Understanding Rooftop Solar & Your Electricity Bill

BWP currently bills residential customers an average of \$0.16/kWh retail rate.

\$0.13/kWh of the rate is comprised of fixed costs that include debt service, operation and maintenance of power plants, transmission and distribution lines, transformers, meters, call center, employees, field crew, equipment, and more.

The only variable cost is fuel which is the remaining \$0.03/kWh.









Solar customers produce some of their own energy and are credited through Net Energy Metering (NEM). With NEM, solar customers are currently eligible to receive a full billing credit of **\$0.16/kWh** for any excess energy produced. The solar customer's meter runs forward when using energy from BWP and runs backwards when the solar is producing more energy that is being used.





For solar customers, BWP can avoid fuel costs at a rate of \$0.03/kWh.



...but BWP still provides solar customers with all the same services a non-solar customer would receive.

Understanding Rooftop Solar & Your Electricity Bill (Continued)

That's because when solar can't generate, like at night, BWP provides solar customers with power. Therefore, the only savings BWP receives from solar customers is \$0.03/kWh on the energy that their solar system produces.

The **\$0.13/kWh** of the average retail rate is credited to solar customers and thereby subsidized by non-solar customers. With 347 solar systems in Burbank, each non-solar customer paid roughly \$13 in 2015.



At the current rate of solar installations in Burbank, the subsidy is projected to double annually.

As more customers install solar systems, BWP has to recoup the \$0.13/kWh from somewhere. While solar is a renewable energy source and helps the environment by reducing GHG emissions...

...who should pay for it is becoming an important policy question for BWP and the community.

