

Want Solar Panels on Your Roof for net Metering? Tips You Need to Know

1. Do you have a roof that can support solar panels?

This is pretty key. If your roof is covered in shade or not structurally stable, it might not be favourable enough to justify investing into solar. That's something you'll want to assess before you move forward.

2. Competent contractor—designer, supplier and installer

The grid connected Solar PV system must be designed by a person competent in this field prior to lodging an application with your local utility. Visit your utility office to get a list of licensed technicians in FSM. You may get a contractor who does everything from designing, to sourcing the equipment and also installing or you may have to hire a number of contractors.

3. What Solar PV capacity size do you need?

The capacity size of your solar PV systems can be determined by a Solar PV designer. With a capacity size in mind, you could visit the local Solar PV Suppliers to quote you a PV system tailored to meet your electricity consumption needs. The quote will include the expected output of the system. This is one way you can compare different solar PV systems.

Listed are the capacity requirements for private Solar PV installations allowed to the Utility grids in FSM.

Single Phase -> 10 kVA Maximum Capacity Three Phase -> 50 kVA Maximum Capacity

Higher rated installations may be allowed, but will require a special agreement with PUC.

4. Standards

Your Solar PV systems will need to comply with requirements from your utility looking at Electrical codes, Building codes, UL Standards and compliances with specific equipment's such as inverters.

Things for consideration for the FSM Net Metering:

1. Assess your situation and position to apply
2. Heeding to administrative processes and procedure during application
3. Agreement with Utility - Customer Meter replacement

What should you see in your contract Agreements?

Designer

Pointers to note – Deliverables expected to be in full compliance to the utilities requirements i.e Household energy needs report, System capacity size, schematics and wiring diagrams, and filled **Net Metering Interconnection Application Form**

Supplier

Pointers to note – Supply of materials to the specifications and requirements provided by designer, warranty conditions, compliance to standards advised by the local utility and delivery timeliness

Installer

Most installers are also electrical contractors. PUC strongly encourages the use of an installer with license by or endorsed by the local utility for solar network installations.

Pointers to note – milestones in agreement including installation report, notification to PUC of Solar PV system connection, arrangement for installation of net-meters at your premises

FSM Net Metering Application process

How to get connected

Contact Us:

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Post Office Box M
Pohnpei, FM 96941
Phone: 320 2840

Email: info@mypuc.fm
Website: <https://pohnpeipuc.fm/>

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Getting Connected

1. Getting informed

Getting informed by understanding your options should be your first step. Visit your utility to get information of the net metering process as well as guide you to the local technicians to provide you with advice on the systems that are available and appropriate for you. **This is not the time to buy!**

2. Lodge application form

Ask for the **Net Metering Interconnection Application Form** from your utility and work with your local technician to complete all the required information. There is a lot of technical information required which your technician should assist you in filling. Having completed your application form, submit this to your Utility.

3. PUC Design Review & Approval

After receiving your completed application, your local utility will evaluate your application. This may take up to 5 weeks. Once your utility have reviewed and accepted the requirements, your application will be considered approved. You will be required to enter into an interconnection agreement. You will be provided with two copies of an **IES network Agreement** for signing.

8. Install Electricity Meter

Congratulations you are now a net meter customer. During the installation of the new meters, PUC will also undertake a final inspection of your new solar PV system connection **with a provision of a courtesy advice.**

7. Request to connect electricity meter

Your installer or electrical contractor will notify PUC of the new solar PV system connection and lodge a request for an appropriate electricity meter to be installed at your premises. Following lodgment request, PUC will install the new meters **within 5 working days.**

4. Financing

With your Signed IES Network Agreement in Hand, you can now organise your finance for procurement and installation of your Solar PV systems. If you intend to take a loan to finance your project, you are welcome to visit the FSM Development Bank and apply for the low-cost loan program initiative.

6. System Installation

Based on your procurement arrangement with your supplier and installer, you can progress your system installation and premises wiring connection. Installation works are to be undertaken in accordance with guidelines in the **PUC NET Metering manual.**

5. System supply

Once your finance is sorted, you can organize with your supplier for the purchase and delivery of Materials to your project site. Seek advice from PUC or your installer when you procure, look up things like the warranty conditions

Key Contacts

Company	Phone/email	Areas
PUC	+691 3202840 / in-fo@mypuc.fm	Application process
FSM Development Bank	+691 3202840 / In-fo@fsmdb.fm	Loan financing
SPC	+691 3207523 / SPCM-RO@spc.int	Procurement advice