



Sierra Electric Cooperative, Inc.

610 Hwy 195 • P.O. Box 290 • Elephant Butte, New Mexico 87935

575-744-5231 • Fax: 575-744-5819

www.sierraelectric.org

How to Read your Solar Meters

NET Meter (Green Label)

DEL – This is the electricity delivered from the grid to the customer since the meter was installed, measured in kilo-Watt hours. Anything the solar system was not able to cover with solar production the grid will provide the needed electricity to suffice the load. Applies to grid-tied systems.

REC – This is electricity generated by your solar system and not consumed making its way back to the grid, since the meter was installed, measured in kilo-Watt hours. Any over-production is credited to your monthly bill off-setting any consumption or credited at the avoided-cost rate** to off-set your monthly system charge. Applies to grid-tied systems.

NET – This is the net amount of electricity consumed since the meter was installed, which is the difference between delivered and received.

TOT – This is the sum of the energy delivered and received, totaling all the energy measured at the meter.

REC Meter (White Label)

The REC (Renewable Energy Credits) meter only measures total production from the Photovoltaic System. According to SEIA (Solar Energy Industries Association) only about 20-40% of energy produced is sent to the grid, meaning total production is **NOT** all sent to the grid, because while the system is producing, the electricity generated will first go to support the load demand from the customer, after it satisfies the load, any excess will then travel back to the grid.

*To determine your monthly usage, you will need to look at the last meter read, usually displayed on your billing statement, and the current meter read. The meter does not reset each month, but it measures all the electricity that has passed through the meter since it was installed. Billing months run from midnight on the first of the month to midnight the first of the following month.

**Avoided-Cost Rate is the rate at which Sierra Electric Cooperative Inc. purchases any Net over generation from a solar system. Avoided-Cost Rate is calculated from the revenue and losses from energy purchased through the generating and transmission supplier. This rate varies each year and is approved by the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission.

