

Net Metering and Solar Rebate FAQ's

Q. How do I apply for a Solar Rebate?

A. To apply for a solar rebate, you must fill out a solar rebate application, a net metering application and an interconnection agreement. Once these are received at TMLP, they are reviewed and ultimately approved by TMLP management. You will be notified by mail.

Q. How much is the solar rebate?

A. The solar rebate is currently \$ 1.50 per watt of the nameplate KW rating of the proposed system, up to 3.0 KW for a maximum rebate of \$ 4500.

Q. Can I only apply for a system that is 3.0 KW or less to get a rebate?

A. No, you can apply for and install any size system. However TMLP will only issue a rebate up to 3 KW. TMLP will analyze larger proposed residential solar installations under the initial project review to insure compatibility with TMLP system.

Q. Can I install additional solar systems on my property and receive a rebate?

A. Only one rebate per customer is allowed under the solar rebate program. If you choose to add to an existing system, it must be reviewed and approved by TMLP.

Q. Can I lease a system from a third party and install it on my property?

A. No, a residential customer applying for a rebate and net metering must own the property and the solar system and have an active account at the location with TMLP with no arrears. Any power generated from a third party would have to be purchased by TMLP and would constitute a purchased power agreement. The same applies for a commercial customer.

Q. Some solar companies state that they don't do business in TMLP territory. Why is that?

A. Again, most of these companies that "don't do business" with TMLP want to lease you the system to lower your bill, and they take the net metering revenue and SREC money. That translates into them being a generator to TMLP and that is prohibited by law unless defined by a specific purchased power agreement with TMLP.

Q. Can I use the energy from my solar system on another account? Another property?

A. No, energy generated from a solar system must be applied to the meter of the account holder of record. Applying the energy usage to another account or property is not permitted as that is considered retail wheeling and not allowed in TMLP service territory.

Q. How does it work if I generate more energy than I take in from TMLP?

A. If the electricity generated by the Customer exceeds consumption and is distributed back to TMLP during the billing period, then the Customer shall be billed for the same monthly service charge as applied to other customers of the TMLP in the same rate class; not be charged any kilowatt-hours taken from TMLP and shall be credited for the net excess kilowatt-hours generated as applied to the generation and Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) charges during the billing period; with this kilowatt-hour credit appearing on Customer's bill for the following billing period.

Q. Does the TMLP claim any SREC's etc. associated with a solar project?

A. No, the TMLP does not claim nor is involved with Renewable Energy Credits.

Q. How long does it take to receive my rebate check after project completion?

A. After final review and inspection by TMLP, you should receive your rebate check within 6 to 8 weeks.

Q. Can I assign the rebate check to be payable to a third party such as solar contractor?

A. No. The rebate check must be payable to the TMLP customer of record where the system was installed.

Q. I'm a commercial customer. Is there a maximum size system size that I can install on my property?

A. You can install any size system up to 60 KW. For larger systems of 61KW to 2000KW, maximum system size cannot exceed the customer's prior 12 months peak demand to qualify for net metering. Anything greater than that and a Purchased Power Agreement must be negotiated with the TMLP.

Q. Does the TMLP do the installation or recommend contractors that would sell / install the system?

A. No, TMLP does not install the system nor recommend contractors to do the installation as we are a municipal entity and prohibited by law to do so. TMLP provides the net meter at the end of a project and inspects the completed system.

Q. What if I sell my house or business and I have a solar / net metering system?

A. If a residential or commercial customer sells their house or commercial property with an active solar / net metering system, the new owner would need to sign TMLP's "Net Metering Interconnection Agreement" in order for the new owner to actively generate electricity and participate in the TMLP Net Metering program.

Existing System Changes:

Q. What if I make design changes to my existing system, will I need to receive new approval to continue to operate my system?

A. All 3 documents (Net Metering Agreement, Interconnection Agreement and 1-Line Drawing) must be resubmitted with updated information for each of the following scenarios:

1. Number of modules changes
2. System size increases (DC Wattage Size)
3. Module Layout changes
4. Number of inverters change
5. Inverter size increases (AC nameplate rating)
6. Inverter layout change
7. Any other scenarios please contact TMLP