

<b>DOCKETED</b>	
<b>Docket Number:</b>	25-SOLAR-01
<b>Project Title:</b>	Solar for All Program
<b>TN #:</b>	265142
<b>Document Title:</b>	CEC Solar for All (POU Territories) Workshop PPT - Solicitation Concept Proposal
<b>Description:</b>	Presentation slides from the CEC Solar for All (POU Territories) Public Workshop for the Solicitation Concept Proposal, held on July 30, 2025.
<b>Filer:</b>	KMaddox
<b>Organization:</b>	California Energy Commission
<b>Submitter Role:</b>	Commission Staff
<b>Submission Date:</b>	7/30/2025 1:30:53 PM
<b>Docketed Date:</b>	7/30/2025



# **CEC Solar for All (POU Territories) Solicitation Concept Proposal – July 30, 2025**

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# Housekeeping

- Today's presentation slides and recording will be posted on the CEC Solar for All webpage: <https://www.energy.ca.gov/programs-and-topics/programs/solar-all-program>

- Q&A and Comments



- Written comments to docket



# Purpose of Workshop

- Provide overview of the solicitation concept proposal document available on the CEC Solar for All Program webpage at:  
<https://www.energy.ca.gov/programs-and-topics/programs/solar-all-program>
- Solicit public feedback prior to releasing the final solicitation, which is anticipated in Q4 2025.
  - Feedback should be focused on proposed concepts and not federal requirements
  - Solicitation concepts are subject to change as a result of feedback
- Feedback is requested by August 11, 2025



# Agenda

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- **Solicitation Background**
- **Solicitation Concept Proposals**
  - Funding and Key Activities Schedule
  - Eligible Applicants and Projects
  - Project Requirements
  - Application Screening and Scoring
- **Key Federal Requirements**
- **We Want to Hear From You!**
  - How to Provide Feedback
  - Contacts and Engagement
  - Q&A and Comment Period



# Solicitation Background



# Solar for All Background

- \$7B funded nationwide under the federal Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) of 2022
- Administered by US EPA
- Supports residential solar and storage in low-income and disadvantaged communities (LIDAC), including tribes
- LIDAC households must receive minimum 20% utility bill savings



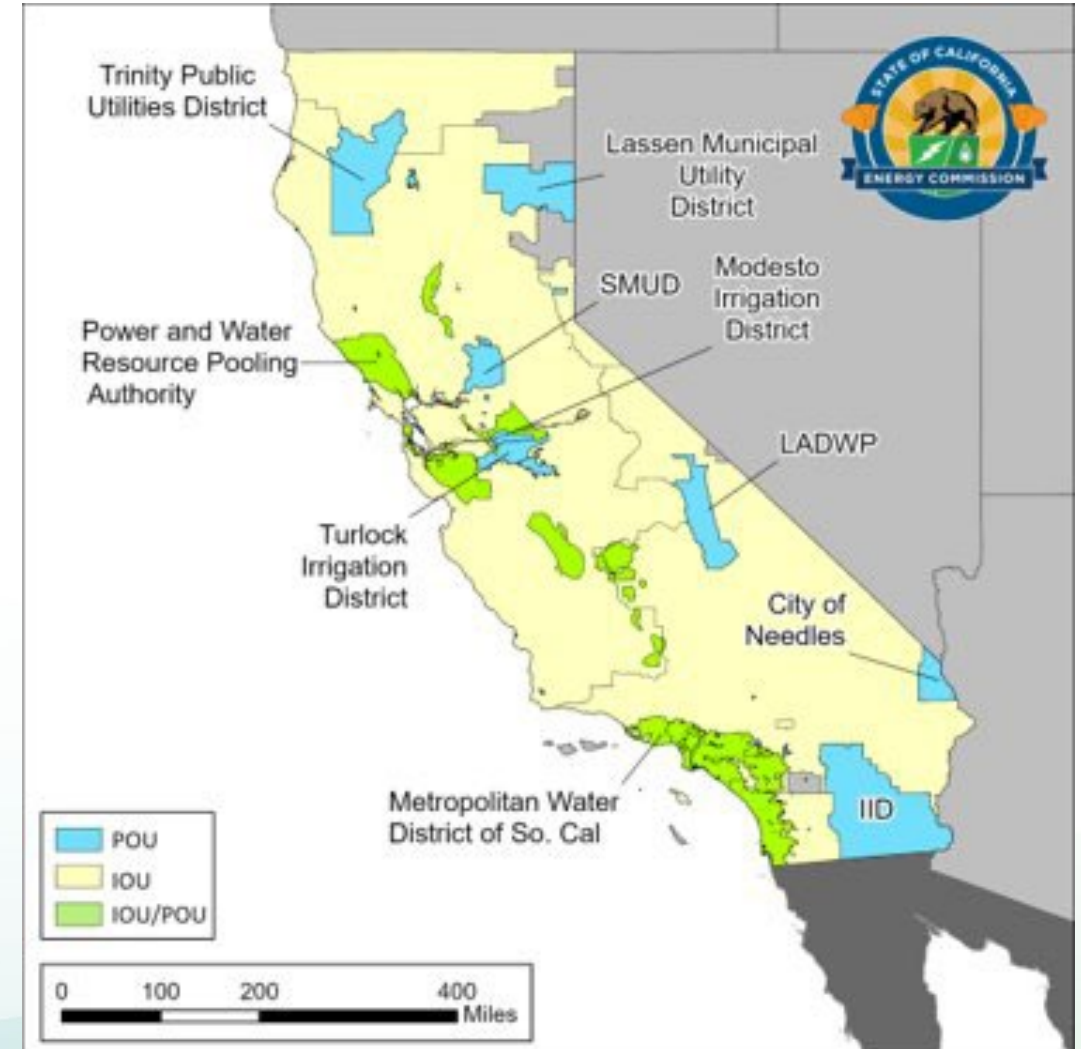




# California Solar for All Program

California was awarded ~\$250 million in April 2024, shared among 3 agencies:

- CPUC (\$210.4M): IOU territories – prime
- **CEC (\$30.2M): POU territories – subrecipient**
- EDD (\$9.2M): Workforce development – subrecipient







# Solicitation Concept Proposals



# Funding

- Total funding of **\$25,000,000** available for CEC's Solar for All (POU Territories) Program through a competitive solicitation

Minimum CEC Award	Maximum CEC Award
\$3,000,000	\$15,000,000

- Match funding is **not** required, however, applications that include match funding will receive preference points during the scoring phase
- **Period of Performance: US EPA requires a deadline for spending (liquidating, not encumbering) funds by April 30, 2029**



# Key Activities Schedule

Activity	Anticipated Date
Solicitation concept proposal released	July 11, 2025
Public workshop	July 30, 2025
Written comments or requests for tribal consultation due: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Written comments can be submitted to the docket;</li> <li>2. The CEC always welcomes tribal consultation but to best incorporate feedback, a California Native American Tribe should request a formal consultation by August 11, 2025, by contacting <a href="mailto:tribalaffairs@energy.ca.gov">tribalaffairs@energy.ca.gov</a>.</li> </ol>	August 11, 2025
Final solicitation release	Q4 2025
Deadline to submit applications	~90 days after release
Anticipated Notice of Proposed Award (NOPA)	Q2 2026
Anticipated grant agreement execution	Q2/Q3 2026
Project completion	Grant execution – early 2029
US EPA deadline to spend all grant funding	April 30, 2029



# Eligible Applicants

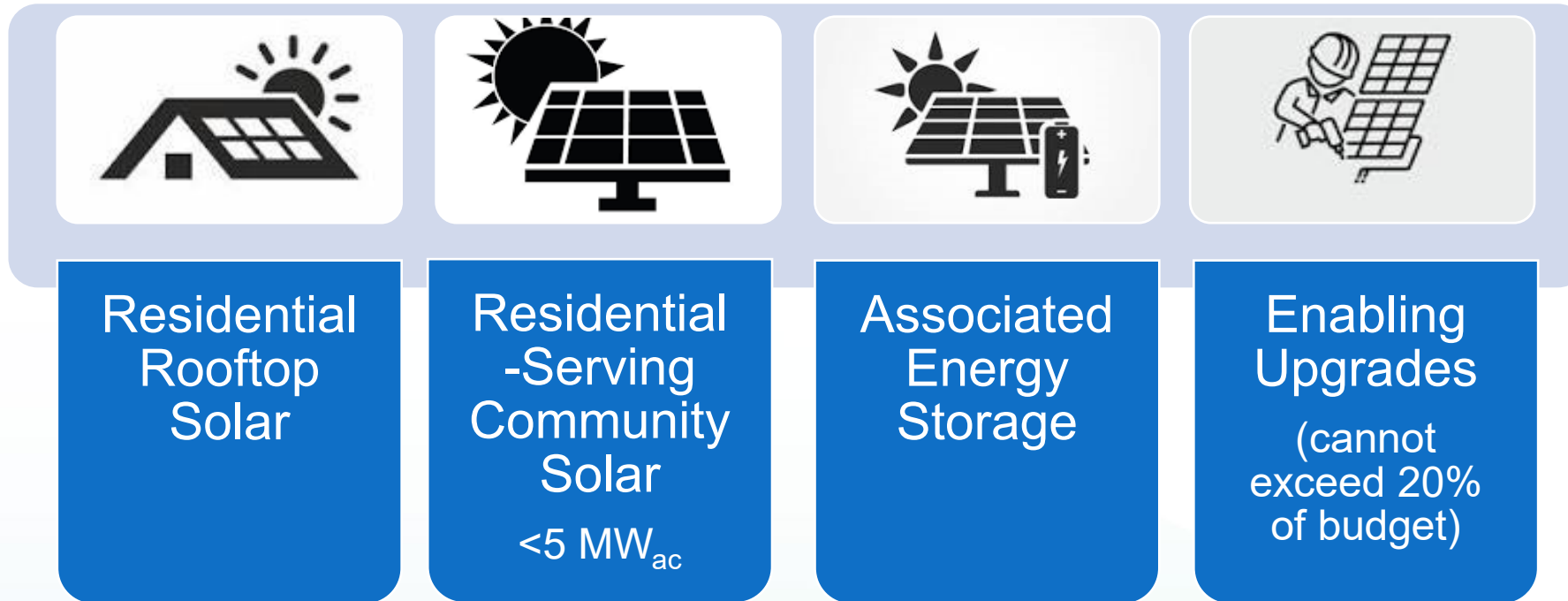
Any public, private, or tribal entities:

- A coalition of above entities submitting a joint application is eligible.
- An applicant may submit more than one application, provided there is no overlap of project locations and beneficiaries.
- Applicants must register with the federal System for Award Management ([SAM.gov](https://sam.gov)) to apply for this solicitation.
  - Registration/renewal can take several weeks to complete



# Eligible Projects & Technologies

Eligible Technologies as defined by US EPA:



The above are subject to additional CEC requirements (examples below):

- CEC will only fund the portion of a project serving eligible LIDACs
- New construction must exceed Building Energy Efficiency Standard requirements except in fire-affected areas of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties



# Project Requirements

## Federal Requirements:

Serve Low-Income and Disadvantaged Communities (LIDACs).

Deliver minimum 20% household utility bill savings to LIDAC customers.

Comply with US EPA requirements (consumer protection, reporting, Build America Buy America, Davis Bacon, etc.).

## State Requirements:

Provide Letters of Support from Community Benefits Organizations (CBOs) and POUs.

Comply with state prevailing wage requirements.





# LIDAC Definition

Applicants must demonstrate how the proposed project will serve at least one of the four LIDAC categories:

1. CalEnviroScreen	Located in a census tract scoring in the highest 25%.
2. Geographically-Dispersed Low-Income Households	Households that are not in a CalEnviroScreen census tract may demonstrate specified income levels (based on Area Median Income and Federal Poverty Guidelines).
3. Properties providing affordable housing	Multifamily housing demonstrating specified rents (based on Area Median Income) and with an active affordability covenant.
4. Federally Recognized Tribal Entities	Any Federally Recognized Tribal Entity is included in the LIDAC definition.



# Application Screening

An application must pass all screening criteria below to progress to Application Scoring:

- Received by application due date and time (TBD)
- If submitting more than one application, each application's proposed project does not overlap with respect to locations and beneficiaries
- Includes a Letter of Support from a CBO
- [If applicable] For non-POU applicants, includes a Letter of Support from a partner POU
- [If applicable] For new residential construction, describes how the project will exceed California Building Energy Efficiency Standards (Title 24), unless serving fire-affected areas of LA and Ventura Counties



# Application Scoring

- 7 total Scoring Criteria = 4 Criteria (100 Base Points) + 3 Criteria (30 Preference Points)
- Minimum Passing Score: 70% in total for criteria 1-4 and at least 70% in each of those four categories to be considered for funding or to be eligible for preference points.

Criteria	Base Points (Criteria 1-4)	Max Points
1	Project Description and Alignment with Program Requirements	20
2	Project Readiness and Work Plan	30
3	Project Benefits	25
4	Cost-Effectiveness & Budget	25
	<b>Maximum Base Points</b>	<b>100</b>
	<b>Preference Points (Criteria 5-7)</b>	
5	Project Type	5
6	Match Funding	10
7	Benefits to Federally Recognized Tribal Entities and California Native American Tribes	15
	<b>Maximum Preference Points</b>	<b>30</b>



# Scoring Scale Overview

- For each criterion/sub-criterion, an application will be scored on a scale from 0% - 100% based on scale table =>
- For example, if a particular criterion of the application is worth 10 points, the table on this slide will inform how many points are awarded.
- When preparing the application, please carefully review the description of the quality level required in the application's response to achieve a particular scoring scale.

% of Possible Points	Interpretation	Description
0%	Not Responsive	Response does not include or fails to address the requirements being scored. The omission(s), flaw(s), or defect(s) are significant and unacceptable.
10-30%	Minimally Responsive	Response minimally addresses the requirements being scored. The omission(s), flaw(s), or defect(s) are significant and unacceptable.
40-60%	Inadequate	Response addresses the requirements being scored, but there are one or more omissions, flaws, or defects or the requirements are addressed in such a limited way that it results in a low degree of confidence in the proposed solution.
70%	Adequate	Response adequately addresses the requirements being scored. Any omission(s), flaw(s), or defect(s) are inconsequential and acceptable.
75%	Between Adequate and Good	Response better than adequately addresses the requirements being scored. Any omission(s), flaw(s), or defect(s) are inconsequential and acceptable.
80%	Good	Response fully addresses the requirements being scored with a good degree of confidence in the applicant's response or proposed solution. No identified omission(s), flaw(s), or defect(s). Any identified weaknesses are minimal, inconsequential, and acceptable.
85%	Between Good and Excellent	Response fully addresses the requirements being scored with a better than good degree of confidence in the applicant's response or proposed solution. No identified omission(s), flaw(s), or defect(s). Any identified weaknesses are minimal, inconsequential, and acceptable.
90%	Excellent	Response fully addresses the requirements being scored with a high degree of confidence in the applicant's response or proposed solution. Applicant offers one or more enhancing features, methods or approaches exceeding basic expectations.
95%	Between Excellent and Exceptional	Response fully addresses the requirements being scored with a better than excellent degree of confidence in the applicant's response or proposed solution. Applicant offers one or more enhancing features, methods or approaches exceeding basic expectations.
100%	Exceptional	All requirements are addressed with the highest degree of confidence in the applicant's response or proposed solution. The response exceeds the requirements in providing multiple enhancing features, a creative approach, or an exceptional solution.



# #1 Project Description and Alignment with Program Requirements

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Maximum Points: 20

Key sub-criteria described in application:

- a. Proposed project and eligible technologies
- b. LIDAC categories served
- c. Geographic location and utility territory
- d. Optional support letters
- e. Need for funding



# #2 Project Readiness and Work Plan

Maximum Points: 30

Key sub-criteria described in application:

- a. Project team and available resources
- b. Major project tasks and schedule to ensure funds will be spent by EPA deadline of 4/30/29 (CEC deadline will be earlier)
- c. Project readiness and compliance with all applicable permitting requirements
- d. Compliance with applicable federal domestic sourcing and public works/prevaling wage requirements





# #3 Project Benefits

Maximum Points: 25

Key sub-criteria described in application:

- a. Planned solar and, if applicable, storage capacity (MWh)
- b. Planned energy generation (MWh)
- c. Greenhouse gas emission and air pollutant reductions
- d. Benefits to the community from any on-site, co-located equipment
- e. Allocation of the solar PV energy output
- f. Bill savings benefits for LIDAC beneficiaries



# #4 Cost-Effectiveness and Budget

Maximum Points: 25

Key sub-criteria described in application:

- a. Cost-effectiveness (CEC \$ / MWh)
  - *Applications will be scored on a scale described in the concept proposal*
- b. A reasonable and justifiable budget with forms properly filled out
- c. Financial ability of applicant and partners to implement the project
- d. Project risks and mitigation strategies



# Cost-Effectiveness Scoring Scale

Projects with a lower **Cost Metric (CEC \$ / MWh)** will receive more points

Projects will be assessed and scored as follows:

- The difference between the highest and lowest cost projects of the submitted applications will be divided into 10 equal bands.
  - Projects in Band 1 (lowest) will receive 100% of available points
  - Projects in Band 10 (highest) will receive 10% of available points
  - Projects in intermediate Band N will receive a score of  $\{100\% - [N-1) \times 10\%]\}$  of the available points



# #5 Project Type Preference Points

Maximum Points: 5

Preference points shall be awarded for applications proposing associated energy storage and/or community solar projects as follows:

- a. Energy storage (associated with solar PV): 3 points
- b. Community solar: 4 points
- c. Community solar paired with associated energy storage: 5 points

Projects proposing energy storage must meet additional CEC requirements for:

- Minimum storage power capacity rating = 20% of the nameplate DC power rating of the PV array
- Minimum storage energy capacity rating = 1 hour of energy production at 100% of the nameplate DC power rating of the PV array.



# #6 Match Funding Preference Points

Maximum Points: 10

Preference points shall be awarded on a sliding scale to proposals including at least 10% match funds:

Percentage of match (cash and in-kind) funds	Preference Points
10-19	1
20-29	2
30-39	3
40-49	4
50-59	5
60-69	6
70-79	7
80-89	8
90-99	9
100 or more	10



# #7 Benefits to Federally Recognized Tribal Entities and California Native American Tribes

Maximum Points: 15

Preference points shall be awarded on a sliding scale to proposals providing benefits to federally recognized tribal entities and/or California Native American Tribes demonstrating LIDAC status.

Proportion of tribal households out of total number of households (tribal AND non-tribal) served by the project.	Preference Points
1-5	5
6-30	7
31-75	10
76-100	15



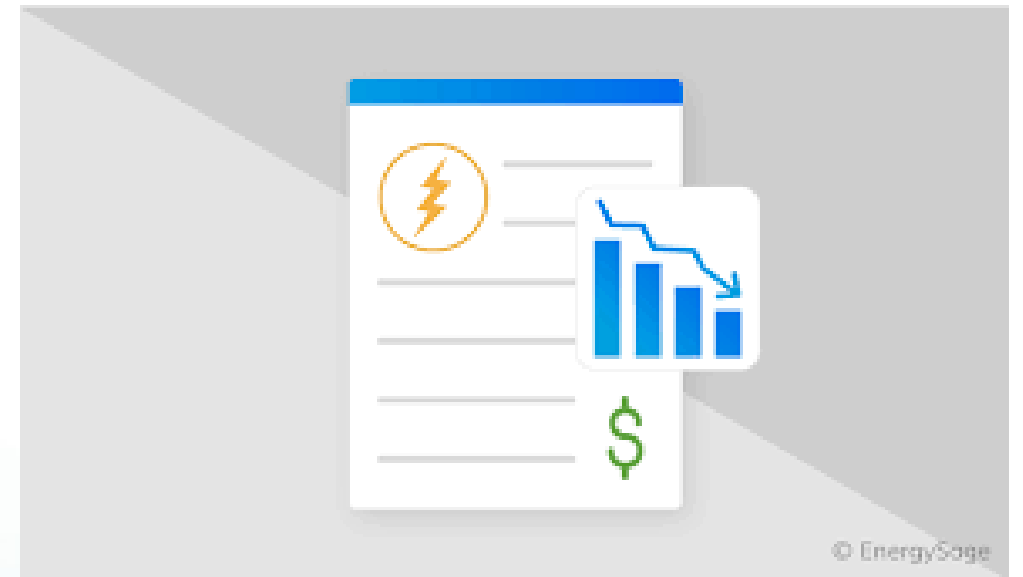


# Key Federal Requirements



# Household Utility Bill Savings

- All SFA-funded projects must deliver **minimum 20% household utility bill savings** to LIDAC program beneficiaries.
- Savings must be delivered net of any costs LIDAC households incur from participating in the program.
- Savings can be delivered as a direct financial benefit, or for households without an individual utility bill, a direct non-financial benefit.
- EPA's updated guidance will be incorporated into the final solicitation.



For more information see **Appendix B “Household Savings Guidance”** in the solicitation concept proposal.



# Build America, Buy America (BABA)

- Solar for All funds used for public infrastructure projects must ensure all iron, steel, manufactured products, and construction materials are produced in the United States.
- Manufacturer certification letters for every product used in each BABA-applicable project are required unless a valid waiver is in place.
- BABA waivers include: program-wide waivers, project-specific waivers, and general applicability waivers.



For more information about BABA compliance and waivers, see Appendix A and the US EPA website at: <https://www.epa.gov/baba>



# Davis Bacon and Related Acts (DBRA)

- Requires payment of prevailing wage for laborers and mechanics on construction contracts of \$2,000 or more.
- Grant recipients will be required to obtain weekly certified payroll, incorporate DBRA language into contracts, ensure job sites display DBRA posters, and report on compliance to CEC.
- DBRA does not apply to certain projects (e.g., pre- and post-construction, homeowners/tenants who select the contractor, Federally Recognized Tribes, and projects with SFA funding <\$250k)



For more information about DBRA requirements, see Appendix A and the US EPA and Dept of Labor websites at: <https://www.epa.gov/grants/davis-bacon-and-related-acts-dbra>  
<https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/government-contracts/construction>



**We Want to Hear From You!**



# How to Provide Feedback

- Written comment or requests for tribal consultations are due by August 11, 2025
  - Written comments can be submitted to the CEC Solar for All docket: <https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/EComment/EComment.aspx?docketnumber=25-SOLAR-01>
  - A California Native American Tribe may request a formal consultation by August 11, 2025, by contacting [tribalaffairs@energy.ca.gov](mailto:tribalaffairs@energy.ca.gov).





# Contacts and Engagement

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- All inquiries: [CASolarForAll@energy.ca.gov](mailto:CASolarForAll@energy.ca.gov)
  - Program Lead: Michelle Slocombe
- CEC Solar for All Webpage and Listserv: <https://www.energy.ca.gov/programs-and-topics/programs/solar-all-program>
  - Please subscribe to the listserv for the latest program updates



# Q&A and Comment Period

- Use the “raise hand” feature in Zoom:

- Zoom phone controls:
  - \*6 – Toggle mute/unmute
  - \*9 – Raise hand

Introduce yourself by stating your name and affiliation

- Keep questions and comments under three minutes
- Type questions in the Q&A Box in Zoom
  - Please provide name and affiliation





# Thank You!