Bringing SolarAPP+ to Minnesota

Making it cheaper, faster, and easier for homeowners to go solar

Why Minnesota needs SolarAPP+

Currently, **only 1%** of Minnesota homes have solar, a figure that needs to grow rapidly to meet our clean energy goals.

- To install solar, homes first need to receive a permit from the local building department. Unfortunately, the hurdles to receive the permit is one of the biggest obstacles to solar growth.
- Permitting processes often vary widely between different cities and counties. This adds significant costs to contractors, who pass that on to their customers.
- As a result, homeowners get frustrated and fewer homes go solar.

For Minnesota to meet its clean energy goals and bring rooftop solar and storage to more people, **we need to remove the "red tape"** and permitting obstacles. The solution is to get Minnesota cities and counties to adopt SolarAPP+.

How SolarAPP+ Works

SolarAPP+ is software that automates permitting for residential rooftop solar systems and solar + battery systems. How it works:

- SolarAPP+ asks the solar contractor a series of questions to verify the system's design is up to code.
- It uses standardized compliance checks to catch typos and errors and returns corrections to the applicant instantly.
- Eligible, cookie-cutter rooftop solar applications get approved permits to build instantly, while ineligible projects flow through a typical permitting review.
- SolarAPP+ issues permits automatically with **same-day approvals**.

Fast Facts About SolarAPP+

- SolarAPP+ was launched by the Department of Energy in 2021 in collaboration with building safety and industry stakeholders.
- **Free** for all permitting offices and is easy to use.
- Lowers the cost of installing solar by thousands of dollars.
- Solar projects submitted through SolarAPP+ are installed and inspected on average 12 business days faster than projects without.
- Consistent permitting means fewer delays and improved homeowner experience.

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SolarAPP+ Benefits for Minnesota

Reduces costs for homeowners

More low-to-moderate income homeowners can go solar

Developed with safety at its core

Designed to take the burden off cities & counties and give them a helpful tool!

Free and easy for permitting departments to use

Streamlines solar with an automated and standardized approval process

Projects submitted through SolarAPP+ are installed and inspected on average 12 business days faster

Reduces project cancellations.
Installers cite permitting delays as the biggest cause of project cancellations

More consistency across counties = Reduced delays and a better homeowner experience

235 communities across the U.S are signed up for SolarAPP+. Let's add Minnesota to the list!

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