

# Glossary of terms and acronyms

## **Community-based organizations (CBOs)**

Often nonprofit or service organizations that work at the local level to provide services to communities and specific priority populations to improve that community's health and well-being.

## **Communities with deepest need**

Communities with deepest need experience multiple compounding factors that hinder their ability to access adequate resources. Examples include but are not limited to: communities without housing, communities experiencing linguistic isolation, older adults experiencing social isolation, persons with mental or physical health conditions.

## **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI)**

A conceptual framework that promotes the fair treatment and full participation of all people, especially in the workplace, including populations who have historically been underrepresented or subject to discrimination because of their background, identity, disability, etc.

## **Equity Advisory Group (EAG)**

EAG members are external advisors to PSE and are advocates for historically marginalized community members.

## **Government agency**

Any department, district, independent establishment, commission, administration, authority, board or bureau of a town, city or county.

## **Historically marginalized communities**

Communities that have been historically denied access to resources or experience a disproportionate cumulative risk due to socioeconomic and sociodemographic factors such as race, income, disability, immigration status, etc.

## **Interconnection**

Interconnection means connecting a solar (or other renewable energy) generating installation to your home's electrical system. This allows you to draw power from your solar system when it's available but never lose the benefit and reliability of the PSE grid. When your system generates more power than your home is using, the excess energy goes back onto the PSE grid. When your home is using more power than your system is generating, the PSE grid is there for you. The process for interconnection differs based on system size. For projects less than or equal to 100 kW AC, more information can be found [here](#). For projects greater than 100 kW AC, more information can be found [here](#).

## **kW DC vs kW AC**

The size of all solar systems is measured in kilowatts. DC stands for direct current and AC stands for alternating current. Because solar panels generate direct current (DC), solar systems need to use inverters to convert DC power into AC power so that electricity can be used in the home or sent back to the electric grid. The size of your system in kW DC reflects how much power your system generates. The size of your system in kW AC, reflects how much power can be used and is dependent on inverter efficiency.

## **Net Metering**

Net metering allows residential and commercial customers who generate their own electricity from solar power to sell the electricity they are not using back into the grid.

## **Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)**

RECs are a market-based instrument that represent the non-power, "green" attributes of renewable electricity generation. If sold the owning organization cannot claim the solar as part of a sustainability plan or measure for the life of the REC contract. However, selling the RECs as part of a short or long-term contract creates an income stream for the life of the contract.

## **Solar Energy Credit**

Solar Energy Credit is a voluntary program in which PSE will pay you \$0.067130 per kWh for the excess energy you return to the grid in the form of monthly bill credits. Eligible systems must be greater than 100 kW AC and not exceed 1,000 kW AC.

## **Total Solar Resource Fraction (TSRF)**

TSRF is a measure of the shading present on the site. An installer who completed a site assessment can provide this number, which is expressed as a percentage.

## **Tribal entity**

A Tribal entity means an arm of the Tribe formed as an agency, department, division or business entity that is wholly owned by the Tribe or tribal subsidiaries.