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## **Solar Holler Announces Major Deadline in Advance of FirstEnergy Solar Net-metering Policy Changes**

**Charleston WV** -- Today, West Virginia's largest and most experienced homegrown solar installer, Solar Holler, announced that the window for some West Virginia homeowners and businesses to commit to solar and guarantee a full one-to-one net-metering rate is quickly closing. The official deadline for new solar energy customers in Potomac Edison and MonPower territories to submit an interconnection application under the current net-metering rules is Dec. 31, 2024. According to Solar Holler, their installation backlog is filling up fast and in order to meet that deadline, customers will need to get in the queue by signing a contract by Oct. 31, 2024. The company expects their backlog to continue to grow in the coming months as customers attempt to lock in the full benefits of solar. A new policy that reduces those financial benefits by about 30% for MonPower and Potomac Edison customers will take effect next year.

This announcement comes after the West Virginia Public Service Commission ruled on a months-long solar net-metering policy debate that played out earlier this year.

According to Solar Holler Founder and President, Dan Conant, "The annual and lifetime savings that we deliver homeowners through solar are substantial. And, while we ultimately succeeded in protecting a big chunk of that value for future customers, the reality is that it'll be less for MonPower and Potomac Edison customers who go solar after this year."

The net-metering debate stemmed from a tariff filed last July by FirstEnergy, owner of MonPower and Potomac Edison. That filing asked the WV PSC to cut the value of solar in half for their residential customers. Solar Holler and other stakeholders quickly intervened in the case and eventually struck a deal that establishes a level of fairness previously unprecedented in the US solar industry. It also provided one last opportunity for



homeowners to transition to solar and be grandfathered into full one-to-one net-metering rates for the next 25 years. That opportunity, however, expires at the end of 2024.

"If you're a FirstEnergy customer interested in maximizing your solar investment, you need to beat this rule change," said Conant.

Residential projects with an interconnection application filed by Dec. 31, 2024, will have until Dec. 31, 2025, to be fully installed and still qualify for full one-to-one net-metering. Commercial customers will have until June 30, 2026, to complete installation under the current rules. Currently, customers of other utility providers in the state will continue to qualify for one-to-one net-metering.

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Solar Holler is bringing the next generation of energy production to our ancient mountains, and strengthening our communities with union employment. Solar Holler relentlessly pursues innovative approaches that bring solar within reach of all Appalachians, starting with low-interest financing options with no upfront cost. Solar Holler has helped dozens of businesses, nonprofits, and churches, and thousands of homes go solar across West Virginia, southern Ohio, western Virginia, and eastern Kentucky.