# Solar Home Progress

Aug 2010

# Solar Panel mounting

- From last time: Designed a 12x24 base to support structure for mounting 20 panels (in 4x5 array)

# However

- After putting up one of the A-Frames to support the panels, I stepped back to realize that this is ridiculous.

# Ridiculous

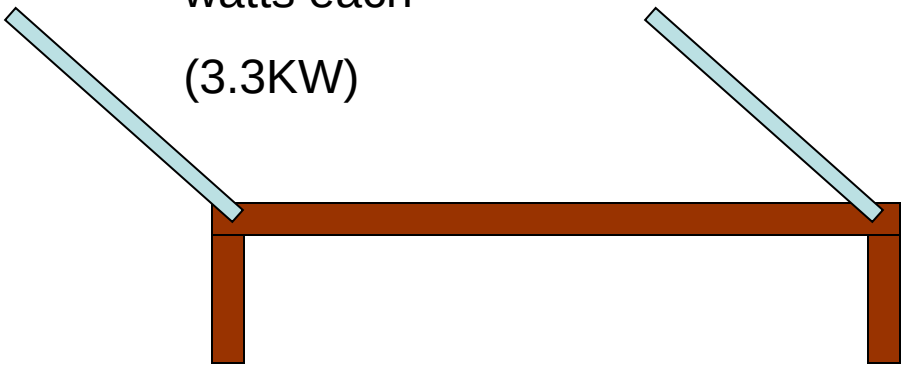
- I’m not going to try to get 40 pound solar panels up that high by myself.
  - It didn’t look that high on paper.
- I can’t be sure of wind survivability (not with $12K of panels).
- Its obstructing of the views.
- Its obnoxious.

# New Plan

- Have plenty of space to build out as opposed to up.
- Redesigned for lower wind profile and low visibility.
- Will only be able to mount 16 of 20 panels on present base
  - Safer to erect and maintain

2 Rows of 8 panels at 205 watts each

(3.3KW)



# Delivering Solar Panels

- Each box contains 2 panels weighing 40 pounds each

# Ran into new problem

- The solar panel data sheet led me to believe that there were 4 holes in the frame for mounting.
  - I thought they were “through” holes which would allow panels to be screwed into the frame.
  - It turns out that the holes are only on backside of frame

# Make-shift Mounting method

- Deck screws and washers

# I’m not crazy about this method

- Particularly at ends of array.
- Also, anyone with a screw driver can walk away in seconds with a $600 solar panel.

# First row installed

# Before mounting second row

- Refine mounting system
  - Find out how to use the backside mounting holes.  Do these provide a deterrent to theft?

- Any improvements in mounting will be applied to first row.


The End