

Q: What is the financial advantage of solar

A: The financial advantage of solar is lower power costs for a homeowner. On Hurricane City power, this is typically a 10-15 year payback depending on if you included batteries, roof condition, roof angle etc.

Q: We have SUBSTANTIAL wind...will the panels be subject to damaging the roof if roof tiles are lifted during a wind event

A: Solar panels can be installed to meet any wind load requirement, if you feel that your local wind load according to the AHJ is insufficient you could increase the wind load required, say from 115mph to 125 mph

Q: Many of our homes are situated around the golf course. What happens to a panel broken by a golf ball? Will it still work? Will the whole system shut down with 1 broken panel?

A: A panel broken by a golf ball will continue to work, but with significantly reduced power output. Typical 10-15% the first year and then it will degrade quickly due to weather intrusion.

Q: What is the cost to replace a broken panel?

A: \$250-\$400 is typical to replace a broken panel depending on type and brand. (more expensive panels cost more to replace...)

Q: What is the average cost of solar install (perhaps use a median house size of 2,400 sq ft?)

A: on a 2400Sqft house with an average powerbill of \$100/month in Hurricane City, the typical solar system would be \$16,000-\$17,500 without batteries and \$23,500 - \$26,000 with batteries.

Q: Are batteries included in solar panel install? If not, will solar work after dark or am I on the grid after dark?

A: Batteries are not typically included in a solar panel install, as they are relatively expensive, they are a convenient optional feature. (\$6500-\$15,000 depending on size and capacity) Without batteries, the solar system only functions during hours of daylight and you would be fully reliant on the grid for your power.

Q: Are there tax breaks ...State or Fed...for solar install?

A: There are tax credits federal and state.
State tax credit is 25% up to \$1200 on a residence
Federal tax credit is 26%

Q: How many years are the panels guaranteed for?

A: Typical panel guarantees are separated in to, 2 parts.
A 10 year parts and labor warranty
a 25 year production warranty.

For example, if the panel breaks in the first 10 years due to a manufacturer defect. (IE you didn't hit it with something) then the manufacturer will replace the panel.

After 10 years, if the panel isn't broken but starts to output less than the expected amount, the manufacturer will also replace that panel.

Q: Do you file a lien against my property for the solar panels if I opt for a payment plan instead of upfront purchase?

A: this depends on the financing, but many times, the answer is yes.
Some solar finance companies record a UC-1 or UC-2 fixture filing against the solar panel system itself, rather than the property as a whole.

Q: Do the solar panels require maintenance..(Cleaning? Do you have to get on the roof and clean them periodically?)

A: Solar panels do require some regular maintenance. We typically see maintenance every 1-3 years depending on the site.

Typical maintenance would include

Replacing a broken panel

replacing a optimizer or micro-inverter

cleaning out the inverter (if it has fans it can get dust/cotton/lint build up)

Checking for animal nests and removing them

Cleaning the panels. (leaves, bird dropping, dirt/mud that isn't washing off in the rain)

We typically budget \$600-\$800 per job after installation for service trips of this nature over the 20 years that we cover the system and warranty.