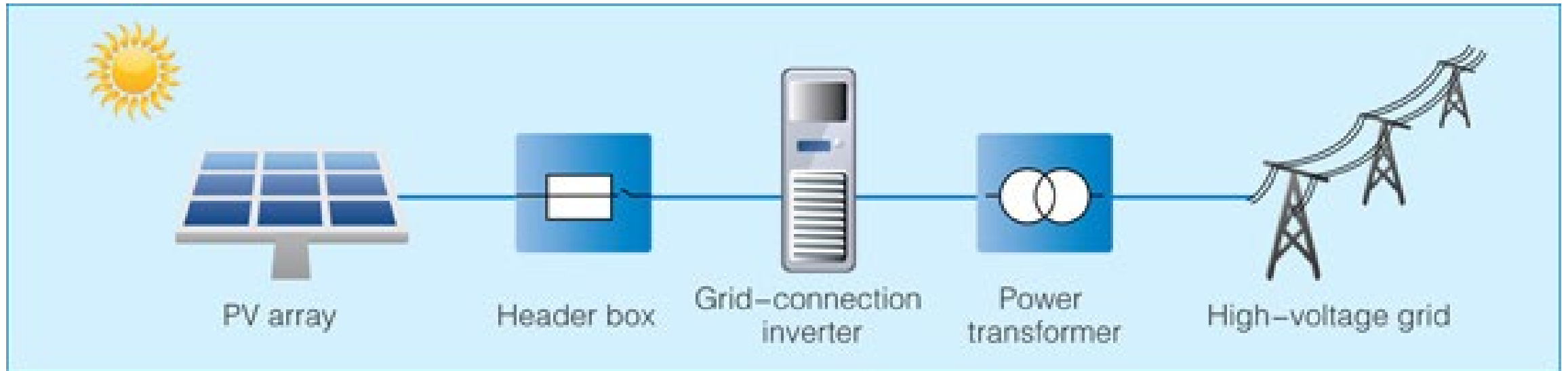




# Solar Power 101

# How Solar Energy Works

When the sun shines onto a solar panel, energy from the sunlight is absorbed by the PV cells in the panel. Once the DC electricity is generated, inverters convert the DC electricity into usable alternating current (AC) electricity, and then the electricity is sent into a transformer before it heads to a substation. At the substation, electricity is converted into a voltage that is able to meet the requirements of utility-grid transmission lines and is either fed onto the electrical grid to serve the needs of local communities or travels to other regional locations or states.



Source: <https://center4ee.org/how-solar-energy-works/>

# Solar – A Placeholder for Farming

Once land is used for solar farming, will it ever be farmed again?

By leasing all or a portion of their land for solar, landowners can keep the land in its original form while gaining a steady stream of income, allowing it to return to agriculture use. While it's farmed for solar energy, the land will naturally restore itself for more productive crop yields once traditional farming resumes.



# Solar in Indiana

1. 1,618.85 MW installed
2. Generates enough power to offset 204K+ homes
3. Supports 3,364 jobs
4. Projected to add 6,745.82 MW over the next 5 years
5. Invested \$1,879+ million, including \$1,136+ million in 2020.

Source: <https://www.seia.org/sites/default/files/2022-03/Indiana%20Solar-Factsheet-2021-YearinReview.pdf>



# Quick Facts



Solar power is a limitless, non-polluting resource that consumes virtually no water, and the power it generates is even more affordable than ever, with a 60%+ reduction in cost over the last five years.

Solar costs \$31 - \$42/MWh making it the least-cost source of generating energy in the Midwest.

1MW of solar needs only 7-10 acres of land

Solar installer is one of the fastest-growing jobs in the United States

The solar industry employed 19,019 veterans throughout the United States, or 7.8% of all solar workers in the nation