



Wyoming statutes regulating solar energy are outdated and too restrictive, and because of this, there are towns and facilities that are operating out of compliance. Modernizing our net metering statutes can encourage direct job growth within the solar industry, plus additional job growth in supporting industries and economic development throughout the state. In order to attract new industries to our state and smooth the booms and busts of our economy, it is important that we look at options to diversify our energy portfolio, by allowing utility customers to have the freedom to choose low-cost power options to meet their needs.

Priority #1: Expand the Net-Metering Cap for Businesses & Local Governments

Net metering requires a utility to monitor how much energy your renewable energy system produces versus how much energy you consume. When your system produces more energy than you consume, you get a credit on your bill that can be carried forward to future billing cycles. Net-metering allows users to produce energy while still being connected to the grid.

Wyoming requires investor-owned utilities and electric cooperatives to offer net metering. This is a good program, but Wyoming's law has not kept up with the pace of renewable energy growth and, notably, its tremendous drop in price. In many places, even in Wyoming, small renewable energy systems are affordable and can help homeowners, businesses, and local governments reduce power costs. To modernize our law, and bring what is already happening around the state into compliance, the system cap of 25kW needs to be raised for commercial and municipal use. 25kW is typically adequate for residential use, but the cap is too burdensome for businesses and local governments that use more energy. A larger cap for self-generation through net-metering will provide those customers with the freedom to choose lower cost power options.



Priority #2: Allow Virtual Net-Metering and Meter Aggregation

For Wyomingites who do not have adequate roof or yard space, or who live in shady neighborhoods, solar energy at their home is not the best option. Community renewable energy projects could provide low cost power options to help benefit a variety of residents, from those who live in apartment buildings to ranchers with high-energy irrigation needs. However, we need legislation to make it possible. At this time, we don't have any policies allowing meter aggregation, virtual net metering, or third-party ownership.

Priority #3: Change the True-Up Date

The "true-up date" in our net-metering law is the date when excess credits generated by a customer over a calendar year have to be sold back to the utility. Currently, under Wyoming statute 37-16-103(b) this date is set at December 31st, a date set simply because it's the end of the calendar year. Because solar systems generate less energy during short winter days, changing the true-up date to March 31st would allow solar owners to use most or all of their solar credits through the dark months when their systems are not producing as much energy. This change would allow those who invest in solar infrastructure to utilize more of their power and get a better return on their investment.

Please vote to support changes to Wyoming's net-metering statutes that develop our solar industry and create new job opportunities for diversifying our economy!