



This newsletter is produced by the Southeast Solar Training Network (SSTN) for the purpose of supplying solar-related news to our educational and energy office partners. The information presented is from public websites such as the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE), our training partners, Interstate Renewable Energy Council (IREC), Solar Instructor Training Network (SITN) and general websites.

The goal of SITN is to help facilitate and support the creation of a well-trained and highly-qualified solar energy workforce of sufficient size and diversity to meet the projected workforce needs of the United States. The SSTN is one of nine DOE-funded Regional Training Providers and serves in the capacity of trainer and mentor for solar and photovoltaic-related faculty at Southeast educational institutions.

We hope you find this information useful.

## Upcoming Training

Florida Solar Energy Center  
Cocoa, FL

**Solar Water Heating Systems**  
September 11-13, 2013

**Installing Photovoltaic Systems**  
October 7-11, 2013

**Photovoltaic Technical Sales & Business Operations**  
November 13-14, 2013

For more course details, visit  
<http://ce.fsec.ucf.edu/>

## Contact Us

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## Interstate Renewable Energy Council (IREC) Website

IREC has launched a new website with many new features and opportunities to keep up-to-date on the latest information and resources in support of more accessible, safer, affordable clean energy across the U.S. ranging from regulatory reform to workforce education and credentialing.

The website is also host to the SITN, funded by the U.S. DOE. As national administrator, IREC works with nationally recognized solar and training experts, nine Regional Training Providers, and industry leaders to create consistency in quality education and solar training, ensuring that education and training match changing job opportunities.

Through its extensive content, the website reports on the results of IRECs work, which is visible in nearly every state, with rules that enable millions of consumers to participate in the clean energy marketplace and practices that make it easier, safer and more affordable to connect to the utility grid.

Also featured is the IREC Credentialing Program which is driving a national initiative for accreditation of training programs and certification of instructors in renewable energy and energy efficiency. [Visit IREC website.](#)

## NC Holds on to High Rank in Hot Q1 for Solar

*Charlotte Business Journal*, June 12, 2013, John Downey

North Carolina remains the Southeast's hot spot for solar development, according to the most recent figures compiled by SNL Energy.

But interest in solar projects has rapidly ramped up in Florida, SNL says. And with the help of some particularly large projects, the Sunshine State could be neck-and-neck with North Carolina if all currently planned projects in both states are built. [More from Charlotte Business Journal.](#)

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## How to Kill Your Energy Hogs

*Clean Energy*, June 10, 2013, Tom Larson

It's open season with no bag limit all year 'round in Florida for hunting feral hogs—and no hunting license is required! The same could be said in buildings here—killing your building energy hogs should be an ongoing effort—and there's no limit.

At a workshop organized by the U.S. Green Building Council North Florida chapter, David Miller, an experienced Energy Performance Consultant with TLC Engineering for Architecture, recently told us about the fast cash paybacks available from making sure your building is running properly and you're using the latest cost-effective equipment. [More from \*Clean Energy\*.](#)

Also, see details about energy use in residential buildings on the Florida Solar Energy Center [website](#).

## Renewable Energy Threatens Big Utilities

*Boulder Weekly*, June 6, 2013, Dave Anderson

Solar power and other renewable energy technologies may destroy U.S. investor-owned utilities.

Amazingly, that is the conclusion of a recent policy paper from the Edison Electric Institute, an association of U.S. investor-owned utilities. This has received virtually no notice in the mainstream media, according to an MIT program that tracks science journalism.

The report, entitled “Disruptive Challenges: Financial Implications and Strategic Responses to a Changing Retail Electric Business,” notes that the cost of power generation from solar panels, wind, geothermal, micro-hydro and fuel cells running on natural gas has been dropping dramatically. Residential and commercial utility customers can now generate some or all of their own power economically instead of drawing it from the grid. The cost of such distributed generation is set to continue falling as more of it is deployed around the world, and “could directly threaten the centralized utility model,” the report acknowledges. [More from \*Boulder Weekly\*.](#)

