

## Renewable Claims Guide: Net Metering

Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) represent the environmental benefits associated with energy produced from a renewable source. When you participate in a renewable energy program, it is important to know when the RECs are included with the program, or when they are kept by Xcel Energy and used toward our company's renewable energy goals. The REC that determines what a participant can claim about their renewable energy use.

For net metering, you install your own solar, get credit for excess solar production and keep your RECs.

### Examples of claims for Net Metering participant<sup>1</sup>

#### Acceptable

- I use solar energy
- I have reduced my carbon emissions
- I offset my carbon footprint with the solar panels on my property
- By using \_\_\_\_ MWh of renewable energy, we have reduced our scope 2 emissions

#### Unacceptable

- Our system is powering our facility with all renewable energy
- We have reduced \_\_\_\_ tons of carbon emissions annually



### What are RECs and why are they important?

RECs are used to measure renewable energy produced and used to meet renewable energy goals. If the renewable program allows you to own the RECs, you can claim that they are offsetting your energy use or you are using renewable incentive energy. If Xcel Energy keeps the RECs under the renewable program you participate in, you are unable to claim that you offset energy use with renewable energy.

<sup>1</sup>The examples provided by Xcel Energy are not intended as legal advice. You should consult with your own attorney regarding claims that you may make regarding your subscription to Xcel Energy's Solar\*Rewards Community. For more information on acceptable and unacceptable claims, additional resources include:

[www.epa.gov/greenpower/solar-power-use-claims](http://www.epa.gov/greenpower/solar-power-use-claims)

[www.cleanenergyresourceteams.org/sites/default/files/REC-BestPracticesClaims.pdf](http://www.cleanenergyresourceteams.org/sites/default/files/REC-BestPracticesClaims.pdf)