

Solar*Rewards® Metering and Billing FAQs

When you have a photovoltaic (PV) system installed, you're able to generate some or all of the energy you use on a monthly basis. And in some cases, you generate more than you need, so there's some left over. That power generation is tracked and billed differently than your regular electricity use. The following information will help you make sense of how your solar energy is measured and what you'll see on your monthly energy bill.

How do you measure the solar energy I produce and use?

Once your PV system is installed, we'll change out your old meter for a net meter. If your system is associated with a solar incentive program, such as Solar*Rewards or Made in Minnesota, we will also install a PV production meter.

- **Net Meter:** A meter records the flow of electricity in two directions—in-bound and out-bound energy. These two kWh totals are read by the system and appear on your bill each month.
- **Production Meter:** A second standard meter may also be installed to record the PV system production and/or calculating the incentive payment.

We read your net meter on a monthly basis to determine whether you're a net user or a net producer based on the kWh totals recorded on your net meter.

- Net users use more energy in a month than they produce, and are billed for the net kWh.
- Net producers produce more energy than they use, and are billed for zero kWh. Any excess kWh are credited to your account at the applicable cogeneration rate.

How do I get paid for the extra energy I produce and don't use?

If you're a net producer and your PV system produces more energy than you use, the excess kilowatt-hours are credited to your account at the current cogeneration rate. These excess generation credits are rolled over on your bill each month until you reach a bill credit of \$25 or more. At that time, we'll automatically send you a check for the total amount.

Solar*Rewards customers are not exempt from fees charged to all electric customers, even when you produce more electricity than you use. These fees include, but are not limited to, Basic Service Charges, Resource Adjustments, Interim Rate Adjustments, and City/County/State taxes.



How is the solar energy I use and produce shown on my bill?

Below is a sample meter reading table for a Solar*Rewards customer. Your bill may not look exactly like this one, however, the key information included will be similar.

Meter Reading Information			
Meter 123		Read Dates: 12/20/12 – 1/22/13 (33 Days)	
Description	Current Reading	Previous Reading	Usage
Total Delivered by Xcel	37376 Actual	36403 Actual	973 kWh
Total Delivered by Customer	3187 Actual	3148 Actual	39 kWh
Net Delivered by Xcel	934 Actual	Actual	934 kWh
Net Generated by Customer	0 Actual	Actual	0 kWh

Total Delivered by Xcel

973 kWh is the energy in kWh delivered from our grid. On your bill, you'll see the amount of electricity you received from Xcel Energy on this line.

Total Delivered by Customer

39 kWh: Energy (kWh) sent by the customer to our grid.

Net Delivered by Xcel

934 kWh: If the total energy delivered by Xcel Energy is greater than the total energy you deliver, a kWh total will appear under this heading and will be multiplied by your existing service rate to calculate the Energy Charge for that billing period. In this example, the customer has used more energy than they delivered, so they will be charged for 934 kWh of electricity.

Net Generated by Customer

0 kWh: If you deliver more energy than you use, a kWh total will appear under this heading. This number will be multiplied by the current cogeneration rate to determine the amount of the credit you'll receive. In this example, the customer used more than they delivered, so they will not receive a credit.

Questions?

If you have any questions about your bill, please send an email to solarprogramMN@xcelenergy.com.

