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## New Green Option (Community Solar) FAQ

All responses provided reflect the proposal as filed, which is subject to change and subject to approval by the CPUC.

### New Proposal

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How exactly will PG&E's Community Solar program work?

PG&E proposes two new options. Under one, customers can pay for the output from a pool of small to mid-sized solar projects within PG&E's service territory. Under the other, customers can pay for the output from a solar project near them of their choosing. Under either option, in response to customer enrollment under the program, PG&E will contract for energy from newly developed small and mid-sized solar projects located within its service area. Participants will pay the full cost of the new solar energy supplies they support. Those additional supplies—provided by third-party developers—will be incremental to the clean energy that PG&E purchases for all customers to meet the state's Renewables Portfolio Standard. Participating customers will receive credits for avoided PG&E generation costs. The solar price will remain stable, while the bill credit will track with PG&E's class average generation rates.

- What is SB 43 and how is it related to this program?
- What kind of renewable energy will PG&E be providing?
- Will the renewable energy sold under this program be generated in California, or out-of-state?

### Cost and Availability

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How much will this program cost?

Customers will pay a fixed price per kwh for the solar energy, plus additional charges for program administration and other costs related to solar energy. However, customers will also receive a bill credit for generation costs that PG&E avoids, adjusted to reflect the higher on-peak value of solar energy. The difference (net cost) is likely to start at about three to four cents per kWh, but diminish over time if PG&E's overall generation costs increase.

- How does this program compare in concept and cost to other "Green Energy" programs?
- Why does this cost so much?
- How much will this program cost non-participating customers?
- Why is this only available to bundled electric customers?

### Regulatory Process

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) regulates investor-owned electric and natural gas utilities operating in California, including PG&E. PG&E must receive approval from the CPUC in order to offer new tariffs and services, such as the proposed Green Option. There is a regulatory process that allows for stakeholder and public input. Therefore, PG&E's proposed program design for the Green Option is subject to change and approval by the Commission.

### Schedule

- 2012 Dates**
  - April 24, 2012:** PG&E files Green Option Application
  - Aug 2, 2012:** ½ Day Workshop
  - Aug 24, 2012:** Common Outline of Issues Sent to CPUC
  - Sept 26, 2012:** Scoping Memo Issued
  - Oct 19, 2012:** Intervenor Testimony Served
  - Nov 9, 2012:** PG&E's Rebuttal Testimony Served
- 2013 Dates**
  - Mar 26, 2013:** Settlement Conference
  - April 11, 2013:** Motion to Adopt Settlement Filed
  - July 31, 2013:** Assigned Commissioner Ruling to Consolidate PG&E and SDG&E Green Tariff Applications
  - November 15, 2013:** Opening Comments (PG&E and SDG&E)
  - December 6, 2013:** Revised Testimony (PG&E & SDG&E)
  - December 20, 2013:** Reply Comments (ORA & 3rd parties)
- 2014 Dates**
  - January 3, 2014:** Reply Comments (PG&E and SDG&E)

How do I sell you electricity from my own solar electric system to those participating in the program?	+
When will this program be available?	+

PG&E and the Green Option

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Will this program impact PG&E's mandated renewables procurement and compliance obligations?	-
<p>This program is separate from and incremental to PG&amp;E's Renewables Portfolio Standard (RPS) requirements. However, if customers drop off the program after PG&amp;E has procured new supplies on their behalf, the additional resources will be provided to PG&amp;E's regular bundled customers.</p>	
Does this program have a cap?	+
Is this just an attempt to undercut existing and proposed Community Choice Aggregation organizations?	+
Why did you file for this program?	+

- **January 10, 2014:** Rebuttal Testimony, and SCE Application due
- **January 21, 2014:** Surrebuttal Testimony
- **January 28 - February 5, 2014:** Hearings
- **February 21, 2014:** PG&E files Enhanced Community Renewables proposal
- **March 7, 2014:** Opening Comments
- **March 14, 2014:** Reply Comments
- **March 21, 2014:** Opening Briefs, GTSR Program
- **April 4, 2014:** Reply Briefs, GTSR Program
- **May 5, 2014:** Opening Briefs, ECR Program
- **May 9, 2014:** Reply Briefs, ECR Program
- **December 30, 2014:** Proposed Decision
- **TBD:** Final Commission Decision

Additional Resources

For Suppliers: PG&E will post information for potential renewable energy suppliers here when available.

Contact us



To be kept abreast of developments with PG&E's Green Option application, please add your name to our [mailing list](#), or [email us](#).



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