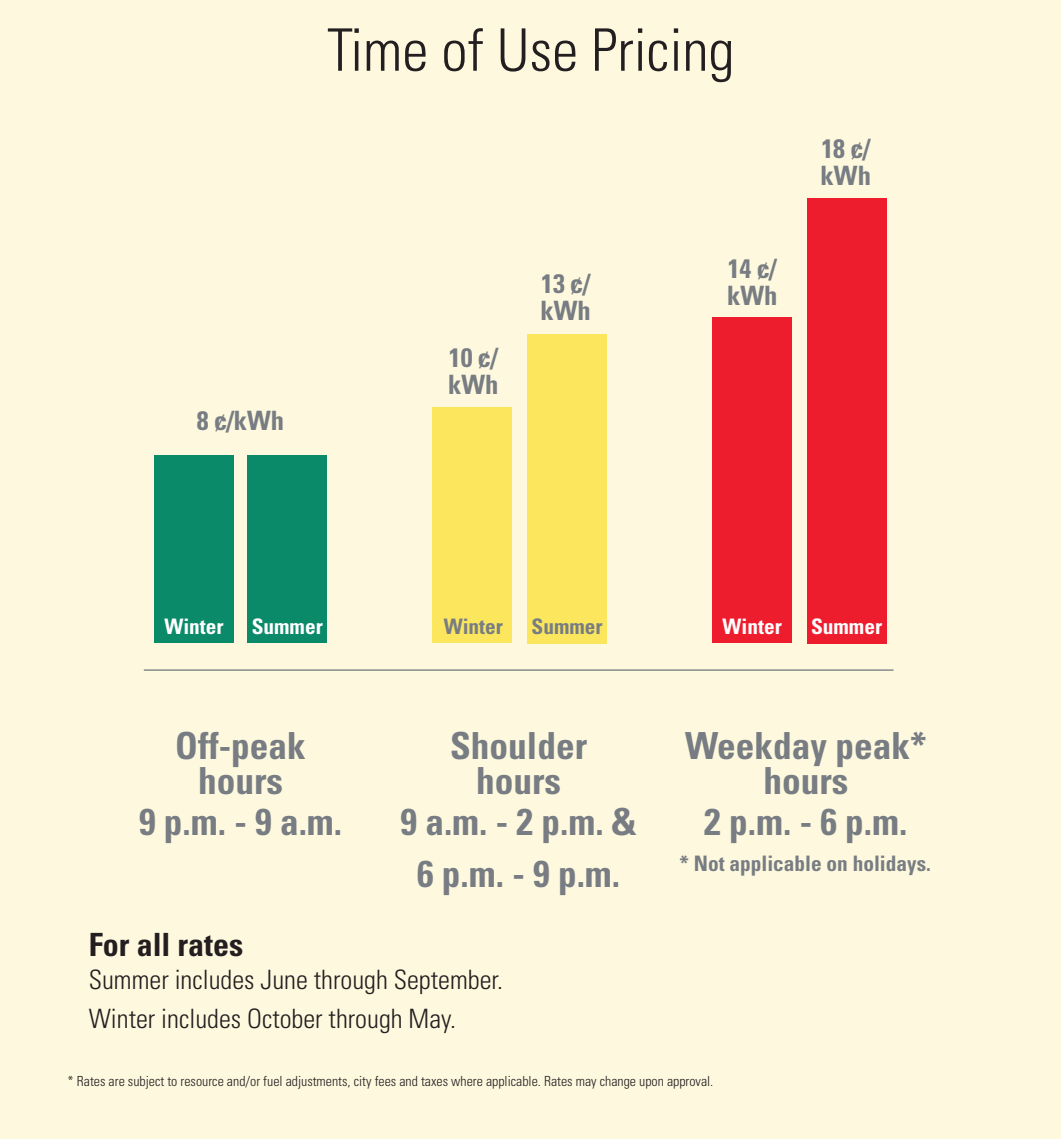
Time of Use Pricing FAQs

What is Time of Use Pricing?

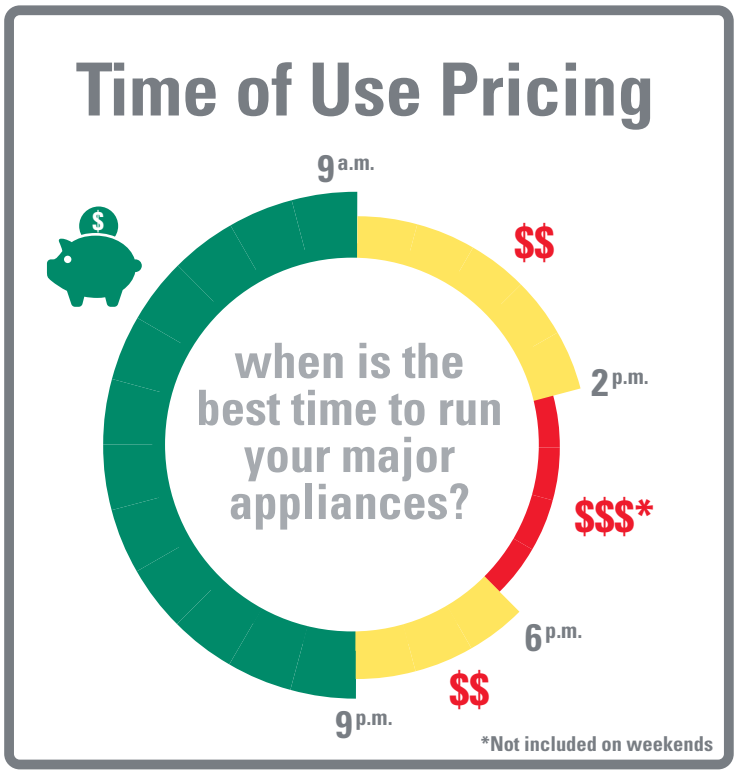
Time of Use is a residential rate where energy prices vary with the time of day. There are three sections of the day:

- Off-peak hours are between 9 p.m. and 9 a.m., energy in this time is cheaper than the standard residential rate.
- Shoulder hours are between 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. – 9 p.m., energy in this time costs slightly higher than the tier 1 standard residential rate.
- Peak hours are between 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. on non-holiday weekdays, energy in this time costs the most of all timeframes.



How can I save money on Time of Use?

By shifting the majority of the energy you use to off-peak hours, you can see savings on your energy bill. However, not shifting and running large appliances during peak hours could result in higher bills.



Solar with Time of Use Metering and Billing FAQs

Does Time of Use work well with solar panels?

Yes! Solar Bank credits are worth the price of energy at a given time, so with Time of Use, your solar credits will often be worth more than under the standard residential rate. When you are able to shift use away from peak hours, you will not only see a reduction in the cost of delivered energy, but may actually gain more for your solar bank!

How do you measure the energy I use?

When you use the sun's power to generate electricity, the amount you produce and use varies throughout the year. In some months, you may produce more than you need, so there's energy left over. And other months, you'll use more energy than you produce. We use net and production meters to keep track of this give and take.

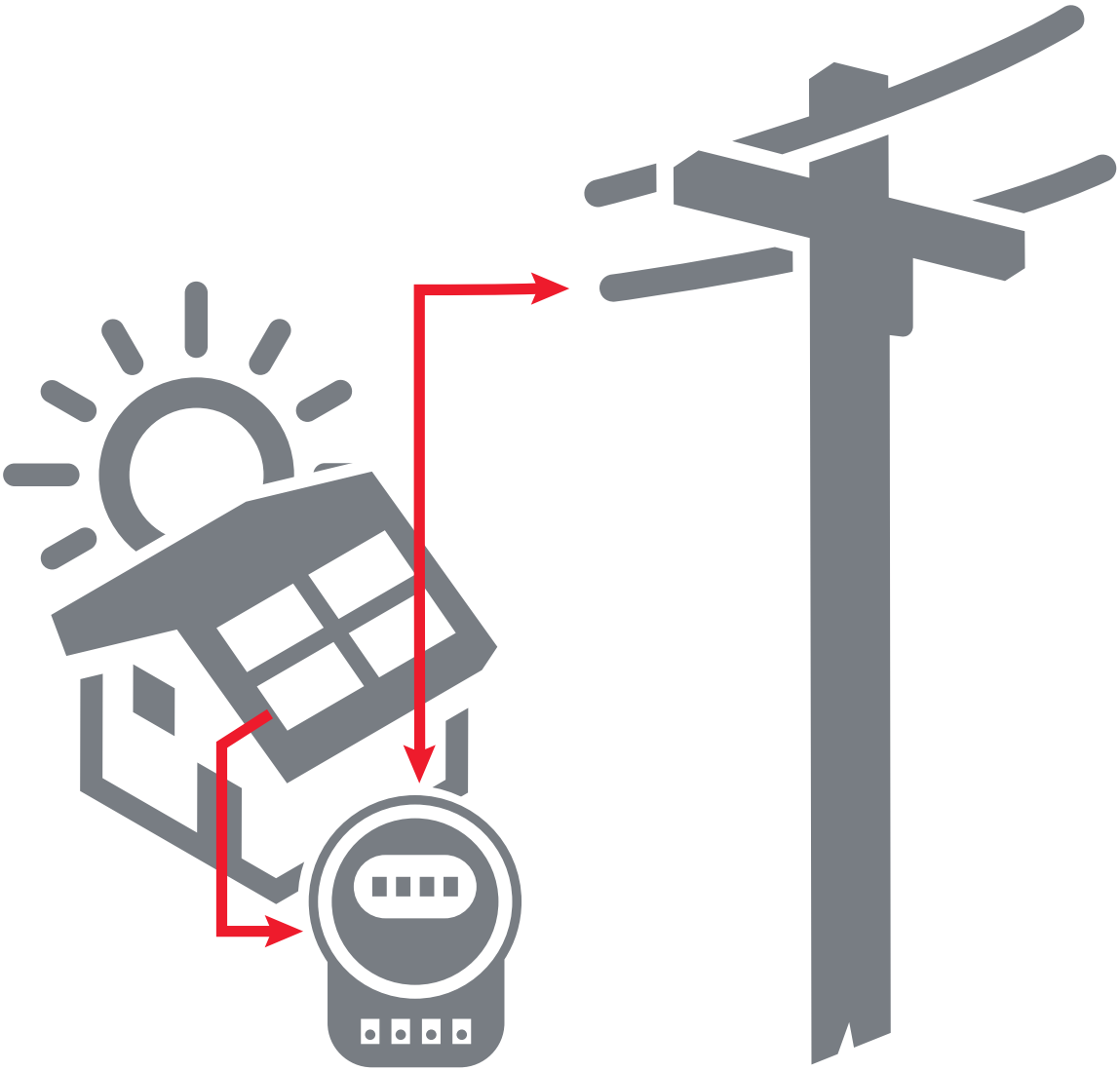
The **net meter** moves forward when electricity flows from our grid into your home or business, and backward when electricity flows from your PV system onto our grid. This bi-directional energy flow measures and distinguishes kilowatt-hours (kWh) being taken from the grid (used) and being put on the grid (produced).

We read this information on a monthly basis:

- If you produce more electricity than you use, you're considered a "net producer" and you won't be billed for any kWh during that billing cycle. Any excess kWh are stored in your Solar Bank for future use. (Refer to Solar Bank information on page four.)
- If you use more than you produce, you'll be billed for the difference (net kWh).

The **production meter** is a standard meter that's set up for payment of Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) if you are in the Solar*Rewards program. If you are non-Solar*Rewards, this meter is just for the planning purposes of Xcel in being able to run the grid.

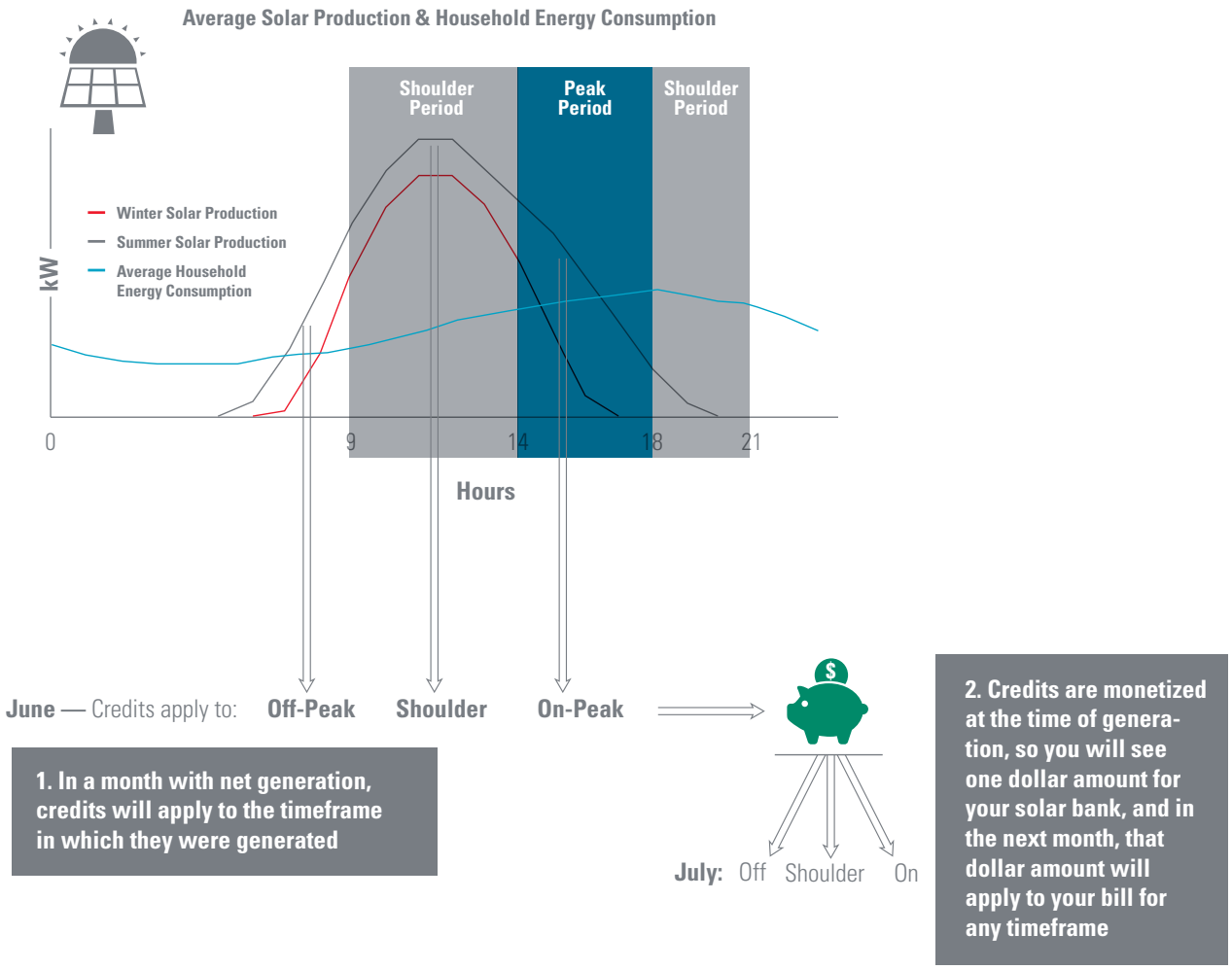
Net Metering Example			
Net User		**Net Producer**	
Uses from grid	1,000 kWh	Uses from grid	200 kWh
Puts on grid	100 kWh	Puts on grid	300 kWh
Billed for	900 kWh	Billed for	0 kWh
Solar Bank =	0 kWh	Solar Bank =	100 kWh



What's the Solar Bank and how do I use it?

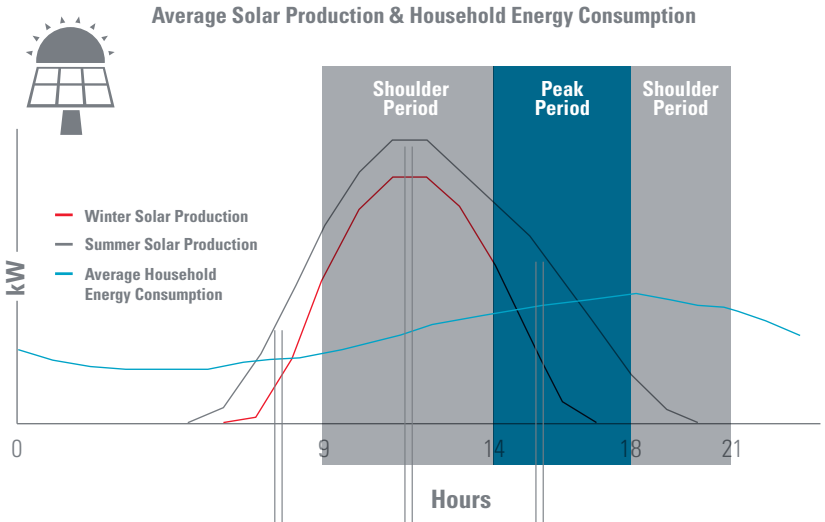
If you're a net producer and your PV system produces more energy than you use, the excess kilowatt-hours are credited to your virtual Solar Bank. You can choose one of the following options for your Solar Bank credits.*

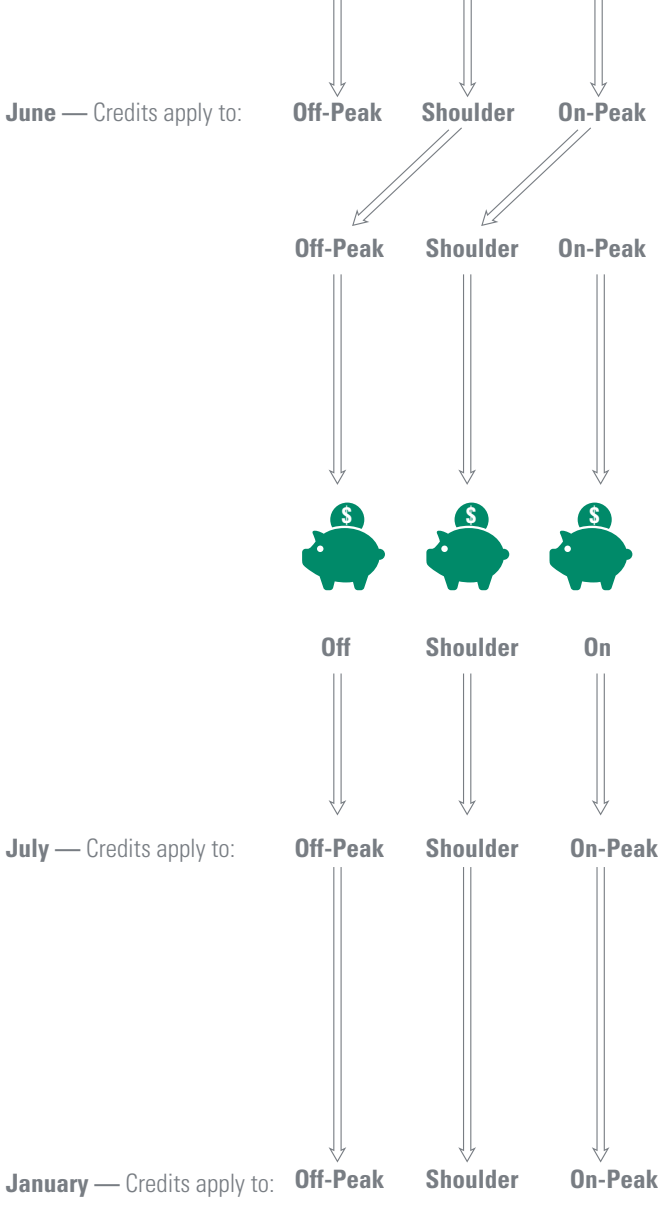
- **Continuous Rollover Credits:** Any excess generation from your net-metered PV system will be rolled over month-to-month, year to year, for the Time of Use period in which it was generated. The credits will never expire, and will be used whenever your consumption from the grid exceeds your generation on the net meter. However, you cannot cash out your Solar Bank, and no credit will be given if you move or stop service. Credits cannot be transferred between Xcel Energy accounts or to a new homeowner if a customer moves.



- **Waive your Decision:** You may choose to waive the Solar Bank election until a later date. By waiving your decision, you will default to year-end payout. Within a given month, any excess generation from your net-metered PV system will first apply towards the Time of Use period in which it was generated and then fall to the next lowest rate. However, excess will still roll over month-to-month in the timeframe in which it was generated and is held in the Solar Bank. Xcel Energy will cash out your Solar Bank at the end of the year, and send you a check for the excess energy in the first quarter of the following year. We buy this excess energy at a rate called "average hourly incremental cost of energy" (AHIC) from the previous 12 months. By choosing to waive your decision, you can still make a one-time choice to move to Continuous Rollover Credits at any time during the life of your contract.

*If you are a customer who wants to make a one time switch to Rollover after your application has been completed, or are taking over a previously owned PV system, you're able to make an election by filling out a Solar Bank Election form, which is available on our website at xcelenergy.com/Solar





1. In a month with net generation, credits will apply first to the time of generation and then fall to the next lowest rate

2. Remaining credits are NOT monetized at the time of generation; they are banked for the timeframe when generated

3. If you ever have net consumption, past banked credits will first apply towards the timeframe when generated

4. The solar bank is monetized and paid out according to the AHIC at the end of the year

How is AHIC determined?

We use a sophisticated cost calculator to determine this amount, which also factors in the fuel associated with generation and any applicable economic purchase transaction costs.

Will I still have to pay other electric fees?

As a Solar*Rewards customer, you 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, Service and Facility fees, General Rate Schedule Adjustment (GRSA) and renewable Energy Standard Adjustment (RESA). Whether you're a residential customer, or a commercial customer, you can find rate information online

How will my solar generation be reflected on my bill?

Here is a sample bill for Time of Use PV customers. Your bill will look similar, based on your meter type and Solar Bank election. For your reference, we've added labels to help explain the bill layout, what each row description means and how the numbers are calculated. (These references will not appear on your bill.)

METER READING INFORMATION

METER 00000000 ReadDates: 07/13/17 - 08/11/17 (29 Days)

DESCRIPTION	CURRENT READING	PREVIOUS READING	USAGE
Interval Usage			
Total Delivered by Xcel	1349 Actual	Actual	1349 kWh
On Pk Delivered by Xcel	234 Actual	Actual	234 kWh
Shoulder Pk Delivered by Xcel	507 Actual	Actual	507 kWh
Off Pk Delivered by Xcel	608 Actual	Actual	608 kWh
Total Delivered by Customer	287 Actual	Actual	287 kWh
On Peak Delivered by Customer	22 Actual	Actual	22 kWh
Shoulder Delivered by Customer	246 Actual	Actual	246 kWh
Off Peak Delivered by Customer	19 Actual	Actual	19 kWh
Net Delivered by Xcel	1062 Actual	Actual	1062 kWh
Net Delivered On Peak by Xcel	212 Actual	Actual	212 kWh
Net Delivered Shoulder by Xcel	261 Actual	Actual	261 kWh
Net Delivered Off Peak by Xcel	589 Actual	Actual	589 kWh
On Net Generated by Customer	0 Actual	Actual	0 kWh
Shoulder Net Gen by Customer	0 Actual	Actual	0 kWh
Off Net Generated by Customer	0 Actual	Actual	0 kWh
ECA On-Peak	473 Actual	Actual	473 kWh
ECA Off-Peak	589 Actual	Actual	589 kWh

Renew.Energy Std Adj	$2.43
RESAFS	$2.92
GRSA	- $0.45 **CR**
Total	**$126.12**

Rollover Bank Dollar Credit $0.00

DESCRIPTION		CHARGE
RolloverCreditExcess	Premise # 00000000	$0.00
Total		**$0.00**

These lines show the amount of energy you used in each timeframe.

These lines show the amount of energy your solar system delivered to the grid in each timeframe.

These lines show how much energy you will be billed for in each timeframe.

These lines show how much excess energy you have in your Solar Bank. If excess generation is greater than your consumption in a single read cycle, the difference is shown here. In this case, the customer used more electricity from the grid than their system delivered, so the net is 0. If you had any credits stored in your Solar bank from the previous billing cycles, those credits will be figured into this line as well.

This line shows the monetary value of your total Solar Bank - This will NOT be shown for Cash-out customers, as credits are not monetized at the time of generation. This is found below the list of Electricity Charges.

This line show the monetary value of the credits being added to your Solar Bank in this period - This will NOT be shown for Cash-out customers, as credits are not monetized at the time of generation.

Solar Banking Examples

Here are examples of how each type of Solar Bank election might function, given the bill example above*:

Election: Rollover								
Timeframe	Delivered by Xcel	Previous Bank	Delivered By Customer	Net kWh	Billed For Dollars	Credit Dollars	Final Bill	Current Bank
July								
On-Peak	234 kWh	$0	- 22 kWh	+ 212 kWh	$38.16	$0	$119.21	$0
Shoulder	507 kWh		- 246 kWh	+ 261 kWh	$33.93			
Off-Peak	608 kWh		- 19 kWh	+ 589 kWh	$47.12			
August								
On-Peak	130 kWh	$0	- 25 kWh	+ 105 kWh	$18.90	$6.50	$74.80	$0
Shoulder	250 kWh		-300 kWh	- 50 kWh	$0			
Off-Peak	800 kWh		-20 kWh	+ 780 kWh	$62.40			
September								
On-Peak	15 kWh	$0	- 25 kWh	- 10 kWh	$0	$23.60	$0	$9.60
Shoulder	105 kWh		- 275 kWh	- 220 kWh	$0			
Off-Peak	200 kWh		- 25 kWh	+ 175 kWh	$14.00			

- As shown in July, using more than you generate will not increase your Solar Bank.
- As shown in August and September, shifting energy use towards the Off-Peak can result in credits accumulating during the Shoulder and On-Peak Banks. Reducing overall use can result in greater credits banked.

Election: Cash-out									
Timeframe	Delivered by Xcel	Previous Bank	Delivered By Customer	Net kWh	Roll Down	Net kWh	Roll Down	Billed For	Current Bank
July									
On-Peak	234 kWh	0 kWh	- 22 kWh	+ 212 kWh	0 kWh	0 kWh	0 kWh	212 kWh	0 kWh
Shoulder	507 kWh	0 kWh	- 246 kWh	+ 261 kWh	0 kWh	0 kWh	0 kWh	261 kWh	0 kWh
Off-Peak	608 kWh	0 kWh	- 19 kWh	+ 589 kWh	0 kWh	0 kWh	0 kWh	589 kWh	0 kWh
August									
On-Peak	130 kWh	0 kWh	- 25 kWh	+ 105 kWh	0 kWh	+105 kWh	0 kWh	105	0 kWh
Shoulder	250 kWh	0 kWh	-300 kWh	- 50 kWh	0 kWh	0 kWh	0 kWh	0	0 kWh
Off-Peak	800 kWh	0 kWh	-20 kWh	+ 780 kWh	-50 kWh	+ 730 kWh	0 kWh	730	0 kWh
September									
On-Peak	15 kWh	0 kWh	- 25 kWh	- 10 kWh	0 kWh	- 10 kWh	0 kWh	0 kWh	5 kWh
Shoulder	105 kWh	0 kWh	- 275 kWh	- 170 kWh	0 kWh	0 kWh	0 kWh	0 kWh	0 kWh
Off-Peak	200 kWh	0 kWh	- 25 kWh	+ 175 kWh	-170 kWh	5 kWh	- 5 kWh	0 kWh	0 kWh

- As shown in July, using more than you generate will not increase your Solar Bank.
- As shown in August and September, the application of credits to lower priced periods on the Cash-out option can result in a lesser bill than the Rollover option, but a smaller Solar Bank.
- As shown in September, any Solar Bank under a Cash-out election will be held as kWh and paid out at the end of the year at the AHIC rate.

*Delivered kWh values for both examples in August and September are hypothetical and chosen to show the effects of reducing and shifting use. Prices in these examples are 18 cents On-Peak, 13 cents Shoulder, and 8 cents Off-Peak, these rates are subject to change and can be found online.

Prouction Meter Bill: Customer Owned and Third Party

METER READING INFORMATION			
METER NUMBER : 00000000000		ReadDates: 12/20/12 - 01/22/13 (33 Days)	
DESCRIPTION	CURRENT READING	PREVIOUS READING	USAGE
Total Energy	503 **Actual**	146 Actual	357 kWh

ELECTRICITY CHARGES

DESCRIPTION	USAGE	UNIT	RATE	CHARGE
Sm Prgm Mnthly Rec Pmt	357	kWh	-$0.040000	$14.28 CR
Total				**-$14.28 CR**

This line shows the total system production for the billing period.

Your REC payment credit is calculated by multiplying Total Energy Used in kilowatt-hours, by the REC price, which is dependant on the agreed contract price.

How do I know how much energy my system produced? Is that reflected on the bill?

As a solar customer, of course you're interested in knowing how much total energy your system is producing. However, you won't find that information on your Xcel Energy bill.

Our net meter only measures energy that touches our grid (if we deliver energy to your home, or if you deliver energy to our system), so that we can track how much energy we need to bill you for, or how much we owe you. Unfortunately, if your PV system produces energy that's used by your home and doesn't ever make it to the grid, that isn't captured on your bill.

However, if you have both a bridge meter AND a production meter, you can calculate the amount of solar energy your home used up during a billing period.

1) Before you start, grab your net and production meter bills (be sure they cover the same billing period) and locate the "Meter Reading Information" tables on each one.

2) On your production meter bill, look in the "Usage" column and find the kWh amount shown. Write it down. (On the sample bill it's 357 kWh.)

3) Next, on your bridge meter bill, find the "Total Delivered by Customer" line, and then locate the number in the "Usage" column. Write it down. (On the sample bill, it's 287 kWh.)

4) Subtract the Step 3 amount from Step 2. The end calculation is the amount of solar energy in kWh your home used during that billing period that never touched the grid. (Example: 357 kWh – 287 kWh = 70 kWh)

Why isn't my system producing more energy?
How do I know if my bill is accurate?

There are a variety of variables that can impact your PV production and your energy use. If you're concerned, you can always call us. But first, consider the following:

- **Check to see if your inverter, bridge meter and production meter are all working correctly.** Reach out to your installer to investigate if you believe there is a problem with the inverter they installed. If your installer checks your system and discovers that one of our meters isn't functioning as it should, call customer service and an Xcel Energy meter technician can visit your home to investigate the equipment and test the system's electric readings.
- **Think about other changes that may have increased your energy use.** Have you purchased a new electric vehicle or installed any electrical equipment, since receiving your last bill(s)? Do you have more people living in your home (for instance, a new child or a grandparent)? Has the weather fluctuated substantially (i.e. seasonal changes, extreme temperature swings)?
- **Is your system new?** Without at least a couple months worth of production and billing data, it can be difficult to tell if a system is producing as it should. If your system is new, we suggest monitoring it for a few more months to see if there is a significant increase or drop in production. That can help diagnose a potential problem.

*Important notes:

– If you have a standard net meter, you won't have the information needed for this calculation.

– The usage on the production bill will never match the usage of total delivered by customer, unless there was no generation of electricity at the home.

Learn more at xcelenergy.com. (Select "Rates & Regulations.")

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