How to Read Your Bidirectional Meter

Understanding your bidirectional meter

The bidirectional meter installed for Net Metering customers records the power flowing in two directions. It measures how much electricity you use from PGE and how much electricity your system supplies to the PGE grid. Each billing period, the power from PGE you use is offset by the power you send to PGE.

Bidirectional meters vs. production meters

Bidirectional meters do not record how much power your generating system produces. It measures how much electricity you use from PGE and how much electricity your system supplies to the PGE grid.

Production meters measure your system's energy production. Depending on the type of production meter used, some meters provide only cumulative data and some meters provide monthly production data. If you are using a meter that only provides cumulative data, you will want to record your monthly production readings each month.

Since bidirectional meters and production meters have different functions, the number of kilowatt hours your system supplies to PGE, recorded by your bidirectional meter, will always be lower than the total output recorded by your production meter.

Instructions for reading bidirectional meters

The following displays are programmed on residential Net Meters:

Display Identifier	Description
199	Segment Test
1	Energy – Cumulative kWh to the customer
2	Energy – Cumulative kWh from the customer
3	Peak demand – kW Delivered
4	Instantaneous current (Amps)
5	Remote Disconnect Switch State (Open/Close)
6	Date (MMDDYY format)
7	Time (24-hour HHMMSS format)

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Net Metering for Time-of-Use customers

The following displays are programmed on residential 3-Tier Time-of-Use (TOU) Meters:

Display Identifier	Description
199	Segment Test
1	Energy – kWh Delivered
2	Current self reads, SR1
3	Peak demand – kW Delivered
4	Instantaneous current (Amps)
5	Remote Disconnect Switch State (Open/Close)
6	Date (MMDDYY format)
7	Time (24-hour HHMMSS format)

Display item 2, Current self reads SR1, contains multiple display time-of-use values. The following items will be shown, in order, as part of display item 2:

- "CU 01t" Label for current register value of Total kWh Delivered
- Energy value of Total kWh Delivered (kWh)
- "CU 01a" Label for current register value of kWh Delivered Rate A / Off-peak
- Energy value of kWh Delivered Rate A / Off-peak (kWh)
- "CU 01b" Label for current register value of kWh Delivered Rate B / Mid-peak
- Energy value of kWh Delivered Rate B / Mid-peak (kWh)
- "CU 01c" Label for current register value of kWh Delivered Rate C / On-peak
- Energy value of kWh Delivered Rate C / On-peak (kWh)

Current self reads will not be shown if values are not populated.

For example, if a meter is programmed during Rate B / Mid-peak time, then the meter will only have values populated in Rate B / Mid-peak registers. If this is the case, the displays will only show Total kWh Delivered (CU 01t) and kWh Delivered – Rate B / Mid-peak (CU 01b). After the meter is allowed to run for a full day, all four values will be shown on the meter.

Learn more about the **Time of Use pricing plan.**