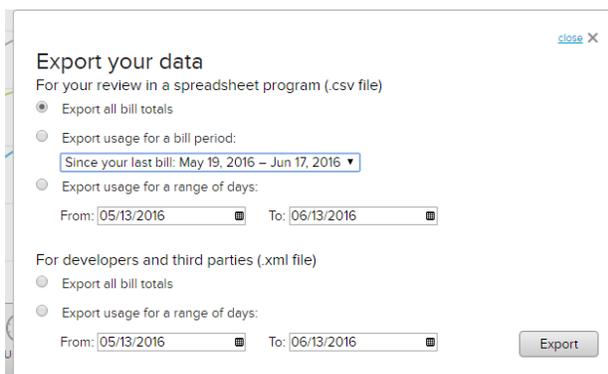Visit solar web sites and they will ask you for your ZIP Code, followed by your name address and telephone number before they answer any questions.

We will be happy to answer any questions you have without ever asking for your name telephone number and what color toilet roll you use.

Solar panels come in all different shapes and sizes, but commonly panels about 5' x 4' are typical with a rating of you 300 Watts per panel. To figure out how many panels you need to wipe out your yearly electricity bill you need to find out how many kilowatts of electricity you have used in the last year. This is easily done. You probably pay your electricity bill online, and the electricity companies are making it relatively easy to find this information.

Go into your PG&E account, navigate to "my usage", you see a graph here but at the bottom right-hand corner of this page you will see a button called "green button" if you click on the screen you will see this.

Click the "export" button

Do not alter any buttons or dates just press "export".

This is what you should see.

Just click on this and it will show you your usage for the last year plus, like this,

	TYPE	START DATE	END DATE	USAGE	UNITS	COST	NOTES
5							
6	TYPE	START DATE	END DATE	USAGE	UNITS	COST	NOTES
7	Electric billing	12/9/2014	12/19/2014	174	kWh	$29.36	
8	Electric billing	12/20/2014	1/21/2015	444	kWh	$72.39	
9	Electric billing	1/22/2015	1/27/2015	87	kWh	$14.69	
10	Electric billing	1/28/2015	2/19/2015	121.58	kWh	$17.25	
11	Electric billing	2/20/2015	3/22/2015	264.24	kWh	$50.26	
12	Electric billing	3/23/2015	4/21/2015	-411.31	kWh	($56.68)	
13	Electric billing	4/22/2015	5/20/2015	-370.34	kWh	($87.80)	
14	Electric billing	5/21/2015	6/21/2015	154.27	kWh	$13.32	
15	Electric billing	6/22/2015	7/20/2015	369.39	kWh	$56.13	
16	Electric billing	7/21/2015	8/19/2015	308.78	kWh	$46.72	
17	Electric billing	8/20/2015	9/20/2015	502.06	kWh	$84.74	
18	Electric billing	9/21/2015	10/19/2015	563.59	kWh	$125.64	
19	Electric billing	10/20/2015	11/18/2015	191.21	kWh	$32.33	
20	Electric billing	11/19/2015	12/17/2015	703.63	kWh	$123.64	
21	Electric billing	12/18/2015	1/19/2016	528.89	kWh	$98.46	
22	Electric billing	1/20/2016	2/18/2016	209.93	kWh	$35.61	
23	Electric billing	2/19/2016	3/20/2016	90.96	kWh	$14.37	
24	Electric billing	3/21/2016	4/19/2016	-405.9	kWh	($101.41)	
25	Electric billing	4/20/2016	5/18/2016	-565.22	kWh	($179.22)	
26							
27							

Take the top line in this example; it will not necessarily be the same on yours. But the date on this is 9th of December, rundown to you see the 12th month again or whatever you start month was any figures that follow your 12th month. And then add the yearly figures for your kilowatt usage for the year and your costs for the year. You will then have the number of kilowatts you have used in the year. Give this figure to the company that you intend to use; they will use this to arrive at the figure the you need to wipe out your electricity bill with your solar.

That's it; it's as simple as that.

If you want to get a bit more technical you could do the following this will give you the actual system size.

$$=+((((KWH)/(365*5.5))/100)*20)+(KWH)/(365*5.5)$$

Kwh is what you figured you usage for the year was.

365   days in a year

5.5 number of sun hour in a day in the central valley CA

100   used to bring the figures to meaningful numbers

20   used to allow for losses in the system.

KWH   above, usage for the year

I know this is slightly complicated if you're doing it only once, but as we are doing it all the time it is extremely easy for us. If you need any help with this just call us, we don't need your name, we don't need your email address, and we will not keep a copy of your telephone number (unless you specifically ask us to)   so if you need help here is the telephone number. Xxx xxx xxxx