

## Macro Roundup Article

**Headline:** [How Red Texas Became a Model for Green Energy](#)

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**Tweet:** Texas' solar energy capacity hit 23.6GW in May, up from 2GW in 2019, and ahead of California's 21.2GW. A key reason for this growth is a grid access model that takes about half as long to come online as elsewhere in the US. @jburnmurdoch

**Summary:** When the latest batch of solar plants comes online, Texas will have added more solar capacity per capita in a single year than any US state and any country in the world. As recently as five years ago this would have been unthinkable. In 2019, Texas had just over 2GW of large-scale solar plants to California's 13GW. As of this month it has deployed 23.6GW of utility-scale solar to California's 21.2GW. The ease of building and connecting new renewable projects in Texas relative to elsewhere has been one of the key reasons for the state's clean energy boom. Its electricity grid operator uses a "connect and manage" model. This assesses new projects based on the essential local requirements needed to connect to the grid instead of carrying out protracted studies into the broader potential ramifications. The result is that new power generation takes about half as long to come online in Texas as elsewhere. The US Federal Energy Regulatory Commission is now looking to follow a similar approach in order to speed up the transition nationwide.

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**Primary Topic:** Energy

**Topics:** Energy, Investment, Op-Ed/Blog Post, Productivity

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