

# SOLAR STATEMENT



Tuesday, February 28, 2017

International City/County Management Association  
777 North Capitol St. NE, Ste. 500  
Washington, DC 20002

The Solar Foundation  
1717 Pennsylvania AVE NW, Ste. 750  
Washington, DC 20006

Dear Emily Sparks and Philip Haddix:

On behalf of the Town of Coventry, CT, I am proud to announce our commitment to become a designated community. In partnership with the SolSmart team, Coventry's dedicated staff member energetic Energy Committee will work to improve solar market conditions, making it faster, easier, affordable for our residents and businesses to install solar energy systems. These efforts will also improve the efficiency of local processes related to solar development, which may save our local government time and money.

SolSmart builds upon our community's participation in a Solarize campaign and as a Clear Choice Community, which resulted in increased residential solar deployment, solar installations at municipal buildings, benchmarking on municipal buildings. We are proud of our two Solarize Coventry campaigns, participation in various SunShot initiatives and exemption from taxes of commercial solar arrays.

Coventry will leverage SolSmart to achieve the following goals:

- Develop a streamlined process for solar permitting or inspections.
- Expand and communicate solar finance options for residential or commercial projects.
- Install solar energy systems on key local government facilities.

These efforts demonstrate that our community is committed to driving continual improvement in the solar market, and in the process of doing so, all the related areas identified as community priorities in our plans or initiatives.

In order to measure progress along the way, Coventry will track key metrics related to solar deployment, such as installed solar capacity and the number of installations across sectors.

In these efforts, we will call on our residents, businesses, non-profits, and others to get involved. We invite everyone to stay tuned by visiting solar landing page located at [www.coventryct.org](http://www.coventryct.org).

Inquiries related to community name's SolSmart participation can be directed to John E. Elsesser at [jelsesser@coventryct.org](mailto:jelsesser@coventryct.org) or 860 742 6324.

Sincerely,

John A. Elsesser  
Town Manager