

SOLAR DECATHLON EVALUATION
FORMER-DECATHLETE ONLINE (WEB) SURVEY
OMB Control No. _____ Expiration Date: _____

INFORMATION IN A BOX IS FOR THE WEB PROGRAMMER.

Thank you for taking our survey. This data is being collected to help the U.S. Department of Energy evaluate the Solar Decathlon. The data you supply will be used for improving its value to future Decathletes.

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average eleven minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to Office of the Chief Information Officer, Records Management Division, IM-23, Paperwork Reduction Project (1910-XXXX), U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Ave SW, Washington, DC, 20585-1290, and to the Office of management and Budget (OMB), OIRA, Paperwork Reduction Project (1910-XXXX), Washington, DC 20503.

Notwithstanding any other provision of the law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with a collection of Information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number.

The survey is voluntary. Your answers will be combined with the answers of others and will not be linked to your name.

Please click on CONTINUE to begin the survey.

SHOW A BUTTON TO BEGIN THE SURVEY.

UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED, AFTER EACH QUESTION, SHOW:

PROVIDE AND BUTTONS AFTER EACH QUESTION.

- 1 We understand that you may have participated in your college's entry into one of the Department of Energy's Solar Decathlon competitions. These were held in Washington, D.C. in 2002, 2005, 2007, and 2009. However, your school may have begun work on its entry for up to two years before these competition dates. Did you participate at any time in your university or college's entry into one of the Department of Energy's Solar Decathlons?

- Yes
- No
- Don't recall

IF Q1 = YES, CONTINUE. ALL OTHERS SHOW:

Thank you. This survey is for students and former students who participated in one of the U.S. Department of Energy's Solar Decathlons. Please click on EXIT to close this screen and return to your browser.

SHOW AN BUTTON TO TERMINATE THE SURVEY. DO NOT ALLOW THE RESPONDENT TO CONTINUE OR GO BACK.

- 2 In which of the following years' Solar Decathlons did you participate?
If you participated in more than one, select as many as apply.

- 2002
- 2005
- 2007
- 2009
- 2011
- Don't recall

IF Q2 = DON'T RECALL, CONTINUE. ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q4

- 3 Did you participate in the design or construction of a solar-powered home that was eventually displayed at the Solar Decathlon on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., or did you participate in something else that might have been like that?

- Solar-powered home for display in Washington, D.C.
- Something else
- Don't know

IF Q3 = "SOLAR HOME FOR DISPLAY IN WASHINGTON, D.C.", CONTINUE. ALL OTHERS SHOW:

Thank you. This survey is for students and former students who participated in one of the U.S. Department of Energy's Solar Decathlons. Please click on EXIT to close this screen and return to the browser.

SHOW AN BUTTON TO TERMINATE THE SURVEY. DO NOT ALLOW THE RESPONDENT TO CONTINUE OR GO BACK.

FOR OPEN-ENDED RESPONSES TO "OTHER" QUESTIONS IN THIS SURVEY. ALLOW 80 CHARACTERS. PROVIDE A COUNTER THAT SHOWS HOW MANY CHARACTERS ARE LEFT AS THE RESPONDENT ENTERS HIS/HER RESPONSE.

4 What academic major or majors were you taking when you participated in your first Solar Decathlon? Select as many as apply.

- Architecture
- Computer design
- Ecology
- Electrical engineering
- Environmental engineering
- Lighting design
- Marketing or communications
- Materials engineering
- Mechanical engineering
- Physics
- Other →
- Other →
- Had not declared a major / Don't recall

5 After you participated in your first Solar Decathlon did you select a major or change your original undergraduate major to one that can be used in producing, managing, using, or marketing renewable energy or energy efficiency?

- Yes
- No →

8 Please rate how much your Solar Decathlon experience helped you get a job after graduation?

My experi- ence was no help at all in getting a job					My experience was equally as helpful as other factors						My experi- ence was the main factor in getting a job	No opinion
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

9 If you were in the market now to buy a house that generated most of its electricity and heat from solar energy, how confident do you feel in your ability to judge the quality of the house's energy system?

Not confident at all					Have a moderate degree of confidence					Highly confident	No opinion
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

10 Which of the following includes your highest level of education?

- Currently in undergraduate college studies → SKIP TO Q16
- Completed some college or associate's degree and no longer in college → SKIP TO Q13
- Completed college or university degree → SKIP TO Q13
- Currently taking graduate courses
- Completed some post graduate work or a graduate degree

11 Did, or does, your graduate work include the study of how to use energy from the sun or wind to generate electricity or heat for a house?

- Yes
- No

12 Did, or does, your graduate work include the study of how to make a house more energy efficient?

- Yes
- No

13 Since leaving your undergraduate college studies, have you been employed in work involving the design, manufacture, sales, installation, research, or use in buildings on renewable energy or energy-efficient products?

- Yes
 No → SKIP TO Q16

14 Please describe the work. Select as many as apply.

Design, Manufacture, sales, or installation of—

- Solar systems
 Wind power systems
 Efficient appliances Efficient lighting
 Efficient cars, trucks, or rail vehicles

Education or training related to—

- The environment, including ecology
 Renewable energy or energy efficiency

Government policy or operations related to the—

- Design, evaluation, or operation of energy efficiency programs
 Use of energy efficient or renewable energy equipment
 Setting or enforcing building codes or standards
 Research on energy efficiency or renewable energy

Building design and construction—

- Architectural design of energy-efficient buildings or buildings using renewable energy
 Mechanical design of energy-efficient buildings or buildings using renewable energy
 Construction of energy-efficient buildings or buildings using renewable energy

Other non-government professional—

- Research on energy efficiency or renewable energy
 Consulting regarding energy efficiency or renewable energy

Other →

15 Have you ever started up a business related to this work?

- Yes
 No

16 Since you participated in a Solar Decathlon, have you helped to convince anyone, including yourself, to install any type of renewable-energy equipment, such as solar panels, on a home or business?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

IF Q16 = YES, CONTINUE. ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q21
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17 What kind of renewable-energy equipment was installed? Select as many as apply

- Solar panels to generate electricity
- Solar panels to heat hot water
- Solar panels for space heating
- Wind turbines to generate electricity
- Wind turbines to pump water
- Other →
- Don't know

IF MORE THAN ONE RESPONSE SELECTED FOR Q17, CONTINUE. IF Q17 = "DON'T KNOW," SKIP TO Q21. ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q19.

18 Which of these installations would you say is likely to generate the most energy for its owner?

- Solar panels to generate electricity
- Solar panels to heat hot water
- Solar panels for space heating
- Wind turbines to generate electricity
- Wind turbines to pump water
- Other →

19 Did you install the equipment you selected in the previous question on your own home or business?

- Yes
- No

23 Since you participated in a Solar Decathlon, have you asked a contractor to offer you a price for installing solar panels to generate electricity or to heat water for your house, or have you investigated a price on your own?

- Yes
- No

24 Since you participated in a Solar Decathlon, have you helped to convince anyone, including yourself, to install any type of energy-efficient equipment, such as an efficient appliance or lighting fixture, in a home or business?

- Yes
- No

IF Q24 = YES, CONTINUE, ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q29.

25 What kind of energy-efficient equipment was installed? Select as many as apply.

- Compact fluorescent light bulbs
- Efficient appliances for residential, commercial, or industrial buildings
- Efficient industrial or commercial equipment, e.g., motors
- Efficient lighting fixtures for residential, commercial, or industrial buildings
- Efficient windows
- Insulation
- Other →
- Don't know

IF MORE THAN ONE RESPONSE SELECTED FOR Q25, CONTINUE. IF Q25 = "DON'T KNOW," SKIP TO THE INSTRUCTION BEFORE Q29. ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q27.
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26 Which of these installations would you say is likely to save the most energy for its owner?

- Compact fluorescent light bulbs
- Efficient appliances for residential, commercial, or industrial buildings
- Efficient industrial or commercial equipment, e.g., motors
- Efficient lighting fixtures for residential, commercial, or industrial buildings
- Efficient windows
- Insulation
- Other →

- 31 A house that uses solar panels to reduce its energy costs will usually have a higher initial purchase price than the same home without solar panels.
- True
 - False
 - Not sure
- 32 Houses that use solar panels also require batteries.
- True
 - False
 - Not sure
- 33 Solar panels that collect energy from the sun can only be used to generate electricity.
- True
 - False
 - Not sure
- 34 In most of the northern hemisphere, a rooftop solar panel that faces due south will collect more energy than one facing due east.
- True
 - False
 - Not sure
- 35 A compact fluorescent light bulb uses one-quarter to one-third as much energy as an incandescent bulb that produces the same amount of light.
- True
 - False
 - Not sure
- 36 A refrigerator that is labeled ENERGY STAR will use less electricity to cool an item of food than a similar refrigerator that is not labeled ENERGY STAR.
- True
 - False
 - Not sure

The remaining questions will be used only to group answers from all of the surveys. Your answers will not be identified with you personally.

- 37 Do you own or rent your home?
- Own
 - Rent
 - Other
- 38 Before you participated in a Solar Decathlon, did you ever participate in any other activity that encouraged people to conserve energy or help the environment?
- Yes
 - No
 - Don't recall
- 39 Before you participated in a Solar Decathlon, did you ever write about energy conservation or the environment in a school paper, a blog, or a letter to the editor?
- Yes
 - No
 - Don't recall
- 40 Are you aware of an Internet site called the Database of State Incentives for Renewables and Efficiency where the availability state and utility incentives for solar energy and efficient equipment is listed?
- Yes
 - No
 - Don't know
- 41 Has anyone living in your household ever had any formal technical training or engineering education?
- Yes
 - No
 - Not applicable
- 42 Select the range that includes your age.
- 20 to 29 years
 - 30 to 39 years
 - 40 to 49 years
 - 50 to 59 years
 - 60 to 69 years
 - 70 years or older

43 Please select the range that includes the combined income of all persons living in your household during the past 12 months.

- Less than \$10,000
- \$10,000 to \$29,999
- \$30,000 to \$49,999
- \$50,000 to \$59,999
- \$60,000 to \$74,999
- \$75,000 to \$99,999
- \$100,000 to \$149,999
- \$150,000 or more
- Don't know
- Declined

44 If you would like to provide any comments about the Solar Decathlon or your experience as a decathlete, please type them in the box below.

LIMIT THE RESPONSE TO Q44 TO 800 CHARACTERS. PUT A CHARACTER COUNTER UNDER THE BOX SHOWING THE NUMBER LEFT.

That is all of our questions. Please click on SUBMIT to record your answers.

Thank you very much for your time.

SHOW A BUTTON TO RECORD ANSWERS AND END THE SURVEY.