

## PEOPLE'S ENERGY COOPERATIVE'S SOLAR\$ENSE INCENTIVE PROGRAM

People's Energy Cooperative (PEC) offers a rebate program called *Solar\$ense* that gives residential members another choice in how they can benefit from installing their own net-metered (less than 40 kWAC in size) photovoltaic (PV) solar system.

With the rebate program, residential members can now choose the *Solar\$ense Incentive Program* where they receive a direct incentive for installing a 'properly-sized' solar system. If there is excess generation at the end of a month, it will be banked and rolled forward to the next month until the end of February.

### **PEC's Solar\$ense Incentive Program:**

- West facing offers an incentive of \$0.50 per watt (based on system's DC rating) for installed capacity, up to a maximum lifetime incentive per location of \$4,000. To qualify for west facing, panels must have an azimuth angle between 225 – 270 degrees.
- South facing offers an incentive of \$0.25 per watt (based on system's DC rating) for installed capacity, up to a maximum lifetime incentive per location of \$2,000. To qualify for south facing, panels must have an azimuth angle between 135-224 degrees.
- The combination of south and west facing panels is limited to a maximum lifetime incentive of \$4,000.

When you install solar panels through our *Solar\$ense Incentive Program*, you can:

- Reduce your up-front cost of installing a solar system.
- Meet some or all your energy needs with your own renewable energy system.
- Receive a monthly energy (kWh) credit on your bill. Excess Kilowatt-hour (kWh) production from your PV solar system is measured and recorded by PEC's billing meter.

**Excess energy produced** by your solar system will roll forward to the next month until the last day of February. On the last day of February, any kWh credits remaining will be cancelled with no additional compensation.

**To qualify for this incentive program**, you must:

- Be a PEC residential member.
- Own the PV solar system and the property/building on which the system will be installed.
- Install PV solar panels that produce electricity at a service location served by PEC. Limit of one solar array at each service location.
  - It is recommended you choose a licensed installer, based on multiple estimates. With your approval, your installer can complete the application. Confirm that you and/or your installer understand and agree to the installation requirements.
- Agree to connect your PV solar system to PEC's electrical grid and in accordance with The Cooperative Minnesota Interconnection Process (C-MIP). See requirements at [peoplesenergy.coop](http://peoplesenergy.coop). Click on Electric Service -> Renewable Energy.

- Install a ‘properly-sized’ PV solar system, so that it produces less than 120 percent of your annual energy use. The ‘proper-size’ will be determined mainly by using usage history for the service location in which the solar system will serve. PV Watts calculator will be used as an additional tool to determine estimated production.
- Demonstrate that the system will not be shaded by buildings, trees, towers, etc. by using a shading analysis tool and site photo.
- Comply with all applicable federal, state, local and utility laws and requirements.
- Comply with all applicable building and zoning codes and obtain all appropriate building permits.
- Comply with PEC metering requirements.
- Only use new system components.
- Confirm that PV modules are certified as meeting the most current edition of UL1703 and must have a 20-year or greater manufacturer’s performance warranty.
- Confirm that Inverters are certified as meeting the most current edition of UL1741 and must have a 10-year or greater manufacturer’s performance warranty.
- Have the PV Solar system commissioned within 6 months of the conditional approval date from PEC.

**Limitations include:**

- Only one ‘properly-sized’ solar system allowed per member/account/service location.
- Maximum lifetime rebate of up to \$4,000 will be issued per member/account/service location.
- Additions to existing solar systems are not eligible.
- Solar water heating systems do not qualify.
- The rate and payout method for the excess energy produced by the installed system cannot be changed for the life of the solar system.

**Key Steps for Application Process:**

1. Complete the interconnection application process by submitting all required documents and processing fee through the NOVA application link from [www.peoplesenergy.coop](http://www.peoplesenergy.coop).
2. Contact PEC immediately to express interest in this rebate prior to the purchase and installation.
3. Once the NOVA interconnection application is approved by PEC, then sign PEC’s Uniform Contract for Cogeneration and Small Power Production Facilities.
  - *The ‘Roll-over credit’ option must be chosen as the rate schedule category and the ‘Credit to the QF’s account with the Cooperative’ must be selected for charges and payments.*

**Funding** is limited, and this incentive can be withdrawn at any time without notice.

Rebate applications will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis. Incentive will be paid upon successful commissioning of the system, subject to the eligibility criteria being met as stated on the rebate form.

The utility will own any and all Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) associated with the PV system.

For questions contact [derinterconnect@peoplesenergy.com](mailto:derinterconnect@peoplesenergy.com) or 800-214-2694