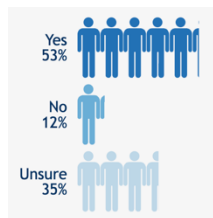




To: Interested Parties
From: Ryan Munce – co/efficient
Date: January 12, 2023
Re: Virginia Study on Shared Solar Programs

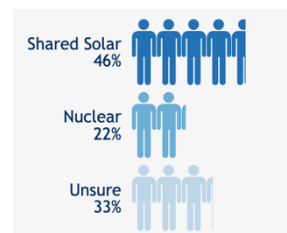
The following outlines the key findings of a study on the awareness, public perception of and attitudes toward Shared Solar programs in Virginia that included 786 registered Virginia voters. The survey was conducted from December 29th, 2022 through January 2nd, 2023.

The survey is balanced to reflect the true voting population of Virginia by age, gender, education level, geography, and party affiliation. The survey has a margin of error of +/- 3.51%. The results show a significant alignment and unity of opinion across the state, from region to region.



With energy costs skyrocketing, Virginians are cutting back their spending on groceries and essential items and making other sacrifices just to cover their energy bills. In this environment, there is a strong majority, 53%, of Virginia voters believe that everyone in the state should have the option to choose Shared Solar for their communities. Respondents with an opinion on Shared Solar support expanding availability at a rate of over 4 to 1.

- About three quarters (73%) of Virginians report that they would like to participate in a Shared Solar program in their community, but only 9% would be willing to join if it cost more than their current energy costs.
- Virginia voters are 13 times more likely to believe that expanding Shared Solar across the state will lead to more competition and lower energy costs, versus hurting energy reliability and the utility infrastructure.
- In addition to lower costs and increased energy reliability, the most popular benefit these programs are the thousands of new permanent jobs created by Shared Solar development. 73% of voters are more likely to support Shared Solar because of the increase in Jobs.
- When asked about priorities for taxpayer investments, Virginia voters strongly support Shared Solar over future Nuclear Energy expansion.





In such a competitive election cycle, issues like Shared Solar limitations or restrictions that directly hurt the bottom line of Virginia voters could make a significant difference in elected officials winning reelection in competitive seats.

- 61% of all voters report that they would be less likely to vote for their representatives in the state legislature if they voted to restrict availability of Shared Solar.
- 61% of all voters support removing all caps on Shared Solar with **only 8%** believe the caps should remain in place.
- 62% report that they will be less likely to reelect their representatives if they take the side of utility companies over freedom of choice for Virginians to choose their power options.
- Voters overwhelmingly believe (74%) that the legislature should consider all the costs and benefits of these programs before making decisions vs only the direct costs.
- In addition, 54% of voters support eliminating the current “minimum bill” arrangement and prefer a flat rate program to lock in savings for Virginia families.
- Finally, voters are strongly unified in their belief that solutions to the energy cost crisis should be among the very top priorities of the VA State Legislature.

