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Solar power installation guide pdf

Now it's almost the end of May, and the solar panel installation is almost ready. In January, I discussed our research on domestic solar energy. We received a total of three bids, but the final decision was surprisingly easy. The bidding process itself was illustrative of the continuous evolution of solar energy. The first bid was presented by a classic salesman, who was in his 60s, and talked nonstop about keeping the customer happy. I don't mean it as a negative; he had a lot of knowledge about technology, but when we asked deeper questions, he would have to postpone his answer. The document arrived in a classic sales binder, with all the important information. The second company was much more high tech. Two guys arrived in a van brightly decorated with the company logo and color scheme. The main sales guy had a lightweight meter attached to a pocket PC, and did all his solar readings using real measurements from our roof. They provided us with a PDF file of the preliminary bid, on site, using a laptop and the readings collected with the Pocket PC. They were also potentially attractive because the company had made a deal with the city of Sunnyvale, offering additional discounts to residents. The third company was again represented by a single person, although a much younger guy. He was very early on the process from the beginning, and exposed all options and costs including total energy conversion, better rate of return and best green option, which was somewhere between the other two options. The good thing about the offer of all companies, completely separated from the mechanics of the sales process, was the enthusiasm for solar energy. So which one do we choose? Continued... Reading time: 5 minutesSolar energy is moving into the mainstream. Nowadays, going solar is no different from many other home improvement projects, whether replacing your roof, renovating your kitchen or building a deck. What is the best way to find a company you can trust to install your solar panels? Use a solar installer that has earned the EnergySage seal of approval. How does EnergySage evaluate and choose its solar installers? The EnergySage Solar Marketplace has more than 500 pre-selected solar installers from across the country offering solar listings to U.S. homeowners. But what does it mean to be pre-selected? Before they can receive the EnergySage seal of approval, we evaluate each solar installer to ensure that they will provide quality service to EnergySage users. These high-quality installers are approved based on the following criteria: Years of experience Solar is a growing industry that attracts professionals from many backgrounds, and contractors who previously focus on other types of home projects are beginning to move into the solar industry. Before an installer can join EnergySage, we verify that they have several years of legitimate experience designing and installing solar panel systems and confirm that they have several successful solar power under his belt. Licensed and insuredThe necessary commercial licenses and insurance policies that a solar installer needs to maintain differ from state to state. Occasionally, local jurisdictions will enforce additional requirements that installers need to meet. When a solar installer wants to join the EnergySage Solar Marketplace, we verify that they are properly licensed and insured for the areas in which they operate. Reputation in the market Working with a solar installer should always be a positive experience. To ensure that everyone at EnergySage receives excellent customer service and a high-quality solar installation, we examine the history of every installer in the industry, including your company's assessments, before granting them the EnergySage seal of approval. NABCEPO Certification North American Council of Certified Energy Professionals (NABCEP) offers the leading certification program for solar installers, known as Professional Certification of Photovoltaic Solar Installation. Although NABCEP certification is not a firm requirement to enter the Solar EnergySage Market, we ask all installers if they are NABCEP certified. Some installers working in the solar industry since before NABCEP's formation in 2002 may not be certified, and EnergySage's seal of approval may be granted based on its long history. Any installer without NABCEP certification has to demonstrate to us that they have significant experience in the solar sector. Features of the best solar installers All solar installers of the EnergySage Solar Marketplace meet the criteria listed above. When it comes to deciding between two good solar installers, how do you determine which one is the best? Manufacturing guaranteesThe best solar installers will be behind your facility by offering a manufacturing guarantee, which is specific to the work of designing and building the solar power system. Manufacturing guarantees are distinct from guarantees for solar equipment and typically range from one to 10 years. Reliable consultant in power system designSolar is a significant investment in your home, and you should have a strong and reliable relationship with your installer. The best installers will work with you to understand how solar energy fits inside your home or business's power system. The best solar installers are guides and advisors – you should feel comfortable asking questions to the installer every step of the way. No high-pressure sales tactics Solar power is an excellent but significant domestic decision, not something to be rushed by a potential solar installer. High-pressure sales tactics are much more common among the country's large solar leasing companies, so stay tuned and always read the fine print before signing. If you feel excessively by a solar installer, chances are they are not right for you. Differentiating quality among installers at EnergySagePeople by purchasing solar energy at EnergySage EnergySage often ask our team which solar installers are the best among those with the EnergySage seal of approval. We have examined all installers to ensure that they are reputable companies with the experience and track record to offer quality work to our customers. But once they are in the Market, how do you distinguish them? How do you identify the best of the best? Reviews and reviews can be a useful tool for determining the quality of an installer, but often focus on the extreme end of the customer experience, whether very good or very bad. Company assessments may or may not provide a comprehensive view of the company's quality. To answer this question from our point of view, we created our own classification system for solar companies at EnergySage, based on the actual performance of these companies. Our Marketplace provides hundreds of thousands of quotes from solar installers across the country, giving us a unique set of data for this task. To make this data understandable and useful to classification installers, we have identified three central areas for evaluation: results, reputation, and responsiveness. ResultsIn our Marketplace, results mean success with real consumers. This requires both providing competitive quotes that are attractive to solar buyers as well as the follow-through of the project that leads to completed solar installations. Installers are evaluated in their success of completing solar installations for buyers on Marketplace. For the results category, installers are ranked relative to their peers about their performance in recent months, ensuring that our ratings are up-to-date and reflect recent performance. Reputation We value an installer's reputation based on your company's reviews and reviews. This includes the average 5-star rating for the company and the time of ratings to ensure that this rating is based on up-to-date information. We also consider supplier endorsements here: solar equipment manufacturers often have partner programs that recognize their best installers, and we consider these endorsements of an installer's reputation. Responsiveness One of the things consumers value most is receptivity. We measure this by the speed with which installers respond when a consumer asks for information. Our data indicates that responsiveness is a key metric for customer satisfaction and a leading indicator of an installer's overall performance on marketplace. Our rating levels We use assessments across results, reputation, and responsiveness to generate a rating for each of our installer partners. The end result is one of three ratings: Approved, Advanced and Elite. ApprovedSTom of the installer on marketplace went through screening criteria and are approved to participate. For this reason, we label the first level in our rating system, the basis for all our installers. EnergySage Approved:AdvancedCompanies that are distinguished by their results, reputation and responsiveness can gain the rating of Advanced. Advanced installers are among the top half of installers in the areas they serve. They have demonstrated a Marketplace domain and a higher level of service than most of their peers. EliteElite installers are the main installers of EnergySage. They have excelled at providing great service and achieving results on Marketplace. And they really stood out among their peers:Finding high quality solar installers in EnergySagechoosing from a solar installer can be a challenging part of your solar buying process; we hope that our classification system will provide a useful data point, among many others, to help you make a confident decision. If you're thinking of going solar, but haven't thought about saving it completely – try our Solar Calculator today. Once you're ready to get competing quotes from local installers, join the EnergySage Solar Marketplace. Market.

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