Solar power’s potential is vast. According to the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, the U.S. could be drawing 40 percent of its electricity from rooftop photovoltaics alone, and substantially more from solar arrays on our industrial brownfields, our farmland, and our natural open spaces. Yet today we get little more than 1 percent of our electricity from the sun. What obstacles do we face in bringing solar power to scale, and what can be done at the federal, state, and local levels to accelerate the adoption of this super-abundant energy resource? In exploring these questions, environmental lawyer-turned-author Philip Warburg will draw on his own extensive field research, conducted in more than a dozen states stretching from the Southwest’s open deserts to chilly, crowded New England.

Philip Warburg is a Non-Resident Senior Fellow at Boston University's Institute for Sustainable Energy. A seasoned environmental lawyer with roots going back to the 1970s, he was president of the Conservation Law Foundation, New England's leading environmental advocacy group, from 2003 to 2009. Previously, he directed the Israel Union for Environmental Defense in Tel Aviv and was an attorney at the Environmental Law Institute in Washington, D.C. He has worked with governments and citizen groups on environmental initiatives in several Middle East nations and across Eastern Europe. Warburg has written several books, including "Harness the Sun: America's Quest for a Solar-Powered Future."