

How to Read Your Bidirectional Meter

Understanding your bidirectional meter

The bidirectional meter installed for Net Metering customers records the power flowing in two directions. It measures how much electricity you use from PGE and how much electricity your system supplies to the PGE grid. Each billing period, the power from PGE you use is offset by the power you send to PGE.

Instructions for reading bidirectional meters

A bidirectional meter cycles through a series of three screens. These screens display information registering your meter's status, the power delivered from PGE and the power you have delivered to PGE. These screens change at a regular interval, typically every five seconds, and repeat continuously.

- The first screen shows all 8s, indicating that the display is working.
- The second screen shows a 01 on the left side, indicating power delivered to you. To the right of this number is the cumulative kilowatt hours PGE has delivered to your home or business through this meter.
- The third screen shows a 02 on the left side, indicating power exported to PGE. To the right of this number is the cumulative kWhs your system has provided PGE.
- In addition, there is a caterpillar line on all screens (it's made of segments, just like a caterpillar's body.) These digital segments light up either in a left-to-right direction or in a right-to-left direction.
 - • If left-to-right, then you are drawing power from PGE.
 - • If right-to-left, then you are sending power to PGE.

Net Metering for Time of Use customers

Bidirectional meters for Time of Use customers contain additional screens to record kWhs during the different TOU periods.

- These screens will show the kilowatt hours for each TOU period delivered by PGE (Rate A = 005, B = 007 & C = 009) followed by the total kWhs taken from PGE (013).
- The next screens show power sent to PGE (Rate A = 015, B = 017 & C = 019) with the final screen of the series (023) displaying the total kilowatt hours a customer has delivered to PGE.

For each screen, the current rate period will be indicated by a blinking A, B or C on the display.

For more information on Time of Use pricing plan, visit PortlandGeneral.com/TimeofUse.

Bidirectional meters vs. production meters

Your bidirectional meter does not record how much power your generating system produces. It measures how much electricity you use from PGE and how much electricity your system supplies to the PGE grid.

Your system's output is measured by the production meter. (This is also referred to as an ETO meter because Energy Trust of Oregon requires it for incentives.) Because these two meters have different functions, the number of kilowatt hours your system supplies to PGE – recorded by your bidirectional meter – will always be lower than the total output recorded by your production meter.

Most production meters provide only cumulative data, so if you want to track your monthly production, you will have to record it every month.