

**What's the Cost to "Go Solar"? (Hyperlink)**  
**(Adapted from the May 2015 Watts and Volts)**

For customers currently considering the purchase or lease of solar panels for their home, we encourage you to take the time to fully understand the costs, benefits and potential impacts of that decision. According to the Solar Energy Industries Association, during the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter in 2014 the average installed cost for a turnkey residential rooftop photovoltaic system was \$3.48 per watt of capacity. The "Solar Market Insight Report 2014 Q4" may be accessed at [www.SEIA.org](http://www.SEIA.org).

To figure the total cost you will need to ask the provider of the PV array for two numbers. First, you need the total amount of money that you will spend on all the payments that you will make over the life of the system. This number should include the financing costs as well as the installed price of the system. Next, you need the total amount of energy that the system will produce during its lifetime. When you have these two numbers, simply divide the first number by the second number. The result will be the "all-in" price, on a per-kilowatt-hour basis, of your PV system.