

THE SMART WAY TO EXPAND YOUR SOLAR SYSTEM

How to Upgrade Your Existing
Solar System Without Losing NEM
2 Benefits



INTRODUCTION: WHY EXPANDING YOUR SOLAR SYSTEM SHOULDN'T COST YOU MORE

Your current solar system has been a reliable ally, saving you money and keeping your home powered. But what happens when your energy needs outgrow your system? Maybe you've recently added an electric vehicle, or your family's energy usage has skyrocketed. Whatever the reason, it's time to expand—but not at the cost of your savings.

The rules around solar are changing. Make one wrong move, and you could lose your highly favorable NEM 1.0 or NEM 2.0 status and get stuck with NEM 3.0—where the savings just don't compare. But, don't worry. There's a solution.

In this guide, you'll learn how to add to your solar system the smart way, keep your NEM benefits, and increase your energy independence.

CHAPTER 1: WHY YOU SHOULD EXPAND YOUR SOLAR SYSTEM NOW

You've probably noticed it—your energy usage is rising, and your solar system just isn't covering everything anymore. Here's why expanding now makes sense:

- **More People, More Power:** Your household has grown, and so have your energy needs. Expanding your system can help you stay ahead of increasing electricity bills.
- **Electric Vehicle in the Driveway?:** Solar is the best way to power your new EV without seeing your utility bills skyrocket.
- **Higher True-Up Bills?:** If your current system only covers part of your electricity usage, it's time to consider adding more panels to offset those costs.

CHAPTER 2: THE NEM 3.0 TRAP—WHY YOU DON'T WANT TO FALL IN

When you first installed your solar system, you locked in under a great deal—either NEM 1.0 or NEM 2.0. These plans allowed you to send excess power to the grid and earn valuable credits. But that was then.

With the introduction of NEM 3.0, new rules have made it much harder to earn credits for your surplus energy. If you're forced into NEM 3.0, you'll lose the financial perks that made solar such a smart investment in the first place.



CHAPTER 3: THE SMART SOLUTION— NON-EXPORT PANELS & BATTERY STORAGE

Here's the good news: you can expand your system without losing your NEM 1.0 or 2.0 status. The key? **Non-exporting panels** and **battery storage**.

- **Non-Exporting Panels:** These panels generate power solely for your home's use and don't send any extra energy back to the grid. That means you can boost your solar capacity without risking your NEM status.
- **Battery Storage:** Adding a battery ensures that you can store excess energy and use it whenever you need it, maximizing the value of your expanded system.

Together, these solutions allow you to grow your solar setup without falling into the NEM 3.0 trap.

CHAPTER 4: BENEFITS OF EXPANDING YOUR SOLAR SYSTEM

Expanding your solar system with non-export panels and storage isn't just about keeping your NEM status—it's about making your home more energy independent. Here's why it makes sense:

- **Energy Independence:** You'll reduce your reliance on the grid, storing your own energy for use whenever you need it.
- **Future-Proofing:** Utility rates are only going up. By expanding your system now, you'll protect yourself from future rate hikes.
- **Increased Savings:** By covering more of your energy usage with solar, you'll see greater savings month over month.

CHAPTER 5: HOW TO EXPAND THE SMART WAY

Expanding your solar system can feel complicated, but it doesn't have to be. Here's the breakdown:

- **Small Additions Are Safe:** If you're only adding up to 1 kW or 10% of your original system size, you won't lose your NEM benefits.
- **Non-Exporting Panels for Bigger Expansions:** Want to expand more than that? Adding non-export panels allows you to grow your system without sending energy back to the grid, so you keep your NEM 1.0 or 2.0 benefits.
- **Add a Battery for Maximum Value:** Pair your new panels with battery storage to make sure you're getting the most out of your expansion. A battery allows you to store excess energy and use it on your terms.

CHAPTER 6:

FAQs About Expanding Your Solar System



Q: Can I expand my solar system and keep my NEM benefits?

Yes, but only if you do it the right way. Small expansions (up to 1 kW or 10% of your original system size) won't affect your NEM status. For larger expansions, non-exporting panels are your best option to preserve your NEM benefits.

Q: What are non-exporting panels?

Non-exporting panels generate energy only for your home's use and don't send any extra electricity to the grid. This allows you to expand your solar system without losing your NEM 1.0 or 2.0 benefits.

Q: Do I need a battery when adding non-exporting panels?

While not required, a battery is highly recommended. It allows you to store the extra energy generated by your expanded system, ensuring you're making the most of your solar investment.

Chapter 7: Ready to Expand Your System? Let's Talk.

You don't have to navigate the complexities of expanding your solar system on your own. At Senga Energy, we're experts at helping homeowners like you get more out of their solar investments without losing the benefits that matter most.

Let's make sure your expansion works for you. Schedule a free consultation today and take the next step toward a smarter, more energy-independent future.

GET IN TOUCH WITH SENGA ENERGY

Call us at **(916) 400-9920** or
visit www.sengaenergy.com
to learn more.

Senga Energy

4650 Golden Foothill Pkwy,
Suite 135 El Dorado Hills, CA
95762

