

# How to start your agricultural service



## Before you begin

We are here to help you identify whether your business is eligible for an agricultural rate plan. To expedite the process, please gather all the information listed here and then contact PG&E's Agricultural Customer Service Line at [877-311-3276](tel:877-311-3276).

If you have questions, please give us a call at the number above or visit [pge.com/ag](http://pge.com/ag).

## Did you know?

Increase in energy demand as a result of adding equipment such as pumps, welders, lights, etc. or any changes made to your panel may require an application through PG&E. Notify us of any increase in your energy demand immediately by contacting PG&E Building and Renovations Customer Service Line at [877-743-7782](tel:877-743-7782).

You may want to check with your contractor or electrician to determine what your energy demand will be as a result of proposed upgrades.

## Let's start with this

Will electricity be used for any of the following: growing crops, raising livestock, pumping water for irrigation of crops or other agricultural uses which involve production for sale?

- If yes, continue with **How to prepare**
- If no, agricultural rates do not apply

If agricultural rates do not apply, you can get more information about possible rates and pricing by visiting [pge.com/bizrates](http://pge.com/bizrates).

Note: Only legal businesses can qualify for agricultural rates.

## How to prepare

### Make sure your equipment has passed an inspection

PG&E cannot set meters until electric panels are inspected and approved by your local jurisdiction.

### Verify that 70 percent or more of your annual energy demand is for agricultural use only

To qualify for agriculture rates, 70 percent or more of the annual energy use on the meter must be for agricultural end uses, such as growing crops, pumping water for irrigation of crops and other uses that involve production for sale. This does not include processing.

Examples of agricultural energy usage breakouts:

Farm: 70% growing crops; 30% residential usage

Greenhouse: 75% growing safflower plants; 25% processing into safflower oil

Ranch: 80% raising horses; 20% boarding horses



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## □ Create a list of ALL items connected to the meter

Items can include equipment, lighting, appliances, motors and more.

- Number of items
- Type of equipment, appliance, motor, etc.
- Size of motor or amount of watts, kW (kilowatt) or hp (horsepower)
- Hours of use per day

Examples of each item connected to the meter:

Farm: 2 Pumps at 50 hp and 15 hp, 6 hours per day;  
1 Electric Fence at 1 kW, 24 hours

Greenhouse: 1 Pump at 5 hp, 12 hours per day;  
6 Lights at 1000 watts each, 8 hours per day

## □ Be prepared to provide the total connected energy load to the meter

How to find total connected energy load:

Total the hp and/or kW from each of the items connected to the meter.

OR

Check the face of the SmartMeter™ for kW information when all equipment is running at full power.

Note: Hp and/or kW information should be on the nameplate or label for each piece of equipment.

## □ Select your agriculture rate

**Small agricultural rates** (single motor less than 35 hp or multiple loads less than 15 kW):

**AG-4A** Low to moderate operating hours; generally best under 700 annual operating hours

**AG-5A** Higher annual operating hours and demand; generally best for over 700 annual operating hours

**Large agricultural rates** (one or more motors 35 hp or larger or multiple loads of 15 kW or larger):

**AG-4B** Low to moderate operating hours; generally best under 1,500 annual operating hours  
**AG-4C**

**AG-5B** Higher annual operating hours and high demand; generally best at over 1,500 annual operating hours  
**AG-5C**

Note: "C" options include added partial-peak period in the summer season.

## Additional information

### Be prepared to provide the following:

- Legal business name
- Owner's name
- SSN (sole proprietor only) or IRS tax ID
- Business start date
- Hours of operation
- Reason for changing to agricultural rate if changing rates

Additional documentation such as business or co-op license is required to be considered for an agriculture rate request. Check with your local city or county for various forms of approved documentation for your business.

### Submit all permits to:

**FAX:** 209-476-7699

**Address:** PG&E, Attn: Billing Operations  
P.O. Box 8329, Stockton, CA 95208

### Include the following:

- Name on account
- Account number
- Case number (provided by PG&E's agricultural representative)
- Contact name
- Contact phone number