

# 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 to improve that community's health and well-being.

## Equity Advisory Group (EAG)

[EAG](#) members are external advisors to PSE and are advocates for community members.

## Government agency

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

## 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](#).

## 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.

## 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

Tribal entity includes any Indian Tribe, tribal organization, Indian-controlled organization serving Indians, Native Hawaiian organization, or Alaska Native entity.