

Is it the “Right Time” to go solar?



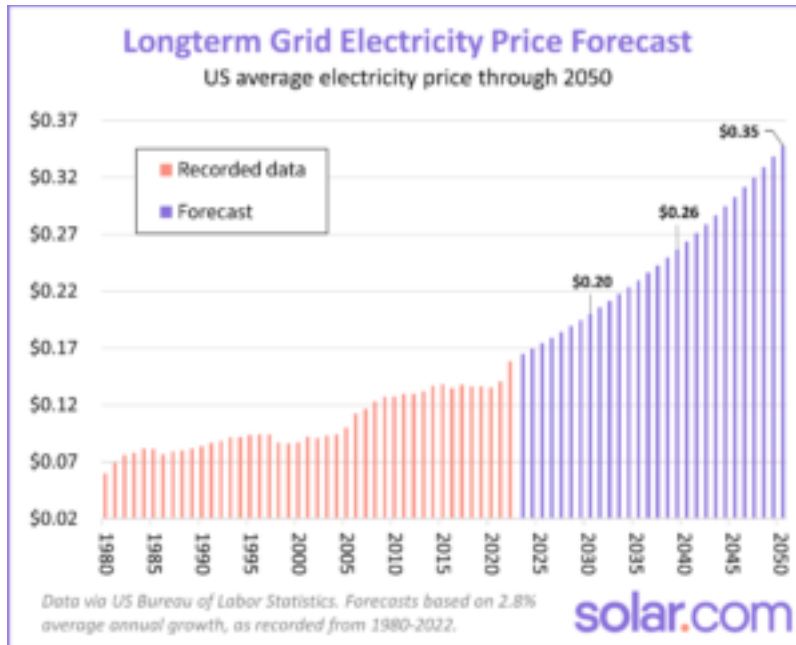
Going solar is not only good for the environment but also a great investment. With the USDA REAP (Rural Energy for America Program) grant and federal tax credits, solar projects economics are even better.

Federal Tax Credits

The federal government will continue to issue tax credits equal to 30% of your solar installation costs. The availability of 10% adders for Domestic content, Energy Community location, and/or Low-Income Community location means a solar panel system can qualify for 30% up to 60% tax credit. These incentives are legislated to run through 2032.

Solar Panels Continue to Become More Affordable

Solar panel installations have been decreasing in cost for decades, the price of power continues to increase, and the incentives are as good or better than they ever have been.



We have all felt the impact of rising utility rates. By going solar, you can protect yourself from increasing utility rates by making your own power. Since the investment is fixed, the resulting cost of power is stable.

The 30% solar tax credit is available for all commercial and residential projects. In addition, if your solar developer meets the Domestic content requirements you can add 10%. Most of northern Michigan is in an [Energy community](#) and therefore qualifies for an additional 10%. If you are in a [low income area](#) and win the lottery for the low income community adder, you could get an additional 10%. Many projects should qualify for at least 40% to 50% tax credit.

The REAP Grant Makes Solar Affordable for Rural Businesses

For business owners in rural communities, the REAP grant makes solar extremely attractive with a grant of up to 50% of the solar project cost (this grant is treated as regular income). The **Rural Energy for America Program** is a merit-based incentive for businesses located in areas with populations of 50,000 residents or less. REAP grant application deadlines are March 31, 2024, June 30, 2024, and September 30, 2024. The grant needs to be approved before construction begins.

With the combination of tax credits, REAP grant, and depreciation creates very attractive economics.

Will a regular solar system protect against outages?

Solar inverters follow grid voltage. When the grid goes out, the inverter makes no power. If we add energy storage and an inverter that can make power without the grid, then you will be able to make power during outages. The energy storage can be in the form

of a battery, electric car, or electric truck. Energy storage now qualifies for the same strong incentives available to solar systems. Solar plus storage systems make more and more sense for many people. We recommend considering energy storage if power outages have been an issue.

Is it time to go solar?

With rising electricity rates and a growing desire to live a more environmentally sustainable life, more people each year are buying solar panel systems to offset monthly utility bills.

If you need help calculating how much you can save monthly on your electricity bills or how long it would take to break even on your solar investment, our solar consultants would love to help.

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