

Standby Rate

Frequently Asked Questions

What is Standby?

Standby is a Southern California Edison (SCE) electric rate for accounts with generators that interconnect to and operate in parallel with SCE's electric system. On this rate, we provide back-up electric service when your generator(s) is not operating as intended.

Is the Standby Rate Required? Why?

Yes. The Standby rate is required because you supply part or all of your electricity needs from a qualifying generating facility that interconnects to and operates in parallel with our electric system. If your generating facility does not qualify for **Net Energy Metering** (or otherwise qualify for another exemption), you will be placed on one of three Standby rates (Schedule **TOU-8-S** or **TOU-8-RTP-S** for site load greater than 500 kW, or **Schedule S** for site load equal to or less than 500 kW). *The following Departing Load rate schedules may also apply: DL-NBC and CGDL-CRS.*

Under the Standby rate, we provide Standby electric service (transmission, distribution, and generation) when your generator experiences a partial or complete shutdown. Standby rates are designed to cover the cost of standby electric service when your generator is not operating as intended.

Are there any exemptions from the Standby Rate Requirement?

Renewable technology generators that are served on a Net Energy Metering rate schedule are exempt from the Standby rate. Generators, used solely for emergency backup purposes when SCE electric service is not available, are also not subject to the Standby rate.

How do I know which Standby rate is applicable to my account?

There are different non-optional rate schedules applicable to Standby service depending upon whether or not your site load (i.e., maximum demand kW) is 500 kW or less.

If 500 kW or less, you will be billed on your otherwise applicable tariff (OAT), in addition to Standby (Schedule S). If greater than 500 kW, you will be billed on Schedule TOU-8-S (or TOU-8-RTP-S, if selected by you). Unlike the 500 kW and less class, Schedule TOU-8-S/TOU-8-RTP-S incorporates both non-standby and standby charges into a single rate schedule.

What are the benefits of Standby?

With your generator interconnected to and operating in parallel with our transmission or distribution lines, we are "standing by" to provide you with electric service when your generator experiences a partial or complete shutdown.

What is required for my account to be established on Standby?

To be established on a Standby rate, your generation must be interconnected to the grid and the following Standby billing determinants must be established.

- **Supplemental Contract Capacity (SCC):** The amount of electricity service (kW) we regularly provide you
- **Standby Demand:** The amount of backup electricity service (kW) we provide you when your generating facility is not operating

The establishment of your Standby billing determinants is required to determine the portion of demand charges to be billed at supplemental rates (i.e., OAT charges) versus backup rates (i.e., Standby charges).

What is Supplemental Contract Capacity (SCC) kW?

Supplemental Contract Capacity (SCC) is the level of demand kW that is regularly served by us. It is used to determine the portion of your total peak period demand (if applicable) to be billed at the Backup Time-Related Demand price versus the Supplemental Time-Related Demand price. The SCC value is the most frequent, daily maximum demand kW over the past 36 months or the longest period of relevant usage history available (not less than 14 months). The number of months is based upon how long your generator has been interconnected with our system and whether or not there has been any changes in your generation operation.

What is Standby kW?

Standby kW represents the entire reserve capacity we must serve when your generating facility is not operating per normal conditions (e.g., shut down for maintenance). Standby kW excludes the load regularly served by us (SCC). The Standby kW cannot exceed the nameplate capacity of your generating facility and cannot be less than zero. The Standby kW determines the Capacity Reservation Charge and Backup Time-Related Demand charges, if applicable.

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How will SCE establish my Standby billing determinants?

We will use the best available information (including historical usage when available) to establish the billing determinants required for billing your account on Standby. Your usage history will typically determine the Standby and Supplemental Contract Capacity demands (“Standby billing determinants”). If there is not sufficient usage history (14 months), you may be required to provide us with additional information, such as estimated load you will need us to regularly supply.

Once your Standby billing determinants are established, you will be billed on the applicable Standby rate. Your SCE Account Manager will communicate your established Standby billing determinants.

Once my Standby billing determinants are established, can they be adjusted?

Yes. If you have a change in operation of your generating facility, please notify your SCE Account Manager right away so we can evaluate the potential impact to your Standby billing determinants.

Also, once 14 months of recorded interval data is available (excluding 60 days of generation start-up), we will leverage this data to determine whether or not an adjustment to the Standby billing determinants is required.

What happens if there are changes in operation at my facility?

If your generator or electricity demand change, you are required to notify us of the change in your generation operation. Upon receipt of this notification, we will evaluate your account to determine if an adjustment to your Standby billing determinants is required. This change could also require a change to your Interconnection Agreement. To notify us of a change in operations, please contact your SCE Account Manager. You may also need to contact your Interconnection Contract Manager. To determine if a change to your Interconnection Agreement is required, contact your SCE Grid Contract Manager or send an email to InterconnectionQA@sce.com.

These FAQs are meant to be an aid in understanding SCE's Standby Rate. This information does not replace information contained in the CPUC-approved tariffs. In the event of inconsistencies between this document and SCE's CPUC-approved tariffs, those tariffs control. Please refer to the individual rate schedule of interest for a complete list of terms and conditions of service, which can be viewed online at sce.com.

What happens if I am no longer generating at my facility?

If your generator is no longer operating at your facility, contact your SCE Grid Contract Manager by email to InterconnectionQA@sce.com and terminate your Interconnection Agreement. Once, the agreement is terminated, we will remove your account from the Standby rate.

What is the Departing Load Tariff and how does it relate to the Standby Tariff?

A Departing Load (DL) tariff is a required rate when your generator serves load. Load is considered Departing Load if you reduce your purchase of electricity from us or replace the purchase of electricity from us with another source, and remain at the same location or within our service area.

Departing Load charges will be determined after you receive permission to operate your generator. Generally, your account will be established on the Standby and Departing Load rates in the same billing month.

To learn more about Departing Load requirements, review the **DL-NBC** and **CGDL-CRS** rate schedules online at sce.com.

How is Departing Load determined?

Departing Load is determined based on the amount of load (kWh) served by your generator.

- When a SCE Net Generation Output Meter (NGOM) is installed, Departing Load equals the monthly kWh registered on the NGOM.
- If there is no NGOM, then Departing Load is calculated based on the monthly average kWh usage prior to the operation of the generator less the current usage in the billing month, up to the generator's maximum output.

A Departing Load bill is calculated by multiplying the Departing Load (in kWh) for the billing month by the corresponding (non-exempt) rates in the two Departing Load tariffs.

For more information regarding the Standby rate, please contact your Account Manager or 1-800-990-7788.