

Immediate Release

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Conservative Legislative Leaders Introduce Community Solar Bill in Wisconsin

Policy aims to open community solar market for competition and growth.

Madison, WI – Yesterday Senator Duey Stroebel (R – Saukville) and Representative Timothy Ramthun (R – Campbellsport) introduced a community solar bill in Wisconsin. As the price of solar continues to decline and its use increases across the Midwest, new markets and opportunities are beginning to open, including community solar. Conservative leaders in the legislature are responding to these market opportunities with policy that seeks to bring jobs and investment to Wisconsin.

“Solar costs have been dropping steadily for a decade, making it cost competitive across the state of Wisconsin now,” said Scott Coenen, Executive Director of the Wisconsin Conservative Energy Forum. “In order for communities in our state to fully take advantage of this technology as it’s being deployed, we need targeted policy reform to open markets for growth.”

Community solar development has increased around the country to nearly 3,000MW last year but Wisconsin has severely lagged other states. This bill seeks to open the community solar market to private competition and development, allowing consumers more robust options and communities a new economic development tool.

“These efforts signal an emerging consensus among conservative policymakers in the state — pursuing conservative policy reform that seeks to open market-led growth in new technologies,” said Coenen. “That’s exactly what this community solar bill does, pursues conservative reform to unlock investment, jobs, and local community energy projects across the state.”

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About WICEF: The Wisconsin Conservative Energy Forum (WICEF) is a vehicle for individuals, organizations, and businesses to join the conservative conversation about Wisconsin’s energy future. WICEF believes that an “all of the above” energy policy must be pursued by increasing our state’s commitment to reducing energy waste and developing “Wisconsin-grown” clean energy resources. Leveraging Wisconsin’s transition to clean and renewable energy will stimulate our economy, lower electricity costs, protect our national and grid security, reduce pollution, and improve the public health for all Wisconsinites. www.wiscef.org