

- Public policies and incentives that have been put in place have succeeded in promoting the growth of solar development, although at a pace far greater than what most people expected. The majority of this growth has occurred in the past two years. (In GMP territory alone, as of November 9th 257 MW of solar projects are either proposed or have been developed, and of these 110 MW are net metered projects. This year In September and October alone 24 MW of new net metered applications were submitted. For comparison, in the same months in 2013 the net metered applications totaled 3.3 MW.)
- Given the unprecedented growth of solar development there's an increasing concern over the amount being built, how much more can be expected, and where they will be sited, especially with most of the capacity being filled with larger projects that are 150 kw and higher for net metering and up to 2.2 MW for standard offer projects
- The increase in the size of net metered projects to 500 kw has resulted in greater deployment of these larger systems on open land
- The ability to group net meter anywhere in a utility's service territory has resulted in projects being built on open land, and away from where the power is used
- The expedited process for 150 kw projects limits opportunities for neighbors to have a say
- Some developers are not being respectful and responsive to concerns expressed by abutting neighbors
- There's inadequate screening to minimize aesthetic impacts
- There's a lack of thorough information on applications including issues like screening, environmental impact, conformance with local and regional town plans, etc. to give interested parties a full understanding of the project's impact
- The current process does not provide enough checks and balances to weed out the bad developers
- Development is occurring along well-traveled roads because of flat land and proximity to 3 phase power lines