



What's New for Contractors

April 2020

Net Meter Set Required Before Solar System Activation

The NV Energy Meter Shop was recently notified that some PV projects are being energized before a utility safety inspection is completed. Per NV Energy's Rule 15, Section C.5, the utility shall have the right to review the design of the Producer's Generating Interconnection Facilities, and to inspect the system before energizing the system to work in parallel with NV Energy's distribution system. This rule is in place to avoid the following scenarios:

- **A high power bill due to the inappropriate meter being set.** A typical retail customer will have a standard kWh meter, which cannot determine the difference between energy delivered from the grid and energy generated by the customer to go back to the grid. Because of this, both will register as total electric consumption, which will result in a high kWh reading and a high

power bill. Also, the customer will not be credited for any excess energy generated by their renewable system. However, after passing the utility inspection, NV Energy will install the meter type that can correctly read the delivered and exported values, and record the excess credit generated by the customer.

- **An unsafe working condition for our field personnel working a service area where an energized PV system might be operating prior to receiving a permission to operate (PTO) status.** Our personnel work on energized power lines, and it is critical to locate all the renewable generation operating within the affected area before any electrical work and maintenance is done. This data comes from our internal mapping system that shows the location of any net metered electrical systems. The mapping system ONLY gets updated once a PTO status is granted to a customer's generator system.

The safety of our customers and employees is NV Energy's top priority, and we take these issues seriously. Violation will result in the locking out of the customer's generating system and automatic failed safety inspection, and delay of energizing their new solar system. We appreciate your attention regarding this matter, and continued adherence to our standards and rules to ensure the reliability and integrity of the smart electric grid system.

Non-incentive System Expansions on an Incentivized Solar System

In order to accommodate non-incentive system expansions on a previously incentivized system, the Net Metering Interconnection Agreement (ICA) has been updated to allow NV Energy to receive the solar credits generated from a non-incentive system.

The revised ICA allows the solar expansion to run through the existing REC meter (incentivized), therefore avoiding the expensive of installing separate equipment. The customer will continue to retain the benefit of net metering (generation credits applied towards the power bill) for every kWh of green energy delivered to the grid. If you are installing an expansion system on a previously incentivized system and haven't submitted your documentation, please generate a new ICA. If you've already submitted, reach out to us and we will assist you with the new ICA.

Energy Audits Approved for Solar System Sizing

If the customer does not have 12 consecutive months of billing history during the prior two years, or a change in consumption is not sufficiently captured in the customer's usage, an energy audit report may be used to quantify the annual amount of energy the customer's household uses.

- The energy auditor must have an active license issued by the Nevada Real Estate division. The report must follow the guidelines/standards set forth in [NRS 645D.300](#).
- Must be a full energy audit - limited energy assessments do not qualify because it does not account for the entirety of the customer's load.
- During the review process, the energy auditor's license number will be verified by the [Nevada Real Estate Division](#).
- The computer software used must be approved by the United States Department of Energy. The list of software curated by the Department of Energy can be found here: <https://www.energy.gov/eere/buildings/list-approved-software-calculating-energy-efficient-home-credit>

Thank you for participating in our programs!

Contact Us

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