

FAQ: solar electricity (PV)

1. Will a solar PV system produce enough energy for my property?

For a grid-tie system (such as under the microFIT/FIT program), all of the energy produced is delivered to the electricity grid to be used by everybody. You maintain your current electricity supply from the local utility – this is the recommended solution for anyone currently connected to the electricity grid.

2. Where can the solar collectors be installed?

Typically, solar PV collectors are placed on the roof of a building facing south. If the roof can not be used, collectors can be mounted on a rack located elsewhere. Shading throughout the year must be taken into account.

3. How long will an installation take?

Installations can take between a day to a week, depending on the size of the system.

4. How does a solar PV system save me money?

*A grid-tie system on microFIT/FIT contract pays you for power supplied to the grid – the system **makes** you money!*

5. How do I optimize the amount of energy collected?

The best orientation for PV collectors is south – moving east or west will result in a negligible loss of performance.

6. What is the expected lifetime of a solar PV system?

Quality solar PV systems offered by SunTap Technologies are designed to last 25 years or more.

7. What about the condition of my roof? Does it matter?

If the roof needs replacing, it is highly recommended to have it replaced before installing solar collectors; otherwise the collectors will have to be removed and re-installed to accommodate a re-roofing.

8. How will the collectors look when installed on the roof?

Collectors are designed to lay parallel to a pitched roof, so their low profile won't make the collectors overly noticeable. Flat roofs require racking to support the collectors.

9. Are there any other benefits to installing a solar PV system?

If you are planning on selling your property, having a solar PV system already installed may improve the resale value of the property – a constant cheque from the microFIT/FIT program is a great selling feature. You also reduce pollution by generating energy from a renewable source instead of from coal or nuclear fuels.

10. If I sell my property, can I remove the equipment and take it with me? What happens to the contract?

The solar equipment must remain installed at the existing property for the contract to be valid. The 20-year contract is transferred from the seller to the buyer.