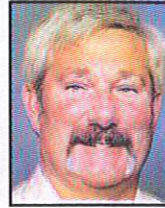


Be the Survivorman of solar

Do you enjoy watching and learning from Survivorman. Basically, Survivorman is plunked down in the wilderness without any support and very few supplies. He has a week to make it back to civilization, or in most cases just survive. He is way out there sometimes, and always off the grid. There is a lot of passion in the show. Have you ever thought of installing solar panels and a wind generator? Rebuilding an old house, in true Survivorman fashion you could be living off the grid.

When I think of the word grid, I immediately think of a map. Aye Matey 'Ere, is it 'off the map? Well, almost. It is not that different of a life style. This is, in the dirt, sweaty, painful, sometimes bloody and damn scary reality – Not! But it is a lot of work to get things installed initially, but well worth it. Fear? Why not? Where there is no fear, there can be no joy. The two go hand in hand. If



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you were to ask anyone when he or she was the most alive it would be when he or she was the most scared.

We are all a few short hours away from being off the grid. If the grid ever failed we would have no lights, TV, frig or lattes. California had and still does have rolling brown outs. As the grid gets more demands put on it we may all see rolling brown outs. We are headed for an energy recession. With the lack of infrastructure needed to carry the energy and power plants two to four years out. We could be faced with a real problem.

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POWER

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A standard net metering system will not produce power if the grid goes down. Only adding battery backup will give you the security to have power in case of a black out. Living off the map is not impossible but does take a little courage. Having the backup to run the refrigerator and freezer would be a luxury Moses never had.

The times ahead are uncertain but being prepared is important. Our homes are so dependent on energy. For those of us that live off the map it is of no concern if the grid is up or down. That energy costs are rising. It gives a feeling of security and peace. The freezer will have ice when we get home.

More than half the inquiries for net metering systems were for a battery backup added to the system. Others must be seeing what I am seeing. With the sliding dollar and increased

demand on solar products, it will cost more in the future. New products may help to offset the cost increases but most are still in the lab.

We have a "valley of death" to cross to get to the Promised Land. It will take investments on every level. Investing in solar today may be better than money in the bank. As Rich Dad Poor Dad said make sure the secure side of the triangle is solid.

Living off the grid is a small change of life style. It has many rewards and blessings. Yes it is an investment. Cost is long forgotten when you have a quality product and you are secure. Join the rest of us off the map, Aye Matey 'Ere!

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