

## General Rules and Regulations

### 15.0 INTERCONNECTION OF DISTRIBUTED ENERGY RESOURCES

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#### 15.1 APPLICABILITY

These Rules and Regulations will apply to: (1) any Consumer-Generator (Member) that uses solar, wind, geothermal, biomass as its energy resource; (2) any Member-owned hydroelectric generator with nameplate rating less than 10MW; (3) any Member owned energy storage technology having an installed capacity of not more than 10MVA; (4) any Member-owned electric generator with a nameplate rating not more than 15MW that converts the otherwise lost energy from heat from exhaust stacks or pipes to electricity and that does not combust additional fossil fuel; (5) fuel cells using hydrogen derived from an eligible energy resource as defined in 40-2-124 C.R.S.; and (6) any electric generating resource that is a "Qualifying Facility," as defined in 18 C.F.R. 292 under Section 201 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act (PURPA – 16USC824a-3, as interpreted in 13CFR292), that a Member seeks to interconnect with the Association's electric distribution system.

#### 15.2 PURCHASE OF ELECTRIC OUTPUT

The Association will purchase all power, energy or both made available to the Association (1) by a Distributed Energy Resource (DER) with residential class service from a certified inverter-based interconnection where the total nameplate generating capacity connected at one meter location is 10kW or less; or (2) by Members with commercial or industrial class service from interconnected electric generating resources where the total nameplate generating capacity connected at one meter location is 25kW or less; or (3) by any Member with residential class service from interconnected electric storing resources where the total nameplate storage capacity connected at one meter location is 10kW or less. Purchase of power, energy or both from interconnected resources with a total nameplate generating capacity connected at one meter location in excess of 25kW will be handled on a case-by-case basis and may require a contract with Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc. (Tri-State); provided that subject to the provisions of these rules, Tri-State and the resource owner may agree to transmit the output of the interconnection resource to another electric utility.

#### 15.3 DEFINITIONS

**Applicant:** Any person, developer, government entity, or any other legal entity applying to the Association for DER interconnection to the Association's electric grid.

  
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**Business Day:** Monday through Thursday, excluding federal holidays.

**Daytime Loading:** Power consumed between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

**Distributed Energy Resource or DER:** the Member's interconnection source of electric power connected to the Association's distribution grid, including retail renewable distributed generation, other small generation facilities for the production of electricity, energy storage systems, or combination of any of these elements, as identified in the interconnection request, but shall not include the interconnection facilities not owned by the interconnection Member.

**Distribution system:** the Association's facilities and equipment used to transmit electricity to its ultimate consumption point directly from interconnection resources or from interchanges with higher voltage transmission networks which transport bulk power over longer distances.

**Energy storage system:** any commercially available, Member-sited system or utility-sited system, including batteries and batteries paired with on-site generation, that does not generate energy, that is capable of retaining, storing, and delivering electrical energy by chemical, thermal, mechanical, or other means.

**Export capacity:** the maximum nameplate rating of alternating current (AC) electrical power that an interconnection resource is capable of delivering to the utility's system across the point of interconnection.

**Grid preserving settings:** grid preserving functions defined in the most current version of IEEE 1547, that allow the inverter to monitor grid conditions and determine the amount of available export and tripping thresholds to maintain grid integrity.

**Line section:** a portion of the Association's electric delivery system that is connected to a Member and divided by automatic sectionalizing devices or the end of the distribution line.

**Mainline:** a portion of the Association's grid that is three phases with the first upline protective device being the substation reclosers or breakers

  
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**Minor modifications:** modifications to the Association's distribution system or to the interconnection facilities that do not have a material impact on the cost or on the timing of an interconnection request.

**Non-exporting system:** an interconnection resource that is designed so that it does not intentionally transfer electrical energy to the Association's distribution or transmission system across the point of common coupling. Such systems may be used to supply part or all of a Member's load continuously or during an outage. A system can be non-exporting by virtue of inverter programming or by some other on-site limiting element.

**Operating mode:** the mode of DER operational characteristics that determines the performance during normal and abnormal conditions. For example, an operating mode such as "export only," "import only," and "no exchange."

**Small generating facility:** a generator or aggregation of generators with a nameplate capacity less than 10 MW.

**Witness Test:** procedure and methods of testing DER as defined in 15.17.

### 15.4 INTERCONNECTION REQUEST

An Applicant who requests interconnection of a DER to the Association's distribution system, will submit an Interconnection Request and pay an initial non-refundable application fee. The fee shall be \$200 for a level 1 or level 2 screening, and \$1000 for a level 3 screening. If a supplemental review is requested an additional fee may be required. Interconnection requests are evaluated on a first come, first serve order per feeder, per substation transformer, and per substation based upon the date of application.

The Interconnection Request will be addressed to:

Mountain View Electric Association, Inc. ATTN: Key Accounts - DER  
11140 East Woodmen Road, Falcon, Colorado 80831

Information on the application process can be obtained by telephone at 719-495-2283, or by email at DER@mvea.coop.

  
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#### 15.5 INTERCONNECTION REQUIREMENTS – INVERTER BASED

All interconnections using an inverter will follow UL 1741 compliance at the time of interconnection and unless otherwise determined by the Association. Interconnections using an inverter shall also comply with the most current version of IEEE 1547 and have proper advanced grid compliant settings as may be required by the Association. The Association reserves the right to change inverter requirements to maintain safety and efficiency. This may include the ability for the Association to remotely control inverter settings or functions.

#### 15.6 INTERCONNECTION SCREENING – LEVEL 1

DER interconnection requests must follow the requirements set in Appendix 2, and may be evaluated against the grid's hosting capacity for solar at the point of interconnection. This process includes evaluation of generating capacity, grid demand and facilities, and other interconnected DER's in the area. If additional review is needed, the supplemental review process will proceed. If the proposed interconnection fails the screens, but the Association determines that the generating facility may nevertheless be interconnected consistent with safety, reliability, and power quality standards, the Association shall provide the interconnected Member (IM) an executable interconnection agreement within five (5) business days after the determination.

#### 15.7 INTERCONNECTION SCREENING – LEVEL 2

DER interconnection requests with a nameplate rating greater than 25 kW or due to Level 1 ineligibility may be evaluated under Level 2 screening procedures set in Appendix 2. The complete Level 2 screening will also include all screens under Level 1 procedures.

Additional fees may apply if additional review is required. Tri-State Generation & Transmission Association requires a system impact study for interconnection requests in excess of 500 kW. The expense of such study shall be the responsibility of the applicant.

If the proposed interconnection fails the screens, but the Association does not or cannot determine from the initial review whether the interconnection resource may nevertheless be interconnected consistent with safety, reliability, and power quality standards unless the applicant is willing to consider minor modifications or further

  
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study, the Association shall provide the applicant with the opportunity to attend a Member options meeting. The Association shall provide to the Applicant in writing detailed information on the reasons(s) for failure.

If the Association determines the interconnection request cannot be approved without minor modifications at minimal cost; without a supplemental study or other additional studies or actions; or without significant costs to address safety, reliability, or power quality problems, the Association shall notify the applicant within the five-business day period after the determination and provide the data and analyses underlying its conclusion. Within ten (10) business days of the Association's determination, the Association shall offer to convene a review meeting to review possible interconnection facility modifications or the screen analysis and related results, to determine what further steps are needed to permit the small generating facility to be connected safely and reliably. At the time of notification of the Association's determination, or at the review meeting, the Association shall:

1. Offer to perform facility modifications or minor modifications to the Association's electric system (e.g., changing meters, fuses, relay settings) and provide a non-binding good faith estimate of the limited cost to make such modifications to the utility's electric system.
2. Offer to perform a supplemental review and provide a non-binding good faith estimate of the costs and time of such review; or
3. Obtain the Applicant's interconnection agreement to continue evaluating the interconnection request under the Level 3 study process.

### 15.8 INTERCONNECTION SCREENING – LEVEL 3

An Applicant who requests interconnection of a DER to the Association's distribution system, where the total nameplate generating capacity at one meter location is greater than 2MW or any larger limitation determined by a Level 2 screen or pre-application report set forth in Appendix 4, will submit to the Level 3 Study Process as set forth under Section 15.16 hereunder and the Interconnection Rules established by the Colorado Public Utilities Commission. This process may include Tri-State Generation & Transmission's review and approval.

  
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#### 15.9 INFORMATION REQUIRED IN INTERCONNECTION REQUEST

The following minimum information is required by the Association as part of the Interconnection Request:

1. The name and address of all owners and operators and the location of the facility;
2. A brief description of the facility, including a one-line diagram and a statement indicating whether the facility is a small power production or cogeneration facility as defined by PURPA. If a cogeneration facility, whether it is a topping-cycle or bottoming-cycle facility;
3. The primary energy source used or proposed to be used by the facility, and the energy source mix of the facility;
4. The power production capacity of the facility, including nameplate ratings of the generator(s) and storage system(s) in kW, kVA, and AC Volts;
5. The percentage of ownership of the facility by any electric utility or by any public utility holding company or by any person, corporation or entity owned by either;
6. The date installation of the facility began or will begin, and estimated in-service date;
7. The name, telephone number, fax number, mail address and e-mail address of the contact person for the owner;
8. The name, telephone number, fax number, mail address and e-mail address of the contact person at any engineering firm involved in the installation of the facility;
9. The manufacturer, model number and nameplate ratings of any inverter in kW, kVA, and AC Volts;
10. Include a copy of the manufacturer's cut-sheet showing UL 1741 listing for the inverter;

  
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11. Whether the entire generating facility has been certified, as a system, by a nationally recognized testing laboratory recognized by the United States Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) to test and certify interconnection equipment. If so, attach a copy of the certification documentation.
12. Copies of all deeds, leases, contracts to purchase and documentation of business relationships demonstrating that the Applicant has the right to possess or occupy the situs of the facility for the purpose of installing or constructing the electric generating facility.

#### 15.10 RECEIPT AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF INTERCONNECTION REQUEST

The Association will date, and time stamp the Interconnection Request upon receipt and will notify the Applicant of receipt within three (3) business days thereof. Within ten (10) business days of receipt, the Association will notify the Applicant whether the Interconnection Request is complete, and if not, the Association will provide a list of all information that must be provided to complete the Interconnection Request. If the Applicant does not submit the necessary information to complete an Interconnection Request within ten (10) business days after receipt of a notice that it is incomplete, the Interconnection Request will be deemed withdrawn. Applications will be considered and acted upon in the order in which they are received.

#### 15.11 MODIFICATION OF AN INTERCONNECTION REQUEST

The Applicant will provide written notice of any modification to machine data or equipment configuration or to the location of the interconnection. The Association will evaluate the new modification request on the basis of the new total capacity of the DER. The Association will date, and time stamp such notice upon receipt, after which receipt of such notice will be considered the date of receipt of the Interconnection Request. In the event that modifications are made without providing written notice to the Association, the Interconnection Request will be deemed withdrawn.

#### 15.12 INITIAL REVIEW OF INTERCONNECTION REQUEST

Within ten (10) business days after notifying the Applicant that the Interconnection Request is complete, the Association will perform an initial review using the screens set forth on Appendix 2 and will notify the Applicant of the results of the

  
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review. If the proposed interconnection passes the screens, the Interconnection Request will be approved and the Association will provide the Applicant with an executable Interconnection Agreement, in the standard form set forth on Appendix 1 here of within four (4) business days of the determination.

If the proposed interconnection fails the screens, but the Association determines that the small generating facility may nevertheless be interconnected consistent with safety, reliability, and power quality standards, the Association shall provide the Applicant with an executable interconnection agreement within five (5) business days after the determination.

### 15.13 INTERCONNECTED RESOURCES FOR LIMITED OR NON-EXPORT

The agreement in Section 3 of Appendix 1 allows the Applicant to have a Limited or Non-Exporting interconnected DER. The Applicant must have a digital meter installed and in the event of exporting infringement, the Association may disconnect the Applicant. If the contribution of the interconnected resource is limited by programming of the maximum active power output, use of a power control system, use of a power relay, or some other mutually agreeable, on-site limiting element, only the capacity that is designed to inject electricity to the Association's distribution or transmission system (other than inadvertent exports and fault contribution) will be used within certain technical screens and evaluations.

### 15.14 MEMBER OPTIONS MEETING

If the proposed interconnection fails the screens, the notice of the results of the initial review will include an offer to meet with the Applicant within ten (10) business days to consider minor modifications to either the electric generating facility or the Association's system necessary to approve the interconnection, to provide a non-binding good-faith estimate of the cost to make any necessary modifications to the Association's system, to offer to perform a supplemental review of the application to determine whether the facility can be connected consistent with safety, reliability and power quality standards and to provide a non-binding good-faith estimate of the cost of the supplemental review.

### 15.15 SUPPLEMENTAL REVIEW

If the Applicant agrees to the supplemental review within fifteen (15) business days of the offer and submits a deposit for the good faith estimate of the cost of the supplemental review, the Association will, within thirty (30) business days following

  
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receipt of the deposit, determine if the electric generating facility can be connected safely and reliably using the process set forth on Appendix 3. If so, the Association will forward an executable interconnection agreement to the Applicant within fifteen (15) business days following receipt of the deposit, setting forth any necessary changes to the interconnection resource and which requires the Applicant to pay the costs of any necessary modifications to the Association's distribution system prior to interconnection. If the written agreement and deposit have not been received by the Association within fifteen (15) business days, the interconnection request shall continue to be evaluated under the Level 3 Process, unless the request is withdrawn by the interconnection Applicant.

To accept the Association's offer to conduct a supplemental review, the Applicant, within fifteen (15) business days of the offer, shall agree in writing to the supplemental review and submit a deposit for the estimated costs. If the written agreement and deposit have not been received by the Association within fifteen (15) business days, the interconnection request shall continue to be evaluated under the Level 3 Process, unless the request is withdrawn by the Applicant. The Applicant shall be responsible for the Association's actual costs for conducting the supplemental review.

#### 15.16 LEVEL 3 STUDY PROCESS

This study process shall be used by an interconnection Member proposing to interconnect its interconnection resource with the Association's system if the interconnection resource does not meet the size limitations for the Level 2 Process, is not certified; or is certified but did not pass the Level 1 Process or Level 2 Process.

The Level 3 process consists of three parts set forth in Appendix 4 that would identify any potential system impacts from the interconnection and any necessary modifications to the DER or the Association's electric system to allow a safe and reliable interconnection. All costs associated with the study and any system upgrades deemed necessary from the results of the Level 3 study will be paid by the Applicant. A scoping meeting may be needed to discuss interconnection application and how the study will be completed. The Association will provide an agreement and a non-binding good faith estimate of costs for each study, that both parties have agreed should be performed. The Applicant will have fifteen (15) business days to return agreements and deposits to remain in consideration for interconnection. The Association will complete all studies within ninety (90)

  
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business days, or any agreed upon time if study is split into parts, upon authorization from the Applicant.

In order to begin the Level 3 process all information listed in Section 15.9 will be required in addition to the following:

1. One-line diagram, including
  - i. Identification of primary disconnecting means
  - ii. Relay protection
  - iii. Electrical parameters of AC equipment including
    - a. Inverters
    - b. Transformers
    - c. Collector strings
2. Inverter specifications, including
  - i. Short circuit capability
  - ii. Harmonic content spectrum
  - iii. Power factor capability
  - iv. Industry listings and conformance to applicable IEEE standards
3. Representative load/demand data (for peak and light load cases)
4. Future load expectations
5. Any other information reasonably required by the Association, including information required pursuant to PUC Rule 3856 of 4 CCR 723-3.

### 15.17 PRE-APPLICATION REQUEST

An interconnection Applicant may submit a formal written request for a pre-application report set forth in Appendix 5 on a proposed interconnection at a specific site using a form supplied by the Association, unless such information is confidential and cannot be provided pursuant to a confidentiality agreement. The Association may charge up to a Commission-approved fee for the pre-application report. Upon completion, each pre-application report shall be dated and publicly posted to the Association's website with any Applicant identifying information redacted.

### 15.18 INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT

After receiving an Interconnection Agreement from the Association, the Applicant will have thirty (30) business days, or other mutually agreeable time, to sign and return the Agreement or request that the Association file an unexecuted copy with the Colorado Public Utilities Commission. If the Applicant does not return the

  
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signed Agreement or ask that it be filed with the Commission within thirty (30) business days, the Application will be deemed withdrawn.

#### 15.19 INTERCONNECTION METERING

The Association will provide metering necessary for the application under the Association's Net Metering Rate 20.42 where applicable. Any additional metering required by the Applicant will be installed at the Applicant's expense. Nothing in this Rule will preclude either the Applicant or the Association from installing additional metering, at their expense, necessary to count Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) for their own account. The Association may require the Applicant to install a production meter at Applicant's expense. For systems larger than 500 kW or requiring Tri-State Generation & Transmission Association's approval, additional metering may be required.

#### 15.20 COMMISSIONING TESTS AND INSPECTIONS

Commissioning tests of the Applicant's installed equipment will be performed pursuant to applicable codes and standards, including the most current version of Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) 1547.1 "IEEE Standard Conformance Test Procedures for Equipment Interconnecting Distributed Resources with Electric Power Systems." The Association will be given at least four (4) business days written notice of and will be allowed to be present to witness commissioning tests. The Association will be reimbursed by the Applicant for its costs in witnessing such tests for facilities installed following Supplemental Reviews or the Level 3 Study Process. Within three (3) business days after the Association has received notice that the Commissioning Tests have been successfully completed, the Association will provide a written Operational Approval Letter to the Applicant. Such letter may be provided by electronic mail.

#### 15.21 NO INTERCONNECTION UNTIL COMPLIANCE

The electric generating resource and/or storage system will not be interconnected with the Association's distribution system until it has been established, to the satisfaction of the Association, that the resource complies with the provisions of this Rule, any certifications required hereby and the provisions of the Interconnection Agreement, including any special provisions determined during a Screening, Supplemental Review, or Level 3 Study Process.

  
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#### 15.22 SAFE OPERATION - MAINTENANCE - DISCONNECTION

The Applicant will be fully responsible for compliance with the standards set forth in the most current version of IEEE 1547 and for the operation, repair and maintenance of the interconnected electric generating resource and storage system as required to maintain safe and reliable operation, and to ensure that it complies at all times with the interconnection standards to which it has been certified. The resource will include a visible, lockable disconnect switch capable of isolating the resource from the Association interconnected utility system. The Association will have access to the disconnect switch and the metering equipment of the interconnected electric generating resource at all times. The Association will provide reasonable notice to the Applicant, when possible, prior to using its right of access.

The Association may disconnect the resource from the interconnected utility system at any time if it determines that the resource is not operating in a manner consistent with the Interconnection Agreement, or if ownership of the equipment or the Member account is assigned or otherwise transferred without permission of the Association.

The Association may temporarily disconnect the resource from the interconnected utility system, either directly or by operation of a disconnection or protective device in the interconnected utility system, for a scheduled or unscheduled outage. The Association will inform the Applicant in advance of any scheduled disconnection, or as soon as reasonably possible after an unscheduled disconnection.

#### 15.23 MODIFICATION OF INTERCONNECTED RESOURCE

The Applicant shall be responsible for notifying the Association and initiating an amendment to the Interconnection Agreement before the interconnected resource is modified, replaced, or increased in capacity. Failure of the Applicant to do so may result in disconnection of the DER from the Association's system. Following such notification, the Association may, in its sole discretion, (1) prepare a simple amendment to the Interconnection Agreement; (2) require that the Applicant submit a new \$200 non-refundable application fee and submit the modified, replaced or increased DER to further review before amendment to the Interconnection Agreement; or (3) after further study, require payment by the Applicant for improvements to the Association's system prior to amendment of the Interconnection Agreement.

  
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#### 15.24 LIABILITY – INDEMNIFICATION

Each party's liability to the other for any direct loss, cost, damage or expense, including reasonable attorney fees, relating to or arising from any act or omission in performance of the Interconnection Agreement will be limited to the amount of direct damage actually incurred. In no event will either party be liable to the other for any indirect, incidental, special, consequential, or punitive damages of any kind whatsoever except as provided for herein.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Rule, the Applicant and the Association will at all times indemnify, defend and save the other harmless from any and all damages, losses, claims, including claims and actions relating to injury to or death of any person or damage to property, demand, suits, recoveries, costs and expenses, including court costs and attorney fees, and all other obligations by or to third parties, arising out of or resulting from the indemnifying party's action, inactions or obligations under the Interconnection Agreement, except in cases of gross negligence or intentional wrongdoing by the party to be indemnified.

#### 15.25 INSURANCE

For systems of 500 kW or less, the Member is not required to maintain or keep in effect liability insurance.

For systems above 500 kW and up to 5 MW, the Member, at its sole expense, shall obtain and maintain during the entire term of the interconnection liability insurance with combined single limit for bodily injury and property damage of not less than One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) per occurrence.

For systems above 5 MW, the Member, at its sole expense, shall obtain and maintain during the entire term of the interconnection liability insurance with a combined single limit for bodily injury and property damage of not less than Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000) per occurrence.

For systems above 500 kW, the Association shall be named as an additional insured by endorsement on the insurance policy and the policy shall provide that written notice be given to the Association at least thirty (30) business days prior to any cancellation or reduction in coverage. Such liability insurance shall provide by endorsement on the policy that the Association shall not, by reason of its inclusion as an additional insured, incur liability to the insurance carrier for the payment of

  
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any premiums. The liability shall not exclude coverage for any incident related to the subject generator or its operation.

Certificates of Insurance evidencing requisite coverage shall be furnished to the Association prior to interconnection. Upon request of the Association, the Member shall provide current proof of requisite insurance coverage. The Member will not be allowed to commence or continue interconnected operations unless, in the Association's sole discretion, satisfactory evidence of the effectiveness of requisite insurance coverage has been provided.

#### 15.26 TIME FRAMES

The Association will make reasonable efforts to meet all time frames provided in this Rule unless the Association and the Applicant agree to a different schedule. If the Association cannot meet a deadline provided for herein, it will so notify the Applicant, explain the reason for the failure to meet the deadline, and provide an estimated time by which it will complete the applicable step in the interconnection process.

#### 15.27 DISPUTES

If a dispute arises relating to an Interconnection Request, and is not resolved, the parties (the "Disputants") will first proceed in good faith to submit the matter to mediation. The Disputants will jointly appoint an acceptable mediator and will share equally in the cost of such mediation. In the event the entire dispute is not resolved within twenty-four (24) calendar days from the date written notice requesting mediation is sent by one Disputant to the other(s), the mediation, unless otherwise agreed, will terminate; and the Disputants may then exercise whatever rights and remedies they may have in equity or law, consistent with the terms of the agreements between the Disputants, or either of them may seek resolution at the Colorado Public Utilities Commission.

#### 15.28 COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATIONS

The Provisions of Colorado Public Utilities rules and regulations at 4 CCR723-3 Interconnection Procedures and Standards will generally control all Interconnection Requests; provided that in the event of a conflict between such regulations and this Rule, the provisions of this Rule will control.

  
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#### 15.29 ASSIGNMENT

The applicant may not assign its rights nor delegate its duties under this Agreement without the Association's written consent. Any assignment or delegation Applicant makes without the Association's written consent will not be valid. The Association will not unreasonably withhold its consent to Applicant's assignment of this Agreement. An assignee or new Member must submit a new Interconnection Application and Agreement to the Association, together with a copy of its insurance policy, if necessary, and obtain the Association's written approval before any assignment will occur and before any net metering credits will be allowed the new owner. Applicant assumes the responsibility of ensuring a new owner or assignee is aware that the new owner or assignee must re-apply and obtain the Association's written acceptance, or the equipment must be removed or disabled to prevent future interconnection and/or operation.

#### 15.30 RECONSIDERATION AND AMENDMENT

Section 15.01 through 15.24 of the Association's General Rules and Regulations will be reconsidered and updated or amended as circumstances warrant, but in any event no less frequently than every sixty (60) months.

  
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**Appendix 1.  
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**Interconnection Application and Agreement  
for Grid Connected Renewable Energy Resources**

**Section 1. Applicant Information**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street Address (if different than above): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Primary Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mobile Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rate Class: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Property Owner Name and Address (if different): \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Section 2. Distributed Energy Resource Information**

System Type:   Solar   Wind   Hydro   Natural Gas   Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Prime Mover:   Photovoltaic   Turbine   Reciprocating   Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phasing:        Single Phase                      Three Phase  
 Generator Size:    \_\_\_\_\_(kW DC)    \_\_\_\_\_(DC Volts)  
  
 Inverter Manufacture: \_\_\_\_\_ Inverter Model \_\_\_\_\_  
 Inverter Output Power Rating: \_\_\_\_\_(kW AC)    \_\_\_\_\_(AC Volts)  
 Inverter Location Area and Cardinal Direction: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Disconnect Type:   Separated Manual Disconnect    Location: \_\_\_\_\_  
  
 Energy Storage Backup:    Yes                      No  
 Storage Size: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Manufacturer: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Model #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Energy Storage Use:    Stand-by Power Supply                      Serving Isolated Load  
                                   Other: \_\_\_\_\_



**Appendix 1.  
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Will the distribution Grid be used to charge the storage device?

- Yes (attach data sheet of charger)
- No

If yes, what times of the day do you expect to charge your storage device?

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Is export controlled to less than the Total Aggregate Nameplate Rating?

- Yes
- No (skip section 3)

**Section 3. Interconnection Resource with Limited or Non-Export**

- Limited Export of \_\_\_\_\_ kW AC
- Non-Export

Method of Export Limitation:  Power Control System     Reverse Power Protection  
 Minimum Power Protection     Other (describe): \_\_\_\_\_

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Export Controls applied to how many generators?     One     Multiple

If Power Control System is used, open loop response time(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Power Control System export capacity: \_\_\_\_\_ (kW AC)    \_\_\_\_\_ (kVA)

Energy Storage System Power Control System operating mode:

- Unrestricted     Export Only     Import Only     No Exchange

Describe which Generators the export control system controls: \_\_\_\_\_

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As the Applicant, I agree to and will not modify the system in any way that will affect this export limitation for the duration of my interconnection with the Association. I further understand that any violation of this export agreement will result in a disconnection of service under section 15.10 of the Agreement.

Signed (Applicant): \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



**Appendix 1.  
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**Section 4. Planned Installation Information**

Electrical Contractor: \_\_\_\_\_ Contractor #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

**Section 5. Attachments**

- Association Rules and Regulations Section
- Site drawing which includes utility meter, vehicle access and a/c disconnect locations
- Generating System and/or Storage System One Line Drawing
- Storage System Specification Sheet
- System Owner’s Certificate of Insurance
- System Manufacturer’s Cut Sheets showing UL Listing
- Record of active system settings showing implementation of grid supporting settings

**Section 6. Utility inspection and Approval (to be completed by the Association after installation)**

Application Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
System Inspected by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
System Tested by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## **Appendix 2. (Page 1 of 5)**

### **Association Requirements Based on Colorado Public Utility Commission Regulations for Level 1 and Level 2 Interconnection Procedures**

#### **Section 1. Eligibility**

##### **1. Level 1**

If the Applicant's proposed system meets the below requirements, then level 2 screening procedures shall not apply. If the application fails the screening, the supplemental review shall proceed.

- a. Single-Phase interconnection
- b. Interconnection is inverter based and complies with requirements set forth in 15.5.
- c. The proposed generating system is under 25 kW AC.
- d. The proposed generating system may not be sized to supply more than 120% of the reasonably expected average of the Applicant's annual total energy consumption at all property owned or leased by Applicant within the Association's service territory.

##### **2. Level 2**

If the Applicant's proposed system meets the below requirements, then both the level 1 and level 2 screening procedures shall apply, otherwise a level 3 screening shall proceed. If the application fails the screening, the supplemental review shall proceed.

- a. Interconnection is under 500 kW or any other limit as otherwise determined by a pre-application.
- b. The proposed generating system may not be sized to supply more than 120% of the reasonably expected average of the Applicant's annual total energy consumption at all property owned or leased by Applicant within the Association's service territory.



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### **Section 2. Screening Procedures**

#### 1. Level 1 Procedures

##### 1.A Secondary lines and Service

- a. If the proposed interconnection resource is to be interconnected on single-phase shared secondary, the aggregate generation capacity on the shared secondary, including the proposed small generating facility, shall not exceed 25 kW. Energy storage system(s) capacity for purposes of this screen, shall be based on PUC subparagraph 3853(c)(III).
- b. If the proposed interconnection resource is single-phase and is to be interconnected on a center tap neutral of a 240-volt service, its addition shall not create an imbalance between the two sides of the 240-volt service of more than 20 percent of the nameplate rating of the service transformer.
- c. The nameplate capacity of a proposed interconnection resource, in combination with the nameplate capacity of any previously interconnected interconnection resource, shall not exceed the capacity of the Member's existing electrical service unless there is a simultaneous request for an upgrade to the Member's electrical service, regardless of exporting or non-exporting designations for any of the interconnection resources.

##### 1.B Distribution Transformer

- a. The proposed interconnection inverter's rated AC kW does not exceed 100% of nameplate transformer nameplate kVA.
- b. The proposed interconnection resource, in aggregation with other generation on the distribution transformer do not exceed 125% of transformer nameplate kVA.

##### 1.C Grid Capacity

- a. The proposed interconnection resource, in aggregation with other generation on the shared distribution line section, do not exceed the line section(s) minimum daytime loading as most recently



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measured or calculated.

- b. For interconnection of a proposed interconnected resource on the distribution circuit, the circuit's minimum daytime loading is no less than 20% of the circuit's peak as measured or calculated in the last 12 months.
- c. No construction of facilities by the Association on its own system will be required to accommodate the small generating facility.

### 1.D Seasonal Circuit

- a. The proposed interconnection resource's point of interconnection must be on a portion of the Association's distribution system that is subject to the utility's tariffs. Proposed interconnection resources on highly seasonal circuits shall also be subject to the supplemental review pursuant to paragraph 3855(d).

## 2. Level 2 Procedures

### 2.A System Protection

- a. For interconnection of a proposed non-inverter-based interconnection resources to a radial distribution circuit, the aggregated generation, including the proposed interconnection resources, on the line section(s) shall not exceed 15 percent of the line section's annual peak load as most recently measured at the substation or calculated for the line section(s). A line section is that portion of the Association's electric system connected to a Member bounded by automatic sectionalizing devices or the end of the distribution line. A fuse is not an automatic sectionalizing device. Energy storage system(s) capacity for purposes of this screen shall be based on subparagraph 3853(c)(III).
- b. The proposed interconnection resource, in aggregation with other generation on the distribution circuit, will not contribute more than ten percent to the distribution circuit's maximum fault current at the point on the distribution feeder voltage (primary) level nearest the proposed point of change of ownership.



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(Page 4 of 5)**

- c. The proposed interconnection resource, in aggregate with other generation on the distribution circuit, will not cause any distribution protective devices and equipment (including, but not limited to, substation breakers, fuse cutouts, and line reclosers), or interconnection Member (IM) equipment on the system to exceed 87.5 percent of the short circuit interrupting capability; nor will the interconnection be proposed for a circuit that already exceeds 87.5 percent of the short circuit interrupting capability.

**2.B Voltage**

- a. The proposed interconnection resource shall meet the rapid voltage change and flicker requirements of IEEE Standard 1453 (2015) and IEEE Standard 1547-2018. This rule does not include any later amendments or editions of these standards. These standards are available for public inspection at the Commission’s office, 1560 Broadway, Suite 250, Denver, CO 80202.
- b. The type of interconnection to a primary distribution line shall be determined based on the table below, including a review of the type of electrical service provided to the interconnection Member, line configuration, and the transformer connection to limit the potential for creating over-voltages on the Association’s electric power system due to a loss of ground during the operating time of any anti-islanding function.

<b>Primary Distribution Line Type</b>	<b>Type of Interconnection to Primary Distribution Line</b>	<b>Result/Criteria</b>
Three-phase, three wire	3-phase or single phase, phase-to-phase	Pass screen
Three-phase, four wire	Effectively-grounded 3 phase or Single-phase, line-to-neutral	Pass screen

**2.C System Network**

- a. For interconnection of a proposed interconnection resource to the load side of spot network protectors serving more than a single Member, the proposed interconnection resource must utilize an



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inverter-based equipment package and, together with the aggregated other inverter-based interconnection resource, shall not exceed the smaller of five percent of a spot network's maximum load or 300 kW. For spot networks serving a single Member, the interconnection resource must use inverter-based equipment package and either meet the requirements above or shall use a protection scheme or operate the generator so as not to exceed on-site load or otherwise prevent nuisance operation of the spot network protectors.

- b. For interconnection of a proposed interconnection resource to the load side of area network protectors, the proposed interconnection resource must utilize an inverter-based equipment package and, together with the aggregated other inverter-based interconnection resource, shall not exceed the smaller of ten percent of an area network's minimum load or 500 kW AC.

### **Section 3. Screening Standards**

Notwithstanding Section 1. above, the Association may incorporate into its interconnection standards any change in interconnection guidelines pursuant to standards developed under IEEE 1547 for interconnections. To the extent the new IEEE standards conflict with these existing guidelines, the new standards will apply.



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### **Association Requirements Based on Colorado Public Utility Commission Regulations for Supplemental Review Interconnection Procedures**

The interconnection Member may specify the order in which the Association completes the supplemental review screens.

1. The Association shall notify the interconnection Member of the failure of the interconnection resource in any supplement review screen or of the inability to perform any screen for the interconnection resource. Within two (2) business days of the receipt of such notice, the interconnection Member may grant the Association permission:
  - a. to continue evaluating the proposed interconnection under this paragraph;
  - b. to continue evaluating the proposed interconnection under this paragraph subject to the Association's determination of minor modifications;
  - c. to terminate the supplemental review and instead to continue evaluating the interconnection resource under the Level 3 Process: or
  - d. to terminate the supplemental review upon withdrawal of the interconnection request by the interconnection Member.
2. Minimum load, minimum loading, and minimum load data shall be specific to time(s) that the interconnection resource exports active power to the Association.
3. Supplemental Review Screens
  - a. Minimum load screen
    - i) The interconnection resource capacity on the line section(s) shall be less than 100 percent of the minimum load for all line sections bounded by automatic sectionalizing devices upstream of the proposed interconnection resource. Energy storage system(s), proposed and aggregated capacity for purposes of this screen, shall be based on subparagraph 3853(c)(III).



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- ii) This screen shall be determined using 12 months of line section(s) minimum load data (including onsite load but not station service load served by the proposed interconnection resource), calculated minimum load data, or estimated minimum load data using existing data a power flow model. If minimum load data is not available or the minimum load data cannot be calculated or estimated, the Association shall include the reason(s) that it is unable to calculate, estimate or determine minimum load in its supplemental review results notification under subparagraph 3855(d)(IV).
  - iii) The type of interconnection resource shall be taken into account when calculating or estimating circuit or line section(s) minimum load. The Association shall use daytime minimum load for solar photovoltaic (PV) interconnection resource with no battery storage (i.e., 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. for fixed panel systems and 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. for PV systems utilizing tracking systems). The Association's shall use absolute minimum load for all other types of interconnection resource.
  - iv) Only the net injection into the Association's electric system shall be considered as part of the interconnection resource when this screen is applied to interconnection resource serving some station service load.
  - v) The Association shall not consider as part of the interconnection resource the capacity known to be already reflected in the minimum load data.
- b. Voltage and power quality screen
- i) In aggregate with existing interconnection resource on the circuit and line section(s), the voltage regulation on the circuit and line section(s) shall be maintained in compliance with relevant requirements under all system conditions;
  - ii) In aggregate with existing interconnection resource on the circuit and line section(s), the voltage fluctuation shall be within acceptable limits as defined by IEEE Standard 1453-2015 and conforming with IEEE Standard 1453-2015, while also taking into account activated inverter functionality, and by the limits defined by IEEE Standard 1547-2018. This rule does not include any later



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amendments or editions of these standards. These standards are available for public inspection at the Commission's office, 1560 Broadway, Suite 250, Denver, CO 80202; and

iii) in aggregate with existing interconnection resource on the circuit and line section(s), the harmonic levels shall meet IEEE Standard 519 (2014) limits. This rule does not include any later amendments or editions of these standards. These standards are available for public inspection at the Commission's office, 1560 Broadway, Suite 250, Denver, CO 80202.

#### **c. Safety and reliability screen**

- i) The location of the proposed interconnection resource and the aggregate interconnection resource capacity on the line section(s) shall not create impacts to safety or reliability that cannot be adequately addressed without application of the Level 3 Process.
- ii) Minimum load, minimum loading and minimum load data shall be specific to time(s) of interconnection resource export capacity.
- iii) The Association shall consider whether the line section(s) has significant minimum loading levels dominated by a small number of Members (e.g., several large commercial Members).
- iv) The Association shall consider whether the loading along the line section(s) is uniform or even given the sources of the screening data.
- v) The Association shall consider whether the proposed interconnection resource is located in close proximity to a substation (i.e., less than 2.5 electrical circuit miles) and whether the line section(s) from the substation to the point of interconnection is a mainline rated for normal and emergency ampacity.
- vi) The Association shall consider whether the proposed interconnection resource incorporates a time delay function to prevent reconnection of the interconnection resource to the utility's system until system voltage and frequency are within normal limits for a prescribed time.



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- d. The Association shall consider whether operational flexibility is reduced by the proposed interconnection resource, such that transfer of the line distribution circuit/substation may trigger overloads or voltage issues.
  - e. The Association shall consider whether the proposed interconnection resource employs equipment or systems certified by a recognized standards organization to address technical issues such as, but not limited to, islanding, reverse power flow, and voltage quality.
4. If the supplemental screening meets the Association's determined adequacy with minor modifications, the Association shall provide a non-binding good faith estimate of the limited cost to make such modifications to the utility's electric system upon notification of review results.



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### **Association Requirements Based on Colorado Public Utility Commission Regulations for Pre-Application Procedures**

An interconnection Member may submit a formal written request for a pre-application report on a proposed interconnection at a specific site using a form supplied by the Association, unless such information is confidential and cannot be provided pursuant to a confidentiality agreement. The Association may charge up to a Commission-approved fee for the pre-application report. Upon completion, each pre-application report shall be dated and publicly posted to the Association's website with any Member identifying information redacted.

1. The Association shall provide the pre-application report to the interconnection Member within twenty (20) business days of receipt of the completed request form and payment of the fee.
2. The pre-application report shall be non-binding on the Association and shall not confer any rights to the interconnection Member. The provided information does not guarantee that an interconnection may be completed. Data provided in the pre- application report may become outdated at the time of the submission of the complete interconnection request.
3. The pre-application report need only include existing information. A pre-application report request does not obligate the Association to conduct a study or other analysis of the proposed interconnection resource in the event that data is not readily available.
4. If the Association cannot complete all or some of a pre- application report due to lack of available data, the Association should nonetheless explain what information is not available and why it is not available, and the Association shall provide the interconnection Member with a pre- application report that includes the data that is available.
5. The Association shall, in good faith, include data in the pre- application report that represents the best available information at the time of reporting. The pre-application report will include the following information:
  - i) total capacity (in MVA) of substation/area bus, bank or circuit based on normal or operating ratings likely to serve the proposed



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- point of interconnection;
- ii) existing aggregate generation DER capacity (in MW AC) interconnected to a substation/area bus, bank or circuit (i.e., amount of DER online) likely to serve the proposed point of interconnection;
  - iii) aggregate queued DER capacity (in MW AC) for a substation/area bus, bank or circuit (i.e., amount of DER in the queue) likely to serve the proposed point of interconnection;
  - iv) available capacity (in MW AC) of substation/area bus or bank and circuit likely to serve the proposed point of interconnection (i.e., total capacity less the sum of existing aggregate DER capacity and aggregate queued DER capacity);
  - v) substation nominal distribution voltage and/or transmission nominal voltage, if applicable;
  - vi) nominal distribution or transmission circuit voltage at the proposed point of interconnection whether the proposed DER is eligible for the Level 1, Level 2 or non-export process;
  - vii) approximate circuit distance between the proposed point of interconnection and the substation;
  - viii) relevant line section(s) actual or estimated peak load and minimum load data, including daytime minimum load as described in the supplemental review minimum load screen in subparagraph 3855(d)(VI)(A) and absolute minimum load at the time of DER production, when available;
  - ix) number and rating of protective devices and number and type (standard, bi-directional) of voltage regulating devices between the proposed point of interconnection and the substation/area. Identify whether the substation has a load tap changer;
  - x) number of phases available at the proposed point of interconnection. If a single phase, distance from the three-phase circuit;



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- x) whether the point of interconnection is located on a spot network, grid network, or radial supply; and
  - xii) existing or known constraints such as, but not limited to, electrical dependencies at that location, short circuit interrupting capacity issues, power quality or stability issues on the circuit, capacity constraints, or secondary networks, based on the proposed point of interconnection.
6. A scoping meeting will be held within ten (10) business days after the interconnection request is deemed complete, or as otherwise mutually agreed to by the parties. The scoping meeting may be omitted by mutual agreement. In order to remain in consideration for interconnection, an Applicant who has requested a feasibility study must return the executed feasibility study agreement within fifteen (15) business days. Within thirty (30) business days of executing a feasibility study agreement, the Association shall perform a feasibility study. The feasibility study shall identify any potential adverse system impacts that would result from the interconnection of the interconnection resource. At its discretion, the Association may use the Level 2 supplemental review as the feasibility study. Within thirty (30) business days of executing a system impact study agreement, the Association shall perform a system impact study using the screens set forth below. A system impact study shall identify and detail the electric system impacts that would result if the proposed interconnection resource were interconnected without project modifications or electric system modifications, focusing on the adverse system impacts identified in the feasibility study. Within forty-five (45) business days of executing an appropriate agreement or contract, the Association shall perform a facilities study. Once the required system impact study(s) is completed, a system impact study report shall be prepared and transmitted to the applicant along with a facilities study agreement within five (5) business days.



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### **Association Requirements Based on Colorado Public Utility Commission Regulations for Level 3 Procedures**

#### **Feasibility Study**

1. Within thirty (30) business days of executing a feasibility study agreement, the Association shall perform a feasibility study. The feasibility study shall identify any potential adverse system impacts that would result from the interconnection of the interconnection resource. At its discretion, the Association's may use the Level 2 supplemental review as described in paragraph 3855(d) as the feasibility study.
2. A deposit of the lesser of 50 percent of the good faith estimated feasibility study costs or earnest money of \$1,000 may be required from the interconnection Applicant.
3. The scope of and cost responsibilities for the feasibility study are described in the feasibility study agreement.
4. If the feasibility study shows no potential for adverse system impacts, the Association shall send the interconnection Applicant a facilities study agreement, including an outline of the scope of the study and a non-binding good faith estimate of the cost to perform the study.
5. If the feasibility study shows the potential for adverse system impacts, the review process shall proceed to the appropriate system impact study(s).
6. If no system impact study is required and no facilities study is required for the interconnection resource, the Association shall provide the Applicant an executable interconnection agreement within five (5) business days after the completion of the feasibility study.

#### **System Impact Study**

1. Within thirty (30) business days of executing a system impact study agreement, the Association shall perform a system impact study using the screens set forth below. A system impact study shall identify and detail the electric system impacts that would result if the proposed interconnection resource were interconnected without project modifications or electric system modifications, focusing on the adverse system impacts identified in the feasibility study, or to



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study potential impacts, including but not limited to those identified in the scoping meeting. A system impact study shall evaluate the impact of the proposed interconnection on the reliability of the electric system.

2. If no transmission system impact study is required, but potential electric power distribution system adverse system impacts are identified in the scoping meeting or shown in the feasibility study, a distribution system impact study must be performed. The Association shall send the Applicant a distribution system impact study agreement within fifteen (15) business days of transmittal of the feasibility study report, including an outline of the scope of the study and a non-binding good faith estimate of the cost to perform the study, or following the scoping meeting if no feasibility study is to be performed.
3. In instances where the feasibility study or the distribution system impact study shows potential for adverse impacts on the Association's transmission system, within five (5) business days following transmittal of the feasibility study report, the Association shall send the Applicant a transmission system impact study agreement, including an outline of the transmission-supplied scope of the study and a transmission-supplied non-binding good faith estimate of the cost to perform the study, if such a study is required.
4. If a transmission system impact study is not required, but electric power distribution system adverse system impacts are shown by the feasibility study to be possible and no distribution system impact study has been conducted, the Association shall send the Applicant a distribution system impact study agreement.
5. If the feasibility study shows no potential for transmission system or distribution system adverse system impacts, the Association shall send the Applicant either a facilities study agreement, including an outline of the scope of the study and a non-binding good faith estimate of the cost to perform the study, or an executable interconnection agreement, as applicable.
6. In order to remain under consideration for interconnection, the Applicant must return executed system impact study agreements, if applicable, within thirty (30) business days.
7. A deposit of the good faith estimated costs for each system impact study may be required from the Applicant.



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8. The scope of and cost responsibilities for a system impact study are described in the system impact study agreement.
9. Where transmission systems and distribution systems have separate owners, such as is the case with transmission-dependent utilities whether investor-owned or not – the Applicant may apply to the nearest utility (transmission owner, regional transmission operator, or independent utility) providing transmission service to the transmission-dependent utility to request project coordination. Affected systems shall participate in the study and provide all information necessary to prepare the study.
10. If no facilities study is required for the interconnection resource, the Association shall provide the Applicant an executable interconnection agreement within five (5) business days after the completion of the system impact study.

### **Facilities Study**

1. Within forty-five (45) business days of executing an appropriate agreement or contract, the Association shall perform a facilities study. Once the required system impact study(s) is completed, a system impact study report shall be prepared and transmitted to the Applicant along with a facilities study agreement within five (5) business days, including an outline of the scope of the study and a non-binding good faith estimate of the cost to perform the facilities study. In the case where one or both impact studies are determined to be unnecessary, a notice of the fact shall be transmitted to the Applicant within the same timeframe.
2. In order to remain under consideration for interconnection, or, as appropriate, in the Association's interconnection queue, the Applicant must return the executed facilities study agreement or a request for an extension of time within thirty (30) business days.
3. The facilities study shall include a detailed list of necessary system upgrades and an overall cost estimate, with the detailed list to indicate types of equipment, labor, operation and maintenance and other evaluated item costs, within the estimate for completing such upgrades, and identify which itemized cost estimates are uncertain and could be exceeded by 125 percent if actual upgrades are completed.
4. Design for any required interconnection facilities and/or upgrades shall be performed under the facilities study agreement. The Association may contract



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- with consultants to perform activities required under the facilities study agreement.
5. A deposit of the good faith estimated costs for the facilities study may be required from the Applicant.
  6. The scope of and cost responsibilities for the facilities study are described in a facilities study agreement.
  7. Upon completion of the facilities study, and with the agreement of the Applicant to pay for interconnection facilities and upgrades identified in the facilities study, the Association shall provide the Applicant an executable interconnection agreement within five (5) business days.