

Solar FAQ's

- What are the steps I need to take in order to get solar?
 - Identify and implement energy efficiency opportunities
 - Schedule a meeting with ACEC. We can help you understand interconnection requirements and point you in the right direction for credible resources that can further assist with the analysis process.
 - Analyze your electric loads.
 - Determine applicable codes.
 - Identify and discuss your options with credible resources and contractors.
 - Schedule a follow-up meeting with your co-op.
- What are your rates?
 - The rate paid for energy generated that comes onto the distribution system is based on our current wholesale power rate and is adjusted annually. Currently the rate is 3.1 cents per kwh.
- Will I still receive an electric bill if I have solar panels?
 - At the end of each billing cycle there will be a bill statement generated. This statement may reflect what you owe to the Cooperative or alternatively what the Cooperative owes you.
- Can I view how much power I generate on my SmartHub account?
 - You absolutely can! First, make sure you've registered your SmartHub account. Second, visit the "Usage" section of your SmartHub account.
- Do solar panels produce power when the sun isn't shining?
 - Surprisingly solar panels don't need 100% sunshine. They will work in low light conditions just not to full potential.
- Where does the power go?
 - Energy generated will either be consumed by your home or put back on the distribution system.
- What happens if there is an interruption in ACEC's power?
 - Our meters are designed to de-energize whenever there is a power outage and it will remain off until ACEC has restored power. This is to ensure the safety of your home and equipment.
- Are there state or federal incentives, tax credits, or rebates available?
 - The Focus on Energy Program does offer direct rebates for both residential and commercial installations. In addition, the Federal Investment Tax Credit allows qualifying solar installations to deduct 30% off their federal taxes. This will change to 26% in 2020 and 22% in 2021. All tax related questions should be directed to a qualified tax professional.
- Where can I find solar vendors?
 - There are many vendors out there, the best resource for local Wisconsin installers is through the Focus on Energy Find a Trade Ally web-link below.
<https://focusonenergy.com/trade-ally/find>
- What should I look for when seeking a solar vendor?
 - NABCEP Certified, licensed, and insured, have experience, have references.

- What safety requirements must I follow?
 - We require an open-air disconnect in addition to Department of Safety and Professional Services Inspection to ensure both the member and our crews are safe.
- How do I get started?
 - Give us a call at (800) 831-8629 or email acec@acecwi.com.