

Our distributed generation programs

We purchase electricity from small and clean or renewable energy projects throughout B.C. with our distributed generation programs. The table below provides a high-level overview of the three programs that we offer: Net Metering, Micro-SOP for First Nations & Communities, and the Standing Offer Program.

	Net Metering	Micro-SOP for First Nations and Communities	Standing Offer Program
Project size	Up to 100 kW	100 kW to 1 MW	100 kW to 15 MW
Who can apply	BC Hydro residential and commercial customers.	First Nations and community groups; Both can include BC Hydro customers.	Any Independent Power Producer (IPP), including First Nations and BC Hydro customers.
Eligible energy	New generation from a clean or renewable resource as defined by the Clean Energy Act and regulations.		
Base energy price	Savings from offsetting your own electricity use. Plus, at the end of 12 months, any excess generation will be paid back to you at 9.99 cents/kWh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional pricing in effect for target Commercial Operation Dates (CODs) through to the end of calendar year 2019, or until available energy volume is subscribed. Price review to be undertaken for target COD in calendar year 2020 and beyond. 	
Annual energy volume target	No target	Included in the SOP target of 150 GWh/year	150 GWh/year
Target COD	Anytime	Identified through the Target Volume Management System	
BC Hydro customer-based generation	Any participating BC Hydro customer will have their electricity purchased “net-of-load” based on hourly surplus. In other words, the customer is required to serve its own electricity needs before selling to BC Hydro.		
Interconnection requirements	Connected directly to distribution system only.		Connected to transmission or distribution system; Direct or indirect connection.
Interconnection studies	No cost or studies required for simple projects. Engineering review and some screening tests required for more complex projects.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mandatory Screening Study (\$5,000 fee) System Impact Study only if triggered 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Optional Screening Study if connected to distribution system Optional Feasibility Study if connected to the transmission system Mandatory System Impact Study Mandatory Facilities Study

	Net Metering	Micro-SOP for First Nations and Communities	Standing Offer Program
Interconnection agreement	No agreement; Terms contained in Rate Schedule 1289	Simplified Interconnection Agreement	Standard Interconnection Agreement
Network upgrade costs (\$2016)	Typically minimal; For projects >50 kW, network upgrade costs will be recovered from the customer.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BC Hydro pays network upgrade costs up to \$158 per kW. These are the costs associated with upgrading BC Hydro's system to receive the energy from the project. Proponent provides security for all estimated network upgrade costs. 	
Metering	Smart meter	Smart meter, where technically feasible (One-time set-up fee of \$3,000)	IPP revenue meter
Clustering	Not applicable	Project clusters and common generation facilities are not eligible.	All projects are potentially subject to a cluster rule evaluation.
Electricity Purchase Agreement (EPA)	None; Rate Schedule 1289 of BC Hydro's Electric Tariff.	Standard form EPA with simplified terms	Standard form EPA
EPA term	Not applicable; Customers can discontinue participation at any time.	5 to 40 years	10 to 40 years
For more information	bchydro.com/netmetering	bchydro.com/microsop	bchydro.com/standingoffer

