

Tell me more

For additional information about LIPA's Solar Pioneer 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 solar 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") that is produced by the system to alternating current ("AC") electricity that is used in your home.
- 3 METER**
Records the net amount of electricity that the customer purchases from LIPA.



LIPA Solar Pioneer

Helping residential customers generate renewable energy for a cleaner tomorrow.



www.lipower.org

1-800-692-2626



Solar System Benefits

What are Photovoltaics?

A solar electric, or photovoltaic (PV), system is an investment in your energy future. A PV system converts energy from the sun into electricity using PV panels. PV systems 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.

Simplicity

Through LIPA's rebates, solar electric or photovoltaic (PV) systems are available for a wide range of sizes and outputs. Service and maintenance is minimal as PV modules have no moving parts. Additionally, new equipment can easily be added to an existing system if power requirements change.

Environmental benefits

No fossil fuels are burned to generate your power. 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 in the atmosphere.

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.

Economic benefits

- ✓ LIPA offers significant rebates for photovoltaic systems to help reduce the overall cost of installation.
- ✓ Homeowners can produce a portion, or most of their electricity needs, depending on the electric use (in kWh) and the size of the 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 home 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.
- ✓ The Federal Government offers up to a thirty percent tax credit for residential customers. New York State offers residential customers up to a twenty-five percent tax credit.

- ✓ Homeowners 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.
- ✓ PV systems are available in panels as Building Integrated Photovoltaics (BIPV). BIPV are photovoltaics, which are built into the roofing material.

Become a Solar Pioneer 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.

