Zillow expands solar energy scores to 84 million homes

Homebuyers and sellers are becoming more aware of the value of rooftop solar panels -- not just for ecological reasons, but for energy savings as well -- and now there is a quick and easy way to estimate that value. Zillow has partnered with two startups, Sun Number and Wave Solar, to include Sun Number's proprietary rooftop solar scoring system on 84 million properties on Zillow nationwide as of today. That’s up from 40 million buildings on Zillow that had a Sun Number listed as of last year. Sun Number's methodology is complex, but the idea is simple. The tech startup has developed a 1-100 scoring system that provides homeowners with a measurement of how good their rooftop is for solar. Sun Number already makes solar scoring available to anyone who enters most U.S. addresses into the Sun Number website. The problem is that until now, the score only informs people who visit the website because they are already interested in the potential value of rooftop solar. The Zill...

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