

Solar Standard Offer

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Customer Renewable Solutions



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Customer Driven. Community Focused.

Customer Renewable Solution's Program Objectives



- Community Aligned Programs
- Publicly Create Goals
- Streamlined Processes
- Increase Smart Solar Adoption
- Equitable Access to Renewable Energy
- Enable new Technology
- Solar & ESS
- Solar Scholastics
- Solar Rates
- Programmatic Cost Recovery
- Robust & Streamlined Solar Inspections
- Contractor Training



Solar Standard Offer Adds Capacity to Community Solar



Palmer Event Center



AUS Blue Garage Carports



La Loma Community Solar Farm



Solar Standard Offer Program Overview

Commercial property owners can now support the local community by hosting a Community Solar installation. Property owners can either install solar panels themselves OR lease their space to a third-party System Owner.

The owner of the solar system will be compensated by Austin Energy for the solar power generated. This eliminates the need for lengthy procurement processes, RFPs, or contracts.

The Program opened to applications in January of 2025.

This new program will be paused for evaluation once 20 MW-ac of capacity is encumbered.

Program guidelines and other documentation available at:
[AustinEnergy.Com/SolarStandardOffer](https://www.austenergy.com/SolarStandardOffer)



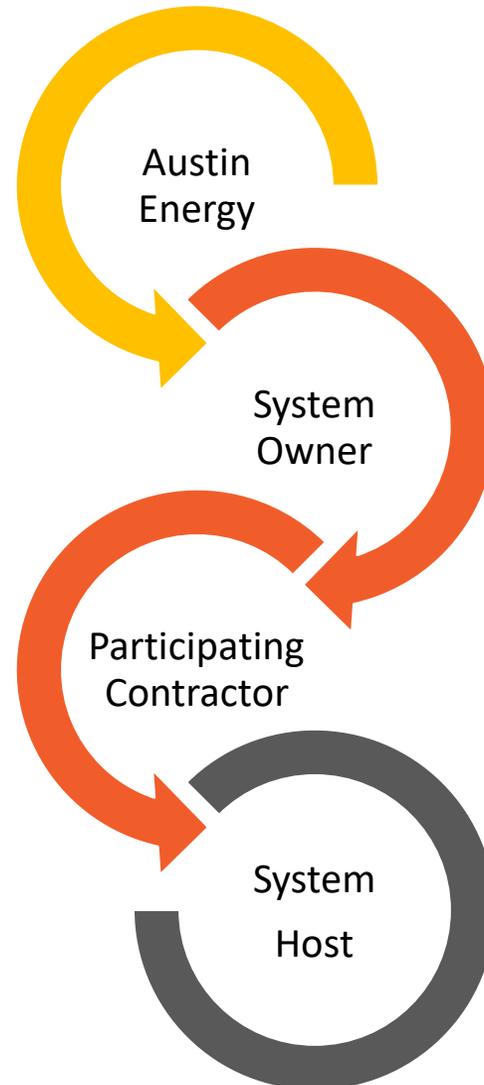
Solar Standard Offer Structure

Austin Energy...

...pays System Owners for solar production. Production is attributed to its Community Solar subscription program for residential customers.

Participating Contractors...

...are registered solar installation companies. They work with System Owners and Hosts. Responsibilities include pulling permits, submitting Standard Offer applications through EECF, and installing systems.



System Owners...

...are either property owners or a 3rd party. Third-party owners lease space from a property owner, and use a participating contractor to install solar. Austin Energy pays the System Owner the Standard Offer Rider rate for solar production.

System Host...

...may own and host a solar array, or have an agreement with the 3rd-party System Owner for hosting a solar array. If partnering with a 3rd-party System Owner, System Hosts will lease their rooftop (or other space) to the System Owner under mutually negotiated terms.

Standard Offer Benefits

	Property Owner	System Owner	Austin Energy Community Solar Program
Avoided Capital Investment to Install	✓	-	✓
Rent Income	✓	-	-
Energy Value	-	✓	-
Resiliency	-	-	-
Marketing Visibility	✓	✓	✓
Renewable Attributes (REC's)	-	-	✓

Solar Standard Offer

Desired Outcomes



Community Solar Expansion

Self-sustaining, scalable and replicable
Community Solar model.



Environmental Stewardship

Increase local renewable
energy production.



Customer Satisfaction

Provide additional renewable energy
business opportunities. Increase solar
developer participation and community
solar subscriptions. Meet customer
demands for renewable energy options.



Access, Equity & Affordability

Expand Solar without negatively
affecting rates. Enable solar access and
bill savings for low-income
customers.



Solar Standard Offer Rider

Approved 10/24/2024, the [Solar Standard Offer Rider](#) sets the rate schedule by which System Owners will be billed. Service must be approved by Austin Energy via the Standard Offer Program.

- Monthly bill for consumption at Sec 2 less than 10kW rate
- Payments to be issued to System Owner no less than every 3 months
 - Production is credited for exported solar energy

2025 - March 2026 Standard Offer Rate

Systems <1MW	11.24 cents/kWh
Systems >1MW	8.41 cents/kWh

Beginning in March 2026, rates will be adjusted to incorporate the average of previous five years of avoided cost assessments. The Standard Offer rate will be adjusted every three years thereafter tied to the average of previous five years of avoided cost.



Solar Standard Offer Rider—Solar Integrator

Application:

This rate schedule applies to a solar photovoltaic (PV) system with a capacity less than 10,000 kW-ac interconnected with Austin Energy's distribution system ("Solar Integrator"), that (a) exports power to Austin Energy, (b) is not already taking service under another solar rate schedule, including but not limited to the *Value of Solar Rider*, (c) has submitted and obtained Austin Energy approval of a service application under this schedule, and (d) has submitted and obtained an approved interconnection agreement from Austin Energy. For information on the program and to submit an application and interconnection agreement, please visit Austin Energy's website.

All Renewable Energy Credits and all other renewable-energy attributes accruing under this schedule shall be aggregated and retired by Austin Energy.

Energy-export payment:

No less often than once every three months after the initial payment, Solar Integrator shall receive a payment (net of charges under the *Secondary Voltage—Demand less than 10 kW* rate schedule) equal to the metered kilowatt-hour output of the Solar Integrator's solar PV system that was exported to Austin Energy multiplied by the rate of payment that corresponds with the capacity of the Solar Integrator's solar PV system, as shown below:

Rate of Payment per Kilowatt-Hour of Energy Exported to Austin Energy	\$/kWh
From a solar PV system with capacity less than one megawatt	\$.1124
From a solar PV system with capacity greater than or equal to one megawatt	\$.0841

Electric Service

Solar Integrator will take service from Austin Energy under the *Secondary Voltage (Demand less than 10 kW)* rate schedule, including but not limited to customer-related services, delivery and supply of power consumed by the Solar Integrator's solar PV system. Examples of customer-related services include metering, meter reading, bill rendering, customer records, customer accounting, customer service, and associated administrative and general expenses.

Service Connection Costs:

Consistent with City of Austin Code, costs incurred by Austin Energy to connect Solar Integrator to Austin Energy's distribution system will be directly assigned to Solar Integrator and will be collected directly from Solar Integrator in the form of contribution in aid of construction.

Interconnection Guidelines

The Solar Integrator shall comply with current City of Austin technical requirements for interconnection. The Solar Integrator shall obtain approval from the City of Austin before the Solar Integrator energizes the on-site generating system or interconnects it with the City of Austin's electric system. The Solar Integrator shall submit to the City a completed interconnection application form and signed interconnection

Solar Standard Offer – Rate of Payment

- Austin Energy pays solar system owner a rate per kilowatt-hour of energy produced, net of electric charges.
- The payment rate is based on Austin Energy's avoided costs.

Avoided Cost Components	Description
 ERCOT Energy Savings	Austin Energy's average price of energy in the ERCOT market at the time the solar energy is produced.
 Ancillary Service Savings	The average cost to ensure the right number and type of power generation sources are running (to prevent an outage).
 Transmission Savings	Calculates savings based on <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the average generation at peak times,• the sum of wholesale transmission service charges, and• the total solar generation.



Solar Standard Offer – Rate of Payment

Adjusted Every Three Years

At launch, based 2021-2023 year's average avoided costs. :

- Less than 1 MW = \$.1124/kWh.
- Greater than 1 MW = \$.0841/kWh.

Adjustment based upon the previous five year's average avoided costs.

- 2026 adjustment = 2021-2025.
- 2029 adjustment = 2024-2028.

Avoided Cost Components						
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026 Trend
ERCOT Energy	\$ 0.0467	\$ 0.1005	\$ 0.0940	?	?	\$ 0.0804
TCOS Savings	\$ 0.0267	\$ 0.0273	\$ 0.0310	?	?	\$ 0.0283
Ancillary Services	\$ 0.0027	\$ 0.0050	\$ 0.0034	?	?	\$ 0.0037
Total <1MW	\$ 0.0761	\$ 0.1327	\$ 0.1284	?	?	\$ 0.1124
Total >1MW	\$ 0.0494	\$ 0.1054	\$ 0.0974	?	?	\$ 0.0841





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