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The Effects of the Pandemic on Renewable Energy Projects

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The Pandemic has had short term impacts on renewable energy in the United States, and offers some clues for the future:

Short Term Impacts

- Construction Delays and Project Deferrals
 - Likely temporary rather than trend reversal
 - Could impact financing due to role of tax equity (meeting schedule and reduced demand from tax equity investors)
 - Disputes
- Changes in Electricity Consumption Patterns
 - Shifts in time of day and locational use favored renewable energy, accelerating coal-plant decommissioning

Long Term Impacts

- Supply Chain Weaknesses Exposed
 - Increased focus on onshoring manufacturing
- Building for New Consumption Patterns
 - Enhanced business case for renewables in a work-from-home world
- Impact on Electric Vehicle Demand
 - In work-from-home world, trips may be shorter and at-home charging more available, possibly accelerating EV demand (with implications for battery-to-grid enhancements)