



# Understanding your Eversource Bills with Solar

In early 2024, Eversource revamped the formatting of their electric bills, which included several significant changes to the wording regarding the flow of energy to/ from a site with solar energy. We have prepared the following guide to help decode these changes, and are always happy to receive direct questions from clients needing additional support or clarification.

### **Basic Terminology**

- **Net-Exporter** You have exported/sold more energy to the grid than you have imported/purchased from your utility provider during a given billing cycle.
- **Net-Importer** You have imported/purchased more energy than you have exported/sold during a given billing cycle.
- Utility Net Meter A standard utility meter measures the flow of electricity from the grid to your home/business. When solar energy is installed, the utility provider replaces this with a Net Meter which measures energy going in and out, and tracks the net total.
- **Total Consumption** All of the electricity used by your property over the course of a given billing cycle, including direct from your panels and imported from the grid.



#### Example: Eversource Page 1 (with Solar)

Ultimately, this chart is a nice visual representation of a given site's balance between seasons of net-import (using more than you produce) and net-export (sending excess to the grid). It is NOT an indication of Total Consumption and Total Production, though it could easily be misinterpreted that way. These terms are inaccurate because the numbers do not account for total gross solar production, or on-site consumption of that solar production that will never be read or measured by the Utility Net Meter.





In this example, the SMART Production Meter measured a total of 420 kWh produced by the solar array, while the Utility Net Meter measured a Net-Import of 106 kWh. What's not shown anywhere on the bill is the actual Total Consumption of the site. To calculate this, we would add together the Net kWh Usage from the Utility Net Meter, and the Production from the SMART Production Meter.

106 kWh (Net kWh Usage) + 420 kWh (Total Production) = 526 kWh\*

\*This calculation was validated by running the numbers on several sites that also include Consumption Meters.

## Example: Eversource Page 2 (with Solar & SREC/REC Program)



In this example, the Utility Net Meter measured a Net-Import of 1836 kWh, but we need to look elsewhere for the Total Production. This can be gathered from inverter monitoring data, or a separate Production Meter (if present) which will give a "Revenue Grade" measurement in terms of accuracy. To calculate the Total Consumption, we would add together the Net kWh Usage from the Utility Net Meter, and the Production data from the Inverter or third party Production Meter.

#### 1836 kWh (Net kWh Usage) + 302 kWh (Total Production from Inverter) = 2,138 kWh\*

\*This calculation was validated by running the numbers on several sites that also include Consumption Meters.

**Reach out for more -** If you have questions or need additional support with your system or net metering, please contact our service team at <u>service@pvsquared.coop</u>!