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**Solar Contractors Workshop**Date: Thursday, April 12, 2012   
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.  
Location: GCW Hearing Room  
**Minutes:**

1. Challenge Overview:

See overview presentation posted online.

1. Permitting Solution

For more detailed information on the permitting solution please visit [www.youtube.com/watch?v=eORqJwPTNU8](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eORqJwPTNU8)

1. Solar Contractors Feedback
   1. Who are your customers?

* More than 90% residential.
* 50/50 residential/commercial.
* General Contractor- Only focuses on Commercial
* Mostly common 99% in US and Canada.
  1. How many and what type of installations are you selling? Size?
* Common panels

60 cell panel- 39 inch by 65 inch

72 cell- panel 39 inch by 77 inch

* Max density- 54 volt more output per sq ft
* Residential is around 7000 watts
* Titled or flat panels.
  1. Where are your customers?  Broward County?
* Throughout the state
* Throughout the rest of the US and Canada
* Some in Caribbean.  
  1. Do you use rebates/incentives?
* It is really rebate driven. Spike in business when rebate is released and dip when it is done.
* If FPL had more money available there would be more installations.
* State min requirement is 2000 watts.
* Want a sustainable businesses and incentive.
* Third Party PPA- allow third parties to sell energy. Reason why California and Arizona are successful.
  1. What do you see are the main obstacles to PV?
* A lot of permitting obstacles because of the differences in requirements between the cities.
* No consistency within local jurisdictions.
  1. Etc.
* A high percentage of customers use a backup battery system in Florida.
* One option is to have a micro inverter solution.
* Look at window of inverter. It varies.
* Used flex panel (peel and stick) on commercial. Miami Dade NOA on this product had a 60% failure on Tin film panels on low slope roofs.
* Stay out of zones 2-3
* Better option is laminating on a sheet and then the sheet is laminated on to the roof membrane.
* Homeowners first concern is about water proofing integrity of the building.
* Also should consider heaters.
* Use a lot of single rows on gabled roofs
* Have to have PV source circuit must be higher than 240. Most source circuit wattage of 350 -400.
* In New Jersey- Using PPA system that is feasible.

1. Next Steps

* Take the Survey

[www.surveymonkey.com/s/S5WH2T8](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/S5WH2T8) - Local solar contractor’s survey

[www.surveymonkey.com/s/S5NQHRB](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/S5NQHRB) - State solar contractor’s survey

[www.surveymonkey.com/s/S5FJN67](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/S5FJN67) - Electrical engineer’s survey

* Sign up for a Committee by emailing [GoSolar@broward.org](mailto:GoSolar@broward.org)

1. Adjourn

