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Please do not allow the SMUD Neighborhood Solar right now!

Neighborhood Solar will be a good idea when we have a better grip on the public favorability of solar. Right now I think it will hurt roof top solar a great deal.

I understand SMUD thinks they are just creating a program in the "utility scale solar industry" and not touching the unique and different "roof top solar industry", but at this moment of tipping point in general population awareness, acceptance and embrace of solar solutions, it is a big set back. "Solar progress" can not point to a neighborhood with "shares program (no panels) and expect people to slice and dice what is happening. It will just look like another big neighborhood, with no solar ("if they aren't buying solar, why should I").

I understand, out in the future (3 years from now) it will be better to gather solar panels into big areas and not have so much infrastructure on every roof (which turns eventually into trash and maintenance) but builders installing solar has had a big effect on attitudes and changing ideas!

SMUD should not be engaged in finding ways to help contractors cheapen home construction and get around the law, and should let the roof solar industry thrive. I heard the head (CEO?) of SMUD say last night that there is no storage ability yet so they can not be all solar?? My translation of that is "we at SMUD have not embraced storage seriously yet, waiting for someone else to do the work". They are playing around the edges of this issue, and Neighborhood Solar Shares Program should be limited to high rise and places without roofs!