



## *Community Solar FAQs*

**What is Community Distributed Generation (CDG)?** Also referred to as community solar, CDG is a shared solar farm in which local residents, small businesses, and religious institutions can subscribe to energy produced by a local solar farm to offset their electricity costs.

**How does CDG work?** Electricity generated from a solar farm is delivered to the electric grid. Members receive solar credits each month that automatically subtract from their total costs to the utility.

**Who can participate?** Any resident, small business, or religious institution with an electric bill in the appropriate load zone can subscribe and go solar; regardless of whether the property is owned or rented.

**Do I need to install any panels on my property?** No. Panels will not be located on your property. Members of the array receive virtual solar credits from the offsite solar farms.

**Will I still be receiving my electric bill?** Yes. CDG subscribers pay their utility each month for any costs solar credits don't cover. Members are automatically billed each month for the discounted solar credits they've received.

**What does it cost and how much money will I be saving?** There is no cost to join, and each credit is purchased at a 10% discount, so you will save ten cents for every dollar worth of credit that offsets your electric bill.

**What portion of the bill is the discount applied to?** The solar credits can be applied to every portion of your bill.

**Can I participate if I have a Third-Party Supplier (ESCO)?** Yes. People often confuse CDG with third-party suppliers (ESCOs.) While the ESCO may lower the supply portion of the bill, discounted solar credits reduce the cost of the entire bill. If you're happy with your ESCO, you might as well do both!

**What happens if I move?** You can take your subscription with you! As long as you reside in NY RG&E territory, you can continue to support clean energy and reduce your electric bill.

**How can I tell if the solar farm is working?** You will have access to a software portal that will allow you to view the solar production, monetary savings, and environmental impact as a result of your participation.

**Does Community Solar benefit the local community?** Yes! Community Solar provides local jobs and electricity savings to businesses and residents. Community Solar reduces the amount of energy needed to be generated from fossil fuels, thus improving air quality and health throughout your area.

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