

# Rural solar power generation land policy

## WORKING PRINCIPLE



## Overview

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This report explores national trends in utility-scale solar and wind deployment on agricultural land, examines the county role in land use and permitting and outlines key federal and state policy considerations. Across the country, solar farms have experienced rapid growth, supported by advancements in technology, cost reductions, and policy initiatives such as state-level renewable portfolio standards and tax credits. As shown in Map 1, roughly 18% of ground-mounted PV facilities in the U. were. Department of Energy research projects solar energy to rise from 4% of our nation's total energy production to 45% by 2050, potentially requiring nearly 10. Sheep grazing is the most popular livestock type. Vegetables and berries are the leading crops. USDA's new anti-renewable energy policies restrict farmers' choices over their own land under the banner of 'protection. Department of Agriculture Secretary Brooke Rollins announced that USDA will “no longer deploy programs to fund solar projects,” a move that would presumably limit. With input from experts and AFT partners, AFT has developed a suite of policy recommendations for all levels of government that will protect farmland, farm viability, rural economies, and agricultural land access while accelerating solar development to address climate change.

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PUSUNG-R (Fit for 19 inch cabinet)



### Designing for dual-use solar: An examination of the agrivoltaic policy

An increasingly popular solution for local opposition to solar energy in the United States is agrivoltaics, the dual use of land for both agricultural and solar energy production, and many states ...

### The Use and Potential of Agrivoltaics in the United States

The U.S. Department of Energy has projected that utility-scale solar projects may provide as much as 45% of U.S. electricity by 2050, up from just 4% today. This growth in solar electricity will ...



### USDA & DOE Solar Energy and Farming Initiatives

Expanding existing programs and starting new ones to support farmland conservation, energy choice, and the dual use of land for both farming and solar energy production, also known as agrivoltaics.

## Empowering Farms, Ranches, and Rural Communities: The Promise ...

This farmer-centered approach ensures that the land under the solar array is actively used for agriculture, helping to mitigate the loss of farmland. One notable benefit of agrivoltaics is that it ...



## NACo Primer for Counties: Renewable Energy in Farm Country

This report explores national trends in utility-scale solar and wind deployment on agricultural land, examines the county role in land use and permitting and outlines key federal and ...

## Smart SolarSM Policy Recommendations

With input from experts and AFT partners, AFT has developed a suite of policy recommendations for all levels of government that will protect farmland, farm viability, rural economies, and agricultural land ...



## Harvesting the Sun-Twice: Agrivoltaics and Rural Land-



## Use

This dual land-use approach allows solar energy production to coexist with farming activities, from crop cultivation to livestock grazing and supporting pollinator habitats.

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## USDA Rollback on Solar Strips Rural America of Land and Energy ...

Wind and solar can coexist successfully with crops or grazing. Strong solar land stewardship improves soil health and protects water quality through smart ground cover such as ...



## Solar Electricity Generation on Rural Lands

This guide is intended to represent a collection of legal resources relating to solar electricity generation on rural lands.

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## Solar Energy Expansion in Rural Communities , Focus on Ag

The ideal location for installing a solar

power facility is on land that is clear, dry, relatively flat and close to existing grid infrastructure. Farmland typically meets many of these standards and ...



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