United States Geographical Distribution of Small-Scale Solar: U.S. Energy Information Administration Report

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The United States Energy Information Administration ("EIA") released an October 24th report titled:

Homes and Buildings in the West and Northeast Have the Largest Share of Small-Scale Solar ("Report")

The Report addresses the distribution of small-scale solar generation in the following geographical areas of the United States:

- Northeast
- Midwest
- South
- West

The source of the data is the U.S. EIA Residential Energy Consumption Survey and Commercial Energy Consumption Survey.

The Report indicates geographical distribution of small-scale solar generation for single family homes (i.e., percentage of homes utilizing small-scale solar) to be:

- Northeast – 4.7 percent
- Midwest – 1.4 percent
- South – 1.7 percent
- West – 8.9 percent

For commercial buildings (i.e., percentage of commercial buildings utilizing small-scale solar), the Report indicates geographical distribution of small-scale solar generation to be:

- Northeast – 2.5 percent
- Midwest – 0.8 percent
- South – 0.6 percent
- West – 3.8 percent

EIA states that a possible reason for the greater percentages in the Northeast and West is the existence of policies and incentives that have fostered growth of small-scale solar.

The EIA Report also discusses the utilization of solar and how it varies with the age of either the single family or commercial structure.

A copy of the Report can be downloaded here.