

## Solar Energy South Africa

# Photovoltaic panels occupying roof scam



## Overview

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While you are browsing solar power companies, one of them may offer to install a solar panel or solar roof in your home for a small cost or even for free. It's an intentionally misleading claim. 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 free solar panels a scam?

Free solar panels are indeed a scam. This deceptive marketing tactic is often used to promote solar leases and power purchase agreements (PPAs), which come with long contracts and monthly payments that escalate over time.

Is residential solar a scam?

When done right, going solar can substantially reduce your carbon footprint and your energy costs. However, this rare double-whammy of benefits also makes the residential solar industry ripe for scams.

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 'fake' solar companies a scam?

Beware of any company asking you to make a big deposit before they have completed their installation. This is one of the most common ways 'fake' solar companies have targeted consumers - whereby they take a hefty deposit and then never turn up to carry out the installation. This is common solar scam.

How do I know if a solar company is a scam?

Be wary of solicitors. Always verify the identity and credentials of anyone claiming to represent a solar company. Unscrupulous solar companies may employ aggressive or dishonest sales tactics to close deals quickly, especially if the proposed solar installation isn't in your best interest.

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### [Beware these solar panel cold calls](#)

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## Debunking Common Solar Panel Myths and Scams

6 ???· Research local solar panel costs: your home may be a good candidate for solar panels. Roof structure: Solar panels work best on a roof slope between 15 and 40 degrees. Consult an experienced roofer to learn if your ...



## Common Solar Panel Scams and How To Avoid Them

When considering solar panel installation, look out for the following warning signs that may indicate a potential scam: Promises of "free" solar panels or unrealistically low prices; Claims of affiliation with government ...

## How to avoid getting burned by solar or clean energy ...

Know that "free" or "no cost" solar panel offers are scams. The federal government does not install solar systems in homes for free. If you're

considering whether solar energy is right for you,  
check out the Department of Energy's ...



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