



Master Meter Customers Need to Rebate the CA Climate Rebate

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In April and October, most Californians receive a credit on their electric bill called the California Climate Rebate (CCR). The amount varies by utility company. For parks that sub-meter electricity from a separate Master Meter, you may have received that same rebate for each site that is sub-metered. By state law, you are required to pass that rebate on to current users.

CA PUC 739.5 states: *the rebate must be passed through to the customer: (b) Every master-meter customer of a gas or electrical corporation subject to subdivision (a) who, on or after January 1, 1978, receives any rebate from the corporation shall distribute to, or credit to the account of, each current user served by the master-meter customer that portion of the rebate which the amount of gas or electricity, or both, consumed by the user during the last billing period bears to the total amount furnished by the corporation to the master-meter customer during that period.*

Note: It is important to not confuse the twice a year/per site rebate with the monthly Small Business Rebate (available to businesses that typically uses less than 20 kilowatts (kW) of maximum power in a month.)

Before determining how to pass through your rebates, let's review the requirements that allow an RV park to sub-meter electricity in the first place.

The park must have their sub-metered spaces rented on a prepaid month to month basis. Guests that are not staying for a month cannot be placed on these sites. These sites must be on a separate master meter from the rest of the park. Electric energy used for nondomestic enterprises such as offices, stores, restrooms, shops, restaurants, service stations, and other similar establishments need to be on a separate meter. They will be billed differently under applicable schedules.

Determining to whom you need to provide the rebate becomes difficult in a park where monthly guests come and go. Here is some guidance provided by John Pentecost of Hart King.

If the site is occupied, then the park should pay the current customer their pro-rata share based on how long they have occupied the site. As for any remaining amounts, send prior customers of the site their pro-rata share to the last known address, or if no address is known, then the park would be able to retain that amount.

If the site is empty, then the park should keep the CCR as it would be the corresponding customer.