



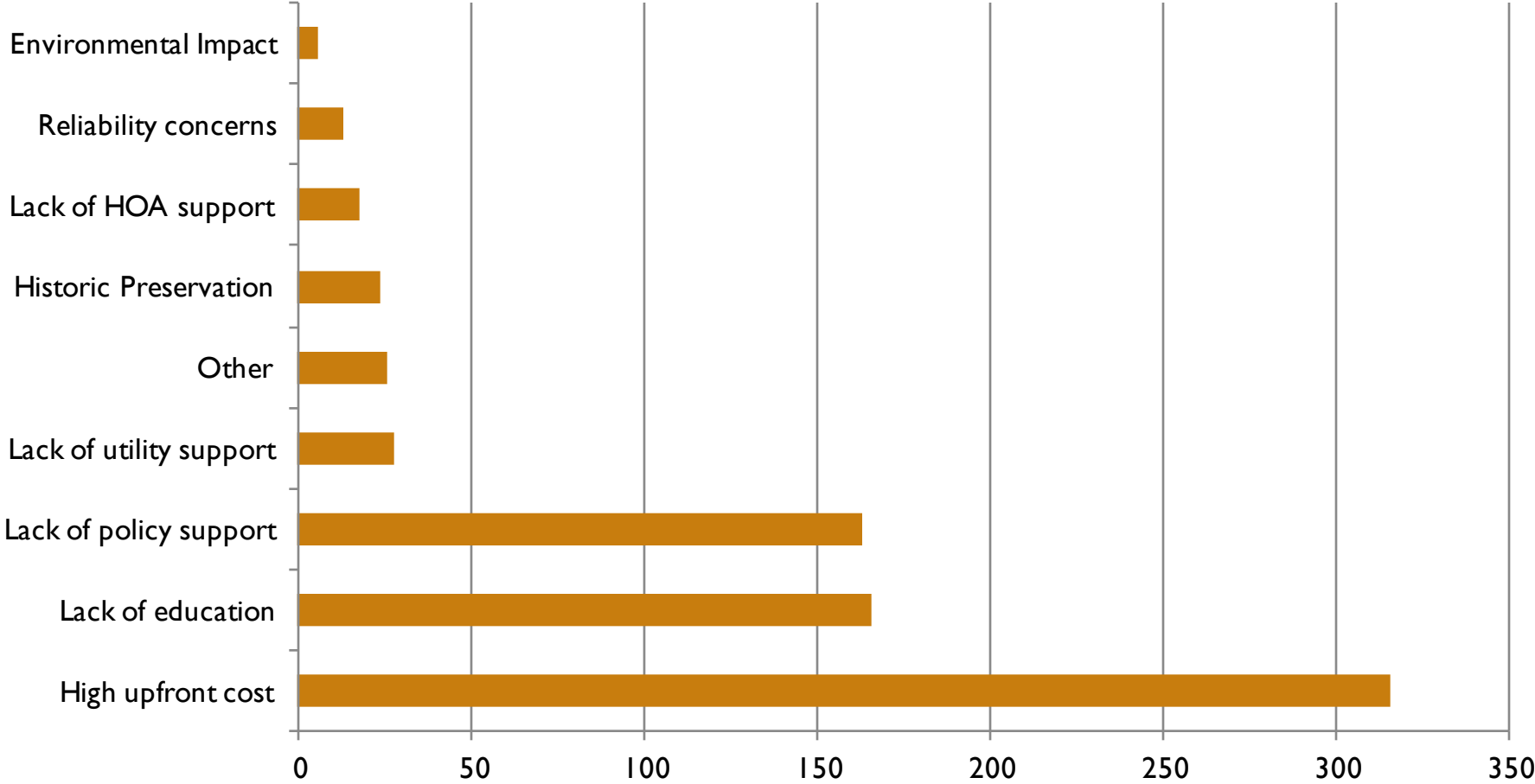
# Solar Powering America by Recognizing Communities (SPARC)

Chad Laurent

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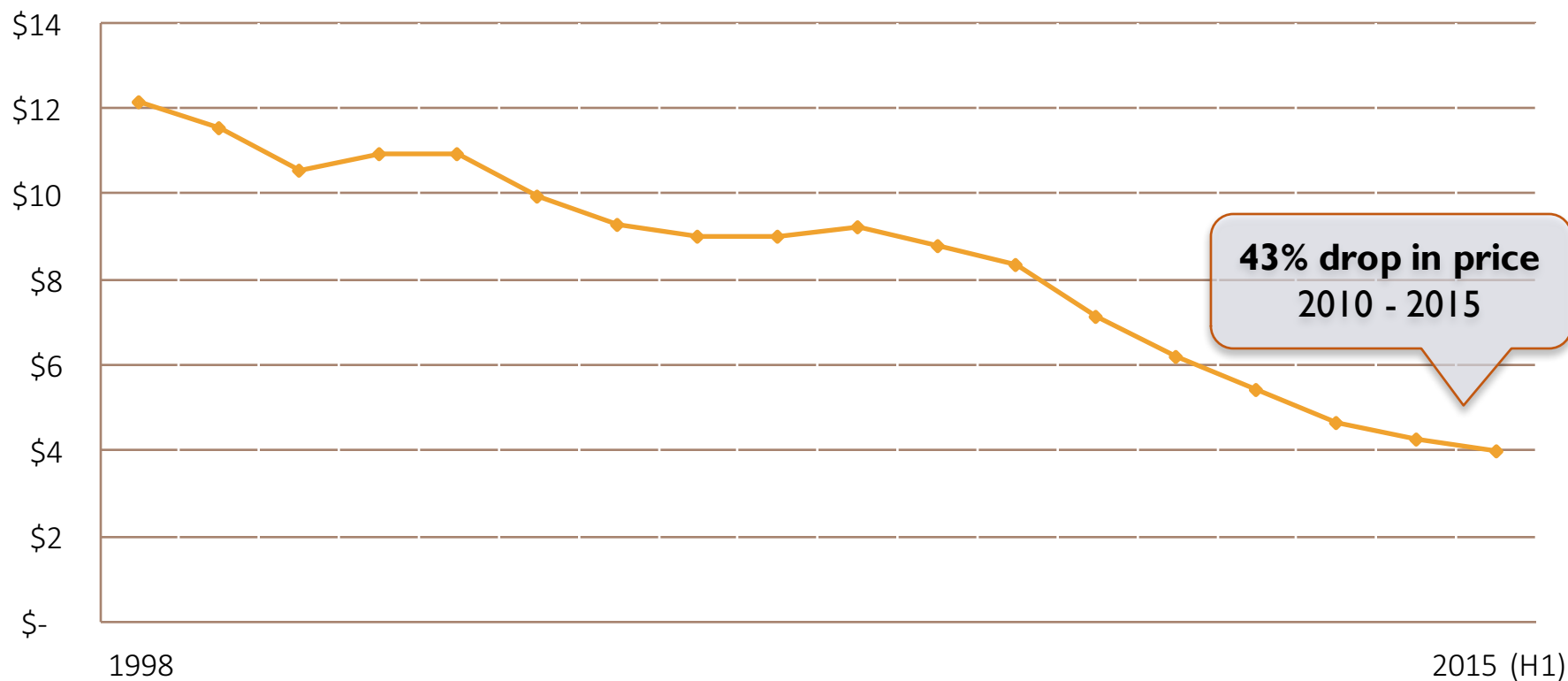
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# Common Barriers to Solar

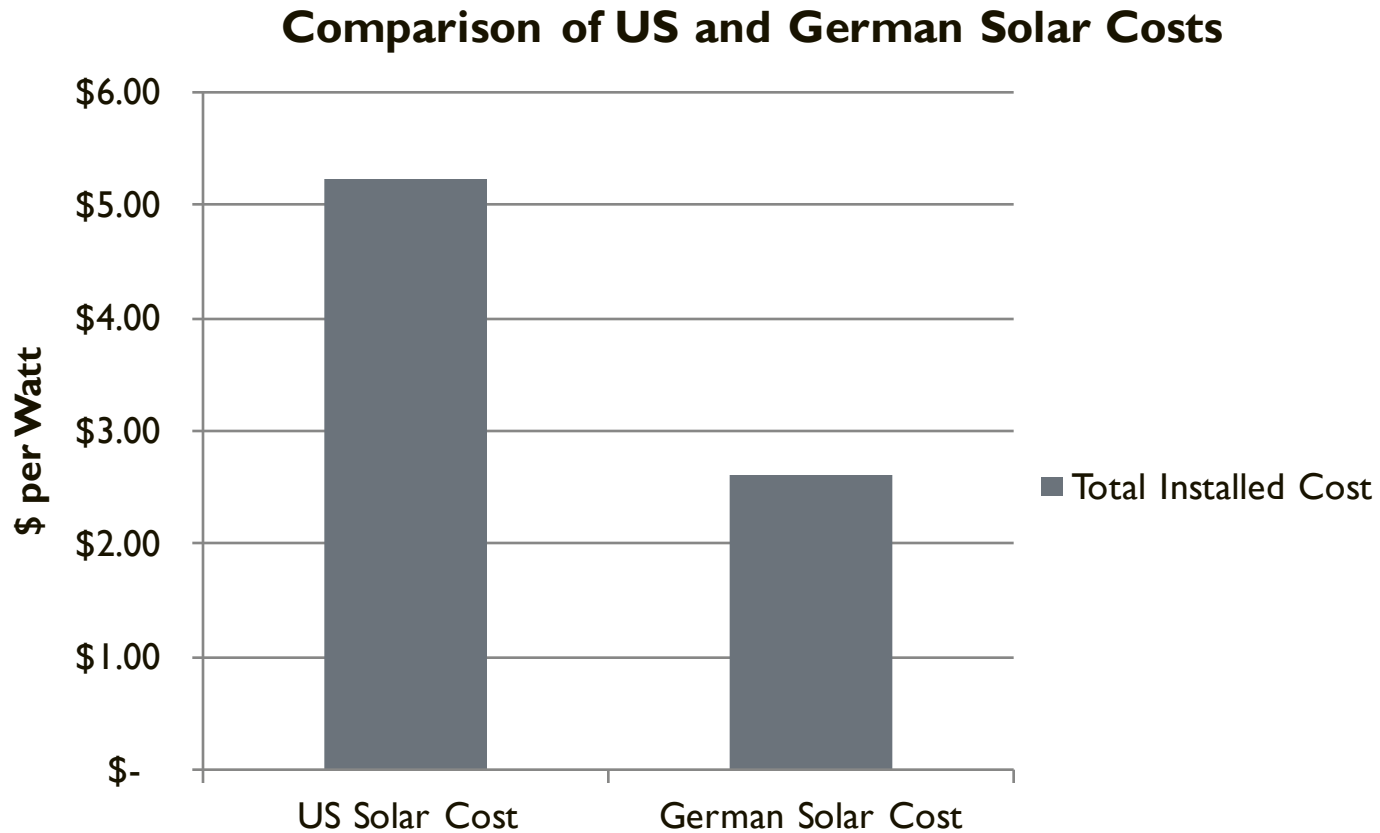


# The Cost of Solar PV

## US Average Installed Cost for Residential PV



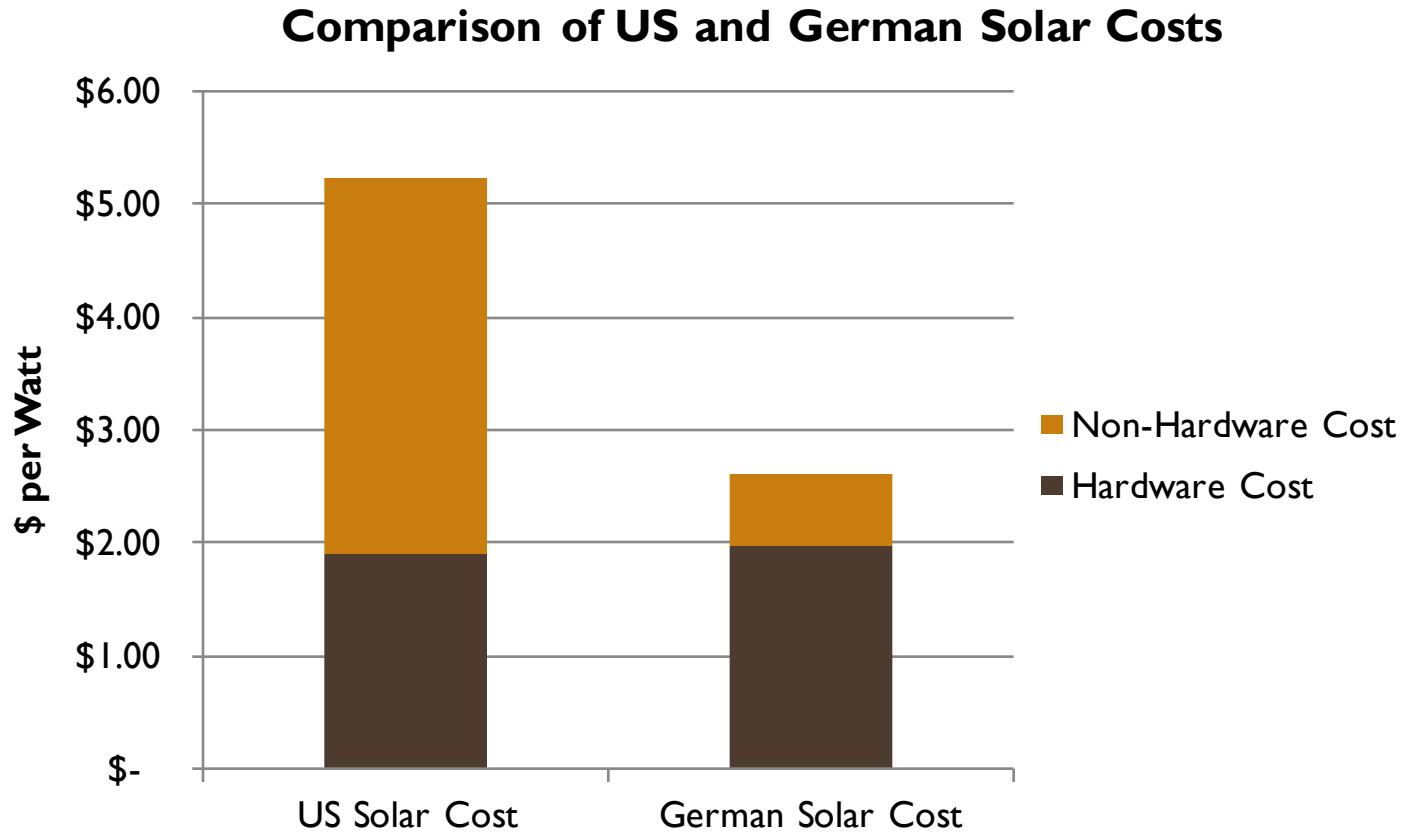
# The Cost of Solar in the US



Source: NREL (<http://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy14osti/60412.pdf>)

LBNL (<http://emp.lbl.gov/sites/all/files/lbnl-6350e.pdf>)([http://www1.eere.energy.gov/solar/pdfs/sunshot\\_webinar\\_20130226.pdf](http://www1.eere.energy.gov/solar/pdfs/sunshot_webinar_20130226.pdf))

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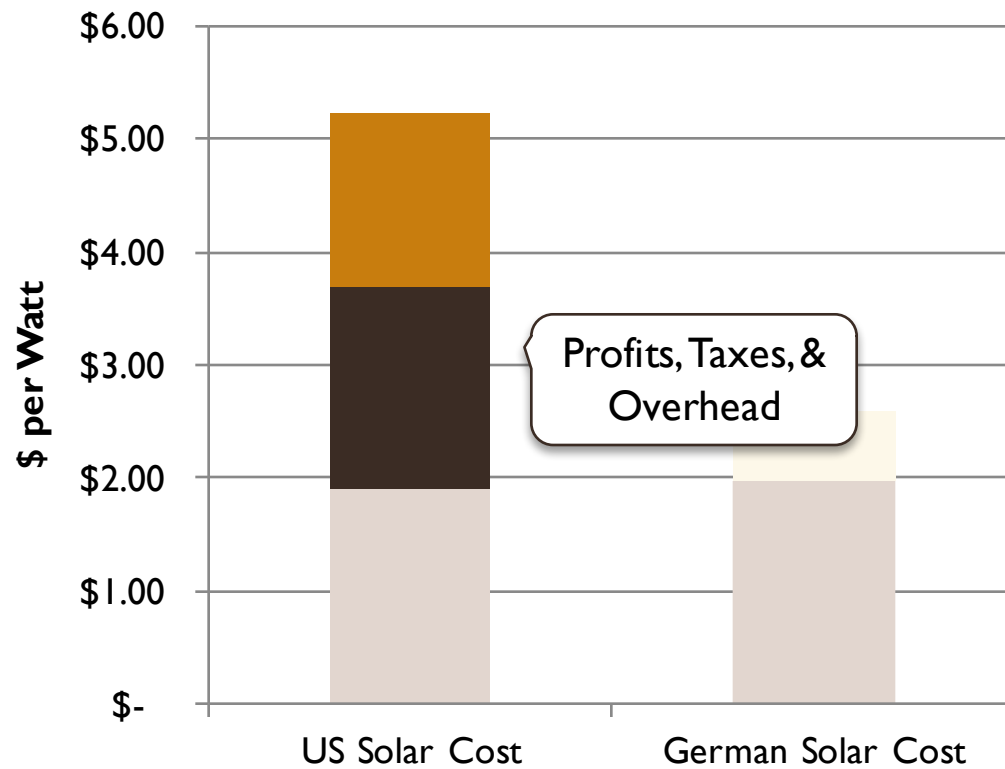


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# The Cost of Solar in the US

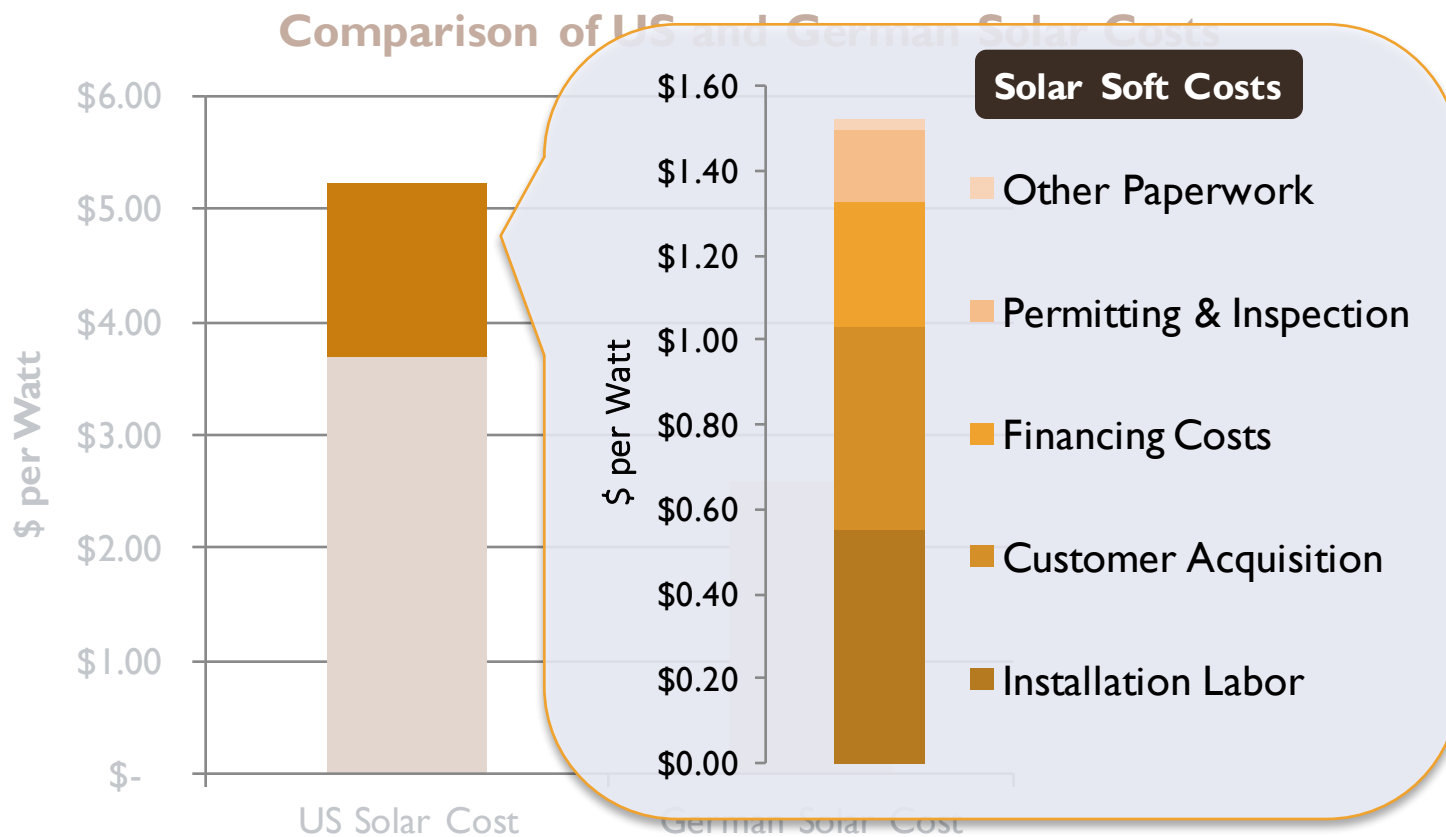
## Comparison of US and German Solar Costs



Source: NREL (<http://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy14osti/60412.pdf>)

LBNL (<http://emp.lbl.gov/sites/all/files/lbnl-6350e.pdf>)([http://www1.eere.energy.gov/solar/pdfs/sunshot\\_webinar\\_20130226.pdf](http://www1.eere.energy.gov/solar/pdfs/sunshot_webinar_20130226.pdf))

# The Cost of Solar in the US



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## New Solution

# Solar Powering America by Recognizing Communities (SPARC)

Community recognition program for 300 communities taking steps to reduce soft costs and promote solar locally



# SPARC Program Structure

## SPARC Program



TA Delivery



Designation Program Expertise



TA Pipeline

Solar Outreach Experience



# Designation Program Development

- Tiered designation program with different levels of achievement
- Ongoing competitions to reward success in real-time
- Annual awards recognizing outstanding achievement in soft cost, market growth, community engagement, other categories

**FINAL CRITERIA AND STRUCTURE AVAILABLE:  
SPRING 2016**



# No-Cost Technical Assistance

Communities pursuing SPARC designation will be **eligible for up to 100 hours (on average) of no-cost technical assistance** from national solar experts.

Technical assistance will be designed to **help a community achieve the basic requirements for designation**. Depending on demand, some TA may also be available to help more advanced communities achieve higher levels of designation.

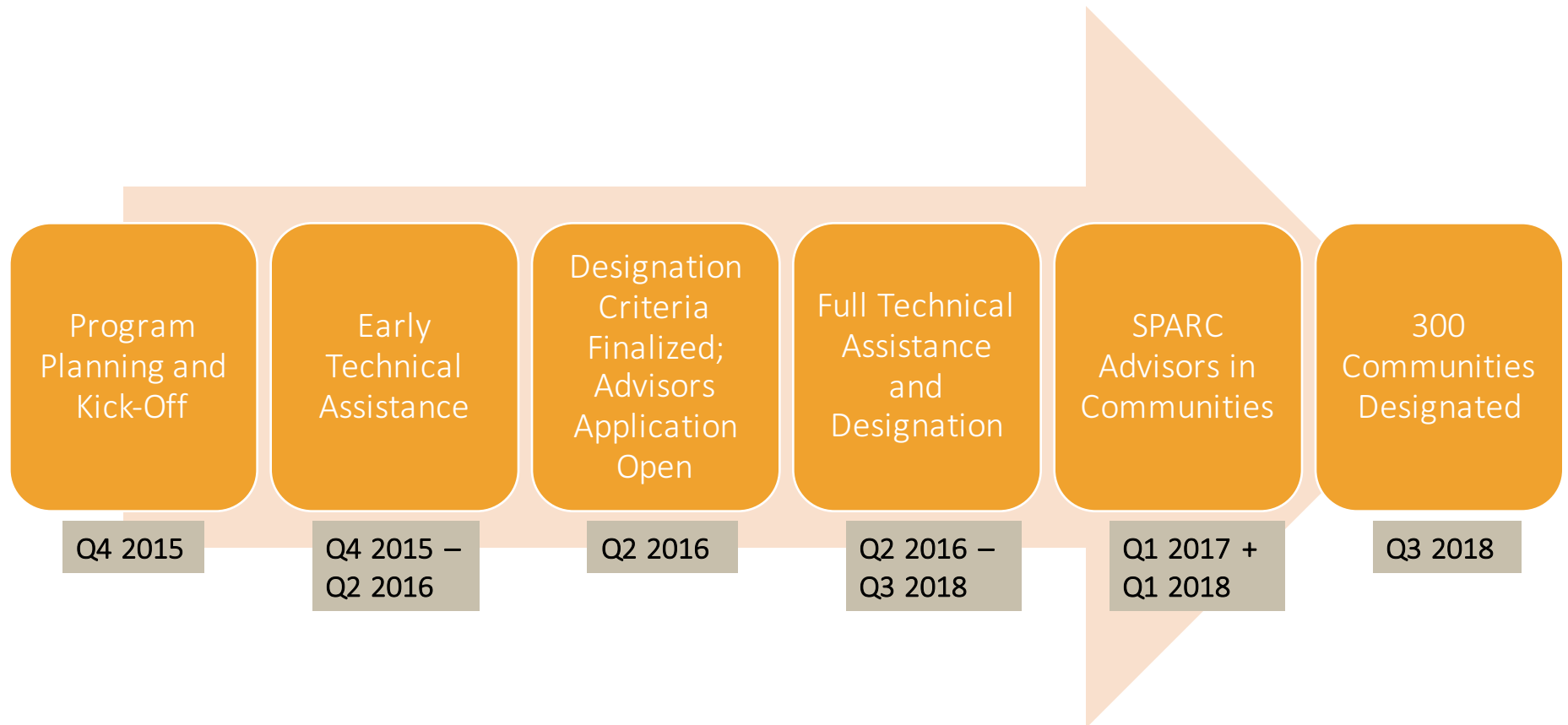
**Possible topic areas** for TA include: streamlining permitting and inspection processes for solar, planning and zoning for solar, solar financing options, codes and standards, community and utility engagement, market development programs, and others.

# SPARC Advisors

- **Funded temporary staff** to help communities achieve designation. Communities must apply to participate in SPARC to host an Advisor.
- Advisors will **evaluate existing local government policies/processes** and **apply industry leading best practices** that will move a community toward designation.
- SPARC Advisors will assist communities through **engagements lasting up to six months**.
- There will be **two opportunities** for a community to be chosen as a SPARC Advisor host, and these will occur through a highly competitive process.

**FIRST ROUND OF COMMUNITY SELECTION BEGINS: April 2016**

# SPARC Timeline



# More Information

Visit [www.gosparc.org](http://www.gosparc.org)

## Email or Call

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