


Net Metering Rate Option for Self-Generators

0020

TOTAL kWh





*The quality of life
enjoyed by future generations
depends on responsible use
of today's resources.*

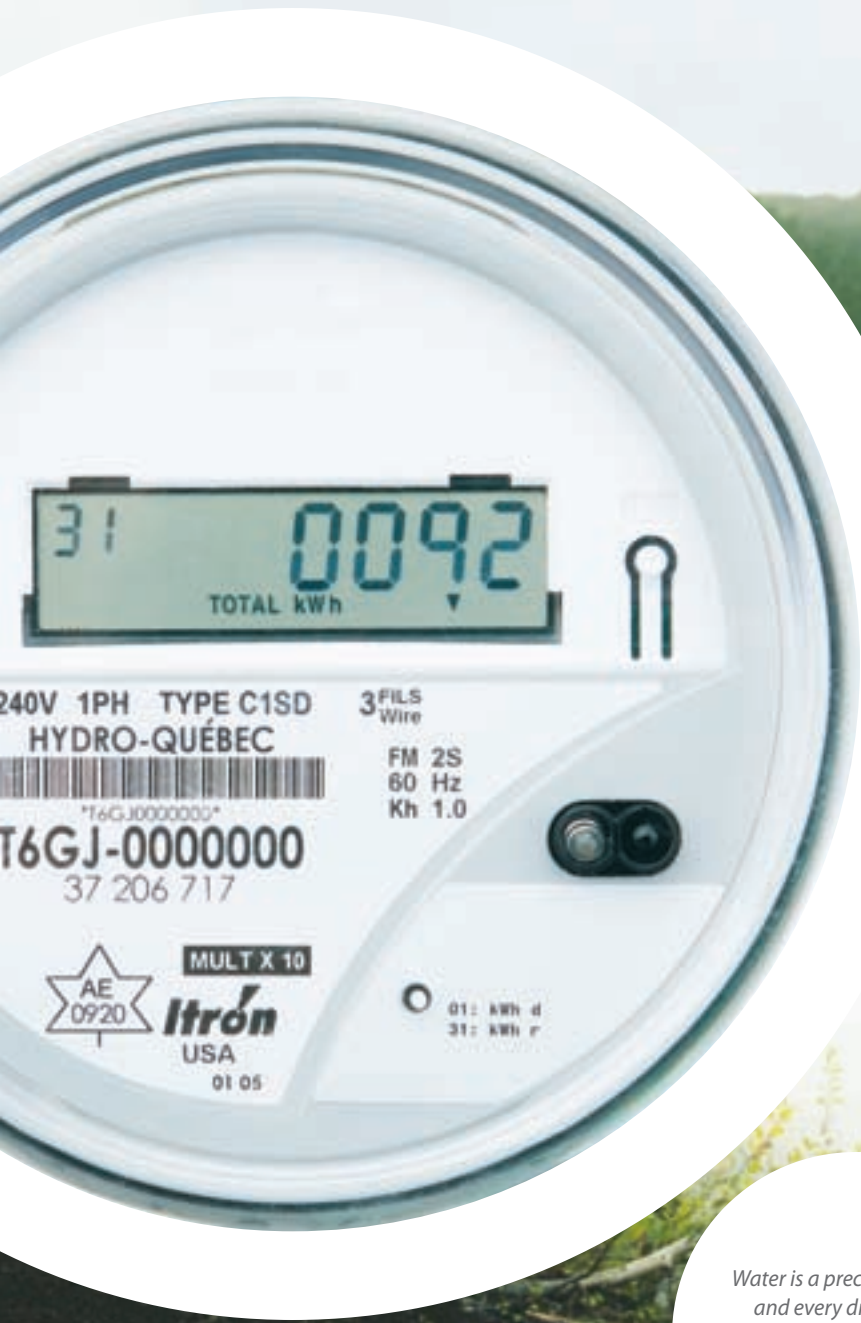


Net metering: a green option for self-generators

In line with our commitment to the environment and sustainable development, Hydro-Québec is supporting self-generation with a new rate offering: the net metering option.

This option reflects a broad approach to energy efficiency. It is both environmentally friendly and advantageous for self-generators seeking to optimize their energy management. Net metering provides them with a way to act on their convictions by using renewable energy and state-of-the-art technology to truly take control of their consumption.





Water is a precious resource and every drop counts. The contribution of self-generators, modest though it may be, does make a difference.

What is net metering?

If you're an early adopter of technology who would like to achieve a measure of energy self-sufficiency, and if you're prepared to invest in the equipment to generate electricity from a renewable energy source, the net metering option may be for you. You can feed your surplus power into the Hydro-Québec grid in exchange for credits in kilowatthours that will be applied to your electricity bill. Inversely, if you do not generate enough power for your needs, you can draw electricity from the grid.

It's a winning solution!

With the net metering option, you can

- benefit from the reliability of the Hydro-Québec grid but still maintain some independence as a self-generator;
- reduce your electricity bill with the kilowatthours that are credited to you;
- take advantage of the unlimited storage capacity of the Hydro-Québec system;
- deal with certain environmental problems, especially if you are a small-power business customer or a farmer.

Who is eligible for net metering?

Residential customers, farmers billed at Rate D or DM (without billed power demand*) and small-power business customers billed at Rate G (without billing power demand*) who are able to generate electricity from a renewable energy source can choose the net metering option. The eligible renewable energy sources are

- wind power;
- solar power;
- hydropower;
- geothermal power (for electricity generation only);**
- bioenergy (forest biomass or biogas).

* Less than 50 kW.

** Geothermal systems with heat pumps are not eligible.

*Choosing
renewable energy
is an investment
in the future.*

HABITAT 07 HOUSE IN BAIE-SAINT-PAUL

A group of environmentalist builders featured in a Télé-Québec series (*Les Compagnons du rebut global*) were the first to sign up for the net metering option. In 2006, they built the Habitat 07 house according to innovative, ecological principles and chose to use solar power. Their success in meeting the challenges involved demonstrates their firm commitment to sustainable development.



Technical compliance

Your generating facility must meet the following requirements:

- It must be located at the delivery point stated on your electricity service contract.
- It must comply with current regulations in Québec and with Hydro-Québec standards E.12-05 and E.12-07, in accordance with the *Conditions for Electrical Service* in effect.
- Its generating capacity must not exceed:
 - the estimated capacity required to meet all or part of your power needs
 - 50 kW,whichever is less.
- It must use a renewable energy source.

Other conditions

If you are a residential customer, you must be the owner and occupant of the premises. If you own a business, you must be the owner and operator. In addition, you must pay all the costs of purchasing, installing, maintaining and inspecting the equipment. Hydro-Québec does not provide financial assistance for signing up to the net metering option.



How do I enroll?

The first step is to call 1 800 ENERGIE (363-7443) and request the enrollment package, which will guide you through the process.

Next, you need to choose the most appropriate energy source for your needs, an equipment supplier and a master electrician to do the installation. To avoid unpleasant surprises, first check the current regulations and Hydro-Québec standards (available on our Web site).

Once you have made these decisions, you can

- complete the enrollment form with a description of the equipment you plan to buy and return it to Hydro-Québec for technical validation;
- sign the Interconnection Agreement and mail it to Hydro-Québec;
- purchase your generating equipment and have it installed.

Hydro-Québec will then

- inspect your facility, for a charge of \$400, to make sure it complies with the terms of the Interconnection Agreement;
- install a dual-register meter, at no expense to you.

You will then receive a letter confirming that the net metering option is in effect.

Mutual obligations

Your responsibilities

Hydro-Québec will guide you through the net metering enrollment process. However, you are responsible for choosing the energy source and your generating equipment, including the uninterruptible power supply and the inverter, if any.

Hydro-Québec's responsibilities

Hydro-Québec agrees to

- provide reliable, continuous supply, regardless of fluctuations in your power output;
- maintain the rate conditions for the service life of your facilities, as long as you are the owner.





CONNECTION STANDARDS

Your equipment must comply with Hydro-Québec standards E.12-05 and E.12-07.

These standards (in French only) state the requirements and technical specifications for connecting distributed generation to the Hydro-Québec low-voltage distribution grid. They are available online at www.hydroquebec.com/netmetering.



A large, leafy green tree stands in a field under a clear blue sky. In the foreground, there are several tall, white, stylized blades of grass that appear to be blowing in the wind. A white circular graphic is centered in the middle of the image, containing text.

*Committed to sustainable
development, Hydro-Québec
works with its partners
and customers to maintain
a healthier, greener
environment. A challenge
to be met together!*

Billing

As of the first consumption period following installation of the dual-register meter, your file will be handled in a personalized manner. Your bill will include a detailed breakdown of the amounts of electricity Hydro-Québec has supplied and what you have fed into the Hydro-Québec grid.

If you generate more than you use, the surplus will earn banked credits (in kWh) that will be deducted from your net consumption on future bills.

Accumulated credits must be used within 24 months. You may inform us of the expiry date you wish to use; otherwise the default date of March 31 will apply. On that date, any credits banked will be lost, as the net metering option does not allow monetary payment in exchange for credits.



For more information

Visit our Web site.

www.hydroquebec.com/self-generation

Hydro-Québec

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Ce document est également publié en français.

