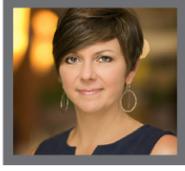




## MESSAGE FROM THE CEO



"There is a saying, 'Trust is involved in all the basic elements of a healthy relationship: communication, commitment and honesty.' That's what we at Pine Gate have with our landowners, a relationship built on trust.

This bi-annual newsletter is a way for us to keep our valuable landowners informed of all we have going on at Pine Gate and to be transparent about what it's like working with us.

Welcome to the first issue of *The Panel*."

- Zoe Gamble Hanes, CEO



Haley Solar  
Haley, South Carolina

Pine Gate's 47 plants  
are generating

# 307 MWs

## IT'S BECAUSE OF YOU!

Pine Gate Renewables is excited you're part of our solar family! Without you, we couldn't achieve our mission of Getting Solar Done. As part of our landowner engagement, we are introducing a bi-annual newsletter to keep you updated on PGR's happenings, the renewables industry, and how you as landowners are helping to make a difference. We also want to feature you and your solar farm, answer your most-asked solar questions, and share Pine Gate's achievements and future goals. We hope that you'll be inspired to share this newsletter with your family, friends, and neighbors. If there is something you'd like to see in the next issue or if you have a question about something featured here, please reach out to us at [landowners@pgr Renewables.com](mailto:landowners@pgr Renewables.com).

## WHO'S ON THE TEAM

### ORIGINATION

Pine Gate's process begins with our Origination team. Origination works directly with landowners and communities to effectively site new utility-scale solar projects nation-wide. Our individualized evaluation process ensures minimal impact to the local environment and utility grid, while maximizing value to all parties involved. Stay tuned for a more in-depth explanation of our Origination team in a future issue of *The Panel*.

### DEV OPS

Development Operations is the Hub of PGR. The department develops all projects in the PGR pipeline that start out as a piece of land owned by one of our many landowners and ends with an operational solar farm. Developing a solar farm is a complicated and timely process that often can take three years from beginning to end, with such timeline heavily dependent on the utility. Stay tuned for a more in depth explanation of our Dev Ops team in a future issue of *The Panel*.

### SOLARCULTURE

Pine Gate created the SolarCulture initiative to support the land's long-term health and productivity. We do this by installing and maintaining vegetation that will support ecosystem services through approaches that are shaped for each site's specific needs and characteristics. During this process, we will ask for your feedback and work to craft a solution for your land and community! Stay tuned for more news about SolarCulture in a future issue of *The Panel*.

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Pine Gate Renewables' passion for Getting Solar Done is centered around providing a service to our society. As a company, it is our stance that our employees have the distinct opportunity and responsibility to make a positive impact in our local communities. Our corporate office in Charlotte, NC recently took initiative and founded our own volunteer project called "Clean Up the Creek". This project was motivated by the alarming amount of waste that had accumulated in our local neighborhood's waterways. Our office in Jacksonville, FL joined forces with Habitat for Humanity (pictured right).



Pine Gate Renewables believes that we can strengthen communities one neighborhood at a time by providing this type of meaningful service. We look forward to featuring more community outreach stories and spotlights of our thoughtful employees in upcoming publications of the *The Panel*.

## OUR FEATURED SOLAR FARM IS

### PEONY, SC

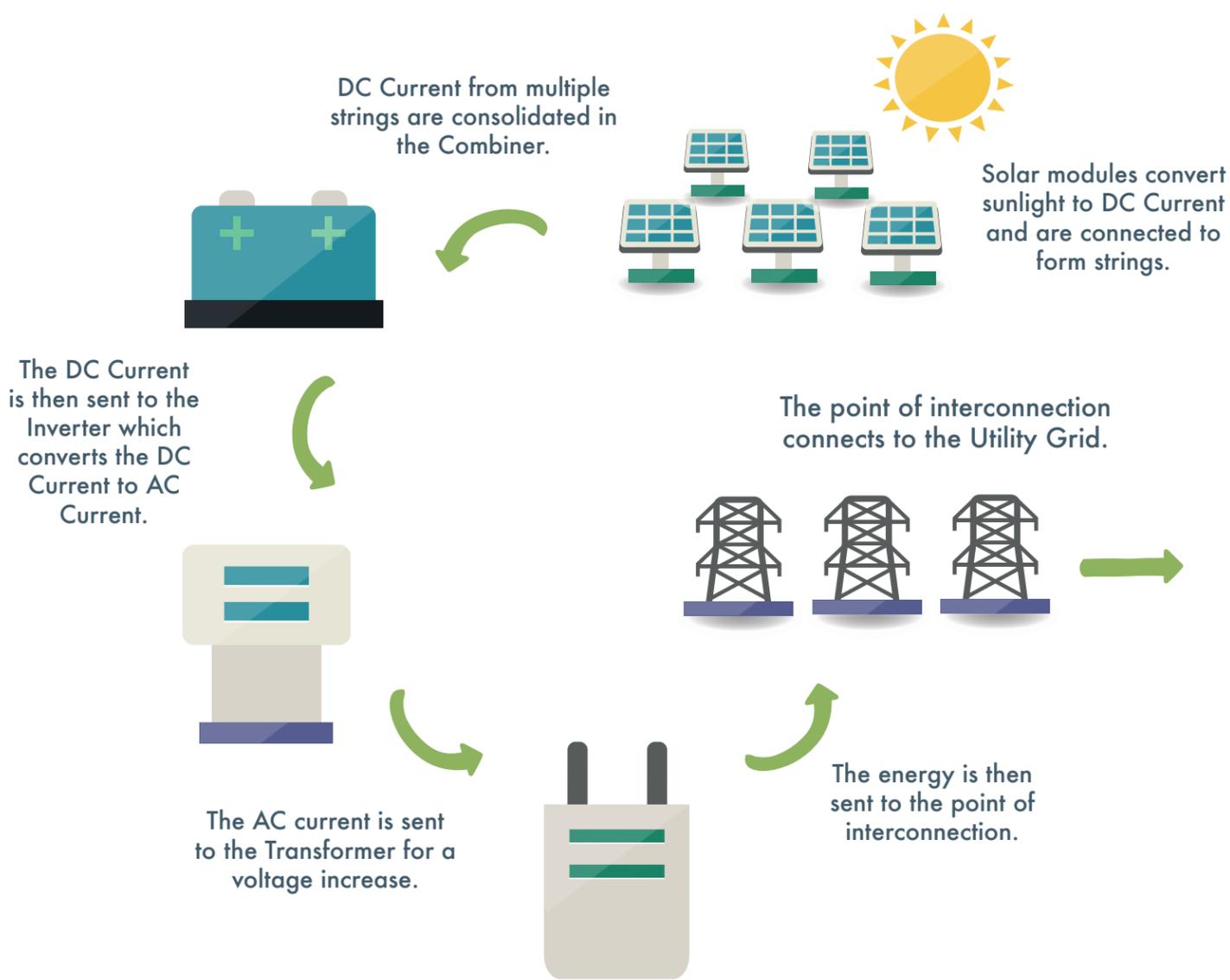
Congratulations to landowners Mr. and Mrs. Richard Phillips for having their farm chosen as Pine Gate's Featured Solar Farm! Appropriately named after the abundance of peony flowers in the area, Peony Solar is nestled in the classic American small-town of Springfield, home to the Governor's Frog Jump festival since 1969 in Orangeburg County, South Carolina.

Peony Solar, once completed, will be one of the largest solar energy farms in South Carolina. The Peony project will cover over 362 acres of land and have approximately 140,000 solar panels on the property to produce over 57 MWs of DC (direct current). This farm will generate enough solar energy to provide clean energy to approximately 7,800 South Carolina homes.

Peony Solar is expected to bring in approximately 62 million dollars in local infrastructure investment to the area. The Pine Gate Family is proud to be a contributing member to the growth of Orangeburg County's business community. As a family and prominent business man, Mr. Phillips chose the solar farming industry because he could clearly see the bright future in solar. This land has been in Mr. and Mrs. Phillips' family for over 10 years and they are eager to see how their farm will positively impact this South Carolinian community while providing an additional source of income to his family for generations to come.



# HOW SOLAR FARMS WORK



# SOLAR MATCH UP!

Match the song to the artist

- |                            |                          |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Ain't No Sunshine       | A. The Beatles           |
| 2. Blinded by the Light    | B. The Carter Family     |
| 3. Walking on Sunshine     | C. Sheryl Crow           |
| 4. Here Comes the Sun      | D. Bill Withers          |
| 5. Sun is Shining          | E. Manfred Mann          |
| 6. Warmth of the Sun       | F. Frankie Ballard       |
| 7. Keep on the Sunny Side  | G. Katrina and the Waves |
| 8. Sunshine and Whiskey    | H. The Animals           |
| 9. House of the Rising Sun | I. Bob Marley            |
| 10. Soak Up the Sun        | J. The Beach Boys        |

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Feeling inspired to reach out to your local congressman? Contact us at [landowners@pgrenewables.com](mailto:landowners@pgrenewables.com) for information about getting involved in solar conversations.

Pine Gate Renewables envisions a world with limitless, clean energy. Our determination to make this vision a reality emboldens our new markets team to continuously examine solar climates on a national level and advocate for clean energy programs. We dedicate this section in our bi-annual newsletter to providing members of the Pine Gate Family with updates on legislative regulations and the latest projections of the solar industry in selected states.



### North Carolina

North Carolina has been a bright spot in solar development over the last decade to the point where it is now home to the second most solar capacity in the United States. However, more recently, North Carolina's development has slowed due to increasing congestion issues and has required more utility coordination. Last year NC passed House Bill 589, a compromise between Duke Energy and the solar industry, which drastically reduced the maximum size of a solar facility from approximately 50 acres to 10 acres and required solar companies to bid into a competitive procurement for larger systems in exchange for more transparency on grid reliability. North Carolina is expected to continue to grow slowly with an emphasis on large tracts of land.



### Minnesota

Reports have shown that Minnesota ranked 6th in 2017 in solar installation in the United States. This was mostly accomplished by their Minnesota Community Solar Garden program, created to allow homeowners and businesses to enjoy the benefits of solar by investing in a solar facility off-site. As Minnesota is on track to exceed their 2007 legislative renewable energy goals of 25% by 2025, in the past two sessions, bipartisan leaders have pushed to increase the goal to 50% by 2030. With increasing support, we're optimistic the initiative may pass next session thus bringing more solar development to the state. The future of solar is bright in Minnesota!



### Texas

Texas has become a hotbed of solar in the past few years and continues to rise, with the 7th most solar installed in the United States cumulatively and the 4th most installed in 2017 alone. Favorable market conditions, allowing large scale solar farms to compete against conventional resources, coupled with the falling costs of solar have brought solar developers like Pine Gate Renewables into the state. Large corporate buyers and utilities across the state are contracting with solar facilities for their energy supply and market analysts are predicting close to 50,000 acres of solar will be constructed in the Lonestar state in the next 5 years.