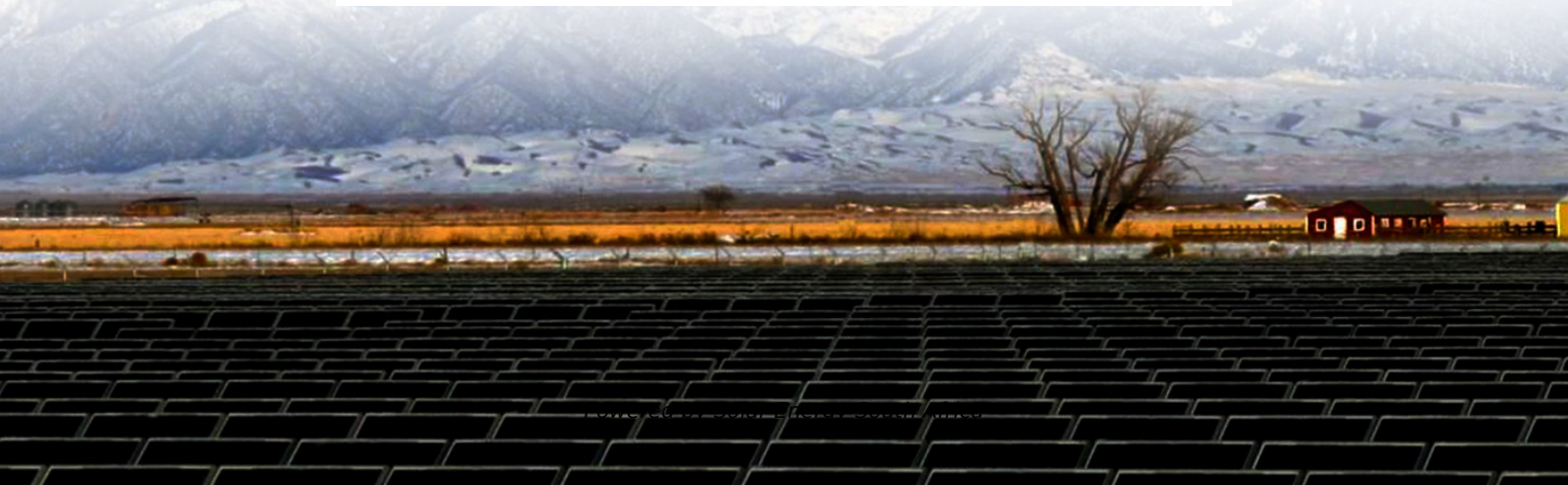


## Solar Energy South Africa

# Are there many scams involving photovoltaic panels for rural households



## Overview

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It's likely a scam. While there are some government-funded solar programs for households that qualify, "going solar" isn't free. Is going solar a scam?

It's likely a scam. While there are some government-funded solar programs for households that qualify, "going solar" isn't free. Honest businesses will tell you exactly how much it'll cost to get and install solar panels. Here's how to steer clear of the scams: Do some research.

Are solar panels a scam or a cold call?

Here are the cold calls and potential scams to avoid. More than a third of solar PV panel owners in our recent survey told us they have been cold called about their panels in the past five years. Most cold callers were trying to sell them something unnecessary, but a few owners were told something completely untrue.

Are free solar panels a scam?

Emails offering cheap solar panels or appearing to be backed by a Government scheme could also be scammers, taking you to an seemingly-official website offering free or cheap installation. These incredible deals rarely exist, so approach these with caution to avoid wasting your time. 3. Free solar panel online ads.

Are 'free solar panel health checks' a scam?

We're regularly contacted by customers, who have received an unsolicited call or letter from another company, offering them a 'free solar panel health check' or warning about their solar PV system being at risk of failing. This is a common scam.

Are solar panels free?

As far as actual free solar panels go, there are some small programs in places, like the Solar for All program in Washington D.C., geared toward low-income

households that offer modestly-sized solar panel systems for free. Very few homeowners will be able to qualify for these low-income solar programs. How much will solar panels cost you?

2.

How common are cold call solar panels?

See our solar panel brand reviews. This was by far the most common cold call solar panel owners told us about - 44% have been approached about this. Technical faults with solar panels are rare. Nearly seven in 10 of those in our survey have not had a fault with their system. Some have owned theirs for more than a decade.

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### Solar energy is rising in popularity. So are the scams

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### Beware these solar panel cold calls

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### Tempted to get solar panels? Watch out for these rip-off red flags

3. Free solar panel online ads. These offers are not necessarily scams but they are often misleading. If an advert says 'free' or 'cheap' solar panels, make sure you do your research to ...

### Solar energy is rising in popularity. So are the scams

It's likely a scam. While there are some government-funded solar programs for

households that qualify, "going solar" isn't free. of solar panels -- or say they're from (or affiliated with) the government. These are ...



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