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Program Hotline
(888) 333-7525

****Photovoltaic (PV) Rebate Program ****

Primary Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the installation of photovoltaic (PV) systems on existing and new residential buildings. Assist SHELD customers to reduce operating costs by promoting the installation of PV systems using an incentive as well as special product pricing on PV panels and inverters.
Program Summary/ Design	<p>The PV Rebate program is designed to assist residential customers with the costs for the installation of photovoltaic, “solar” energy systems by providing a rebate to defray the initial cost. A customer can contract with an installer of their choice. (See Installer List). The Program also provides reduced pricing for panels and inverters should the customer chose to participate in a turnkey service through SHELD and HELPS-PV. (For more details on this option, see the HELPS PV – Turn-Key Option document). In 2011, the program design will consist of the following process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Initiation</u>: Customer contacts an independent PV vendor directly to provide a site assessment and price quote or for the Turn-key option contact (413-308-1369) to coordinate a site visit. Please be aware that vendors may charge a site visit fee which is you responsibility. If the assessment shows good solar orientation and the customer wishes to proceed with installation, they or their vendor will complete the next step. <u>Application</u>: Prior to the PV system being installed, customer completes and submits an application form that addresses key contact information, technologies installed, and rebates requested. Completed applications must include the design and layout of the proposed system, a PVwatts or similar estimate of production and equipment specification sheets. The application form is available on the HELPS website, www.munihelps.org in the Rebates and Incentives tab, under South Hadley. The application information is submitted to HELPS-PV at 327 Moody Street, Ludlow, MA 01056. Applicants will be notified if the project will be considered for rebates. <u>Application Review</u>: HELPS-PV will review the application and supporting materials to confirm the project meets the eligibility requirements. A project approval letter will be sent via US Mail or email to the customer and installer. <u>Customer Agreement</u>: This document will accompany the project approval letter. Customer must sign and return. The form is required in order for the customer to receive the rebate and to join the MMWEC solar aggregation for the receipt of Solar Renewable Energy Credits (SRECs) dollars for the energy production of their PV system. <u>Project Completion</u>: Once the customer completes a project, they must submit the Certificate of Completion and Interconnection. This form must be signed by the town electrical inspector and the SHELD manager or their designee. <u>Rebate</u>: Once HELPS-PV receives the Certificate of Completion, the rebate process will be initiated and the rebate check will be mailed via US Mail.
Target Market	All residential and multifamily buildings up to four units.
Eligible Technologies and Rebate Levels	Rebates are available for the equipment listed below. There are no limitations on specific equipments or brands. It is the responsibility of the customer and/or their installation contractor to prove equipment that meets or exceeds the minimum specifications.

