



Power SaverTM Program *Saving Energy Together*

COMMERCIAL SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) PERFORMANCE BASED INCENTIVE (PBI)

Why Participate In The Program?

Austin Energy's Solar PBI Program is designed to help you implement photovoltaic (PV) technology at your commercial property by offering incentives based on the electrical output of your installed PV system. By using Austin Energy (AE) as your energy management partner, we can offer unbiased expertise to help you decide how to make the most effective use of your energy dollars. By implementing PV technology, you will be helping the City of Austin reduce the need to generate additional power, lower our long-term investment costs for new electric facilities and also enhance our City's environment.

QUALIFICATIONS/GUIDELINES

Installation and Warranties

- All work must be performed in accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local, manufacturer's codes and standards and AE Interconnection Guidelines.
- PBI applicants must use an AE registered installer. A list of registered installers is found on AE's website. Installers must be certified by NABCEP (North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners). For details on how to become NABCEP certified, please visit their website at: <http://www.nabcep.org>.
- Only eligible PV modules qualify for rebates under the AE program. As a list of eligible PV modules, AE adopts by reference those listed by the California Energy Commission (CEC) on its website: <http://www.gosolarcalifornia.org>.
NOTE: AE is not a manufacturer, supplier or guarantor of the PV system or installers, and AE, whether by making available a list of registered installers and equipment sources or otherwise, has not made and makes no representations or warranties of any nature, directly or indirectly, express or implied, as to performance of the installer or reliability, performance, durability, condition or quality of the PV system selected and purchased.
- All PV systems installed must carry a 5-year warranty from the installer in addition to a minimum 10-year manufacturer warranty on and a minimum 20 year manufacturer warranty on solar panels.
- This Performance Based Incentive is limited to systems rated up to 20kW AC. This is in accordance with the Distributed Generation from Renewable Sources Rider.
- PBI are limited to one system per campus.
- System size may not be increased without authorization of Austin Energy through the application process.
- Licensed electrical contractors must obtain appropriate permits and perform all electrical interconnections.
- All inverters and solar modules must be new.
- All PV systems must be interconnected to AE's electrical grid, at customer's expense. The PV system will comply with current COA guidelines governing interconnection with COA's electric system, and any subsequent revisions to these guidelines.
- Contractor must include any required service upgrade price in the original bid.
- If re-roofing is required, PV system removal and reinstallation is at customer expense.
- Contractor must submit W-9 for recipient of incentive funds.
- All roof penetrations must be flashed

Rebate Funding

- Austin Energy makes no financial commitment to PBI applicants until a signed Letter of Intent is issued.
- PBI funding is offered on a first-come, first-served basis and is subject to program budget constraints.
- Any application for which funding is not available will be returned to the applicant.
- AE will perform a pre-inspection of the site; results of the pre-inspection will determine rebate eligibility. An AE approved shade identifying instrument must demonstrate minimal shading by trees, buildings and other structures. AE retains the right to deny rebates based on excessive shading and or poor orientation of the solar array. Refer to the AE Solar Access Guidelines. It is incumbent upon the contractor to assure that the solar access requirements are met at the time of the final inspection.
- Participation in the Solar PBI Program does not affect customer participation in other AE conservation programs.
- The requested PBI rate will be calculated as:
[kWh production of PV system] x [PBI rate] paid on a quarterly basis for ten years starting on date of the initial setting of the PV meter.
- The current rate Austin Energy is offering for the PBI is \$.14 per kWh. In an effort to promote solar technologies and economic growth, qualifying equipment at least sixty percent manufactured or assembled in AE's electric service area may qualify for a PBI at a rate not to exceed \$.175 per kWh. "Manufactured or Assembled" does not include installation of the system.
- The PBI agreement is transferable upon sale of the property and/or business.
- City Utility's obligations under this Agreement are payable from current electric operating and maintenance funds appropriated and available for this purpose. City Utility's payment obligations hereunder are special limited obligations of the City of Austin ("City"), payable solely from the revenues of City Utility, and not from any tax revenues of the City. This Agreement does not constitute indebtedness or a loan of the credit of the State, the City or any subdivision of the State within the meaning of any constitutional or statutory provisions. Neither the faith and credit nor the taxing power of the State, the City or of any political or subdivision thereof is pledged to the payment obligations of the City and/or City Utility hereunder.
- Customer will be provided a Letter of Intent (LOI) after rebate application is received and approved, assuming the PV system meets program guidelines and the Solar PBI Program budget allows (valid for 60 days).
- Requests for LOI extensions must be submitted prior to LOI expiration, in writing, accompanied by the installation contract and approved by the Program Manager.
- Extensions on existing construction LOIs are valid for 120 days. New construction LOIs are valid for 180 days.
- Customers have the option to assign the rebate directly to the PV system installer/supplier or other third party.

Additional Requirements

- Property deed restrictions at the service address must not prohibit the installation of solar photovoltaics on property. The PBI applicant must have an AE commercial electric utility account number at the service address.
- The customer must transfer to AE, all renewable energy credits (RECs) and other environmental attributes (other than tax credits) from power generated by PV systems receiving rebates from AE; and the customer must sign the Renewable Energy Credit Micro-generator Listing Form. The condition does not apply and RECs may be retained and AE, as the REC aggregator, will reserve and finally retire the RECs on your behalf as required for LEED certification for the first two years following installation of the solar photovoltaic system at the service address, if the proper documents are submitted proving that the RECs are required to achieve LEED certification. (See AE Renewable Energy Credit Agreement). A customer currently participating in the self-read meter program must provide AE access to the new solar and revenue meters.
- The customer must recognize and agree that the PV system cannot be removed from AE service territory.

AE guidelines and PBI rates are subject to change without notice, and AE reserves the right to refuse any application/request for incentive payment that does not meet AE's requirements.

The Austin Energy guidelines and rebate levels are subject to change at any time, without notice.

Austin Energy – Power Saver™ Program – Commercial Rebate

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