



**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
NEVADA STATE OFFICE OF ENERGY**

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## **State Energy Office Receives Grant to Accelerate Solar Energy in Nevada**

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) notified the Nevada State Office of Energy (NSOE) and its partners that it will receive a \$765,000 grant for the first year of the Nevada Rooftop Solar Initiative (NRSI), which will aim for rooftop solar installation on at least five percent of Nevada's residences and businesses by 2020.

Nevada was the highest awarded of any public entity as part of the DOE's \$12 million Sunshot Initiative competitive grant, which has the nationwide goals of making solar energy more accessible and affordable, increasing solar deployment, and positioning the U.S. as a leader in the global solar market.

The award comes on the heels of a \$5 million Home Energy Fitness Campaign grant the NSOE received in 2010 for improving the energy efficiency of residential homes in Nevada.

"We look at it as a two-step process," NSOE Director Stacey Crowley said. "Nevadans are encouraged to make their homes more energy efficient and save money through the Home Energy Fitness Campaign, and then install rooftop solar on their homes or businesses to help further reduce their energy expenses."

The first phase of the program will strive to standardize Nevada's planning, zoning, permitting and interconnection process to allow for rooftop solar installations to be completed within two months of approval, develop improved rooftop mounting technologies, and design attractive financing and incentive programs.

After the first year, the NSOE will need to apply for the second phase of the competitive grant. Goals of the second phase include preparing marketing programs to motivate participation, establish training programs to prepare technicians, implement innovative finance and incentive programs, and reduce the costs of rooftop solar PV installation.

The initial target market is 25,000 homes and businesses, with 80 percent being residential and 20 percent commercial. The goal is for rooftop solar to be installed on one percent of the target market in 2013 and two percent by 2015, with an increase in the rate of rooftop solar PV in the target market by 20 percent each year starting in 2016.

“We are confident this program will fundamentally transform Nevada’s energy market in a way that makes rooftop solar an attractive option for Nevada homeowners and businesses,” NSOE Energy Program Manager Robert Nellis added. “Innovations of this project should generate more than 200,000,000 MMBtu in annual energy savings, create and preserve more than 1000 jobs, and can contribute a total economic impact of more than \$200 million.”

Partners in the NRSI include the Associated General Contractors, the University of Nevada Las Vegas, Truckee Meadows Community College, the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada, NV Energy, and the Southern Nevada Water Authority, along with Clark County and the Cities of Las Vegas, North Las Vegas, Henderson, and Reno.

Learn more about the NSOE’s programs at [www.energy.nv.gov](http://www.energy.nv.gov). Find out more about the SunShot Initiative at <http://www1.eere.energy.gov/solar/sunshot/index.html>.

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