

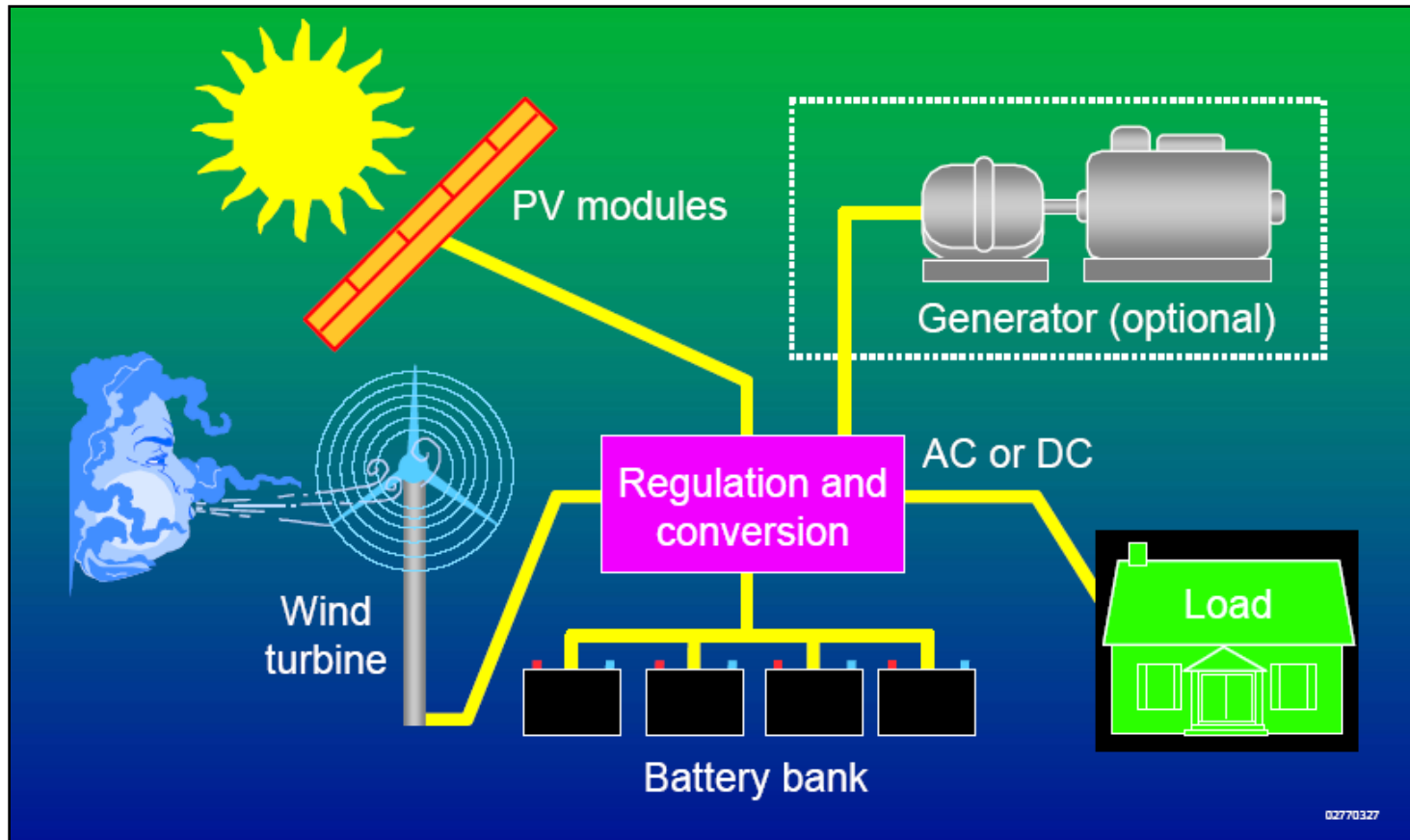
# Solarize Meridian

Facilitated by

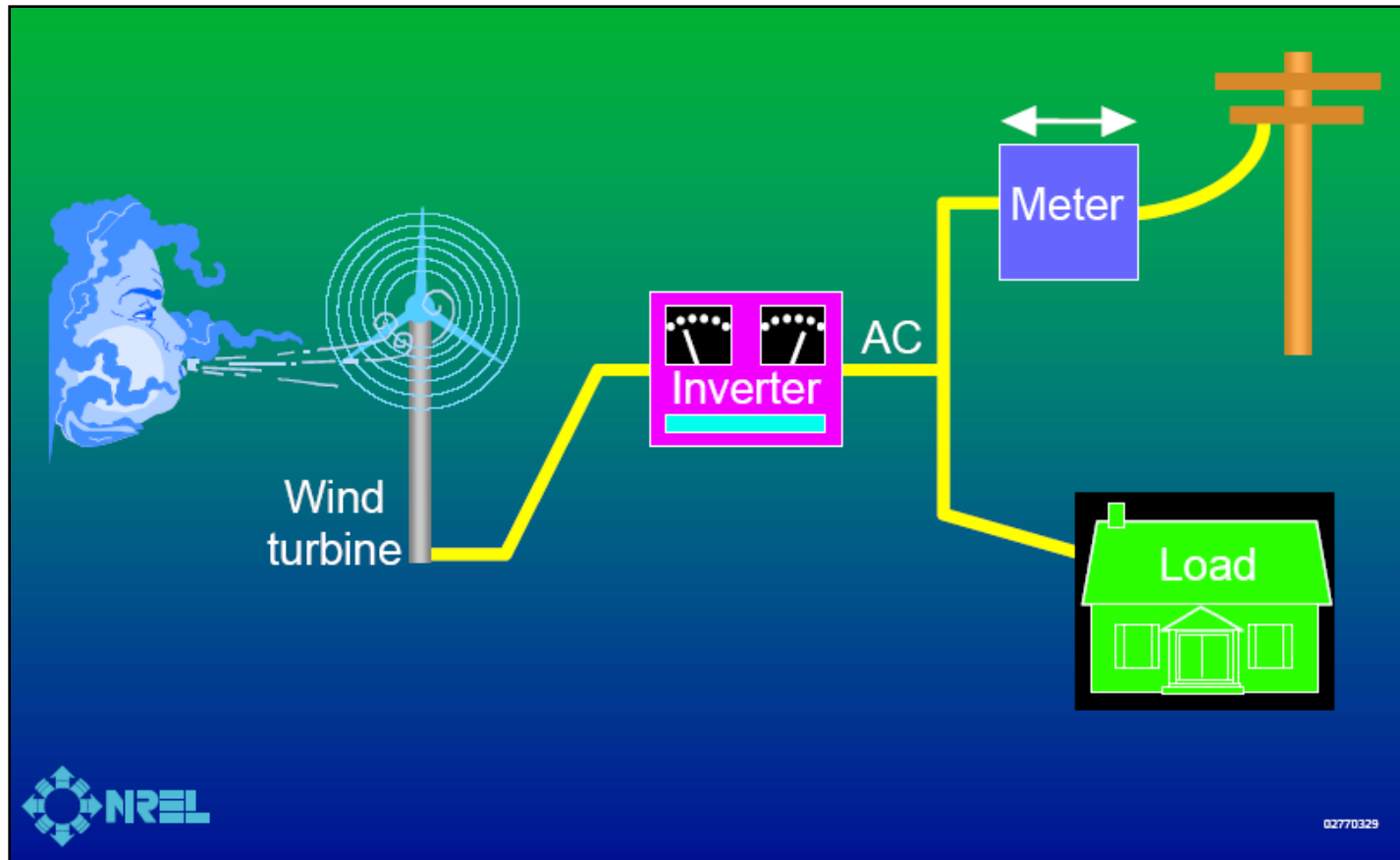
Meridian Energy Team

Lansing Area Solar Users Network

# Off-Grid System



# Grid-Tied System



# Rooftop or Ground Mount

- Southern Orientation
- Minimum or No Shading



# Net Metering

- Excess electricity to utility
- Bill credit, no payment
- System sized to customer
- 20 kW or less – “true net metering”
- Up to 150 kW – “modified net metering”
- New Distributed Generation Tariff in 2019
- Inflow at retail rate, outflow around 10 cents
- Until new tariff grandfathered for 10 yrs

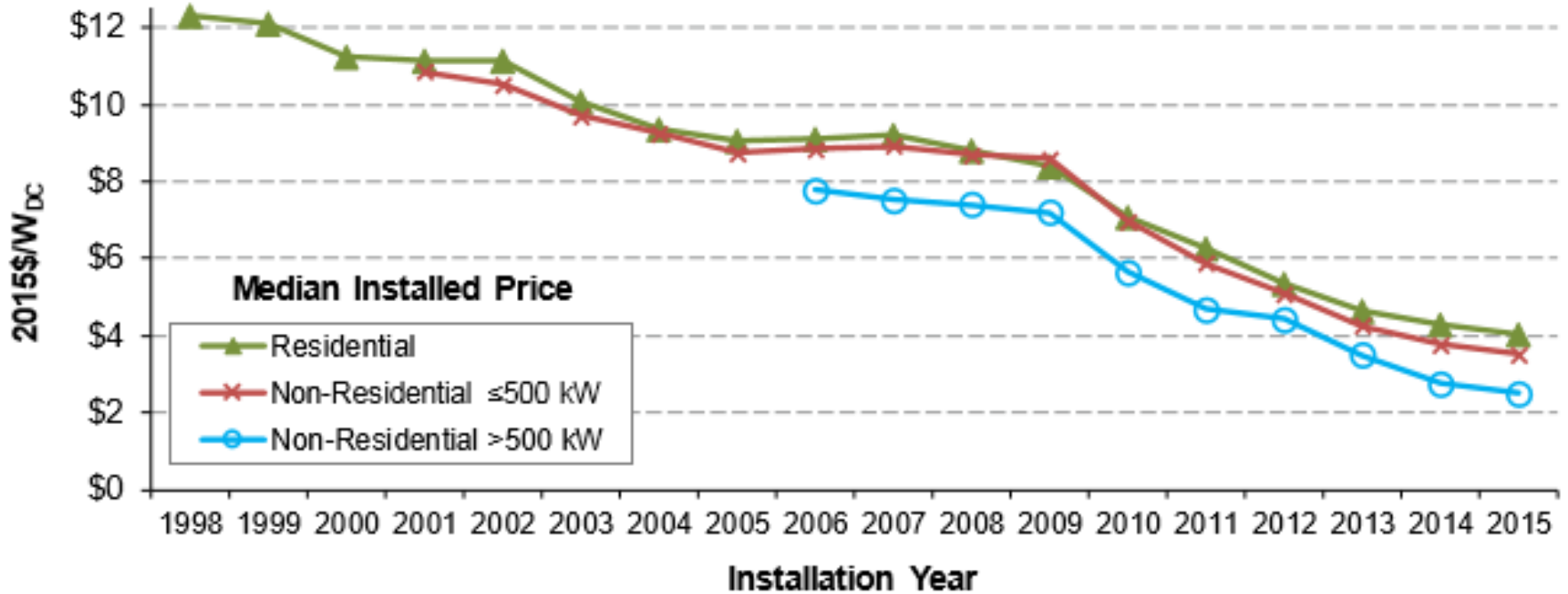
# 30% Federal Tax Credit

- 2017 to 2019 – 30%
- 2020 – 26%
- 2021 – 22%
- Beginning in 2022
- 10% for commercial and third party-owned residential
- 0% for host-owned residential

# PV is Good Investment

- Lawrence Berkeley National Lab report shows PV adds value
- 22,822 homes in 8 states studied
- Average PV sales premiums is \$4/watt
- If you move, get your money back at sale

# Solar Prices Down



Source: National Renewable Energy Lab



# PVWatts

- Software to estimate kW's and kWh's
- Monthly kWh's
- Cost savings

## RESULTS

**23,048** kWh per Year

Month	Solar Radiation ( kWh / m <sup>2</sup> / day )	AC Energy ( kWh )	Energy Value ( \$ )
January	2.56	1,312	125
February	3.48	1,636	156
March	4.35	2,149	205
April	4.79	2,488	230
May	5.41	2,473	236
June	6.57	2,368	226
July	6.48	2,408	230
August	5.19	2,320	221
September	5.12	2,261	216
October	3.59	1,895	182
November	2.62	1,228	117
December	2.02	1,011	96
<b>Annual</b>	<b>4.18</b>	<b>23,048</b>	<b>\$ 2,198</b>



# Solarize Meridian

- Meridian Energy Team has developed Climate Sustainability Plan that has been adopted by Township Board & includes renewable energy commitments:
- Obtain 50% of Township government electricity from renewable energy by 2025 and 100% by 2035.
- Obtain 25% of total community electric use from renewable energy by 2025.
- Encourage homeowners, businesses, & churches to install a solar electric system

# Solar Installer List

- Interested in participating in project
- Provide standard, grid-tied, rooftop PV system at competitive price - \$3/watt or less, e.g. \$12,000 or less for 4,000 watt system, \$8,400 or less after 30% federal credit
- Authorized Michigan Saves contractor
- List indicates if particular interest – residential, commercial, rooftop, ground mount

# Solarize Steps

- Attend workshop and/or open house
- Contact one or more solar installers on list
- Receive proposals from solar installers & select installer
- Installer obtains permits from township
- Homeowner may apply for Michigan Saves financing
- Homeowner with installer help applies to utility for interconnection & net metering
- Solar installation completed
- Homeowner takes 30% federal tax credit

# **Solar Panels at 2173 Belding Court Okemos, Michigan**

**Jim and Connie Detjen  
April 11, 2018**



# **My goals and background:**

**I have been interested in solar energy for a long time. I am a former science and environmental writer at the Philadelphia Inquirer and the Founding Director of the Knight Center for Environmental Journalism at Michigan State University.**

**Our goals include:**

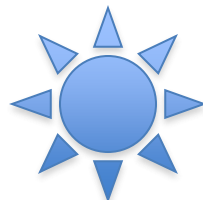
**Reducing our carbon footprint by reducing our home's emissions of carbon dioxide**

**Demonstrating that it is possible to do this in a cost-effective way in Michigan. We have a south-facing roof that is ideal for generating solar energy.**

**We are the first home that has installed a solar system in the Briarwood subdivision in Okemos.**

**I chair the Green Team at Edgewood United Church and led the campaign to raise \$70,000 to install a 20-kilowatt system at the church in 2016.-2017.**

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# **The Timeline on our solar panels:**

**Early 2015 – Talked to several possible  
installers**

**April 2015 – Applied for the EARP incentive  
program with Consumers**

**Energy**

**Aug. 2015 – EARP application approved. We  
signed a**

**contract with Peninsula Solar**

**Nov. 2015 – Solar system is installed**

**Feb. 2016 – We begin generating electricity  
that is sold to Consumers**

**Energy**

# **Details about the System:**

- 14 solar panels made by Sonali Solar in Michigan**
- 3.5 Kilowatt DC system. Each panel generates 250 watts. Installed by Ian Olmsted of Peninsula Solar**
- 14 Enphase inverters to convert DC to AC; Iron Ridge Racking System; Enphase Enlighten production monitor**
- Total cost of \$12,925. We received a 30% tax credit of \$3,878. Net cost: \$9,047.**
- We have received from Consumers Energy \$1,912 for 7,848 kWh of electricity produced from Feb. 1, 2016 to Mar. 19, 2018. In first 2 years we have recovered 21% of the cost; expect system to pay off in about 9 years.**
- Has increased the value of our house.**
- This is the equivalent of planting 127 trees or producing enough energy for 2,309,190 AA batteries**



# The Solar Panels





**Workers at  
Peninsula Solar  
Carry the  
Modules to  
The Roof**



**Lifting the Panels  
Onto the Roof**







**Success! Fourteen solar panels are installed.**

## **Electric Meters:**

**The left circular meter records how much electricity we have generated.**

**The right one records how much electricity we have used.**

**We estimate that our solar system will have the effect of planting 7 acres of trees or taking 15 cars off the road.**



**Thank You!**

**Are there any questions?**

**Jim and Connie Detjen**  
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**517-349-7360**