

SUNRUN

Clean Energy and the Post-COVID Workforce

Yale Center for Business & the
Environment

8.24.20 | NICOLE SITARAMAN



An aerial photograph of a town at sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm, golden glow over the scene. A river winds through the town, reflecting the light. In the foreground, there are several large solar panel arrays. The houses in the town have colorful roofs, and the overall atmosphere is peaceful and hopeful.

Creating a planet
run by the sun.

Protecting Our Customers & Employees

Throughout the spread of this global pandemic, Sunrun has actively collaborated with industry, government and community stakeholders to ensure that the solar industry will continue to be able to provide the essential service of home solar to consumers.

SALES:

We have moved all of our sales consultations from in-person to virtual.

NO-CONTACT SOLAR INSTALLATIONS:

We invested in technology to streamline our installation processes, including online permitting and interconnection in many locations, as well as utilizing drone technology to complete rooftop surveys.

SAFE WORKPLACE:

We have always been firmly committed to protecting our workforce and swiftly implementing health and safety best practices issued by government agencies.



COVID-19 Impacts on U.S. Solar Workforce

- As of June 2020, more than 72,000 solar jobs have been lost since February, effectively erasing 5 years of solar job growth.
- The impact of job losses and work stoppages has been greatest in the distributed generation sector, which includes residential and commercial projects.
- Small and medium solar businesses are suffering the most.

COVID-19 Impacts on Energy Consumers

Residential energy usage patterns have shifted significantly – increasing consumption which leads to higher energy bills for consumers. Home solar is one solution to help consumers manage their energy expenses.

E.g., “Coronavirus Shutdowns Shift Energy Costs to Consumers,” Wall Street Journal, Aug. 7, 2020 – “household energy use surged, with some New York City apartments consuming, on average, 23% more electricity during business hours—a shift that, with the accompanying expense, could make things worse for those already suffering financially as a consequence of the pandemic.”



Summer Bill Increase *per household*



Boston
\$27



DC
\$19



Seattle
\$2



San Fran
\$8



Philly
\$37



NYC
\$34



Riverside
\$8



LA
\$17

Expected Residential Summer Bill Increases Per Household. Source: ARCADIA
<https://www.forbes.com/sites/jamesconca/2020/06/30/expect-a-coronavirus-spike-in-home-energy-bills-this-summer/#692b687f27f7>, June 30, 2020.

DEEP SOUTH, MODES OF FOUNDATION GRANTMAKING, RACIAL JUSTICE

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Tamiaka Mosley and Nathaniel
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May 4, 2020

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VOTE SOLAR

COVID-19 and the UTILITY BILL DEBT CRISIS



Let's Power Through to Build Back Better

- Tremendous opportunity for industry, government, academia and community to work collaboratively to build a more equitable clean energy future that is centered on energy affordability, job creation, racial justice, grid resiliency and economic empowerment for all.

Thank you.

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