



## Net Metering

### Frequently Asked Questions

- Q. Are other Town approvals needed to install a net metering facility, in addition to receiving permission from the Light Department?
- A. Yes. You will need to get a permit for the electrical work. You will also need a Building permit to insure that the panels meet the zoning setbacks from property lines or the structure (house, garage, shed, etc) on which the panels will be mounted can accommodate the required the structural loads for the panels. These can be obtained from the Town's Growth Management Department. (508) 210-5540 or on the Town web site.
- Q. Other than an application fee (\$25 for systems up to 10KW / \$100 for systems greater than 10KW), are there other charges?
- A. Yes. There is a charge for a special meter. Presently the cost for a meter for a residential system (single phase) is \$181, which is the cost of the special meter less the cost of a normal meter. The special meter tracks the energy that is delivered from the electric system to the customer as well as the energy that is produced by the installed generation (photovoltaic / wind) and delivered to the electric system.
- Q. Are leased systems, or systems owned by someone other the property owner, allowed in Holden?
- A. It depends on the structure of the lease.
- If the lease agreement has a power contract associated with it, this arrangement will not be allowed.
- If, on the other hand, the lease agreement is simply a financing mechanism, and does not constitute an agreement by the property owner to buy power from the lessor, this arrangement will be allowed.
- Q. Does the Light Department provide a service to arrange for the sale of Solar Renewable Energy Credits (SRECs) created by photovoltaic (PV) systems in Town.
- A. No.

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Q. What is the process for closing out the installation and getting permission to connect?

A. Here are the criteria:

- 1) All final Town inspections for electrical and building permits must be made, passed and final permits issued. Light Department must be advised of this.
- 2) The Light Department must receive a check for the bi-directional meter (presently \$181.00). Once received, the Light Department will inspect the location and interoperability of the system disconnect switch.
- 3) If the switch meets our requirements, the bi-directional meter will be installed
- 4) The Light Department will issue an "Authority to Connect" letter to the customer.

Q. Is Holden a member of the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center (Mass CEC)?

A. Yes. There are programs at the Mass CEC that support energy related projects. Of particular interest is the Mass Solar Loan Program. Information is available at this link:

[www.masssolarloan.com](http://www.masssolarloan.com)