



CALIFORNIA BACKUP POWER

PROJECT

Residential:
The Masellis

LOCATION

Petaluma, CA

APPLICATION

Backup Power, Electric
Bill Cost Reduction

PRODUCT

Blue Planet Energy
Blue Ion 2.0

California Homeowners Rely on Blue Planet Energy During Wildfires

With an average of more than 8,000 wildfires per year between 2017 and 2020, and 2020 being the most destructive wildfire season yet, California ranks as the number one most wildfire-prone state in the U.S. As a result, over one million Californians had their power shut off by their utility in 2020 as a preemptive measure to prevent further wildfires.

BATTERY SYSTEM

(1) Blue Ion 2.0 cabinet,
16 kWh capacity

INSTALLER

Simply Solar

POWER CONVERSION

(1) OutBack Radian 8048
(2) OutBack FM100 Charge
Controllers

Safe Technology Offers Peace-of-Mind

Jim Maselli, a resident and local hardware store owner in Petaluma, California, has lived through multiple Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) 'Public Safety Power Shutoffs' (PSPS) in recent years and grew tired of having his power cut off due to potential wildfires. Most importantly, Jim wanted to be able to power his well during a blackout so that he would not lose access to his water supply for days or weeks at a time. Jim sought a reliable and long-lasting source of backup power, but did not want to use a noisy, fuel-dependent generator, nor high maintenance lead acid batteries.

After extensive research, Jim discovered Simply Solar, a solar-plus-storage installation company located in Petaluma with over two decades of experience.

Having installed countless Blue Planet Energy systems with solar energy, Simply Solar readily recommended a solar energy system and the high cycle life, 15-year warranted Blue Ion 2.0 energy storage solution to Jim.

"I wanted the ability to say I do not want to rely on my utility, PG&E, right now, or if PG&E decides to shut me off, I can choose to generate my own power regardless of what they decide."

— Jim Maselli
Homeowner





“The Blue Ion checked all the boxes I needed. I’m excited to see how the system performs over time!”

—Jim Maselli

Since this energy storage system would be installed in his home, Jim wanted to ensure that it used the safest, most environmentally benign lithium ion chemistry. Jim highly valued the fact that the Blue Ion 2.0 energy storage system uses lithium iron phosphate batteries, which are not prone to fire or thermal runaway.

Jim’s solar-plus-storage system consists of one Blue Ion 2.0 for a total of 16 kWh of energy storage, 7.68 kW of solar power, one OutBack Radian GS8048 inverter and two OutBack FM100 charge controllers. His system also includes preconfigured Blue Planet Energy and OpticsRE from OutBack Power remote control and monitoring. Although originally installed to just power a water well, this robust solar-plus-storage system powers all of Jim’s critical energy loads, including all of the lighting in his home as well as three refrigerators.

Reliable Energy Independence

Ever since wildfire season began ahead of schedule in August 2020, Jim has read about multiple power outages impacting his community but has never experienced them directly.

He has been able to seamlessly continue receiving water through his well during wildfire-induced outages and

preventive PSPS events. Jim has also been able to provide a refuge for his neighbors during these events who have stopped by to charge their cell phones and laptops to keep in touch with loved ones and follow wildfire-related updates.

Beyond providing reliable backup power, Jim’s solar energy plus energy storage system has enabled him to significantly reduce his monthly electric bills year-round. Since Jim decided to have his grid-tied system installed in 2020, he was also able to take advantage of the federal Solar Investment Tax Credit (ITC), which allowed him to deduct 26 percent of the cost of installing the solar-plus-storage system from his federal taxes.

“The Blue Ion 2.0 was recommended to me because of its safety and quality. I was looking for a system that would last, and not require extensive maintenance,” Jim said. “The Blue Ion checked all the boxes I needed. I’m excited to see how the system performs over time!”

Thanks to Simply Solar, solar power and reliable, long-lasting Blue Ion 2.0 batteries, Jim now has twenty-four-seven energy during critical emergencies and preemptive wildfire power shutoffs while saving on his electric bill for decades to come.