



The Concept

What is Community Solar

Community solar is a centrallylocated, shared renewable energy arrangement that provides electricity to participating subscribers.

It allows several members the opportunity to share the benefits of a local renewable energy power plant.

How it Works

Credits are calculated and applied during the bill calculation

People's Energy Cooperation

Energy output is collected and reported back to the office

Participating members receive their bill with their solar credit subtracted from the energy usage on their PEC meter.

Solar energy is fed into the grid through nearby substation.

PEC Interest in Community Solar

* Growing member interest in solar

- Concern for environment
- Federal and State mandates and subsidies
- Decreasing costs for solar
- * Provides an innovative energy solution at a fair and reasonable price
- * Engages members with a product that meets their needs and interests

Concern over 3rd party competition

- 'No money down' sales pitch
- Unrealistic payback claims



Member Interest in Community Solar

* Concern for environment

Hedge against future energy prices

* Allows members the opportunity to utilize solar energy

• Only ~20% of sites are suitable for solar installation

More affordable than owning their own system

- Economies of scale lead to lower per-watt costs for participants
- Flexible sizing to fit any budget
- No need to upgrade structures to accommodate personal array

*** Single one-time price, no additional fees**

- Construction, maintenance and insurance costs
- If member moves, the panel(s) can be transferred to another member

No maintenance – maintained by professionals

Community Solar Program Comparison

	Utility A	Utility B	Utility C	People's	
Size of System	42 kW	39 kW	245 kW	250 kW	
# panels/units	140 panels	96 panels	792 panels	820 panels	
Size of panel/unit	410 watts	410 watts	310 watts	305 watts	
Cost per installed watt	\$2.82	\$3.66	~\$3.00	\$2.23	
Annual panel/unit output	480 kWh	588 kWh	425 kWh	412 kWh	
Payback	18 years	18.5 years	15 years	14 years	
Years of Contract	25	20	17	20	
Member cost per panel/unit*	\$1,250	\$1,500	\$950	\$750	



The Array

***Owner**

- People's Energy Cooperative
- *Project Facilitator
 - National Renewables Cooperative Organization (NRCO)

***Contractor**

- Able Energy Co., River Falls, WI
 Manufacturer
 - Canadian Solar, Ontario, Canada



*** Site Location – Elgin Business Park**







The Program

Current Subscription price = \$562.50 per 305-watt panel.

- Includes all costs to build, operate, maintain and insure the system.
- Two payment plan options
 - Lump sum due when signing agreement
 - \$18.75/month for 30 months (will appear as a bill charge)

Energy produced will be credited to members on their monthly electric bill.

Example of Bill Credit

Community Solar kWh credits are applied to the main rate usage and the member is billed for the difference. The example below shows a member who use 1,176 kWh for April. They subscribed to two community solar panels which resulted in 56 kWh for community solar. We subtract the amount generated (56 kWh) from the total usage (1,176 kWh). This results in the member being billed for 1,120 kWh of energy usage.

										Page 1 01 2
Service Address	Meter Number	Current Meter Rdg Rd		Date	Prev Meter Rdg	vious Rdg Date	Days	Reading Type	Mult.	kWh Usage
		85464	05/01	/2022	84288	04/01/2022	30	ACTUAL	1	1176
		28	05/01	/2022	0	04/01/2022	30	ACTUAL	2	56
PEC Message				Detail of Charges						
People's Energy Cooperative will be closed Monday, May 30 in observation of Memorial Day. If you have a power outage or electrical emergency, please call (800) 214 - 2694 to report the problem. Stay safe and have fun!				RESIDENTIAL SINGLE-PHASE URBAN METER BASIC SERVICE CHARGE ENERGY CHARGE 1120 KWH @ \$.100000 DEMAND (information only) 6.720 KW POWER COST ADJUSTMENT 1120 KWH @ \$009491 TOTAL ELECTRIC CHARGES				30.00 112.00 0.00 10.63 CR 131.37		
kWh Us	se History			OLM: OPEF CURI	STED COUNTY RATION ROUND RENT CHARGES	SALES TAX DUP S				0.66 0.94 142.00
1026 1152 1284 1138 1076 1135 1211 1109 1196 1176 966 826 826				COMMUNITY SOLAR PRODUCTION 56 KWH						

* Energy production is available through a data portal on our website.





#20 Year Agreement Term

- Begins with in-service date of all panels (January 1, 2017)
 - All agreements end December 31, 2036

#14-year payback based on:

- *Avg. monthly usage of 900 kWhs
 - 10,800 kWhs per year
 - 1% annual member usage escalator
- *Avg. Retail Rate per kWh = \$0.115
 - 1.5% annual rate escalator

Solar Comparison for 8kW

Subscribe to 26, 305-watt panels (8kW)

- 10,800 kWhs / 412 kWhs unit = 26 panels
- \$750 x 26 = \$19,500
 - Includes annual insurance, maintenance and repairs
 - No tax credit to participants

Build an 8 kW array on your own

- \$3.25 per watt x 8 kW= \$26,000
 - Dependent on installation method
 - Does not include annual insurance
 - May not include maintenance or repair costs

Note: 10,800 kWh's is the average annual energy use by a residential member. 412 kWh's is the average annual output per panel over 20 years. Calculated with the original cost per panel.



The Agreement

Key Points of Agreement

- Must be an active PEC member in good standing with a metered account.
- Subscription is for the energy output, you are not purchasing panels.
- * There is a limit to the number of panels you can subscribe to based on historic usage.
- * The energy produced will be divided equally among subscribers each month.

Key Points of Agreement Cont'd.

- * Excess energy production will roll over to the next month with no expiration.
 - The Cooperative will not payout cash for any unused credits.
- Insurance does not cover energy lost due to extraordinary events.
- Subscription can only be transferred/sold to other PEC members.
- *After December 31, 2036 the energy production becomes the Cooperative's.

