



2020 Solar Recycling Act

Highlights:

- Delays the 2017 PV Module Takeback Program for 2 ½ years
- Creates a workgroup of key stakeholders to work with the WSU Energy Program to conduct a study recommending methodologies for PV recycling

Key dates:

- By Dec 1, 2021 The working group with WSU reports to Olympia lawmakers
- July 1, 2022 Unless the legislature has further amended the 2020 law, 2017 PV takeback program resumes.
- By July 1, 2023 No PV module can be sold in WA for which its manufacturer's recycling plan has not been approved by the Dept of Ecology. Previous law stated January 1, 2021.

These dates allow the parties to work with both the 2021 and 2022 legislatures to further update Washington's solar recycling program, or to adopt a suitable national program.

Workgroup membership must include:

- An in-state PV manufacturer
- An out-of-state PV manufacturer
- A national solar industry group
- Solar installers in the state
- A utility scale solar project
- An environmental nonprofit on waste minimization
- A city solid waste program
- A county solid waste program
- An PV recycling organization
- A community environmental justice group
- The WA Department of Ecology

New parameters in the 2020 solar recycling law:

- Refines definitions for existing solar market actors, and adds new market players.
- Confirms that penalties remain with the manufacturer for modules sold in WA without an approved stewardship plan, but that manufacturers are only responsible for their own modules.
- Defines PV modules covered in the program to include only those directly connected to the grid, including utility-scale projects.

For further information, contact the [WSU Energy Program](#).

As of March 23, 2020.