

Ongoing Responsibilities for Host Customers Installing Energy Storage

The Self-Generation Incentive Program (SGIP) is designed to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, curb energy demand and minimize customer electricity purchases, resulting in increased electric system reliability through improved transmission and distribution. The program achieves this by providing incentives for equipment that meets all or a portion of the electrical needs of a home or facility.

More Than a Rebate

SGIP participation comes with ongoing requirements after installations are completed. Host customers are required to ensure equipment continues to meet operational and performance specifications for production, emissions and efficiency. Following are the host customer's responsibilities.

Permanent Installation Terms

Equipment should be installed and maintained to function for the duration of its useful life. All projects have a permanence requirement of 10 years and must maintain a valid 10-year service warranty for system performance. This is referred to as the permanency period.

If the host customer plans to vacate the project site during the permanency period, they must notify the SGIP Program Administrator (PA) in writing a minimum of 60 days prior to any change in ownership. The PA will advise on next steps depending on the project stage. For the remainder of the permanency period, the new occupant(s) will be subject to all ongoing program responsibilities and program requirements met by the original host customer (e.g., budget eligibility criteria, GHG compliant utility rate, etc.).

Projects may be inspected by the PA or its agent(s) at any time during a project's permanency period and are expected to continuously meet document and operational requirements.

Operation of Equipment

To ensure the installed equipment is not intended only to provide backup power in the event of an outage, the program outlines minimum operation requirements:

Residential Systems: Required to discharge a minimum of 52 full discharges per year.

Nonresidential Systems: Required to discharge a minimum of 104 full discharges per year.

A full discharge is the equivalent of discharging the SGIP-incentivized energy capacity, whether it is during a single or multiple discharges.

GHG Requirements

Residential Host Customers: Must enroll in a time-varying rate with a peak period starting at 4 p.m. or later and with a summer peak to off-peak price differential of 1.69 or more, if such rate is available. Time-of-use (TOU) rates incentivize customers to adjust their energy usage to times when fewer GHGs are emitted as well as reducing overall demand on the grid during busy periods. A list of current SGIP-approved TOU rates is at [selfgenca.com](https://www.selfgenca.com).

Nonresidential Host Customers: Subjected to a performance-based incentive (PBI) over a five-year period and provide system monitoring data monthly during this time frame. Upon project approval, the payee will receive 50% of the maximum incentive upfront. The remaining 50% is paid out annually, which is dependent on the system's performance in relation to GHG emissions reductions. Please review the [SGIP Handbook](#) for additional requirements.