

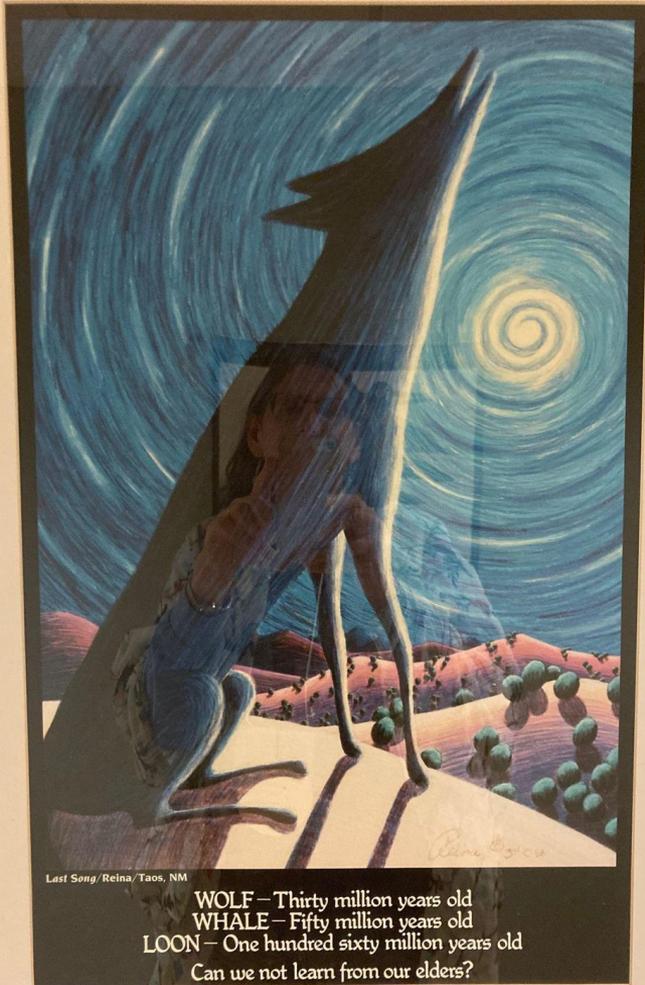


350

WISCONSIN

Icebreaker in the chat

What inspired you to join 350 Wisconsin? What inspires you to keep working with us, “together for the climate”?



Last Song / Reina, Taos, NM

WOLF – Thirty million years old
WHALE – Fifty million years old
LOON – One hundred sixty million years old
Can we not learn from our elders?

Let's take a moment to take 2 deep breaths together and reflect on our ties to this land we live on.

Agenda for our Monthly Meeting

7:00 Opening chat, land acknowledgement and welcome

7:07 **Sun Block: Utility Proposals Darken Rooftop Solar
Outlook**

Stephanie Robinson, 350 Wisconsin Development Director introduces
Heather Allen, Elevate
Michael Vickerman, RENEW Wisconsin

7:50 Teams' Action Updates

8:05 Time to welcome newcomers, Q&A with speaker

Tonight's Speakers

Heather Allen, Associate Director of Policy at Elevate

Since first discovering her passion for renewables upon going solar, Heather has dedicated herself to finding policy and program solutions to ensure all Wisconsinites have access to clean energy. Heather joined Elevate, in June 2023. As Associate Director of Policy at Elevate, she works to maximize the climate and equity benefits of deploying clean energy and energy efficiency.

From 2018 - 2023, Heather has served in a variety of roles at RENEW Wisconsin, a nonprofit dedicated to accelerating the transformation to clean energy. As Executive Director of RENEW she guided overall strategy, policy development, day to day operations, and engagement. Prior to joining RENEW, Heather worked as the Legislative Analyst for the City of Madison's Common Council. She brings a cumulative 15 years of experience developing policies and programs at the Clean Lakes Alliance, Natural Resources Defense Council, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the City of Madison.

Tonight's Speakers

Michael Vickerman, Clean Energy Deployment Manager for RENEW Wisconsin, a nonprofit organization founded in 1991 to promote clean energy development and use in Wisconsin.

RENEW designs policies and programs for promoting solar, wind, local hydro, heat pumps, energy storage, and electric vehicles to power Wisconsin's energy future. Michael has held several leadership positions with RENEW since 1991, including 18 years as executive director and 10 years as policy director. In his present position, Michael advances the interests of renewable energy producers, businesses and customers in the policy arena--through expert testimony and other regulatory filings, media interviews, presentations and commentaries. A UW-Madison graduate and a long-time resident of Madison's East Side, Michael enjoys circulating in and around Dane County on his trusty two-wheeled steed.





ELEVATE

Protecting net metering: advancing climate and equity solutions through local solar



Elevate: Meeting building owners where they are



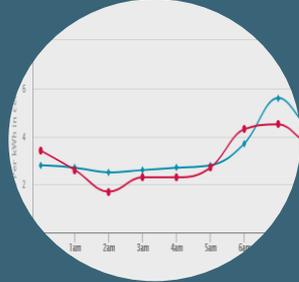
Energy
Efficiency



Electrification



Renewable
Electric Supply



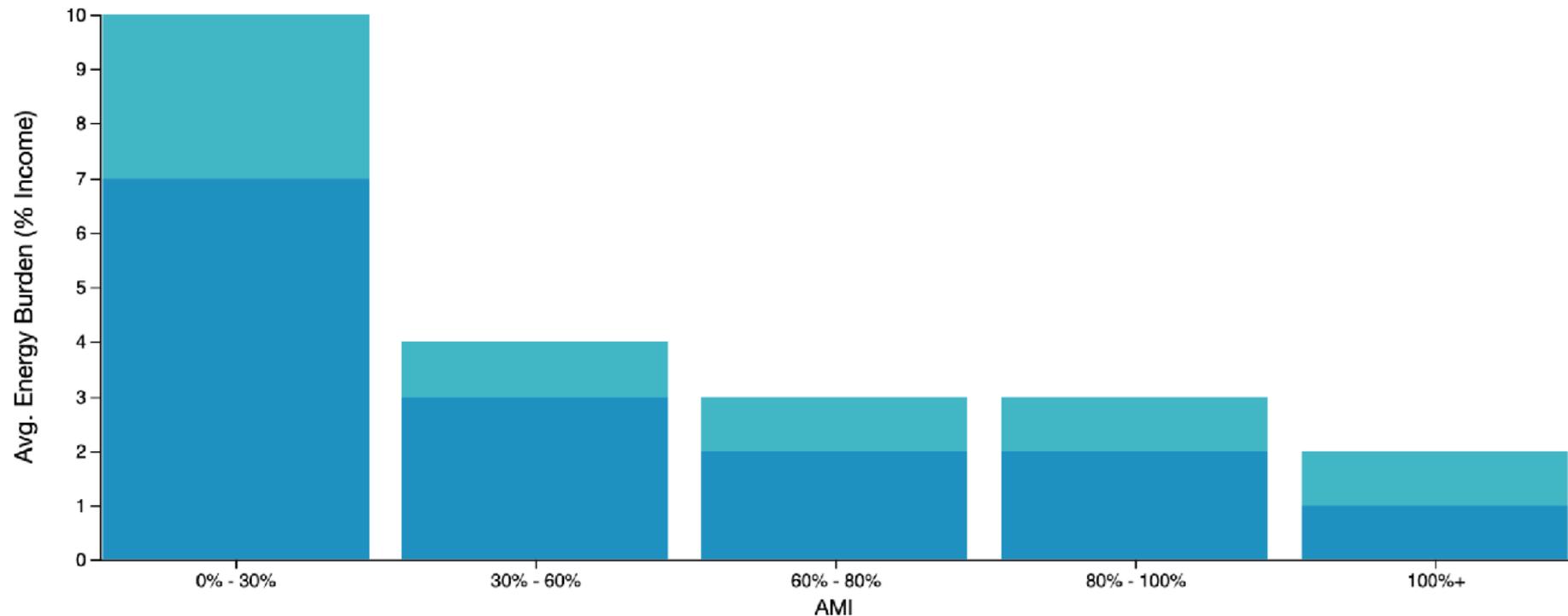
Managed
Electricity Loads

Solar and Equity

- Control energy bills
- Electrify buildings and transportation
- Deploy solar on multifamily properties
- Promote local clean energy jobs
- Reduce total cost to grid system
- Increase in community resilience and reliability, especially when paired with storage and demand response
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions



Avg. Energy Burden (% Income) for Madison



Madison
● Electricity
● Gas
● Other

350 Wisconsin's 2022 Low-Income Energy Burden in Madison analysis found that extremely low-income households have an energy burden of 10% - greater than 6% is considered unaffordable.

Solar for All

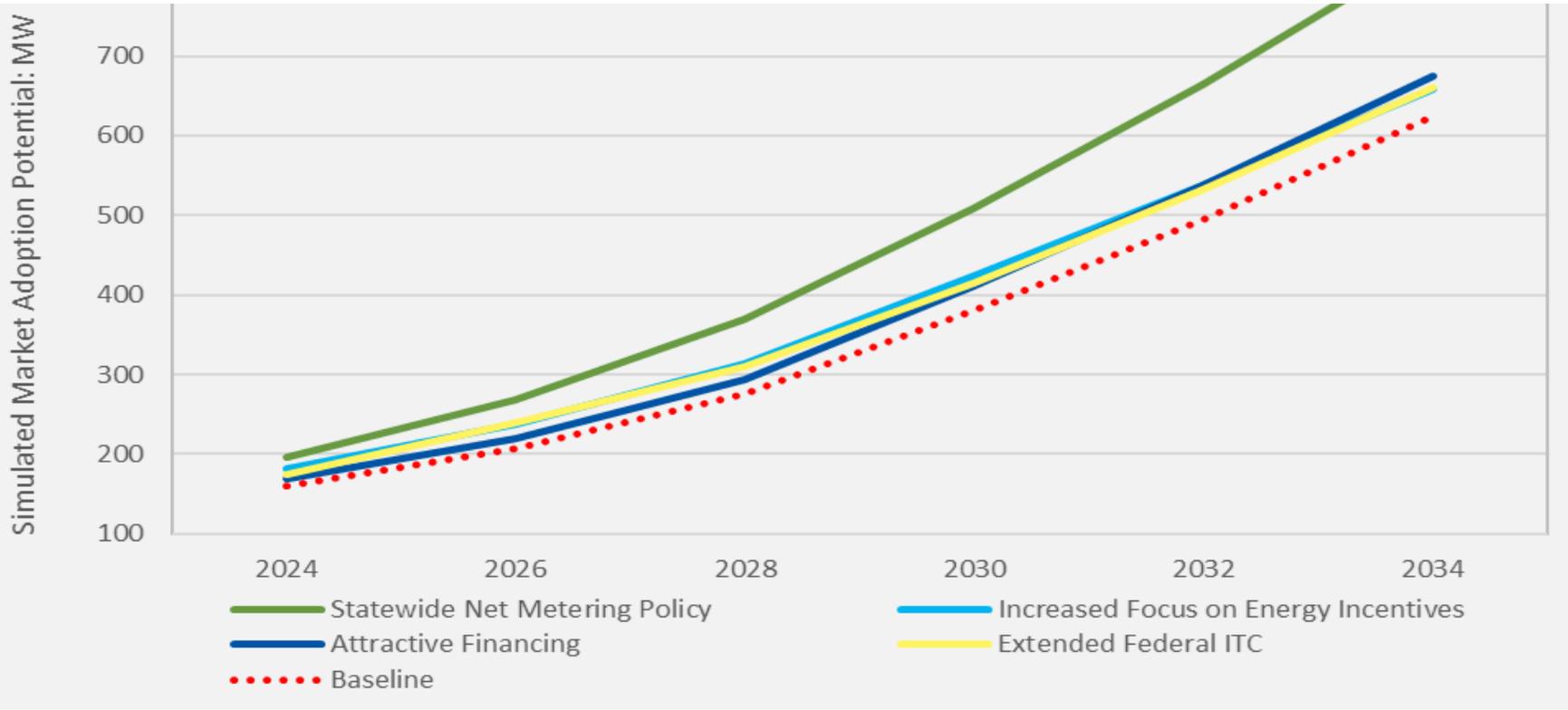
A 2020 Wisconsin study found that the key to unlocking rooftop solar potential in Wisconsin is a standardized net metering policy.

All told WI rooftops hold the potential to host 2.5 GW of solar capacity, a key element in the roadmap to Net Zero.

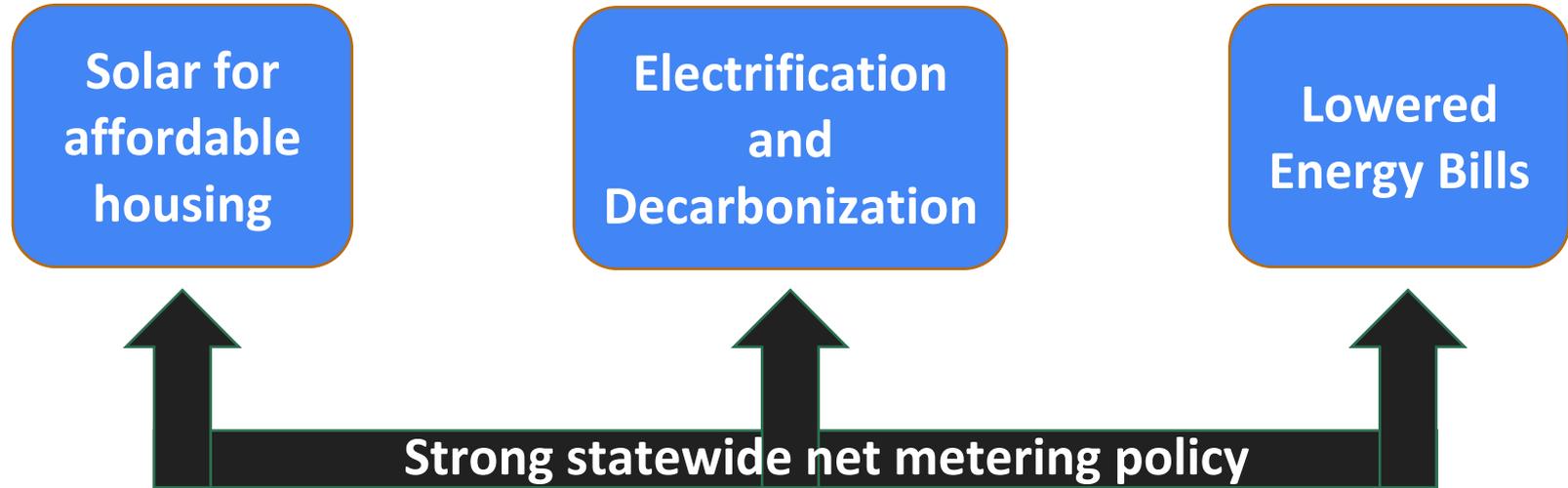
Instead, utilities are proposing an alternative to net metering which will make solar more expensive and less accessible for local families and community groups.



“The most efficacious strategy for accelerating the adoption of rooftop solar systems is through implementation of a statewide net metering policy”



Solar for All Building Blocks



**By 2050:
223 GW of New Local Solar
473B Savings
Over 2M Jobs**



- Local Solar for all Costs less than the traditional utility planning model
- The affordable and equitable grid of the future requires
 - More and better data and planning
 - Local energy generation and optimization
 - Clear and predictable pricing
- Local Solar Roadmap study details at localsolarforall.org
- New federal incentives offer a tremendous opportunity

Contact information

Heather Allen

Associate Director, Policy

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ELEVATE



ElevateNP.org



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[@ElevateNPOrg](https://www.facebook.com/ElevateNPOrg)



[@ElevateNPO](https://twitter.com/ElevateNPO)



[@ElevateNP](https://www.linkedin.com/company/ElevateNP)

Sun Block: Utility Proposals Darken Rooftop Solar Outlook

Michael Vickerman

July 10, 2023



Habitat for Humanity
Madison

Blount St. plant
Madison



Presentation Outline - Wisconsin

What will be covered today

- Valuing rooftop solar
- The case for net metering
- The threat
- Status report on rate cases



Commonwealth Ave., Madison

What Is Net Metering?

Net metering is a billing mechanism that enables utility customers who generate electricity for their own use to receive a credit, based on their retail energy rate, for any energy they export to the grid.

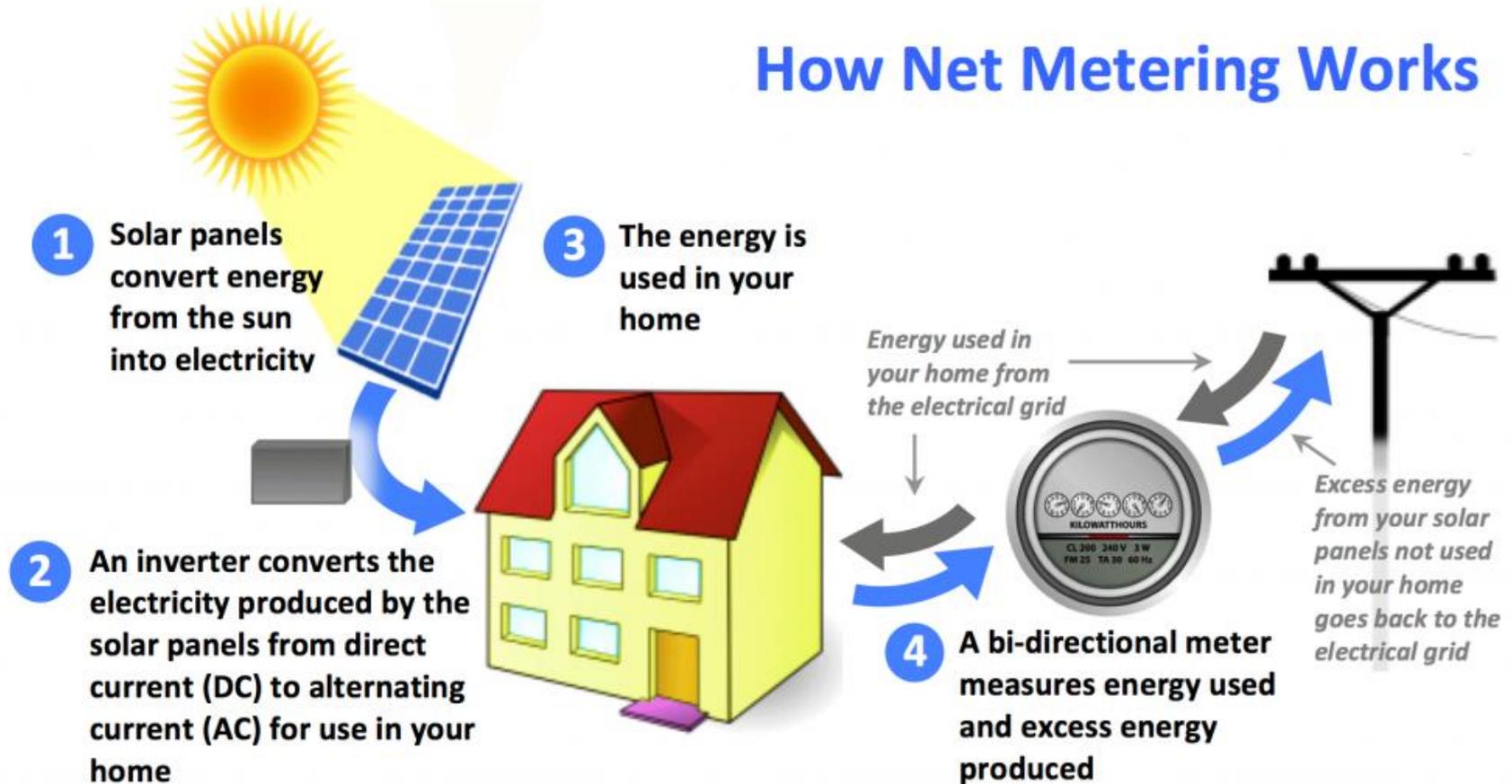
This arrangement encourages residential and business customers to invest in renewable power, displacing fossil energy sources that would otherwise have served that customer-generator.

How Net Metering Came About in WI

- ▶ PSC Order established net metering in 1983
- ▶ Advance Plan 6 (1992) required utility offer of net metering
- ▶ Terms of service (size cap, netting frequency, etc.) adjusted in subsequent rate cases involving individual utilities.

WI legislature has never taken up net metering. No organic policy in place to guide PSC here. Net metering landscape is a patchwork quilt.

How Net Metering Works



Daily solar output vs. household usage in real time

Red: Grid supplied-electricity

Blue: Solar consumed by host

Green: Solar exported to grid



Net metering value stream (to WI customers)

- Offsets use of grid-supplied electricity usage (savings valued at retail energy rate)— **13 to 17 cents/kWh**
- Compensates exported electricity at the retail energy rate (up to the allowed amount per billing period)-- **13 to 17 cents/kWh**
- Within a billing period, output that exceeds consumption is compensated at a lower (wholesale-based) rate— **3 to 6 cents/kWh**

Differences between MGE + Alliant net metering service today

MGE

- Up to 100 kW (AC)
- Rolling 12-month netting period

Alliant

- Up to 20 kW (AC)
- One month netting period



West Green Club

OUR WORK

Madison West High School

100 kilowatts

Commissioned 9/2020

Supplies 5.5% of high school's electricity



2021 **RENEWABLE ENERGY SUMMIT**
BUILDING THE CLEAN ENERGY MOSAIC
TUESDAY, JANUARY 12 - THURSDAY, JANUARY 14

Both clinics have rooftop solar systems. The two buildings are owned by the same company, are of similar size, and have the same operating hours. The array serving Madison's East Side (left) has a rated capacity of 50 kW, while array serving Cottage Grove (right) has a rated capacity of 20 kW. Why the differently sized systems?

WILDWOOD FAMILY CLINIC, S.C.
"HEALTHCARE FOR ALL AGES"

Home Services Special Programs Providers Contact Us Locations MyChart

Locations [Home / Locations](#)

Madison Office

4901 Cottage Grove Road
Madison, WI 53716
Mon-Fri 8:30 am – 5:00 pm, Sat-Sun Closed
P: [608.221.1501](tel:608.221.1501)
F: 608.223.3540

Cottage Grove Office

251 East Cottage Grove Road
Cottage Grove, WI 53527
Mon-Fri 8:30 am – 5:00 pm, Sat-Sun Closed
P: [608.839.3515](tel:608.839.3515)
F: 608.839.3541

MGE's net metering threshold is 100 kilowatts

Alliant's net metering threshold is 20 kilowatts

Why do utilities dislike net metering?

- Reduces revenue flows to utility
- Exported electricity is compensated at the retail energy rate
- Customer pays for equipment; no opportunity for utility to earn a profit
- Customer generation lessens need to upgrade electricity infrastructure (and generate profits!)

How do MGE and Alliant intend to change their rooftop solar service?

- By severing the export rate from the retail energy rate and substituting a new compensation formula that lowers it.

When the export rate is detached from the retail energy rate, the new treatment cannot be described as net metering. This model is known as **inflow-outflow**.



**WISCONSIN
PUBLIC RADIO**

Wisconsin and the World. **npr**

2 Wisconsin utilities propose changing reimbursement rates for solar energy customers

Proposals come as industry pushes back on efforts advocates say would speed up solar adoption

By Joe Schulz

Published: Wednesday, July 5, 2023, 2:20pm

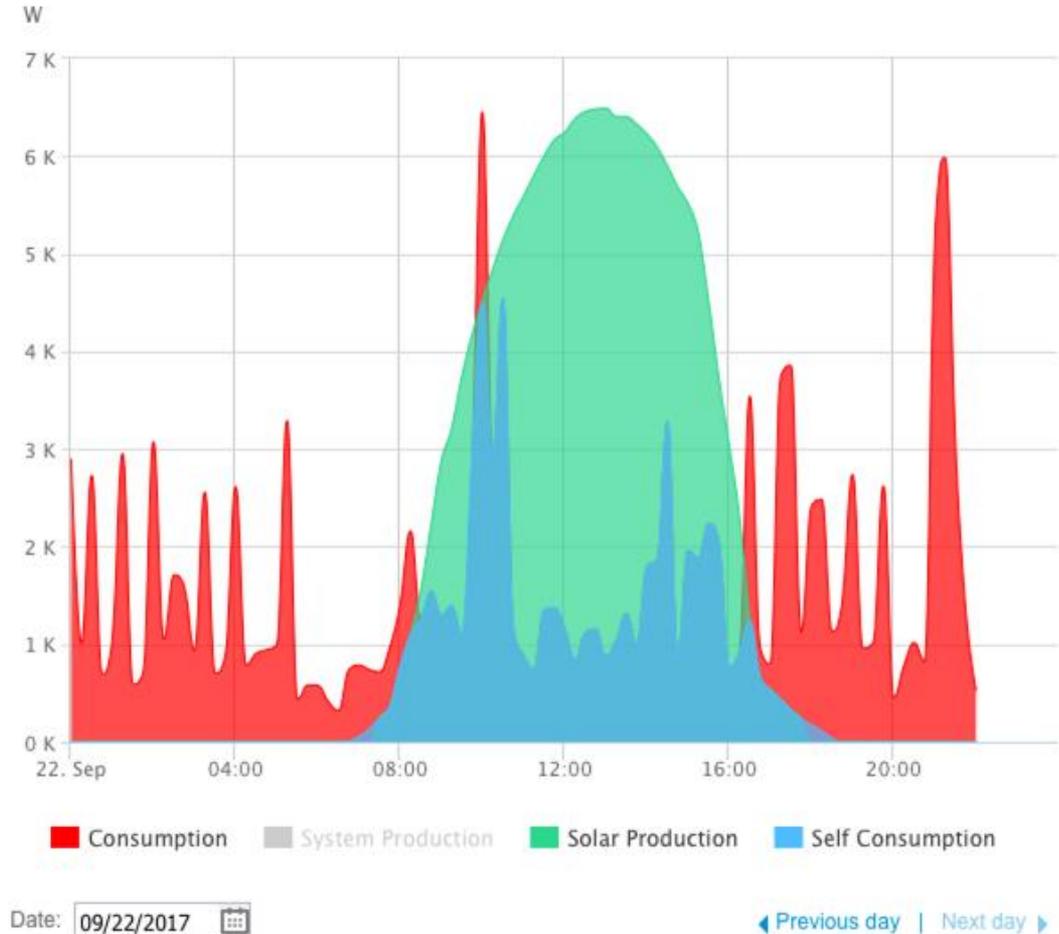
*“Alliant’s current net metering reimbursement rate for generation is roughly **7.1 cents** per kilowatt-hour for energy exported to the grid, according to utility spokesperson Tony Palese. He said the rate under the current structure is expected to shrink to **4.6 cents** in 2024.”*

How solar output would be priced for new customers in MGE territory starting 4/2024.

Red (inflow): ~17 cents/kWh

Blue (offset): ~17 cents/kWh

Green (outflow): ~4.6 cents/kWh



Which groups would be especially disadvantaged by the MGE proposal?

- ▶ Entities with irregular schedules (e.g., houses of worship)
- ▶ Customers who can't afford to go solar without financing
- ▶ Small households with low consumption
- ▶ Workspaces operating weekdays only (9a – 5p)
- ▶ School districts/local govts. w/ carbon reduction goals
- ▶ Solar contractors + their workforce

Is this a fair rate?

Consider the following: MGE provides a Shared Solar program to customers can't host or can't afford an onsite solar system. Shared Solar subscribers pay 10.9 cents/kWh for their share of the output, of which 8.4 cents represents avoided energy, capacity and transmission. Yet MGE would pay only 4.6 cents/kWh for solar power from sources other than those owned by the utility. Clearly, this ultralow outflow rate is intended to slow down the pace of new solar installations by making ownership economically unpalatable.

Time to expand MGE's Shared Solar program!

- ▶ Price for Shared Solar less than standard Rg 1 electricity (10.9 cents vs. 11.1 cents/kWh). Subscribers are saving \$\$!
- ▶ Program fully subscribed since 2020. Capacity is frozen at 4 MW.
- ▶ Program structured to serve all residential customers, including LMI households and tenants in city-owned buildings
- ▶ No other pathway will enable majority of customers to drive new solar projects in such an efficient and equitable manner.

MGE rate case intervenors (part 1)

- ▶ 350 WI
- ▶ Blacks for Political and Social Change in Dane County
Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System
ChargePoint
- ▶ Clean Wisconsin
- ▶ Citizens Utility Board
City of Madison
City of Middleton
- ▶ Dane County

Bullet points indicate intervention in Alliant rate case as well

MGE rate case intervenors (part 2)

Elevate Energy

Local 2304 – International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

- ▶ RENEW Wisconsin
- ▶ Sierra Club
- ▶ Solar Energy Industries Association
- ▶ Vote Solar
- ▶ Walmart
- ▶ Wisconsin Industrial Energy Group
- ▶ Wisconsin Local Government Climate Change

Rate case process steps and schedule

MGE (3270-UR-125)

Applicant Direct 4/28

Intervenor Direct 8/28

Rebuttal

9/12

Surrebuttal

9/15

Party hearing

NOTE: No date yet on public hearing or comment period.

Alliant (6680-UR-124)

Applicant Direct 4/28

Intervenor Direct 9/5

Rebuttal

9/19

Surrebuttal

9/25

Party hearing

9/27

Our ask

Please consider submitting comments opposing overhaul of net metering in both dockets

Points to raise:

- ▶ Proposals will cause major disruption to Wisconsin's fastest growing solar market.
- ▶ Proposals will disadvantage customer groups who need stable pricing as a precondition for investment.
- ▶ Utilities, especially MGE, need more local generation of renewables to meet their decarbonization goals in a cost-effective manner.

Resources: <https://www.renewwisconsin.org/net-metering/>

Questions?

Michael Vickerman
Clean Energy Deployment Manager
mvickerman@renewwisconsin.org



Why are we concerned about these utility proposals?

- Affect rooftop solar growth while raising rates for working families.
- Hurt local businesses and those employed in the solar industry.
- More difficult for local governments and nonprofits to go solar and achieve clean energy goals.
- Worsen energy burden for low-income families through rate increases.
- More difficult for low- and moderate-income families to benefit from rooftop solar.
- More difficult to achieve WI climate goals in the Governor's Clean Energy Plan and Governor's Task Force on Climate Change report.

How is 350 Wisconsin engaging on this issue?

350 Wisconsin is an Intervenor in MGE and Alliant rate cases, along with 18 other organizations, including local government, environmental orgs, social justice groups, labor, and business.

350 Wisconsin is forming a campaign working group – Activities and opportunities for engagement:

- a. Rally and press event (TBD)
- b. Uplifting equity issues
- c. Partnering with other organizations
- d. Social media campaign
- e. Letters to the Editor
- f. Comments to PSC

Complete our Survey on Solar Energy! (Link in the chat)

Contact Emily if you're interested in being involved! emily.park@350wisconsin.org



Action
Updates

Introducing our new Development Manager

Kristen Clark



Puppetman Skit and Flash Mob on Saturday July 15



10 am Capital Square @
North Hamilton Street

Still room for more people
to help with banners,
leaflets and tabling.

SIGN UP: <https://tinyurl.com/chase-flash-mob>

Seeking Chase/Wells Fargo Customers (or Friends of Customers)

Join our training to learn how to meet with your branch manager and advocate for climate justice

Register for Zoom Link to the bank training on July 24th at 7 pm here: <https://tinyurl.com/bank-training>



We need YOU at the Taste of Madison!



PROUDLY
SPONSORED BY



WHAT: Work a shift in our Beer Tent at Taste of Madison

WHEN: September 2nd, 1-5:30 PM or 5:30-9:30 PM

WHERE: Capitol Square, Madison WI

WHY: Support 350 Wisconsin's fundraising!

Sign up for a shift: www.tinyurl.com/350WI-TOM



Volunteer of the Month

Alex Goetsch



Summer Picnic in August

August 7 - In person, and an hour early, @ 6 pm

Summer Picnic, Brittingham Park (Madison)

Sorry, no zoom link provided in August



Upcoming team meetings

Tar Sands: 1st Mondays 5:45–6:45 pm

Contact: Goetschalex3@gmail.com

Climate Justice: 2nd Mondays 7:00–8:30 pm

Contact: Marian.Fredal@350madison.org

Communication Action (CAT): 3rd Mondays 7:00-8:30 pm

Contact Emily.Park@350wisconsin.org

Divest & Defund: 4th Mondays 7-8:30 pm

Contact divest.defund@350wisconsin.org

Upcoming team meetings

Community Climate Solutions: 3rd Thursdays 5-6 pm

Contact: Susan.Millar@350wisconsin.org

Art Collective:

Contact: Russ Bennett bennett.russ@gmail.com

Dianne Brakarsh movingfromwithin@gmail.com

State Policy: Contact Janet Niewold janet.neiwold@gmail.com

Fundraising: 3rd Wednesdays 7-8pm

Contact stephanie.robinson@350wisconsin.org

Monthly Meeting planning: Contact: Julia.Isaacs@350wisconsin.org

Time for breakouts!

Breakout room 1 for Q&A with speakers

Newcomers stay here to meet Nikki Darga, our volunteer engagement coordinator

ADD BACK IMAGE TELLING PEOPLE HOW TO JOIN BREAKOUTS.