

Welcome to Ukiah's New G-1 Rate!

What is Ukiah's G-1 Rate?

The State of California allows electric utilities who've met a minimum threshold of solar production to implement a new solar buyback rate. Ukiah Electric Utility has exceeded the required threshold and is now offering to its residents the new G-1 Rate. All customer-generators (hereinafter referred to as "Customer") who apply for interconnection ON or AFTER July 1, 2021, will be enrolled in Ukiah Electric Utility's G-1 Rate. Current solar Customers and those who've applied prior to July 1, 2021, will remain on the Net Energy Metering (NEM) rate.

How Does Ukiah's G-1 Rate Work?

For all new solar systems that are approved and permitted, the Customer must apply for a new solar meter, applicable fees must be paid and then a multi-register electric meter will be installed. Following the meter installation, the Utility Billing Division will update your account to reflect the location as a G-1, multi-register metered account. All energy (kWh) delivered and received after the customer serves its own instantaneous load will be measured by the multi-register meter. This is a special meter which is certified to accurately record both the power used from the utility and the surplus generation sent back to the utility and is necessary for you to receive the full benefit of your solar system. When the solar system is operating during the day, it is possible to have times when the solar system produces more energy than the home is using. When this happens, the excess energy generated automatically goes through the multi-register electric meter into Ukiah Electric Utility's distribution grid. This excess energy generation will post as a credit on your monthly utility bill at the buyback rate which is established periodically based on what Ukiah Electric Utility pays for generation. Currently, this rate is \$.067/kWh. At other times of the day, your electric use may be higher than the solar system is producing and you must rely on additional power from Ukiah Electric Utility. When this happens, the energy supplied by the City posts as a charge on your utility account, in accordance with the applicable rate schedule for delivered energy. The multi-register meter does not affect the quality of the electric power supplied. Customers installing solar will be assessed the cost for the new multi-register meter upgrade and installation if one is not already installed at the location prior to interconnection.

Who Qualifies for Ukiah's G-1 Rate?

Your system qualifies if it is (was):

- Applied for on or after July 1, 2021, and
- Located on the premises of the end user customer, where the customer's own electricity demand is located, and
- Interconnected behind the electric meter of record, and
- Approved by the City of Ukiah Electric Utility and the Building Department, and operating parallel with the City's electric utility system, and designed to offset part of the customer's meter of record total annual kilowatt-hour electric load.

What's the Buyback Rate and Will My Electric Bill Really Be Zero?

Customer generated kWh received by the utility shall be compensated at the Surplus Energy Compensation rate determined periodically by the Utility and is based on the current generation rate. The rate set for FY 22/23 is \$0.067 per kWh. All Ukiah G-1 Rate customers shall pay the same electric monthly basic service charges and other charges identified in the Utility Rates adopted by the City Council, state law and/or City ordinance according to the terms and conditions of the rate which would be assigned if they were a non-solar customer. Your monthly electric bill will reflect these basic service charges in addition to any usage charges for the times your consumption was greater than your solar production.

I Already Have Solar, Does Ukiah's G-1 Rate Affect Me?

Ukiah's G-1 Rate applies to all Customers that apply for interconnection ON or AFTER July 1, 2021. Effective July 1, 2021, existing NEM Customers can choose to expand their system size up to 10kW total (including solar, batteries, all other generation) and remain on the NEM Program, with their bill trued up yearly. NEM Customers who choose to expand their system size to a system greater than 10kW will be moved into the new Ukiah G-1 Rate and its associated system and billing requirements.

All new systems, and all existing NEM systems increasing their system size to greater than 10kW must complete the G-1 Interconnection Agreement, obtain the proper permits, and are subject to a special review to ensure grid safety. Cost of studies and upgrades associated with generation greater than 10kW will be established during the permitting process and paid prior to interconnection.