

New York State Attorney General
Eric T. Schneiderman

Dear New Yorkers,

The solar power market in New York has become more affordable to more homeowners. This is a result of lower solar-equipment costs, tax credits, and low-interest solar loans. In addition the creation of solar leases and power purchase agreements enable homeowners to purchase solar generated electricity without having to purchase the solar equipment.



New York's solar market is growing, creating jobs and producing clean power. That's good for our environment and increases our energy security and resiliency.

However, it's important that homeowners have the information they need to make informed decisions about whether solar equipment is right for them. This brochure provides general information about the different types of solar contracts that are available across the State, as well as some tips on issues to consider before choosing a solar company and entering into a contract for solar equipment.

As with any significant, long-term commitment, you should make an informed decision when you choose to go solar.

Sincerely,

Eric T. Schneiderman



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CONSUMER TIPS

If you are thinking about solar equipment for your home, consider the following:

1. **Become informed about** solar contracts and tips for choosing a solar company at the websites below.
2. **Search for** and get proposals from more than one solar company, including purchase proposals.
3. **Strength in numbers** — See if your community has a “Solarize” or “Community Solar” buyers club.
4. **Decide** if a purchase, solar lease or PPA is right for you.
5. **Read the contract** that will be legally binding on you and the solar company.
6. **Ask questions** to ensure you understand all terms.
7. **Get in writing** all promises and conditions.
8. **Make sure you qualify** for any tax credits built into purchase contracts; consult a tax advisor.
9. **Consult an attorney** on large “solar farm” projects.
10. **Be efficient** — making your home more energy efficient can reduce the size and cost of solar.

LEARN MORE

Federal Trade Commission: “[Solar Power for Your Home](http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0532-solar-power-your-home)”
<http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0532-solar-power-your-home>

Clean Energy States Alliance: “[A Homeowners Guide to Solar Financing: Leases, Loans and PPAs](http://www.cesa.org)” <http://www.cesa.org>

NY-SUN Incentive Program: “[Customer Guide to Solar in New York](http://ny-sun.ny.gov)” <http://ny-sun.ny.gov>

NYS Attorney General: “[Home Improvement Contractor Tips](http://nyknowyourcontractor.com)” <http://nyknowyourcontractor.com>

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ATTORNEY GENERAL



GOING SOLAR:

Tips and Considerations for Homeowners

