

## **Program Overview**

What is community solar?

- Community solar is an array of solar panels that produce electricity for a group of residential or business members. Each voluntary participant receives a pro-rata share (production credits) of the electricity produced by the community solar facility.

How big is community solar?

- Community solar currently consists of 160 panels with each panel rated for 315 watts. The total output will be 50,400 watts (50.4 kW).

How much electricity will a 50-kilowatt solar facility produce?

- While the output is completely dependent upon sunny days, average electrical output is expected to be 60,714 kWh annually or 1,214,270 kWh over the initial 20-years of operation. The capacity factor of the community solar facility is projected to be 16.1% and the panels are assumed to degrade 0.7% a year.

Who maintains the community solar facility?

- As the owner, Northeastern REMC subsidiary Green Solar Watts LLC, will maintain the facility just as we maintain the electric infrastructure.

Why is being a part of a community solar project better than putting up my own solar panel?

- Many homeowners are prevented from installing their own solar panels because of trees, house locations or roof constraints. Community solar eliminates these barriers. Grouping the panels together achieves greater economies of scale in both cost savings as well as producing more electricity.

## **Costs**

Do I have to be a member of Northeastern REMC to participate?

- Yes, you must be a member of Northeastern REMC with an active electric account to participate in community solar.

What does it cost to participate in community solar?

- The initial cost to participate is \$1,094 per 315 watt panel. Partial panels will be available in  $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}$ , and  $\frac{3}{4}$  sizes at a cost of \$273.50, \$548.00 and \$820.50 respectively.

Do I own the panel?

- You are purchasing/pre-paying for the electricity generated by your share (production credits) of the community solar facility, but you will not own any property or equipment. You are welcome to view the panels - call us for information. The panels are located just west of Northeastern's office at 4901 East Park 30 Drive, Columbia City in Park 30 Business Park.

How much electricity may I expect from each panel?

- Each full panel is 315 watts and is projected to produce 377 kWh average annually or 6,784 kWh over the 18 year agreement.

How long will I get electricity from the facility?

- Each participant will have 18 years of pro-rated electric production credited to their account.

How is it applied to my bill?

- Your pro-rated share of the electric production will show up as a separate line on your monthly bill.

What happens at the end of the agreement?

- The solar energy purchase agreement terminates December 31, 2035.

How does the power I purchase get to my house?

- The power provided by the community solar facility is not directly fed into the member's individual household, but rather goes straight into NREMC's electric grid. Instead of having it physically on your roof, we use a virtual method of calculating how much of the energy produced at the facility gets credited toward your actual energy usage. We do the work and you get the solar credit!

What happens to my share of the electricity if I move?

- If you are moving to another location on our system, the Northeastern REMC Solar Agreement and credits can transfer to that account.
- If you are moving from our system, then the Northeastern REMC Solar Agreement and your share of power can be sold to another individual or business member or sold back to Northeastern REMC.
  - Refer to the Northeastern REMC Solar Agreement for details in Sections 6 and 7.

How do I know how much energy the solar array and my panel(s) are producing each month?

- The community solar facility is monitored 24 hours a day and the electric production can be viewed at nremc.com. The graphics display current (real time) production, kWh produced today, month to date, and year to date for the community solar facility.

Can I take advantage of Federal solar tax credits or Environmental Attributes?

- The project costs have been reduced by investors receiving the Federal tax credits allowed for solar installations making the offering at a lower cost. The Environmental Attributes will be retained by Northeastern REMC.
- What should I do if I am interested or want further information?
  - Call Doug Ferrell at 260-625-3700 or 260-244-6111 x 436 or e-mail at d\_ferrell@nremc.com or visit our website at nremc.com/programs/ solar

Projected Annual Output of Solar Farm

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Farm MWh</u> | <u>Per panel kWh</u> | <u>Year</u> | <u>Farm MWh</u> | <u>Per panel kWh</u> |
|-------------|-----------------|----------------------|-------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| 1           | 63.9            | 400                  | 10          | 60.03           | 375                  |
| 2           | 63.5            | 397                  | 11          | 59.61           | 373                  |
| 3           | 63.0            | 394                  | 12          | 59.19           | 370                  |
| 4           | 62.6            | 391                  | 13          | 58.78           | 367                  |
| 5           | 62.1            | 389                  | 14          | 58.36           | 365                  |
| 6           | 61.7            | 386                  | 15          | 57.96           | 362                  |
| 7           | 61.3            | 383                  | 16          | 57.55           | 360                  |
| 8           | 60.8            | 381                  | 17          | 57.15           | 357                  |
| 9           | 60.45           | 378                  | 18          | 56.75           | <u>355</u>           |
|             |                 |                      |             |                 | 6,784                |

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