

EOS Eco-Energy's Bulk Solar Panel and Installation Program

FACT SHEET 2019

Why a solar bulk purchase and installation?

By purchasing panels as a group we can access lower prices. A bulk purchase reduces shipping costs and increases efficiencies. There are currently minimal government rebates or incentives in New Brunswick, but together we have the power to reduce the upfront costs. Another big advantage of the bulk program is that going solar as a community forms a support network that can be vital to sustainable living.

Who is the installer?

Fundy Solar (www.fundysolar.com) is based in Jolicure, NB and is a Canadian Solar Association Certified installer, and is recognized by Efficiency Nova Scotia as an approved installer (there is no approval process in NB). Fundy Solar has been in operation for more than 10 years and is a trusted local resource who follows all safety codes and permit processes.

What kind of solar panels are being installed?

The panels are 300 watt mono crystalline and made by *Hanwha Q-Cells*. The panels come with a 12 year warranty on parts and a 25 year 82% power performance warranty. The solar panels are made from silicon, which is a non-toxic substance and remains stable over time. The measurement of a panel is 990mm (40 inches) x 1650mm (65 inches). The bulk price is only \$0.72/watt. That's 10% off the regular price.

Installation Process (to receive the discount you must have the panels installed by Fundy Solar)

People interested in purchasing panels as part of the bulk program must purchase at least 12 solar panels. The first step is to contact EOS to organize a site assessment. Fundy Solar is offering bulk participants site assessments for only \$75 (25% off the regular price) or free site assessments for those who participate in the information sessions at the EOS Sustainable Home Show July 6th. Site assessments, panel orders and payments must take place by August 31st, 2019. Installation by Fundy Solar will begin in fall 2019 at an additional cost.

Who can participate?

While the program is aimed at southeast New Brunswick residents, Fundy Solar is licensed to install solar systems across the Maritimes. Customers from outside the region are welcome to participate but may be subject to additional transportation costs from Fundy Solar.

What are the costs?

Through the bulk purchase the panels are only \$0.72/watt, which is 10% off the regular price. The cost of a site assessment is \$75 (that's 25% off the regular price!). Installation costs are extra and subject to your particular needs and situation (roof or ground mount, location, on or off grid or hybrid system, etc.). The average cost for an easy (with no surprises or special issues) roof-mounted system can cost about \$3/watt or so, including panels. However, there are many variables and a correct estimate can only be achieved with a site assessment.

What are the program deadlines?

Site assessments and panel orders must take place by August 31st, 2019 and installation will be in fall 2019. Panels are to be paid for when placing your order and may be delivered at any time following payment. Installation will be paid for at time of installation. Payments are made directly to Fundy Solar.

How do I calculate my solar energy needs?

Have a look at your power bills from the last year. The average household in Canada uses about 12,000kwh per year. Take this number and divide by 1150kwh/kw of installed solar. This will equal the capacity needed to be net zero (in this case 10.43kw, or 40 panels). Another way to think about it is that 1000 watts of installed solar power will give you 1150kwh/year of energy output. Solar energy projects are often as small as 4kw and still contribute to a household's power needs while helping to reduce emissions and power bills.

Where can I access financing for solar installations?

New Brunswick homeowners in need of financing can now contact Beauséjour Renewable Energy (506-536-4487, beausejourcoop@gmail.com, beausejourcoop.wordpress.com). Beauséjour Renewable Energy is a Sackville-based renewable energy investment co-operative that will be offering financing programs for solar projects.

How many kilowatts are needed for the bulk program to go ahead?

In order to receive the bulk panel discount for participants, EOS needs 50kw of panels installed across all projects. The preferable size per project must be at least 4kw or 12 modules.

How does participating in the bulk program help EOS?

By participating in the bulk solar program, people are also helping achieve EOS Eco-Energy's original goal of seeing the Memramcook-Tantramar region use no more energy than it can produce locally and sustainably. Participating in this bulk purchase helps EOS realize its vision of more renewable energy in the Memramcook-Tantramar region.

What is the next step?

Now that you know all about the program, just contact the EOS office (see below) to sign up for a site assessment. Then you can order your panels and have them installed by Fundy Solar.

Who can I contact for more information on the bulk program?

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<https://eosecoenergy.com/en/solar-panel-bulk-purchase-program/>