



431 South Palm Canyon Drive, Suite 206  
Palm Springs, CA 92262

<<FULLNAME>>  
<<ADDRESSLINE1>>  
<<CITY>>, <<STATE>> <<ZIPCODE>>  
<<COUNTRY>>



Doing Our Part to  
**SAVE the PLANET**

# Important **NEWS** for **SOLAR** Customers



March 20, 2020

<<FULLNAME>>  
<<ADDRESSLINE1>>  
<<CITY>>, <<STATE>>, <<ZIPCODE>>  
<<COUNTRY>>

## **Notification: Important Change that May Affect Your Net Energy Metering (NEM) Account**

Dear Valued Customer:

We want to let you know that Desert Community Energy (DCE), a Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) service, has been established to serve Palm Springs, Cathedral City and Palm Desert. With Community Choice, DCE will purchase electricity on your behalf, including more renewable, carbon-free power at competitive rates. We want to be sure that any questions you might have are answered.

Desert Community Energy will begin service to customers in Palm Springs in April 2020. At that time, the majority of Palm Springs electricity customers will be automatically enrolled in our 100% Carbon Free plan. Net Energy Metering (NEM) customers will be enrolled in May 2020. The energy offered in the 100% Carbon Free plan is the best way to reduce your carbon footprint and help our climate crisis because it is 100% carbon-free and 50% renewable. You also have the choice to opt down to our Desert Saver plan, your lower cost choice, or opt out and stay with SCE.

Our records indicate that your account(s) is taking service under one of Southern California Edison's (SCE) optional NEM rate schedules. Thank you for taking the lead by going solar! DCE is launching a NEM program that will offer the same Net Surplus Compensation rates that SCE currently offers. When your service account(s) listed in the table on the back page transfers to DCE, SCE and DCE will work together to continue providing your account(s) with NEM service. Under this arrangement, SCE will be responsible for monthly NEM electric delivery service charges and credits, and DCE will be responsible for monthly NEM electric generation charges and credits. Any NEM credits received from DCE cannot be used to offset SCE charges, and NEM credits received from SCE cannot be used to offset DCE charges.

In 2002, the California legislature authorized cities and/or counties to procure electricity for consumers within their respective jurisdictions. DCE will purchase your electricity while SCE will continue to deliver that power, maintain the poles and wires, manage the grid and handle billing and repairs. SCE and DCE will work together to ensure there will be no duplicate charges or costs related to your service; you will pay your bills through SCE as you always have.

**Customer Number: <<CUSTOMER\_NUMBER>>**

**Your Account(s) will Transition to DCE Service in May 2020**

Service Account Number	Service Address	Current Rate	New Rate
<<SERVICE_ACCOUNT_NUM_1>>	<<SERVICEADDRESS>>	<<CRATE>>	<<NRATE>>
<<SERVICE_ACCOUNT_NUM_2>>			
<<SERVICE_ACCOUNT_NUM_3>>			

Note: This table may not list all of your accounts.

Some other changes you may experience:

- SCE will true-up NEM customers in May 2020 when you are enrolled in DCE, regardless of what month you are in your current relevant period. The effective date that you begin service with DCE is also the start date of your new relevant period. New NEM customers will be trued up the following May, regardless of their actual relevant period.
- At the time of enrollment to DCE service, your SCE NEM relevant period closes and a true-up of any NEM energy credits and energy charges (in \$) will take place. You will have a new relevant period for your DCE service.
  - o Any energy charges not offset by energy credits at the time of true-up will be billed to the customer.
  - o Any energy credits that exceed energy charges are set to zero for the start of the new relevant period.
  - o Credits for surplus electricity earned under SCE's NEM program prior to May 2020 will be trued up and paid by SCE following enrollment into DCE's NEM program.

DCE is providing this notice in cooperation with SCE to inform you about changes to your participation in the NEM program as a result of transitioning to CCA service.

If you have any questions regarding Desert Community Energy service, related programs, rates, or opt down/opt out options, please contact our customer service center at (855) 357-9240. You can also visit our website at [www.DesertCommunityEnergy.org](http://www.DesertCommunityEnergy.org). Information about Net Energy Metering can be found at: <https://desertcommunityenergy.org/your-options/net-energy-metering/>.

If you have any questions regarding SCE's service, related programs or rate options, please contact SCE's Customer Contact Center at (800) 974-2356, Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m., Saturday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

**We look forward to serving you!**

Sincerely,



Tom Kirk  
Executive Director

## Abbreviated Terms & Conditions\*

### PROGRAM ENROLLMENT

Desert Community Energy (DCE) was set up as a joint powers authority by Palm Springs, Cathedral City and Palm Desert. DCE will start serving customers in Palm Springs in early April 2020 and will be the default electric generation service provider for that city. Accounts within DCE's service area in the City of Palm Springs are automatically enrolled in the Carbon Free plan unless the account holder chooses to opt down to the Desert Saver plan or to opt out and remain with SCE's bundled service.

### RATES & FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

DCE electric generation rates are managed by DCE's Board of Directors to provide cleaner, competitively priced electricity. Any changes to rates will be adopted at public meetings of the DCE Board. Financial assistance programs including CARE (California Alternate Rates for Energy), FERA (Family Electric Rate Assistance) and Medical Baseline Allowance remain the same with DCE, in most cases. For more information on how you can save up to 30% on your energy bill, call (760) 469-9284 or email [utilitydiscount@lifttorise.org](mailto:utilitydiscount@lifttorise.org)

### DESERT SAVER ENROLLMENT

DCE account holders can choose at any time to opt down to Desert Saver electricity service which will be billed at a rate that is competitive with SCE's current standard rates. CARE/FERA/Medical Baseline customers will receive 100% carbon-free electricity but will be billed at the lower cost Desert Saver rate, an additional savings compared to SCE's base rate. It is not necessary for CARE/FERA/Medical Baseline customers to opt down.

### BILLING

DCE account holders will continue to receive a single monthly bill from SCE that includes all electricity related charges, including DCE's electric generation charge. SCE will continue to charge for transmission, distribution, public goods programs and other non-generation charges at the same rate it charges customers who do not receive DCE service.

### OPT OUT

Account holders may opt out of DCE electric generation service by calling toll free (855) 357-9240 or at [DesertCommunityEnergy.org](http://DesertCommunityEnergy.org). DCE does not charge a fee to opt out at any time. If you opt out of DCE electric generation service within 60 days of enrollment, you will be placed back on your current rate with SCE. If you opt out of DCE service after that 60-day period, you will be placed on SCE's transitional rate. For more information about SCE's transitional rate, please go to [sce.com](http://sce.com).

\*Full Terms & Conditions can be found at [DesertCommunityEnergy.org](http://DesertCommunityEnergy.org)