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Subject: Solar Energy
Date: Wednesday, May 27, 2015 10:14:44 AM

Since Florida calls itself the "Sunshine State", it makes sense to create incentives for development of solar power. What we have now is a block by the utility companies on the free market system, codified in our laws.

Offering tax rebates to homeowners would create interest in the renewable energy, as well as to small start-ups who would have a stake in this field. This industry has the potential for attracting well educated people, and for creating stable well paid employment, enabling tax revenue grow in all year-round manner.

Acknowledging that the tourist industry drives our current business look to long term growth and see how to diversify our economic future. Sun is also a natural resource we Floridians claim to have in abundance. Development of solar energy does not harm the land, the water, the wildlife, and most important, would serve our growing population. The alternatives include contamination of public and private land, reclamation of water supplies, public health emergencies, potential rationing of clean water, and declining infrastructure, to name a few issues.

Instead of relying on the previous century's ideas, we need to manage our best assets and development them wisely. Florida could provide leadership in a changing economic climate.

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