

RENEWABLE BATTERY CONNECT

INFORMATION SHEET
COLORADO

GET REWARDED FOR USING RENEWABLE ENERGY AND SUPPORTING THE GRID OF THE FUTURE

After installing a solar system, a growing number of homeowners and small businesses are adding leading-edge battery systems for the financial benefits of storing solar power, aligning with time-of-use rates, and outage back-up advantages.

If you will be purchasing a battery model that qualifies for our Renewable Battery Connect program, you can make the most of your investment. Interconnecting your solar and battery system to our grid through our Renewable Battery Connect program provides a lucrative upfront incentive to support you.

When you participate in Renewable Battery Connect, you will allow Xcel Energy to automatically manage your battery during periods of peak demand. Reducing demand during the control events helps stabilize the electric grid by using your solar charged battery to reduce energy use.

How it works

- Your solar battery installer will work with us to establish interconnection to our grid through an interconnection application request for the Renewable Battery Connect program.
- We schedule a demand response event based on high demand periods (normally the hottest days of the year during the afternoon and evening) — which includes the charge and discharge of your battery. These events will be called year-round to have the batteries support the energy grid.
- After we discharge the battery, it will recharge at the earliest time possible from the solar system.
- During a control event, you'll be able to see how your battery is being used by logging into Tesla's or SolarEdge's mobile app.
- You will always have 40% of the battery power reserved. You're able to choose how to use the remaining 40% of your battery—either reserve for a power outage or save for other uses.
- Non-event periods make the entire amount of the battery available for your use.

Renewable Battery Connect Benefits

- Rewarding incentive for installing eligible battery equipment:
 - \$500 per kW of storage capacity (up to 50% of the equipment-only cost)
 - \$800 per kW of storage capacity for income-qualified customers (up to 75% of the equipment-only cost)
- \$100 annual participation incentive for participating in most control events
- Lead the clean energy transition by integrating your solar and storage system
- Keeping the grid reliable, resilient and secure
- Helping to keep electric costs low for your community

Eligibility

- You are an Xcel Energy Colorado electric residential or small business customer.
- You purchased a Tesla Powerwall II, or a SolarEdge Home Hub Inverter with a SolarEdge Home Battery installed at the residence or business.
- You agree to allow Xcel Energy to charge or discharge up to 60% of your battery, up to 60 times per year.
- You maintain the connection of your SolarEdge inverter and/or Tesla battery through a cellular or high-speed internet connection, as required by SolarEdge and Tesla.



What's next

Ensure your solar battery installer submits an interconnection application and is approved for interconnection in the Renewable Battery Connect program.

We will then confirm with Tesla or SolarEdge that your battery has been installed and is ready to participate in the program. Then we will issue you as the system owner a one-time incentive approximately 60 days after the operation date.

If you have questions about Renewable Battery Connect, contact us at BatteryConnect@xcelenergy.com.

Frequently Asked Questions

Do I apply with my solar battery installer before or after the battery is installed?

Your solar battery provider submits an interconnection request prior to the battery being installed to ensure the system can safely and reliably connect to our grid. We will confirm your final enrollment and pay your incentive after we have confirmed with Tesla or SolarEdge that your battery has been installed and is ready to participate in the program.

What is my upfront incentive?

The upfront incentive is calculated by using the fixed, one-time expense of the battery including the cost of the inverter. No labor, taxes, etc. are included. The total amount of the incentive will be capped at 50% of the overall cost of the battery and issued 60 days after the date of commercial operation (once the interconnection application has been completed and the system has received permission to operate from Xcel Energy) in the form of a check.

If the owner is an income-qualified customer or allocated within a [disproportionately impacted community](#)* per the State of Colorado, the upfront incentive will be \$800 per kW of storage capacity, capped at 75% of the overall battery cost.

If I participate, will my battery still be available for use if there is a power outage?

During a control event, Xcel Energy will reserve 40% of the battery for your use. Following an Xcel Energy demand response event where we utilize the battery, you are able to choose how to use the remaining 40% of your battery, and you may reserve this amount to be available in a power outage or for other uses that you prioritize. Xcel Energy may call up to 60 events per year, on the 305 days when Xcel Energy is not calling an event, the entire amount of the battery will be available for your use.

To further preserve your battery for use in the event of a power outage, Xcel Energy will not utilize the battery during days when the weather forecast shows severe storms.

Can other types of batteries, besides SolarEdge and Tesla participate in this pilot?

At this time, only SolarEdge inverters with a SolarEdge Home Battery and the Tesla Powerwall 2 and Powerwall + may participate in the program. In the future, we may broaden the types of batteries that can participate.

How long is the program going to run for?

Xcel Energy will offer the program through 2025 or until incentive funds are exhausted.

Will my participation in the Renewable Battery Connect affect my energy bill?

Every time your battery charges and discharges, a small amount of energy is lost in the process. Xcel Energy estimates that its use of the battery will result in \$10–11 per year of additional electricity costs on your bill. These losses are offset by the upfront incentive you are receiving for participating in the program.

Is there a fee for unenrolling in the program?

No. Please send an email to BatteryConnect@xcelenergy.com if you wish to unenroll from the program. The team will need to perform manual steps to remove your battery energy storage system from the vendor software so the system is not called to participate in dispatch events.

Have questions not answered here?

You can contact us by emailing BatteryConnect@xcelenergy.com.

*For more information about "disproportionately impacted communities", visit climate.colorado.gov, the HB19-1266: Environmental Justice Act



Example incentive calculations based on max continuous power (kW) of the battery

Standard:

Tesla Powerwall + = 5.0 kW
(battery inverter) x \$500 = \$2,500

SolarEdge Home Battery
(with SolarEdge Home Hub Inverter)
= 5.0 kW x \$500 = \$2,500

Income Qualified/Disproportionately Impacted Communities:

Tesla Powerwall 2.0 =
5.0 kW x \$800 = \$4,000