FAQ for Solar Thermal Rebate Program

1. <u>I have some questions about the residential solar thermal rebate program. Where can I find the answers?</u>

A good place to begin to learn more about the program and its background is Public Utilities Commission Order No. 25092 which approved the Solar Thermal Rebate Program. Reading through the Step One form also outlines the two-step process and requirements of the program.

2. What kind of solar thermal systems are eligible for rebates?

Solar hot water heating and solar space heating systems are eligible for rebates based upon a number of factors, including equipment certification by the <u>Solar Rating</u> <u>Certification Corporation</u> (SRCC), the rated heat output of the system, and primary residential status of the applicant. For the full eligibility requirements of the program, please refer to the application forms.

3. What is the amount of the rebate?

This program provides a rebate funded by NH's Renewable Energy Fund. The amount of the rebate will depend on the actual annual rated heat output of the system, measured in British Thermal Units (Btus), as well as system and applicant eligibility; the rebate ranges from \$1,500 to \$1,900. Please refer to the application forms for the full details on eligibility for the state rebate.

4. How do I apply for a rebate?

If you are planning to install a qualifying system, you are required to complete the step one application form (pre-installation) followed by a second step once the system is installed. Completion of the step one State application will allow the Commission to reserve funds for your rebate. Please note that applications must include either a site analysis report, such as the one available through the <u>Solar Pathfinder</u> (or equivalent) or show detailed calculations for the actual annual production, derated for non-optimal tilt angle, azimuth, and/or shading. Once your system is operational, you must file the Step 2 Final Request form to claim your incentive payment.

5. How do I find a qualified installer?

The PUC does not provide a list of qualified installers at this time. It is recommended that a potential system owner consult at least two to three installers in order to compare cost estimates on equipment and installation. You may also consult the Energy Plan Website.

6. <u>If I receive a rebate from the Commission, am I still eligible for the 30% federal</u> income tax credit?

Yes. Use the following Investment Calculation Table to estimate your federal tax credit and total investment after all state and federal rebates. You may also visit

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<u>www.energystar.gov</u> for more information about the federal tax credit. For additional information on federal, state, and local renewable energy incentives, please click <u>here</u>.

Investment Calculation Table	Dollars Spent
Total Installation Cost	
REBATE CALCULATION	
State Rebate	\$1500-\$1900
Subtotal Installation Cost (Total Installation cost – State Rebate)	
FEDERAL TAX CREDIT***	
Federal Tax Credit (30% of Subtotal Installation Cost)	
TAXABLE PORTION	
Rebate from State	
You will receive a 1099 for this rebate. The rebate may be treated as taxable income.	
TOTAL INCENTIVE	
Rebate from State	
Total Incentive (Federal Tax Credit + State Rebate)	
YOUR TOTAL INVESTMENT	
Total Investment	

^{***}These calculations are not intended as individual tax advice. Please consult your tax advisor for advice on federal tax credits

7. If I receive a rebate, are there any tax implications?

If you receive a rebate from the Commission, You will receive an IRS Form 1099 for the State Rebate. The rebate may be treated as taxable income. This does not constitute tax advice, however, and you will need to consult your tax preparer for advice on federal tax treatment.

8. How long will it take the PUC to process my rebate application?

If applications are complete, they are typically processed within two weeks. If there is missing information, the application cannot be processed until all necessary information is received.

9. Where can I learn more about solar thermal systems?

A good place to start learning about residential solar water heating or solar space heating systems is on the US Department of Energy's Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy website. Another useful site to learn about different systems is the SRCC website.

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