

Updated program for new rooftop solar customers



Background

Net energy metering (NEM) is the special program for rooftop solar customers who generate some of their own solar energy and use PG&E energy at nighttime or when the sun's not shining.

When a new solar customer is approved to turn on their system, they are part of the NEM program, which follows rules mandated by California state law for how energy is measured and how a solar customer is billed. The current NEM program is projected to expire in late 2016 (based on a state-mandated limit) and a new, similar program will take its place—called NEM 2.

What do you need to do

PG&E recommends customers who are thinking of going solar review the key information below to learn more about the NEM 2 program.

For customers who are in the process of going solar, but have not yet connected to the grid, PG&E recommends you review this information to have an informed discussion with your contractor on:

- Timing for when your application will be submitted to PG&E
- When you should expect your solar system to be connected to the PG&E grid

What you should keep in mind

Timeframe for connecting to the PG&E grid:

The time between when your contractor submits your completed application to PG&E and when you receive permission to turn on your solar system takes an average of one to three business days.*

In order to receive permission to turn on your solar system PG&E must have received the following from your contractor:

1. A completed NEM application, including all supporting documents and required payments
2. A completed, signed NEM Interconnection Agreement
3. Evidence of the final inspection clearance from the governmental authority in your area

Current NEM Program vs. NEM 2 Program

TOPIC	CURRENT NEM	NEM 2
Interconnection Fee Cost to connect solar system to the PG&E grid	No fee	One-time fee of approximately \$145
State Mandated Non-Bypassable Charges (NBCs) Small, state-mandated costs to support customer programs such as low-income assistance and energy efficiency.	Solar customers pay these charges only on their net usage. Non-solar customers pay all these charges.	NEM 2 solar customers will pay these small charges on electricity they use from PG&E's grid, not on electricity they use that is generated by their solar panels.
Rate Values used to calculate your energy bill. Note: NEM is not the rate itself but is paired with the rate you choose.	Customers are eligible to be on any standard residential rate they choose.	All customers are required to be on a Time of Use rate in which the price of electricity depends on the time of the day.

You or your contractor can follow how PG&E is tracking towards the rooftop solar limit and find answers to your questions at pge.com/nemcap.



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*For residential and small commercial customers