Duke Energy Solar Rebate Program

Making Solar More Affordable for Our Customers

- Duke Energy is proposing a suite of solar programs to the North Carolina Utilities Commission (NCUC) for customers as part of HB 589, also known as the Competitive Energy Solutions Law for North Carolina, which establishes comprehensive renewable energy policy in North Carolina.

- Many of our customers are looking for meaningful and practical ways to engage in solar energy. However, the upfront cost of solar panels for an average homeowner can be anywhere from $20,000 to $30,000. Therefore, we believe it is important to help our customers defray the upfront costs through a rebate program.

- The solar rebate program could provide an average savings of approximately $4,800 for a typical residential customer. Customers who lease can also spread the costs of a private solar system out over time.

- Duke Energy is investing approximately $62 million in the program, which is expected to boost private solar ownership by as much as 200 percent in the state.

Eligibility and Capacity as Outlined in the Law

- The rebate program is available to residential, nonresidential and nonprofit customers who own or lease a small generation solar facility on their property in both Duke Energy Carolinas and Duke Energy Progress territories.

- Duke Energy Carolinas and Duke Energy Progress will each provide 10 MW of capacity annually starting Jan. 1, 2018, through Dec. 31, 2022, for a total of 100 MW in solar rebates.

- The solar rebate program limits nonresidential capacity to 5 MW annually in each territory, and of that capacity, 2.5 MW will be reserved for nonprofit organizations, with 50 kW reserved for the NC GreenPower Solar Schools program or a similar program.

- Residential customers will be limited to 10 kW of rebates for each installation, and nonresidential customers will be limited to 100 kW in rebates for each installation, regardless of their system size.
Duke Energy's Program
Launching Summer 2018

- Residential customers will be eligible for a rebate of 60 cents per watt of solar energy installed. Nonresidential customers will be eligible for 50 cents per watt, while nonprofits (like churches or schools) will be eligible for an enhanced rebate of 75 cents per watt.

- Residential customers will be eligible to apply their rebate for a system size up to 10 kW, which means they could receive as much as $6,000.

- Nonresidential customers and nonprofit customers will be eligible for a rebate for a system size up to 100 kW, which means they could receive as much as $50,000 for nonresidential customers and as much as $75,000 for nonprofit customers.

- Participation under the program is on a first-come, first-served basis for customers who have installed solar panels and a bi-directional meter on their property on or after Jan. 1, 2018.

- After their system is installed, customers must complete and submit a Solar Rebate Program Application to the utility within 90 days.