

## “GOAT NOAT” FOR OCTOBER from Stephan Rogers

The GREEN Organizing Action TEAM (GOAT) will offer a screening of "Dimming the Sun" in November. This NOVA documentary points to findings that the amount of sunlight reaching Earth is dropping. The film highlights research during the 1990s and early 2000s that present a paradox in climate findings. Mark your calendars for November 7 at 7pm. Additional information will follow.

Help is needed for Puerto Rico right now. Below are two green fundraising efforts to supply power. Both of these are good, practical options for providing the kind of help that's needed immediately.

<https://www.generosity.com/emergencies-fundraising/send-solar-power-to-victims-of-hurricane-irma> will provide solar+battery stand-alone generators that are capable of running small to medium sized appliances including refrigerators & power tools.

PowerPuertoRico "Portable Solar Panels 4 Puerto Rico" will provide handheld waterproof chargers for small electronic devices like smartphones and laptops. Apparently some cell phone towers are intact but with the electric grid still mostly disabled the challenge is keeping devices charged. <https://www.gofundme.com/PowerPuertoRico>

Both outfits promise 100% of donations go to provision of supplies / 0% associated administrative costs.

After the newsletter was distributed, we received this concern from Barbara Bezdek:

I looked at the link, which indicates it is through Indiegogo 'Generosity'. But the campaign does not show up on Indiegogo, and the 'generosity' page ended in a dead end. Neither Indiegogo nor its purported generosity page are registered nonprofits. So the accountability trail is not apparent.

Stephan's response:

Thanks for bringing this to my attention. I agree: always good to ask questions! It's possible that the donations site was inaccessible for a bit while the company changed the title of their fundraiser to include "Maria" rather than just Hurricane Irma. They launched fundraising for the Caribbean relief effort prior to Maria hitting. I called the company today and mentioned this problem to them and they're going to check on whether there's a problem with the [generosity.com](https://www.generosity.com) page. It seems to be working now but please do let me know if you hear of anyone encountering more problems with it (as and if you have time, of course).

I spoke with the receptionist and with the CEO on Tues of last week about their company and this project. They are a small start-up and are trying to focus on longer-

term recovery needs for hurricane affected areas, primarily providing electricity in places where first aid stations need to be deployed and set up quickly, then packed up and moved to other locations.

This company is based in Canada and i liked the international goodwill gesture they extended to the Caribbean. It does NOT, however, seem to be a non-profit (although they are partnering with one for the relief effort) so if that's a requirement for receipt of donations through a Homewood announcement this may not be an appropriate fund for members/attenders to be donating to. and if that's the case, I'd say it's best to leave it off of the website and facebook page. There are certainly lots of other good non-profit organizations doing worthwhile hurricane relief efforts!

Here's their company URL and facebook page:

[azimuthsolar.ca](http://azimuthsolar.ca)

<https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=azimuth%20solar%20products%20inc>