



Merrill Noyes stands in front of a solar array on a building at the B & K Mobile Home Park in Riverton, Wyoming.

Merrill Noyes - Riverton, Wyoming (November, 2017)

The benefits of installing solar are reducing recurring electric bills and selling excess power back to the power company.

Installing solar systems can also generate a large tax break for the business or homeowner.

Right now, my panels produce approximately 158% of my current needs.

The system was installed by myself with a little help from a friend for heavy lifting.

The install took about three days. The hardest part was getting the panels on the roof. That took two people.

For me, it was very simple to install. Tools needed were screwdriver, wrench and a level. Anyone with basic skills can do it.

Once the system was activated it worked right away. The system is mostly maintenance free. I hose the panels off once or twice a year, but other than that I don't do anything to them and they work great.

I wanted to use the energy for the shop building, the office and to run the well pump for the trailer park. Right now, I'm only able to use my energy on one building...which doesn't make a lot of sense to me.

Some things that could make solar better in Wyoming are to join all electrical services on to one meter. It would also be good to pass laws ensuring the electric company will cooperate with owners on solar projects.

If you are thinking about installing solar, check with the power companies in your area to see if they are willing to work with you or not on how you want to use your energy.

The installation of solar systems is a good idea whose time has come. The tax breaks and lower prices make it a good investment and recovering the investment cost can be as little as four years or extended out to ten years.

Wyoming is a state with independent people. Solar energy is just another way to make us more independent.

Not having a power bill every month is kind of nice too.