



What Nonprofits Get Wrong About Renewable Energy Projects

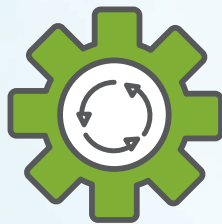
5 Pitfalls of "Going Green"
That Owners and Operators Need to Know



From taking advantage of governmental tax credits to meeting stakeholder expectations to avoiding high and unpredictable utility energy bills, there are plenty of convincing reasons to take on a renewable energy project. The question isn't if you should utilize renewable energy in your facility, but how to do so in a way that encompasses all 3 pillars of sustainability.



**ECONOMIC
SUSTAINABILITY**



**OPERATIONAL
SUSTAINABILITY**



**ENVIRONMENTAL
SUSTAINABILITY**

Building managers, operators, and owners face increasing pressure to integrate sustainability measures into their infrastructure plan. You have most likely felt this pressure to “go green” - but how does checking the box on environmental sustainability impact your budget, your operations, and your own personal bandwidth?

You and your leadership may be uncertain whether equipment upgrades and efficiencies, better building energy management systems, or on-site generation like solar photovoltaics are the best solution(s). Perhaps you've implemented one of these options and found it to be lacking, or maybe you're stalled on next steps because you don't know which route to go. Don't worry, you've come to the right place.

Avoiding the 5 Pitfalls of "Going Green"

In this guide we are going to break down the 5 common pitfalls that nonprofits make when making the switch to renewable energy.

But, we're not here to simply present a problem. You have enough of those. For each pitfall we're going to show you how to overcome it by integrating renewable energy systems, like solar, into what is called a "microgrid". A Faraday Microgrid combines power generation, energy storage and intelligent, automated control systems so your facility can reap greater value from the energy produced and meet the demands of your stakeholders, budget, and operations.

1

LEAVING MONEY ON THE TABLE

Are You Missing Out on Tax-Savings and Financing Solutions?

There is a common belief that nonprofits do not receive federal tax incentives for clean energy initiatives. The federal Investment Tax Credit (ITC) and accelerated depreciation only applies to individuals and organizations with a taxable income, meaning nonprofits have historically missed out on a 26% credit and 87% first year depreciation of eligible project costs. However, the current administration has drafted legislation which would open the doors to nonprofit tax-savings and potentially allow for a direct payment of the value of the tax credit at the time of installation. Even if this does not come to pass, there are still ways to leverage these valuable tax advantages with the right strategy.

The bottom line: *Your bottom line doesn't have to suffer just because you aspire to a renewable energy project. You just need a partner with the experience and financial expertise to help guide the way.*



THE SOLUTION: Renewable energy microgrids, when executed by the right team with the correct operational configuration, can qualify for special tax treatment to the benefit of nonprofits. Faraday Microgrids has demonstrated success in maximizing tax-savings and incentives, including utilizing their value to reduce or eliminate project costs for nonprofits. Through grants, tax credits, investor options, and PPA opportunities, we can implement a renewable energy microgrid for reduced or even ZERO capital cost.

2

SACRIFICING TOO MUCH TIME AND EFFORT

Are You Exceeding Personal and Team Bandwidth?

Facility operations are complicated and can easily consume excess personnel bandwidth as it is. As long as the electrical systems do their job, that is one less major thing for your team to worry about. Perhaps you are considering or have already “picked the low hanging fruit” in energy improvements, such as efficiency measures.

But, as you continue to search for ways to lower operations costs, you may be considering projects that could have a more profound impact on your energy expenses. The problem is, how do you know which solution is best (Solar power? Batteries? Fuel cell? Hydrogen? Wind?), how will you pay for it, and how will you avoid getting pulled into managing another big facility project?



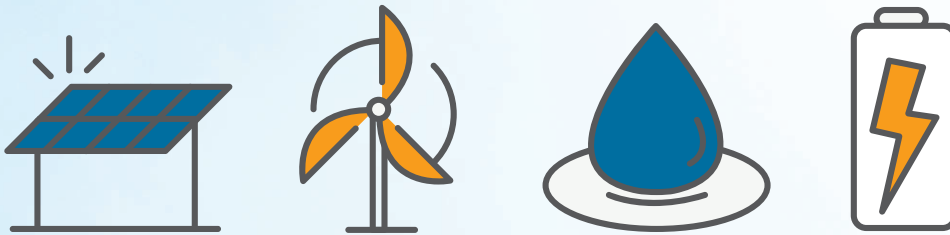
THE SOLUTION: You don't have the bandwidth, the personnel, or maybe even the specific expertise to do it on your own. With Faraday, you don't have to. We work with each individual customer to develop & build custom, turnkey microgrid systems while making it as streamlined and frictionless for your team as possible. As your microgrid EPC, we do the heavy lifting from conception through construction & even operations. We carry the load while you stay in control.

3

NOT USING ALL THE TOOLS POSSIBLE

Are You Using a Single Energy Technology?

Single energy technologies work; SMART technology makes renewable energy systems work for you.



Solar-only, fuel cell, wind, hydrogen, and other solutions are all examples of single renewable technologies. They get specific jobs like energy production done – but alone they lack interoperability, intelligent controls, and the ability to respond dynamically to your facility’s changing needs. This is like an old flip phone versus a smart phone – the smart phone brings intelligence, adaptability, multifunctionality, etc. So does a SMART microgrid. It reliably detects facility needs and optimizes the performance of each energy asset so that the whole will perform better than the sum of the parts.

THE SOLUTION: Faraday Microgrids combine renewable energy generation, such as solar, energy storage, and SMART controls. Together, the system deploys energy to offset the most expensive utility power, shaves costly demand fees, and provides resiliency and reliability. System intelligence allows it to automatically “island” (operate when the utility goes down) and provide emergency power at critical points.

4

MISSING OUT ON KEY OPPORTUNITIES

Are You Capping Your Building's Potential?

Owners, operators, and finance personnel want to squeeze the most productivity out of their buildings as possible. Nevertheless, you may not have realized that most buildings have unproductive spaces that could be put to work. Roofs, parking lots or structures, and open spaces could be producing, storing, and providing energy to slash utility costs immediately without compromising established value such as parking fees.



There is also the matter of your property value. In many areas, including California, special laws have been passed that allow renewable energy systems to raise appraised building value but block tax increases. For non-profits that lease facilities, this can translate to better building value for the owner without needing to pass added tax costs onto the tenants. Even if you own the property and taxes are not a concern, the added facility value can help you qualify for higher loan amounts if you need to use building equity.

By not doing a renewable energy project you could actually be leaving money on the table when it comes to getting the most value out of your property.

THE SOLUTION: Faraday Microgrids have helped even the most complicated facilities, such as hospitals, to turn non-producing roofs, parking lots, and open land into working assets that drive up facility revenue and appraised value, while knocking utility costs down.

5

THINKING ONLY OF ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Are You Optimizing Your Energy Ecosystem?

You already know that solar power is a proven solution to produce renewable energy. But what you may not know is that it can fall short of expectations when it is the sole tool. First, many utilities have reduced the cost of energy during hours of solar production- meaning you are off-setting cheap power. Worse yet, utilities are no longer giving full-value (retail) credits for exported power or can even refuse to allow a system to be connected. Second, when the utility goes down, solar-only projects are required to shut off and cannot support any operations. Third, solar can be very unpredictable- it is affected by weather, seasons, maintenance, and other factors. Finally, solar doesn't address demand charges which can account for up to 50% of your total utility cost.

Solar alone won't cut it. In fact, any isolated solution will leave you short when trying to meet the demands of the 3 pillars of sustainability.

	Environmental	Economic	Operational
Microgrid	⚡⚡⚡⚡⚡	⚡⚡⚡⚡⚡	⚡⚡⚡⚡⚡
Solar	⚡⚡⚡⚡	⚡⚡⚡	0
Fuel Cell	⚡⚡⚡	⚡⚡⚡⚡	0
Building Efficiency	⚡⚡	⚡⚡	0
Building Management	⚡	⚡	0

THE SOLUTION: A Faraday Microgrid combines your solar power with energy storage (battery), smart controls, and any other resources you may consider, to optimize your energy ecosystem. The intelligent microgrid controls unlock the full potential of these energy assets to collaborate and streamline utility approvals, off-set the most expensive utility energy, cut demand costs, and maintain operability even during weather events and utility outages.

Microgrids = REAL Sustainability

How to Be Economically, Operationally, and Environmentally Responsible With Your Renewable Energy Project

Here's the truth- if you don't have a renewable energy project that supports the 3 pillars of sustainability, you will be spending more green than it's worth to go green - whether it be in dollars, time, or effort. With Faraday, you're not just solving one energy problem - you are taking charge of your entire energy system, from production to storage to utilization and, of course, cost.

Let the expert Faraday team unburden yours and capture the significant financial, operational, & reputational benefits of a renewable energy microgrid!

[ANALYZE MY FACILITY](#)