

This factsheet was produced by the Jamaica Energy Resilience Alliance (JERA) with USAID support under the Strengthening Energy Sector Resilience in Jamaica project (SESR-Jamaica). Under SESR-Jamaica, JERA supports Jamaican businesses seeking to reduce power costs, increase the reliability of electricity supply, and green their operations. For more information visit [cadmusgroup.com/jamaicaenergy](http://cadmusgroup.com/jamaicaenergy).

# SOLAR PV

## Grid Interconnection Licenses and Processes

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This factsheet provides an overview of the relevant entities, licensing options, and regulatory processes for installing a grid-connected solar photovoltaic (PV) system on a commercial property in Jamaica. The JERA team and your PV installer will help you at each step to get the most out of solar programmes and navigate the processes as efficiently as possible.

### Governing Entities

#### Ministry of Science, Energy, Telecommunications, & Transport (MSETT)

Responsible for growing Jamaica's share of renewable electricity generation in alignment with the National Energy Policy (NEP) 2009-2030, which includes overseeing the Net Billing Programme.

#### Jamaica Public Services Co. (JPS)

Jamaica's sole electricity distributor responsible for electricity generation, transmission, and distribution across the island.

#### Office of Utilities Regulation (OUR)

An independent regulator responsible for ensuring reliable electricity service at reasonable prices. OUR develops the Standard Offer Contract (SOC), which sets the rate at which Net Billing participants are compensated for electricity sold to JPS.

#### Government Electrical Regulator (GER)

A government entity that regulates electrical installation and inspection processes, including for solar PV. GER registers electrical inspectors that can perform the required PV system inspections prior to interconnection.

#### Bureau of Standards Jamaica (BSJ)

A statutory body promoting standardization in relation to commodities, processes and practices, including setting quality assurance and safety standards for solar PV.

### Grid-Connected PV License Options

**Net Billing License:** Allows a JPS customer to generate electricity from PV panels and sell any unused electricity to JPS at a predetermined rate.

**Auxiliary Connection License:** Allows a JPS customer to interconnect a PV system with the electric grid but does not give the customer the ability to sell excess electricity to JPS.

**Power Wheeling License:** Allows a JPS customer to generate electricity from a PV system on one property and consume that electricity at another property.

#### Requirements for Net Billing, Auxiliary, and Wheeling Licenses:

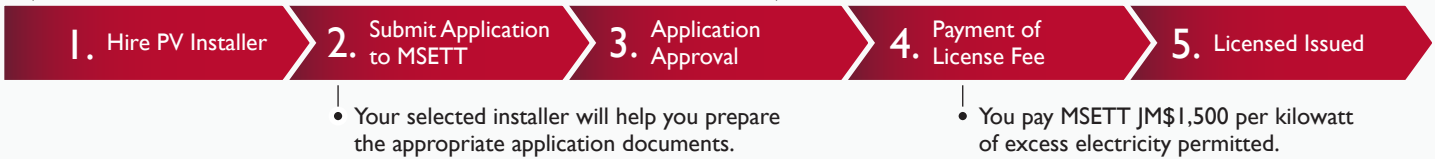
	Net Billing	Auxiliary Connection	Power Wheeling
System Capacity	Residential: ≤ 10kW Commercial: ≤ 100kW	None	> 1 MW
Equipment	• BSJ-approved inverter	• BSJ-approved inverter • BSJ-approved blocking device	• BSJ-approved inverter
Application	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completed application form</li> <li>• Proof that you are a JPS customer (Customer No. and Premises No.)</li> <li>• Evidence of property ownership or permission from property owner</li> <li>• Proposed electrical line diagram of PV system certified by a Licensed Electrician</li> <li>• JM\$10,000 non-refundable processing-fee</li> </ul>		

# Process for PV System Interconnection

## Phase 1: Grid-Interconnection License Application

- If you are working with JERA, our team will help you connect with a qualified installer to support you throughout the process.

- MSETT sends you a letter indicating the application is approved.



## Phase 2: Contracting, Installing, Inspecting, and Commissioning

- Your selected installer will help prepare and submit the appropriate contract to JPS.

- A licensed electrician (registered with GER) will inspect and certify the system after it is installed.



## Frequently Asked Questions

### How am I compensated for excess electricity through the Net Billing Programme?

The rate you receive from JPS for the electricity you export to the grid is set by OUR on a monthly basis and published on the OUR website (<https://our.org.jm/sectors/electricity/net-billing/>). Typically, these rates are about one-third of the retail cost of electricity (about 33% of the rate on your typical electricity bill). At the end of each billing cycle, customers receive a credit for electricity sold to JPS, which may be used to offset subsequent electricity purchases. Net credits owed to the customer are settled on June 30 and December 31 of each year.

### What are the permitting requirements for installing a PV system on my property?

In some cases, installing a PV system may require a building or environmental permit, depending on local requirements. To check if a system on your property will need a building permit, contact your Local Building Authority (Municipal Corporation). Contact information for all local authorities can be found at [localauthorities.gov.jm](http://localauthorities.gov.jm).

### What are the regulatory requirements for adding battery storage to my PV system?

Your contracted installer should ensure that battery storage systems comply with the Jamaica Electricity Sector Book of Codes and standards for electrical equipment established by the BSJ. Interconnected PV plus storage (PV+) systems will require inspection from licensed electricians prior to commissioning.

### How do I find an electrical inspector?

GER maintains a list of registered electrical inspectors, which can be accessed at [www.mset.gov.jm/government-electrical-regulator/](http://www.mset.gov.jm/government-electrical-regulator/). Your installer can help you identify a licensed inspector as needed throughout the installation and interconnection process. Contact the GER with any additional questions regarding system inspections.

Learn more and sign up for a free PV+ consultation at

[www.cadmusgroup.com/jamaicaenergy](http://www.cadmusgroup.com/jamaicaenergy)

Questions? Contact: [jamaicaenergy@cadmusgroup.com](mailto:jamaicaenergy@cadmusgroup.com)

Jamaica Energy Resilience Alliance (JERA) Members

