



Rider PA Protected Agriculture

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What is Rider PA Protected Agriculture?

Rider PA Protected Agriculture is a preferential electric rate for farming operations that produce fruits or vegetables in a micro-climate-controlled environment, and at least 70% of the total electric use on a single electric meter is for activities related to protected agriculture.

Q. What are the eligibility requirements for Rider PA Protected Agriculture?

- ◆ Existing customer on commercial rate schedules: G, J, P, TOU-G, TOU-J, TOU-P
 - * New customers, or existing customers wishing to separate their protected agriculture energy load to a separately metered account, must work with a licensed electrician and apply for the applicable electric service request via the CIT-CID tool ([*Customer Interconnection Tool - Hawaiian Electric*](#))
- ◆ May not be on any of the existing Riders: I, M or T
- ◆ Must be in fruit and/or vegetable production (not canning, milling, processing or distribution)
- ◆ Must validate that farm is in micro-climate-controlled environment, such as indoor structure or fully enclosed structure like a greenhouse. Photos of farm environment/location are required as part of application screening process.
- ◆ Must validate that 70% of the total metered load (via single meter) must be dedicated to activities related to protected agriculture:
 - * Growing fruits and vegetables
 - * Post-harvest washing, cooling, cold storage (not freezing) of these raw fruits and vegetables prior to sale, transfer or distribution
- ◆ Must demonstrate use of energy-efficiency methods, technology, etc.
- ◆ Must demonstrate use of renewable energy (if available)

Q. What if I have indoor farms at different locations, but all post-harvest washing, and cold storage is done at a single location? Do I qualify for the Rider PA Protected Agriculture rate for the post-harvest energy?

No. To qualify for the Rider PA Protected Agriculture rate, 70% of all energy related to protected agriculture must be performed on a single meter, which includes growing as well as approved post-harvest activities of those raw fruits and vegetables.

Q. What if I have more than one meter under one business, can both meters qualify for the Rider PA?

There is no limit to the number of meters that may qualify for the Rider PA Protected Agriculture program, but all meters must qualify by the terms and conditions of the program. This means that at least 70% of all energy measured on each meter, must be related to protected agriculture activities including post-harvest activities of those raw fruits and vegetables.



Q. Can an applicant meet the criteria of “demonstrating the user of renewable energy” by receiving power from the company, which purchases renewable from independent power producers?

No. The Terms and Conditions of the Rider PA Protected Agriculture rate (No. 3) requires that the customer identify the efforts that have been undertaken “to incorporate renewable energy sources and energy efficiency measures in place that help offset energy usage to the extent practicable ...”, apart from purchasing electricity from the utility.

Q. Is there a certain amount of time/duration that a qualified customer needs to stay on the Rider without a penalty?

No. The Terms and Conditions of the Rider PA Protected Agriculture rate (No. 6) specifies the initial term of the contract is three (3) years.

Q. If any of my renewable energy and/or energy efficiency measures fail while I’m on the Rider PA, will I have to notify the company? How long do I have to facilitate the repairs/replacements before jeopardizing the Rider?

Customers on the Rider PA Protected Agriculture rate are at all times subject to the eligibility criteria that at least 70% of the customers’ projected annual load is related to Protected Agricultural activities. Terms and Conditions No. 5 places the burden upon the customer to determine if the duration of the repair/replacement would jeopardize the annual projected threshold. Upon notification to the company of rider ineligibility, T&C No. 4 provides for a cure period, an initial 30-day notice plus any one-time reasonable extension requested by the customer and agreed to by the company, before the company may terminate Rider participation. It would be best for the customer to notify the company once it is reasonably known that the annual threshold may not be met.