

Solar Dividends

How Solar Energy Can Generate a Basic Income for Everyone on Earth

Imagine a world where poverty has been eliminated and global warming has been brought under control. That's the world envisioned by *Solar Dividends*.

Starting from the premise that no one owns the sun, *Solar Dividends* puts forth a bold new plan to share the wealth of planet's primary energy source—solar energy—with all people. Although utopian in scope, *Solar Dividends* details a realistic program to use solar energy to pay for unconditional basic incomes for everyone on Earth. The idea is simple: we set up solar panels for each person, sell the electricity the panels generate, and deliver the money as solar dividends to the person as their basic income, for the rest of their life.

The solar panels pay for themselves through the money they earn by generating electricity. The money won't run out because the panels are maintained and replaced as needed. And we don't have to wait for an international treaty because every country receives enough raw solar energy to set up their own program.

Solar energy gives us a new way to pay for basic incomes, and basic incomes give us a new reason to build solar energy. Combining these two big ideas will lift everyone out of economic insecurity, reduce the carbon emissions that drive climate change, and assemble a clean energy system that can sustain us indefinitely into the future—all with one program. *Solar Dividends* makes clear the practical steps to bring about this positive future.

"A thought-provoking idea if ever there was one!"

BILL McKIBBEN, author *The End of Nature*

"Robert Stayton's new book makes a compelling argument that a solar revolution can lead to a fairer, more equitable society."

DENIS HAYES, Founder of the Earth Day Network

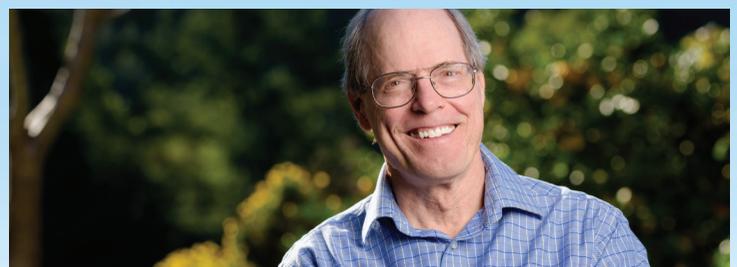
"This book could be a game-changer for our beleaguered planet."

RACHEL ANNE GOODMAN, Producer/Host, *Talk of the Bay*

About the Author

Robert Stayton is a physicist, author, teacher, programmer, inventor, technical writer, typesetter, bread baker, and worm farmer, with one art museum exhibit to his credit. He has degrees in physics and science communication, but not in politics or economics.

His previous book *Power Shift: From Fossil Energy to Dynamic Solar Power* won the Silver Medal in the international Nautilus Book Awards program.



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