

# Contactor

Information for electrical contractors, architects and consulting engineers

Great news, the OPPD Customer-Owned Generation web resources and online application are now live and available for you to use! These webpages and tools are designed specifically to help inform and educate customers that are interested in installing solar on their homes.

A few of the highlights include an infographic to further explain net metering, a [VIDEO](#) on how to generate your own electricity and a [CALCULATOR](#) to help determine if solar is right for you.

Be sure to check out all the new features at [www.oppd.com/COG](http://www.oppd.com/COG)!

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RESIDENTIAL BUSINESS OUTAGES ENVIRONMENT NEWS & RESOURCES ABOUT COMMUNITY

## CUSTOMER-OWNED GENERATION

HOME

QUICK START GUIDE NET METERING FAQs SOLAR CALCULATOR

### GENERATE YOUR OWN ELECTRICITY TO SAVE ON UTILITY BILLS AND REDUCE YOUR CARBON FOOTPRINT

These days you have more options than ever for generating your own residential electricity – and OPPD wants to partner with you in setting up your [rooftop solar](#) panels, wind turbine or other customer-owned generation system in the safest and most economical way. If you're thinking about going green at home, there are some important things to consider.

#### What is customer-owned generation?

You can create much of your household's electricity using renewable forms of customer-owned generation. The most common types of renewable energy systems are photovoltaic solar panels and wind turbines, but people also use microturbine, fuel cell, biomass and hydro technologies.

Regardless of the type of system being considered, it first must be vetted by OPPD before interconnection with the electric grid. After approval and installation, customer-owners will be able to get credit on their utility bills for the energy they produce.

If customer-owned generation isn't a good fit for you, but you still want to support renewable energy, check out our [Community Solar](#) and [Green Power](#) programs.

#### What happens when there isn't enough sun or wind to provide power?

Electricity from the OPPD grid is available at any given time if your home generation system isn't producing enough power for your needs. Then when your rooftop solar panels, wind turbine or other system is running at capacity, you can sell back the excess energy to OPPD to offset your utility costs. This is called [net metering](#).

#### How do I go about setting up a home generation system?

There are specific [quick start steps](#) you need to take. At the top of the list is checking all local, state and federal requirements and contacting OPPD for a free consultation. It's crucial that we work together to ensure the system you're considering will interface with the power grid. Proper communication with OPPD will help you avoid investing in incompatible equipment or overlooking safety protocols. As with all electrical equipment, safety should come first.

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## Is solar right for me?

Take the first step towards understanding your savings potential. With solar you can produce your own electricity, reduce your electric bill and shrink your carbon footprint.

Start my estimate

## CUSTOMER-OWNED GENERATION

### HOW NET METERING WORKS

- 1 Energy created by your home's generation system goes to an inverter as direct current (DC) and is converted into alternating current (AC) for use in your home and to be sent back to the grid.
- 2 The bidirectional meter measures energy production vs. energy usage. You sell energy to the OPPD electrical grid when production exceeds your usage.
- 3 You buy energy from the grid when your usage exceeds production. The difference in what you sell vs. what you buy is the net amount on your utility bill.

For the most current copy of the metering manual, go to [www.oppd.com](http://www.oppd.com). Click on the Contractor & Developer tab then go to the Reference Library and click on Meter Manual. OPPD Service Center contact information is also available by clicking on Electrical Service Designers.

We value your partnership in providing electrical service to our customer owners. We also welcome your feedback. Email us at [Contactor@oppd.com](mailto:Contactor@oppd.com) or call Steve Kojdecki 531-226-5835.