**Photovoltaics Defined**

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| photovoltaics (PV) | The transformation of solar (light) energy into electricity  (a useable form of power).  The word breaks down into “photo,” meaning light, and “voltaic,” meaning electricity. |
| photovoltaic cell  (solar cell) | A device that converts the energy of light directly into electricity. |
| solar energy | Energy that comes from the sun in the form of radiant light and heat. |
| solar panel | A panel consisting of many individual solar cells that work together to produce electricity. |