Compiled Research & Materials, Appendix Q: EnergySage Interview

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Install Potential – Is there little/no shade throughout the day? abundant available roof space? southern facing? – If so, great!

- 15-20 yr. old roofs, might want to look at re-roofing for solar
- Panels will protect the roof and prolong the life of the roof

Panels - Recommendation: Canadian Solar

Avg efficiency (15-16.6% efficiency), avg price (better price, and still good output compared to top of the line panels)

LG or Sun Power Solar Panels (high efficiency end of market about 20% efficiency) are more efficient, but more expensive

Inverter – Recommendation: Power optimizers OR micro inverters: Can monitor on per panel basis (not on string inverter)

*Power Optimizers: Cheaper a little less efficient at converting dc to ac, but easier to install

*Micro inverters a little more expensive & efficient at converting dc to ac

*Can add battery back-up at any time

String inverters: old technology, one panel down can take entire system down.. doesn’t monitor panels on a per panel basis

Batteries – Homeowners typically do not have battery back-up. Some have as a back-up generator, but solar batteries still new tech, typically a bit pricier

By and large, still hooked to grid... during night/cloudy you take electricity from utility companies, but during days, typically making more electricity than taking in. Excess can offer homeowners credit from utility company

Conclusion

Look at “production guarantees” – What are they? If panels don’t produce nameplate, contractor reimburses for what you pay utilities

Icon as an installer – no reviews, newer on Energy Sage platform, but still reputable company