

SWATeam Recommendation

Name of SWATeam: Energy Generation, Purchasing, and Distribution

SWATeam Chair: Mike Larson

Date Submitted to iSEE: Feb 9, 2017

Specific Actions/Policy Recommended (a few sentences): Incorporate a building design standard into the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Facilities Standards that requires all new buildings on-campus to include a rooftop solar array covering the majority of rooftop surface area.

Rationale for Recommendation (a few sentences): To achieve on-campus solar energy production goals set forth by the 2015 iCAP, the University of Illinois will need to incorporate policies which promote the implementation of on-campus solar energy systems.

Connection to iCAP Goals (a few sentences): The 2nd objective in the Energy Generation, Purchasing, and Distribution chapter of the iCAP reads, "Expand on-campus solar energy production. By FY20, produce at least 12,500 MWh/year, and by FY25 at least 25,000 MWh/year, from solar installations on campus property." This recommendation is directly related to this objective.

Perceived Challenges (a few sentences): The inclusion of a rooftop solar system will add to the cost of design and construction of new campus buildings. It will be necessary to secure funding to implement solar systems on future buildings.

Suggested unit/department to address implementation: Facilities & Services (Engineering Services)

Anticipated level of budget and/or policy impact (low, medium, high): Medium

The dropping cost of photovoltaic technologies and the federal solar investment tax credit (ITC) reduce payback period of solar systems and therefore should make investment attractive. The ITC credit is 30% for properties which have commenced construction through 2019, changing to 26% in 2020, 22% in 2021, and 10% after 2023.

The design standard would be integrated into the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Facilities Standards and therefore become a design requirement.

Individual comments are required from each SWATeam member (can be brief, if member fully agrees):

| Team Member Name | Team Member's Comments |
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| Mike Larson | I agree with this recommendation. In order to met this objective as outlined in the 2015 iCAP, discussions, planning and budgeting needs to start immediately. |
| Tim Mies | I support the addition of building design standards to include a requirement for rooftop solar incorporated into future buildings. |
| Catherine Yee | I agree with this recommendation. It is important that we take this step to meet our goals set in the iCAP. |
| Xinlei Wang | I agree with this recommendation. This is an important step toward the goals set forth by the 2015 iCAP. |

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| Jack Morrissey | Unavailable for comment |
| Yu-Feng Forrest Lin | I support this recommendation and suggest to execute in a timely matter. |

Comments from Consultation Group (if any; these can be anonymous):

Explanation and Background (can be supplied in an attachment):