



August 2020

Evaluating Your Real Estate for Solar Generation

On behalf of Mission Energy, the company that created and operates the [Catholic Energies](#) program for the Catholic Climate Covenant, thank you for your interest in our evaluating solar generation for you. This letter is to specifically inform you of what to expect and the information we need to receive from you to begin our evaluation.

Our primary role is to help you make a fully informed decision. We aren't here to "sell" you on anything. Whether or not solar is a good "fit" and a prudent financial exercise is your choice and your decision. Our role is to provide our time, expertise and resources to help you make that informed decision. We do not charge you for this service and evaluation.

What will be evaluated? – *Does it make financial sense for you?*

The initial evaluation is a deep dive into the most likely economic realities of your using solar as an alternative power source to your current utility power. By understanding costs vs. savings, options to pay for it, rebates, incentives, sizing, maintenance, etc., you should have all the information needed to decide whether or not solar generation is a prudent financial choice.

Questions we will answer include:

- What is the possible size and location(s) of the solar array (an illustration will be provided)?
- How much solar power could be generated annually as a percentage of my historical annual utility power consumption?
- Approximately how much would the project cost to install?
- What are my options in how the project could be paid for or paid for by third-party investors? Can I pay for it without any need of money upfront?
- How much could solar save me annually on my monthly/annual energy costs based on each option how it could be paid for?
- Would a LED lighting retrofit help us financially through reducing our overall power needs and impacting our utility costs?
- What utility rebates and incentives are available and applicable to this project?
- How many metric tons of carbon emissions could this project offset?

After completing the evaluation, we will 1.) Send you a 4-5 pg. summary, including design, savings cash flow estimates and a summary for your team's review and 2.) Schedule a call/Zoom to review that attachment and the expected economic impacts of the project, and answer your questions.

What happens after the evaluation?

After the evaluation review, you should then be in a position to decide as an organization whether or not you want to pursue the project. Determining final design and construction costs, which solar contractor will build it, your contract review, and engineering requirements for such an installation, etc. come next. This requires other tasks and time from us and we will discuss those steps during our evaluation call but we don't need to do any of that if you decide solar is not the right choice for you. Thus, we just want you to focus on this thorough evaluation to help you decide whether or not you care to proceed further. Delivery of the evaluation typically takes about 2-3 weeks after receiving the completed information below.

What information do we need to receive for the evaluation?

1. LEGAL NAME: Who by title owns the real estate and what is the legal name of that organization?

2. UTILITY BILL DATA: We need copies of 12 consecutive months of bills PER UTILITY ACCOUNT/METER. Your campus has one or more utility meters counting your energy consumption 24/7. Your monthly bills reflect those charges. Each utility account reflects a meter so if you have 3 account numbers you probably have 3 meters. We must receive 12 months of bill copies per meter so that we can evaluate all of your energy consumption, rates and other important details. No summaries please. We need copies of each page of the bill.

3. HOURS OF OPERATION: What are your typical hours of operation (e.g. Mon-Sat 8am-5pm) when the majority of your power is consumed. If "24/7", please indicate.

4. CURRENT LED LIGHTING: Approximately what percentage of your lighting throughout your buildings is currently LED lighting?

5. ROOF CONDITION: Please give us as much detail as possible about the condition of your roofs. How old? Do you have any current maintenance issues, such as leaks? Are they currently under repair? Are there any roofs you do not want panels on (due to aesthetics or any reason)?

6. DO YOU PREFER ROOF OR GROUND MOUNTED SOLAR? Ground mounts can only be available on clear, open land that you would not expect to need for other development for at least 20 years.

7. WHAT IS YOUR SYSTEM VOLTAGE at your main panel? The voltage stamp from the utility is typically on the main electrical panel. We just need the number next to a "V", most likely 120, 208/277 or 480. You can email us a photo if you want.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at page@catholicenergies.org, 703-434-0059.

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