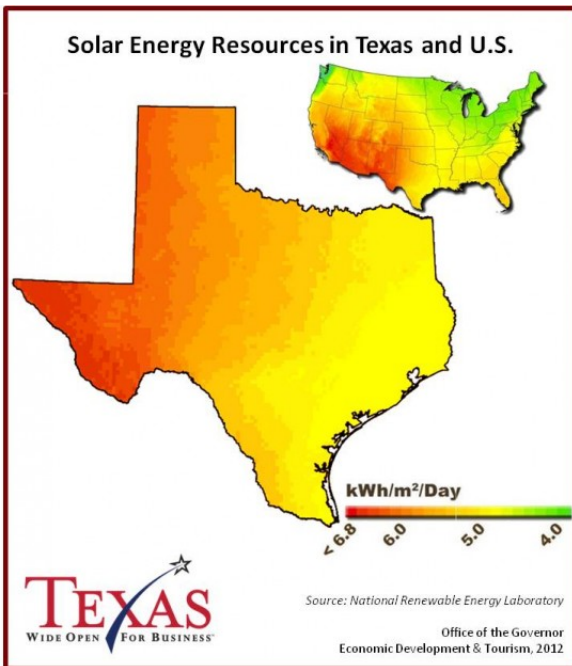


Your Partnership Matters to The Future of El Paso!

El Paso, Texas is known as the Sun City due to the approximately 297 days of sunshine we enjoy out of the year. The El Paso area is ranked in the Top 1 % in the United States for solar resources. Our community is: 80.7% Hispanic/Latino with a median age of 32.5; median household income of \$42,772 as compared to the median household income in Texas of \$53,207 (in 2015 dollars) (<http://www.census.gov/quickfacts/table/PST045215/48141>).

We are a patriotic community that proudly supports both a military base (Ft. Bliss) and an Air Force base (Biggs Field). The demographics of our Sun City emphasize the need for an affordable energy source that not only promotes water conservation, but also provides our community with viable, stable jobs and infrastructure.



With broad backing, El Paso dreams of achieving the goal of truly becoming the Sun City, not only in name, but in strong support of renewable solar industry jobs.

This support would fulfill the promise written in the Texas Constitution of the right to ease into a competitive market in the utility sector.

This right is already enjoyed by most Texans, and our community would greatly benefit economically by being able to exercise this same right. In turn, our great state of Texas can benefit from new tax revenue resulting from a growing economic sector.

Your Partnership Matters to The Future of El Paso!

ABOUT ECO EL PASO

Eco El Paso, a registered non-profit 501(c)(3), is dedicated to fostering a learning environment for sustainable systems and lifestyles while integrating workforce and economic development concepts.

In 2014, Eco El Paso expanded and diversified its mission, the board of directors, and committees to include outside professional and business groups, educational institutions, community groups, and similar public and private entities interested in promoting sustainable practices in our desert region. Eco El Paso is striving to create venues for discussion and collaboration on how El Paso will build its future.

Eco El Paso envisions cooperating with other similarly oriented groups to promote, educate, and serve as a vehicle for discovery, learning, and integration of sustainable and regenerative practices.

We aspire to define, in collaboration with others, regionally appropriate built environments that are healthy, original, and ecologically sound with a focus on locally and regionally sourced human and material resources.

Eco El Paso was an original intervenor in the August 2015 rate case (#44941) and remained through the entire process to defeat the proposed EPE tariff on solar, which was withdrawn in 2016. El Paso Electric has filed again for a rate hike request on February 13 2017 which includes a provision for an increase in charges for customers who own solar structures. We will challenge any fees that alter the arrangement residential solar structure owners currently have with El Paso Electric (a regulated monopoly).

We emphatically urge your support on these following positions:

- **Keep residential solar structure customers in the residential class.**
- **Provide Annual Net Metering in lieu of monthly.**
- **Increase Net Metering for commercial from 50KW to 600KW.**
- **Pay fair retail for excess generated to the grid**
- **No demand, or other type of charges, on solar structure homeowners - they contribute to the grid and are not subsidized!**
- **Implement a more equitably tiered rate system.**
- **Increase energy efficiency programs.**
- **Control & Reduce Peak Demand Cost by promoting ice storage a/c systems.**
- **Require El Paso Electric to perform Load Research Studies on solar versus non-solar energy so as to provide evidence-based data.**

