



DISTRIBUTED GENERATION

(Residential)

The following is a short list of things you need to know when deciding if distributed generation is for you. This is based on the questions that I have experienced from other members or vendors of DG. Please, do not consider this a complete list of all things to consider.

- An application must be completed and a deposit paid.
- An Application and Interconnection Agreement must be signed.
- For any kWh you purchase from us, you will be charged Retail Rate. Currently \$0.113/kWh.
- For any kWh you export to us, we will pay you Avoided Cost Rate. Currently \$0.0278/kWh.
- We will credit your account for any kWh you export to us during the month the export happened.
- We do not “Bank” kWh to be used when the sun isn’t shining. In other words, you must use your power when you produce it, or it will go back through the meter at a rate of \$0.0278/kWh unless of course you also have battery storage.
- DG makes you **ineligible for our Heat Rate Program**. This program offers a discounted rate for members with electric heat.
- You are responsible for the cost of any special equipment required for your interconnection including engineering and any power correction equipment.

Suggestions:

- Know what a Watt of power is. Example: a typical coffee pot will use 1500 Watts of power which is the equivalent of 1.5 Kilowatts.
- Know how many kWh you typically use each month and more importantly – what time of day do you use the most power. Is it between 11 and 2 when your system is generating the most? Or, is it in the evenings when you are getting very little if any power from your system?
- Ask the vendor how long your equipment is expected to last. The film does degrade.
- How many dollars will I need to budget for maintenance?
- Ask how many years will it take to get my investment back? Then verify this information with another party. Get more than one bid.
- Talk to your insurance agent to see how it will affect your premium.
- Ask your County Assessor if it will impact your property taxes.
- Research! Research! Research!
- Use me as a resource: jsgibbs@cecnet.net or 641-342-2173.