

2019 Legislative Priorities

The Iowa Solar Energy Trade Association (ISETA) is dedicated to improving access to solar energy in Iowa for farmers, businesses, residents, utilities, and communities to own or invest in solar projects.

Key priorities include:

Protect Iowa's Net Metering Laws

Preserve consumer choice and ensure solar energy development is accessible to all Iowans, including farmers, small businesses and residents. Policies should encourage community and utility-scale solar development while also maintaining distributed clean energy policies, such as net metering and third-party power purchase agreements, so there are no barriers to customer-owned renewable energy. The state also needs to reverse the ability for municipal utilities to discriminate against solar customers as now allowed with the passage of Senate File 2311 during the 2018 legislative session.

Enhance Iowa's Upfront Solar Tax Credit and Decouple from Federal ITC

ISETA supports enhancing the program available for the upfront solar tax credit for farmers, businesses, and individuals to install solar energy. Because of the extreme popularity of the program and the economic benefit to Iowa consumers and businesses, ISETA recommends raising the cap to \$10 million to help take care of carryover list from the previous year and ensure funds are available for each year. Because of the uncertainty in federal policy, Iowa should modify the state's existing program so it becomes independent of the federal tax credits, thereby providing more certainty regarding the eligibility timeframe and criteria. This action would allow the state the flexibility to establish and modify tax credit incentives in a way that is appropriate for Iowa's solar potential, market demand, and industry conditions.

Create Iowa Solar Goal

Create a state solar goal of 2500 MW by 2030 to drive the market, create jobs, help replace imported coal generation, and complement Iowa's significant wind resource.

Modernize and Extend the State Renewable Energy Production Tax Credit

ISETA supports the modernization and extension of the renewable energy production tax credit to focus on projects with Iowa ownership and to utilize emerging technologies while saving money in the program. ISETA encourages lawmakers to set a new deadline for tax credit applications to allow the program to continue to provide benefits to communities and utility customers.