

# FINANCING THE BENEFITS

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# FINANCING DECISION PROCESS

## Feasibility Stage

**Project Goals**

**Technical Potential**



## Assess Options

**Technology**

**Economics**



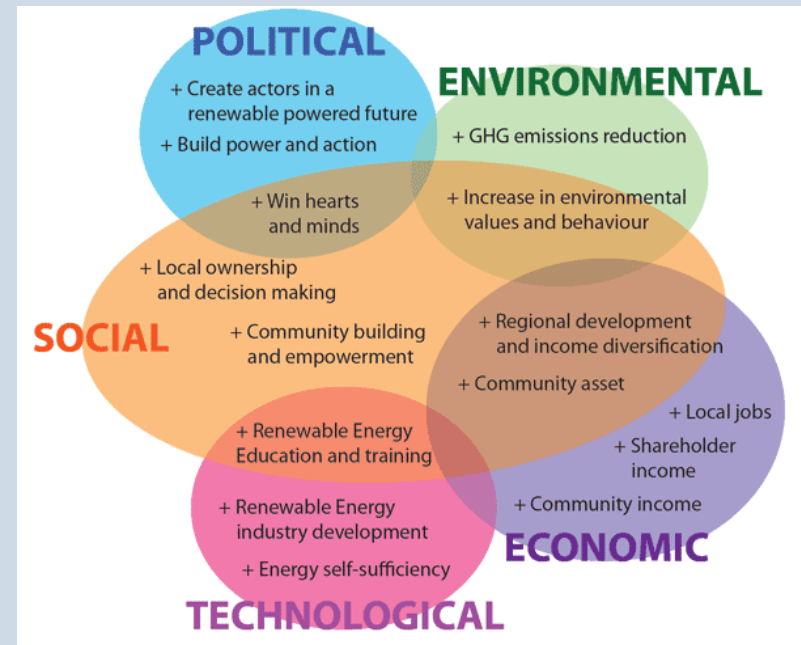
## Select Approach

**Opportunities**

**Challenges**

# UNDERSTAND THE GOALS.

- Energy goals.
  - Can save on costs.
  - Can have additional revenues (*like* REC markets).
- Resilience goals.
  - Can displace disaster response costs.
  - Back up generators.
  - Benefits to a secure place.
- Social goals.
  - Can lower energy costs for all.
  - Lowers emission and pollution.
  - Promotes economic development.



# FROM ECONOMICS TO CASH FLOW

- Quantify the economic benefits.
  - Savings generated = lower operational costs.
  - Energy charge savings.
  - Demand charge savings.
- Quantify the economic costs.
  - Operations and maintenance.
  - Fuels and markets change.
- Hidden Benefits / Hidden Costs.
  - Benefits of new resilience opportunity.
  - Costs due to lack of action.



# DIFFERENT SYSTEMS – DIFFERENT INCOME PROFILES

- The benefits (cost savings and revenue) can influence your choice.
  - Energy production creates savings or can be sold (depends on system, size, location and goals).
  - Renewable energy can yield Renewable Energy Certificate income (varies by state and market and class of energy).
  - Demand savings save user and can be aggregated as income.
  - Net metering.
- Changing markets.
  - Storage revenue streams are in rapid development.
  - FERC has ordered new markets for small-scale storage with multiple revenues.

# RESEARCH THE FINANCING OPTIONS.

- **Stating the results.**
  - Investment and return.
    - Net present value.
    - Return on investment.
  - Non-monetary values.
    - Society-wide benefits.
    - Educational benefits.
    - Economic development benefits.
- **Financing options.**
  - Driven by goals.
  - Driven by credit.
  - Limited by law / reality.

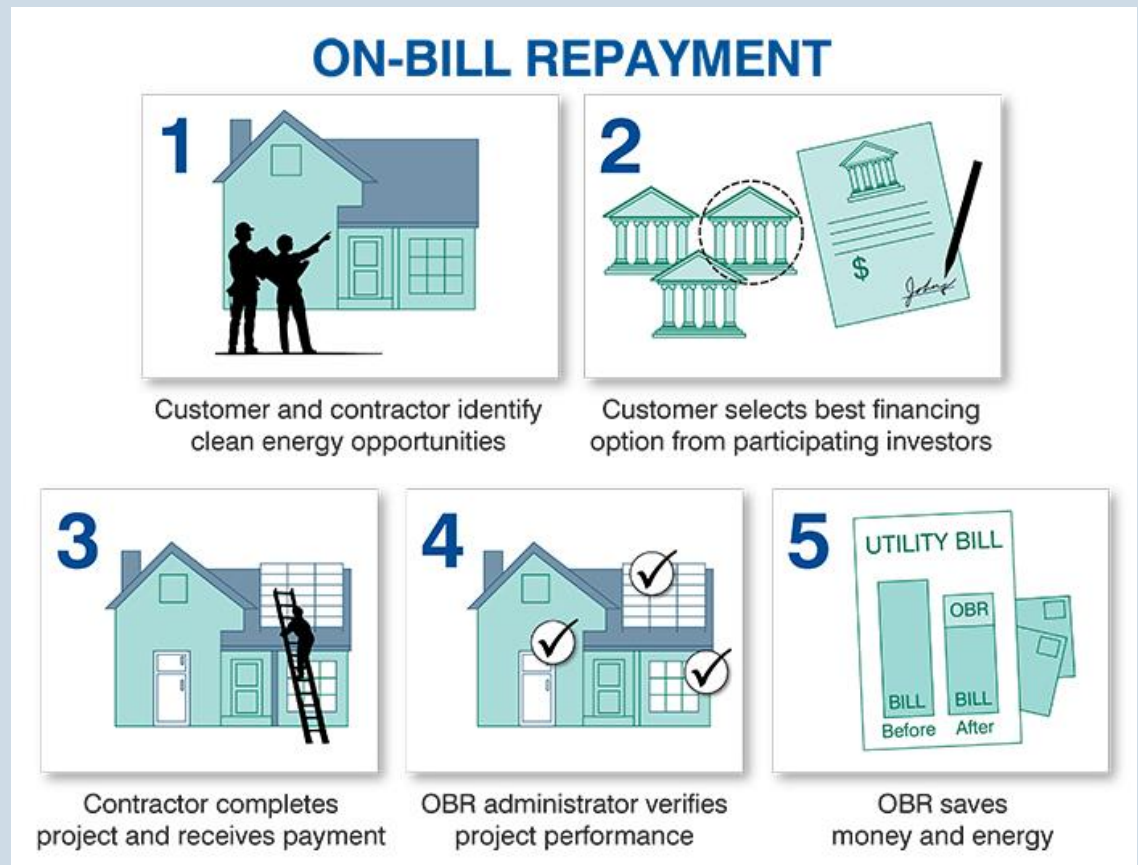


# FINANCING PROCESS

- Are there utility incentives?
- Are there state program incentives?
- Are there tax incentives?
  
- Whose money do you want to use?
  - Who owns the system?
  - Who lends the money?
    - Bank
    - Utility
    - Other – may result in changed ownership model

# ON BILL FINANCING

- Program specific.
- Concept is standard.
- “Debt” can stay with customer or meter.
  - Depends on program.





# INCENTIVES

## ■ Federal.

- Mostly tax-based.
- Some programs available.
- USDA grants/financing.
- Other programs.

## ■ State.

- Tax-based.
- Rebates.
- Other.

## ■ Utility.

- Rebates.
- Financing.
- Other.

## ■ Tax.

- Must be taxable and have income to offset.
- Deduction / credits.

## ■ Demonstration projects.

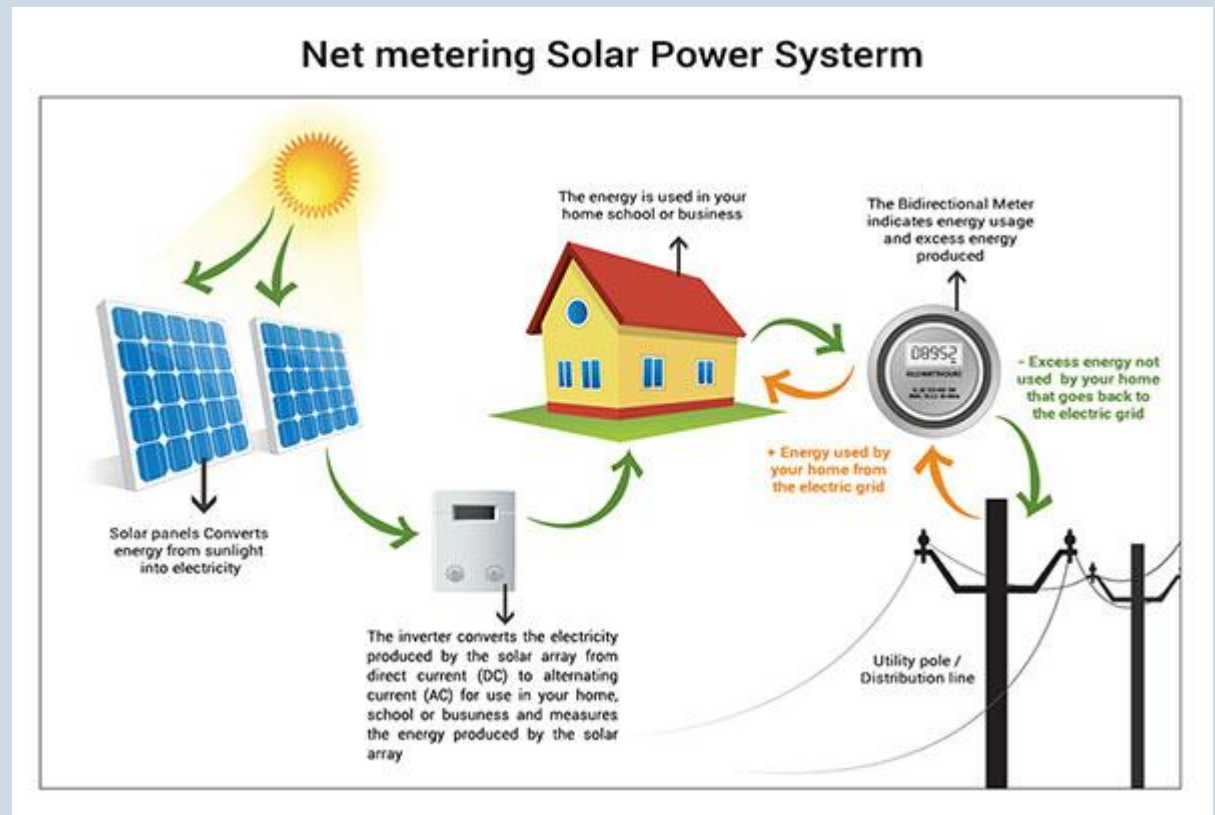
- Very specific.
- Requires innovation and stomach for some risk.

## ■ Vendor.

- Can offer leasing or other arrangements.

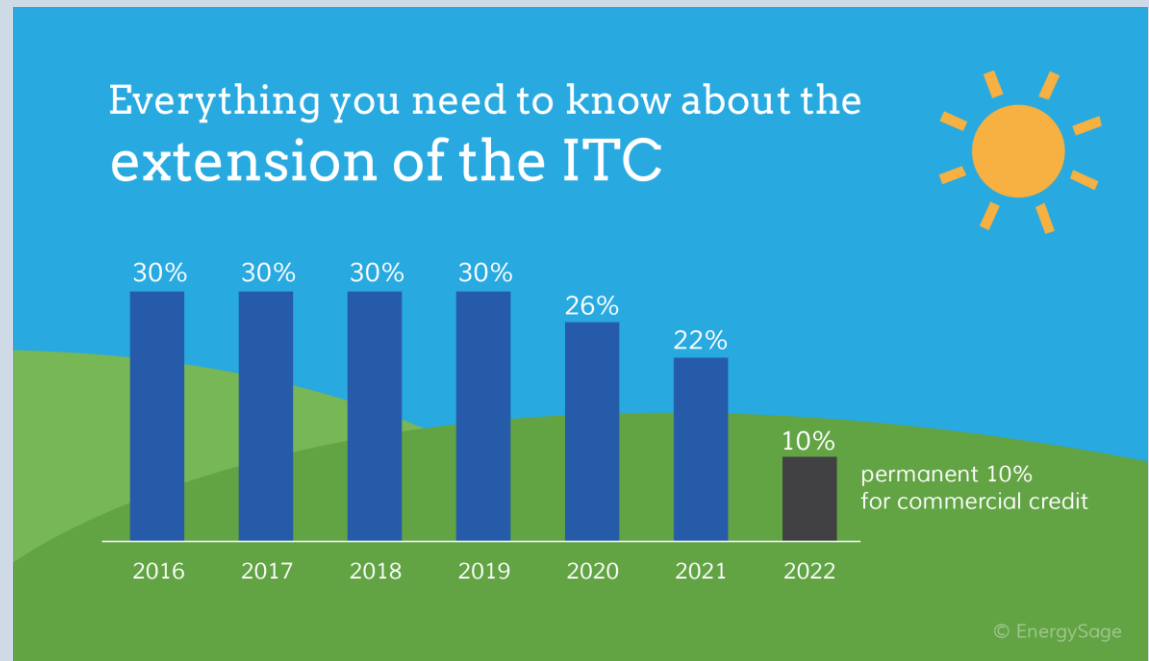
# NET METERING

- Be aware of the “credit” rate and charges offset.
- Can be lower than retail.



# TAX INCENTIVES

- Credit = dollar for dollar against tax owed.
  - Can “look back” 2 years.
- Deduction = commercial accelerated depreciation.
  - Bonus 100% in first year.
  - Basis = 85% of cost.



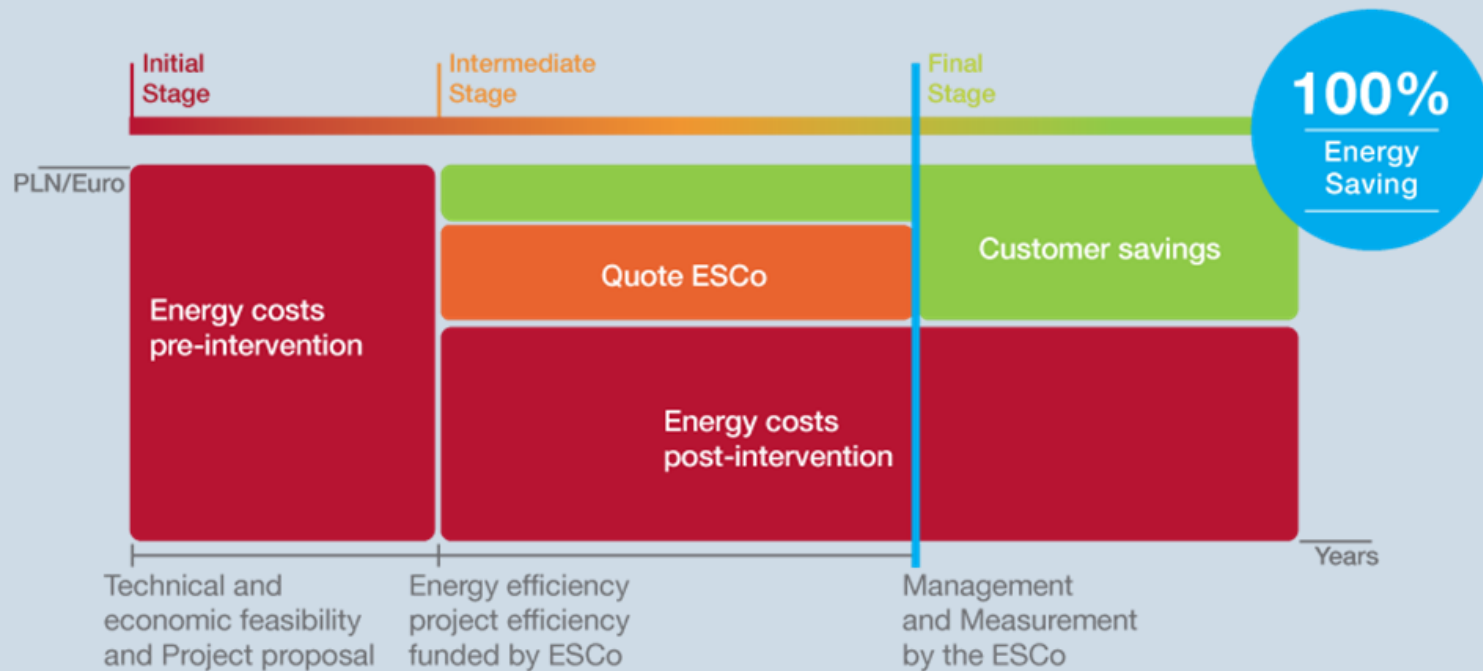
# OWNERSHIP MODELS

- Outright ownership.
- ESCO.
- Lease/rental arrangements.
- Energy purchase agreements.
  - Power Purchase Agreements.



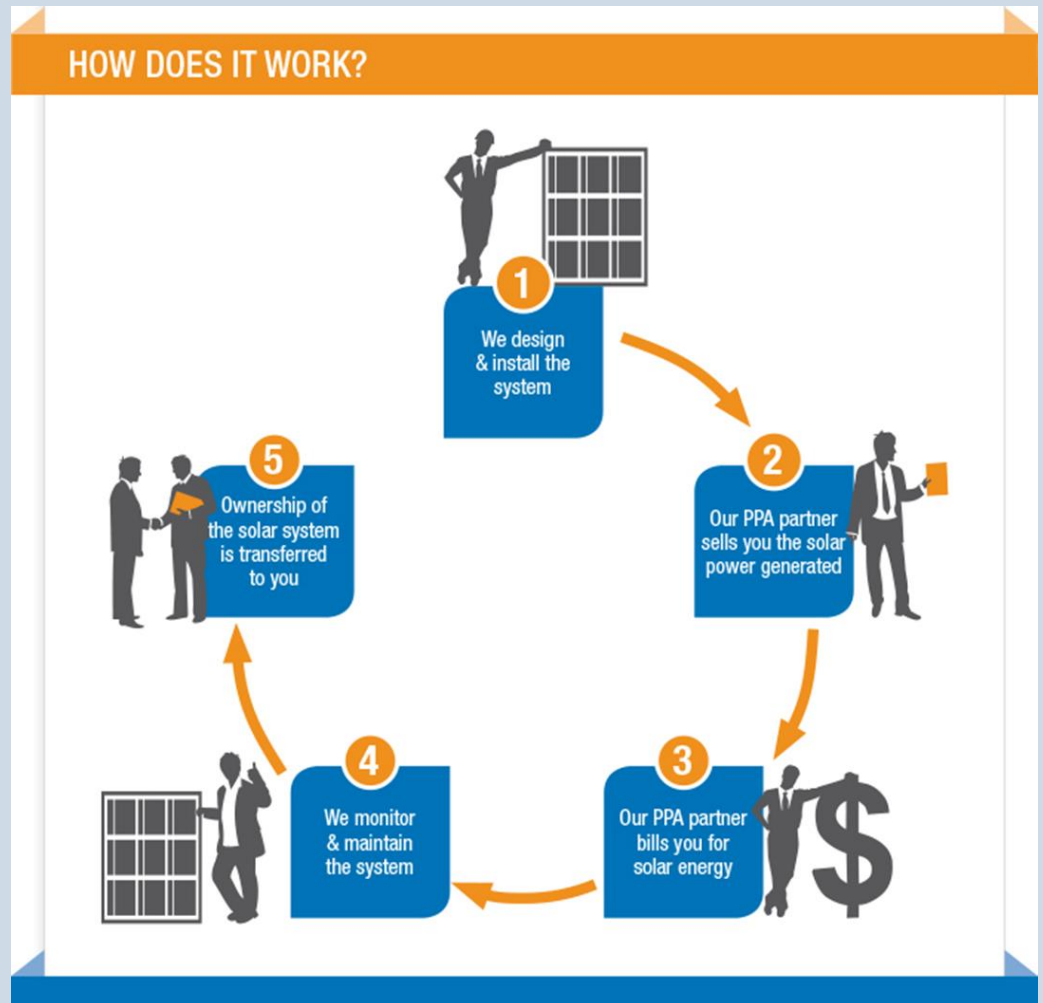
# ESCO MODEL

- Sometimes called “shared savings”.
- No up front capital.
- Own the savings at the end.
- Way more than just efficiency.



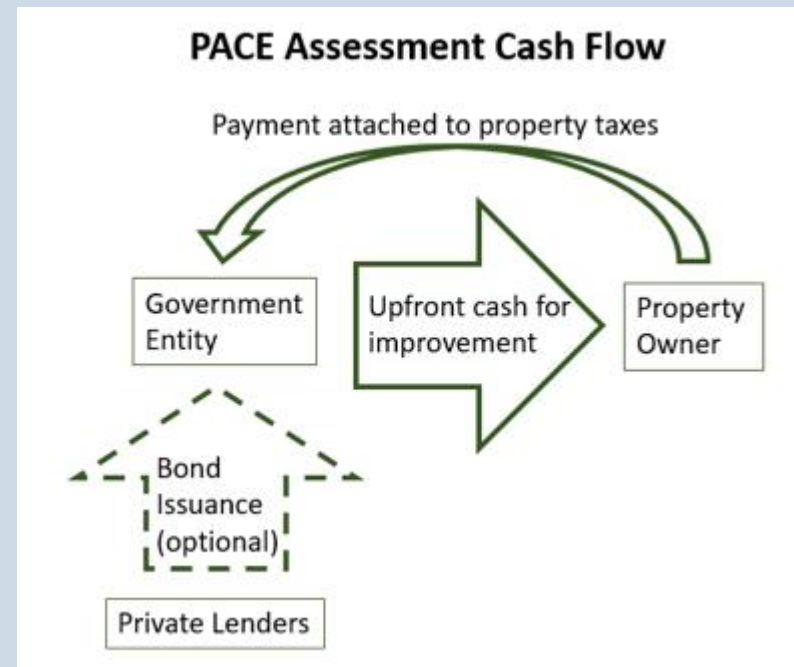
# PPA STRUCTURE

- No upfront costs.
- Leverages tax incentives.
- O&M by Provider.
- Can be purchased along the way.
- Stable pricing.
- Can be more than solar PV.



# PACE: PROPERTY ASSESSMENTS

- Must be enabled to municipality.
- Municipality must adopt the authority.
- Lending required – usually private partner.
- Some concern / limitation for residential.
- Obligation stays with property – benefit stays with property.



# OWNERSHIP CONSIDERATIONS

- **Tax – exempt?**
  - Consider other taxable owners to leverage benefit.
- **Public entity?**
  - Consider mechanism to make expense “operational”
    - Be careful of long-term contracts that appear to be debt.
- **Minimal staff and expertise?**
  - Consider a lease or ESCO arrangement.
- **No money but credit worthy?**
  - Consider a PPA arrangement.



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Thank you