



SAN MIGUEL
POWER ASSOC.
NET METERING

San Miguel Power Association

Net Metering White Paper: Understanding Net Meter Billing

Colorado rural electric cooperatives, like SMPA, allow members that are being served by the cooperative to install a qualified, grid-interactive renewable energy generating system that will offset all or a portion of the member's electric load. SMPA requires a Net Metering Agreement and electrical inspection for each connected system for safety and to carry out net meter billing.

Overview

Your SMPA meter measures and distinguishes between kilowatt-hours (KWh) being taken from the grid (delivered energy) and KWh being put on the grid (received energy). It uses two separate registers, one for each direction of energy flow. Your monthly billing statement will show the readings from both meter registers. Page three of this white paper shows where you can find this information on your bill. Each month, the two registers are "netted" against each other to find the net amount of energy used from the grid. This is called net metering, and this white paper helps explain how your account is billed for the energy you use from the grid and credited for the energy you put onto the grid.

Net meter credits will only apply against the KWh energy used from the grid during the billing cycle.

Credits at Retail Rate

The energy (KWh) you put onto the grid each month is given the same weight as the energy you withdraw from the grid. That is, KWh “received” by SMPA is worth the same as a KWh “delivered” by SMPA. This 1:1 crediting will follow the retail rate that is associated with your account.

It is important to note that net meter credits will only apply against the KWh energy used from the grid during the billing cycle. That is, if you used 100 KWh but generated 300 KWh, the net meter credit for that month will be only 100 KWh. The remaining 200 KWh will carry forward to the next month, see [KWh Bank](#) below.



Monthly excess generation ends up in the KWh Bank.

KWh Bank

If your PV system produces more energy than you use, the excess kilowatt-hours are credited to your virtual KWh Bank. The table below describes some examples of how your KWh bank will be used depending on how much you use and how much you generate each month. The policy review on page four talks about how the KWh bank is reconciled on an annual basis.

EXAMPLE 1		EXAMPLE 2 (Adds KWh to KWh Bank)		EXAMPLE 3 (Uses KWh from KWh Bank)	
Used from grid (Delivered)	1000 KWh	Used from grid (Delivered)	200 KWh	Used from grid (Delivered)	600 KWh
Put onto grid (Received)	100 KWh	Put onto grid (Received)	300 KWh	Put onto grid (Received)	300 KWh
Billed for	900 KWh	Billed for	0 KWh	Billed for	200 KWh
KWh Bank = 0 KWh		KWh Bank = 100 KWh		KWh Bank = 0 KWh	

Example statement and where to find information about net metering:

Key

1. Utility Rate Code. The 'N' at the end designates this account as a net meter account.
2. Meter readings for energy delivered by SMPA to the home.
3. Meter readings for energy received by SMPA from the net meter system.
4. Delivered KWh total. (14945 - 14595 = 350)
5. Received KWh total. (7165 - 6765 = 400)
6. Dollar credit amount based on the Received KWh plus or minus any needed adjustment from the KWh bank times the retail KWh rate.
7. Banked KWh activity for this billing period and the most recent bank balance.



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Your Bill Account #: 00000
Please refer to your account number when calling or writing to SMPA regarding your bill.
Bill Date: 07/31/2015

ELECTRIC SERVICE FOR: Mr. Golden Sun
SERVICE ADDRESS: Please Shine Down on Me

PRIMARY A/C: Y DISTRICT: Jack Sibold

Meter Reading Information

Rate Code	Meter #	Service		Delivered Reading		Received Reading		Mult	Billed KWH	Received KWH	Billed Demand
		From	To	Prev	Pres	Prev	Pres				
RR1PHN	100814	06/08	07/08	14595	14945	6765	7165	1	350	400	

Account Activity

Total Previous Balance	17.00
8/28/15 Payment -- Thank You	17.00 CR
7/31/15 350 KWH @ 0.137555	48.14
7/31/15 Adjustment Net Metering Credit	48.14 CR
7/31/15 Access Charge	16.00
7/31/15 Green Cents Round	.68
7/31/15 Ouray County @	.32
Total Account Balance	17.00
Unpaid Balance - Now Past Due	0.00

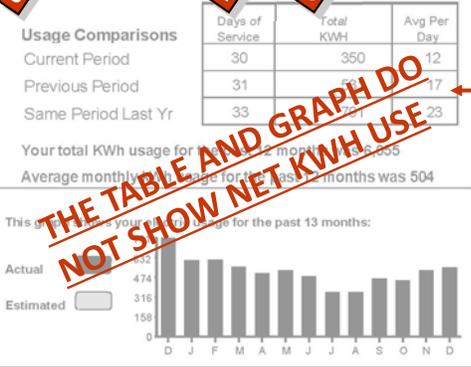
(Late fees on delinquent accounts will be the higher of \$10.00 or 1.5% of the balance due.)

Usage Comparisons

Days of Service	Total KWH	Avg Per Day
Current Period	350	12
Previous Period	350	17
Same Period Last Yr	33	23

Your total KWh usage for the past 12 months was 3,855
Average monthly usage for the past 12 months was 504

This graph shows your usage for the past 13 months:



Message to our members:
Toll Free Ridgway 800-864-7256; Nucla 877-864-7311
Change to kWh Bank: 50. kWh Bank Balance going forward: 50.



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Statement ID	Account #	Due Date	Amount Due
0000	00000	08/21/2015	\$17.00

AUTOPAY

Note: The use comparison table and graph show only Delivered KWh values, so they do not reflect Received KWh. Net meter accounts should not regard the table or graph as the showing their net energy use.

Green Cents Round Up helps raise funds to support more local renewable energy development in SMPA service territory. [Click here](#) for more information.



KWh Credits Only

Solar credits are only applied against the energy used in that billing cycle. They do not offset the monthly grid access charge, which helps pay for the service lines maintenance and equipment, or any other items on your bill such as taxes.

Net Meter Crediting Policy Review

The following is taken from the [SMPA Net Metering Policy](#).

R. A single meter capable of registering the flow of electricity in each direction (KWh received and KWh delivered) will be provided for net metering, at SMPA's expense. Energy that is put onto the system by a member-generator shall be subject to the following:

- a. **Monthly Excess Generation.** If the member generates electricity in excess of the member's monthly consumption, all such excess energy shall be carried forward from month to month and credited on a one-for-one basis against member's energy consumption in subsequent months.
- b. **Annual Excess Generation.** At the end of each annual period, defined as March 1, SMPA shall account for the Annual Excess Generation that has been accrued, if any. The Member-Generator must (not optional) carry forward to the subsequent year all Annual Excess Generation, up to 10,000 KWh. SMPA will pay for all Annual Excess Generation beyond this limit within 60 days of the end of the annual period at the Avoided Cost of Energy, as determined by SMPA.
- c. **Crediting and Payment.** Bill crediting for energy that is put onto the system and payment for Annual Excess Generation shall only be made for qualified net meter accounts with a completed SMPA net metering agreement. Bill crediting will begin at the reading date immediately preceding the utility approval of the net metering agreement. In the case of a new account at a service with an existing net meter system, the bill crediting will begin at the opening of the new account so long as the new account owner completes and submits a new net metering agreement within 30 days of opening the account. If the net meter agreement is submitted after 30 days of opening the account, the bill crediting will begin at the reading date immediately preceding the utility approval of the net metering agreement.
- d. **When a net meter account is closed, or in any situation that SMPA should have to settle-up with a net metered account monetarily, any remaining Excess Generation will be paid to the Member-Generator within 60 days at the Avoided Cost of Energy, as determined by SMPA.**

Additional White Papers *(Available at www.smpa.com/content/net-metering)*

- Reading and Understanding Your SMPA Electric Meter
- Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)
- Monthly Access Charge
- SMPA Net Metering Policy

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