



NH Solar Power Incentives

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Current Solar Incentives in New Hampshire

Ever wondered why your neighbor installed solar panels last month? Chances are, they're taking advantage of New Hampshire's solar power incentives. The state offers a mix of rebates, tax exemptions, and performance payments that make going solar surprisingly affordable.

The flagship NH Solar Renewable Energy Certificates (SRECs) program lets homeowners earn \$50-\$150 quarterly for excess energy fed back to the grid. Combine this with the federal Investment Tax Credit (ITC) covering 30% of installation costs, and you've got a recipe for serious savings. Just last quarter, over 200 Manchester households switched to solar - a 17% increase from 2022.

The Hidden Costs of Waiting

Here's the kicker: these incentives won't last forever. The ITC drops to 26% in 2033 before phasing out completely. Meanwhile, NH's electricity rates have climbed 8% since January 2023. Installing solar now locks in today's rates while incentives are still juicy.

The Hidden Economic Boost Behind Solar Adoption

Solar isn't just about individual savings - it's reshaping NH's economy. The state added 423 clean energy jobs in 2023 alone, many in solar installation. Take Portsmouth-based Granite State Solar, which doubled its workforce after introducing battery storage rebates.

But wait, there's a catch. While residential solar booms, commercial adoption lags. Only 12% of NH businesses have installed panels, compared to 28% in Massachusetts. The reason? Many don't realize the NH Business Energy Investment Tax Credit covers up to \$50,000 for commercial solar projects.

How to Maximize Your NH Solar Savings

Navigating the incentive maze can feel overwhelming. Let's break it down:

Stack incentives: Combine federal ITC with NH's \$1,000 rebate through NHSaves



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Time your installation: Winter installations often qualify for spring rebate cycles

Monitor SREC markets: Prices fluctuate based on regional demand

Take the case of Nashua resident Sarah Kim. By timing her installation during a seasonal promotion and claiming both state and federal credits, she reduced her out-of-pocket cost from \$18,000 to \$6,200. "It's like getting paid to save money," she told us.

Why NH Stands Out in New England

Compared to Vermont's upfront rebates or Maine's net metering policies, NH takes a balanced approach. The state's solar property tax exemption prevents increased home valuations from raising tax bills - a smart move that Massachusetts only adopted last year.

But here's what most people miss: NH's grid infrastructure allows faster solar interconnection than neighboring states. While Rhode Island homeowners wait 6-8 weeks for approval, NH averages just 18 days. That efficiency difference could mean catching a quarterly rebate cycle.

What's Next for Renewable Energy in the Granite State

Rumor has it the 2024 legislative session might introduce battery storage rebates. With 43% of NH households experiencing power outages in 2022, pairing solar with storage could become the new normal. Solar installers are already reporting a 91% increase in battery inquiries this year.

The real game-changer? Community solar projects opening up renewable energy to renters and condo dwellers. Durham's new shared solar farm has 180 subscribers paying 15% less than standard rates. If that's not incentive enough, what is?

Q&A: Quick Answers to Common Questions

Q: Do solar incentives apply to vacation homes?

A: Yes, as long as the property is NH-based and connected to the grid.

Q: Can I combine solar with heat pump incentives?

A: Absolutely - NHSaves offers bundled rebates for whole-home electrification.

Q: What happens if I move after installing panels?

A: Solar systems increase home values by 4.1% on average in NH, and SREC contracts can transfer to new owners.

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