

# Understanding your Utility Bill with Community Solar

## PACIFIC POWER CUSTOMERS

### Overview

Every month, solar power is generated by the project connected to your solar subscription. The amount of solar energy produced directly results in discounts to your monthly utility bill. This document explains how community solar interacts with your utility bill.



### Before We Begin

To better understand your utility bill, it helps to understand how electricity consumption is measured and the charges based on that consumption.

#### 1. How Electricity Consumption is Measured

Every time you turn on a light bulb or plug in a device in your home, you are consuming electricity. The rate of power a device uses when it is turned on (or plugged in) is measured in watts (W) or kilowatts (kW). 1000 W = 1 kW. The rate of power a device consumes over time is measured in kilowatt-hours (kWh).

A couple examples:

 $\begin{array}{r} 100W \\ \times \\ 10 \text{ hours} \\ \hline = 1 \text{ kWh} \end{array}$ <p>A single 100W light bulb that stays on for 10 hours is equal to <b>1 kWh</b>. If it stays on for 20 hours, it will use <b>2 kWh</b>.</p>	 $\begin{array}{r} 1 \text{ kW} \\ \times \\ 1 \text{ hour} \\ \hline = 1 \text{ kWh} \end{array}$ <p>A washing machine that uses 1000W or 1 kW of power and stays on for a 1-hour cycle will consume <b>1 kWh</b> of energy.</p>
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#### 2. How Your Bill Relates to Electricity Consumption

Your utility bill depends on a number of factors, including your electricity rate plan (examples include time of use (TOU) rate, fixed rate, or tiered rate), along with fees, taxes, and adjustments specific to your utility company and geographical location. The simplest way to calculate your monthly utility bill is to understand that the charges and fees you pay are largely based on the electricity you consume in a given month (kWh) multiplied by a per-kWh(\$/kWh) rate determined by your utility company.

### Your Utility Bill + Community Solar

The following section will help you understand your bill as it exists now and changes that will impact your bill upon signing up for community solar. Use the sample bill provided by your utility company to help follow along.

## Sections of Utility Bill (View full bill sample on pages 3–5)

### 1. Normal utility bill charges

These costs are based on your electricity consumption, taxes, fees, and adjustments—not solar energy production! After signing up for community solar, you will continue to be billed for the amount of electricity you consume every month per its normal schedule.

### 2. Bill Credits

Monthly discounts that accrue based on the amount of solar energy (kWh) produced through your solar subscription. Bill credits are applied according to a per-kWh rate (\$/kwh) determined by your utility company. Rates can be found in the table below.

Bill Credit Rate	Portland General Electric	Pacific Power	Idaho Power
Tier 1	\$0.11234	\$0.0977	\$0.0848
Tier 2	\$0.11234	\$0.0977	-

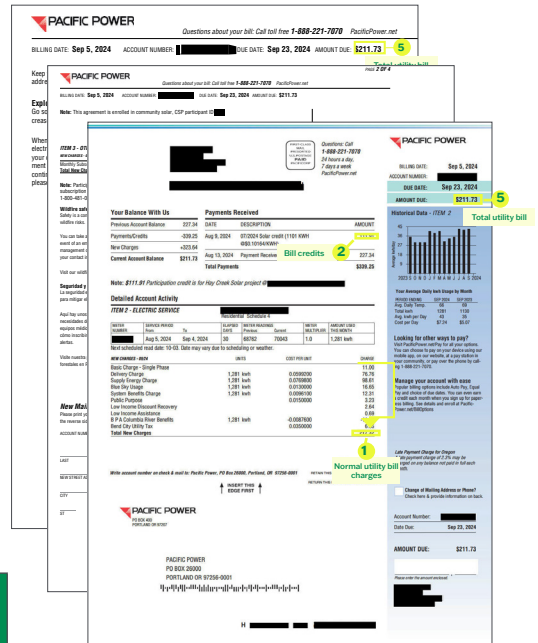
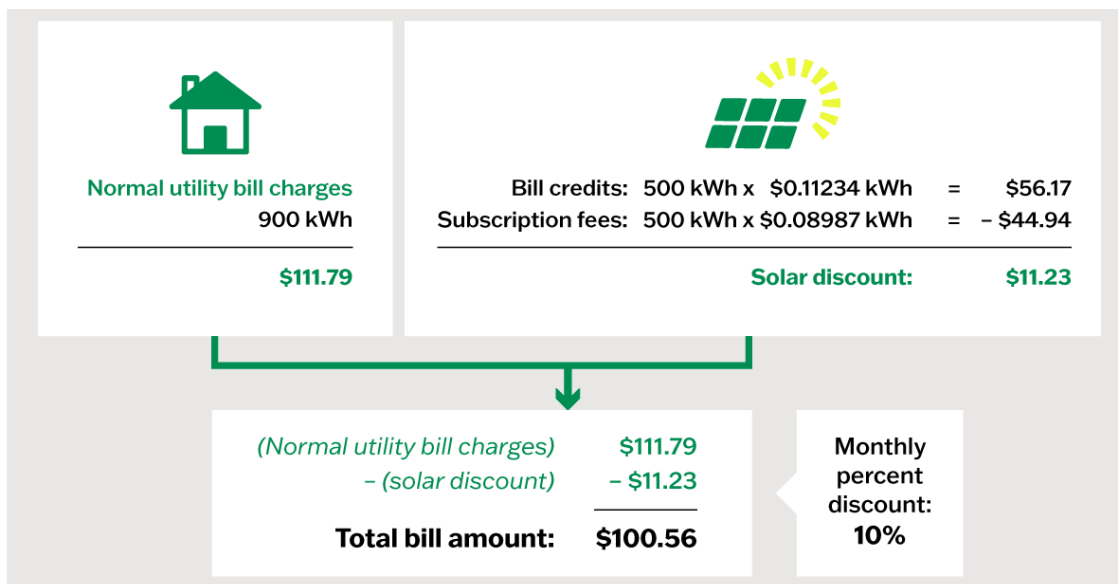
\*Bill credit rates are fixed for Tier 1 projects. Bill credit rates for Tier 2 projects will escalate 2% each year beginning in April 2023. This escalator is only applicable to Portland General Electric and Pacific Power customers.

### 3. Subscription Fees

Monthly fees that accrue based on the amount of solar energy (kWh) produced through your solar subscription. Subscription fees are applied according to a per-kWh rate (\$/kwh) determined by your Project Manager but are always lower than your bill credit rate.<sup>1</sup> In Tier 1 projects, subscription fees must be at least 20% less than your bill credits. In Tier 2 projects, subscription fees must be at least 40% less than your bill credits, i.e., these projects offer greater bill savings. The difference between bill credits and subscription fees accounts for your monthly discount! Subscription fee rates for individual projects can be found within the Project Finder on the ORCSP website.

### 4. Total Utility Bill

Your total electricity bill is calculated by subtracting your solar discounts from your electricity costs. Here is an example:



<sup>1</sup> Some projects offer greater discounts. Special circumstances apply for projects involving subsidized housing participants.

Sample Pacific Power Utility Bill – front



Questions: Call  
**1-888-221-7070**  
 24 hours a day,  
 7 days a week  
 PacificPower.net



BILLING DATE: **Sep 6, 2024**

ACCOUNT NUMBER: [REDACTED]

DUE DATE: **Sep 24, 2024**

AMOUNT DUE: **\$114.76**

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**Your Balance With Us**

Previous Account Balance	201.60
Payments/Credits	-201.60
New Charges	+114.76
<b>Current Account Balance</b>	<b>\$114.76</b>

**Payments Received**

DATE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
Aug 9, 2024	07/2024 Solar credit (492 KWH @ \$0.10164/KWH)	50.06
Aug 23, 2024	Payment Received - Thank You	151.54
<b>Total Payments</b>		<b>\$201.60</b>

Note: \$50.06 Participation credit is for Hay Creek Solar project @ [REDACTED]

Note: You're helping the environment and yourself by participating in paperless billing - here's a \$0.50 credit.

**Detailed Account Activity**

**ITEM 1 - ELECTRIC SERVICE**

Perm Residential Schedule 7

METER NUMBER	SERVICE PERIOD From	To	ELAPSED DAYS	METER READINGS Previous	Current	METER MULTIPLIER	AMOUNT USED THIS MONTH
[REDACTED]	Aug 6, 2024	Sep 5, 2024	30	36655	37496	1.0	841 kwh

Next scheduled read date: 10-04. Date may vary due to scheduling or weather.

**NEW CHARGES - 09/24**

	UNITS	COST PER UNIT	CHARGE
Basic Charge - Single Phase			11.00
Delivery Charge	841 kwh	0.0599200	50.39
Supply Energy Charge	841 kwh	0.0769800	64.74
Blue Sky Usage	841 kwh	0.0130000	10.93
System Benefits Charge	841 kwh	0.0096100	8.08
Public Purpose		0.0150000	2.18
Low Income Assistance			0.69
B P A Columbia River Benefits	841 kwh	-0.0087600	-7.37
Low Income Discount		-0.4000000	-56.26
Paperless Bill Credit			-0.50
Portland City Tax		0.0150000	1.05

See reverse

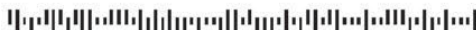
Write account number on check & mail to: Pacific Power, PO Box 26000, Portland, OR 97256-0001

RETAIN THIS PORTION FOR YOUR RECORDS.

RETURN THIS PORTION WITH YOUR PAYMENT.

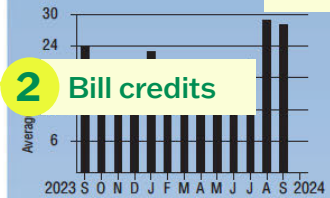


PACIFIC POWER  
 PO BOX 26000  
 PORTLAND OR 97256-0001



H [REDACTED]

**Historical Data - ITEM 1**



**Your Average Daily kWh Usage by Month**

PERIOD ENDING	SEP 2024	SEP 2023
Avg. Daily Temp.	71	74
Total kwh	841	715
Avg. kwh per Day	28	24
Cost per Day	\$2.82	\$3.50

**Looking for other ways to pay?**

Visit PacificPower.net/Pay for all your options. You can choose to pay on your device using our mobile app, on our website, at a pay station in your community, or pay over the phone by calling 1-888-221-7070.

**Manage your account with ease**

Popular billing options include Auto Pay, Equal Pay and choice of due dates. You can even earn a credit each month when you sign up for paperless billing with Pacific Power.

**1 Normal utility bill charges**

**Late Payment Charge for Oregon**  
 A late payment charge of 2.3% may be charged on any balance not paid in full each month.

Change of Mailing Address or Phone?  
 Check here & provide information on back.

Account Number: [REDACTED]

Date Due: **Sep 24, 2024**

AMOUNT DUE: **\$114.76**

[REDACTED]

Please enter the amount enclosed.

[REDACTED]



Questions about your bill: Call toll free 1-888-221-7070 PacificPower.net

BILLING DATE: **Sep 6, 2024** ACCOUNT NUMBER: [REDACTED] DUE DATE: **Sep 24, 2024** AMOUNT DUE: **\$114.76**

NEW CHARGES - 09/24 - CONTINUED	UNITS	COST PER UNIT	CHARGE
Multnomah County Fee		-0.0030000	-0.21
<b>Total New Charges</b>			<b>84.72</b>

**Note:** This agreement is enrolled in community solar, CSP participant ID [REDACTED]

ITEM 2 - OTHER SERVICE	UNITS	COST PER UNIT	CHARGE
Hay Creek Solar Schedule 127			
Monthly Subscription Fee			30.04
<b>Total New Charges</b>			<b>30.04</b>

**3** Subscription fees

**Note:** Participant fees for service address [REDACTED] If you have questions about your subscription fee, solar credit, or a concern about your project, please contact Community Solar Program at 1-800-481-0510 or email: info@oregoncsp.org.

**Wildfire safety & preparedness**

Safety is a community effort that takes all of us working together. At Pacific Power, we're continuing to take steps to mitigate wildfire risks.

You can take action at home: Make a plan, create defensible space around your home, and plan for your family's needs in the event of an emergency. Consider a backup generator if you have medical equipment. Check your local emergency management or public safety website for more information on how to sign up for alerts. It's also important for you to update your contact information and sign up for alerts with us.

Visit our wildfire safety web page to prepare for wildfire season at PacificPower.net/WildfireSafety.

**Seguridad y preparación**

La seguridad es un esfuerzo comunitario que requiere la colaboración de todos. En Pacific Power seguimos tomando medidas para mitigar el riesgo de incendios forestales.

Aquí hay unos pasos para prepararse: Cree un plan, identifique un espacio defendible alrededor de su casa y prevea las necesidades de su familia en caso de emergencia. Considere la posibilidad de instalar un generador de reserva si tiene equipos médicos. Consulte la página web local sobre emergencias o seguridad pública para obtener más información sobre cómo inscribirse para recibir alertas. También es importante que actualice sus datos de contacto y se inscriba para nuestras alertas.

**New Mailing Address or Phone?**

Please print your new information below and check the box on the reverse side of this Payment Stub. Thank you.

ACCOUNT NUMBER: [REDACTED]

LAST FIRST M.I.

NEW STREET ADDRESS

CITY

ST ZIP TELEPHONE NUMBER

This product contains fiber from well-managed, independently certified forests.



Questions about your bill: Call toll free 1-888-221-7070 PacificPower.net

BILLING DATE: **Sep 6, 2024** ACCOUNT NUMBER: [REDACTED] DUE DATE: **Sep 24, 2024** AMOUNT DUE: **\$114.76**

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Total utility bill

Visite nuestra página web sobre seguridad contra incendios forestales para prepararse para la temporada de incendios forestales en PacificPower.net/Listo.

Keep your contact information current so we can reach you. Login at PacificPower.net, create an online profile with your email address and mobile number, or call us with your updates at 1-888-221-7070.

When you provide a check as payment, you authorize us to use the information from your check either to make a one-time electronic fund transfer from your account or to process the payment as a check transaction. When we use information from your check to make an electronic fund transfer, funds may be withdrawn from your account as soon as we receive your payment and you will not receive your check back from your financial institution. If you would like to opt out of this program and continue processing your payment as a check transaction, please call 1-800-895-0561. If you have opted out previously, please disregard this message.

## Total Annual Discounts

Most participants of the Oregon Community Solar Program can expect to save between 10-15% on their electricity bills every year.<sup>2</sup> Your annual discount in dollars will depend on the size of your subscription. To learn more about how this works, please refer to our **solar savings** document.

### We support you.

If you find that you need extra assistance, please feel free to reach out to us at:

**CommunityEnergyProject.org**  
*Community Solar Coordinator*  
971-544-8718  
[solar@communityenergyproject.org](mailto:solar@communityenergyproject.org)