



A Sempra Energy utility®

Smart METER

How to read your smart electric meter for net metering customers

Reading your new smart electric meter is easy. The meter scrolls through several different displays that will show your kilowatt-hour (kWh) usage, date, time, and other system and diagnostic information. Since you have a photovoltaic (PV) system, your level (amount) of energy consumption is shown on your meter by bars or a 'pulse' running along the bottom of the display, right below the digital readout.

Scrolling Displays

Look at the top left-hand corner. Most of the scrolling digital displays are identified by a number in this corner. This number represents what type of data is being shown:

- "01" = Date. Shown as month/date/year. For example, March 4, 2010 would display as 03.04.10
- "02" = Time. Shown in "military" or 24-hour time and includes seconds. For example, if it's 7:17 pm and 17 seconds, the display will be 19:17:17.
- "10" = Current meter read. Net = Delivered - Received.
- "del" = Energy delivered from the SDG&E grid to the customer.
- "rec" = Energy received from the customer to the SDG&E grid.



There is other information that scrolls through the display sequence providing valuable system information to SDG&E®.

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Reading Your Energy Usage

Using our sample display, the initial NET meter read is 001406. To find out how much energy you use in a given time, subtract this first reading from a second reading taken at a later date. For instance, if you go back to your meter later and it reads 001940, then you have used 534 kWh for that time period (001940 - 001406 = 534).

Your meter will not show the total amount of energy being produced by your PV system, but will show how much energy has flowed back onto the grid. You can determine this by reading the data on the "rec" display as given in the example.

Visit sdge.com/hem for more information about our solar PV system requirements.

Detail of kWh Display

A kilowatt-hour (kWh) is 1,000 watts of power used for one hour. For example, when you use a 1000 watt (one-kilowatt) appliance for one hour, you've used one kWh and your meter read display will show an increase in consumption of one. If your generation system is providing power to the grid, the net values will be decreased by 1 kWh for every 1,000 watts of received power.

The "rotating disk" has been replaced with a series of symbols that will show the direction of energy flow.

Delivered -
You're using energy
from the grid



Received - Your meter is running
backwards and your system is putting
energy back onto the utility grid.



For more information about how to read your electric smart meter, visit sdge.com/smartmeter.