

Reseller Rates and Local Solar Generation

Saskatoon Light & Power (SL&P) resells electrical energy by purchasing electrical energy in bulk from SaskPower and sells that purchased electrical energy to its customers. In comparison, SaskPower generates the electrical energy that it sells to its customers.

SL&P pays three charges each month for the bulk power as follows:

- First, SL&P pays a basic monthly charge.
- Second, SL&P is charged for the energy (i.e. consumption) imported in the month.
- Third, SL&P pays a demand charge which is the maximum amount of electrical energy being delivered at one time in the month (i.e. capacity).

By generating electricity from a solar power plant located inside the SL&P franchise area, SL&P's energy charge from SaskPower would be reduced by the same amount of energy generated from the plant but may still pay the same demand charge.

The following two charts were created using real data collected from our transmission electrical energy meters and the Solar Demonstration Site to illustrate the concept. Each chart shows the hourly energy being purchased from SaskPower and the solar energy from a theoretical 10 mega-watt (MW) plant. In July, the solar power would reduce the peak demand as the energy production matches the peak demand on the electrical system. However, in December the peak energy demand occurs after the sun has set and the solar power plant is not generating electrical energy. In December, SL&P would only save on the energy charge and pay the same demand charge as usual. It is likely that a solar power plant may, but not necessarily, reduce the demand charge for SL&P in the summer months but would not reduce the demand charges in the winter months.

Further, SaskPower can charge its customers a Stand-by Charge. A Stand-by Charge is applied to customers who generate a portion of their electrical energy but may need additional capacity when their generation facility is not working or offline for repair.

