

Agrivoltaics Policy

April 23, 2025



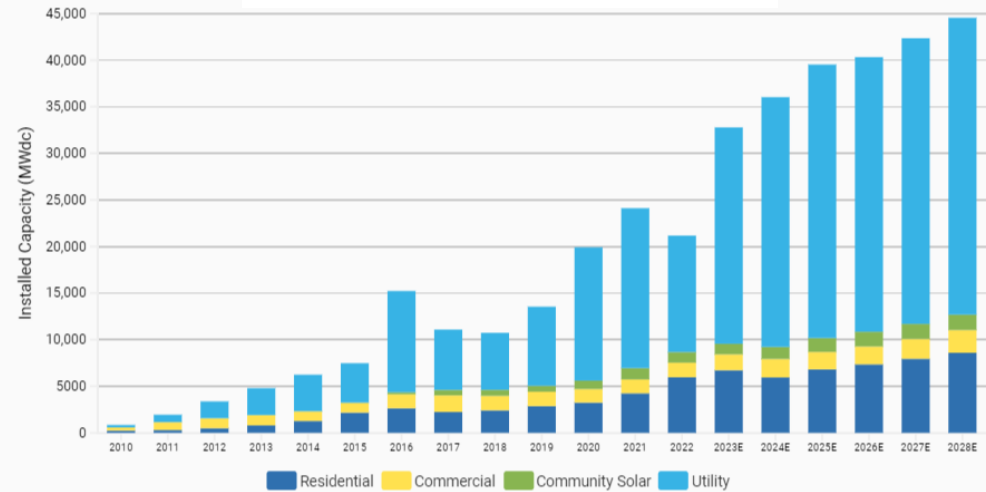
**No Farms
No Food®**


American Farmland Trust

Why Agrivoltaics?

- Solar is critical to achieving renewable energy goals
- Solar can threaten farmland
 - Projected to require **10 Million Acres by 2050**, 90% in rural America (DOE)
 - Without policy intervention, **83% will be on farm and ranchland** (AFT)
 - Nearly **half on our best ag land** (AFT)

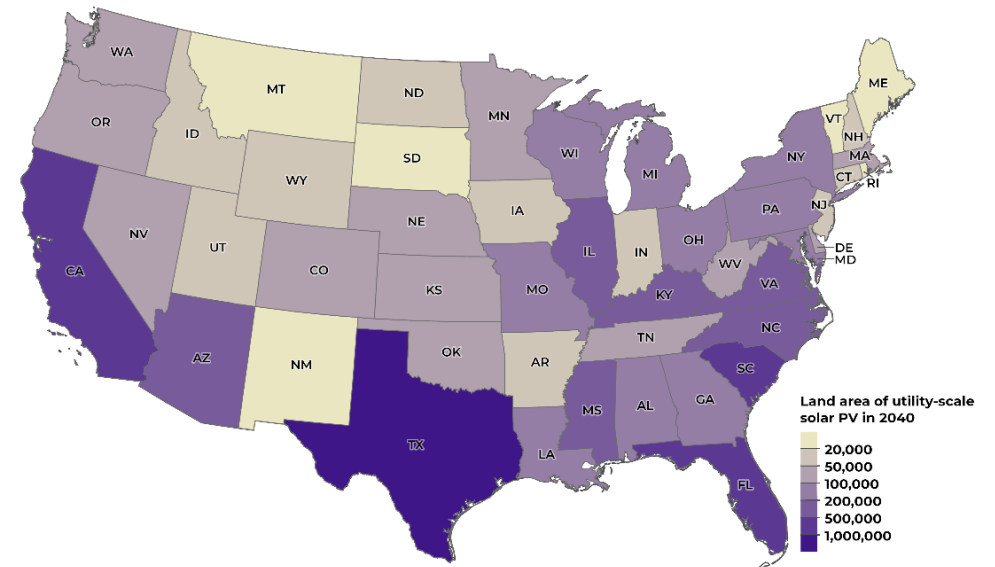
US Solar Forecast



Source: SEIA/Wood Mackenzie Power & Renewables U.S. Solar Market Insight Q4 2023



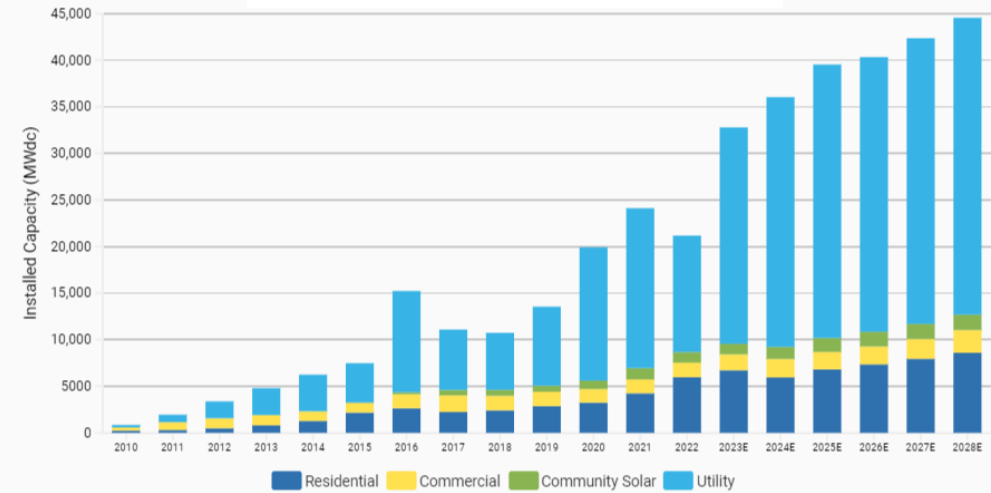
Solar Conversion by 2040



Why Agrivoltaics?

- Solar is critical to achieving renewable energy goals
- Solar can threaten farmland
- Solar can displace producers and reduce next gen opportunities
- Can have broader community impacts
- Most farms run at a loss

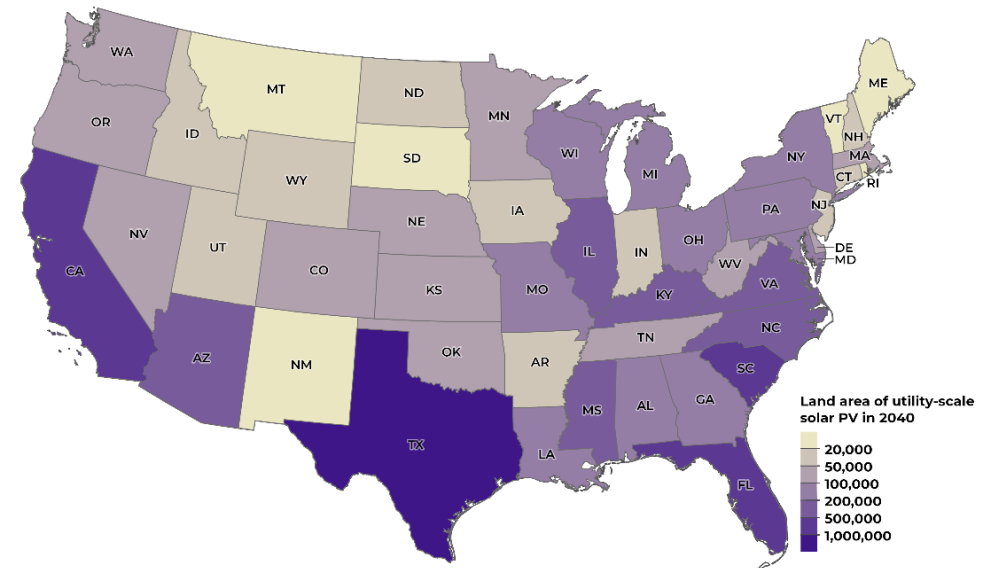
US Solar Forecast



Source: SEIA/Wood Mackenzie Power & Renewables U.S. Solar Market Insight Q4 2023



Solar Conversion by 2040



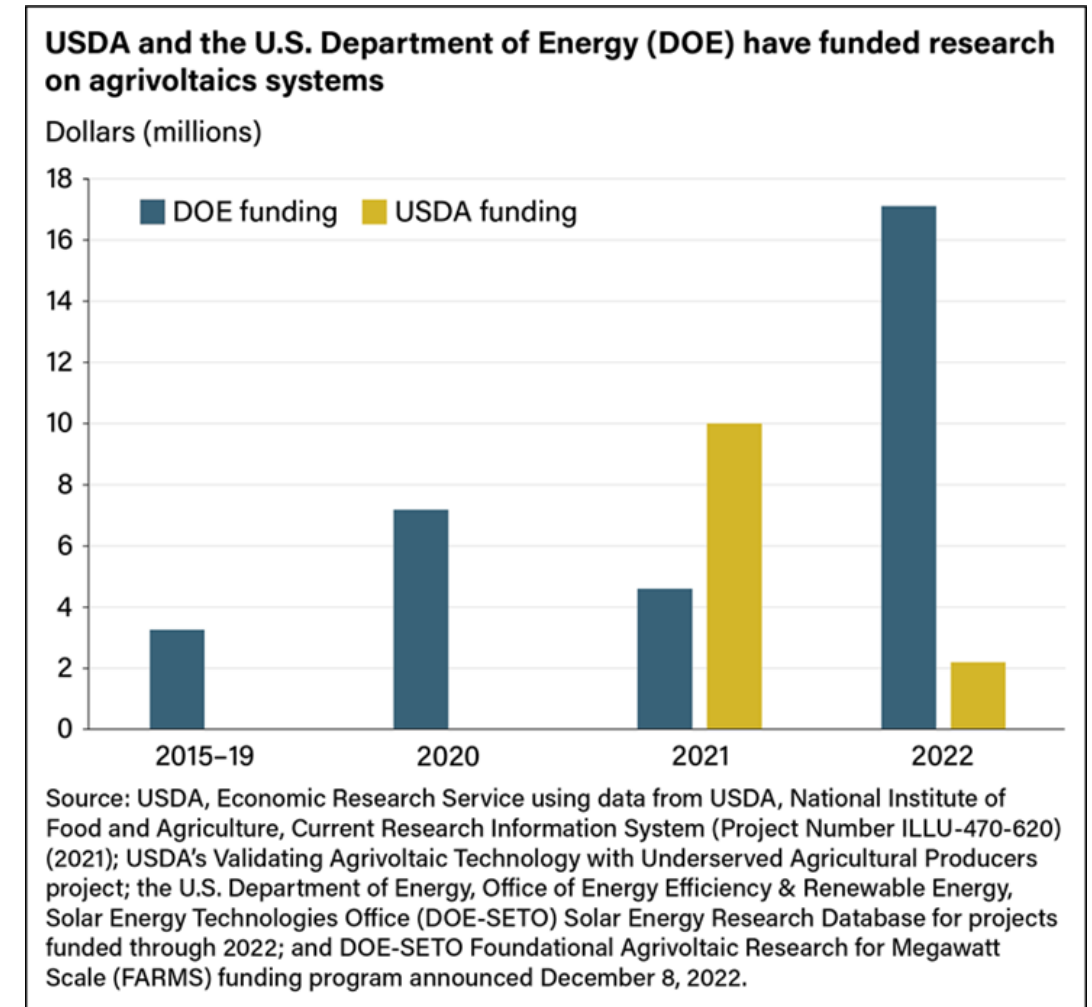
Agrivoltaic Challenges

- Small portion of the solar market (~5%)
- More expensive than conventional solar
- Needs to expand to additional production systems
- Varying definitions of “agrivoltaic”



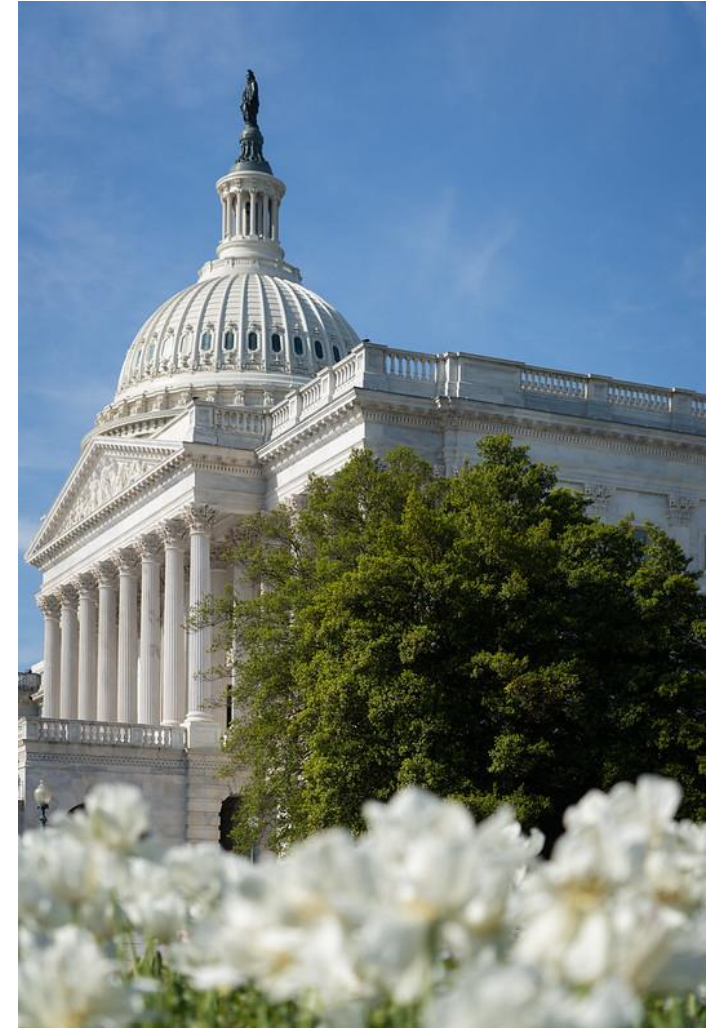
Federal Landscape: Current Policy

- Research and development funding (DOE, USDA)
- Solar tax credits (Indirect)



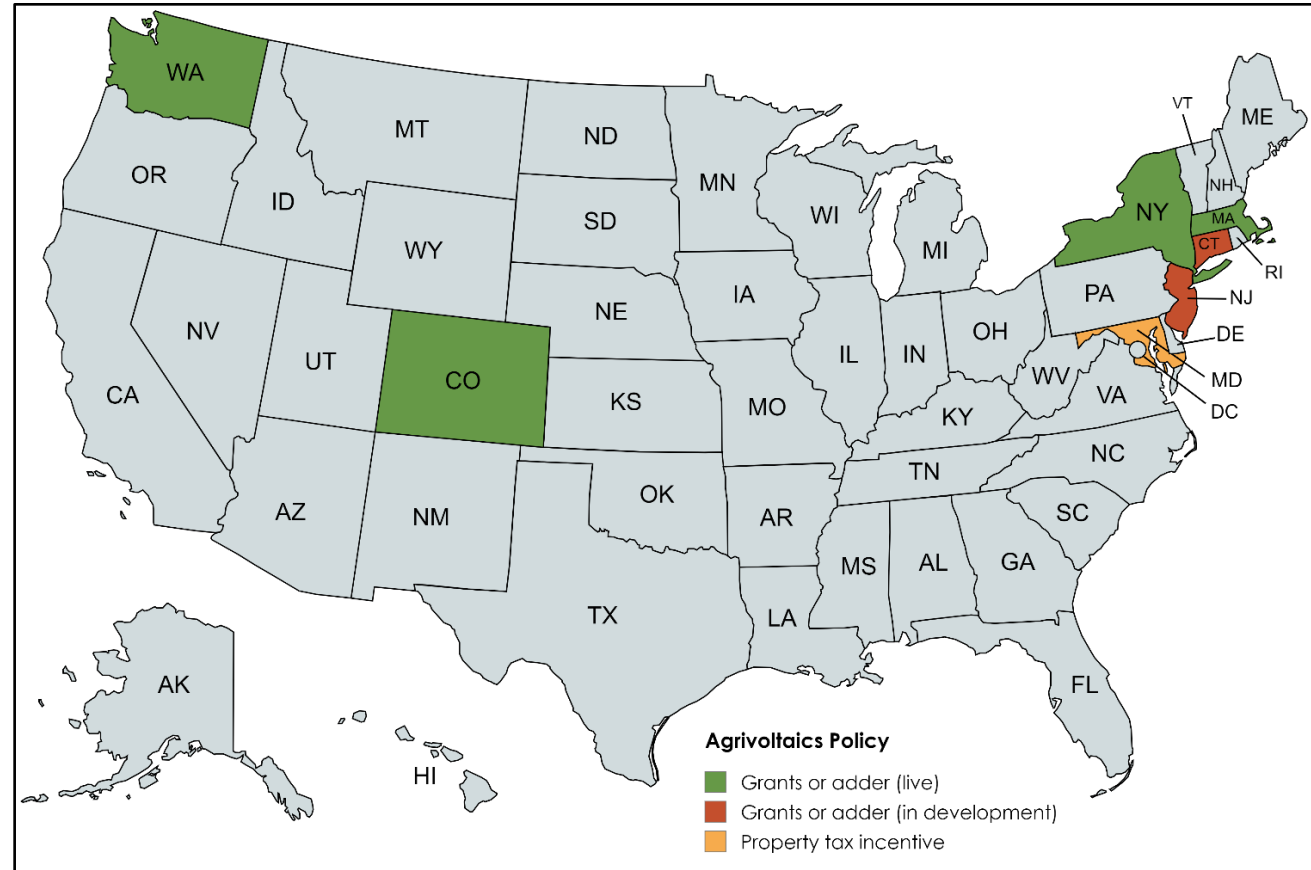
Federal Landscape: Proposed Policy

- Establishment of standard definition
- Additional R&D Funding
- Best practices for protecting natural resources
- Support for technical assistance
- Study on dual-use
- Incentivization within programs (e.g., USDA REAP)



State Landscape: Policy Opportunities

- Studies
- R&D
- Program incentives
- Reductions or forgiveness of conversion/mitigation fees
- Property tax reduction
- Favorable permitting
- Exceptions to land use laws



Grants or adder
(Enacted)



Property tax
incentive



Grants or adder
(In development)

Successful Agrivoltaic Policy

- An ag-focused “agrivoltaic” definition
 - Intentionally planned and designed for agriculture
 - Produces energy and a marketable agricultural product
 - Remains in ag throughout the life of the project



Successful Agrivoltaic Policy

- An ag-focused “agrivoltaic” definition
- Variable incentives based on degree modification and land kept in agriculture
- Monitoring and effective penalties
- Regular program review
- Carveouts for projects benefitting underserved producers





Smart Solar Resources

