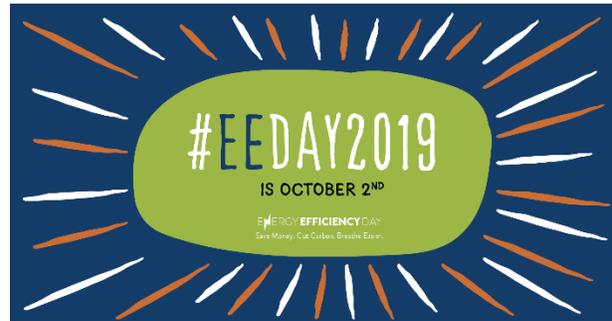


Hello solar enthusiasts,

September has been a busy and exhausting month for this particular solar organizer. The net metering topic at the Corporations Committee took a bite out of my time and energy, but I am moving toward October with renewed vigor. I am purposefully not going to talk about net metering in this newsletter, but I will connect with anyone who wants to talk about it on a private call, text or email. Just let me know.

### **Energy Efficiency Day**

While Powder River doesn't have an event planned for this day, I want to take a moment to encourage each of you to think of one way you can reduce energy use in your home or business. In my personal life, some of my first generation energy efficient lightbulbs died during the past month, and I am using this opportunity to begin the change to LED lighting.



I am also taking off my storm windows, cleaning them, sealing cracks and putting them back on. I am looking for second hand storm doors to install before the weather really sets in as my home currently doesn't have storm doors and we are losing heat in the winter. Finally, my dryer died recently. I decided not to replace the dryer and put up clotheslines in my basement. I know this wouldn't work for people without indoor winter drying space, but in my case it is a great energy (and money) saving solution!

If you have efficiency plans this fall, I want to hear them. With your permission, I want to post them to Powder River's facebook page so that we can celebrate what Wyomingites are doing to reduce our energy needs. Together we can make a huge difference!

### **2019 National Solar Tour**

Each year, Solar United Neighbors and the American Solar Energy Society partner to put on the National Solar Tour. This year, it will be on Saturday October 5<sup>th</sup> and Sunday October 6<sup>th</sup>. This year, 6 Cheyenne locations will be featured.



### **REAP Grant (and other grants, too)**

REAP Grants can finance up to 25% of renewable energy systems and energy efficiency improvements for agricultural producers and rural small businesses. Combined grants and loans can finance up to 75%! Funds may be used to purchase, install, and construct:

**Renewable energy systems, including:** • Wind; • Biomass, including Anaerobic Digesters; • Solar; • Geothermal; and more.

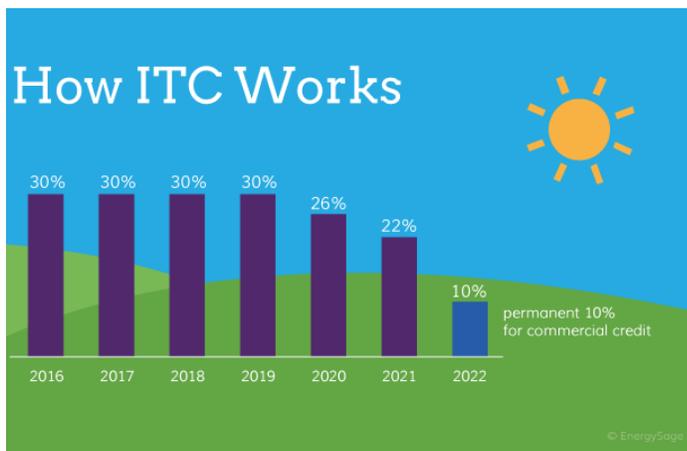
**Energy efficiency projects, including:** • Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning Systems; • Insulation; • Lighting; • Cooling or Refrigeration units; • Controls and Equipment; • Doors, Windows, and other building improvements; and more.

To learn more, contact **Jessica Taylor, Area Specialist; Energy Coordinator**

[jessica.taylor@usda.gov](mailto:jessica.taylor@usda.gov)

307-683-4188

### **Solar Tax Credit**



I want to remind everyone that you can still get the full 30% renewable energy tax credit for renewable projects started before the end of the year. On January 1<sup>st</sup>, the credit will drop to 26%. If you are thinking about installing, consider making 2019 your year to go solar!

This credit can only be used if you owe taxes, but you can spread the credit out over several years if you don't owe enough in one year to fully claim it.

There is a chance that the ITC will be extended, but if it isn't, this is something anyone considering solar should use if they can!

\*Graphic courtesy of EnergySage

To learn more: <https://www.energysage.com/solar/cost-benefit/solar-investment-tax-credit/>

## Gravity-Based Energy Storage

This is just for fun...but it is really interesting. As most of you already know, storage technology is one of the things holding back the growth of renewable energy. This concept uses concrete blocks and gravity to create towers for the storage and release of energy. It is hard to say whether this technology will prove viable at this early stage, but the concept is certainly compelling!



## Solar Video Feature

Bob and Carol LeResche installed solar at their ranch near Arvada. Carol's horse decided to get in on the action and made this video even more fun! [Click Here](#)



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Solar Power is growing in Wyoming! It is growing because of your interest. If you have ideas or resources (funding, installers we may not know about, programs, etc.) please let us know. Your ideas help to move solar forward, and none of our progress during the past year could have happened without people just like you!

You are receiving this email because you came to one of our solar events and because of your interest in solar energy.

Thank you for making Wyoming solar happen!

