

Proposed pilot programs aim to put solar power within your reach

Even if you think solar power isn't an option for you now, it could be in the near future.



If approved, our "connected.....to the sun" proposal would give you easy, affordable options for buying electricity from solar power projects in our service area - without installing your own rooftop solar panels.

Our "connected.....to the sun" proposal, filed with the California Public Utilities Commission in January 2012, includes two pilot programs that would give all SDG&E® customers options to buy solar power - even if you:

- Don't own a home.
- Can't afford a solar investment.
- Have structural, shading or ownership issues that prevent you from installing rooftop solar photovoltaic panels, which is the case for more than 70% of our customers.

Under our proposal, you could buy all or some of your electricity from solar projects located in our service area or you could negotiate directly with local solar power providers.

"Our proposal would expand solar access to all of our customers and also open up a new potential market for solar developers," said James P. Avery, senior vice president of power supply for SDG&E.

"An easy, affordable way"

In addition to benefiting local communities and the environment, he said, "our 'connected.....to the sun' proposal provides options for an easy, affordable way customers can meet their energy needs with locally generated solar power no matter where they live. By participating in

one of these pilot programs, our customers could benefit from economies of scale and optimal solar sites that will help drive down costs, while also having the flexibility to take their solar subscription with them if they move within SDG&E's service area."

Two pilot programs

If approved, "connected.....to the sun" would launch two pilot programs to test the interests and preferences of people who find rooftop solar power may not be a viable option now:

- **Share the SunSM** is a community solar pilot program that could expand the market for solar providers. You'd be able to cover all or part of your electricity use - and receive a bill credit - for solar power produced locally by solar providers.
- **SunRateSM** would give you access to energy supplied from local solar projects already under contract to SDG&E.

Our proposal reflects the input of several solar industry businesses, community leaders and policymakers. We also proposed a series of public workshops that would give interested parties the opportunity to help finalize the Share the Sun pilot program.

For more information about our "connected.....to the sun" proposal, visit sdge.com/solar-pilot-programs.

New Green Button gives you quick, easy access to your energy info

The new "Green Button" puts you in the driver's seat for fast, easy access to your electricity use information.

Among the first in America

In September 2011, the White House challenged the electric utility industry to develop a tool to give energy consumers timely access to their own energy data with the click of a single button online. In response to the White House challenge, SDG&E launched the Green Button. As an SDG&E customer, you're among the first energy consumers in the nation to be able to download your electricity use data.

To download your data, simply log in to My Account at sdge.com/myaccount and click:

1. The "My Energy" tab.
2. The "Energy Charts" link.
3. The Green Button.

Choose the file format you want, and instantly download your data to use as you please. You'll receive up to 13 months of data showing your hour-by-hour electricity use.

The consumer- and computer-friendly standard formats make it easy for you to export your data to other applications or share it with third parties. You can choose to have a company analyze your energy use patterns, and recommend ways to save energy and money.

For more information, visit sdge.com/green-button.



Increase the comforts of home and save big with Energy Upgrade California™

Now is the right time to make energy-saving home improvements. In 2011, participating customers saw an average of 25% energy savings.



If you own a single-family home, you may qualify for \$1,000 to \$4,000 in incentives toward home improvements through Energy Upgrade California. Participants last year averaged 25% in energy savings.

If you own a home in our service area, you have a great opportunity to save money and enhance your comfort through Energy Upgrade California. We're offering incentives from \$1,000 up to \$4,000 to help you make home improvements that will help you save energy and lower your bills.

Your whole house

Your home is a series of interconnected parts, and new technology is available to help you view your house as a whole system. With this technology, a contractor can identify the changes to make rooms more comfortable, keep temperature and humidity consistent throughout your home, and even improve indoor air quality.

Contractors do all the work

All Energy Upgrade California participating contractors have gone through a rigorous training program on using the technology to find all of the ways that you can save energy and get the most money for your upgrades.

We want to make it easy; just choose from a list of participating contractors, and yours will guide you through the process. Your Energy Upgrade California contractor will:

- Perform a comprehensive home energy assessment.
- Help you choose which upgrades are best for you.
- Help you apply for rebates, incentives and available financing.

Get more information

Visit sdge.com/energyupgrade to learn more. You'll find a video and a link to a statewide website where you can type in your ZIP code and find a list of participating contractors ready to help you on your path to energy efficiency.

NOTE: Energy-efficiency programs are funded by California utility customers and administered by SDG&E under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission. SDG&E is not responsible for goods and services selected by the customer.

Try these spring-cleaning tips for saving energy

The dirty little secret of dirt is that it can be a drag on your energy bill. Try these tips for spring-cleaning to get the most for your energy dollars.

- Unplug your refrigerator and carefully vacuum or dust dirty condenser coils. Coils covered in dust or pet hair may cause overheating.
- Clean door seals on your refrigerator, freezer, oven and dishwasher to prevent leaks. Replace seals that are loose, cracked or torn.
- Replace disposable filters on your air conditioner or heat pump, or hose down permanent filters every month or two, as recommended by the manufacturer.
- Clean lint and dust from the outside condenser coils of your air conditioner or heat pump by spraying them with a detergent-and-water solution and hosing them down.
- Remove indoor and outdoor obstructions - such as furniture, weeds and debris - from air-conditioning equipment and vents.
- Dust or vacuum fans and make sure they work properly.
- Remove built-up lint and dust from the clothes dryer exhaust duct, the outside dryer exhaust terminal, the back of the dryer itself and *behind* the lint screen. This is in addition to routinely cleaning the lint filter every time you use the dryer.
- Dust or wipe light bulbs (when cool) and lampshades for maximum illumination. Dust's dimming effect could tempt you to switch unnecessarily to more power-hungry lighting.
- Clean debris clinging inside your dishwasher before it clogs up the works.
- Flush out built-up sediment from inside the tank of your water heater, as recommended by the manufacturer.

For more tips on saving energy and money, visit sdge.com/saveenergy.