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**For Immediate Release**

***An Electrifying Investment: What Distributed Generation and Net Metering Mean for You***

**Atlanta, GA:** Today, the [Smart Grid Consumer Collaborative](#) (SGCC) released a new tool designed to educate consumers about the benefits of next-generation smart grid technologies. Providing answers to many common questions, SGCC's new fact sheet [\*An Electrifying Investment: What Distributed Generation and Net Metering Mean for You\*](#) simplifies the principles of net metering and distributed generation. Designed to empower consumers to take on America's shifting energy landscape, this new tool also equips consumers with key questions they should ask when considering a home energy system, such as rooftop solar panels.

“As many consumers are actively seeking out ways to reduce their carbon footprint, distributed energy systems are becoming prevalent in a variety of communities” said Patty Durand, Executive Director of the SGCC. “An educated consumer is an empowered consumer, and assuring that consumers understand how their distributed energy system will interact with the electrical grid remains important.”

In its simplest form; distributed generation is the act of producing electricity at or near its point of use (e.g. rooftop solar), while net metering refers to the manner in which a utility provider calculates the quantity and value of that electricity before it enters the electrical grid. As Americans today use more electronic devices than ever before, it is necessary that the grid be able to quickly respond to changes in demand. Made possible by advancements in [smart grid technologies](#), many utilities now have the ability to reliably and efficiently accommodate a greater number of distributed energy system, giving customers better choices when it comes to their energy needs.

As a trusted source of information, SGCC is assisting today's [industry leaders](#) in educating consumers about these next-generation smart grid technologies. If you're interested in learning more about the smart grid or would like additional information about the [\*An Electrifying Investment: What Distributed Generation and Net Metering Mean for You\*](#) fact sheet, please visit [whatissmartgrid.org](http://whatissmartgrid.org).

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