

LCEC Net Metering Guidelines

The LCEC Net Metering program allows LCEC members with a renewable generation system (RGS) to offset all or part of their energy use. To offset energy use, the output from the member's RGS must be used downstream of the meter where it is connected.

Energy not consumed when it is produced is sent to the grid as excess energy and is accumulated and accounted for in "reserves" to be drawn upon as needed to offset future energy use from LCEC. For billing cycle months January through November, any accumulated excess energy in "reserves" will be carried forward for use in the subsequent billing month. In the last billing cycle month of each calendar year (December) all excess energy accrued as kilowatt-hours (kWh) in "reserves" will be trued up and a check will be mailed to the member. The excess kWh accounted for in reserves at the end of the December billing period will be multiplied by the "as available rate" as provided by LCEC's Wholesale Power Supplier to calculate the dollar amount. Since the "as available rate" is variable and is less than the retail rate, it is prudent for members to install a RGS that produces up to the amount of energy the member uses in a year.

Guidelines:

1. Operation of the RGS, except for testing and inspection, prior to the installation of the new LCEC bi-directional meter is prohibited and may result in meter tampering penalties. Members will not receive credit for excess kWh generation for periods of operation prior to the installation of the bi-directional meter.
2. RGS installations require a manual disconnect switch. The manual disconnect switch should disconnect only the renewable source and not the entire member service. The RGS should be installed as shown in [LCEC ESMR Figure 28, Residential/Commercial Service Renewable Generation 100 kW or Less](#).
3. The RGS must shut down when the LCEC grid shuts down in order to prevent dangerous back feed. This is required to protect LCEC employees and contractors who may be working on the grid.
4. The gross power rating or the alternating current (AC) rating for the RGS is the direct current (DC) rating multiplied by 0.85. The AC rating also determines the tier that the RGS falls under for interconnection purposes. There are three tiers for RGS size:

Tier 1 = 10 kW or less

Tier 2 = above 10 kW and up to 100 kW

Tier 3 = above 100 kW and up to 1,000 kW (1 megawatt).

5. The member on the account must complete the following before the RGS can be operational. Once all documentation has been received, LCEC will install the bi-directional meter:
 - a. Application and Compliance Form
 - b. Interconnection Agreement
 - c. Proof of inspection by the local authorities must be provided to LCEC prior to LCEC installing a bi-directional meter
 - d. Pay an application fee to LCEC
 - e. For Tiers 2 and 3, obtain proof of insurance

For further information on the Application and Compliance Form and the Interconnection Agreement, please refer to <http://www.lcec.net/billing/?page=netmetering>. Reference the tier that applies to your RGS.