2017 Virginia Solar Congress

Take Home Messages

1. Solar 101
   1. Net profit over the lifetime of a solar system
2. Solar in Your Community
   1. Emphasis on rural communities, overcoming challenges, importance of flexibility
   2. Long-term hedge on electricity rates
   3. Rural electric cooperatives launching community solar programs
   4. Tabling at events and solar toys for children
3. EVs and Solar
   1. $7,500 tax credit
   2. Need to work with HOAs, condos, communities for EV charging infrastructure
   3. Need for legislation to lower costs on charging infrastructure
   4. EV owners happy to charge w/ standard plug
   5. Cleaner utility generation = cleaner EVs
   6. Sleep while you charge
   7. EVs cleaner even with dirty grids
   8. VW settlement money to go into charging stations
   9. Batteries to be recycled
4. Solar Jobs
   1. Solar jobs provide pathway to green & other careers for blue collar workers
   2. Solar the most diverse energy industry
   3. Importance of installation knowledge / experience across all types of solar jobs
   4. Optimism towards solar tariff case
   5. Development of clean energy career pipeline
5. DIY Solar
   1. Solar co-ops spark other solar & community endeavors
   2. Success of solar in non-profit sphere
6. Solar and Storage
   1. Less maintenance makes better systems
   2. Difference btw. Commercial & residential energy rates – opportunity for batteries to drive down peak costs
   3. Battery fires not so likely
   4. Fundraising to send batteries to Puerto Rico