



Solar Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) and Leases are two 3rd party ownership options that allow consumers to install solar electricity systems without the upfront cost. Solar PPAs and leases also allow non-profit organizations to take advantage of tax-related incentives currently available, such as investment tax credits and accelerated depreciation.

What is a Solar PPA or Solar Lease?

A solar lease is very much like a car lease, where you lease the equipment for a set period of time and benefit from the electricity it produces during that lease period. A power purchase agreement is similar, although with a PPA you only pay for the electricity your solar system produces. It's like paying for a car by the mile. In both cases, you're essentially hosting a solar power system on your roof that is owned by a 3rd party and enjoying all its environmental benefits with little or no upfront payment. The PPA or lease payment is typically structured in a way that the power generated by the system costs less (\$/kWh) than that of the local utility company.

Soliciting Bids

When considering installing a solar system on your property, the Department of the Environment recommends interviewing at least three potential solar contractors and obtaining their bids and references before making your selection. For home or building owners who are considering a solar PPA or lease, there are important considerations because these s/he will not own the system. The system will be owned by the leasing company or the power purchase company. Visit [CALSEA](#) for suggested questions to ask solar PPA and lease providers.

Solar PPA and Lease Providers in San Francisco

This list contains all the solar PPA and lease providers in San Francisco that the SF Department of the Environment is aware of. The inclusion or exclusion of companies listed does not reflect in any way the quality of service or workmanship of any PPA or lease provider offering their services to San Francisco property owners. Furthermore, the City and County of San Francisco neither endorses nor assumes liability for the quality of work performed by any of these companies.

Residential

SolarCity – www.solarcity.com

Sungevity – www.sungevity.com

Sun Run – www.sunrunhome.com

Commercial / Government / Non-profit

Clean Source Power – www.cleansourcepower.com

Envision Solar – www.envisionsolar.com

Green Energy Finder – www.greenenergyfinder.com

Helio Micro Utility (Helio mU) – www.heliomu.com

LightWind Energy – www.lightwindenergy.com

Main Street Power – www.mainstreetpower.com

MMA Renewable Ventures – www.renewableventures.com

MP² Capital – www.mp2capital.com

Photon Energy Services – www.photonenergyservices.com

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Photon Energy Services – www.photonenergyservices.com

PVOne – www.pvone.com

Recurrent Energy – www.recurrentenergy.com

Solar Power Partners – www.solarpowerpartners.com

Sun Edison – www.sunedison.com

SunPower Corp – www.sunpowercorp.com

Tioga Energy – www.tiogaenergy.com

RE-volv – www.re-volv.org

If your company is not listed here and would like to be, please send your request to be added to renewables@sfgov.org

For more information please visit SFEnvironment.org or call (415) 355-3790.

SF Environment is a department of the City & County of San Francisco.