



HOLLAND BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

What You Need to Know About Net Metering

Interested in generating your own electricity from renewable resources? The Holland Board of Public Works is offering a Net Metering Program for customers who wish to generate electric power using solar, wind, hydropower, geothermal, or qualified biomass resources. Beginning October 1, 2008, Net Metering will be available to electric customers for generation up to 30 kilowatts.

What is Net Metering? The Net Metering Program is a special metering and billing agreement that offers HBPW customers the opportunity to support environmentally friendly fuel sources. It enables customers who generate electricity using renewable energy sources to connect to the electric utility grid and to send electricity back to the grid at times when their generation exceeds their own use. Under the Net Metering Program, the customer receives a credit for the "Net Excess Generation" and can use these credits to offset their electric consumption when supplied by the HBPW.

Eligibility

To be eligible for the HBPW Net Metering Program:

- 1) A participant must be an HBPW electric customer on Rate A, B, C, F, H or M.
- 2) The customer's electric generator must be fueled by a qualified renewable energy source such as wind, solar, biomass, hydro, geothermal or other approved renewable resources.
- 3) The nameplate capacity of the renewable generator may not exceed 30 kilowatts (kW).
- 4) The renewable generator may not be sized to exceed the customer's annual electricity needs.
- 5) The generator must be located on and serving only the customer's premises.
- 6) Customer must meet approved Interconnection requirements before participating in this program.

How does the program work?

Once your application and fee are received, a HBPW representative will contact you to discuss your application and assist in developing an Interconnection Agreement that is specific to your project. A meter will be installed to measure the output of your renewable generator. Your existing meter will record the electric energy received from and put back onto the electric grid. The Holland BPW will read the meters and bill you for energy supplied from the electric grid and give you credit for energy you generated on site, up to the amounts specified in the Net Metering Tariff. If you generate more electricity than you use, you will be given Net Excess Generation credits, which you can carry forward to future billing periods.

The HBPW will calculate the average annual consumption for the customer. The customer will not be allowed to carry a NEG Credit totaling more than the three-month annual average. Any NEG credit that totals more than the three-month annual average will be reset to the lesser of the three-month annual average, or the generator size, and the excess credit will be forfeited.

Enrollment

To start the Net Metering application process, request an interconnection study by completing the Interconnection Application found in the [Michigan Electric Utility Generator Interconnection Requirements](#) (located on the HBPW website, www.hollandbpw.com). The application fee is \$100.00 *and is not refundable*. In addition, complete and send to HBPW the [Net Metering Program Application](#). This will ensure that the proper metering configuration is installed which will enable the customer to receive "Net Excess Generation Credits." (Application forms are available on line at www.hollandbpw.com and www.hollandfutureenergy.com.)

After the Holland BPW has completed the interconnection study and approved the proposed interconnection and net metering project, the customer will be required to enter into an "Interconnection and Operating Agreement." The customer is responsible for any costs associated with the interconnection.

Metering Requirements

Holland BPW's Net Metering Program requires that the customer have an electronic bi-directional billing meter and a separate generation meter. All metering equipment must meet the company's standard specifications and requirements and will be furnished, installed, read, maintained, and owned by Holland BPW.

Billing

Participating customers will continue to be billed based on the total amount of electricity used. The bill will also include a generation credit in the applicable billing period for the output of the generator. Net Excess Generation (NEG) Credits for the electricity generated over the current month's consumption will be carried over to the next billing period.

Need more information

For more details and to obtain application forms: www.hollandbpw.com

For general questions, contact: Customer Service at 616/355.1500

For technical information, contact: Bill Bush Contact at 616/355.1611

