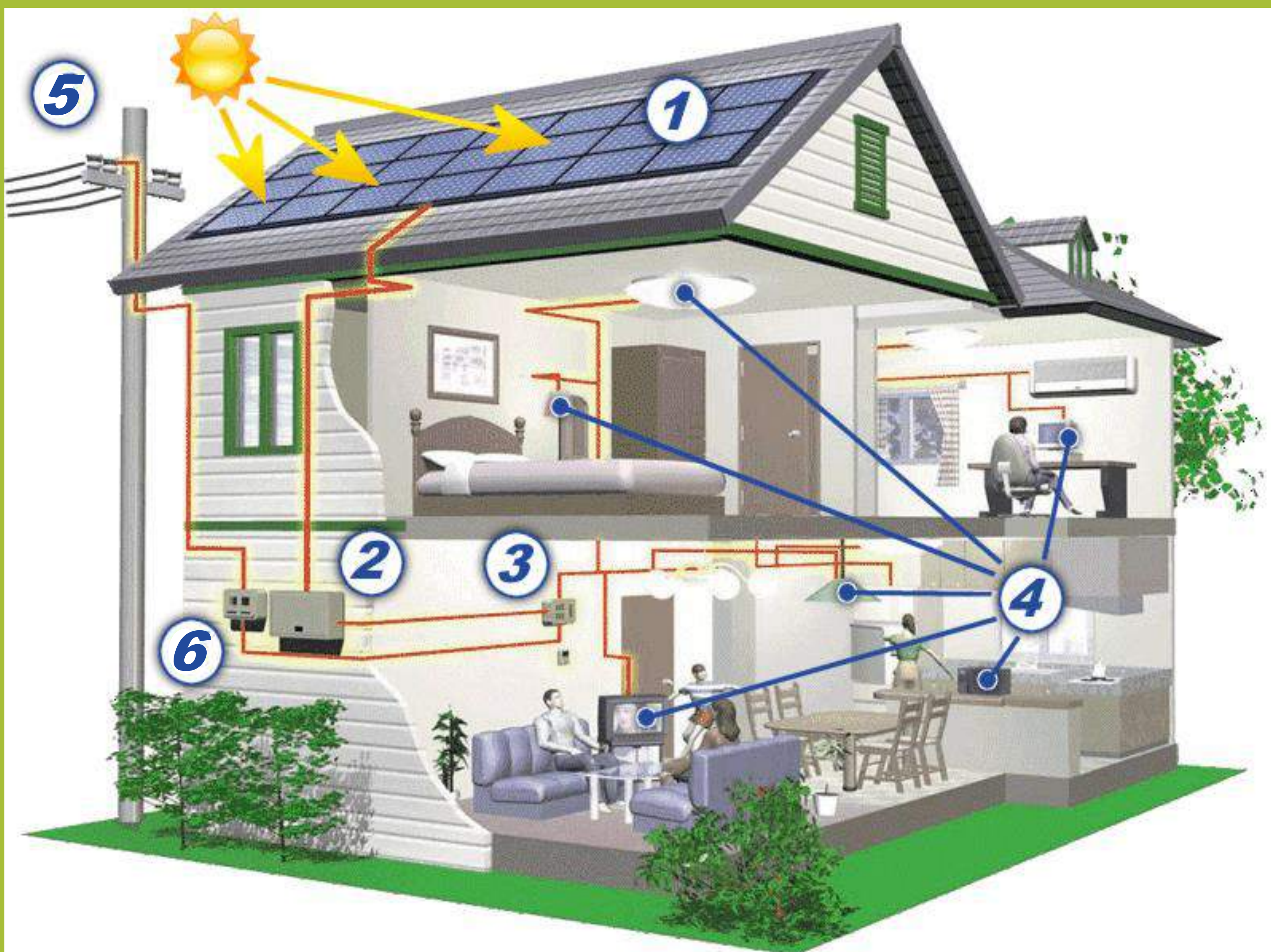


# Renewable Energy

## Solar Power



Solar photovoltaic (PV) panels (1) are made from a semiconductor material (most commonly silicon). The PV cells that make up each panel use the photovoltaic effect to generate Direct Current (DC) electricity from sunlight. An inverter (2) converts the DC electricity into Alternating Current (AC) electricity, which flows through a protection device called a circuit breaker (3) to power appliances at home (4). Electricity not used at home feeds into the national electric grid (5). The flow of electrical energy from the national grid into the house, and from the PV panels – via the inverter – into the grid, is monitored by an electricity meter (6).

Rooftop Solar Photovoltaic System  
Photo courtesy of Ollie Lucks

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