### CALIFORNIA **SOLAR CONSUMER** PROTECTION GUIDE



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This guide provides important information to homeowners thinking of going solar.



PUTTING SOLAR ON YOUR HOME IS AN IMPORTANT FINANCIAL DECISION.

### DON'T SIGN A CONTRACT UNTIL YOU READ THIS DOCUMENT!



This guide is from the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), a government agency that regulates privately-owned utilities like Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E), Southern California Edison Company (SCE), and San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E).

PG&E, SCE, and SDG&E customers must initial and sign this guide to connect a residential solar system to the electric grid. The CPUC requires these companies to collect your signed copy of this guide to ensure that you know your rights and have enough information to make a decision. (This requirement does not apply to solar thermal systems or solar systems in new home construction or multi-family buildings.)

### **Guide Accessibility**

- Audio recording available at 855-955-1535.
- Español, 中文, 한국어, Tiếng Việt, and Tagalog versions available at 866-849-8390.



You should understand and initial the first 4 pages and sign at the end of this guide before you sign a contract for a residential solar system.

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### Watch Out for False Claims

Most solar providers are honest and fair. However, there are still some false claims you need to watch out for. Do not do business with a salesperson who makes one of these false claims.



### False Claim



### 1 The Truth

You can get free solar energy at no cost to you.

Solar energy is rarely free. An honest company will be upfront about all the costs you will pay over time.

There is one exception: a few government-funded solar programs offer free or low-cost solar to low-income households. Go directly to page 6 to see what government-approved organizations run these programs.

You will never pay an electricity bill ever again after a solar system is installed.

After going solar, you will typically pay a small electricity bill every month and a larger electricity bill at the end of the 12-month cycle. See page 18 for an example.

Customers who take out a solar loan or sign a lease or power purchase agreement will also receive a monthly bill from a loan company or solar provider.

If you use Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) financing, you will also make a payment once or twice a year with your property taxes or monthly with your mortgage payment.

Time is running out and you must quickly sign an electronic tablet to get solar.

An honest salesperson would never rush you to sign anything without giving you time to review what you are signing.

California law requires that a salesperson show you the contract terms before you sign.



If you think you have been a victim of solar fraud, you may file a complaint against a contractor or home improvement salesperson to the Contractors State License Board (CSLB) at 800-321-CSLB (2752) or www.cslb.ca.gov/consumers.

To file a complaint against a financing company, visit www.dbo.ca.gov/file-a-complaint.

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### You have the right...

### to read this entire 24-page guide before signing a contract.

The CPUC recommends that solar providers give out this guide during their first contact with potential customers. Do not feel pressured to read this guide while the salesperson waits. Ask them to come back at a later date to allow you time to read it.

If you are a PG&E, SCE, or SDG&E customer, a solar provider must give you time to read this guide before you sign a contract for solar. If they do not allow you to read this guide, they cannot connect your solar system to the electric grid, and you should report them to the to the Contractors State License Board (CSLB) at 800-321-CSLB (2751) or www.cslb.ca.gov/consumers.

### to a copy of a solar contract and financing agreement in the language in which the salesperson spoke to you.

If a solar provider or salesperson comes to sell you solar panels and speaks to you in a language other than English, they must give you a copy of the contract in that language. Also, if you prefer to read this guide in Spanish, Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese, or Tagalog, the solar provider or salesperson must give you this guide in that language.

### to a Solar Disclosure Document from your solar provider.

By law, a solar provider must provide you with a completed Solar Energy System Disclosure Document created by the Contractors State License Board (CSLB). This one-page document shows you the total costs for the solar energy system. A blank version of this document is available at www.cslb.ca.gov/consumers/solar\_smart.

### to a 3-day cancellation period after signing a contract.

You have at least three business days to cancel your contract for any reason. You may cancel the contract by emailing, mailing, faxing, or delivering a notice to your solar provider by midnight of the third business day after you received a signed, dated copy of the contract. Note that different rules may apply for contracts negotiated at a company's place of business.

If your solar provider refuses to cancel the contract, report them to the CSLB at 800-321-CSLB (2751) or www.cslb.ca.gov/consumers.

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### **Ask Solar Providers These Initial Questions**

### Before You Sign A Contract

### What is your Contractors State License Board (CSLB) license or registration number?

Ask for the solar provider's CSLB license number. If you were contacted by a telephone or door-to-door salesperson, ask for their individual home improvement salesperson (HIS) registration number, too. Then check the license and, if applicable, HIS registration numbers to make sure they are valid and associated with the solar provider by going to www.cslb.ca.gov/consumers or calling 800-321-CSLB (2752).

- CSLB License Number is: C-10 915397
- (If applicable) HIS Registration Number is: 112409 SP

The CSLB license must be active and in classification C-46 (Solar Contractor), C-10 (Electrical Contractor), or B (General Building Contractor) in order to be valid. If your solar provider does not have a valid contractor license, do not sign a contract with them and report them to the CSLB.

### What is the total cost of the solar energy system?

If you are considering a solar loan, lease, or power purchase agreement, also ask:

- Is there a down payment?
- How much will I pay per month? When will these payments increase and by how much?

If you are considering PACE financing, also ask:

- How much will I pay once or twice a year with my property taxes or monthly with my mortgage?
- How many years will I pay this amount?

#### If I sell my home, what are my options and what do I need to do?

Ask your solar provider, lender, or PACE program administrator to show you where in the contract it describes what happens when you sell your home.

Make sure to **get**bids from at least 3

different solar providers.

See page 9 for more

details.

### OK, I read these 4 pages. Now what?

- For other important questions to ask a solar provider *before* you sign a contract, go to page 10 of this guide.
- If you already understand the information listed in the table of contents and are getting ready to sign a contract, you can skip to the "Before You Sign" checklist, on page 22 of this guide.
- For a step-by-step guide for how to go solar, proceed to the next page. This is recommended, even if you've already started the solar process!





### STEP 1: Is Solar a Good Fit for Me?

Solar photovoltaic panels can capture sunlight on your roof or property and convert it into electricity. This electricity powers the needs of your home, such as lights, electric vehicles, and appliances.



### Before you consider getting solar at your home, ask yourself:

### Have I made my home energy efficient first?

Reducing your energy use can reduce the size of the solar system you need, potentially saving you thousands of dollars. Visit <a href="https://www.energyupgradeca.org/home-energy-efficiency">www.energyupgradeca.org/home-energy-efficiency</a> and/or contact your electricity provider for energy efficiency tips and advice on how to get a home energy assessment. You may also want to ask your electricity provider about residential demand response programs.

#### Do I qualify for low-income solar programs?

If you think you might qualify for a low-income solar program, be sure to read page 6. There are residential solar and community solar programs available for qualifying low-income PG&E, SCE, and SDG&E customers that could save you money with no financial contribution.

### Is my roof suitable for rooftop solar?

- Does my roof receive a good amount of sunlight or is it mostly shaded? What direction does
  the roof face? Roofs that are mostly shaded or face due north are not good candidates for
  solar. If you plan to replace your roof soon, you should replace it before installing a rooftop
  solar system.
- If your roof is heavily shaded or isn't in great condition, or if you are a renter, community
  solar programs could be a good fit for you. With community solar, you receive 50-100 percent
  of your electricity from solar projects located across California. Community solar programs
  vary and may increase your electricity bill or provide an electricity bill savings. Contact your
  electricity provider for more information.

### Low-Income Solar Programs

Available to PG&E, SCE, and SDG&E
Customers

If you currently receive or qualify for a discounted electricity bill through the California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE) or Family Electric Rate Assistance (FERA) program, you may qualify for assistance installing solar at low or no cost using one of the programs to the right.

You may also qualify for one of these programs if you live in a disadvantaged community (DAC). A DAC is a neighborhood vulnerable to multiple sources of pollution. To find out if you live in a qualified DAC, check out the map: www.cpuc.ca.gov/solarindacs.



If you are not a PG&E, SCE, or SDG&E customer, call your electricity provider or check their website to see if any low-income solar options are available to you.

### **SASH Program & DAC-SASH Program**

The SASH Program provides discounted rooftop solar for income-qualified single families. If you qualify, your family can get assistance installing solar at low cost. The DAC-SASH program is designed for CARE- or FERA-eligible single-family homeowners who live in a DAC. If you qualify, your family can get assistance installing solar. GRID Alternatives administers the SASH and DAC-SASH programs.

See if you qualify by visiting www.gridalternatives.org/qualify or by calling GRID Alternatives at 866-921-4696.

### **DAC-Green Tariff Program**

The DAC-Green Tariff Program is designed for eligible households that live in a DAC. Participants can have 100 percent of their electricity offset by solar generation and receive a 20 percent discount on their electricity bills. In this program, you do not have to install solar on your roof. The solar is installed elsewhere and the bill credits are assigned to you.

See www.cpuc.ca.gov/solarindacs for more information on eligibility and how to sign up.

### **Community Solar Green Tariff Program**

The Community Solar Green Tariff Program allows households in a disadvantaged community to subscribe to a solar farm within 5 miles of their neighborhood and receive a 20 percent discount on their electricity bills.

See www.cpuc.ca.gov/solarindacs for more information on eligibility and how to sign up.



### PACE financing is not a "free government

**program."** If someone describes it this way to you, please read about false claims on page 2 of this guide. You can learn about PACE financing on page 14.



# Solar Providers Salespeople Residential Solar PACE Administrator

#### **Solar Providers**

Solar providers are the companies that sell you solar and send installers to your home. Sometimes they provide financing. They must be licensed. See page 4.

### Salespeople

Salespeople work for solar providers and may call you or knock on your door. They must be registered, with some limited exceptions. Ask for their "home improvement salesperson (HIS) registration" and check it at 800-321-CSLB (2752) or www.cslb. ca.gov/consumers.

#### Installers

Installers are sent by solar providers to your home to check roof, ground and electric conditions and to install the solar system. They must be licensed like a solar provider. See page 4.

#### **Manufacturers**

Manufacturers are the companies that make solar equipment. They provide most solar warranties for purchased systems.

#### **Electricity Providers**

Electricity providers interconnect your solar system to the electric grid and send you electricity bills that may include solar bill credits.

#### Lenders

Lenders provide you with financing if you have a solar loan.

### **PACE Program Administrators**

Except for a few governmental PACE programs, PACE financing programs are managed by PACE program administrators, which must be licensed. Check their license at www.dbo.ca.gov/pace-program-administrators-2.

#### **PACE Solicitors and PACE Solicitor Agents**

PACE solicitors are organizations, such as contractor companies; and PACE solicitor agents are individuals, such as home improvement salespersons. They are authorized by PACE program administrators to solicit property owners to enter into PACE financing agreements. Check their enrollment with a PACE program administrator at www.dbo.ca.gov/pace-program-administrators-2.

#### **City/County Inspectors**

City/county inspectors come to your home to make sure the system is up to code to ensure your health and safety.

### Overview of a Typical Rooftop Solar Process

### Before You Sign a Contract

| You                                  | decide if rooftop solar is a good fit for you (see page 5)  |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| You                                  | get a home energy assessment to make your home more energy efficient (see page 5)                         |
| You                                  | look at low-income solar programs to see if you qualify (see page 6)                                      |
| You                                  | research solar providers and compare at least 3 bids (see page 9)   |
| Solar Provider                       | provides you with contract and Solar Energy System Disclosure Document (see page 9)                       |
| You                                  | qualify for financing, if needed (see page 12)  |
| Lender/PACE Program<br>Administrator | writes up financing agreement (if needed)   |
| You                                  | review solar contract, Solar Energy System Disclosure Document, and any financing agreement (see page 19) |
| You                                  | go through checklist on page 22 of this Solar Consumer Protection Guide                                   |
| You                                  | sign this guide, the solar contract, and the financing agreement  |
|                                      |   |

### After You Sign A Contract

| Installer             | performs a home site visit to confirm assumptions and check roof, ground, and electric conditions |
|-----------------------|---|
| Solar Provider        | finalizes system design and applies for building permit with city or county agency                |
| Installer             | installs the solar system (only after receiving city/county permit)                               |
| City/County Inspector | inspects system for building permit compliance when applicable                                    |
| Solar Provider        | submits application to electricity provider to interconnect solar system to grid                  |
| Solar Provider        | submits city/county inspection approval to electricity provider                                   |
| You                   | turn on system only after receiving written approval from electricity provider                    |
| Electricity Provider  | sends you your first electricity bill with solar/net energy metering credits (see page 17)        |
| Lender/Solar Provider | sends you first bill for solar system or solar energy*  |
|                       |   |

\*If you use PACE financing, you will not receive a bill from a lender or solar provider (the last step above). Instead, your payments will be due once or twice a year with your property taxes or monthly with your mortgage payment.



It typically takes 1 to 3 months after you sign a contract for the solar system to be installed at your home.

After the solar system is installed, it typically takes 2 to 3 weeks to receive approval from your electricity provider to turn your system on. It could take longer depending on your circumstances.



# STEP 3: Find a Qualified Solar Provider

For low-income solar programs, go to page 6.

### Find Solar Providers that Serve Your Neighborhood

Go to www.cslb.ca.gov, a government website, and click on "Find My Licensed Contractor." Enter your city and one of the following license classifications: C-46 (Solar Contractor), C-10 (Electrical Contractor), or B (General Building Contractor).

Go to www.californiadgstats.ca.gov, a government-funded website, to enter your ZIP code and see a list of solar providers and recent installation costs. Note that these costs are not verified by the government.

Check to see if your county has a County Contractors Association with licensed solar providers.

Ask friends and neighbors who had solar installed at least a year ago if they recommend a solar provider and why.

### Narrow Down the List to Qualified Solar Providers

First, make sure solar providers you consider have a valid license from the CSLB. It is illegal for solar providers and their installers to conduct business without a license.

• Go to the Contractors State License Board (CSLB) website at www.cslb.ca.gov/consumers or call 800-321-CSLB (2752) to see if the solar provider and installer licenses are active and valid. The licenses must be in the classification C-46 (Solar Contractor), C-10 (Electrical Contractor), or B (General Building Contractor).

Find out how long the company has been in business and how many installations they have done.

Check out trusted customer review websites online. Since some websites may not be neutral, check a few different websites to make sure reviews are consistent.

It's a good sign if companies employ installers certified by the North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners (NABCEP), a high standard in the industry.

### Get Bids From At Least 3 Qualified Solar Providers, Compare Bids, and Ask Questions

After you narrow down the list of solar providers, ask for a bid or price quote.

- Look up how to compare solar quotes online, and compare the bids you have obtained.
- Note that the cheapest bid is not necessarily the best option for you. A very low bid may indicate that a solar provider is trying to cut corners.

The CPUC recommends that solar providers give out this guide during their first contact with potential customers. Don't hesitate to ask solar providers a lot of questions up front. A qualified company will be happy to answer all of them. A sample list of questions is on the next page.



### **Questions to Ask a Solar Provider**

### Before You Sign a Contract



### **Company Background**

What is your company's contractor license number from the Contractors State License Board (CSLB)? What is your installer's contractor license number?

Is the salesperson an employee of your company?

Will you subcontract with another company to install the solar system? If so, what is their CSLB contractor license number?

How long have you been in business and how many systems have you installed?

Can you provide me with three customer references to call or visit? These customers should have solar installed for at least a year.



### **Design & Roof**

Is my roof a good candidate for solar? Why?

Does my roof need to be replaced before installing solar panels?

• If yes, how much will that cost, who will do it, what is their license number, and is there a roof warranty?

Why did you choose this specific design and size for the solar system you are recommending to me?

• Note that a system sized to cover all of your electricity needs isn't necessarily the best investment. Typically, a system is sized to around 80-85 percent of your electricity use from the previous year.

What steps will you take to ensure my roof won't leak?

Roughly how much will it cost to remove and re-install the panels if I need to replace my roof in the future, including inspection fees?



### Warranties & Performance Of Solar System

Are there warranties for the panels and inverters?

- If yes, how long do they last and whom do I contact to replace these components?
- If equipment such as the inverter fails after the warranty period, how much will it cost to replace?

Are there warranties for labor/construction?

Are repairs and maintenance included in the contract? If yes, who should I contact for repairs?

Will I be able to monitor the performance of the system once it's installed? If so, how?

Does the solar provider offer a minimum energy guarantee (common with leases and power purchase agreements)?

• If yes, how will I be compensated if the system does not produce as much energy as promised in the contract?

Is there an insurance policy that comes with the solar system, or do I need to take out additional homeowner's insurance? Note that this is especially important if you live in fire-prone areas.

What are my obligations in the contract if my solar system stops working due to a disaster like an earthquake or a fire?

Who has the right to claim the environmental benefits of the power generated by my system? (See "Getting Environmental Credit for Going Green" on page 18).



### **Electricity Bill Savings Estimates** (see page 17)



Please beware of a solar provider who tells you solar is free—it is not. See page 2 for more information on false claims.

Will you explain to me why an electricity bill savings estimate is not a guarantee?

What electricity provider bill escalation rate is assumed in your electricity bill savings estimate?

• Note that the CPUC has capped this escalation rate assumption at 4 percent per year.

What electricity rate plan do you recommend I switch to for solar, and why?

- How long will I be on that rate plan, and how can I compare or change rate plans on my electricity provider's website?
- Note that each electricity provider has a rate plan comparison tool or page on its website.

Even though I will continue to pay electricity bills after going solar, I can receive solar bill credits on my electricity bill. How does that work?

Is there an option to pay my electricity bills monthly instead of annually, so the costs are more even throughout the year? How do I sign up?

Does my electricity provider offer special rates for solar customers?



### Impacts On Future Sale Of Your Home

Will a solar system make it more difficult for me to sell my home or refinance?

For leases, power purchase agreements (PPA), and PACE-financed systems:

- What happens if the home buyer doesn't want the solar system or doesn't qualify to take on my lease, PPA, or PACE-financed system?
- Are there fees if I need to terminate the contract early to sell my house?
- Are there fees for transferring the lease, PPA, or PACE financing to a new homeowner?



#### Timeline (see page 8)

When do you propose to start and finish installing solar on my roof?

After installation is complete, roughly how long will it take for my electricity provider to send me written approval to turn my system on?

What situations would allow me to be released from a contract?



For questions about financing, read the next section!



# STEP 4: Compare Your Financing Options

### The most common solar financing options are:

- Purchase of a solar system with a solar loan or cash. With a purchase, you own the system.
- Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) financing of the upfront costs of a solar system, which you pay back on your property tax bill. With PACE financing, you own the system.
- Lease of a solar system, in which the solar provider owns the system and "rents" it to you for a scheduled monthly payment over a set number of years.
- Power purchase agreements (PPA), in which the solar provider owns the solar system and sells you the electricity it generates for a certain price over a set number of years.

The next few pages contain a quick look at each option's pros and cons, and then a closer look at each.

### Pros

## Purchase with Cash or Loan

Typically greater return on investment.

If you use a loan, little or no upfront costs

May increase value of home.

You can directly receive tax credits and deductions. Consult tax professional to see if you qualify.

### Cons

You are typically responsible for repairs and maintenance. This may involve contacting different manufacturers, who could go out of business during the 10-20 year component lifecycles.

Some solar loans place a lien on your property. In those cases, if you do not make your payments, this could result in foreclosure or make it more difficult to sell your home or refinance your mortgage.

### PACE Financing

Little or no upfront costs.

May have a longer repayment period than typical home improvement loan, which may be preferable.

You can directly receive tax credits and deductions. Consult tax professional to see if you qualify.

PACE financing results in a first-priority lien on your property. Your bank may require you to pay off the PACE assessment prior to refinancing.

If you do not make your PACE payments, this could result in foreclosure or make it more difficult to sell your home or refinance your mortgage.

You are typically responsible for repairs and maintenance. This may involve contacting different manufacturers, who could go out of business during the 10-20 year component lifecycles.

### Lease and PPA

Little or no upfront costs.

Solar provider is responsible for all monitoring, maintenance, and repairs.

Minimum energy production often guaranteed.

Selling home may be more complicated than with a purchased system. Options typically are: the new owner must agree to take on the lease/agreement, you continue making payments, or you buy out the lease/agreement, which could be thousands of dollars.

Solar provider could go out of business during the contract period.



### A Closer Look at Purchase (with cash or loan)

You can purchase a solar system from a solar provider or manufacturer with a solar loan or cash. In this approach, you own the installed system. Types of loans include:

- **Secured loans:** these require an asset that will serve as collateral for the loan often that asset is your solar system.
- **Unsecured loans:** these do not require any collateral, similar to a credit card.

A secured loan is often preferred because it typically has lower interest rates.

Many solar providers work with lenders that offer solar loans, but you should check with banks and credit unions as well. Compare offers to make sure you are being offered a reasonable interest rate.

If you install and own a solar system by the end of 2020, there is a 26 percent federal income tax credit (ITC) available. Under current law, the federal ITC is scheduled to drop to 22 percent for systems installed in 2021 and then 0 percent for systems installed after 2021. If you have questions about the ITC or whether a loan is tax deductible, speak to a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) for tax advice.

Unless you purchase a maintenance plan or your system comes with one, you will be responsible for any maintenance and repairs. Make sure you save the equipment warranties, particularly for the inverter, which may need to be replaced sooner than other equipment. If you sell your home, look for real estate agents and appraisers with experience selling homes with solar. You may include the system in the house sale just like any other major home component.

### Questions to Ask a Lender About the Purchase of a Solar System with a Loan:

What is the total cost of the loan over the entire course of the contract?

How much will I pay up front, how much over time, and for how long?

What is my interest rate?

What is my annual percentage rate ("APR")?

Whom do I contact if I have questions about my loan payments?

Will a solar loan make it more difficult for me to sell or refinance my home?

Will I need to buy out my loan? Whom do I contact?



### A Closer Look at PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy)

PACE is a financing option that is available in some areas of California. In most places, it is sold through PACE solicitors and solicitor agents who are required to be enrolled with a PACE program administrator. In a PACE financing arrangement, a PACE program administrator finances the upfront costs of a solar system, which you then pay through an assessment on your property tax bill. With PACE financing, you own the solar system. You should read and review the terms carefully, and if necessary, consult with a tax professional or attorney.

PACE financing lasts for a fixed term, typically around 10-30 years, and it is attached to your house. If you sell your house before you have fully paid the PACE assessment, the buyer may require you to pay off the remaining balance of the assessment, which could be thousands of dollars. Some mortgage lenders will not loan money to buyers to purchase properties with PACE liens unless the full assessment is paid.

Unlike leases and power purchase agreements that require monthly payments, PACE assessments are typically due once or twice a year, in larger lump sums, with your property taxes. Given this unique arrangement, it's important to understand how much you will owe and when, so that you can set aside enough money throughout the year to cover the amount.

If your house is mortgaged and you typically pay your taxes with an escrow or impound account, your mortgage company may increase the amount you pay monthly to cover the anticipated increase to your property tax bill. Discuss how PACE will affect your monthly mortgage payment before you sign an agreement.

Be aware that if you fail to make your PACE payments included with your property taxes or mortgage, your home could be put in foreclosure.

### Questions to Ask a PACE Program Administrator About a PACE-Financed System:

What is your PACE program administrator license number? (Check the license at www.dbo.ca.gov/pace-program-administrators-2)

Is the PACE solicitor or PACE solicitor agent I talked to enrolled with you? (Check their enrollment with the PACE program administrator at www.dbo.ca.gov/pace-program-administrators-2)

What is the total cost of the financing over the entire course of the contract?

How much will I owe for PACE financing when I pay my mortgage or property taxes?

How many times a year will I owe this PACE payment?

What happens if I want to sell or refinance my home? Will selling or refinancing be more difficult with PACE financing? Is there anything I have to do with the mortgage company?

What are the penalties for failing to pay the assessment on time?

Whom do I contact if I have problems making my PACE payments?



### A Closer Look at Lease & PPA

### (Power Purchase Agreement)

With a lease, the solar provider owns the system on your property and "rents" it to you for a set period of time. A solar provider will install the solar system on your home, and you will make scheduled monthly payments in exchange for all the electricity the system produces. A typical lease contract period is 20-25 years.

In a power purchase agreement (PPA), the solar provider owns the system on your property and sells you the electricity it generates. PPAs are similar to leases, except that instead of making a fixed monthly payment for the system, you typically pay for all the power the solar system generates (a fixed per-kilowatt-hour rate). The contract will specify the kilowatt-hour rate you pay in the first year and every year after that. This rate should generally be lower than your current electricity rate. A typical PPA contract period is 20-25 years.

- If you sell your house before the lease or PPA contract is over, you will have to pay the solar provider the remainder of the value of the lease or PPA or transfer the contract to the new property owner. Make sure you understand the specific contract terms, since buying out a lease or PPA can cost thousands of dollars.
- Payments for leases or PPAs will typically increase by a specified amount every year based on an "escalation clause" or "escalator." Escalators are typically in the range of a 1 percent to 3 percent increase above the rate you paid in the previous year. Be cautious of entering into a contract with an escalator higher than that.
- There may be different ways to arrange leases and PPAs, such as paying more up front to reduce your monthly payments.

### Questions to Ask a Lender or Solar Provider About a Lease or PPA

What is the total cost of the solar system or solar energy over the entire course of the contract?

How much will I pay up front, how much over time, and for how long?

Will my payments increase over time? How much will they increase, and how frequently?

Is there an option to make a down payment to reduce my monthly payments (for a lease) or kilowatt-hour rate (for a PPA)?

What happens if I wish to end the lease or PPA early?

If I end my agreement early, will I owe a balloon payment and/or an early termination fee? If so, how much will I owe?

Will a lease or PPA make it more difficult for me to sell or refinance my home?

Who will be responsible for monitoring, operations, and maintenance of the solar system?



### STEP 5: Learn About Electricity Bill Savings

### Electricity Bill Savings Estimates Do Not Guarantee Savings

Electricity bill savings estimates are educated guesses about how much you could save with rooftop solar. They are based on several uncertain factors. Here are some reasons why it's possible that your savings could be lower than the estimate:

Your future energy use is uncertain. For example, if your family grows, you buy an electric vehicle, or you decide to turn up your air conditioning in the summer, your energy use will go up.

If you sell your home, you could incur additional costs. For example, if a buyer doesn't want to take on a lease or PPA, you might have to buy out the contract, which could be thousands of dollars.

Electricity prices and rates can change over time. Electricity bill savings estimates typically assume they will escalate, or rise, by a certain percentage each year (the CPUC has capped the assumed escalation rate at 4 percent for these estimates). Also, your electricity provider may require you to switch to a different rate plan in the future, which could change how much you save.

Your solar system might perform slightly worse than the estimate assumed. For example, if your area is unusually dusty, the system could generate slightly less energy than estimated.



### How Electricity Bill Savings Work

If you go solar, your electricity provider will enroll you in its Net Energy Metering (NEM) program. NEM allows you to get a financial credit on your electricity bill when your solar system sends electricity back to the grid after first powering the electricity needs at your house. Usually this credit is approximately equal to the retail rate of energy. This means that you are credited on your bill about the same amount that your electricity provider would have charged you for electricity during that time.

### **NEM and Your Electricity Bill**

#### **Consuming and Exporting Electricity**

Since the sun isn't always shining, solar customers also rely on electricity from their electricity provider. After your solar system is interconnected to the grid, your monthly electricity bill will summarize how much electricity you took in or "consumed," from your electricity provider, and how much electricity your solar system sent to the grid or "exported."

#### Monthly Bill Charges, Credits, and Minimum Amounts

If you took in more than you sent out to the grid in any given month, you will see an overall charge on your bill. If you sent out more than you took in, you will see an overall credit. Typically, you will be able to carry forward credits to the next month's bill, and electricity usage charges will not be due until the end of a 12-month period. Note that many electricity providers require solar customers to pay a monthly minimum bill each month just like other customers. This minimum bill may change over time.

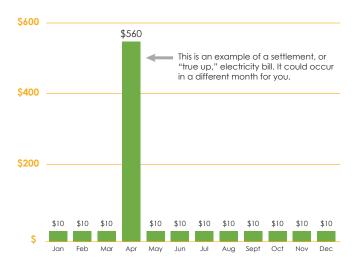
#### Time-of-Use Rates

PG&E, SCE, and SDG&E solar customers are required to go on a time-of-use (TOU) rate plan. A TOU rate plan will charge different prices for electricity depending up on the time of day. Prices are typically higher between 4 p.m. and 9 p.m., called "peak" hours, and lower the rest of the day and at night during "off peak" hours.

#### 12 Month Settlement Bill

Typically, at the end of a 12-month period, you will receive a settlement bill, also called a "true up" bill, that settles all the credits and charges. Even though going solar can reduce your electricity costs, most customers still owe some money to their electricity provider at the end of the 12 months. See graphic to the right that shows an example of an electricity bill over a 12-month cycle for a solar customer.

#### Example Of A Settlement, Or "True Up" Electricity Bill



Some electricity providers give you the option to pay your settlement bill monthly instead of annually. If you choose the monthly option, your payments will be more evenly distributed over the course of the 12 months, and you will not have to worry about paying a potentially large bill once a year. Be clear with your solar provider if you want the monthly option, and double-check with your electricity provider that the correct option was chosen.

Though it's rare, if you sent out more electricity than you took in over the course of the 12-month period, you are typically eligible to be paid "net surplus compensation," which is around 2 to 3 cents per kilowatt-hour. Because this rate is lower than the retail rate, it is generally not in your financial interest to install a solar system that produces more energy than you would use over the course of a year.

Currently, PG&E, SCE, and SDG&E customers are guaranteed NEM for 20 years from the time their solar system starts operating. Your electricity rate, however, is subject to change. Go to <a href="https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/electricrates">www.cpuc.ca.gov/electricrates</a> for more details on how electricity rates work.



If you still have questions after reading this section, you can find help at the additional resources on pages 20-21 of this guide.

### Getting Environmental Credit for Going Green

When a residential solar system produces electricity, the system is eligible to receive Renewable Energy Certificates (REC), which represent the renewable energy that is generated. If you purchase a solar system, you own the rights to these RECs and can make the claim that you're producing clean energy and avoiding emissions of greenhouse gases by going solar. However, if you enter a lease or PPA, the contract may state that the solar provider or someone else owns the RECs. If you do not own the RECs, they can be sold without your knowledge to other customers who use them to make environmental claims or comply with clean energy requirements. And with PACE financing, a local jurisdiction may own the RECs. If owning the RECs is important to you, ask your solar provider who will own the RECs, and check the contract fine print.



### **Combining Solar with Storage**

When you install battery storage with your solar system, you can store excess solar electricity produced by your panels for use in the evening when the sun goes down. The software that comes with battery storage automatically determines whether to store the extra energy or export it to the grid to maximize cost savings. Battery storage can also provide limited back-up power.

The state-funded Self-Generation Incentive Program (SGIP) provides financial incentives to install storage. See www.cpuc.ca.gov/sgip for more details on SGIP.



### The Solar Energy System Disclosure Document

This one-page document from the Contractors State License Board shows you the total costs for the proposed solar energy system. It also has information about your three-day right to cancel a contract. A solar provider is required to fill out this document. It may be placed as the cover page to the contract. See a blank version at www.cslb.ca.gov/consumers/solar\_smart.

#### Contract

The solar contract is the legally binding document between you and the solar provider. Make sure to read it carefully.

Make sure everything you were promised is written in the contract. For example, many answers to the questions on pages 10 and 11 of this guide should be referenced in the contract.

By law, any contract for solar installation must include:

- Contractor information, including business address and license numbers
- Description of the project, including equipment installed and materials used
- Contract price, plus finance charge and/or down payment if applicable
- Approximate start and end date of the contract term
- Notice of a 3-day right to cancel the contract (with limited exceptions)

Ask the solar provider what situations would allow you to be released from the contract. For example, if your solar provider discovers on a site visit that your roof is shaded in a way that wasn't expected, that could cancel the contract.

### **Financial Paperwork**

If you are purchasing a system with a solar loan, you will be asked to sign a separate financing agreement. The lender will provide you with this separate agreement.

If you are purchasing a system with PACE financing, you must sign: (1) a Financing Application and, (2) a Financing Agreement.

- Before you sign the Financing Application, read it carefully to make sure all the information is correct, including your contact information, your income, and the cost of the solar energy system.
- The separate financing agreement may be provided by the solar provider, the PACE program administrator, or a financing institution. If you are using PACE financing, it should include a PACE Financing Estimate and Disclosure form showing the solar system's total cost. A link to a blank version of this document is available at www.cslb.ca.gov/consumers/solar\_smart.

Make sure everything you were promised is written into any financing agreement. For example, many answers to the questions on pages 13-15 of this guide should be referenced in the financing agreement.



# STEP 7: Review Additional Resources

If you still have questions about any aspect of going solar, find resources in the list below where you can read or watch additional information, or call someone to advise you.

### **Electricity Provider Solar Programs**

#### Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E)

- PG&E solar customer service: 877-743-4112
- PG&E clean energy: www.pge.com/en\_us/residential/solar-and-vehicles/options/optionoverview/how-to-get-started/how-to-get-started.page

#### Southern California Edison (SCE)

- SCE solar phone number: 866-600-6290
- SCE solar power at home: www.sce.com/residential/generating-your-own-power/solar-power

#### San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E)

- SDG&E solar phone number: 800-411-SDGE (7343)
- SDG&E get started with solar: www.sdge.com/residential/solar/getting-started-with-solar
- If another electricity provider supplies you with electricity, call them or check their website for details on their solar programs.

### **Low-Income Solar Programs**

- SASH and DAC-SASH program: 866-921-4696 and www.gridalternatives.org/qualify
- Community Solar Green Tariff program and DAC Green Tariff program: www.cpuc.ca.gov/solarindacs
- If you are not a PG&E, SCE, or SDG&E customer, contact your electricity provider for low-income solar options.

### Contractors State License Board (CSLB)

- CSLB 24-hour licensing and consumer information: 800-321-CSLB (2752)
- Check a contractor license or home improvement salesperson registration: www.cslb.ca.gov/ onlineservices/checklicenseii/checklicense.aspx
- CSLB solar smart: www.cslb.ca.gov/consumers/solar\_smart
- PACE Financing Estimate and Disclosure form and CSLB Solar Energy System Disclosure document: www.cslb.ca.gov/consumers/solar\_smart





### Department of Business Oversight (DBO)

- PACE financing information: www.dbo.ca.gov/pace
- Financial services: 213-576-7690; pacehelp@dbo.ca.gov
- PACE program administrator license check: www.dbo.ca.gov/pace-program-administrators-2
- Filing a complaint against a PACE provider: www.dbo.ca.gov/file-a-complaint

### Solar Bills and Net Energy Metering (NEM)

- PG&E how to read your solar bill: www.pge.com/en\_us/residential/solar-and-vehicles/ green-energy-incentives/solar-and-renewable-metering-and-billing/how-to-read-your-bill/ how-to-read-your-bill.page
- SCE understanding your bill: www.sce.com/residential/generating-your-own-power/net-energy-metering/understanding-your-bill
- SDG&E understanding your NEM statement: www.sdge.com/residential/savings-center/ solar-power-renewable-energy/net-energy-metering/billing-information/understandingyour-nem-statement
- CPUC NEM overview: www.cpuc.ca.gov/nem

### **Solar Financing Guides**

- Clean Energy States Alliance (CESA) homeowner's guide to solar financing: www.cesa.org/resource-library/resource/a-homeowners-guide-to-solar-financing-leases-loans-and-ppas
- CESA una guía práctica de financiación solar para dueños de casa (en Español): www.cesa. org/resource-library/resource/una-guia-practica-de-financiacion-solar-para-duenos-de-casa
- CESA/George Washington University rooftop solar financing 101: www.cesa.org/projects/sustainable-solar/videos

#### Other Solar Guides

- Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA) Residential Consumer Guide to Solar Power: www.seia.org/research-resources/residential-consumer-guide-solar-power
- Interstate Renewable Energy Council (IREC) Be Solar Smart Consumer Checklist: www.irecusa.org/consumer-protection/consumer-checklist
- CESA/George Washington University Choosing a Solar Installer: https://cesa.org/projects/sustainable-solar/videos



# STEP 8: "Before You Sign" Checklist

Make sure you have completed these items before you sign any documents!

Remember, take your time and don't feel pressured to sign a contract. Do not sign anything if you feel you need more time to do research or think about your decision.

| Check to see if you qualify for a low-income solar program, which has strong protections for consumers. See page 6.  |
|--|
| Consider making your home more energy efficient before getting solar. This could save you money. See page 5.   |
| Get at least 3 bids for solar at your home. See page 9.  |
| Ask the solar provider for 3 customer references and call or visit them. See page 9.   |
| Check to make sure the solar provider's license, and if applicable, the home improvement salesperson's registration number, is current and valid with the Contractors State License Board. See page 4.   |
| Understand the solar purchasing process, including what happens after you sign a contract for solar. See page 8.   |
| Ask the solar provider the contract questions on page 4, 10, and 11 so you understand the terms of the solar contract.   |
| If you are financing your system, ask the lender, solar provider, or PACE program administrator the finance questions on page 13, 14 or 15, so you understand the terms of your financing arrangement.   |
| Read the critical information about electricity bill savings estimates on page 16.   |
| Carefully read all the documents that the solar provider is asking you to sign. These usually include: 1) Solar Energy System Disclosure Document, 2) Contract, and 3) Financial Paperwork. See page 19. |
| Save copies of all the documents you sign. The information will be useful if you sell your home, need to replace your roof, or have any repair or maintenance issues.                                    |



September 2020

### Have you read at least the first 4 pages of this guide?

The first 4 pages of the California Solar Consumer Protection Guide contain important information on false claims to watch out for and your rights.

The CPUC recommends that solar providers\* give out this guide during their first contact with potential customers, so customers may fully understand what a solar purchase involves. If a solar provider gave you this guide along with your contract, the CPUC recommends that you take at least 48 hours to read and understand this entire guide before you sign below.



Do not feel pressured to read the complete document while the salesperson waits.

Ask them to come back at a later date to allow you time to read it.

### Customer

| X  | I have not yet entered into a contract for solar with the solar provider signing on page 24.   |           |  |
|----|--|-----------|--|
| X  | The solar provider provided me with a complete copy of the Solar Consumer Protection Guide before they collected my initials and signature below.  |           |  |
| X  | The solar provider gave me the opportunity to read this guide in Español, 中文, 한국어, Tiếng Việt, or Tagalog if they spoke to me in one of those languages.   |           |  |
| X  | I read and initialed the first 4 pages of California's Solar Consumer Protection Guide. The solar provider gave me the time to read the entire 24-page guide.  |           |  |
| X  | I was provided an option to sign the Solar Consumer Protection Guide electronically or in handwriting.   |           |  |
| X  | If I was solicited as part of a door-to-door sale, the solar provider offered me the option to sign the Solar Consumer Protection Guide with a handwritten signature by default. I was also given the option to sign with an electronic signature. |           |  |
| ×  | If I was solicited as part of a door-to-door sale and did not expressly request an electronic format, a complete cop the Solar Consumer Protection Guide was provided in paper format.   |           |  |
| X  | If I choose to sign the Solar Consumer Protection Guide electronically, I am using an email address that was created and is controlled by me prior to the sale, lease, or power purchase agreement.  |           |  |
| Zá | ainab Abd  | 3/25/2022 |  |
| 1  | tomer Printed Name  Docusigned by:  ELIMB IBD  185616254551945ature  | Date      |  |

continued on page 24

Solar Provider

Company CSLB License Number

### STEP 9: Sign This Guide continued from page 23

| ■ The customer initialed the first 4 pages of the guide.   |                           |  |
|--|---------------------------|--|
| The customer signed above before entering into a contract for the purchase, lease, power purchase agreement, or PACE financing of a solar system or solar energy with the company named below. |                           |  |
| The sales presentation to this customer was principally conduction   | cted in this language:    |  |
| Azhar Yalda  | 3/29/2022                 |  |
| Company Representative Name/Title  | Date                      |  |
| Azhar Yalda  | (951) 440-0583            |  |
| Company Representative Signature   | Company Phone             |  |
| Blalock Electric and Solar   | info@blalock-electric.com |  |
| Company Name   | Company Email             |  |
| 915397 C10   |                           |  |

Company CSLB License Classification

<sup>\*</sup>A solar provider is defined in California Public Utilities Commissioner Decision (D.) 18-09-044 as a vendor, contractor, installer, or financing entity that enters into a contract for a power purchase agreement, lease, or purchased solar system. Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E), Southern California Edison (SCE), and San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) require solar providers to upload a signed copy of this page with a signature to their interconnection portals before interconnecting residential customers in single-family homes to the electric grid. This requirement does not apply to new home construction, multifamily buildings, or solar thermal systems.

### SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEM DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT

This disclosure shall be printed on the front page or cover page of every solar energy contract for the installation of a solar energy system on a residential building.

The TOTAL COST for the solar energy system (including financing and energy/power cost if applicable) is: \$\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

To make a complaint against a contractor who installs this system and/or the home improvement salesperson who sold this system, contact the Contractors State License Board (CSLB) through their website at <a href="www.cslb.ca.gov">www.cslb.ca.gov</a> (search: "complaint form"), by telephone at 800-321-CSLB (2752), or by writing to P.O. Box 26000, Sacramento, CA 95826.

If the attached contract was not negotiated at the contractor's place of business, you have a Three-Day Right to Cancel the contract, pursuant to Business and Professions Code (BPC) section 7159, as noted below. For further details on canceling the contract, see the Notice of Cancellation, which must be included in your contract.

### **Three-Day Right to Cancel**

You, the buyer, have the right to cancel this contract within three business days. You may cancel by e-mailing, mailing, faxing, or delivering a written notice to the contractor at the contractor's place of business by midnight of the third business day after you received a signed and dated copy of the contract that includes this notice. Include your name, your address, and the date you received the signed copy of the contract and this notice.

This document was developed through coordination of the California Contractors State License Board and the California Public Utilities Commission pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 7169.

| ELECTRIC & SOLAR | BLALOCK ELECTRIC & SOLAR | Į |
|------------------|--------------------------|---|
|------------------|--------------------------|---|

### **SOLAR CONTRACT**

(The "Notice of Cancellation" may be sent to the Contractor at the address noted below) This form complies with professional standards in effect January 1, 2022 - December 31, 2022

| ELECTRIC & SC                  | form complies with professional standards in effect January 1, 2022 - De  | cember 31, 2022              |                       |
|--------------------------------|---|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| License C-10<br>31887 Coryo    | 0/C39 #915397<br>don St #130  | CONTRACT ENTER               | RED                   |
| -                              | re, CA. 92530   | INTO THIS DATE:              |                       |
|                                | 51) 440-0583  | 3/25/2022                    |                       |
| BUYER/                         | NAME<br>Zainab Abd  |                              |                       |
| OWNER                          | RESIDENCE ADDRESS<br>1074 Sumner Pl., El Cajon, CA 92021  | STATE/ZIP                    | PHONE<br>619-592-5698 |
|                                | EMAIL ADDRESS am73z@yahoo.com   |                              | PHONE                 |
| LENDER                         | R: (If Any):  |                              |                       |
|                                | (Name/Branch/Address of Lender)   |                              |                       |
|                                | PTION OF THE SOLAR PROJECT AND DESCRIPTION OF THE SIGNIFICE   | CANT MATERIALS TO            | BE USED AND           |
| 16 <sub>x Panel</sub>          | LG 355N1K-A6 BLK  |                              |                       |
| 16 x Inver                     | ter Enphase iQ7   |                              |                       |
|                                | nting System - X Roof Mount or Ground Mount (Indicate on scope of work page 4   | ).                           |                       |
|                                | nce of Required System – Including Wire, Conduit, A/C & D/C Disconnects if required,  |                              | Fuses                 |
|                                | eakers & Customer maintained Solar monitoring by Wifi connection. If Wifi not available   |                              |                       |
|                                | nal cost. Speak with your advisor for details.  |                              |                       |
| x All l<br>x Syste<br>Panel po | abor and equipment provided as required to complete photovoltaic solar system installation. Warranty - 1 year Unconditional, 10 year Craftsmanship & Roof Penetrations, 25 year formance, Both Inverter and Solar Panel equipment are covered under the Manufacture performed at 1074 Sumner Pl., El Cajon, CA 92021  | ars Inverter(s), and 25 year | Solar                 |
| 4 - 15 days fro                | <b>STARTING AND COMPLETION:</b> The work to be performed by Contractor pursuant to this date or approximately on (Date): $03/25/2022$ and shall be substantially con (Date) $06/25/202$ Buyer/Owner acknowledges that this is only an approximate estimate of the contraction of the contrac | mpleted within sixty 60 - 18 | 0 days or             |
| PAYMENT:                       | Owner agrees to pay Contractor a total price of \$Dollars.  |                              |                       |
| If using finance               | cing agency please indicate the company here  |                              |                       |
|                                | PURCHASES, ONLY MAKE CHECKS OUT TO: BLALOCK ELECTRIC & SOI<br>ER GIVE CASH TO SALES REPRESENTATIVE  | LAR INC. FOR YOUR BE         | ST INTEREST           |
| Payment: \$_                   | PAYMENT MAY NOT EXCEED \$1,000 OR 10% PERCENT OF THE CONTRA 0.00 The schedule of progress payments must specifically describe ork or services scheduled to be supplied in each phase, along with the amount of each   | each phase of work, inclu    | ding the type and     |
| The Schedu                     | le of Progress Payments will be:  |                              |                       |
| 0.00<br>\$successful fin       | Due at Signing / \$ Due upon material delivery / \$ 6,288 al inspection by building department.   | Due upon completion          | of work and           |
|                                | ory payment being made for any portion of the work performed, the Contractor shall, prior to any  |                              |                       |

Upon satisfactory payment being made for any portion of the work performed, the Contractor shall, prior to any further payment being made furnish to the persor contracting for the residential improvement a full and unconditional release from any claim or Mechanic's Lien, pursuant to Section 3114 of the California Civil Code, for that portion of the work for which payment has been made.

The section 3114 of the California Civil Code, for that portion of the work for which payment has been made.

### IT IS AGAINST THE LAW FOR A CONTRACTOR TO COLLECT PAYMENT FOR WORK NOT YET COMPLETED, OR FOR MATERIALS NOT YET DELIVERED. HOWEVER, A CONTRACTOR MAY REQUIRE A DOWNPAYMENT.

**ALLOWANCES:** The following items or specific prices as indicated are included in the contract price as allowances. The contract price shall be adjusted upward / downward based upon actual amounts rather than estimated amounts herein

#### TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The terms and conditions on the following pages are expressly incorporated into this Agreement. This Agreement constitutes the entire understanding of the parties. No other understanding or representations, verbal or otherwise, shall be binding unless in writing and signed by both parties. This Agreement shall not become effective or binding upon Contractor until signed by Contractor or a principal of Contractor. By signature below, Owner acknowledges receipt of a fully completed copy of the Agreement.

The buyer may not require a contractor to perform extra or change-order work without providing written authorization prior to the commencement of any work covered by the new change order. Extra work or a change order is not enforceable against a buyer unless the change order also identifies all of the following in writing prior to the commencement of any work covered by the new change order: (1) the scope of work encompassed by the order. (2) The amount to be added or subtracted from the contract. (3) The effect the order will make in the progress payments or the completion date. The contractor's failure to comply with the requirements of this paragraph does not preclude the recovery of compensation for work performed based upon legal or equitable remedies designed to prevent unjust enrichment.

#### NOTICE

Contractors are required by law to be licensed and regulated by the Contractors' State License Board which has jurisdiction to investigate complaints against contractors if a complaint regarding a patent act or omission is filed within four years of the date of the alleged violation. A complaint regarding a latent act or omission pertaining to any structural defects must be filed within 10 years of the date of the alleged violation. Any questions concerning a contractor may be referred to the Registrar, Contractors' State License Board, P O Box 26000, Sacramento, California 95826.

You, as Owner or Tenant, have the right to require the Contractor to have a Performance and Payment Bond.

List of Documents to be incorporated into the Contract: (1) Notice of Right to Cancel, if required; (2) Notice of Cancellation, if required; (3) Notice to Owner; (4) Insurance Notice. A notice concerning commercial general liability insurance is attached to this contract. A notice concerning workers' compensation insurance is attached to this contract.

You are entitled to a completely filled in copy of this agreement, signed by both you and the contractor, before any work may be started. Unless the customer initiated services at the contractor's place of business, the law requires that the contractor give you a notice explaining your right to cancel.

Initial the box if the contractor has given you a Notice of Your Right to Cancel.

#### THIS AGREEMENT CONSISTS OF 7 PAGES AND 0 ATTACHMENTS

| Description of his                                   |           | XOWNER/BUYER SIGNATURE    | DATE |
|--|-----------|---------------------------|------|
| Docusigned by:  Mcholas Blalock  D38081828E8745D     | 3/30/2022 | X                         |      |
| CONTRACTOR SIGNATURE<br>BY: NICK BLALOCK - PRESIDENT | DATE      | OWNER/BUYER SIGNATURE     | DATE |
|  |           | Initials Date Initials Da |      |

#### **TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

1. CHANGES IN THE WORK. Should the Owner, project or construction lender, or any public body or inspector direct any modification or addition to the work covered by this contract, the contract price shall be adjusted accordingly.

NOTE ABOUT EXTRA WORK AND CHANGE ORDERS. Extra Work and Change Orders become part of the contract once the order is prepared in writing and signed by the parties prior to the commencement of any work covered by the new change order. The order must describe the scope of the extra work or change, the cost to be added or subtracted from the contract, and the effect the order will have on the schedule of progress payments. Failure to have written authorization shall not be deemed fatal to the collection of the extra work.

- 2. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARTIES. Contractor shall promptly notify the Owner of (a) subsurface or latent physical conditions at the site differing materially from those indicated in this contract, or (b) unknown physical conditions differing materially from those ordinarily encountered and generally recognized as inherent in work of the character provided for in this contract. Owner as added work shall pay for any expense incurred due to such conditions. The Owner is responsible to supply water, gas, sewer and electrical utilities unless otherwise agreed to in writing. Electricity and water to the site is necessary. Owner agrees to allow and provide Contractor and his equipment access to the property. The Owner is responsible for having sufficient funds to comply with this agreement. This is a cash transaction unless otherwise specified. The Owner is responsible to remove or protect any personal property and Contractor is not responsible for it or for any existing damages to driveway, lawns, shrubs, etc unless it was caused by the contractor, the Owner will point out and warrant the property lines to contractor if none are visible.
- 3. DELAYS. Contractor agrees to start and diligently pursue work through to completion, but shall not be responsible for delays for any of the following reasons: failure of the issuance of all necessary building permits within a reasonable length of time, funding of loans, disbursement of funds into funding control or escrow, acts of neglect or omission of Owner or Owner's employees or Owner's agent, acts of God, stormy or inclement weather, strikes, lockouts, boycotts, or other labor union activities, Extra Work ordered by Owner, acts of public enemy, riots or civil commotion, inability to secure material through regular recognized channels, imposition of government priority or allocation of materials, failure of Owner to make payments when due, or delays caused by inspection or changes ordered by the inspectors of authorized governmental bodies, or for acts of independent contractors, or holidays, or other causes beyond Contractor's reasonable control.
- **4. PLANS & SPECIFICATIONS.** If plans and specifications are prepared for this job, they shall be attached to and become a part of the agreement.
- **5. SUBCONTRACTS.** The Contractor may subcontract portions of this work to properly licensed and qualified subcontractors.
- **6. FEES, TAXES AND ASSESSMENTS.** Owner will pay for taxes and assessments of all descriptions. Contractor will obtain and pay for all required building permits, but Owner will pay assessments and charges required by public bodies and utilities for financing or repaying the cost of sewers, storm drains, water service, schools and school facilities, other utilities, hook-up charges and the like.
- 7. INSURANCE AND DEPOSITS. Owner will procure at Owner's expense and before the commencement of any work hereunder, fire insurance with course of construction, vandalism and malicious mischief clauses attached, such insurance to be a sum at least equal to the contract price with loss, if any, payable to any beneficiary under any deed of trust covering the project, such insurance shall also name the Contractor and any subcontractors as additional insured, and to include sufficient funds to protect Owner, Contractor, subcontractors and construction lender as their interests may appear. Should Owner fail to do so, Contractor may procure such insurance as agent for and at the expenses of Owner, but is not required to do so. If the project is destroyed or damaged by accident, disaster or calamity, such as fire, storm, earthquake, flood, landslide, or by theft or vandalism, any work done by the Contractor in rebuilding or restoring the project shall be paid by the owner as extra work.

employees and persons under Owner's direction and persons on the job site at Owner's invitation. Contractor carries commercial liability insurance and workers comp as required per CA law.

- **8. RIGHT TO STOP WORK.** Contractor shall have the right to stop work if any payment shall not be made, when due, to Contractor under this agreement. Contractor may keep the job idle until all payments due are received. This remedy is in addition to any other right or remedy that the Contractor may have. Such failure to make payment when due, is a material breach of this agreement. Owner acknowledges that the additional costs for the delay in stopping and starting the project shall be treated as an extra and allow Contractor additional costs in accordance with paragraph one hereof.
- 9. ROOF CONDITION. Buyer/Owner warrants and represents that they have conducted a thorough and complete roof inspection prior to the solar installation. In the event the roof condition is not suitable for solar panel installation, Contractor shall stop work and provide estimate to repair roof in order to proceed with installation. If buyer chooses not to proceed with repairs then Contractor reserves the right to charge for cost incurred to that point.
- 10. MONITORING. After solar installation, Contractor is not responsible for monitoring solar energy production. Buyer/Owner is solely responsible for monitoring the solar production through the online system. Contractor is not responsible for any utility charges assessed to Buyer/Owner for insufficient solar production.
- 11. CLEAN-UP. Contractor will remove from Owner's property debris and surplus material created by this operation and leave it in a neat and broom clean condition.
- 12. LIMITATIONS. No action of any character arising from or related to this contract, or the performance thereof shall be commenced by either party against the other more than two years after completion of the project or cessation of work under this contract.
- **13. ATTORNEY FEES.** In the event there is any litigation or arbitration arising out of this agreement, the prevailing party shall be entitled to its reasonable attorney fees and costs.
- 14. PAYMENT. Upon satisfactory payment being made for any portion of the work performed, the Contractor shall, prior to any further payment being made, furnish to the persons contracting for the improvement, a full and unconditional release from any claim or Mechanic's Lien pursuant to Section 3114 of the Civil Code, for that portion of the work for which payment has been made
- 15. ASBESTOS AND HAZARDOUS WASTE. Unless the contract specifically calls for the removal disturbance, or transportation of asbestos or other hazardous substances, the parties acknowledge that such work requires special procedure, precautions, and/or licenses. Therefore, unless the contract specifically calls for same, if Contractor encounters such substances, Contractor shall immediately stop work and allow the Owner to obtain duly qualified asbestos and/or hazardous material contractor to perform the work or the Contractor may perform the work at contractor's option. Said work will be treated as an extra under the contract.

| 16. ARBITRATION, VALIDITY AND DAMAGES. Any controvers                                |
|--|
| or claim arising out of or related to this contract, or the breach thereof, shall be |
| settled by arbitration in accordance with the Construction Industry Arbitration      |
| Rules of the American Arbitration Association, and judgment upon the awar            |
| rendered by the Arbitrator(s) may be entered in any court having jurisdiction        |
| niereof.   |

| - ps<br>- ps<br>- ps | the Aronrator(s) may be | e entered in any cour | t naving jui | 180 |
|----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-----|
| Thereof.             | 3/25/2022               |                       |              |     |
| Initials             | Date                    | Initials              | Date         |     |



### **SOLAR CONTRACT**

(The "Notice of Cancellation" may be sent to the Contractor at the address noted below) This form complies with professional standards in effect January 1, 2022 - December 31, 2022

License C-10/C39 #915397 31887 Corydon St. #130 Lake Elsinore, CA. 92530 **PHONE** (951) 440-0583

CONTRACT ENTERED INTO THIS DATE:

3/25/2022

Azhar Yalda

| BUYER/   | NAME zainab Abd   |                       |
|----------|---|-----------------------|
| OWNER    | RESIDENCE ADDRESS CITY STATE/ZIP 1074 Sumner Pl. El Cajon, CA 92021   | PHONE<br>619-592-5698 |
|          | ALTERNATE ADDRESS (IF ANY)  | PHONE                 |
|          | SCOPE OF WORK   |                       |
| Roof     | -mounted solar system.  |                       |
| LG 3     | 55N1K-A6 BLK panels come with a 25-year performance & product warranty f  | rom LG                |
| Iron     | ridge racking 25-year warranty from Ironridge.  |                       |
| Enph     | ase Energy iQ7 microinverters come with a 25-year warranty from Enphase I   | Energy                |
| Enph     | ase Envoy & Enlighten monitoring system included. To connect to customer  | 's WIFI               |
| If       | will not connect, the Enphase cellular data kit will be purchased and in  | stalled for \$550,    |
|          |   |                       |
|          | WORK TO BE EXCLUDED   |                       |
| No       | Main or Sub electric panel upgraded. Solar to connect to the existing so  | ervice panel.         |
|          | P Rebate is not guarenteed to Homeowner. Contractor will submit for rebate for not control funding with State.  | Homeowner but         |
| DATE (   | HE BUYER, MAY CANCEL THIS TRANSACTION AT ANY TIME PRIOR TO MIDNIGHT OF THE THIRD BUSINE OF THIS TRANSACTION, SEE ATTACHED NOTICE OF CANCELLATION FORM FOR AN EXPLANATION OF THE GHT TO REQUIRE THE CONTRACTOR TO HAVE A PERORMANCE AND PAYMENT BOND.  3/25/2022 |                       |
| Your sig | nature below confirming again tange of the following on this day  | ov:                   |

Representative's Signature
Print name: Azhar Yalda
HIS#: 130648 SP

Edimab abl)

Buyer's (1) Signature \_

Buyer's (2) Signature

| BLALO        | CK 🎾   |
|--------------|--------|
| ELECTRIC & S | OLAR T |

### TEN VEAD WADDANTV FODM

| BLALOCK ELECTRIC & SOLAR INC.  | ANTITORNI  |
|--|--|
| License C-10/C39 #915397<br>31887 Corydon St. #130<br>Lake Elsinore, CA. 92530   | DATE:  |
| PHONE (951) 440-0583   | 3/25/2022  |
| Warranty coverage. This warranty ("Warranty Form") applies to the ('System") located at 1074 Sumner Pl. El Cajon, CA 92021 | <u>kW/DC</u> renewable energy electric generating system |
| Estimated Annual Production at Year 1: TBD per engineering   | ng design  |

Limited Ten-Year Warranty. Blalock Electric & Solar Inc. in combination with the Solar System ("System") component manufacturer provides a warranty for the System against defective workmanship, system or component breakdown, or degradation in electrical output of more than fifteen percent (15%) its originally rated electrical output for a period of ten years. The manufacturers of the solar panels and inverters separately and exclusively warrant their System components to the fullest extent of their respective warranties. (See applicable warranties). This warranty covers only the System and provides for no-cost repair or replacement of the System or System components, including any associated labor during the warranty period. Blalock Electric & Solar Inc. measurement to determine the actual power output of the System shall be the sole determination for purposes of warranty settlement. This warranty specifically excludes any and all rot and underlying damage caused by the System's installation that manifests after 5 years and that is a result of pre-existing roofing and underlying conditions. If the System fails to conform to this warranty, Blalock Electric & Solar Inc. will, at its sole option, either repair or replace any System or System component at no cost to the customer. This repair or replacement remedy shall be the sole and exclusive remedy provided under this warranty and the original System warranty period remains in effect and will not be extended, nor will a new warranty period begin, upon repair or replacement of defective System components. This warranty is effective from date of completion of the System installation.

The technician examining the system will perform a comprehensive test of all physical and electrical components of the array. This includes a focus on the physical panel and racking setup, a review of all electrical connections and strings, evaluation of the utility meter connections and reports, and inspection and maintenance of the inverter according to manufacturer specifications. If any of these inspections yield issues or suggest something might be wrong with the array, corrective maintenance measures will be applied.

General Terms. This limited warranty extends to the original purchaser and to any subsequent purchasers or owners (the "Purchaser") at the same location during the warranty period, provide that the System is not removed or modified without the prior written consent of Blalock Electric & Solar Inc. and that Blalock Electric & Solar Inc. is the qualified installer for purposes of the new interconnection agreement. For the purpose of this warranty, the terms "purchaser", "subsequent purchaser or owner" and "purchase" include a new home or business buyer, lessee, assignee of a lease, and a lease transaction.

Limited Warranty Exclusions. The warranty and obligations stated here shall not apply to damage, malfunction, or degradation of electrical output caused by any of the following:

- a. Failure to properly operate or maintain the System in accordance with the printed instructions provided with the System.
- b. Any repair or replacement using a part or service not provided or authorized in writing by Blalock Electric & Solar inc.
- Purchaser or third party abuse, accident, alteration, improper maintenance, misuse, negligence or vandalism, or from earthquake, fire, flood, or other acts of God.

Limitation of Warranty. THE EXPRESS WARRANTIES SET FORTH HEREIN SHALL CONSTITUTE THE ONLY WARRANTIES APPLICABLE TO THE SYSTEM AND BLALOCK ELECTRIC'S WORK. BLALOCK ELECTRIC & SOLAR INC. HEREBY EXPRESSLY DISCLAIMS ANY AND ALL OTHER WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION THE WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, USE, OR APPLICATION, AND ALL OTHER OBLIGATIONS OR LIABILITIES ON BLALOCK ELECTRIC & SOLAR INC. PART, UNLESS SUCH OTHER WARRANTIES, OBLIGATIONS, OR LIABILITIES ARE EXPRESSLY AGREED TO IN WRITING BY BLALOCK ELECTRIC & SOLAR INC. IN NO EVENT SHALL BLALOCK ELECTRIC & SOLAR INC. BE LIABLE FOR INCIDENTAL, CONSEQUENTIAL OR SPECIAL DAMAGES, LOSS OF USE, LOSS OF PROFITS, LOSS OF PRODUCTION, OR LOSS OF REVENUES FOR ANY REASON WHATSOEVER.

Replacements. System components that are replaced by Blalock Electric & Solar Inc. shall become the property of Blalock Electric & Solar Inc. Blalock Electric & Solar Inc. reserves the right, at its sole option, to deliver another type of new or refurbished System component that may differ in size, color, shape, model number, and/or power level.

| , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , | ,                |  |                               |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| I HAVE READ THE W                     | ARRANTY AND COND | ITIONS ABOVE HEREOF AND AGREE THAT THE | EY ARE PART OF THIS PURCHASE: |
| Buyers Signature:                     | Ealmab abd       | Date:                                  | 3/25/2022                     |
| 4BE6A3F4D5194F5                       | Page 6 of 7      |  |                               |

### BLALOCK (The "Notice of

### NOTICE OF CANCELLATION

The "Notice of Cancellation" may be sent to the Contractor at the address noted below) This form complies with professional standards in effect January 1, 2022 - December 31, 2022

License C-10/C39 #915397 31887 Corydon St. #130 Lake Elsinore, CA. 92530

**PHONE** (951) 440-0583

DATE OF TRANSACTION:

3/25/2022

You may cancel this transaction, without any penalty or obligation, within three business days from the above date.

If you cancel, any property traded, in any payments made by you under the contract or sale, and any negotiable instrument executed by you will be returned within 10 days following receipt by the seller of your cancellation notice, and any security interest arising out of the transaction will be cancelled.

If you cancel, you must make available to the seller at your residence, in substantially as good condition as when received, any goods delivered to you under this contract or sale, or you may, if you wish, comply with the instructions of the seller regarding the return of shipment of the goods at the seller's expense and risk.

If you do make the goods available to the seller and the seller does not pick them up within 20 days of the date of your notice of cancellation, you may retain or dispose of the goods without any further obligation. If you fail to make the goods available to the seller, or if you agree to return the goods to the seller and fail to do so, then you remain liable for performance of all obligations under the contract.

If the contract is cancelled after the three (3) business day rescission period, Contractor will charge a twenty-five percent (25%) cancellation fee. The cancellation fee will be based on the total contract price.

To cancel this transaction, mail or deliver a signed and dated copy of this cancellation notice, or any other written notice, or send a telegram to:

| Blalock Electric & Solar, Inc. (Name of Seller  |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| at: 31887 Corydon St. #130, Lake Elsinore, CA 92530 (Address of Seller's Place of Business) |                       |
| Not later than midnight of: 3 days from the date of this contract.                          |                       |
| Only If you wish to cancel this transaction:  |                       |
| Owner/Buyer Signature X   | Date:                 |
|   |                       |
| I (we each) asknowledge receipt of two copies of this form.                                 |                       |
| I (we each) asknowledge receipt of two copies of this form.  X                              | X                     |
| OWNER/BUYER SIGNATURE   | OWNER/BUYER SIGNATURE |



### Terms and Conditions Agreement for Net Energy Metering Son Wind Electricity Generating Facilities for Net Energy Metering Solar or

#### Rates

Customer understands that SDG&E's rates and rate design are subject to change from time to time.

Customer understands and agrees that it must not operate its Generating Facility in parallel with SDG&E's Distribution System until Customer receives written authorization for Parallel Operation from SDG&E.

Pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission Decision 14-11-001, SDG&E is required to provide certain data to the CPUC or its contractors regarding NEM Customers, including but not limited to customer identification information, contractor identification information, system ownership status, cost, etc. By filling out and executing this Application, you authorize SDG&E to release any and all information contained herein to the CPUC and/or its contractor without further notification or consent.

| Customer Name (Please Print): | Ammar Aziz                 |           |  |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------|--|
|                               | — DocuSigned by:           | 3-25-2022 |  |
| Customer Name (Signature):    | DocuSigned by:  ELIMB 181) | Date:     |  |

A copy of this signed Agreement should be retained with the "Permission to Operate" letter to confirm Interconnection approval

Revision Date: 10/24/2017