decrease Costs And Damages



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The energy sector has seen spectacular failures in recent years, in terms of human life, the environment, and costs to the companies and communities as they rely on paper-based information and processes.

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Why cant a Voting, Tax paying Homeowner, be allowed to participate in the Ca. State mandate of 33% Renewable Energy by 2020, with out third party leasing ? or using our Desert Eco-Systems ?

In California alone, third-party solar installations account for two-thirds of the residential PV market, which exceeded non-residential for the first time.

"Examples of how they have been "slowing the process" are:

(1) Renewable portfolio standards (RPS) which create de facto caps on the deployment of renewable energies. (The Germans don't have any RPSs. Their FIT program is open ended, the more capacity, the merrier!)

(2) Net-metering caps. Most states only allow a small percentage of one to two percent of peak load to be net-metered. There are exceptions however. Colorado, for example, has no aggregate capacity limit. However, most states do. Net-metering, therefore, will certainly "hold back the clean energy tide."

(3) The third party leasing rent-to-own outfits like Sungevity, but more importantly,

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