

# Executive Summary



# **Environmental Problem**

California's energy landscape presents a dual environmental problem: the need to encourage renewable energy development to **mitigate climate change**, and the **unequal distribution** of energy affordability and accessibility. California residents pay **48%** more on their electricity bills than the national average. While rooftop solar policies have reduced the burden for majorly high-income households, low-income households often cannot afford solar installation (Borenstein, 2022).



# Source: GTM R

Meet Muchhala

Gabe Ingman

**Team members** 

Lindsay Edelman

# **Faculty advisors**

**Emily Cotter** 

**Don Fullerton** 

# Drivers

# Policy

The proposed Net Value Billing Tariff creates a pathway for **1.7 GW** capacity community solar development in California.

**51%** is proposed for low-income & environmental justice communities.

# Education

All **8** Oxnard focus group participants expressed desire for more options and education on cleaner energy and would subscribe to a project if it were available.

# **Our solution**

**Green Credit** connects electric utility customers unable to afford or access renewable energy to community solar projects through our easy-to-use subscription platform.

Unlike existing platforms, our **community-centered** focus provides materials and information for users from different linguistic, cultural, and educational backgrounds.



Source: Aurora Energy







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## **Potential market**

Community solar market in CA projected at **1.7 GW** capacity by 2030.

## Target market

**1.5 million** low-income households to benefit from access to community solar as subscribers.

# Attainable market

**30%** of subscribers market can be attained under Green Credit business model.



**Community level impacts** 

Los Angeles could displace 61% of

peaker plant emissions that cause air pollution related illnesses and generate

community solar & storage projects.

**\$1 billion** in federal incentives for

**State level impacts** 

California.

more than **2 GW** of clean energy with 100+

Potential for **\$12 billion** investments

into community solar projects and access to

# Impacts

# **Household Impacts**

**2 million** low-moderate income households in California could save up to **\$500** on their electricity bill annually.

# **CA Community Solar Potential Map**

### Legend Misadvantaged Communities Disadvantaged Communities Disadvantaged

Source: Coalition for Community Solar Access

The monopoly of utilities in California presents **major regulatory roadblocks** for accessing existing community solar programs.

# Challenges

Increased **policy prioritization** of unified green grid than community centered decentralized energy systems.



# Spring 2024

# **Market Potential**