



CICV Solar Updates

September 2017

Upcoming Workshops & Community Engagement Opportunities

CICV wants YOU to help build a solar learning network across Virginia. or contact Lora Toothman at lora@cicv.org.

RFP Update

After CICV announced the preferred vendor for the first Solar RFP on September 27, 2016, the vendor and colleges quickly began individual negotiations, and the first contracts were signed in December 2016. As of June 30, 2017, four colleges had signed contracts for a total of 1,962 kW.

Another four colleges were in active negotiations with preferred vendor Tesla, and we had hoped to see another two-three megawatts of solar energy under contract by the end of 2017. However, a trade complaint filed with the U.S. International Trade Commission by bankrupt solar panel manufacturer, Suniva, has thrown the U.S. solar industry into uncertainty. Installers have begun stockpiling panels in anticipation of rising prices, causing difficulties in sourcing panels. As a result, Tesla has asked our colleges to postpone their negotiations until President Trump makes the final decision on the case in January 2018.

Reminder: Material from Previous Workshops Available Online at
<http://commons.marymount.edu/cicvsola/>.



Virginia Private Colleges Advancing with Solar

To highlight the successful contracts negotiated through our first collaborative solar RFP, and to spread the word about our work to date, CICV partnered with Governor Terry McAuliffe, Virginia Union University, the U.S. Department of Energy, Tesla, and the Alliance Group, a Richmond public relations firm, to host an announcement on August 23, 2017. Governor McAuliffe was the keynote speaker at the event, which also included remarks from Dr. Charlie Gay, Solar Energy Technologies Office Director for the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy at the U.S. Department of Energy, Dr. Joseph Johnson of Virginia Union University, and CICV President, Robert Lambeth.

In addition to our hosts at Virginia Union University, representatives from Lynchburg College, Randolph-Macon College, Washington and Lee University, and Bridgewater College attended the event. More than 100 attendees gathered to celebrate the success of A Solar Market Pathway for Independent Colleges in Virginia, and the event resulted in more than 15 news stories in print, online, and broadcast media.



Upper Left: The U.S. Department of Energy's Dr. Charlie Gay addresses Governor Terry McAuliffe, CICV President Robert Lambeth, and guests.

Upper Right, Lower Left: Governor Terry McAuliffe with representatives of Virginia Union University and Lynchburg College.