



## Community Power

### Recommendations for Residential Net Metering Customers

Swansey Community Power is a municipal program designed to deliver competitive prices and more renewable energy options to all electric customers in Swansey, including those who net-meter. At program launch in June 2023, all customers currently on utility default supply, including net metering customers, will be automatically enrolled in Swansey Community Power unless they opt out. Swansey Community Power cannot yet offer the net metering value we would like for all net metering customers. Nevertheless, Swansey Community Power does not recommend that all net metering customers opt out of the program, see the recommendation boxes below. If, after reading this document, you are still uncertain about the best decision for your household, please call our net metering support line at 877-877-1670 ext 3. Remember that you can always opt out of the program at any time in the future for any reason, including as changing circumstances may warrant. Here is some information to help you make an informed decision.

The benefits of participating in Swansey Community Power may accrue due to our electricity supply prices being significantly lower than the current utility default prices, which offset potential losses from net metering as explained below. For most net metering customers, the net benefit (or cost) of program enrollment will be small to start and accumulate slowly. Customer goals may include cost savings as well as support for the program goals, and each customer should make their own informed decision.

- 1. All net metering customers** that enroll in Swansey Community Power will keep their current bank of kWh credits or dollars. Going forward, all earned kWh credits or dollars will be applied to reduce the cost of future bills, just like today.
- 2. NEM 1 customers** (*systems built before 2017 and receiving full kWh credits on their electric bills*) that enroll in Swansey Community Power will continue to receive full kWh credit for their excess production. Credits for NEM 1 customers accumulate normally, they are unaffected by program participation.
  - Enrolled customers that *sell more electricity than they purchase* will accumulate kWh credits as normal.
  - Enrolled customers that *purchase more electricity than they sell* may benefit from a Swansey supply price that is lower than the utility default price. These customers can also elect to choose a higher renewable energy option for their purchases.

***Recommendation for NEM 1 customers: proceed to enroll in Swansey Community Power.***

3. **NEM 2 customers** (*systems built after 2017 and receiving monetary credit on their electric bills*) that enroll in Swanze Community Power will receive less monetary credit than they do today, they will only receive the Transmission & Distribution value and not Supply value. Lower Swanze program supply prices may or may not offset this loss of benefit, creating a **slight to significant loss of monthly value** that would grow over time.

- a. NEM 2 customers enrolled in the program that *sell more electricity than they purchase* will lose the value of the supply portion of their monetary credit. The effect will be larger for larger systems with greater excess production and will grow over time.

**Recommendation NEM 2 customers (*where sales exceed purchases*): opt out of Swanze Community Power before May 15.**

- b. NEM 2 customers that *purchase more electricity than they sell* may or may not benefit from program participation. Customers that generally purchase more electricity than they sell in the summer months are the most likely to benefit from enrollment upon program launch, due to significantly lower Swanze program supply prices compared to the current utility default price. These customers should carefully evaluate their goals for participating, but could consider more analysis or enrolling and reevaluating after the first billing period.

**Recommendation NEM 2 customers (*where purchases exceed sales*): more evaluation, enroll and reassess following the first billing period, or opt out, depending on goals.**

- 4. Customers whose systems are not yet installed in 2023 will benefit from program enrollment due to significantly lower program supply prices, about 25% monthly bill reduction for default service customers. Note that participation in Swanze's program should at least continue until the new system is interconnected with the utility, which may be days or weeks later than the scheduled installation date.

**Recommendation for customers waiting for their 2023 solar installations: proceed to enroll in Swanze Community Power.**

- 5. Net metering customers that meet Eversource's minimum threshold to receive a cash-out check may want to request their cash-out before joining Swanze's program. Once enrolled, and while participating in Swanze Community Power, customers will not have access to a cash-out payment from Eversource. Customers eligible for a cash-out check could request it in the future if they opt-out of Swanze's program to return to Eversource Default Service and meet any other Eversource requirements for cash-out.

**Recommendation for customers eligible for a cash payout: consider requesting a cash-out prior to enrollment in Swanze Community Power.**