

REGULATION

3.6 NET METERING SERVICE

3.6.1 Definition

Net metering service is a metering and billing practice that efficiently enables electricity consumers with small, privately-owned generators to offset part or all of their own electrical requirements by utilizing their own generation. Excess self-generation, over own-consumption needs, is credited against purchased energy for billing purposes over a limited period of time. Customers taking this service will be referred to as “customer-generators”.

3.6.2 Availability

- a) Net Metering Service is available to all NSPI customers who are served from NSPI’s Distribution system (ie: 24,940 volts or less), who are billed under one of NSPI’s metered service rates, and who install a qualifying generator of less than 100kW. Net Metering is not applicable for Unmetered services.
- b) The customer must utilize qualifying generating equipment of up to 100 kW capacity, which meets the requirements as stipulated in the Special Conditions section of this regulation.
- c) The customer must provide a written request to take the net metering service.
- d) The service is available on a first-come, first-serve basis. The total rated generation of all subscribed customers is limited to 0.5% of NSPI’s historical annual peak demand.

3.6.3 Applicability

The service is applicable to any accounts which are located on the same parcel of land as the generator, and which are owned by the same single customer.

3.6.4 Billing

- a) Customer-generators will be billed under the otherwise-applicable metered tariff schedules.

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- b) If in a given billing period the electricity supplied to NSPI's grid by the customer-generator exceeds that supplied to the customer by NSPI, the customer shall be billed only for the applicable non-KWh monthly charges and shall have the excess self-generation "banked" as energy credits to be applied against future bills over a period not exceeding 12 calendar months..

Banked Excess Self-generation = Self-generation supplied to NSPI - Purchased energy from NSPI.

- c) If in a given billing period the combined total of the electricity supplied to NSPI's grid by the customer-generator and the "banked" energy credits from the previous billing periods is less than the electricity supplied to the customer by NSPI, NSPI will bill the customer for the Net Purchased Energy Requirement and for the applicable non-KWh monthly charges.

Net Purchased Energy Requirement = Purchased energy from NSPI – (Self-generation supplied to NSPI + "Banked" energy credits).

- d) "Banked" excess self-generation will be returned to the customer-generator in the form of an energy credit and will carry over until the customer's anniversary date at which time the credit will be set to zero without compensation to the customer-generator. The customer-generator will set a permanent anniversary date at the time of subscription to the net metering service. No changes to the anniversary date will be permitted once set. If service is discontinued bank credits are forfeited.
- e) In no case will any energy credit balance on a customer-generator's account have any cash value or be convertible to cash.
- f) Should a customer-generator own and operate more than one facility (billed under more than one electric account) located on the same parcel of land as the generator, the customer will nominate the fraction of excess generation to be apportioned to each account for billing purposes. Such nomination will be approved upon the subscription to the net metering service and will stay in effect until such a time when customer submits a written request for change. NSPI may, at its sole discretion, approve such changes provided they remain in place for a minimum of 12 months.
- g) For accounts billed under domestic time-of-day service, NSPI will measure self-generation sold to the grid by discrete time-of-use periods for billing purposes.

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- h) NSPI will be the sole beneficiary of any emission credits or allowances arising from the use of renewable energy sources to generate power in connection with a net metering installation.

3.6.5 Metering

- a) Net energy metering shall ordinarily be accomplished using a single meter capable of registering the flow of electricity in two directions as approved by Measurement Canada. If the eligible customer-generator's existing electrical meter is not capable of measuring the flow of electricity in two directions, the customer-generator shall be responsible for incremental meter costs and any other related costs.
- b) If NSPI determines that the flow of electricity in both directions cannot be reliably or safely determined through use of a single meter, NSPI may require that separate meters be installed. Such metering will be at the customer's cost.

3.6.6 Special Conditions

- a) Special conditions in this regulation do not supersede, modify or nullify special conditions accompanying the otherwise-applicable metered tariff schedules.
- b) Qualifying generating equipment must meet the following requirements:
 - i) Utilizes a renewable source of energy: wind, solar, small hydro, fuel cell, geothermal, biomass, tidal or other as approved by NSPI.
 - ii) Has a manufacturer's nameplate rating of not more than 100 Kilowatts, which NSPI has the right to verify through inspection or testing.
 - iii) Is owned by the customer and is located on the same parcel of land as the customer's premises for which NSPI is providing electric services.
 - iv) Subject to special condition b) iii), at the discretion of the customer, the generator may be connected to the grid either at any of the existing points of delivery of purchased power from NSPI or at a separate point if approved by NSPI. If a separate point of delivery is used, all additional costs will be the responsibility of the customer-generator.
 - v) Net metering facility shall meet all applicable safety and performance standards established by Measurement Canada, the Canadian Electrical Code, and NSPI's guidelines.
 - vi) The customer-generator is responsible for all costs associated with its facility.

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- c) To receive the net metering service the customer must submit an Application and execute the “Net Metering Interconnection Agreement” with NSPI.
- d) The generating facility and all wiring, equipment and devices forming part of it, shall conform to NSPI’s “Interconnection Guideline”.
- e) If customer-generator voluntarily terminates the net metering service, the service may not be renewed for a period of 12 months from the date of termination.