

Join the KEC Community Solar Project



Community Solar Project

Now is a great time to participate in KEC's

Community Solar Project. The 50kW solar array is located in Worley and divided into 288 units. Each unit is expected to generate approximately 234 kilowatt hours (kWh) per year. For 2022, members may purchase individual units for \$399.

KEC takes care of all the costs, including maintenance and insurance. Members purchase units of power that represent a portion of the energy produced by the solar array through 2042. Members will receive a kWh credit on their bills according to the number of units of power they own.

What happens if you move:

You may keep your unit(s) as long

as you stay within KEC's service territory.

If

you move outside of the service territory, you may transfer the unit(s) to another active KEC member or KEC will buy back the unit(s) at a pro-rated price.



To sign up contact us at

208.765.1200 or kec@kec.com.

Five Tips for Hiring an Electrician

A licensed electrician can help with a variety of home projects from installing generators and transfer switches to lighting upgrades to full renovations. Keep the following tips in mind if you're looking to hire an electrician.



1. Hire a licensed, qualified electrician for the job.

Look for a master electrician to manage the project. Master electricians have the most experience and will often oversee the work of a journey-level electrician or apprentice.

2. Make sure the electrician is insured.

Seasoned electricians know the importance of protecting themselves in case of an accident.

3. Read all the reviews.

Hire an electrician that has several positive reviews – not just one or two. Read reviews on different sites, like Nextdoor, Yelp and HomeAdvisor, and consider asking your neighbors for recommendations.

4. Determine your budget. Get two quotes.

Knowing your budget upfront helps move the process along. Prices can greatly vary, so get multiple quotes (at least two).

5. Talk timeline.

Some electricians accidentally overbook projects. If your job is time-sensitive, convey that early on and discuss a realistic timeline with the electrician.

5. Get educated.

Ensure you understand how to use any equipment you purchase from the electrician. This includes the operation of generators and transfer switches during power outages.

What You Should Know About Meters & Meter Bases



Summer often brings home improvement projects and remodeling. Sometimes those projects require moving or upgrading the electrical lines and equipment used to supply electricity to your property. Understanding which equipment belongs to KEC (and is our responsibility to maintain) and which equipment belongs to you, the property owner (and is your responsibility to maintain), is crucial in ensuring these projects are completed safely and efficiently. It is also imperative that any work on these facilities be completed by those qualified to work on energized electrical equipment.

Your electric service has two parts: the electric meter and the meter base. The meter is round and typically enclosed in clear plastic or glass (see photo at left). Meters are KEC's property and under no circumstance should KEC meters be removed or relocated—temporarily or permanently—by anyone other than an authorized KEC representative. Please contact us if you are planning to do any work that may require the meter to be removed or relocated and we'll send a KEC employee to your site.

The meter base is typically a rectangular metal box mounted near or on the outside of your home or business that the meter plugs into. Each meter base might look a little different and it belongs to the property owner who is responsible for maintaining it in good serviceable order. If the meter base is damaged by weather or by any kind of

accident, repair is the property owner's responsibility. If you inspect your meter base and believe it needs repair, we encourage you to contact a licensed electrician who can coordinate the work with KEC.

Alternatively, you can take a picture of your meter base and send it to KEC. Sometimes KEC staff will be able to confirm those concerns or identify other issues that may need to be corrected by KEC. To navigate to the form, visit www.kec.com, hover over "service information" and click "other service reminders."

As part of our system inspection and maintenance plan, we perform routine inspections and maintenance of KEC electrical facilities, including meters. If KEC employees in the course of such routine inspections or other work identify a meter base in disrepair or one that presents a safety concern, KEC will notify the member so that appropriate action can be taken. If you have any questions, please call us at 208.765.1200.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

If you're looking to add smart technology to your home, consider smart plugs. Smart plugs are inexpensive and can be used to control lighting and other electronic devices through a smart phone app.

With smart plugs, you can conveniently manage lighting, home office equipment, video game consoles and more. By powering off unused devices when you're away, you can save energy (and money!).

Source: energystar.gov



NEWS BRIEFS

DON'T PLACE SIGNS ON POWER POLES

Signs placed on our poles are a safety hazard for our crews and are illegal. To help keep our linemen safe, KEC does not allow the placement of signage on its poles or other electrical equipment. This includes real estate signs, garage sale signs, political/election signs and sales or promotional materials. Our crews routinely remove and dispose of signs posted on KEC's property. Please help us keep our crews safe by not using our poles for signage.



KEC BOARD MEETINGS

Members are welcome to attend monthly board meetings. Meeting dates vary—call Constance Felten at 208.292.3211 for details.

WIN A \$50 ENERGY CREDIT

Below are 10 KEC account numbers. If you find your number contact us at 208.765.1200 and receive a \$50 credit on your bill. **1833487, 1837061, 1850699, 1707064, 1619454, 1597371, 1848030, 1320421, 1824273, 1277367**

About Your Service Voltage

Did you know the voltage levels that KEC provides to you are governed by a national standard? When members call and report a power quality problem, one of the first things we look at is whether the voltage meets the standards set by the American National Standards Institute, or ANSI. ANSI C84.1 is the standard for regulating electric service utilization voltage levels.

Sometimes members have the misconception that their voltage should always be 120 volts or 240 volts. In reality, there are several industry ranges for acceptable voltage. The reason for this is electric loads on a grid change by time of day and with the season. These changes create variances in voltage. At KEC, we routinely analyze our electrical system and evaluate its ability to provide power to our members within the ranges specified by the standard. When that analysis forecasts a problem maintaining this voltage in the future, necessary upgrades are made well in advance. The graphic to the right gives the steady state Range A for typical household voltage at the meter base and at the outlet.

If you have questions about voltage ranges, contact us at kec@kec.com or 208.765.1200.



At the Meter Base

Service Voltage	Normal Range A
120V	114-126V
240V	228-252V

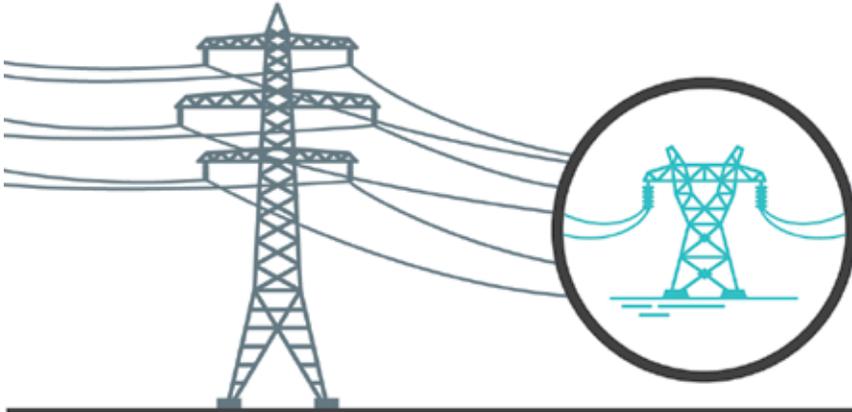


At the Outlet

Utilization Voltage	Normal Range A
120V	110-126V
240V	220-252V

The Steps to Restoring Power

When a major outage occurs, our crews restore service to the greatest number of people in the shortest time possible - until everyone has power.



1. High-Voltage Transmission Lines

These lines carry large amounts of electricity. They rarely fail but must be repaired first.



2. Distribution Substations

Crews inspect substations, which can serve hundreds or thousands of people.



3. Main Distribution Lines

Main lines serve essential facilities like hospitals and larger communities.



4. Individual Homes and Businesses

After main line repairs are complete, we repair lines that serve individual homes and businesses.