



{{FirstName or 'Friend'}},

When you choose to dedicate your career to advocacy, it's inevitable that you'll experience times of celebration and times of discouragement, disillusionment, and grief. I have to be honest; these past few weeks have been incredibly difficult. I've personally felt heartbroken and helpless as the nation's highest court dismantled hard-fought progress on [clean air](#), [bodily autonomy](#), and other fundamental rights — decisions that will impact all of us, but that will have the most devastating impacts on communities already bearing the brunt of the climate crisis. Maybe you've felt the same way.

At Vote Solar, we often talk about holding onto hope. While that's often easier said than done, I've come to think of hope not as a luxury, but as an essential tool for facing our collective challenges. **That's why I wanted to reach out this month with some good news.** Despite how recent weeks have felt, there is plenty of it. Mostly, I feel inspired by all of you — just this summer, **nearly 400 of you have taken direct action on state-level legislative or regulatory** campaigns across the country. And, so far this year, **we've raised more critical funds for our work from grassroots donors than ever before.** I've been awestruck by the ability of our team, allies, and supporters to be galvanized by defeat and recommit to our vision of a resilient world, powered by the sun. Thank you!

Read on for a dose of climate optimism. I hope it sustains and energizes you as it has me.

Forward together,
Sachu + the Vote Solar team

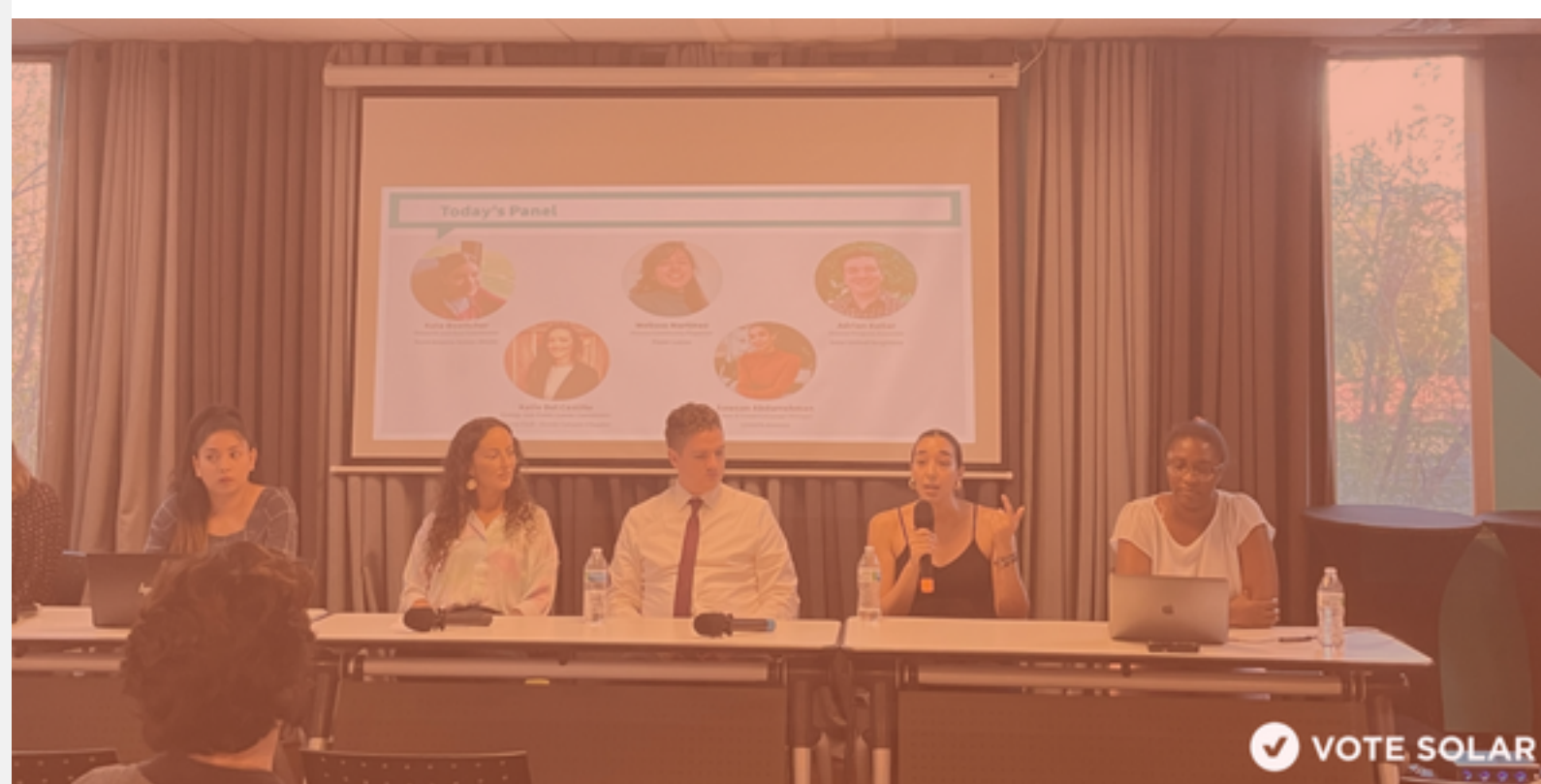
Propelling Michigan toward a fossil-free future

In a victory for renewable energy and environmental justice, the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) [approved](#) a strong settlement agreement between Consumers Energy and a group of environmental and clean energy advocates. Under the terms of the agreement, **Consumers will retire all coal-fired plants by 2025, increase investments in distributed solar, and provide millions of dollars in utility bill assistance for low-income households.** State-level wins are all the more important, given the Supreme Court's decision to strip federal regulatory authority — and this is a big one. **It wouldn't have been possible without a strong coalition and the voices of more than 4,000 Michiganders demanding better than Consumers' original plan.**

Expanding solar access in California

Assembly Bill 2316 cleared a major [milestone](#) last month, when it was passed by California's State Senate Committee on Energy, Utilities, and Communications. If signed into law, **the bill will establish an equitable community renewable energy program**, bringing affordable clean energy into reach for millions of Californians. AB 2316 has already been passed by the State Assembly, and now it's full speed ahead to the finish line! Together with our partners and allies, we're ready to build on AB 2316's momentum and send it to Governor Newsom's desk.

Uplifting community voices in Arizona and North Carolina



In partnership with DreamCorps, we hosted a workshop for Phoenix-area residents to learn about opportunities for Arizona to lead the way in our clean energy transition. There's nothing quite like gathering together in pursuit of a shared vision; meeting so many passionate Arizonans was joyful and inspiring. Thank you to everyone who carved time out of their busy lives to be with us.



All the way in the Tar Heel State, the North Carolina Utilities Commission (NCUC) has kicked off its series of public hearings on the state's carbon plan — a roadmap for meeting the state's emissions reductions targets. Our [coalition](#) is working to pack every hearing room and flood the NCUC's email inbox with support for a modern, equitable, and fossil-free energy system for North Carolina. If the rest of the hearings are anything like the first two, this movement will be impossible to ignore!

New This Summer

We're excited about this one! Later this month, when you make a [donation](#) of \$50 or more to Vote Solar, you can expect a limited-edition, retro Vote Solar hat in your mailbox soon after! Originally, these hats were for Vote Solar staff, but it didn't take long before word got around— and now we're thrilled to be able to share them with our donors. We'll be releasing more information on our [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) accounts very soon so, if you haven't already, give us a follow and snag a hat before they're gone!

At Vote Solar, we're on a mission to realize a 100% clean energy future through a solutions-driven, people-centered approach. Vote Solar is a 501(c)(3) non-profit. All donations are tax-deductible. [Donate to Vote Solar.](#)

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