Question: ***What is a solar or a photovoltaic system?***
Solar Photovoltaic (PV) use the suns energy to make electricity. PV technology produces direct current electricity by collecting electrons freed by the interaction between sunlight and the semiconductor materials in a PV cell.

Question: ***Why should I consider buying a PV system?***
A PV system reduces or eliminates the amount of electricity you purchase from your utility provider. A PV system can save you money on your electric bill and act as a hedge against future price increases. The electricity you use from your PV system is reliable and renewable. You help your community by reducing the electricity demand and provide additional electricity for the grid when you generate more than you use for the day, when this demand is highest.

Question: ***Do I have a good site for PV?***
Your site must be clear and unobstructed from trees or other vegetation that would block the sun from your site. South-facing roof is the best but East and West may be ok. If your rooftop is not available your PV system can also be mounted on the ground.

Question: ***What should the size of my PV system be?***
The average usage the California resident is about 6,500 kilowatt-hours (kwh) per year. If your usage were typical of the average household, a 3 to 4 kilowatt range would be adequate to meet most of your needs.

To estimate the best system for you're home or business then apply this easy formula

Annual Usage		1 kw system output		System capacity
6,500 kwh	*divided by*	1,350 kwh	*equals*	4.82 kw

A system of 1 kilowatt can produce about 1,350 kwh per year. If you design a system to generate more electricity than you require then you would benefit from "**net metering**"

Question: ***Are there any incentives or rebates available?***

YES! The California Energy Commission's Emerging Renewable Programs offers cash rebates on eligible PV systems. To find out what the current rebate level is, please contact the Energy Commission