

SUPPORT ENERGY FREEDOM & RURAL INDEPENDENCE: VOTE YES ON HB183

House Bill 183 - Net Metering Amendments would empower Wyomingites to take control of their energy future, cut electricity costs, and support our local economy. *The bill would:*

1. Allow for combined electric meters on a single property. This would let Wyoming ranchers, business owners, or anyone with multiple buildings share extra energy between meters to lower their bills. (For example, a rancher could use one rooftop solar setup to save on electricity costs for all their buildings.)
2. Allow larger rooftop solar or backyard wind systems. Systems up to 200 kW would help non-residential customers such as businesses, farms, schools, and cities save more on energy costs and become more self-reliant.
3. Require utilities to report to regulators to ensure the system works fairly, especially as more people adopt net metering.

BACKGROUND: WHAT IS NET METERING?

Net metering is the policy that allows owners of small rooftop solar or backyard wind energy systems to receive credit for excess power sent to the grid. In Wyoming, these systems are capped at 25kW, enough power to a moderate-sized residential household, and are designed to offset part or all of the customer's requirements for electricity.

WHY IS HB183 GOOD FOR WYOMING?

- **Energy Freedom:** Net metering lets families, ranchers, and small businesses take control of their energy needs instead of relying on utility companies. This bill ensures rural residents can fully benefit by allowing meter aggregation across their properties — a crucial feature for farms, ranchers, and rural homes.
- **Lower Bills:** As electricity bills rise, small-scale private generation helps Wyomingites save money. Lower bills can keep agricultural operations viable, and free up funds for cities and towns to invest in much-needed snow plowing and road repairs.
- **Growing Jobs and Local Economy:** Rooftop solar and small-scale energy systems support local businesses and create new jobs. Currently, Wyoming is home to at least 14 solar businesses representing over 175 jobs with the potential to grow more.¹
- **Increased Resilience and Self-Sufficiency:** Rooftop solar and backyard wind can help keep the lights on for businesses and critical facilities such as fire stations and police stations when utilities experience grid outages.
- **Wyoming's Energy Future:** Wyomingites have said that they want more rooftop solar. A 2023 survey from the UW School of Energy Resources showed that 70% of Wyoming residents favor rooftop solar as part of our energy future.²

¹ Solar Energy Industry Association. <https://seia.org/state-solar-policy/wyoming-2/>

² Solar License for Wyoming's Energy Future. A Replication Study. 2023.

<https://www.uwyo.edu/ser/research/centers-of-excellence/energy-regulation-policy/files/social-license-report-2022.pdf>