

An Electrical Blessing

Checking the electrical bill from Eversource for USH for December 23 reveals in large print at the top, NO PAYMENT DUE, and the Electric Account Summary concludes with a **Total Amount Due of minus \$71.02, (credit)**

and, here is the rest of the story:

Our 132 solar panels to the east of the building have been patiently turning out kilowatts since they were installed and began production in April of 2016. The design of the three solar arrays was to produce about as many kilowatts each year as the Meeting House consumes during normal use. Under the prevailing rules continuing to this time, excess kilowatts produced when not needed, long sunny days and normal building use, are exported to other users on the grid, and during dark hours and seasons as necessary, kilowatts are imported for our use. Each year net kilowatts exported to other grid users, are counted and banked for USH. Any excess banked KWh during the 12 months ending each March are paid off by conversion to a dollar credit on the USH electrical

bill.

As you can see, there has been no electrical bill to pay since the dollar credit was calculated last spring.

But wait, there is more.

When our solar system went into production, ZREC (Zero Emission Renewable Energy Credits) were available as incentives and

a payment for them to USH was arranged for the next 15 years based on total solar production for internal and external use. USH continues to receive payments quarterly for our ZREC production totaling about \$3,000 per year.

You can be proud of our 100% green electrical power produced by sunlight, our contribution to preserving the Web of which we are part that needs a stable planet.

David Newton

