

Tell me more

For additional information about LIPA's Solar Entrepreneur Program and FREE Solar Seminars, visit www.lipower.org/solar or call the Energy Infoline at 1-800-692-2626.

What makes up a "Photovoltaic System?"

PV systems are made up of three components: the PV panels or modules, the inverter and the electric meter.

- 1 SOLAR MODULES**
Produce direct current ("DC") electricity when exposed to sunlight.
- 2 INVERTER**
Converts the direct current ("DC") to alternating current ("AC") electricity that is used in your business.
- 3 METER**
Records the net amount of electricity that the customer purchases from LIPA.



LIPA SOLAR ENTREPRENEUR



Helping commercial, municipal, and not-for-profit customers generate renewable energy for a cleaner tomorrow.



www.lipower.org
1-800-692-2626



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Solar System Benefits

What are Photovoltaics?

Photovoltaic (PV) or a solar electric system is an investment in your energy future. A PV system converts energy from the sun into electricity using PV panels. PV systems can reduce the amount of electricity purchased from LIPA and enable customers to potentially sell excess electricity back to LIPA under the New York State Net Metering Law.

Economic benefits

- ✓ LIPA offers significant rebates for photovoltaic systems up to 50kW to help reduce the overall cost of installation.
- ✓ Customers can produce a portion or all of their electricity needs by harnessing the power of the sun, depending on their electric use (in kWh) and the size of their PV system.
- ✓ Installing a PV system “stabilizes” a portion of your energy costs, regardless of the fluctuating cost of fuel for generating electricity.
- ✓ If your PV system produces more electricity than your building requires, you can “bank” the excess electricity. This is called “Net Metering.” When surplus electricity is produced, your meter will run “backwards” and LIPA will issue a credit on your electric bill.
- ✓ Business-owned PV systems are eligible for tax advantages, such as accelerated depreciation and a thirty percent Federal solar investment tax credit.
- ✓ Commercial customers may be able to take advantage of New York State's 15-year property tax exemption for solar energy systems.
- ✓ Installing a PV system may increase the value of your property.



Simplicity

Through LIPA's rebates, PV systems are available for a wide range of sizes and outputs. Service and maintenance is minimal because PV modules have no moving parts. Additionally, new equipment can easily be added to an existing system if power requirements change. There are non-penetrating ballast systems that are available for flat roofs.

Environmental benefits

No fossil fuels are burned to generate your power through a PV system. A 10 kW PV system has the potential of eliminating 64 lbs of SO₂, 19 lbs. of NO_x, and 14,500 lbs of CO₂ annually. The CO₂ emission savings are equivalent to the amount produced by burning 747 gallons of gasoline in your vehicle.

Durability

PV modules are designed to endure extreme temperatures and high winds and are resistant to moisture and salt.

Reliability

PV systems perform in almost any environment. PV modules are typically guaranteed for twenty-five years and can operate for up to forty years.

Become a Solar Entrepreneur in a Few Simple Steps

- Visit www.lipower.org/solar for information on determining the cost and size of a PV system and for information on how to participate in the program. Program applications can be downloaded from this site.
- Contact a solar contractor to learn more about PV technology and installation arrangements. They can be accessed through LIPA's Web site or, you can call LIPA's Energy Infoline at 1-800-692-2626.
- Assess your site for PV effectiveness. A south facing roof with clear, unobstructed access to the sun is best, but east and west facing roofs may also be acceptable. Any shading on the roof will detrimentally impact performance.
- Once your PV system installation is complete, an inspection will be performed to ensure fulfillment of LIPA requirements. Once approved, LIPA will issue your rebate check.
- Enjoy the financial and environmental benefits that come from generating your own clean, renewable electricity from the sun.

