



Berkeley Climate Action Plan: Tracking our Progress Building Energy Use – SmartSolar Program



Goal: Enhance energy services & standards and encourage energy upgrades for existing residential and commercial properties

Performance metric: Annual number of East Bay and Berkeley clients served by the [SmartSolar](#) program

Target: The SmartSolar program’s target, since its inception in 2009, is to conduct 356 residential and 130 commercial consultations for East Bay properties by September 2014. SmartSolar consultations provide analyses of the energy efficiency and solar potential of properties as well as independent advice on how to take action.

Status: The SmartSolar program is nearing its 2014 targets for providing residential and commercial solar consultations in the East Bay. The program provided 29 residential and 16 commercial consultations in 2013, and has provided over 332 residential consultations and 101 commercial consultations since 2009, of which 170 of the residential and 70 of the commercial consultations were within Berkeley. The consultations resulted in solar PV and solar thermal installations that displace 636,560 KWh and 1,120 therms respectively, of which, 524,628 KWh and 123 therms are due to projects in Berkeley.

Number of SmartSolar Customer Consultations between April 2009 and December 2013			
East Bay		City of Berkeley	
Residential	Commercial	Residential	Commercial
328 Solar PV	93 Solar PV	167 Solar PV	63 Solar PV
317 Solar Thermal	49 Solar Thermal	164 Solar Thermal	35 Solar Thermal

*There were a total of 170 residential consultations and 70 commercial consultations between 2009-2013. Many, but not all, of the consultations included both solar PV and solar thermal evaluations. The table breaks out the consultations by PV and thermal.

Why is this metric important?

The SmartSolar program is a critical component of Berkeley’s efforts to engage businesses and residents in increasing energy efficiency and installing solar. Launched in 2009 and funded by the U.S. Department of Energy’s Solar America Cities Initiative and the East Bay Energy Watch Partnership, the program aims to make it as easy and inexpensive as possible for properties to increase their energy efficiency and utilize solar PV and/or solar thermal. Through the program, the Community Energy Services Corporation offers free, personalized consultations to Berkeley businesses and residents. The consultations provide guidance and resources to help clients navigate the multitude of technology and incentive options available.



Resources and assistance for community members

SmartSolar (<http://ebenergy.org/smart-solar-program/>) provides free, independent energy education and site-specific project advice to help Berkeley residents and businesses go solar.

SmartLights (www.ebenergy.org/smart-lights) offers businesses free, independent, start-to-finish technical assistance and instant rebates to help defray the cost of upgrading and/or repairing existing equipment.

Berkeley Solar Map (www.CityofBerkeley.info/solarmap) is an interactive tool for viewing locations of existing solar installations in Berkeley. It also allows one to calculate the benefits of going solar by determining the potential size and cost for solar PV or solar thermal on any rooftop within the City of Berkeley.

Data sources and technical notes: Data provided by Community Energy Services Corporation.

Tracking our progress: Review Climate Action Plan performance metrics at www.cityofberkeley.info/climate