

Watsonville Solar City Now!

Electrifying renewable deployment in a low- income community

- WSCN! is a plan to provide all city residents with locally-generated renewable electricity
- WSCN! will also generate funds for a local guaranteed basic income
- Watsonville, California is a disadvantaged community in Santa Cruz County
- Median household income is \$55,000 compared to \$82,000 in the county, \$75,000 in the state
- Watsonville is poorly served by Pacific Gas & Electric's transmission & distribution lines
- Residents pay almost \$15,000,000 per year for their electricity, with rates are due to rise by almost 50% by midcentury
- WSCN! will build ten 5 megawatt +storage systems around the city to provide nearly all residential power demand
- WSCN! will meet at least 4 of Justice40's eight energy priorities
 - Decrease the energy burden in a DAC by providing discounted electricity
 - Increase access to clean energy technology through a community-owned solar provider
 - Increase energy resilience by providing reliable, locally-generated electricity
 - Increase energy democracy through local ownership & community decision-making
- The Coalition includes community-based groups and technical-social design partners
- A Phase One prize will make it possible to expand the Coalition, reach out to the community, hold public training seminars and develop a Phase Two submission