



## NetGreen Additional Details

### What is NetGreen?

NetGreen is Sonoma Clean Power's Net Energy Metering (NEM) program that allows customers to make their meter "spin backward" and offset their electrical usage by installing a generating system (e.g. a rooftop solar system or a wind turbine). Sonoma Clean Power's (SCP) program has unique benefits to incentivize more local renewable power!

### Benefits of NetGreen

- **NetGreen Credits:** SCP credits the full retail CleanStart rate for energy generated. Those credits are banked monthly to be used to offset any SCP generation charges you may have throughout the year.
- **Annual Cash Out:** Each spring, Customers who are annual net energy generators in kilowatt-hours during the annual cash out period (spring to spring) will be paid for excess energy at SCP's Net Surplus Compensation (NSC) Rate up to \$5,000.\*
- **SCP's Net Surplus Compensation Rate:** SCP's NSC rate would be set at PG&E's 12-month Net Surplus Compensation (NSC) average plus a \$0.01/kWh bonus.
- **Monthly Billing:** We heard from our customers that they did not like receiving a large bill once a year, so we did something about it! SCP bills monthly for any generation usage that is not covered by your NetGreen credits.

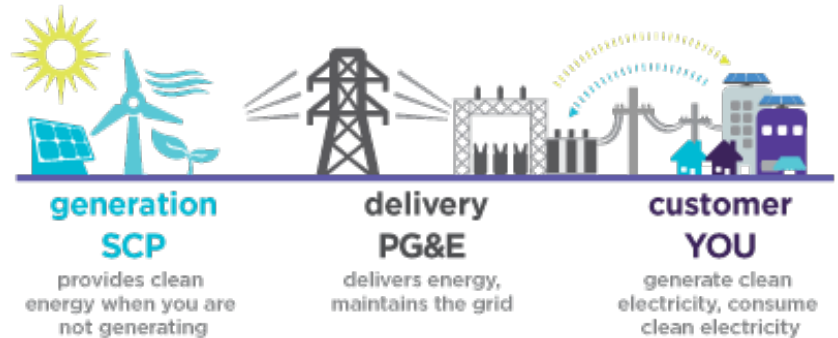
**Note:** By law, NetGreen Aggregation customers are not eligible to receive credit cash-outs and credits are re-set to zero annually.

### How net energy metering (& NetGreen) work

**The Simple Explanation:** Energy generated by your system, minus energy consumed at your location, equals net energy that will be charged or credited to your bill.

**The More Complicated Explanation:** When you install a solar system (or other generating technology), a special meter is installed to measure how much electricity your system generates and sends to the grid, as well as how much electricity you use from the grid. This meter tracks the net energy consumed or generated in kilowatt-hours (kWh).

Every month, PG&E reads your meter, and your bill reflects net energy as either a charge (for net consumption) or a credit (for net generation) based on your rate schedule (e.g., E-1 or E-TOU-C).



PG&E tracks distribution (delivery) charges and credits, carrying them forward month to month for 12 billing months. These are reconciled annually at your True-Up. If your distribution charges exceed your credits, PG&E will send you a bill at the True-Up.

Sonoma Clean Power (SCP) tracks generation charges and credits monthly. SCP banks any generation credits in your NetGreen balance. If you incur generation charges, SCP will use your banked credits first to cover them. If you don't have enough credits, SCP will bill you for the net energy on your monthly PG&E bill. This helps avoid a large annual bill from SCP. Note that PG&E will still send you an annual distribution True-Up bill.

**Annual True-Up Statement:** At the end of your 12-month billing cycle, PG&E will send you an annual True-Up statement. This statement reconciles all cumulative distribution charges, credits, and minimum monthly payments for the entire cycle. Any balance due will appear on your last PG&E bill of the cycle. By law, any remaining credits will be reset to zero before the start of the new billing cycle.

\*PLEASE NOTE: If you are a new SCP customer, or are returning to SCP service, a True-Up will be triggered with your switch to SCP service. \*

## Rates

"How much will SCP pay me for energy I generate?"

**Short Answer:** Each month, SCP will credit you at the full CleanStart rate.

**Long Answer:** SCP will credit you at the full CleanStart rate, but this rate varies based on your rate schedule and the time-of-use period during which the energy was generated.

- **Example:** If you generate more energy than you consume during the peak period, SCP will credit you the peak period CleanStart rate. If you consume more energy than your system generates during the off-peak period, SCP will charge you the off-peak rate.

At cash out, if you are an annual net energy generator (producing more energy than you consume in a year) during the cash out period (spring to spring), SCP will pay you for the excess energy exported to the grid at the Net Surplus Compensation Rate (NSC).

- **Example:** If your system exports 1,000 kWh and you consume 800 kWh annually, you will be paid for the 200 kWh of excess energy exported.
- **Note:** If your system exports 1,000 kWh but you consume 1,100 kWh annually, you will not receive any compensation, even if your NetGreen balance shows credits.

## Annual Cash Out

Each spring, SCP reviews NEM customers' annual energy usage (from spring to spring). If a customer generates more energy than they use over the year, they will be cashed out at PG&E's 12-month Net Surplus Compensation (NSC) average rate plus a \$0.01/kWh bonus for the previous calendar year.

- **For customers with an NSC balance of \$200 or more:** They will automatically receive a check up to a cash-out cap of \$5,000. Any credit balance exceeding \$5,000 will be forfeited and reset to zero.
- **For customers with an NSC balance below \$200:** Their NSC balance will be applied as a credit on their bill.

**Note:** *NetGreen Aggregation customers are not eligible to receive net surplus compensation per state law and will have credits reset to zero annually. NetGreen Aggregation allows a single customer with multiple meters on the same property, or on adjacent or contiguous properties, to use renewable generation (e.g. solar panels) to serve the aggregated load behind all eligible meters and receive the benefits of Net Energy Metering (NEM2).*

## Enrolling in NetGreen

**Existing NEM Customers:** If you're switching to SCP service, the transition to NetGreen is automatic at the time of your service switch. There's no application to fill out or need to give SCP a call. PG&E will share your NEM status with SCP and we automatically enroll you in NetGreen, so you can start taking advantage of the benefits!

**New Solar Customers:** If you are an existing SCP customer planning to install solar (or other generation technology) and you did not submit an application with PG&E before NEM 2.0 (and SCP's NetGreen Program) closed on April 14, 2023, you will be eligible for the Solar Billing Plan. More information can be found [here](#).

## Billing

As a shared customer of PG&E, you will continue to receive a monthly billing statement from PG&E, which will include Sonoma Clean Power (SCP) Generation Charges.

PG&E will bill you for their Minimum Monthly Charges and any gas charges if you are a gas customer. The bill will also show any NEM-related credits or charges.

NetGreen customers will still receive a monthly bill from PG&E, which will include SCP charges and credits. If you do not have enough NetGreen credits to cover the SCP electric generation charges in a given month, you will be billed for and must pay for the net electricity consumed that month.

Sonoma Clean Power will detail your net generation or consumption, the applicable CleanStart rates, any SCP generation charges or credits, and show your NetGreen balance.

For details on how to read your NEM bill, visit our [NetGreen Sample Bill](#).

### Closed Accounts

When you close your account, SCP looks at your total energy usage since the spring cash out. If you have over generated in kWh in the time following the cash out, SCP will cash you out at the NSC rate. SCP will send a check to the mailing address on file up to \$5,000 (no minimum and not applicable to aggregation customers).

### Go 100% Renewable with NetGreen & EverGreen

By signing up for EverGreen, you are ensuring that all the energy consumed in your house or business is 100% renewable and 100% local, even when your system isn't generating! When you choose EverGreen for your home or business, you are nearly eliminating all greenhouse gas emissions from your electricity use.

EverGreen carries an additional premium of \$0.025/kWh and is charged any time there is any net consumption of electricity, but not credited when there's generation. This means that the EverGreen premium may reduce the number of SCP generation credits earned through NetGreen.

Time-of-Use customers, please note that the EverGreen premium will be charged on all net energy consumed during any time-of-use period (Peak, Part-Peak, Off-Peak).

### Get Generating!

Thinking of installing a solar system, or other generating technology, to help reduce your bill? The process of installing a system is the same with Sonoma Clean Power.

A solar installer/contractor will help evaluate your site for feasibility, analyze your bill to see if you're a good candidate, design the system, pull the proper permits, apply with PG&E for interconnection to the distribution grid, and install the system. Once everything checks out and PG&E determines it's safe to operate, PG&E will send you a Letter of Operation to flip the switch and start generating clean electricity!

SCP highly encourages customers get multiple evaluations and quotes. We do not provide evaluations or installations. However, here are a few local resources that may help!

- Get help with free solar consultations: contact the Sonoma County Energy Independence Office at (707) 565-6470 or [sceip@sonoma-county.org](mailto:sceip@sonoma-county.org).
- Learn about financing options, including Property Accessed Clean Energy (PACE) Financing: contact the Sonoma County Energy Independence Office at (707) 565-6470 or via email at [sceip@sonoma-county.org](mailto:sceip@sonoma-county.org).