
THE CITY OF ROCHELLE
Ogle County, Illinois

RESOLUTION
NO. _____

**RESOLUTION AMENDING THE CUSTOMER SELF-GENERATION NET
METERING POLICY AND UPDATING RIDER 4 – INTERCONNECTION AND NET
METERING PROGRAM FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY**

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City Council

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RESOLUTION NO: _____

Date Passed: February 12, 2024

**RESOLUTION AMENDING THE CUSTOMER SELF-GENERATION NET
METERING POLICY AND UPDATING RIDER 4 – INTERCONNECTION AND NET
METERING PROGRAM FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY**

WHEREAS, Section 7 of Article VII of the 1970 Constitution of the State of Illinois provides that a municipality that is not a home rule unit shall only have the powers granted to them by law and as such the City of Rochelle (“City”), Ogle County, Illinois being a non-home rule unit pursuant to the provisions of said Section 7 of Article VII, and may exercise only the powers expressly granted by law; and

WHEREAS, the Illinois General Assembly granted non-home rule municipalities broad authority to “pass all ordinances and make all rules and regulations proper or necessary, to carry into effect the powers granted to municipalities.” 65 ILCS 5/1-2-1; and

WHEREAS, the City provides utility services including electric, water, sewer, wastewater treatment, and advanced communications to the greater Rochelle community through the Utility Department, which is commonly referred to as Rochelle Municipal Utilities (“RMU”); and

WHEREAS, the Illinois General Assembly passed the Climate and Equitable Jobs Act (“CEJA”); and

WHEREAS, CEJA requires all electrical distribution utilities to update their Fair Solar Credit value to customers who generate electricity from solar panels; and

WHEREAS, Section 98-4 of the Rochelle Municipal Code provides that charges and rates for utility services provided by the utility department, including electric, shall be established and modified from time to time by City Council resolution; and

WHEREAS, the Illinois Municipal Utilities Association (“IMUA”) has calculated the Fair Solar Credit value to be \$0.0398/kWh; and

WHEREAS, RMU has reviewed the recommended Fair Solar Credit value update and recommends that the Interconnection and Net Metering Rider be amended to include the updated Solar Credit value in order to comply with the requirements of CEJA; and

WHEREAS, the IMUA annually calculates the Fair Solar Credit value; and

WHEREAS, it would be beneficial to the City to allow the City Manager to adjust the Solar Credit value in Section 17 of Rider 4 annually based upon the IMUA recommended rate; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that an amendment to Rider 4 - Customer Self-Generation Net Metering Policy For Renewable Energy shall be amended to include the updated Solar Credit value in accordance with CEJA and will ensure that the Electric Division can meet its obligations, effective February 12, 2024, attached hereto as Exhibit A; and

FURTHERMORE, the City Council finds that an amendment to Rider 4 allowing the City Manager to adjust the Solar Credit value annually based on the IMUA recommended rate in Section 17 of Rider 4 attached hereto as Exhibit A is in the best interests of the City.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF ROCHELLE, ILLINOIS as follows:

SECTION ONE: The foregoing Recitals are not mere preparatory language, but are hereby incorporated in this Section 1 as if said Recitals were fully set forth.

SECTION TWO. Section 17 of the Rochelle Municipal Utilities, City of Rochelle Rider 4- Customer Self-Generation Net Metering Policy For Renewable Energy attached hereto as Exhibit A is amended to include the new recommended Fair Solar Credit value update for Rochelle in the amount of \$0.0398/kWh, and to allow the City Manager to adjust the Solar Credit value annually based on the IMUA recommended rate, effective February 12, 2024.

SECTION THREE: If any provision of this Resolution or application thereof to any person or circumstance is ruled unconstitutional or otherwise invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this Resolution that can be given effect without the invalid application or provision, and each invalid provision or invalid application of this Resolution is severable.

SECTION FOUR: Where the conditions imposed by any provisions of this Resolution are more restrictive than comparable provisions imposed elsewhere in any other local law, ordinance, resolution, rule or regulation, the regulations of this Resolution will govern.

SECTION FIVE: The City Clerk shall publish this Resolution in pamphlet form.

SECTION SIX: This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage, approval and publication in pamphlet form as provided by law.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 12th day of February, 2024.

AYES:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Mayor

EXHIBIT A

ELECTRICITY

Rochelle Municipal Utilities
City of Rochelle
Electric Rates

Effective Date – February 12, 2024

Rider 4 - Customer Self-Generation Net Metering Policy For Renewable Energy

Section 1: Rochelle Municipal Utilities (“RMU”) of the City of Rochelle, Illinois shall make available, upon request, net billing service to any customer taking service from RMU and who meets the requirements set forth in this policy. For purposes of this policy “net metering” means service to an electric customer under which electric energy generated by that electric customer from an eligible on-site generating facility owned by that customer and, under some circumstances, delivered to the local distribution facilities, may be used to offset electric energy provided by the electric utility to the electric customer as provided for in this policy. The term “net metering” is not used as a limiting term, but rather is used in its general sense to include the full range of methods for valuing customer self-generation and implementing fair credits for excess energy delivered to the municipal distribution system by the customer. For multi-unit residential and commercial buildings, if all units are on the same account it qualifies as a single customer for purposes of this policy. If individual units are separately metered and individual tenants have individual accounts, then the term “customer” only refers to the building owner and any usage by the owner. RMU cannot be responsible to allocate renewable generation facilities to individual accounts in a multi-unit residential or commercial building. Before the project starts construction, customer must complete the attached application form and receive approval from the City Manager and Superintendent of Electric Operations. Before the project in service date, the contractor must complete and deliver the attached Certification of Completion to Superintendent of Electric Operations.

Section 2: For purposes of this policy an eligible on-site generating facility shall be defined as a renewable generating facility, such as a photovoltaic facility and small wind turbines, and may include technology to store renewable energy at the customer’s premises. Other forms of renewable generation shall be considered on a case-by-case basis. In all cases, facilities interconnected must be deemed by RMU to be renewable to qualify for this policy.

Section 3: The electric generating facility must also abide by RMU’s Interconnection Standards currently in place at the time of installation to be an eligible on-site generating facility.

Section 4: Subject to the limitations set forth herein, RMU shall make net metering service available upon request to any RMU residential or small commercial electric customer with an eligible on-site generating facility owned by the customer. The determination whether a customer is a residential or small commercial customer is based on the rate classification under which the customer takes electric service. The eligible on-site generating facility shall be located on the customer's premises and on the customer's side of the billing meter and be sized to primarily produce only enough electricity to offset the customer’s own electrical requirements. Proper sizing of eligible on-site generating facilities shall be determined as set forth in Section 13 below.

Section 5: Any request for net metering service by a customer that is not a residential or small commercial customer shall be considered on a case by case basis. The decision with respect to such facilities shall be made by the City Manager based on potential impacts to the distribution system or portions thereof and to the property of other customers of RMU. Customers that do not qualify for net metering service under this Policy shall be permitted to interconnect and self-generate as required by and in accordance with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's rules under the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act (PURPA) on a case by case basis.

Section 6: Notwithstanding the provisions in Section 4, RMU reserves the authority to withhold, deny or delay approval of the interconnection of proposed on-site generating facilities and of net metering service hereunder if the operation of the facility would be unsafe or pose a risk of adverse impacts to the distribution system or portions thereof or to the property of other customers of RMU. RMU shall withhold approval for only so long as is reasonably necessary to remedy the risk of adverse impact. RMU shall only deny approval if the adverse impact cannot reasonably be remedied or if the customer refuses to meet all applicable State and local safety and electrical code requirements or refuses to provide for payment of the costs of the improvements to the facility or the system that are required to accommodate the otherwise eligible on-site generating facility. RMU shall not be required to make unscheduled improvements to its distribution system or portions thereof to remedy the situation causing the delayed or withheld approval unless the customer agrees to pay for the reasonable costs thereof. Likewise, RMU may require a customer with an approved on-site generating facility that has been installed and begun to operate to suspend operations of the facility if it becomes unsafe or causes adverse impacts to the distribution system or portions thereof or to the property of other customers of RMU, and such suspension shall be in place only so long as is reasonably necessary to remedy the adverse impact. RMU may require the customer to disconnect the on-site generating facility from the distribution system in serious situations.

Section 7: [This Section left blank intentionally.]

Section 8: (a) Energy generated by the customer-owned generator during the billing period may supply all or a portion of the energy required by the customer's load. The customer shall be credited for excess energy delivered by the customer to RMU at the meter from the approved on-site generating facility.

(b) For eligible on-site generating facilities that were approved and in service on or prior to the effective date of the 2022 revisions to this Policy, the following credit method shall be used to determine excess energy credit until April 30, 2032: For any energy generated by the customer in excess of the energy required by the customer's loads for a given billing period a credit shall be carried forward to the customer's next billing period.

For all other eligible on-site generating facilities, and after April 30, 2032 for the above-referenced customers, the following credit method shall be used to determine excess energy credit: For energy delivered by the utility to the customer at the meter, as reflected in the meter reading, shall be billed at the appropriate utility full retail energy rate. For any excess energy generated by the customer from an approved on-site generating facility and delivered by the customer to the utility at the meter, as reflected in the meter reading, a credit shall be created and applied to the customer's bill based upon the lesser of the full retail energy rate for the customer class and the avoided cost of energy. Avoided cost shall be determined as set forth in Section 12 below. RMU shall install

an appropriate meter to measure both the energy delivered by the utility to the customer at the meter and the energy delivered by the customer to the utility at the meter from the approved on-site generating facility.

(c) Credits from electric energy delivered to the municipal distribution system by the customer shall be used to offset usage based electric energy (kWh) charges only. No such credits shall be applied to, and the customer shall remain responsible for, (i) taxes, fees, and other charges that would otherwise be applicable to the net amount of electric energy (kWh) purchased by the customer from RMU or consumed by the customer, and (ii) other charges to the customer under any other rules, regulations or rates that are not based on per kilowatt-hour (kWh) charges, including but not limited to, basic service charges, customer service charges, facilities charges, demand charges, kVAR charges, transformation charges, taxes and assessments billed on other than kWh basis, rental fees, and late fees.

(d) RMU shall carry over any unused credits earned and apply those credits to subsequent billing periods to offset usage based electric energy (kWh) charges only for electric energy supplied to the customer by RMU until all credits are used or until the end of the annual period. The annual period shall end each year on December 31; provided however, for new net metering customers with generating facilities installed during an annual period, the annual period shall end on December 31 of the following year. At the end of the annual period or in the event that the customer terminates service at the service location with RMU prior to the end of annual period, any remaining credits in the customer's account shall expire and no credit or payment shall be due to the customer for such expired credits. In the event of termination of an account qualifying for net metering under this policy, any outstanding credits are surrendered. No credit or payment shall be due to the customer for such surrendered credits. Under no circumstance will credits for excess energy transfer to a new customer at the service location after the customer's service with the RMU terminates.

Section 9: Any costs RMU incurs associated with the interconnection of generating facilities by a customer, including but not limited to changes in metering (to include installation of a bi-directional meter), or other physical facilities, whether on the customer's premises or a reasonably necessary upgrade to the municipal distribution system or a portion thereof that is not on the customer's premises, shall be borne by the customer seeking to install or for whom the generating facility was installed; provided however that such costs shall be capped at \$200 to each qualifying customer interconnecting facilities of 10 kW or less. For those facilities greater than 10 kW that are deemed to qualify under this policy, all costs associated with the interconnection of the generating facility shall be borne by the customer seeking to install or for whom the generating facility was installed. Costs assessed under this Section shall be demonstrable and cost-based. Such costs shall not include or be based on reduced sales by or lost revenues to RMU associated with net metering service.

Section 10: [This Section left blank intentionally.]

Section 11: RMU shall develop such documents as needed to implement this policy and any customer applying for or taking service hereunder shall execute all appropriate documents.

Section 12: For on-site generating facilities that were approved and in service on or prior to the effective date of the 2022 revisions to this Policy, “avoided cost” shall be deemed to be the average cost in cents/kWh billed to RMU by its wholesale power supplier for the previous month until April 30, 2032. For approved on-site generating facilities that are placed in service after the effective date of the 2022 revisions to this Policy, and after the expiration of the legacy period in the forgoing sentence on April 30, 2032, for all approved on-site generating facilities, including currently existing facilities, “avoided cost” shall be determined based on the sum of 1 and 2 below:

1. The rate in cents per kWh may be amended annually by the City Manager based on the Illinois Municipal Utilities Association’s (IMUA) recommended Fair Solar Credit value rate. The rate shall take into consideration the following:
 - a. Historic real time pricing of prior calendar year of energy in the wholesale market as valued at the locational marginal pricing (LMP) for that location as defined by the appropriately located Regional Transmission Organization (RTO),
 - b. Solar-weighted LMP: The simple average of the LMP weighted using Solar Weighting. Solar weighting is the expected production of each hour of a typical solar installation as determined using the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) System Advisory Model (SAM) as may be amended from time to time.
 - c. Capacity value: Appropriate RTO capacity price with solar factors applied for average system peak times
 - d. Transmission Value: Appropriate RTO transmission cost recovery with solar factor applied for average peak times
2. The rate in cents per kWh as calculated by RMU for the avoidance of distribution system losses.

Section 13: The maximum size in kilowatts_{AC} of the eligible on-site generating facility for an individual customer service location in the rate categories identified in Section 4 shall be determined as follows:

The installation of a renewable generating facility under this Policy is intended to supply all or a portion of the customer’s own usage of electricity. Therefore, in order to be approved, a renewable generating facility must be properly sized so as not to exceed the customers expected annual usage based on the customer’s current energy needs. It is also important to the customer that the generating facilities are properly sized because the credits under this Policy for excess energy delivered to the distribution system expire if not used within the time period established in this Policy. As part of the interconnection application, customer’s energy usage will be analyzed using 36-months of historical energy usage (if available) in order to calculate the customer’s expected annual usage. If a customer provides documentation specifying why the usage has increased over that time, such as home renovation/addition or installation of electric heating or an electric vehicle charging station on the premises, then the previous 12-month period shall be used to determine the average for the expected annual usage. If the applicable months of data are not available for an individual customer, the average usage amounts by other similar customers of RMU, as determined by RMU, shall be used to set the expected annual usage. If facilities are allowed for customers in other rate classes, the right-sizing shall be determined on a case by case basis.

In addition to the foregoing historic usage, RMU shall consider potential adverse impacts to the distribution system and to other customers of RMU that will be caused by or expected to be caused by the installation of the new renewable generating facility at the particular customer service

location as part of the interconnection application review. The maximum size of the eligible on-site generating facility for an individual customer service location shall be reduced below the expected annual usage of the customer to mitigate the potential adverse impacts to the distribution system or portions thereof and to the other customers of RMU unless the customer pays for any necessary upgrade to the system or portion thereof to avoid the potential adverse impact.

Section 14: Any customer with an approved on-site generating facility that was approved and in service on or prior to the effective date of the 2022 revisions to this Policy may elect to be treated as if it were placed in service after the effective date of the 2022 revisions to this Policy for purposes of the legacy netting and crediting provisions in Sections 8 and 12. There is a limited one-time option to make such election. The customer shall make any such election within 60 days of the effective date of the 2022 revisions to this Policy.

Section 15: RMU reserves the right to interpret, amend or rescind this policy. Nothing herein is intended to nor shall it create a right for a customer to rely on any particular netting or crediting methodology contained in the policy from time to time, and all rates for excess credits are subject to change in accordance with the laws of the State of Illinois governing municipalities.

Section 16: Citizen and customer concerns generally with this Net Metering Policy may be raised in the public comment portion of any open meeting of the governing body of RMU at any time and will be considered by the governing body in accordance with its normal processes. Individual customer complaints, disputes or concerns shall be raised in the first instance with the Utility Sustainability Officer. If the matter cannot be resolved at the utility staff level, this issue shall be reduced to writing and forwarded to the Superintendent of the Electric Utility who shall schedule a meeting in person or by telephone or other communications media (i.e., Zoom call) with the customer. The customer may invite its contractor or other consultant to participate in the meeting. If the matter cannot be resolved at this stage, the process will escalate to City Manager. If this process fails to resolve the matter, the customer may appeal it to the circuit court and exercise whatever rights and remedies the customer may have in law or equity. This policy shall be posted on the RMU website along with appropriate contact information.

Section 17: Pursuant to Section 12, the rates for credit amount for excess energy returned to the system by Customers with eligible on-site generating facilities are as follows:

\$.0398/kWh per kWh for any eligible on-site generating facility.

The rates set forth in Section 17 of Rider 4 may be adjusted annually by the City Manager based on the Illinois Municipal Utilities Association's (IMUA) recommended Fair Solar Credit value rate and subject to any applicable regulations.

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
)
COUNTY OF OGLE) SS.

CERTIFICATE

I, _____, City Clerk of the City of Rochelle, County of Ogle and State of Illinois, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of Resolution No. _____, “RESOLUTION AMENDING THE CUSTOMER SELF-GENERATION NET METERING POLICY AND UPDATING RIDER 4 – INTERCONNECTION AND NET METERING PROGRAM FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY” which was adopted by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Rochelle on February 12, 2024.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the corporate seal of the City of Rochelle this 12th day of February, 2024.