

SOLAR PROJECT CHECKLIST

Project name _____

Due to consumer complaints and faulty solar array installs in WA State, as of June 6th, 2024, there is new “Solar Consumer Protection” law which prohibits certain predatory tactics. Washington state residents receive new legal protections regarding solar installations. Please ask your contractor for the below, including:

- A contract must be written and provided to the customer at the time of signing.
- The contract will include the cost of any electrical system upgrade necessary for the system.
- The contract will state the cost per watt. (*US dept of Energy reports an US average cost of \$3.16 per watt*)
- How many credits in KWh will the system produce in the first year as provided in the required good faith estimate. (*Your utility can help you determine the solar savings and bill amount with this information.*)
- A statement indicating that you will still have an electric bill from your utility. Check with your utility for an estimate of how much.
- You have the right to **cancel your contract within 3 business days**.
- A statement about the IRS tax credit; **“You may not be eligible for this tax credit”**.
- The utility must approve the application before the contractor starts installing the solar system.**

**The above is not a complete list, the new law provides other protections for the consumer as well.*

Other things to consider while investigating a solar system installation:

- How old is my roof, _____ (*years*) and does the solar system have to be removed to change my roof in the future? **Yes / No**
- How much does it cost to remove and reinstall the system for a roof change? \$ _____
- Will the solar system installation void or cancel my roof warranty? **Yes / No**
- Have I discussed the approval process from my electrical utility, and are they accepting new systems, before I signed any contracts? **Yes / No**
- Do I have in writing an estimate of how much money I should expect to see credited from my electric bill? \$ _____ **per** _____ (*Month/Year?*)
- Does my electric utility generally agree with the credit estimate above? **Yes / No**
- How much does the system cost me monthly and is it less than the monthly savings from the system? **Yes / No**
- Have I confirmed with a CPA if the IRS tax credits are available to my specific tax situation? **Yes / No**

