

**COMMUNITY SOLAR**

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**Kit Carson Electric Cooperative, Inc.**  
 A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative  
 The power of human connections®  
 ELECTRIC TELECOM INTERNET  
 "Owned by those we serve!"

## FAQ: Community Solar

**What is Community Solar?** Community Solar is an opportunity to purchase solar panels on solar arrays constructed within the Kit Carson Electric Cooperative (KCEC) service area. The solar panels produce energy that is fed into the electric grid. The purchaser then gets credit on their KCEC bill based on the amount of energy produced by the panels they own.

**Who can sign up for Community Solar?** Any KCEC member can sign up. Community Solar allows any of our consumers to get the great benefits of solar power without having the panels installed on their property.

**How much do the panels cost?** The cost of the panels varies depending on the market and the particular project. KCEC finds the best price available at any given time.

**Is KCEC working with a separate company to facilitate the panel sales?** Yes, KCEC is working with Clean Energy Collective (CEC) who has several other Community Solar projects in development. Their experience in facilitating these projects has been vital to developing a successful ongoing program.

**Is financing available?** Yes! Sooper Credit Union has partnered with CEC to offer the Nation's first loan program for community solar. The Clean Energy Loan Program is the first solar financing program that does not require you to own your home or office, so now everyone can own solar, even renters. They also offer interest rates as low as 2.25%.

**How do I know how many panels to purchase?** We have a formula based on the average kilowatt hours used at the home or business. CEC representatives will be glad to calculate how many panels will be needed in order to offset the energy used or you can go to our website, [kitcarson.com](http://kitcarson.com), to do your own calculations.

**Can I take advantage of Community Solar if I'm renting or leasing?** Yes! As long as you receive an electric bill from KCEC you can take advantage of Community Solar.

**I know using solar is good for the environment, but what other benefits can I expect?** The biggest additional benefit is financial. The panels will pay for themselves through the credits received in a matter of about 12 years. After that all the credits go to you, the consumer.

**Can I put the panels in my will?** The panels are your property, so they can be left as part of a will.

**Who maintains the panels?** KCEC is responsible for all maintenance, including replacing parts of the system.

**How long do the panels last?** The panels are guaranteed for 50 years, so after your initial investment is paid you receive financial and environmental benefits for many years to come.