

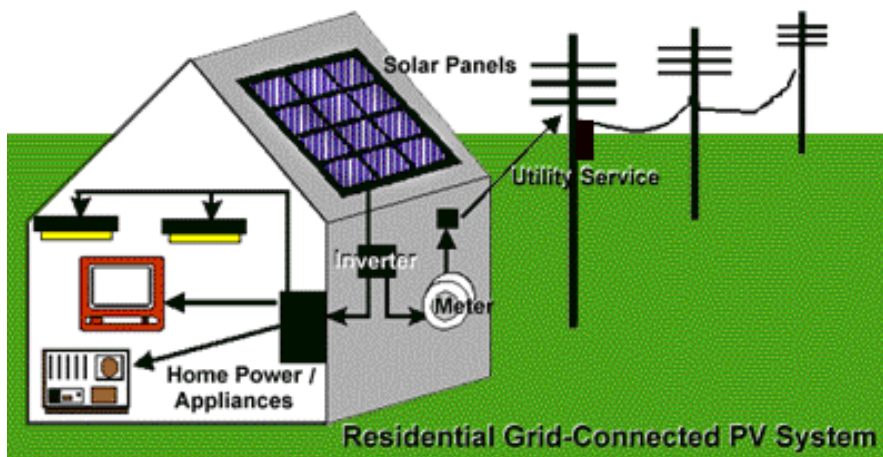
Understanding Net Metering

The Basics

Net metering is one of many techniques available to measure and value the output of the member-owned generation. Net metering rules generally provide that consumers with certain self-generation capabilities should have a meter that rolls forwards when the member consumes power from the grid and rolls backwards when the member exports power to the grid. If the member uses more energy over the course of a billing period than they have generated, they pay only for the net energy that they have imported from the system, plus any fixed monthly charges provided by the rate schedule.

The Technical Picture

The generation resource generates electricity; the energy flows toward the meter, but must go through an “inverter” first. The inverter ensures that the energy flows in the form (AC-alternating current) that is used in the home. If there is no demand for energy at the residence or the demand is lower than the generation the energy then flows to the distribution system. It moves through the transformer on the member’s utility service, which will “step up” the energy to match the voltage in the distribution system. This same transformer “steps-down” the energy when it flows from the distribution system to the residence.



Availability

Net Metering is available to any resident or member of Craighead Electric Cooperative receiving service under rate schedules 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10 or 20 and has installed a net metering facility and signed a Standard Interconnection Agreement with Craighead Electric. The net metering facility shall have a generating capacity of not more than 25 KW for residential use or 300 KW for any other use.

Safety Features

To prevent a net metering customer from back-feeding a de-energized line, the customer shall install a manual disconnect switch with lockout capability that is accessible to Cooperative personnel at all hours. This requirement for a manual disconnect switch will be waived if the following three conditions are met:

1. The inverter equipment must be designed to shut down or disconnect and cannot be manually overridden by the customer upon loss of power.
2. The inverter must be warranted by the manufacturer to shut down or disconnect upon loss of power.
3. The inverter must be properly installed and operated, and inspected and/or tested by Cooperative personnel.

Customers, at his own expense, shall meet all safety and performance standards established by local and national electrical codes including the National Electric Code (NEC), the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), the National Electrical Safety Code (NESC), and Underwriters Laboratories (UL).

Metering

The Cooperative shall furnish and install a standard kilowatt-hour meter. Customer shall provide and install a meter socket for the Cooperative's meter and any related interconnection equipment per the Cooperative's technical requirements, including safety and performance standards.