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New Study Shows Huge Potential for Solar in Maryland

[PRWeb](#)

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A new study has concluded that over 450 million square feet of roof space would be suitable for solar panels in the State of Maryland. The space that is available for solar panels would add over 5,000 megawatts of capacity to the State—the equivalent of 10 coal-fired power plants. SolarTown estimates that if solar energy systems on the roof space eligible on these homes were installed, 24% of the residential needs of the State would be met. The release of the study is timed to coincide with the Maryland General Assembly's consideration of House Bill 471 and Senate Bill 277, critical to the growth of the solar industry in Maryland.

Washington, DC (PRWEB) March 31, 2010 -- A new study has concluded that over 450 million square feet of roof space would be suitable for solar panels in the State of Maryland. According to the results of the study released by SolarTown, LLC, only a small percentage of existing residential roof space would be suitable for solar because of shading issues or because the roof has the wrong orientation. Nevertheless, the space that is available for solar panels would add over 5,000 megawatts of capacity to the State—the equivalent of 10 coal-fired power plants, each the size of the Herbert Wagner Generating Station, which produces over 3 million tons of CO₂ emissions every year.

SolarTown estimates that if solar energy systems on the roof space eligible on these homes were installed, 24% of the residential needs of the State would be met—that is 24% just from installing solar energy systems just on homes and does not include commercial or industrial structures.

According to SolarTown's president, Keith Rosten, the release of the study is timed to coincide with the Maryland General Assembly's consideration of House Bill 471 and Senate Bill 277, critical to the growth of the solar industry in Maryland.

According to Rosten, "Maryland has not even been in the top 10 in cumulative solar capacity, behind other states like Connecticut, Oregon and North Carolina."

Rosten thinks that the residential solar market has a huge potential in Maryland, but needs critical support from the General Assembly. He believes in the capacity of the residential solar market because the solar panels can be installed quickly, unlike large power plants that take years to win government permits. And residential solar installations avoid the need for long, expensive transmission lines.

Company information:

SolarTown is working to be part of the climate solution, offering clean energy generation systems powered by the sun for every American interested in low-cost, high-quality renewable energy. SolarTown is headquartered in Washington, DC.