June/July 2013

Community Solar Project



Do you want to invest in solar, but your home or business is not suitable for a solar array installation, or you cannot afford the installation and maintenance costs? Traverse City Light & Power (TCL&P), in partnership with Cherryland Electric Cooperative (Cherryland), are proud to offer the Solar Up North (SUN) Alliance program. The SUN Alliance provides an affordable opportunity for residential and business customers of both utilities the ability to invest in solar energy through participation in a community solar project – the first of its kind in Michigan!

What is the SUN Alliance?

The SUN Alliance is a community-based initiative where customers are invited to invest in a community solar generation project. Those who invest in the project will receive a monthly bill credit equal to their share of the project's overall energy production, without the risk and maintenance cost involved in owning their own solar array.

How does it work?

Customers can purchase a SUN share (one solar panel) for a one-time investment of \$470 per share, less a \$75 rebate provided through TCL&P's Energy Optimization (EO) program.

| Initial SUN share cost (per panel) | \$470 |
|------------------------------------|--------|
| EO rebate (per panel)* | (\$75) |
| Final investment (per panel) | \$395 |

In return for a one-time investment, SUN shareholders receive monthly bill credits, estimated to be \$2 per month per panel, for the output of the project for 25 years. The credit amount will be based on total monthly array output and will naturally vary from month-to-month based on weather conditions.

The first 80 panel solar array is located at the Cherryland headquarters in Grawn (5930 US 31 South) and has already been fully subscribed. An additional 144 panels are available at this site and will be installed as customers reserve their SUN shares.

Ready to sign up? Take the first step and complete the Reservation Application found on TCL&P's website, tclp.org, and click on the 'Community Solar Garden' button at the bottom of the homepage.

Have additional questions? Contact Jessica Wheaton at 231-932-4574 or see the website at tclp.org.

*The \$75 EO rebate will come in the form of a check after the Solar Energy Credit Purchase Agreement has been signed and the SUN shares have been paid for.

L&P Mission:

To provide safe, reliable, competitively priced energy and related services in an environmentally conscious manner

Board Member Spotlight

Jeff Palisin was appointed to serve on the TCL&P Board for a term of five years beginning in April 2013. Jeff has an undergraduate degree in marketing and economics from the University of Michigan and an MBA in finance from Wayne State University. He has experience in banking, commercial lending, program management, budgeting and executive management. Currently, he runs a small manufacturing company located in Garfield Township. Jeff and his family have lived in Traverse City for sixteen years and looks forward to serving the citizens of Traverse City through his new role at TCL&P.





Stay Cool and Save Money

Stay cool all summer long, and save money, by taking advantage of TCL&P's Energy Smart program. TCL&P offers a \$150 rebate when customers upgrade their central air conditioning unit to one with a 17 Seasonal Energy Efficiency Rating (SEER), which can save up to 15% on the typical energy bill. Customers can also take advantage of a \$15 rebate when they install an ENERGY STAR® qualified room air conditioner, which can save at least 10% on your energy bill compared to a conventional unit. For more information on how to take advantage of these energy and money savings incentives, see the Energy Smart section of the website, tclp.org.

Calling All Businesses

Have you heard about the Chamber of Commerce's TCL&P Energy Efficiency Revolving Loan Fund? TCL&P commercial and industrial customers can apply for low-interest micro-loans when making energy efficient improvements to their business.

• Loan Size: Up to \$50,000

• Loan Term: Up to 5 years

• Interest Rate: between 3% and 5%

For more information or to apply, please contact Laura Galbraith at galbraith@tcchamber.org.



Friendly Reminder:

As the warmer temperatures arrive, yard work begins. Please remember that bushes, trees and other plants should not be planted in front of or around transformers – the green electrical box that may be in your yard. Typically there is a sticker on the transformer which indicates this. Having a clear path to the transformer assures that TCL&P crews can safely and quickly restore electric service in the event of an equipment failure. TCL&P is not responsible for any damage done to vegetation or obstacles that may obstruct access to the transformers. Thank you for your cooperation as TCL&P works to provide reliable service to all customers.



1131 Hastings St. | Traverse City, MI 49686 Main Office and 24-Hour Service: **922-4940** Billing/Other Questions: **922-4431 Now available: Paperless billing!**





See the Home Energy Saver and L&P Energy Smart Program at: tclp.org