

# Powering local economies

Welcome to **Sunnyville**  
 Explore the town below to see how the economic benefits of a solar park can flow through a community.

### Providing stable income

The reliable revenue stream provided by a solar park lease agreement can give landowners the financial freedom to expand their business, save for retirement, pay for college, or benefit from other life-enriching opportunities.

### Reinvesting in the community

With the additional income from a solar park lease, landowners, local governments, and local businesses have greater resources to reinvest in the community.

### Supporting local businesses

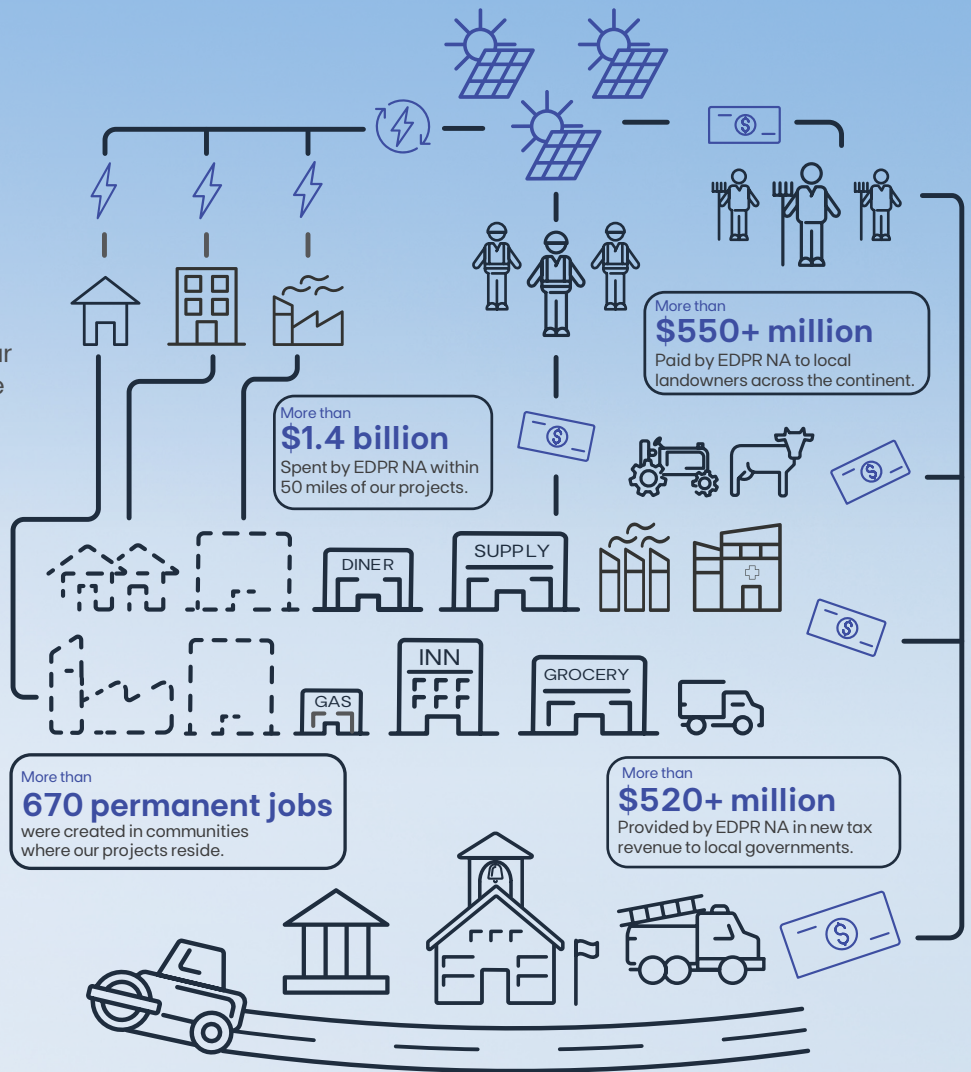
Solar park construction generates an economic boost for the project area, with hundreds of workers relying on local businesses for food, lodging, materials, and contractor services. Once the project is in operation, the solar park continues to count on local businesses for ongoing maintenance needs, such as vegetative maintenance, panel washing, and equipment.

### Attracting growth

Companies are increasingly interested in powering their operations with clean energy at a fixed price. The availability of clean power generated by the solar park can help attract further business development to the project area.

### Strengthening local infrastructure

Government payments directly from the solar park, as well as increased economic activity from landowners and local businesses supported by the solar park, help fund essential services such as roads, schools, and fire departments.



Data through 2024.<sup>1</sup>



“After the solar farm checks started coming in, I purchased more land and started a tree nursery. When you show the lenders this fixed income you have coming in, your credit rating goes up, as well as your borrowing power so **you can expand your business and farm.**”

Walt P.  
 Solar project landowner and farmer

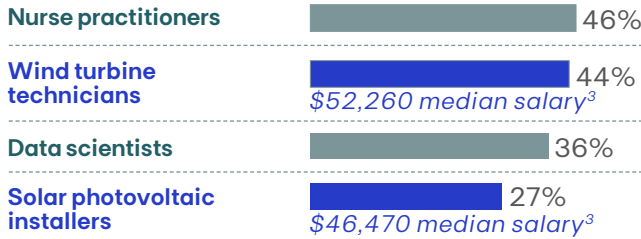
## Strengthening local infrastructure

### EDPR NA has paid more than \$520 million to local governments through 2023.<sup>2</sup>

In many project areas, an EDPR NA solar park or wind farm is the biggest taxpaying entity in the county, providing critical funding to services relied upon by residents. These payments provide local rural governments the funds to grow, innovate, and enhance the quality of life.

### Creating quality jobs in rural communities

JOB GROWTH RATE, 2019-2029



Solar technician is the 4th fastest growing job in the United States.<sup>5</sup>

263,883+ solar workers  
Are employed by the U.S. solar industry.<sup>6</sup>

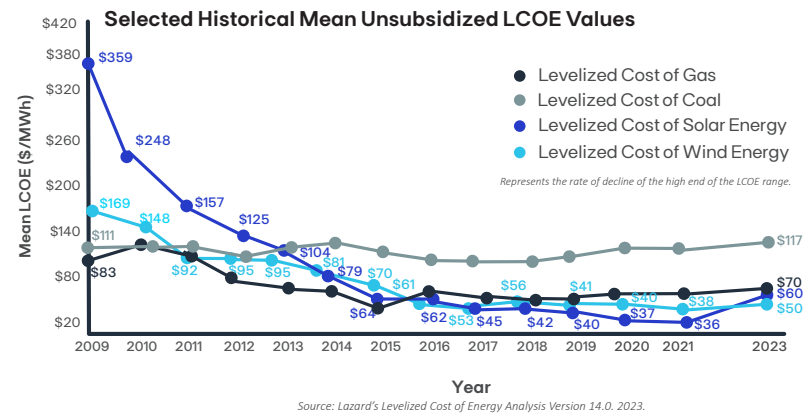
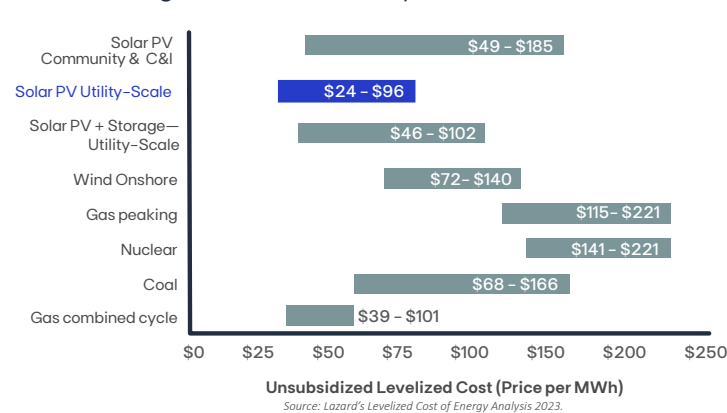
4.9+ million workers  
Are employed by the solar energy sector worldwide.<sup>7</sup>

33,473 American jobs  
Were created due to solar manufacturing sector, as of 2022.<sup>6</sup>

## Affordable energy harvested on American soil

Solar energy is among the most affordable energy options in America. Power purchase agreement prices have fallen dramatically in all regions of the United States, giving utilities and corporate off-takers access to reliable, cheap energy at a fixed price. These guaranteed rates help keep consumer costs low and stable while also **supporting American energy independence**.

EDPR NA sources as many American-assembled or manufactured panels as possible while the domestic supply chain in the US continues to grow to meet industry demand.



## CASE STUDY

### Annual Property Taxes Paid on North Carolina Real Estate Parcels with Solar Projects

In a 2022 analysis of North Carolina, it was identified that property taxes paid on parcels with utility-scale solar PV systems were \$12.7 million, compared to \$1.4 million before installation.<sup>4</sup>

Due to the additional property taxes paid by solar developers for the solar equipment on the land in North Carolina, the solar industry has delivered **\$15 billion investments**, most of which are in the most economically distressed counties.<sup>4</sup>



The solar industry employs nearly 7,000 North Carolinians.<sup>4</sup>

“I think any company that comes in to put in solar projects, the tax base they bring in will be a big help to our county’s economy. They can do a lot of repairs on roads and improve the school system, so it’s really a big win for everybody.”  
— Roddy M., South Carolina landowner

## Property values

Multiple studies show that the proximity to a solar installation has either no impact or a slight positive impact on rural home values.<sup>8</sup>

One possible reason for positive impact is knowing that the land won’t be sold and developed for unfavorable use within the project’s lifetime.

When funds received by local governments from solar project development are invested in improving school districts, roads, and civic services, property values increase.

“Farming is uncertain — that’s different from solar. Solar is not uncertain at all. EDPR goes out, checks on the equipment, and keeps the land up.”

I’d 100 percent recommend solar parks to farmers in this community.”

— Freddie M., South Carolina landowner

<sup>2</sup> Based on cumulative data from operational projects through 2023.  
<sup>3</sup> DOE, 2023 U.S. Energy and Employment Report (USEER), 2023.  
<sup>4</sup> NC Sustainable Energy Association, North Carolina Property Tax Revenue from Solar Development, 2022.  
<sup>5</sup> DOE, 2023 U.S. Energy and Employment Report, 2023.  
<sup>6</sup> IREC, National Jobs Census 2022.  
<sup>7</sup> IRENA’s Renewable Energy and Jobs Annual Review 2023 (Renewable energy and jobs: Annual review 2023 (irena.org))  
<sup>8</sup> Data sourced from County Tax Offices, North Carolina Utilities Commission and NCSEA Renewable Energy Database, 2017.