

PSC NO: 220 ELECTRICITY
NIAGARA MOHAWK POWER CORPORATION
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GENERAL INFORMATION

53. STANDARDIZED INTERCONNECTION REQUIREMENTS AND APPLICATION PROCESS FOR NEW DISTRIBUTED GENERATORS 2 MW OR LESS CONNECTED IN PARALLEL TO UTILITY DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS (Continued)

For non-inverter based systems and those inverter based systems not certified and tested in accordance with UL 1741 above 25 kW up to 200 kW, the potential applicants and utilities are encouraged to use expedited application process (Section I. B.), but only in circumstances where the utility deems it to be appropriate.

STEP 1: Initial Communication from the Potential Applicant.

Communication could range from a general inquiry to a completed application.

STEP 2: The Inquiry is Reviewed by the Utility to Determine the Nature of the Project.

Technical staff from the utility discusses the scope of the interconnection with the potential applicant (either by phone or in person) to determine what specific information and documents (such as an application, contract, technical requirements, specifications, listing of qualified type-tested equipment/systems, application fee information, applicable rate schedules, and metering requirements) will be provided to the potential applicant. The preliminary technical feasibility of the project at the proposed location may also be discussed at this time. All such information and a copy of the standardized interconnection requirements must be sent to the applicant within three (3) business days following the initial communication from the potential applicant, unless the potential applicant indicates otherwise. A utility representative will be designated to serve as the single point of contact for the applicant (unless the utility informs the applicant otherwise) in coordinating the potential applicant's project with the utility.

STEP 3: Potential Applicant Files an Application.

The potential applicant submits an application to the utility. The submittal must include the completed standard application form, including a copy of equipment certification to UL 1741 (November 2005 revision) as applicable, a three line diagram specific to the proposed system, a letter of authorization (if applicant is agent for the customer), and payment of a non-refundable \$350 application fee, except that the fee shall be refunded to net metering customer-generators unless applied toward the cost of installing a dedicated transformer. If the applicant proceeds with the project to completion, the application fee will be applied as a payment to the utility's total cost for interconnection, including the cost of processing the application. Within five (5) business days of receiving the application, the utility will notify the applicant of receipt and whether the application has been completed adequately. It is in the best interest of the applicant to provide the utility with all pertinent technical information as early as possible in the process. If the required documentation is presented in this step, it will allow the utility to perform the required reviews and allow the process to proceed as expeditiously as possible.

STEP 4: Utility Conducts a Preliminary Review and Develops a Cost Estimate for the Coordinated Electric System Interconnection Review (CESIR).

The utility conducts a preliminary review of the proposed system interconnection. Upon completion of the preliminary review, the utility will inform the applicant as to whether the proposed interconnection is viable or not, and provide the applicant with an estimate of costs associated with the completion of the CESIR. The preliminary review shall be completed and a written response detailing the outcome of the preliminary review shall be sent to the applicant within fifteen (15) business days of the completion of Step 3. The utility's response to applicants proposing to interconnect aggregate DG systems above 25 kW and up to 2 MW, or proposing to interconnect to network systems will include preliminary comments on requirements for protective relaying, metering and telemetry.

Issued by Thomas B. King, President, Syracuse, NY