

# WESTERN ILLINOIS ELECTRICAL COOP.

## POLICY NUMBER 527NM

**SUBJECT:** Net Metering and Cooperative Purchase of Excess  
Member Owned Generation Capacity

### **OBJECTIVE:**

To provide for net metering of members generating electric energy utilizing an eligible renewable electrical generating facility (EREGF), as defined below, and to provide for a credit by the cooperative to the member for excess electric energy produced by the EREGF and received by the cooperative from the member, while honoring the cooperative's obligation to provide electricity to all members on a cooperative basis as required by the Illinois Not-for-Profit Corporation Act and Internal Revenue Code Section 501 ( c ) (12) and complying with the cooperative's wholesale power contract obligations with Prairie Power, Inc. and PPI's Policy #504 (Net metering and Delivery of Excess Member-Consumer-Generated Electric Energy to Member Distribution Cooperatives).

### **DEFINITIONS:**

To the extent the following terms are used in this policy, the following definitions shall apply. To the extent that the same term is used in this policy and Prairie Power, Inc.'s Policy #504, the definition of such term contained in Prairie Power, Inc.'s Policy #504 shall control, in the event of a conflict between the definitions.

**"Annual period"** means the calendar year commencing on January 1 and ending on December 31.

**"Billing period"** means the period of time over which the cooperative bills a member for electric energy consumed during that time and for other applicable charges from the cooperative.

**"Eligible member"** means a cooperative member in good standing with the cooperative that owns and operates an EREGF where the EREGF is located at and associated with the cooperative member's specified service metering point and is intended primarily to offset that cooperative member's own electric energy requirements at that specified service metering point.

**"Eligible renewable electrical generating facility" or "EREGF"** means one or more generator(s) owned by a cooperative member and located at and associated with the cooperative member's specified service metering point where: (A) the total combined nameplate rating for such generator(s) at the specified service metering point is (1) not more than 10 kilowatts or (2) more than 10 kilowatts but not exceeding 40 kilowatts, that was, on or prior to October 12, 2016, (a) connected to and operating on the member's low-voltage electric premises wiring associated with the specified service metering point or (b) had pending for approval an active application for such connection to and operation on the

member's low-voltage electric premises wiring associated with the specified service metering point and for which such connection was thereafter approved and installation was substantially completed by May 1, 2017, but only to the extent the total combined nameplate rating of the EREGF exceeded 10 kilowatts at the time of its installation, and (B) such generator(s) are powered by solar electric energy, wind, dedicated crops grown for electricity generation, agricultural residues, untreated wood waste and unadulterated wood waste, landscape trimmings, livestock manure, anaerobic digestion of livestock waste or anaerobic digestion of food processing waste, fuel cells powered by renewable fuels or micro turbines powered by renewable fuels, or hydroelectric energy.

Excess Electricity Value means the weighted average of the five weekday Onpeak Energy Charge and the two weekend-day Off-peak Energy Charge as specified in Rate Schedule A of the Wholesale Power Contract between the Cooperative and its member distribution cooperatives which is mathematically defined as the product of five times the weekday On-peak Energy Charge summed with the product of two times the weekend-day Off-peak Energy Charge and the total sum of which is divided by seven. Any mid-year change in the value of either the five weekday On-peak Energy Charge and the two weekend-day Off-peak Energy Charge shall be implemented for the entirety of the billing period month in which the change was adopted and made effective by the Board of Directors of the Cooperative.

**"Nameplate rating"** means the maximum electric energy production capability of a generator, specified in alternating current ("AC") kilowatts after the inverter device(s).

**"Net electricity metering"** or **"net metering"** means the process of measuring, during the billing period applicable to an eligible member, the net electrical energy sales volume at a single specified service metering point by the cooperative's retail meter when an EREGF is owned by the eligible member and is connected to and operating on the eligible member's low-voltage electric premises wiring associated with the specified service metering point.

**"Net purchaser of electricity"** means an eligible member whose total amount of electric energy generated by an EREGF is less than the eligible member's total electric energy usage during an applicable billing period.

**"New seller of electricity"** means an eligible member whose total amount of electric energy generated by an EREGF is greater than the eligible member's total electric energy usage during an applicable billing period.

**"Prairie Power, Inc."** or **"PPI"** means Prairie Power, Inc., an Illinois not-for-profit corporation, or its successors in interest, which is an electric generation and transmission cooperative of which the cooperative is a member and from which, by contract, the cooperative obtains its wholesale supply of electricity.

## I. APPLICABILITY

This net metering policy applies to an eligible member that chooses to connect the eligible member's EREGF to the member's lower-voltage electric premises wiring associated with a specified service metering point.

## II. PROVISIONS

- A. An eligible member shall first comply with the provisions of the cooperative's Policy # 526 Interconnection and Parallel Operation of Distributed Generation, as it relates to the connection of an EREGF to, and the operation of such EREGF on, the member's low-voltage electric premises wiring associated with the specified service metering point.
- B. The cooperative's retail service meter serving the eligible member's specified service metering point where the EREGF is located shall remain in place and be capable of measuring the flow of electricity both into and out of the eligible member's specified service metering point and recording the flow of electric energy in both directions. If the existing retail service meter serving the eligible member's specified service metering point is not capable of meeting these requirements, or if the member requests an additional meter, the cost of installing and maintaining a retail service meter having that capability or an additional meter shall be paid by the member.
- C. For an eligible member with an EREGF, the cooperative shall measure and charge or credit for the net electric energy supplied to the eligible member or provided by the eligible member as follows:
  - 1. The cooperative shall determine whether the eligible member is a net purchaser of electricity or a net seller of electricity during the billing period.
  - 2. If the eligible member is a net purchaser of electricity during the billing period, the cooperative shall charge the member for the net electric energy supplied to and used by the member at the retail rate the eligible member would be charged if the member was not an eligible member.
  - 3. If the eligible member is a net seller of electricity during the billing period, the cooperative will calculate a monetary credit for any metered excess kilowatt-hours of electric energy delivered to the cooperative at a rate equal to the Excess Electricity Value defined above and corresponding to the billing period and apply such credit against only the electric energy-related charges derived specifically from the consumption of electric energy measured in units of kilowatt hours as denoted on a subsequent bill for service to the eligible member. The cooperative shall continue to carry over any unused amount of such credits and apply those credits to subsequent billing periods to offset only any electric energy-related charges derived specifically from the consumption of electric energy measured in units of kilowatt-hours due from the eligible member as denoted in the billing for those subsequent billing periods until all credits are used or until the end of the annual period, whichever occurs first.
  - 4. At the end of the annual period that service is supplied by means of net metering, or in the event that the eligible member terminates service with the cooperative

during an annual period, any remaining credits in the eligible member's account shall expire and no credit or payment shall be due to the member for such expired credits.

5. Any credit to an eligible member under this policy derived from the eligible member being a net seller of electricity shall be applied only to the charge for electric energy delivered to the eligible member. No part of such credit shall be applied to, and the eligible member shall remain responsible for, (a) taxes, fees, and other charges that would otherwise be applicable to the net amount of electric energy purchased by the eligible member from the cooperative, and (b) other charges to the eligible member under any cooperative policies, bylaws, rules, regulations, or rates, that are not based on a unitized charge per kilowatt-hour, including, but not limited to, basic service charges or facilities charges.
- D. All renewable energy credits, greenhouse gas emission credits and renewable energy attributes related to any electricity produced by the eligible member's EREGF and purchased by the cooperative shall be treated as owned by the eligible member.
  - E. The cooperative shall make net metering available to eligible members until the aggregate installed EREGF nameplate ratings of the cooperative's eligible members using net metering equals 5% of the cooperative's annual coincident peak demand during the previous calendar year.
  - F. Members who have service under an incentive rate (i.e. geothermal, electric heat, etc.) shall not be eligible for net metering. Members may choose to be net metered in lieu of any incentive rates. Net metering and incentive rates cannot be used in conjunction with each other.
  - G. This policy is subject to all federal, state and local laws, the cooperative's articles of incorporations, bylaws and existing policies and the terms and conditions of the cooperative's existing wholesale power contract with Prairie Power, Inc. and loan agreements, and the terms of Prairie Power, Inc.'s Policy # 504. To the extent any provisions of this policy conflicts with those obligations, those provisions of this policy are deemed null and void.

ADOPTED: March 1, 2008

AMENDED: 3-23-17, 11-20-17, 6-21-22, 2-28-23

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_  
President