



Before You Say Yes to **Solar**

If you are considering a photovoltaic “solar system” for your home, there is more to consider than promised monthly savings. Here are some of the many aspects to consider:

- Know all the costs, not just those for equipment and installation.
- In addition to equipment and labor, there are also pricey “soft costs” that can cost more than the system itself, according to Energy.gov.
- Soft costs include permit acquisition, financing charges and “pass-along” marketing, advertising and research costs.
- Thoroughly investigate the company: Is it backed by the Better Business Bureau? How long has it been in business? Is it contracted to do business in my state?
- Collect objective opinions about the pros and cons of solar versus electric.
- What happens when it’s cloudy? How does that impact energy supply?
- Are installers specially trained and certified to install solar?
- Is the work supervised by a master electrician?
- Who maintains the equipment and how much does that cost?
- Does the company carry major insurance for individuals working on my property?
- How does the system interface with my electric utility and its requirements?
- Should I buy or lease the system and what happens if I move?
- What are the safety issues surrounding solar?
- How is the power safely disconnected if needed?
- Does my utility require me to carry special insurance?

Before you say yes to solar, please give us a call, so we can go over the rate you will be on, and walk you through our process.

