

Informational Guide for On-site Generation Now Available

If you're thinking about installing a solar or wind electric generation system for your home or business, we encourage you to take a look at the newly released Informational Guide for On-site Generation, distributed by the Iowa Utilities Board. "This new information guide will help our member-owners walk through a detailed check list of questions and important considerations before financially investing in a system," says Ross Loomans, General Manager.

The guide prompts consumers to consider their energy-related goals, legal requirements, and insurance issues before installing on-site generation. The guide also provides consumers with a list of information to gather and questions to ask during the process.

The guide was compiled from input provided by stakeholders, including Iowa's electric cooperatives, and is intended to help Iowans make wise choices and to consider all of the legal and financial requirements that are involved with distributed generation. To download a free copy of the Informational Guide for On-site Generation, see the link label - Iowa Utility Board – Informational Guide on Distributed Generation on previous web page.

As they recommend in the Informational Guide, if your primary goal is to reduce your monthly electric bill, consider an energy audit to uncover potential energy efficient improvements. If you would like to discuss an energy audit you can contact Larry Wibben, Member Service Director. Implementing energy efficiency before installing a solar or wind system can save you money by reducing your overall energy or water consumption, which subsequently reduces the size of the distributed generation system you'll need to meet your energy needs.

We encourage you to contact our member services department at (712)472-2506 early on in the process if you're thinking about installing an on-site generation system, including solar panels or a wind turbine. As a member-owned, not-for-profit cooperative, we're here to help you make informed decisions about how you use energy.

To ensure your own safety and that of your fellow cooperative member-owners, you are required to notify Lyon Rural Electric Cooperative if you intend to install a distributed generation system and under Iowa law, an interconnection agreement must be in place.