

San Francisco Solar Energy Incentive Pilot Program *Bringing Solar Power to SF Residents & Businesses*

The City and County of San Francisco, through the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, is initiating a pilot program to provide a financial incentive for San Francisco residents and businesses to install solar (photovoltaic) energy systems on their properties.

The pilot Solar Energy Incentive Program, announced in December 2007 will provide from \$3,000 to \$5,000 for residential installations and up to \$10,000 for commercial photovoltaic installations.

Solar Energy Incentive Pilot Program Description

This pilot program offers a one-time incentive payment for local solar electric projects to reduce the cost of installation.

The program has **three** distinct incentives for residential installations. The incentives are limits on assistance, meaning that the higher incentives are not adders to the lower ones but total incentives. The incentive for businesses is a simple capacity-based incentive.

	Residents	Businesses
Basic incentive	\$3000	\$1500 per kilowatt a system is designed to generate, up to a cap of \$10,000.
City installer incentive	\$4000	
Environmental justice incentive	\$5000	

Incentive payments are tied to individual electric meters, meaning that buildings with more than one meter or applicants owning more than one property are eligible for more than one incentive payment, subject to the provisions below.

The basic incentive will be available to any resident installing solar generation on his/her own property located within San Francisco. One incentive is allowed per meter.

The city installer incentive exists to encourage the use of local installation businesses. It will be available to residents eligible for the basic incentive who contract with an installer who pays, or is registered to pay, San Francisco payroll taxes and who has a San Francisco business license with a San Francisco address.

The environmental justice incentive is available to installations on property in lower income and racially diverse neighborhoods considered "environmental justice districts" because of their proximity to industrial sites and major highways. The SFPUC will apply the environmental justice incentive payments to installations on properties located within the zip codes 94107 and 94124.

Save Money on Installation and Your Energy Bills. Help the Environment.

A typical 2.5-kilowatt system on a single-family home costs around \$25,000 before rebates and incentives. The California Solar Initiative rebate on a system this size is \$6250 as of March 2008, and the federal tax credit is \$2000. (California rebates will decline over time.) Incorporating the \$3000–\$5000 San Francisco incentive, the net cost will decline to \$11,750–\$13,750, or about half of the original cost.

For more information on how you can qualify for San Francisco's new Solar Energy Incentive Program, visit www.sfwater.org/power or contact solarincentive@sfwater.org. For more information on the California Solar Initiative, visit www.gosolarcalifornia.ca.gov.