

On July 30, the Minnesota Department of Commerce, Division of Energy Resources recommended that Xcel make a compliance filing on its efforts to correct Solar*Rewards billing and contract errors.

On August 23, the Commission met to consider this issue and proposed tariff revisions to Xcel Energy's Solar*Rewards and Solar*Rewards Community contracts consistent with the 2018 legislative change to Minn. Stat. 116C.7792. The Commission deferred action on the proposed tariff revisions to seek supplemental comment.

On Sept 18, the Commission issued its Order Accepting Contract Corrections and Refund Plan and Requiring Compliance filing.

Filing Requirements: Utilities, telecommunications carriers, official parties, and state agencies are **required** to file documents using the Commission's electronic filing system (eFiling). All parties, participants and interested persons are encouraged to use eFiling: mn.gov/puc, select *eFiling*, and follow the prompts.

Submit Public Comments: Visit mn.gov/puc, select *Speak Up!* to find this docket, and add your comments to the discussion or email your comments to consumer.puc@state.mn.us.

Full Case Record: See all documents filed in this docket via the Commission's website at mn.gov/puc, select *Search eDockets*, enter the year (18) and the docket number (381), select *Search*.

Subscribe to receive email notification when new documents are filed in this docket at mn.gov/puc, select *Subscribe*, or click [HERE](#) and follow the prompts.

Questions about this docket or Commission process and procedure? Contact Commission staff, Michelle Rosier, at michelle.rosier@state.mn.us or 651-201-2212.

Change your mailing preferences: Email docketing.puc@state.mn.us or call 651-201-2246.

To request this document in another format such as large print or audio, call 651.296.0406 (voice). Persons with a hearing or speech impairment may call using their preferred Telecommunications Relay Service or email consumer.puc@state.mn.us for assistance.



414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, MN 55401
Telephone (800) 895-4999

[Customer Name]
[Street Address]
[City, State, Zip]

[Date]

Dear [Customer Name],

Thank you for being a Solar*Rewards customer. I wanted to share some important information regarding your energy bill. Following a review by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) (<https://mn.gov/puc/energy/distributed-energy/>) certain Solar*Rewards customers will be receiving a bill credit for monthly metering charges dating back to July 21, 2017. Our current Solar*Rewards tariff authorizes a monthly fee for regular meters but not for production meters. Our records indicate you have incorrectly been charged for both meter types.

Xcel Energy is providing a bill credit, with interest, to affected Solar*Rewards customers for the monthly fees incorrectly incurred since July 21, 2017. The error has been corrected on your bills going forward. You will receive a one-time credit correcting the previous charges on an upcoming bill. Watch for a bill message alerting you to the bill credit. See below for the difference in charged rates.

Monthly metering charges:

Rate Code	Incorrect Charge	Correct Charge	Difference
Excess Generation – Average Retail Utility Energy Service (A50)			
Single Phase	\$3.15	\$1.68	\$1.47
Three Phase	\$6.40	\$2.58	\$3.82
Sale to Company After Customer Self-Use (A51, A52)			
Single Phase	\$5.50	\$2.58	\$2.92
Three Phase	\$8.00	\$6.76	\$1.24
Monthly Net Metering (A53/54)			
Single Phase	\$5.50	\$2.58	\$2.92
Three Phase	\$8.00	\$6.76	\$1.24

We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused. If you have questions, please reach out to us at SolarProgramMN@xcelenergy.com or 1-800-895-4999.

Sincerely,

Callie Walsh
Program Manager, MN Solar*Rewards & DER Interconnections



414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, MN 55401
Telephone (800) 895-4999

[Customer Name]
[Street Address]
[City, State, Zip]

[Date]

RE: Notice of Contract Correction and Bill Credit

Dear [Customer Name],

Thank you for being a Solar*Rewards customer. I wanted to share some important information and changes regarding your Solar*Rewards contract and fees. Solar*Rewards customers will receive a bill credit for monthly metering charges dating back to July 21, 2017. Additionally, due to a review by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) (<https://mn.gov/puc/energy/distributed-energy/>), some customers were provided an incorrect version of the Solar*Rewards contract in our online application system. We explain both of these below,

Summary of Contract Corrections

The version of the Solar*Rewards contract you signed in our online application system does not match the contract as authorized by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission in our Electric Rate Book (Section 9, Sheets 33-48). The changes are minor and generally align with our practices – so do not directly impact most customers.

No further action is required from you. The Solar*Rewards contracts the Commission authorizes are automatically implemented for participants. We have posted the specific modifications to the contract needed to align with the authorized version in our Rate Book to our website at [Solar*Rewards Contract Changes](#). In addition, we provide this enclosed *Notice Regarding Corrections to Signed Solar*Rewards Contracts* for your convenience.

Metering Charges Bill Credit

As previously noted, certain Solar*Rewards customers will be receiving a bill credit to correct the monthly metering charges dating back to July 21, 2017. Our current Solar*Rewards tariff authorizes a monthly fee for regular meters but not for production meters. Our records indicate you have incorrectly been charged for both meter types.

The error has been corrected on your bills going forward. In the coming months, you will also be receiving a one-time bill credit, with interest, correcting the previous charges during this period. See below for the difference in rates.

Monthly Metering Charges:

Rate Code	Incorrect Charge	Correct Charge	Difference
<u>Excess Generation – Average Retail Utility Energy Service (A50)</u>			
Single Phase	\$3.15	\$1.68	\$1.47
Three Phase	\$6.40	\$2.58	\$3.82
<u>Sale to Company After Customer Self-Use (A51, A52)</u>			
Single Phase	\$5.50	\$2.58	\$2.92
Three Phase	\$8.00	\$6.76	\$1.24
<u>Monthly Net Metering (A53/A54)</u>			
Single Phase	\$5.50	\$2.58	\$2.92
Three Phase	\$8.00	\$6.76	\$1.24

We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused. If you have questions, please reach out to us at SolarProgramMN@xcelenergy.com or 1-800-895-4999.

Sincerely,

Callie Walsh
Program Manager, MN Solar*Rewards & DER Interconnections

Notice Regarding Corrections to Signed Solar*Rewards Contracts

Summary of contract changes

Xcel Energy discovered in July 2018 that an incorrect version of the Solar*Rewards contract was used in our online application system that certain customers had signed.

What does this mean and how does it impact you as our customer?

This signed version did not match the contract provisions within our Electric Rate Book (Section 9, Sheets 33-48) as authorized by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission. No action is needed on the customer's part to have the signed version of the contract be modified or amended to align with the authorized version of the contract in our Rate Book. The provisions in the signed contract and in our Rate Book allow for automatic modification or amendment to align the signed version with the authorized version through this web posting detailing the changes being made to the signed contract to align it with the Minnesota Public Utility Commission approved provisions in our Rate Book.

Here are the modifications or amendments shown in redline that align the signed contracts with the provisions in the Rate Book:

Signed Contract Language	Changes shown in redline to align with the Rate Book - Solar*Rewards Customer Contract (Section 9)
1.d. Customer has submitted to Company an application and paid an application fee of \$250.00, to participate in the Company's Solar*Rewards program using the PV System.	(Rate Book - Original Sheet 33, 1.d.) Customer has submitted to Company an application and paid an <u>engineering review</u> fee of \$250.00. to participate in the Company's Solar*Rewards program using the PV System. <u>Unfunded applicants for whom engineering review has not been completed will receive a full refund for this fee.</u>
3.d. The \$/kWh incentive shall be payable to only the Customer. Pursuant to Section 7.b. below, this Contract is assignable, but the \$/kWh incentive shall only be payable to the then-current Customer at the time of payment.	(Original Sheet 35, 3.d.) The \$/kWh incentive shall <u>may be payable to only assigned by the Customer to a third-party.</u> shall be payable to only the Customer. Pursuant to Section 7.b. below, this Contract is assignable, but the \$/kWh incentive shall only be payable to the then-current Customer at the time of payment.
5.i. Customer understands and agrees that as additional cogeneration facilities are connected to the Company distribution system, Company may require Customer to install additional safety devices at Customer's expense.	(Original Sheet No. 36, 5.i.) <u>[intentionally left blank]</u> Customer understands and agrees that as additional cogeneration facilities are connected to the Company distribution system, Company may require Customer to install additional safety devices at Customer's expense.
5.k. Customer agrees to disconnect the PV System from the Company distribution system or to reimburse Company for cost of necessary system modifications if operation of the PV System causes radio, television or electrical service interference to other customers, or interference with the operation of Company's system. Notice of cost impacts will be given to customer before the	(Original Sheet No. 36, 5.k.) Customer agrees to disconnect the PV System from the Company distribution system <u>(until remedied)</u> or to reimburse Company for cost of necessary system modifications if operation a malfunction of the PV System causes radio <u>or</u> television or <u>electrical service</u> interference to other customers, or interference with the operation of Company's

Signed Contract Language	Changes shown in redline to align with the Rate Book - Solar*Rewards Customer Contract (Section 9)
<p>Company makes upgrades to the distribution system and charges upgrade costs to the customer. The company will not provide prior notice if the upgrades are required to safeguard health and safety in an emergency.</p>	<p>system. Notice of cost impacts will be given to customer before the Company makes upgrades to the distribution system and charges upgrade costs to the customer. The company <u>Company</u> will not provide prior notice if the upgrades are required to safeguard health and safety in an emergency.</p>
<p>5.w. [Omitted]</p>	<p>(1st Revised Sheet No. 41, 5.w.) <u>5.w Customers who are exempt from the Solar Energy Standard (SES) under Minn. Stat. §216B.1691, sub.2(f)d, shall not participate in the Solar*Rewards program.</u></p>
<p>7.e. If a Party defaults in performing its obligations under this Contract, the non-defaulting Party may give written notice to the defaulting Party identifying the nature of the default and stating that the non-defaulting Party may terminate this Contract if the defaulting Party does not cure the identified default within thirty (30) days of the date the non-defaulting Party mailed or delivered the written notice to the defaulting Party. If the defaulting Party does not cure the default identified in the written notice within that thirty (30) day period, then the non-defaulting Party may, at its sole option, terminate this Contract upon written notice of termination mailed or delivered to the defaulting Party. Any notices given under this Section shall be addressed to the Parties (or their successors in interest) at their respective mailing addresses identified in the first paragraph of this Contract.</p>	<p>(Original Sheet No. 43, 7.e.) If a Party defaults in performing its obligations under this Contract, the non-defaulting Party may give written notice, <u>mailed or delivered</u>, to the defaulting Party: <u>(a)</u> identifying the nature of the default; and <u>(b)</u> stating that the non-defaulting Party may terminate this Contract if the defaulting Party does not cure the identified default within <u>ninety (90) days for PV system operational issues and within thirty (30) days for non-operational issues, unless the date failure to cure is due to factors beyond the non-defaulting Party's control, in which case the defaulting Party shall be given an additional period of time to cure that is reasonable under the circumstances.</u> If the defaulting Party does not cure the default identified in the written notice within <u>that thirty (30) day the identified time</u> period, then the non-defaulting Party may, at its sole option, terminate this Contract upon written notice of termination mailed or delivered to the defaulting Party. Any notices given under this Section shall be addressed to the Parties (or their successors in interest) at their respective mailing addresses identified in the first paragraph of this Contract.</p>

In addition to the above, Exhibit 3 to the signed contract should have contained the following tariff excerpts instead of those attached. Many of the provisions are the same or similar, but for the sake of completeness, we provide the entirety of what should have been provided as Exhibit 3 [here](#).

We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused. If you have questions, please reach out to us at SolarProgramMN@xcelenergy.com.