

Stop the Utility Power Grab in Colorado

SOLAR CUSTOMERS DESERVE FULL CREDIT WITH NET METERING



Like rollover

minutes on a cell phone bill, net metering gives renewable energy customers full credit on their utility bills for the excess clean power they contribute to the grid.

Available in 43 states, this simple billing arrangement is one of the most important policies for encouraging rooftop solar.

Private investment in local clean energy benefits solar and non-solar Coloradans alike.



Saves on expensive and polluting conventional power



Saves on investment in transmission and distribution infrastructure



Reduces electricity lost over the wires



Saves on cost of managing power delivery



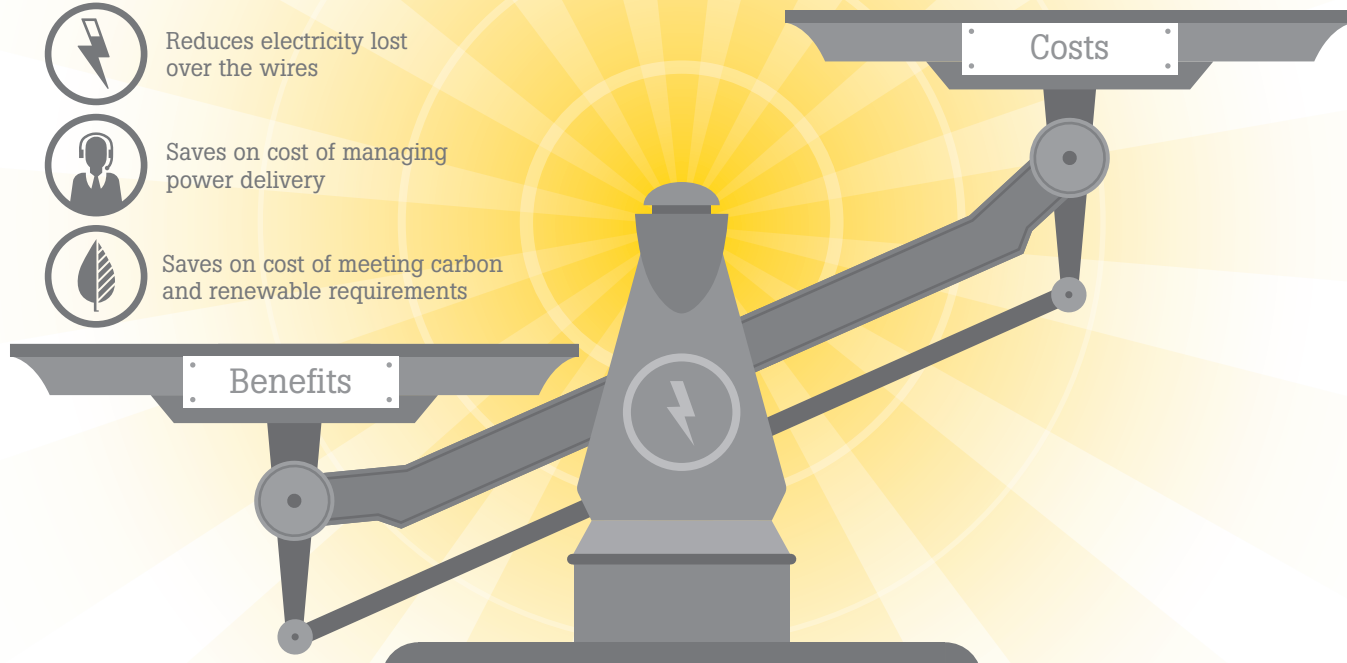
Saves on cost of meeting carbon and renewable requirements



Costs to manage net metering program



Lowers revenue to cover utility infrastructure costs



Totalling up to

\$13.6 Million

in annual net benefits.

Xcel is casting a long shadow on Colorado rooftop solar

The utility is using shady math and backroom tactics to make their case:

The utility's rooftop solar study has not undergone commission or public review.

The Colorado PUC has only just begun its process for reviewing this study of the costs and benefits of Colorado's net metering program -- and yet Xcel is already using its biased results to make solar a bad deal for Coloradans.

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The utility's study undervalues rooftop solar's benefits to Colorado.

Individual customer investment in solar delivers high value power, creating a host of benefits to the grid including savings on conventional generation, transmission and distribution investments, line losses, and avoided environmental compliance costs. But the utilities' math undervalues these very real grid benefits.

= Overinflated cost claims used to undermine net metering success.



Utility cost claims are a red herring.

The truth is: Xcel's proposal is an attempt to protect its old way of doing business.



- Coloradans are paying \$1.3 Billion for a new coal plant with a poor operational track record.
- Xcel makes a guaranteed rate of return on infrastructure that it can own and operate.
- Distributed solar represents a challenge to Xcel's traditional centralized, monopoly model.
- Xcel should be finding ways to work with rooftop solar -- not stand in the way of innovation & customer choice.

Net metering works for Colorado.



60%

support for clean energy powering Colorado homes.



\$187 Million

in private investment in 2012.



3,600

solar jobs statewide.



5th

in the nation for the amount of solar power installed.

Net metering is good for ratepayers, the economy and the environment.

The interests of a few monopoly utilities should not outshine the rest of us.

Learn more at www.protectnetmetering.org

Prepared by: The Vote Solar Initiative

References: Crossborder Energy analysis, September 2013. Sierra Club polling. National Solar Job Census 2012, The Solar Foundation. SEIA/GTM Market Insight. Vote Solar analysis.