

Seattle a test market for federal solar program

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Seattle is one of 25 U.S. cities that will be studied for its solar power potential, as part of a federal program to speed up America's adoption of solar energy.

Denver-based **CH2M Hill** Inc. was given a three-year, \$5.5 million contract by the U.S. Department of Energy for the program. The engineering company will be mapping the entire city of Seattle, rooftop by rooftop, which will allow residents to determine how much each individual household could benefit by installing solar energy panels.

"Residents can also see whether any of their neighbors have adopted solar energy and which buildings in town have solar applications and get detailed information on tax rebates," CH2M Hill officials said in a statement.