A Letter to Doug McMillon: Use Walmart's Roofs and Parking Lots to Generate Solar Energy (Letter follows logos)



















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Mr. Doug McMillon President and CEO, Walmart Inc.

November 5, 2021

Dear Mr. McMillon,

On behalf of our organizations and the thousands of members we represent, we are writing to urge you to commit Walmart to installing solar on all viable rooftops and parking lots by 2035.

Businesses can and should play a key role in reducing global warming pollution by transitioning to 100 percent renewable energy. We are excited by Walmart's current commitments of zero emissions by 2040 and 100 percent renewable energy by 2035. Walmart's goal to double the number of on-site solar projects on U.S. stores, Sam's Club locations and distribution centers by 2020 is a step in the right direction, yet given its tremendous potential and the benefits of on-site solar production, we are urging you to expand Walmart's commitment to on-site solar.

Specifically, we're urging you to continue Walmart's leadership among America's retailers by committing to put solar wherever viable, including rooftops and parking lots, on its over 5,000 United States locations by 2035.

Putting solar panels on the nation's big box grocery and retail stores creates unique benefits for the environment, electricity customers and the large commercial businesses themselves. The benefits are:

- Generating clean electricity from rooftop solar panels on existing commercial buildings is good for the environment. For example, based on a 2016 report, Walmart alone could install approximately 5,844 MW of rooftop solar capacity which is equivalent to the power consumed by 660,000 American households per year.
- Rooftop solar power is good for the grid and electricity consumers. Producing electricity on rooftops, close to where the electricity will be used, reduces losses that happen during electricity transmission losses that totaled an estimated 203 million megawatt-hours (MWh), or 5 percent of electricity sales in 2012.
- Putting solar panels on the roofs of all big box stores is good for business. Electricity produced by rooftop panels on the nation's big box stores and shopping centers could offset the annual electricity use of these buildings by 42 percent, saving these businesses \$8.2 billion annually on their electricity bills.

Walmart has been a leader among retailers when it comes to reducing emissions and transitioning to clean renewable energy. We hope you will continue this leadership and as part of it, set an ambitious goal of putting solar on all viable rooftops and parking lots by 2035.

Sincerely,

350 Chicago 350 Dallas 350 Eugene 350 Mass 350 New Orleans 350 Seattle Air Alliance Houston Alabama Sierra Club Allegheny Land Trust Altamaha Riverkeeper American Solar Energy Society Anthropocene Alliance **Appalachian Voices** Arise for Social Justice Audubon of Kansas Audubon Society of Central Maryland California Businesses for a Livable Climate Call to Action Colorado CatholicNetwork US Charleston Audubon Chesapeake Climate Action Network **Citizens Action Coalition** Citizens Campaign for the Environment Clean Cape Fear **Clean Energy Action** Climate Action KC Climate Code Blue Climate Reality Chicago Metro Climate Reality Dallas Fort Worth Climate Reality Massachusetts Southcoast Climate XChange Colorado Businesses for a Livable Climate **Conservation Alabama Cooperative Energy Futures**

Coosa River Basin Initiative Delaware Electric Vehicle Association Dogwood Alliance **Eco-Justice Collaborative** End Climate Silence Environment America Research & Policy Center Environment Arizona Research & Policy Center Environment California Research & Policy Center Environment Colorado Research & Policy Center Environment Connecticut Research & Policy Center Environment Florida Research & Policy Center Environment Georgia Research & Policy Center Environment Iowa Research & Policy Center Environment Illinois Research & Policy Center Environment Massachusetts Research & Policy Center Environment Maryland Research & Policy Center Environment Maine Research & Policy Center Environment Michigan Research & Policy Center Environment Minnesota Research & Policy Center

Environment Missouri Research & Policy Center Environment Montana Research & Policy Center Environment North Carolina Research & Policy Center Environment New Hampshire Research & Policy Center Environment New Jersey Research & Policy Center Environment New Mexico Research & Policy Center Environment Nevada Research & Policy Center Environment New York Research & Policy Center Environment Ohio Research & Policy Center Environment Oregon Research & Policy Center Environment Rhode Island Research & Policy Center Environment Texas Research & Policy Center Environment Virginia Research & Policy Center Environment Washington Research & Policy Center **Environmental Action** Fight for Zero Generation180 Georgia Interfaith Power and Light Georgia River Network Georgia Wildlife Federation Greater-Birmingham Alliance to Stop Pollution Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance **Grounded Strategies** Hoosier Environmental Council Houston Climate Movement

I-70 Citizens Advisory Group Indivisible Ambassadors Indivisible Howard County Iowa Renewable Energy Association Iowa Solar Energy Trade Association Iowa Audubon Jewish Earth Alliance Kent Environmental Council Kentucky Interfaith Power and Light League of Women Voters of Metro Saint Louis League of Women Voters of Montgomery County, MD League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy Lower Merion Conservancy Maine Unitarian Universalist State Advocacy Network Maryland Campaign for Environmental Human Rights Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light Missouri Interfaith Power and Light Montbello Neighborhood Improvement Association Natural Resources Defense Council NC WARN Nebraskans For Solar North Carolina Council of Churches North Carolina Interfaith Power and Light North Carolina League of Conservation Voters North Range of Concerned Citizens Ogeechee Riverkeeper Oregon Solar + Storage Industries Association **OSPIRG** Students PennEnvironment Philadelphia Solar Energy Association Physicians for Social Responsibility Pennsylvania

Piedmont Environmental Alliance Piedmont Environmental Council Plastic Ocean Project, Inc. Powder River Basin Resource Council Power Up for Climate Solutions Public Citizen, Inc. RapidShift Network Renewable Energy Long Island **ReThink Energy Florida** Repair the World Pittsburgh **Rio Grande International Study Center** San Luis Valley Ecosystem Council **Small Business Alliance** Snake River Alliance Solar United Neighbors South Carolina Wildlife Federation Southern Alliance for Clean Energy Southern Maine Conservation Collaborative Sunrise Charleston Sunrise Houston Sunrise Mississippi Gulf Coast Sunrise Northern Kentucky Sunrise Tampa Sunrise Tulsa Sunrise Wichita Sustainable Wellesley System Change Not Climate Change Tennessee Environmental Council Tennessee Interfaith Power and Light Tennessee Solar Energy Association Texas Physicians for Social Responsibility The Clinch Coalition The Green House Connection Center Upstate Forever Unitarian Universalist Advocacy Network of Illinois Unite North Metro Denver Vote Solar Vermont Interfaith Power and Light Wisconsin Environment

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