



Coconut Grove Village Council

Cocoanut Grove Village Council

Resolution No. 1/2015

A RESOLUTION OF THE COCOANUT GROVE VILLAGE COUNCIL SUPPORTING REMOVING BARRIERS TO CUSTOMER-SITED SOLAR POWER AND SUPPORT FOR THE FLORIDIANS FOR SOLAR CHOICE BALLOT PETITION.

WHEREAS, The Coconut Grove Village Council ("Council") shall seek to promote and advance the interest of, and represent the people of Coconut Grove, Florida, before governmental and other entities having any impact on the people who live in the area defined herein as Coconut Grove.

WHEREAS, Unlike conventional power generation, solar power generates electricity with zero air emissions and no water use, thereby moving the county, state, and country to a cleaner and more sustainable energy future; and

WHEREAS, Florida has the greatest potential for rooftop solar power of any state in the eastern United States but lags in realizing that potential; with 9 million electric utility customer accounts, Florida has only 6,000 customer-sited solar systems. Less sunny states like New Jersey have over 30,000 customer-sited solar systems but only half the population of Florida; and

WHEREAS, Florida is one of only five states in the United States that by law expressly denies citizens and businesses the freedom to buy solar power electricity directly from someone other than a power company; and

WHEREAS, allowing non-utility solar providers to provide solar generated electricity, through a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA), directly to customers can remove the upfront cost for solar power systems to homeowners and expand solar power options to residential and commercial tenants – thereby expanding the choice for solar power to all Floridians; and

WHEREAS, in states, such as New York or New Jersey, where non-utilities can provide solar generated power directly to customers, there has been significant solar development in the residential sector. Such arrangements have driven anywhere from 67% (New York) to 92% (New Jersey) of residential installations in those states; and

WHEREAS, Florida spends about 58 billion dollars each year buying carbon-based fuels from other states and countries to power our homes, businesses and cars, while solar power will keep energy dollars here at home and create good paying local jobs; and

WHEREAS, in a recent poll, 74% of Florida voters said they support a proposal to change the state's current law and allow Floridians to contract directly with solar power providers for their electricity. Removing barriers to solar choice will allow more Floridians to take advantage of the power of the sun;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Coconut Grove Village Council:

Section 1. The recitals are true and correct and are adopted by reference and incorporated as if fully set forth in this Section.

Section 2. That the Coconut Grove Village Council hereby urges the Florida Legislature to remove the barrier that limits the sale of solar-generated electricity directly to a customer by anyone other than a power company,

Section 3. That the Coconut Grove Village Council supports the Floridians for Solar Choice ballot petition to amend the Florida Constitution to remove the barrier to customer-sited solar power.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 24h day of February 2015.

By:  _____
Chairperson, Coconut Grove Village Council

Date: 2/24/15

By:  _____
Secretary, Coconut Grove Village Council

Date: 2-24-2015