

Sizing Your Photovoltaic System

Senate Bill 1 allows a utility customer to offset up to 100% of their historical load with a photovoltaic (PV) system. In order to verify that a proposed PV system is sized properly to comply with this legislation, the following rules will be used by the Electric Utility:

1. In order to install a PV system that will offset up to 100% of the customer's annual usage, the customer must have 12 months of electric usage history at the location where the proposed PV system is to be installed.
2. If the customer does not have 12 months of historical usage, but does have usage history that includes at least one full summer month (June through September) and at least one full winter month (November through April), then the Electric Utility will use this data to estimate the missing months. Any missing summer months will be estimated at the lowest value of the full summer months that are available. Any other missing months will be estimated at the lowest value of the full winter months that are available.
3. If the customer does not meet the historical usage requirements described above, and the customer does not want to wait to acquire this usage history, the customer will be permitted to install a PV system that is sized up to 2.0 watts per square foot of conditioned living space in the location where the proposed PV system is to be installed.
4. In order to increase the size of a PV system that has been installed, the customer must have 12 months of electric usage history with the current size system at the location where the proposed PV system size will be increased.