



Austin Energy Solar Programs

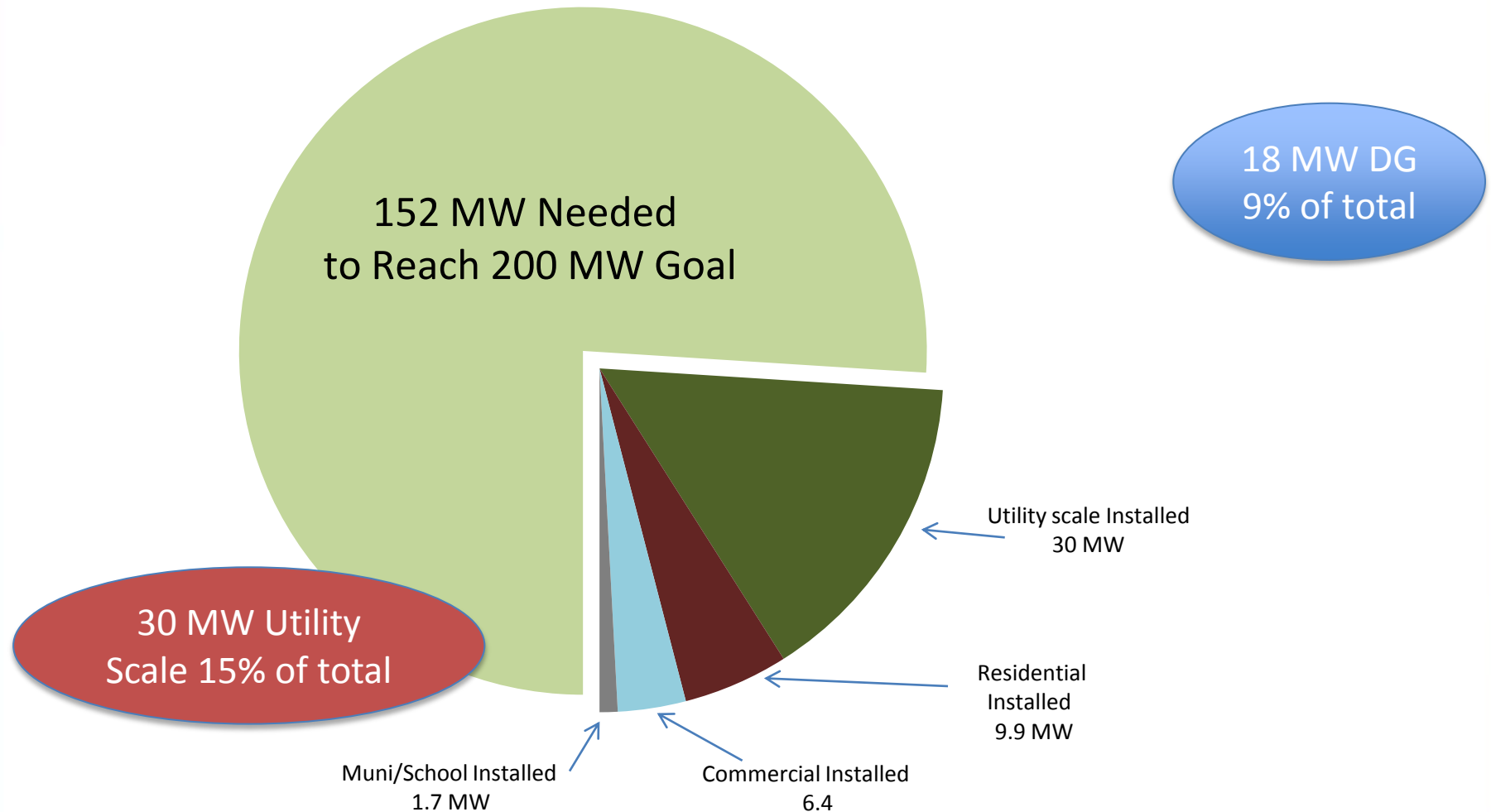
June 12, 2013



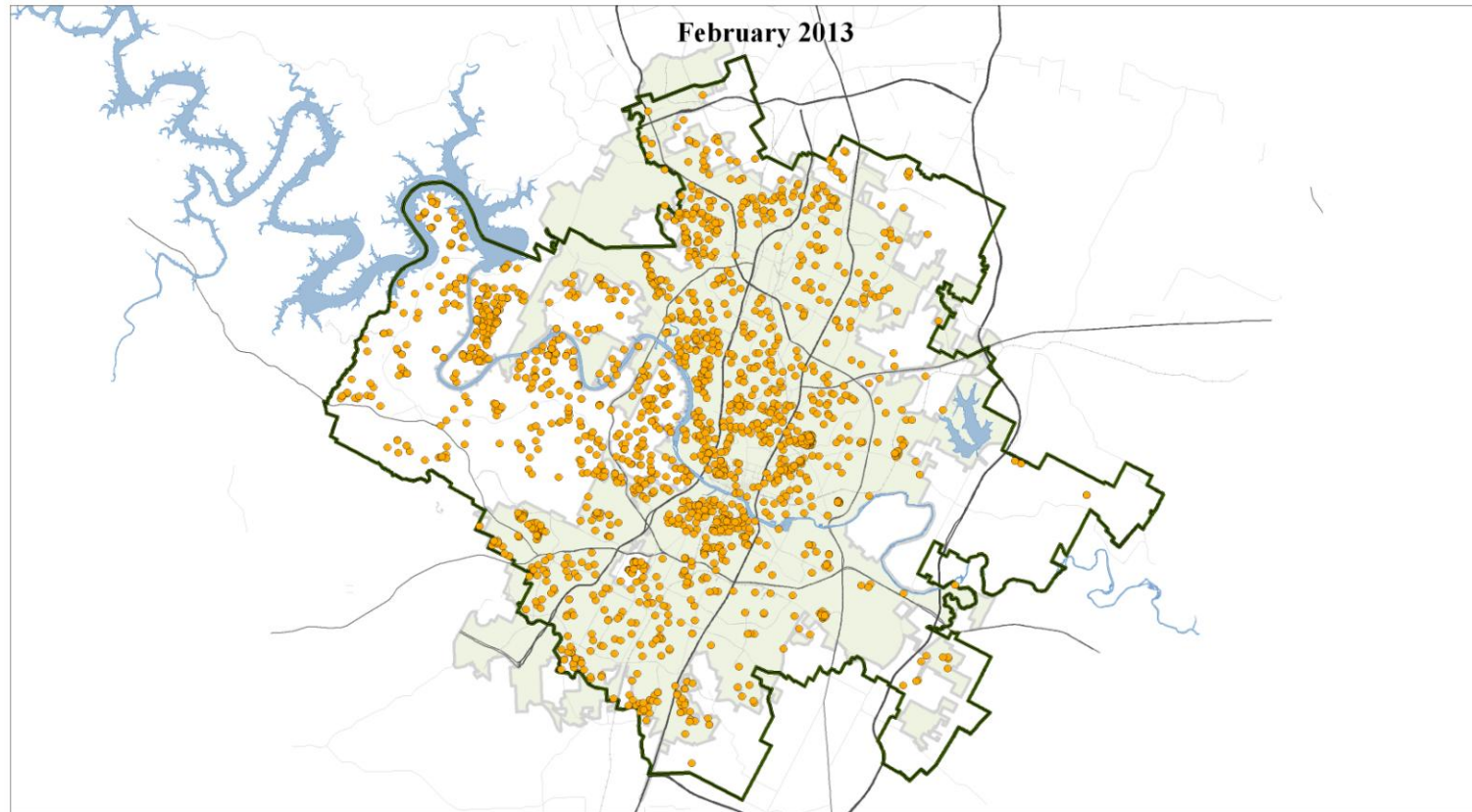
Presented by Debbie Kimberly
Vice President of Distributed Energy Services
Austin Energy

Current Solar Program Status

June, 2013



Time Lapse Solar Map



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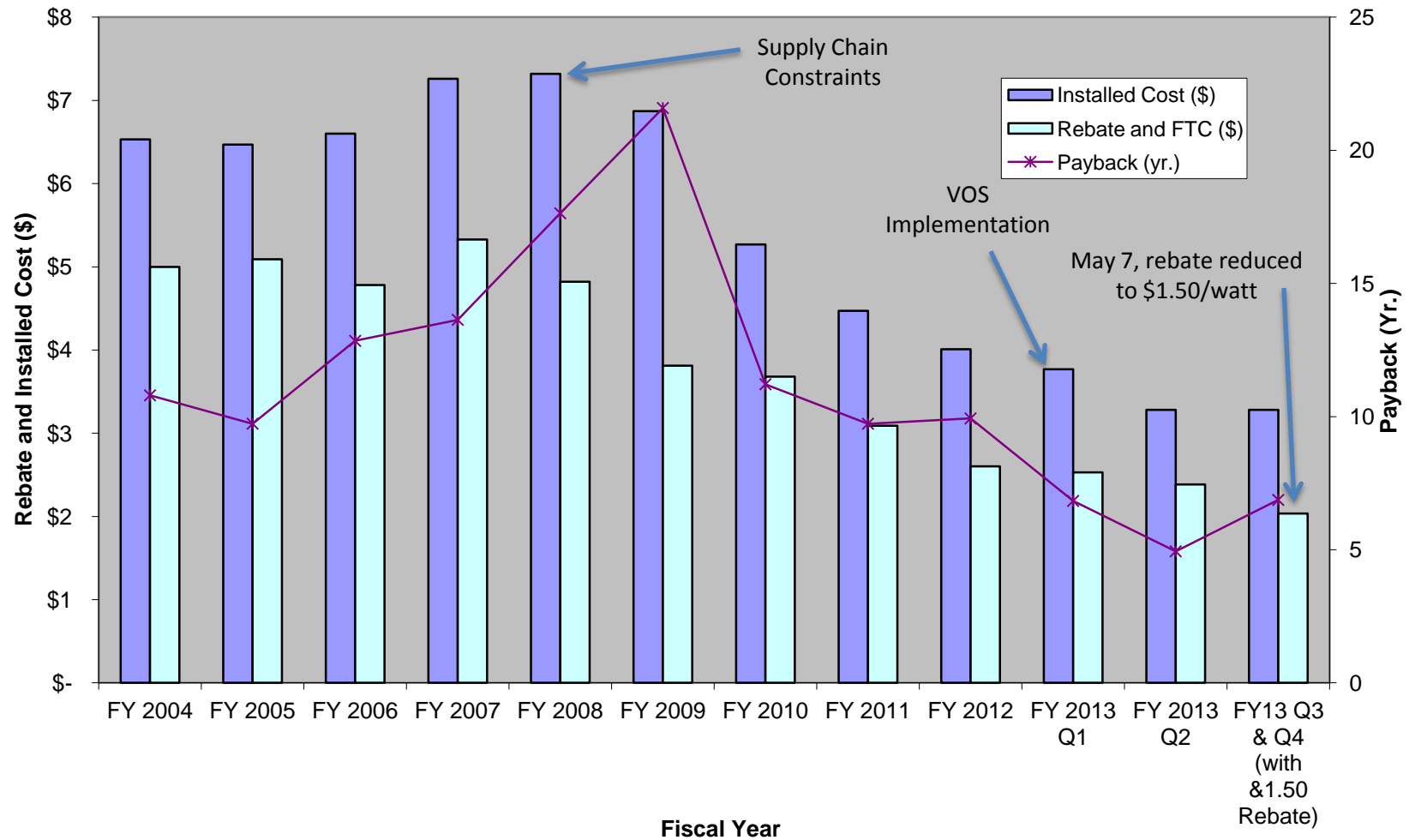
Austin Energy

March 2013

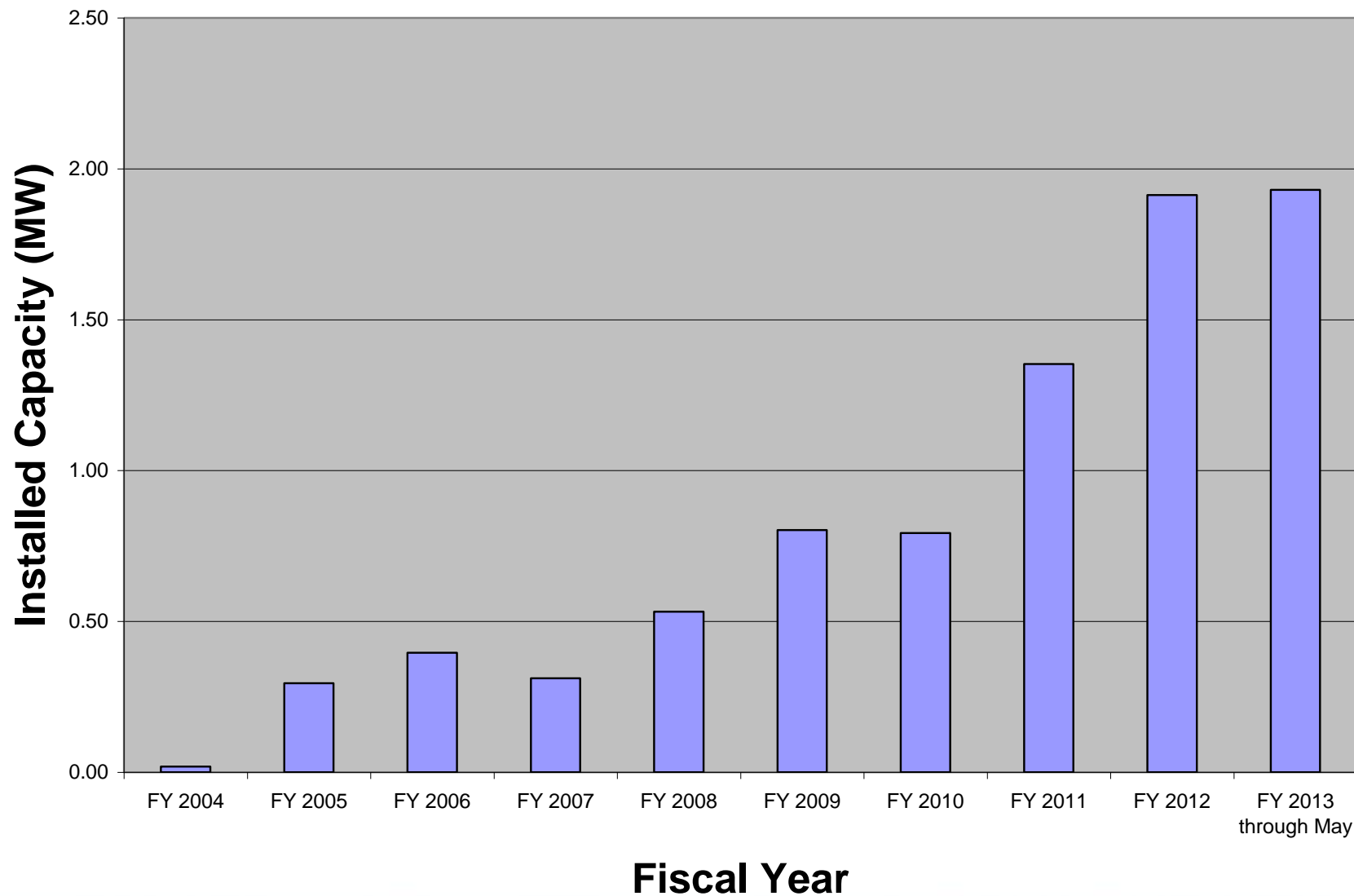
Solar Locations

Map by: Tim Harvey

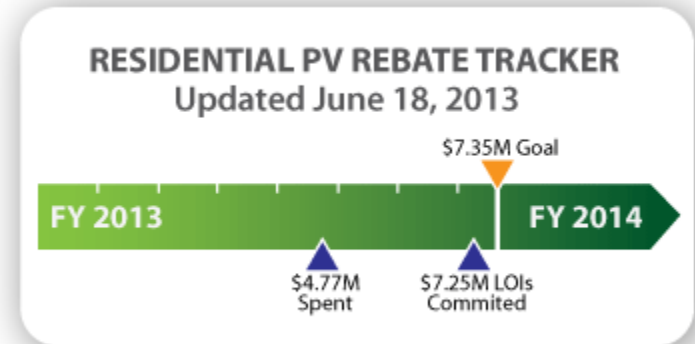
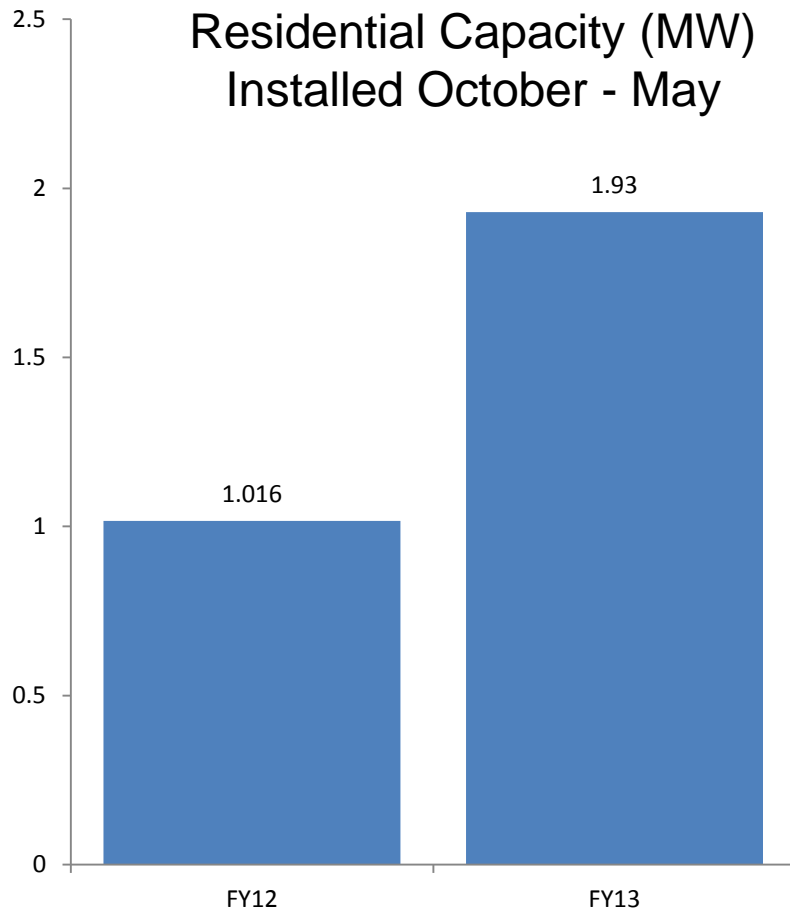
Residential Activity



Annual Capacity Additions - Residential



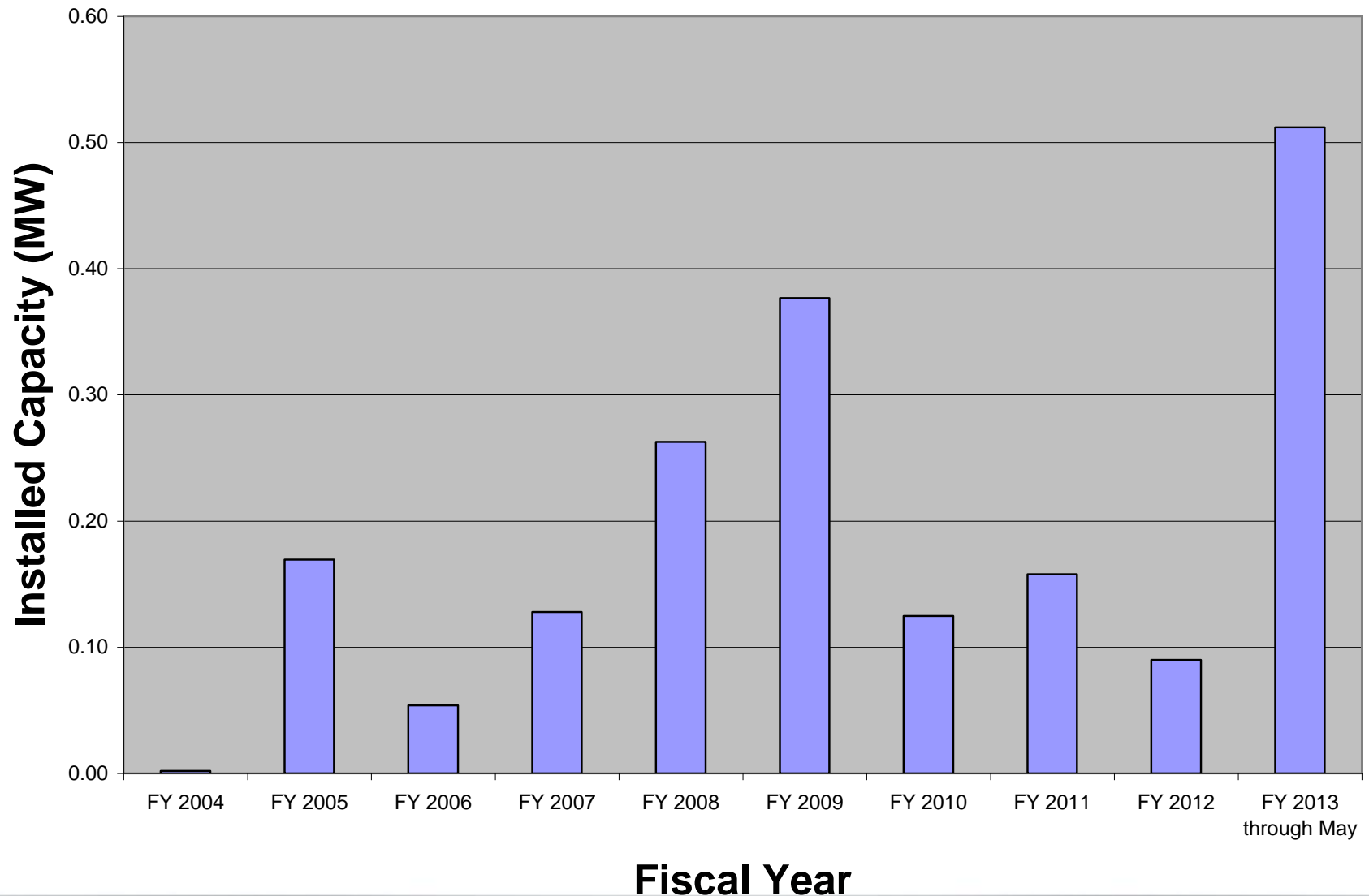
Residential Activity



Solar loans through Velocity Credit Union

- No fee, no prepayment penalty
- 3.99%
- Up to \$25,000 with comprehensive energy efficiency

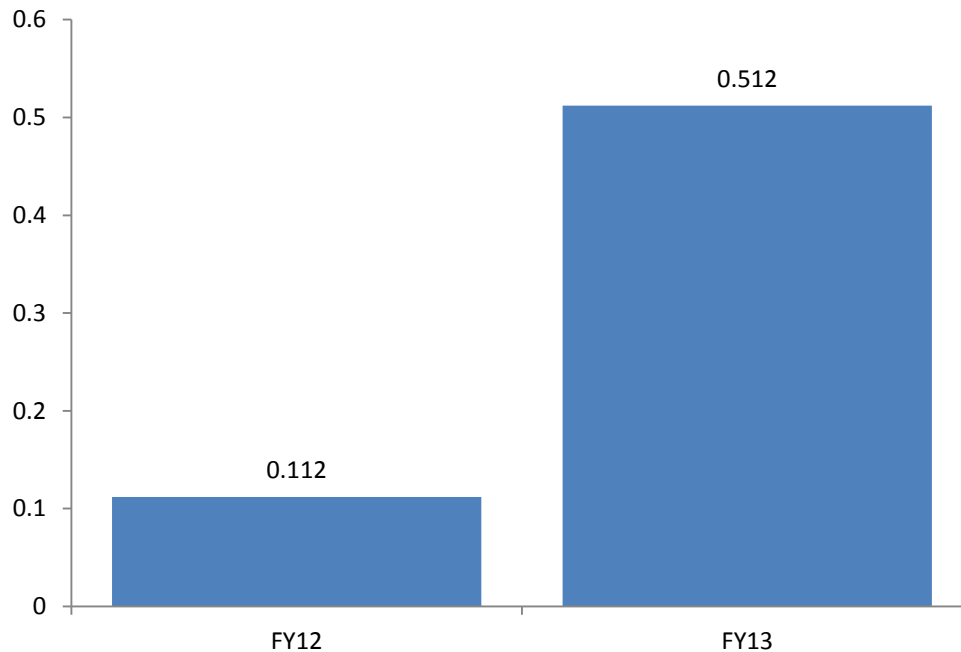
Annual Capacity Additions- Commercial



Commercial Activity



**Commercial Capacity (MW) Installed
October Through May**



- 200 kW maximum
- Leases for charitable and governmental organizations

FY13 Accomplishments



- Increased number of installations while lowering rebates
- Introduced *financing+rebates* option for residential customers
- Formed internal solar team
- Solar Group directly reports to the VP/ solar manager
- Solar rebate tracker posted to website
- Research plan for Community Solar initiated
- VOS tariff updated for budget

VOS Implementation



- VOS RFP
 - Evaluate assumptions and methodologies
 - Develop Ramp-Down scenarios for incentives
 - PV penetration forecast tool
- VOS calculator will assist with residential and commercial incentive design
- Currently evaluating proposals
- Will help inform future planning

LSAC Recommendations

Residential Status @ June, 2013



- ✓ Rebate Program: Gradually and predictably reduce residential rebate budgets and incentives
- ✓ Financing: Introduce solar-friendly financing options.
- ✓ Access: Foster development of community solar program
 - Transparency:
 - ✓ Annual updates of 5-year projection solar goals
 - Tracking local economic development
 - Involvement of the EUC and RMC in evaluation of VOS rate
 - Residential Rates: Establish a floor value for VOS rate

LSAC Recommendations

Commercial Status @ June, 2013



- PBI Program:
 - ✓ Increase PBI commitments while phasing out PBI
 - Increase the PBI project eligibility cap to 1MW AC
 - ✓ Consider offering PBI options targeted to small customers and non-profit organizations
- Commercial Rates:
 - Recognize that solar reduces aggregate demand by offering credit against demand charges
 - Increase the net metering rate eligibility cap to match the PBI program eligibility cap
- ✓ Transparency: produce 5-year projection of commercial solar program goals
- Additional options:
 - Establish community solar for commercial
 - Consider allowing self-directed solar programs through competitive process
 - Study the efficacy of applying VOS to commercial
 - Determine whether PBI payments made as credits are taxable

Next Steps



- Making progress towards capacity goals
- Solar Team formed and currently evaluating LSAC recommendations
- Looking at new options while mindful of affordability
- Solar RFP will be issued by end of the year
- Will collaborate with LSAC committee members
 - July meeting scheduled
- Detailed report by October 1, 2013

Thank you



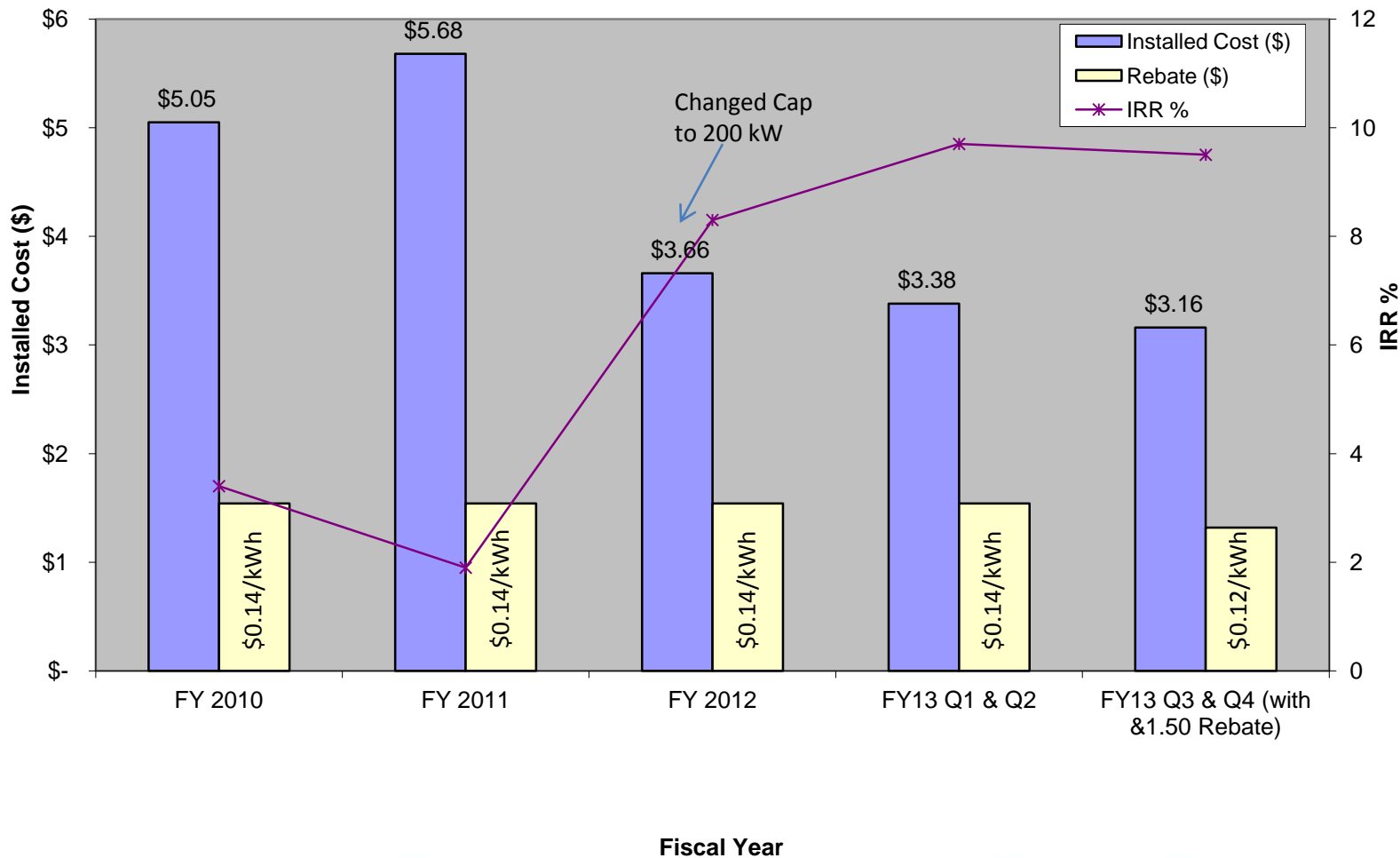
Questions

Back-Up Slides

Commercial Program Statistics



Performance Based Incentive (PBI) History



- Downtown networks do not accommodate over production of solar to back-feed into the network
 - Mandate 3:1 Ratio of Consumption to Generation to prevent instantaneous backflow
 - Network Protection used are instantaneous reverse flow breaker
- We are currently working on three projects in the downtown network
 - Palmer Events Center
 - St. David's Church
 - Seaholm Redevelopment

Current Challenges



- FY13 solar budget increased, but recovery mechanism was not increased
- Seeking scalable approach to solar inspections
 - Working to update Solar Code
 - COA to perform overflow inspections
- Community Solar (avoid competing with other programs)
- Complications interconnecting solar PV to the Downtown Network
- Working to ensure billing system can support new solar product offerings

2014 Updates to Solar Code



- Solar PV
 - Initiating process to update the Uniform Solar Code
 - Current version is 2006
 - Working with Planning and Development Review Department (PDRD) to either update or retire
- Solar Thermal
 - Working with PDRD to update the Solar Thermal section of Uniform Solar Code
- Working with PDRD to update Electrical Inspection Ordinance to allow for contract employees to perform solar electrical inspections
 - Currently electrical inspections must be performed by employees of the City