

## IBEW Local 134 Residential Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Information

### Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

- Q. Who can use the Great Lakes Credit Union Solar Loan Program?
- A. *The first trial period of this program is exclusively for IBEW Local 134 members, who are also members of Great Lakes Credit Union, for a home in Cook County. We hope this program proves successful and is extended to more people and outside of Cook County in the near future.*
- Q. What if my neighbor, friend, or family member wants a solar electric system for their home and wants it installed by an IBEW Union Contractor? What if I live outside of Cook County?
- A. *Sure Solar is a great option for them and operates around the state of Illinois. Anyone in Illinois may call Sure Solar. Their services include design, engineering, equipment/material, and service. They do not do the electrical work, but exclusively hires contractors signatory with the IBEW to do so.*
- Q. What contractors are used for the installation of these systems?
- A. *The Great Lakes Credit Union Solar Loan Program and Sure Solar will be using contractors who have engaged with Local 134, or other IBEW locals, specifically for the Residential Solar Market.*
- Q. Who is responsible for the ongoing maintenance and repair of the system?
- A. *Sure Solar offers a leased system which includes maintenance, and a purchase option which includes one maintenance inspection after the first year. If you purchase a system directly from a contractor you will need to inquire about ongoing support.*
- Q. Can I use a Great Lakes Credit Union Loan with Sure Solar?
- A. *Yes, using your Great Lakes Credit Union Loan to pay Sure Solar for their system is par to paying Sure Solar cash for a system. Your financing will be through Great Lakes Credit Union, but the system itself will be through Sure Solar.*
- Q. Can Local 134 contractors market and sell their own systems?
- A. *Yes, they can do their own marketing and sales. If they are comfortable handling the entire process they may choose to do so. If they want a third party to design, engineer, procure equipment, and provide ongoing support, they may pass it to Sure Solar for those portions, who will then pass it back to the contractor for the installation. They will also work with Great Lakes Credit Union if you choose that route.*
- Q. What can the Great Lakes Credit Union Loan Program be used to pay for?
- A. *You may use the loan for a solar electric system, an electric vehicle charging station, and/or a battery energy storage system. A roof replacement can also be paid for if it is in conjunction with a solar electric system.*

- Q. After approval for a Great Lakes Credit Union Loan, how does the payment work?
- A. *Great Lake Credit Union will write a check to the electrical contractor installing the system. If a new roof is needed, the electrical contractor can choose to subcontract that work and write their own check to the roofing contractor or request Great Lakes Credit Union write a check to the roofing contractor.*
- Q. How does an electrical contractor get selected?
- A. *During the initial rollout of the Great Lakes Credit Union Solar Loan Program, they will work with Local 134 to facilitate contractor selection to assign a contractor who has committed to installing residential systems. An additional benefit to this program is to assist signatory contractors entering the residential sector.*
- Q. Can I install the system myself or work with the contractor to do so with my Great Lakes Credit Union Solar Loan or Sure Solar system?
- A. *No, a signatory and licensed and bonded contractor must perform the work. Additionally, most incentives are not available for self-installed systems. Also, the contractor will not be able to insure you as you are not an employee. If you happen to work for the contractor installing the system, it will be to their discretion.*