

## How does participation in Redwood Electric Cooperative Community Solar affect your monthly bill?

Participation only affects the monthly kWh charge (fixed plus wholesale). It does not reduce the monthly facility charge.

### Example:

Member uses 1,000kWh's at their home meter.  
 Redwood Electric kWh rate for the month is \$.105/kWh (estimated average current kWh rate)  
 Community solar array produces 45kWh's per panel for the month.  
 Member chooses to participate with 2 panels. Members do not own the panels.

**Participation Option A:** Member pays one-time fee of \$1,175 per panel and receives kWh credit on their monthly bill for kWh's produced from array until October 31, 2037. Member signs license agreement.

Member used kWh's at home meter	1,000 kWh's
Member kWh credit from solar (2 panels)	- 90 kWh's
Member kWh's billed for month	<u>910 kWh's</u>
Member kWh charge for month 910kWh's x \$.105	\$95.55
<b>Member saved</b>	<b>\$9.45</b>

*Regular monthly bill no solar: 1,000kWh's x \$.105 = \$105.00*

The value of the solar kWh credit will be based on the Redwood Electric monthly kWh rate (fixed kWh plus wholesale kWh). If the Redwood Electric Cooperative monthly kWh rate increases the value of the solar kWh credit increases.

**Participation Option B:** Member purchases energy from solar array each month at rate of \$.13/kWh. Member can lock in \$.13 rate until 12/31/2037. There is no contract. No upfront payment. Member can stop participation at any time.

Member used kWh's at home meter	1,000 kWh's
Member participation is 2 panels	90 kWh's
Solar kWh purchase 90kWh's x \$.13	\$11.70
Regular kWh purchase 910kWh's x \$.105	<u>\$95.55</u>
Member kWh charge for month	\$107.25
<b>Increase in cost from solar participation on monthly bill</b>	<b>\$2.25</b>

*Regular monthly bill no solar: 1,000kWh's x \$.105 = \$105.00*

The community solar \$.13 rate will not increase. The rate is good until December 31, 2037. If Redwood Electric Cooperative monthly kWh rate increases above \$.13/kWh, the member would be purchasing energy from the community solar cheaper than the regular rate. This option allows members to lock in a rate for a long period of time for part of their electrical needs.

## Advantages and Disadvantages

Redwood Electric Cooperative's *Worry-Free* Community Solar offers some advantages over purchasing your own renewable energy system.

1. Can participate with no money upfront.
2. From your trusted energy supplier – no need to go searching for contractors.
3. Nothing is built on your property.
4. You have nothing to maintain.
5. You can lock in future energy prices.
6. No cost shifts to other members.
7. Redwood Electric Cooperative's community solar array is a registered renewable energy generation source with the Midwest Renewable Energy Tracking System.

### Participation Option A: Purchase per panel

Advantages:

- Pay once – like prepaying for electricity.
- kWh cost is estimated to be about \$.12/kWh.
- Get kWh credit on monthly bill.
- Can transfer **or** give the gift of electricity.
- Receive kWh credits from array production until October 31, 2037.

Disadvantages:

- Upfront costs
- License contract – if member moves or no longer has SCE account they need to arrange transfer to another SCE member.

### Participation Option B: Purchase per kWh

Advantages:

- No upfront costs
- No contract
- Can cancel at anytime
- Lock in rate

Disadvantages:

- Higher kWh cost compared to Option A (\$.13/kWh vs. estimated \$.12/kWh)
- Cannot transfer

Renewable energy production, such as solar, is very dependent on the weather. All production estimates are just that estimates. There is no guarantee of outcome.