



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### ***Benefits under the Net Billing Programme / Are you a Prosumer?***

Following the national expansion of the grid tied solar initiatives and an increased interest in renewable energy transition; the Public Utilities Commission would like to remind the public that the Net Billing program is available to eligible consumers.

The net billing programme empowers residential/commercial consumers, with approved grid-tied solar photovoltaic systems (PVs) under 100 kW, to sell excess energy produced during the day to GPL. The sale of the produced excess electricity is credited to the consumers account at 90% of the residential tariff, i.e. GPL pays the producer/consumer (prosumer) for electricity at this rate. This mechanism can be beneficial to households as it may allow your electricity bill to be reduced to zero or even result in your account having a surplus of credit. Evidence has shown that under such an arrangement these systems may pay for themselves within three to five years, leaving the prosumer to benefit from low or non-existent bills for the rest of the lifetime of the systems.

Households that currently have the rooftop solar systems in place are encouraged to apply to GPL to be registered as a prosumer. If you are in the process of planning to install a PV system or have one installed, the Commission recommends contacting GPL to ensure that technical specifications are met for registration with this program. For those who are interested and do not currently have a system in place due to financial constraints, the PUC would like to draw attention to the low interest 'green' loans that major local commercial banks are offering.

Net Billing allows prosumers to receive compensation for their investment, reduce monthly bills, contribute to a green economy by generating electricity from a renewable source and help stabilize the grid during peak demand periods during the day.

The PUC encourages consumers to be aware of their consumption patterns and utilize the approved mechanisms that are in place to aid beneficial production and responsible consumption.

-END-