

HOW NET METERING WORKS

Residential solar systems are becoming more attainable, and more homeowners are exploring solar panels as an additional source for powering their homes. The amount of electricity produced by solar panels depends on several factors, including your home's sunlight exposure, energy use habits, and the number of panels installed. In many cases, solar panels can generate an adequate amount of electricity to power your home.

What is net metering?

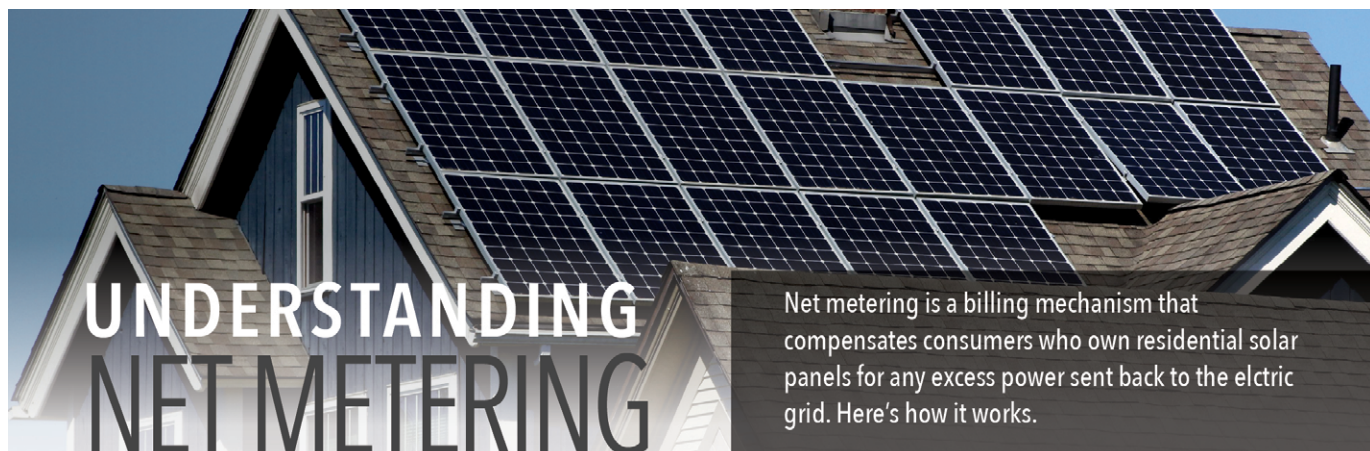
Dunn Energy Cooperative offers a net metering program, which compensates solar owners for any excess electricity the system produces. If a solar system generates more power than the home requires (typically during peak sunlight hours), the additional energy can be fed back into the electric grid. In return, the homeowner will be allowed to bank any extra energy produced for the months the system doesn't produce enough energy. The balance is trued-up once per year. This billing arrangement is known as “net metering.” While member-owned solar is the most popular renewable generation source for homeowners, it should be noted that net metering can also be applied

to small-scale wind, hydroelectric, geothermal, and biomass systems that generate electricity.

How does Dunn Energy Cooperative know how much to credit for the excess power?

When member-owned solar panels produce less electricity than the home requires, the electric meter runs forward, just as it would on a home without solar panels. But when the solar system generates more electricity than you need, the electric meter runs backward, and the excess power is sent back to the grid. At the end of the billing cycle, you are charged for the “net” energy used from the electric grid. It's important to understand that the amount of electricity you use does not include the full cost of maintaining grid infrastructure that supports your home year-round. This is why you will see charges (in addition to “net” use) that help maintain reliable electric service, such as grid upkeep, transformer upgrades, and system balancing.

Net metering is especially helpful throughout the year, as solar production is typically higher during summer months and lower during winter months. It allows member-owners to earn credits during high-production



UNDERSTANDING NET METERING

Net metering is a billing mechanism that compensates consumers who own residential solar panels for any excess power sent back to the electric grid. Here's how it works.

1. A privately-owned, residential solar panel system converts energy from sunlight into electricity.
2. An inverter, which is connected to the electric grid, converts the electricity from direct current (DC) to alternating current (AC) to make it safe for use in homes.
3. The electricity is used to power the home. (It should be noted that solar panels do not provide electricity during a power outage.)
4. If the panels produce more electricity than the home needs, the consumer is compensated for excess electricity sent back to the grid.

Note: Factors such as solar system ownership and state-specific laws can impact net metering policies in various regions. Contact your electric cooperative if you have questions about net metering.

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NET METERING *cont.*

months and use them later in the year when solar output is lower.

Net Metering Installation

Dunn Energy Cooperative members who install solar and participate in net metering will need to sign an interconnection agreement, ensure fees are paid, provide required information, and ensure proper safety equipment is installed.

You should also work with a reputable solar vendor to ensure generation estimates are realistic and that your home is equipped for the system.

It's important to note that net metering will not eliminate your energy bill. Even if you generate as much electricity as you use, which is rare, you will continue to be billed for essential services such as grid access, service fees and other fixed costs that are necessary to maintain a safe and reliable system.

If you're interested in solar or would like to learn more about net metering, Dunn Energy Cooperative can help. By connecting with us first, you can gain a better understanding of the solar energy system, billing options, and more.

FROM THE BOARD ROOM

June 2025 Board Meeting Highlights



Monthly Reports:

The CEO/General Manager gave an overview of the cooperative's current issues, including hosting a regional economic update with key leaders in Western Wisconsin, a discussion on the current three-phase development policy, a change in capital credits notification procedure for inactive members, and other updates.

The CFO report discussed May financials, as well as the capital credit retirement formula for 2025. The board approved a retirement formula in line with years past.

The Operations report noted that the brushing contractor has finished the 2025 brushing rotation. Day-to-day work continues. The contractor has completed all of the plowing for the work plan projects for the year.

The Engagement report included an update on social media metrics, program implementations, and a reminder of the Operation Round Up committee meeting in July.

The Information Technology report noted the increased security with new hardware recently installed, as well as an update to the Cooperative's mapping system.

Energy Services provided updates on metering, load management, and renewable energy. It was noted that there are 151 member-owned solar installations on the Dunn Energy system and three applications in the queue.

The following items were approved:

- Capital credit estate payout for deceased members.
- Audit committee report of all checks, ACH payments, wire transfers, credit card statements, and investment accounts.
- Pass-through power cost adjustment charge to June billing.

Other Business:

Reviewed the monthly report of new Cooperative members.

Safety Meeting recap.

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