

## SunWatts Sun Farm FAQs

- **What is a solar farm?**

Generally, a Solar Farm is a “term used to describe a facility where many photovoltaic (PV) systems are centrally located” ([www.bricksolar.com/glossary.php](http://www.bricksolar.com/glossary.php)). For Trico, the SunWatts Sun Farm consists of approximately 840 photovoltaic (PV) panels located at the Trico facility in Marana, Arizona.

- **Why is Trico operating a solar farm?**

Trico Members who are unable to place a solar system on their property for various reasons have expressed an interest in participating in renewable energy generation projects. With this in mind, Trico applied for and was awarded a grant on July 1, 2010 from the Arizona Commerce Authority through the U.S. Department of Energy’s American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) for funding a community solar project located at the Trico headquarters. The program concept is to make solar energy accessible for renters and homeowners who cannot site a solar system or who do not have the capital to fund or otherwise finance their own unit.

- **How long will it produce power?**

The SunWatts Sun Farm is guaranteed to produce power for the 20 year term of the Solar Energy Output Credit Purchase Agreement to be executed by Trico and a Member interested in purchasing the energy output of a panel(s). However, it is anticipated that the SunWatts Sun Farm will produce power beyond 25 years.

- **What is the output of each panel?**

The output of each panel is 270 watts with the total output of the SunWatts Sun Farm consisting of approximately 227 kilo-watts direct current.

- **How many kilo-watt-hours (kWh) will I be saving each month?**

A Member will receive a credit for the energy output of the panel(s), estimated to be 432 kWh per year, per panel, or 36 kWh per month.

- **Does this affect my bill? If so, how?**

Yes, this will affect your bill. A Member will receive a credit for the energy output of the panel(s), estimated to be 36 kWh per month, per panel, which will reduce the kWh used by Trico to bill you. Trico will apply the credit to your monthly bill for the 20 year term of the Solar Energy Output Credit Purchase Agreement (Agreement) you will be required to

execute with Trico, or until such time as the Agreement is terminated or you transfer some or all of your solar panels, subject to the terms of the Agreement. Please contact the Trico SunWatts desk at 520-744-2944 X1524 to obtain more detailed information regarding your specific situation and how this credit will affect your particular bill.

▪ **How much is the credit I receive each month? How much money am I going to save?**

You will receive a credit for the energy output of the panel(s) you purchase, estimated to be 36 kWh per month, per panel. The corresponding dollar savings or credit is the product of the energy rate of the Tariff that you take service under multiplied by the kWh energy credit of 36 kWh per month. Please contact the Trico SunWatts desk at 520-744-2944 X1524 to obtain more detailed information regarding your specific situation and how this credit will affect your particular bill.

▪ **Can I get a SunWatts rebate for the panels I purchase?**

No, you cannot obtain a SunWatts rebate for the panels you purchase because it is already included in the purchase price of the panels. Trico has calculated the price to sell each panel at \$920, which approximately equates to the average cost of a rooftop system after including all the tax incentives (Federal and State) and Trico's incentives.

▪ **What is the maximum number of panels I can purchase?**

Pursuant to the SunWatts Sun Farm Tariff Schedule RESF, a customer may purchase panel output up to but not to exceed their average monthly kWh energy usage in the last twelve month period up to a maximum of 10,000 watts per customer. Please contact the Trico SunWatts desk at 520-744-2944 x1524 to obtain more information regarding the maximum number of panels you are eligible to purchase.

▪ **How is the project being funded? Are there opportunities for expansion?**

▪ The SunWatts Sun Farm has received the majority of its funding through a grant from the Arizona Commerce Authority through the U.S. Department of Energy's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). The grant requires that Trico fund a portion of the project, which will come from Trico general funds not from the Renewable Energy Standard and Tariff (REST) funds.

▪ Yes, there are opportunities for expansion in the future. The location and timing of an expansion has not yet been determined.

- **Can I purchase panels if I already have a solar system installed?**

The purpose of the SunWatts Sun Farm is to make solar accessible for renters and homeowners who either cannot site a solar system or do not have the means to finance their own system. Although, the SunWatts Sun Farm Tariff Schedule RESF does not have a specific exclusion for members with existing systems, it does require that a member's purchase of panel output cannot exceed their average monthly kWh energy usage in the last twelve month period up to a maximum of 10,000 watts per member. If you currently have a solar system installed at your residence, you may not have an average monthly kWh energy usage in the last twelve months that is high enough to purchase any panel output in the SunWatts Sun Farm. Please contact the Trico SunWatts desk at 520-744-2944 x1524 to get additional information regarding the number of panels you are eligible to purchase.

- **Can I purchase panels if I have a solar water heating system installed?**

Yes. Members who have a solar water heating system installed are eligible to participate in the SunWatts Sun Farm, subject to the requirements of the SunWatts Sun Farm Tariff Schedule RESF. Please contact the Trico SunWatts desk at 520-744-2944 x1524 to get additional information regarding the number of panels you are eligible to purchase.

- **Can I re-sell the panels back to Trico?**

Yes, the terms relating to the repurchase or transfer of the Solar Energy Output Credits will be included in the Solar Energy Output Credit Purchase Agreement (Agreement) that will need to be executed by you and Trico prior to your purchase. The Agreement has not been finalized, but upon completion, you will be able to view the Agreement on the Trico website.

- **What happens if I move or rent my residence?**

The terms relating to the repurchase or transfer of the Solar Energy Output Credits will be set forth in the Solar Energy Output Credit Purchase Agreement (Agreement) that will need to be executed by you and Trico prior to your purchase. The Agreement has not been finalized, but upon completion, you will be able to view the Agreement on the Trico website.

- **Do I own the panels?**

No. Trico will retain sole ownership, possession and control of each Solar Panel in the SunWatts Sun Farm. However, you will have the full rights to the energy output of the panels that you purchase which you will see as a credit to your energy usage on your bill.

- **Who is responsible for the maintenance, etc. of the panels?**  
Trico is responsible for the maintenance of the panels. The details of the responsibilities of both the member and Trico are included in the Solar Energy Output Credit Purchase Agreement.
- **How many panels is the farm comprised of?**  
The SunWatts Sun Farm consists of 840 photovoltaic (PV) panels. The output of each panel is 270 watts with the total output of the SunWatts Sun Farm consisting of approximately 227 kilo-watts direct current.
- **Who is eligible to purchase panels?**  
The SunWatts Sun Farm Tariff Schedule RESF describes eligibility requirements including that the program is available to all Residential (RS1), Residential Time Of Use (RS1TOU), and Commercial (GS1, GS2 and GS3) members.
- **What is the cost of one panel, half a panel, and/or quarter of a panel?**  
The cost of a full panel is \$920. The cost of a half panel is \$460. The cost of a quarter panel is \$230.
- **What happens after the 20 year contract expires?**  
The terms relating to the purchase of the Solar Energy Output Credits will be set forth in the Solar Energy Output Credit Purchase Agreement (Agreement) that will need to be executed by you and Trico prior to your purchase. The Agreement has not been finalized, but upon completion, you will be able to view the Agreement on the Trico website.
- **Can a business purchase panels?**  
Yes, a business can purchase the panel output up to but not to exceed their average monthly kWh energy usage in the last twelve month period up to a maximum of 10,000 watts per member.
- **What happens if a member does not have 12 months of energy usage history, how would we determine how many panels they would be able to purchase?**  
If a member does not have 12 months of energy usage history, Trico will estimate the usage based on analyzing the data that exists for the member and/or data from other members with similar load characteristics.
- **What happens if I want to purchase a PV system after I purchase panels from the Solar Farm?** A member can purchase a PV system after purchase of panels from the SunWatts

Sun Farm if you meet the requirements of both the SunWatts Sun Farm Tariff and the Trico Renewable Energy Standard and Tariff (REST) Plan, and if applicable the Net Metering Tariff. Please contact the Trico SunWatts desk at 520-744-2944 x1524 to get additional information regarding your particular circumstances.