VALLEY BRIFFS

Massanutten Solar Co- Op Chooses Installer

HARRISONBURG — The Massanutten Regional Solar Co-op has selected Independent Solar Solutions to install solar panels for the 100-member group.

Independent Solar Solutions, based in Loudoun County, was chosen from four other firms and will provide co-op members with an individualized proposal based on its winning bid, a news release sent from the co-op on Wednesday says.

"Co-op members selected Independent Solar Solutions because of competitive pricing, quality components, and long warranties," the release says. The solar energy cooperative is open to Harrisonburg residents and people living in Rockingham, Shenandoah and Page counties. Its goal is to save homeowners money on purchasing solar panels, though joining the group is not a commitment to buy panels.

Each member of the group owns his or her own system, but the collective goes through the process of buying the systems in bulk and choosing a single contractor to install them.

By going solar as a group, each participant generally saves up to 20 percent off of their system, according to the release.

The co-op was launched this fall to build on the success of the Solarize Harrisonburg initiative. Nearly 70 homes in the area added solar panels through the program earlier this year.

The group is open to new members until Jan. 31.

Residents interested in joining can sign up at www.vasun.org/massanutten-regional-solar-co-op or on the Massanutten Regional Solar Co-op Facebook page.

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