BE AWARE

GET THE FACTS, WITHOUT THE FICTION

Considering a rooftop solar system? Unfortunately, there has been a significant increase in reports of consumers being misinformed by some solar installers.

To help in your evaluation process, we've compiled the top five statements to be wary of as you consider a rooftop solar installation:

1 Rooftop solar will eliminate your electric bill.

In most scenarios, that's simply not true. Unless you have a rooftop solar and battery storage system large enough to meet all of your electricity needs during every hour of the day, you'll need reliable electricity from your local EMC when solar is not available. While the amount of electricity you purchase from your EMC may decrease, it will still be providing you with electricity at night and on cloudy days.

2 You have 24 to 48 hours to sign a contract or the "deal" is no longer valid.

Rooftop solar is a significant financial investment, and one you should evaluate thoroughly. Be cautious of solar installers who pressure you to sign a contract in a limited window of time.

3 You'll make a lot of money selling power back to your electric cooperative.

This is unlikely. Some solar installers use incorrect rates to project how you will be credited for any excess energy your rooftop solar system generates and sends back to the electric grid. Be sure to contact your local EMC to confirm that the buy-back policy and rate match what your solar installer used in their estimate.

4 Your electric rate is projected to increase substantially in the coming years.

Some solar installers substantially overstate increases in electricity rates. In reality, the cost of electricity has been relatively stable. In fact, based on data from the U.S. Energy Information Administration, retail electricity prices averaged an increase of only 1.16% per year from 2011 to 2020.

5 Your electric cooperative doesn't need to be involved.

Before you install rooftop solar, it's important to complete your local EMC's interconnection agreement to ensure that your system meets essential safety and reliability requirements.

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