

COMMUNITY SOLAR GARDEN SUBCOMMITTEE

OVERVIEW

COSSA's community solar gardens subcommittee meets every two weeks for 45 minutes to review legislative, regulatory, and permitting developments and decide on COSSA actions. Meetings are a combination of staff summaries of key developments, member discussions of policy ramifications, and industry consensus building on appropriate next steps. At times, these discussions are responsive to new developments, at other times these meetings are for COSSA members to initiate policy campaigns and spearhead change in the industry.

For 2023, COSSA's CSG subcommittee meets every other **Tuesday at 11am MT**.

BENEFITS

- **Stay in the know** – frequent, reliable communications about industry happenings
- **Easily digested** – thousands of pages of regulatory filings and dense legislative initiatives summarized, referenced, and digested for you
- **Get a seat at the table** – COSSA is the first stop for decision-makers, lobbyists, and industry groups when policy issues touch on solar and storage. We are the trusted and formidable voice for the industry in the PC state.
- **Shape policy in the state** – campaigns start (or die) in our subcommittees. This is where the real policy work gets done.
- **Your presence under the Gold Dome** – COSSA has lobbyists and attorneys at the State Capitol who work hard to pass laws that move the industry forward.

2023 PRIORITIES

- **Improving Interconnection Processes** – COSSA is engaged in Xcel Energy's Interconnection Tariff proceeding, which will impose penalties and incentives based on the time it takes to interconnect distributed generation to the grid. COSSA will fight hard to make sure this Performance Incentive Mechanism structure will force Xcel to change its problematic practices for good.
- **Xcel Off-Site Net Metering Tariff** - Off-site net metering can offer individual customers CSG-style benefits, including bill savings and decarbonization benefits necessary to meet ESG goals. COSSA will work to broaden this program, based on market demand from 2023.

- **Building the Building Electrification Market** – As Colorado’s building stock faces new requirements to decarbonize, the demand for new renewable energy to offset emissions is increasing. COSSA is fighting to ensure that distributed generation, including CSG capacity, is one of the tools in the toolbox to decarbonize buildings.
- **Xcel Distribution System Planning Stakeholder Process** – Xcel and Gridlab are holding a series of technical stakeholder meetings to discuss the implementation of the DSP. COSSA will continue to push for accurate and available hosting capacity tools, a cost sharing mechanism for system upgrades, and reasonable equipment utilization rates.
- **Xcel CSG Standard Offer** - COSSA will engage to safeguard CSG capacity and evaluate any program adjustment proposals.

PAST WINS

- **Standard Offer** - Creation of a standard offer for 5 MW projects that has a firm fixed bill credit and ensures capacity if the developer fulfills key development milestones.

INVESTMENT

- \$5,000/annually. Payable in two installments (March/September)

MAXIMIZING YOUR MEMBERSHIP VALUE

- **Arrive prepared** – with only thirty minutes to review everything that has happened in the industry in the last two weeks, it is important participants arrive ready to discuss agenda items.
- **Keep confidentiality** – maintaining confidentiality is vital to the effectiveness of COSSA’s subcommittees. Meeting comments and subcommittee work products are not to be shared with those outside of the policy subcommittee.
- **Respond quickly** – COSSA staff depend on the expertise of our members. Your wisdom and experience will be vital to ensuring sound policy throughout Colorado. Many times we need a quick turnaround, and we ask that you respond expeditiously.