

MIGreenPower Community Impact Pilot

Community Partner Discussion

November 30, 2021

In collaboration with:







Agenda

- Introductions
- Pilot Overview
- Community Partner Input
- Discussion



Introductions

Low-Income Solar Council



We are also seeking to identify one community representative from each pilot city to join the Council.



Pilot Overview

MIGreenPower Community Impact Pilot Overview

DTE Energy (DTE) is committed to doing its part to address climate change and is working with stakeholders to help decarbonize our state's economy. With a goal of achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2050, DTE is focused on bringing significantly more clean energy onto the grid, investing in universal scale wind and solar projects that are creating a cleaner Michigan for all Michiganders.



As a result of conversations with community stakeholder groups, DTE has now embarked on an ambitious pilot to bring community solar projects to three underserved communities in our service territory: Detroit, Highland Park and River Rouge. DTE will provide 30% of the funding for the pilot, and the remaining funding will come from third party contributions.



Interested income-qualifying residents for each of the projects may be subscribed to 100% renewable energy for their place of living and will also receive an associated bill credit (between \$25-\$30 each month), which will lower their monthly bill. To further enable bill savings, two of the projects will include energy efficiency initiatives for selected participants.



The Low-Income Solar Council is responsible for leading pilot planning and implementation and includes one representative from DTE, a non-profit organization, a subject matter expert (SME), the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) staff and will soon include one community representative from each pilot city.

Community Solar Overview

Community solar refers to local solar facilities shared by multiple community subscribers who receive credit on their electricity bills for their share of the power produced.



EQUAL ACCESS

Community solar works for anyone with an electric bill, including renters, residents in multi-unit buildings, municipalities, non-profits and businesses that do not own their roofs. That means community solar can give equal access to solar for the first time.

FAVORABLE ECONOMICS

Sunshine is free, which means solar offers reliable energy at a predictable rate for decades. And because community solar projects are optimally sited, professionally maintained, and built at scale, consumers can be assured that projects are cost-effective.

IT'S EASY

Customers can sign up to participate in a community solar project in a few minutes and begin receiving power production credits on their next utility bill. No contractor visits, permits, or maintenance means no hassle.

IT'S MOBILE

Community solar allows customers to move within the utility territory and still retain their participation in the community solar project, making it an easy, portable energy solution.

UTILITY PARTNERSHIPS

The community solar model is based on a mutually beneficial relationship with utilities, allowing them to provide a product their customers want—locally-made clean energy.

Source: Coalition for Community Solar Access

Approach

The Low-Income Solar Council has created an integrated approach to implement the MIGreenPower Community Impact Pilot, which includes partnerships with Michigan Public Service Commission, and various local public and private organizations.



Objective. The MIGreenPower Community Impact Pilot aims to connect income-qualifying customers in select communities with sustainable solar resources.



Scope. The pilot is focused on bringing community solar projects to three underserved communities in Michigan: Detroit, Highland Park, and River Rouge.



Leadership. The Low-Income Solar Council is responsible for engaging with the three pilot cities, fundraising, soliciting potential project locations, setting criteria, and reviewing projects.



Note: Actual timeline will vary based on fundraising, and implementation will occur as soon as possible after project funds have been raised.

Project Location

The solar arrays will be located in Detroit, River Rouge and Highland Park. Specific sites for the projects have not yet been determined.





- The number of individuals that can participate from each city is dependent on the size of the community solar array.
- DTE and the Low-Income Solar Council will work together to determine the methodology for selecting individuals to participate in the pilot.



Community Partner Input

Opportunities for Community Input and Support

There are several critical components that will require early and consistent community engagement, including selecting Community Representatives, identifying sites, and project selection.

Community Representatives on the Low-Income Solar Council. Three Community Representatives, one from each of the pilot site locations, will serve as voting members of the Low-Income Solar Council and be key leaders in engaging community members, organizations, and action networks. Community representatives will be compensated for their time.

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Site Selection.

Locations for the solar arrays in each of the three neighborhoods will be selected by community feedback, and there will be crucial conversations requiring input of community members and local/state government officials that must occur. DTE will make final site selection based on this input.

Project Selection.

Community Members will be regularly engaged to provide input on a variety of pilot program items, including fundraising, project selections, clarity of eligibility for subscription to community solar resources, and process improvement on communications.

Identifying Community Representatives

Community Representatives are essential decision-making members of the Low-Income Solar Council.



application.

Community Representative Application

The Community Representative application should take about 30 minutes to complete.

Applications are available in English, Arabic, and Spanish. They can be completed online (link in box) or using the paper version and returned via email.



Applications are due by 8:00 pm ET on Tuesday, December 21, 2021.



Applicants will be asked to provide general contact information and share their interest in the role, plan to engage community members and current community involvement. There are 10 questions.



Paper applications and any questions can be directed to MIGPCommunity@dteenergy.com.

Want to Complete the Application?

Scan the QR code below



or follow this link: https://forms.office.com/r/4K0L8W17x2

Potential Partners

A summary of *potential* community and fundraising organizations and partners for the MIGreenPower Community Impact Pilot.





Discussion

Discussion Topics



What overall questions do you have on the **MIGreenPower Community Impact Pilot objectives and approach**?

How can you best support us in **identifying community representatives** and sharing the application to join the Low-Income Solar Council?

Are there any **additional community or fundraising organizations** we should include in our outreach as potential partners?

How can we work together to ensure the MIGreenPower Community Impact Pilot is successful?

Contact

If you are interested in learning more about the pilot or expressing your support, please complete this <u>form</u> or send an email to <u>MIGPCommunity@dteenergy.com</u>.





Additional Resources

Additional Resources

- MIGreenPower Community Impact Blog
- DTE Low-Income Solar Settlement Agreement
- DTE Low-Income Solar Memorandum of Understanding