How to Save on Your Electric Bill and Receive a \$100 Reward for Doing So

The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) has given a green light to the Town of Hillsdale to launch a Community Solar Campaign. The initiative is designed to help Hillsdale residents who get electricity from NYSEG (New York State Electric and Gas) to receive \$100 just for signing up and as much as a 10% reduction in their electric utility bill every month.

For more information on Community Solar and to participate in the program, visit <u>https://sites.google.com/columbiacountyny.com/emc/communitysolar</u>

"There is no cost to subscribe, no solar panels to install," said Community Solar Project Manager Howard Van Lenten. "If you pay a NYSEG bill, you're eligible to receive part of your electricity from a clean, renewable resource and save money in the process," said Van Lenten.

"The Community Solar Program is meant to make the benefits of solar available to anyone in Hillsdale. Not only will residents save up to 10% off their electric bill," said Van Lenten, "but each new, approved participant will also receive a \$100 check or a \$100 Visa gift card, depending on which of two approved solar vendors the resident selects."

"In addition, the Town will receive a \$50 donation for each new subscription and, once just 10 residents sign up, Hillsdale could be eligible for a \$5,000 grant from the Department of Energy Conservation," said Van Lenten. "This can be used to support other climate smart initiatives that Hillsdale may wish to pursue in the future. Of course we hope many more than 10 residents will take advantage of the program."

For more information on Community Solar, how it works and to sign up and start saving, click on this link – <u>https://sites.google.com/columbiacountyny.com/emc/communitysolar</u> and have a copy of a recent NYSEG bill handy when you are asked to enter your account number. "The process is pretty simple," said Van Lenten, "and there are toll free numbers to call for assistance in completing the subscription application if you need help."

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