

STATE OF NEW YORK  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

At a session of the Public Service  
Commission held in the City of  
New York on December 12, 2019

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

John B. Rhodes, Chair  
Diane X. Burman  
James S. Alesi  
Tracey A. Edwards  
John B. Howard

CASE 19-E-0566 - Joint Petition for Certain Amendments to the New York State Standardized Interconnection Requirements (SIR) for New Distributed Generators and Energy Storage Systems 5 MW or Less Connected in Parallel with Utility Distribution Systems.

ORDER MODIFYING STANDARDIZED INTERCONNECTION REQUIREMENTS

(Issued and Effective December 13, 2019)

BY THE COMMISSION:

INTRODUCTION

On September 5, 2019, certain members of the Interconnection Policy Working Group (IPWG) and Interconnection Technical Working Group (ITWG) (collectively, the Petitioners) filed a petition requesting amendments to the New York State Standardized Interconnection Requirements (SIR) for New Distributed Generators and Energy Storage Systems 5 MW or Less Connected in Parallel with Utility Distribution Systems (the Petition). The Petitioners request that the Public Service Commission (Commission) modify the SIR to: (1) add a new Section 1.H. to the SIR Application Process, entitled "Modifications," to provide a process by which an applicant may modify a proposed

project without it being removed from its current queue position, and to add definitions of "Modification" and "Material Modification" to the SIR Section III, Glossary of Terms; (2) revise Screens A and B of the SIR Appendix G, Preliminary Screening, to include appropriate network screens for how to interconnect projects on a utility's secondary network system and add definitions of "Network" and "Spot Network" to the SIR Section III, Glossary of Terms; (3) revise Screen H, Voltage Flicker Test, of the SIR Appendix G, Preliminary Screening to more accurately reflect expected system performance regarding voltage fluctuation; and, (4) revise Appendix K of the SIR, the Energy Storage System (ESS) Application Requirements / System Operating Characteristics / Market Participation addressing Energy Storage Application Requirements, to better collect needed and useful ESS application data.<sup>1</sup>

By this Order, the Commission adopts the proposed SIR modifications. As discussed below, the amendments are reasonable and will enable the Joint Utilities to more

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<sup>1</sup> The Petitioners include: Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc. (Con Edison), Orange and Rockland Utilities, Inc. (O&R), Central Hudson Gas and Electric Corporation (Central Hudson), Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation d/b/a National Grid (National Grid), New York State Electric & Gas Corporation (NYSEG), and Rochester Gas and Electric Corporation (RG&E) (collectively, the Joint Utilities); New York Solar Energy Industries Association (NYSEIA); New York Battery and Energy Storage Technology Consortium (NY-BEST); BQ Energy, LLC, Clean Energy Collective, Monolith Solar Associates; Cypress Creek Renewables; Borrego Solar Systems, Inc.; CleanChoice Energy; Distributed Sun LLC; Oya Solar Inc.; SunCommon; GreenSpark Solar; Entersolar; Distributed Sun, LLC; Clearway Energy Group LLC; Safari Energy, LLC; Sol Systems; Omni Navitas; Ameresco; Nexamp, Inc.; Blueprint Power; US Light Energy; Best Energy Power; Delaware River Solar; Dynamic Energy; EDF Renewables North America; and, Sunrun Inc.

effectively process distributed energy resource (DER) interconnection applications.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE MAKING

Pursuant to the State Administrative Procedure Act (SAPA) §202(1), a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (Notice) was published in the State Register on September 25, 2019 [SAPA No. 19-E-0566SP1]. The time for submission of comments pursuant to the Notice expired on November 25, 2019. Comments were received from the City of New York, and are addressed below.

THE PETITION

Application Modification Process

According to the Petitioners, after a developer submits an initial application any project modifications may result in the interconnecting utility removing that project from the interconnection queue and re-assigning a queue position. The Petitioners explain that uncertainties associated with project development, such as zoning or permitting challenges, equipment unavailability, operating characteristic changes, and/or project ownership transfers, often result in changes to the initial interconnection application. Petitioners state that including a Modifications framework in the SIR would provide clarity by eliminating unnecessary project removal.

Petitioners propose a new sub-section to the SIR Section I.H., Application Process, entitled "Modifications." This new section would follow Section I, Application Process, steps A through G and be an additional step H providing a formal process by which applicants shall submit a modification request to the interconnecting utility's Interconnection On-Line Application Portal (IOAP) or via e-mail. Once submitted, the interconnecting utility must determine if the proposed change

constitutes a Material Modification and advise the applicant within ten business days, or if additional information is needed to make the determination, the interconnecting utility will have ten business days from receipt of the additional information to advise.

If the proposed change constitutes a Material Modification, Petitioners propose that the initial project application would be removed from the queue and that a new application would be required to obtain a new queue position. If the proposed change is accepted by the interconnecting utility as a non-material modification, the project will retain its queue position and undergo a study pursuant to the SIR, with some added flexibility for the utilities to manage the additional work that the change may entail. To further clarify the acceptable changes, Petitioners propose defining "Modification" and "Material Modification" in the SIR Section III, Glossary of Terms.

In addition to the new "Modifications" sub-section of Section I, Application Process, Petitioners request that the Commission direct Department of Public Service Staff (Staff) to post the "DER Material Modifications: Guidance Document" (Guidance Document) to the Distributed Generation Information website.<sup>2</sup> According to the Petitioners, the Guidance Document was developed by stakeholders with assistance from Staff. The document is intended to guide the interconnecting utility's analysis of whether a proposed change should be considered a Material Modification.

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<sup>2</sup> New York State Department of Public Service, Distributed Generation Information. Available at: <http://www3.dps.ny.gov/W/PSCWeb.nsf/All/DCF68EFCA391AD6085257687006F396B?OpenDocument>.

Preliminary Screening

Appendix G of the SIR contains the preliminary technical screens (A-F) that provide specific questions and tests that are designed to identify potential system issues that a proposed project may cause if interconnected. The Petitioners explain that the preliminary screens in the current SIR apply to overhead distribution system interconnections, but these screens do not cover proposed projects interconnecting on a utility's secondary network system. Since most of its network is underground, Con Edison completed initial work to determine appropriate network screens, Petitions continue, and the IPWG and ITWG members contributed to the final proposed revisions to Screens A and B of Appendix G. In addition to these technical screen updates in Appendix G, Petitioners propose defining "Network" and "Spot Network" in the SIR Section III, Glossary of Terms.

Petitioners request on additional modification to Appendix G, Screen H. According to the Petitioners, Screen H, the Voltage Flicker Test, results in more conservative results than is appropriate. Through the ITWG, Petitioners developed additional calculation refinements that more accurately reflect expected system performance regarding voltage fluctuation, which the Petitioners state more accurately reflects flicker concerns associated with solar photovoltaic (PV) projects. Petitioners ask that the Commission adopt the changes to Screen H shown in Attachment five of the Petition.

Energy Storage Application Requirements

Petitioners explain that the April 2018 SIR Modification Order<sup>3</sup> incorporated ESS into the SIR for the first

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<sup>3</sup> Case 18-E-0018 et al., In the Matter of Proposed Amendments to the New York State Standardized Interconnection Requirements (SIR) for Small Distributed Generators, Order Modifying the

time by adopting a new Appendix K entitled "Energy Storage System (ESS) Application Requirements / System Operating Characteristics / Market Participation." After this initial inclusion, Petitioners explain that the ITWG began collaborating on enhanced data requirements, some of which were adopted by the October 2018 SIR Modification Order.<sup>4</sup> They continue that the ITWG participants have further refined the data requirements to aid the Joint Utilities in more effectively processing ESS interconnection applications, and propose eliminating some unnecessary information requested by the currently effective SIR.

Moreover, Petitioners propose that Appendix K include optional questions that an ESS may answer to provide potentially useful information to the interconnecting utility. Petitioners suggest that the ESS application should be deemed complete, even if these optional questions are not answered. Petitioners request that the Commission adopt these proposed changes to Appendix K, shown in Attachment six of the Petition.

#### COMMENTS

The City of New York (the City) filed comments supporting the proposed SIR amendments. According to the City, increasing customer access to distributed generation and renewable energy projects will advance the goal to obtain 100 percent of the City's electricity needs from clean energy sources by 2020. The City lays out its aggressive energy storage resource deployment target of 500 MW in New York City by

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Standardized Interconnection Requirements (issued April 19, 2018) (April 2018 SIR Modification Order).

<sup>4</sup> Case 18-E-0018, supra, Order Modifying Standardized Interconnection Requirements (issued October 18, 2018) (October 2018 SIR Modification Order).

2025, and 1,000 MW of solar by 2030, with 100 MW installed on municipal buildings by 2025 and explains that these goals compliment the State's Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCP Act).

The City applauds the IPWG and ITWG efforts, and notes that it is an active participant in the IPWG. The City echoes the Petitioners' argument that the three areas of improvement identified - (i) clarifying the differences between "Material" and "Non-Material" interconnection application modifications; (ii) updates to the Preliminary Screening Analysis; and (iii) streamlining the application for energy storage systems - provide developers with greater clarity and certainty regarding the interconnection process.

The City concludes that due to the fact that the modifications proposed align with the State and City's concomitant energy policies, the City requests that the Commission adopt the amendments without modification.

#### LEGAL AUTHORITY

The Commission has broad authority over the manufacture, conveyance, sale, or distribution of electricity, supervision of electric corporations, and the responsibility to ensure that all service, instrumentalities, and facilities furnished shall be safe and adequate and all charges made by such corporation for any service rendered shall be just and reasonable.<sup>5</sup> Additionally, the Commission has the authority to direct the treatment of Distributed Generation and ESS by electric corporations.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> Public Service Law (PSL) §§5, 65, and 66.

<sup>6</sup> PSL §§5(2), 66(1), 66(2), 66(3), 66-c, 66-j, and 74.

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

Application Modification Process

The Commission recognizes that there are many reasons why a proposed project may need or want to change their initial application and continue the interconnection process, such as zoning or permitting challenges, equipment unavailability, changes in operating characteristics, or project ownership changes. A developer's ability to modify its initial application must be balanced with the interconnecting utility's efforts to ensure fairness to all applicants in the interconnection queue by applying a standardized interconnection process.

The Commission finds it appropriate to add a new step H to the SIR Section I, Application Process, steps A through G, whereby applicants may submit a modification request to the interconnecting utility's IOAP or via e-mail. Petitioners' proposed ten business day timeline for the interconnecting utility to review the request and determine if the requested modification is material is also appropriate, as it will allow reasonable modifications that will benefit the project while not delaying others in the interconnection queue.

The distinction between a "Material Modification" and a "Modification" is well-defined in Petitioners' proposed SIR Section III, Glossary of Terms update, and the Commission adopts those definitions. The Commission also adopts the Petitioners' recommendation that the interconnecting utility follow the Guidance Document, included as Appendix B to this Order, when evaluating the proposed modification in the ten-business day materiality evaluation period. While this Guidance Document is not exhaustive, it should serve to minimize any dispute in interpreting the SIR materiality definitions. The Commission notes that Staff is available to assist the parties as they



become familiar with this new process, and encourages the parties in the working groups to identify improvements to the Guidance Document.

### Preliminary Screening

The Commission adopts Petitioners' proposed revisions to the Preliminary Screening criteria in Appendix G. Revised screens A and B predominantly address projects on large underground network systems found in downstate New York and Con Edison's service territory, and will allow the interconnecting utility to more effectively conduct technical screens of these projects.

In March 2016, the Commission adopted revised voltage flicker requirements to conform to updated Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) recommended practices and improve the overall review and system impact analysis part of the interconnection process.<sup>7</sup> At that time, the Commission noted that "additional endeavors to further improve interconnections in New York" were expected.<sup>8</sup> Since that time, the Commission directed that preliminary and supplemental technical screens be added to the SIR, and approved several updates to those screens, including the Voltage Flicker Test in Screen H.

The Commission finds that the proposed calculation modifications more accurately represent system performance regarding voltage fluctuation, which in turn more accurately reflects flicker concerns with respect to solar PV

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<sup>7</sup> Case 15-E-0557, In the Matter of Proposed Amendments to the New York State Standardized Interconnection Requirements (SIR) for Distributed Generators 2 MW or Less, Order Modifying Standardized Interconnection Requirements (issued March 18, 2016), p. 24.

<sup>8</sup> Id., p. 25.

interconnections. The revised Screen H updates to the Voltage Flicker Test calculations are reasonable and will eliminate unnecessary additional study time and efforts by the Joint Utilities.

Energy Storage Application Requirements

In the April 2018 SIR Modification Order that incorporated ESS into the SIR, the Commission noted that Appendix K represented the first best attempt to incorporate this new technology type.<sup>9</sup> The Commission stated an expectation that the IPWG and ITWG, working with the state Ombudsperson, would identify and file recommendations as needed.<sup>10</sup>

The Commission agrees with Petitioners; the proposed changes to Appendix K will better collect data the Joint Utilities need to advance ESS applications, improve the ESS interconnection experience, and the optional questions may be useful. The updates to Appendix K are adopted.

The Commission agrees with the City, and commends the ongoing stakeholder engagement and collaboration through the IPWG and ITWG, which resulted in this Petition. These groups have proposed appropriate SIR modifications, and the Commission acknowledges that these stakeholder working groups benefit the DER industry and utility processes. There were no objections regarding the proposed changes to the SIR from the public or other developers, and the Commission acknowledges the City's comment that these updates will advance both New York City's energy policy and the State's goals under the CLCP Act.

The Commission accepts the proposed changes and updates to the SIR, as identified in Appendix A. Furthermore, the Commission directs Staff to post the Guidance Document found

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<sup>9</sup> April 2018 SIR Modification Order, p. 27.

<sup>10</sup> Id.

in Appendix B to the Department of Public Service Distributed Generation Information website, and directs the Joint Utilities to use the Guidance Document when determining what constitutes a material modification.

By this Order, the Commission adopts the updated SIR as discussed above and shown in Appendix A. The Commission directs the Joint Utilities to file tariff amendments necessary to effectuate these changes. Given the public nature of the IPWG and ITWG meeting materials and the consensus amongst all stakeholders regarding the usefulness of the SIR modifications adopted by this Order, the Commission waives the requirements related to newspaper publication.

The Commission orders:

1. Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corporation, Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc., New York State Electric & Gas Corporation, Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation d/b/a National Grid, Orange and Rockland Utilities, Inc., and Rochester Gas and Electric Corporation are directed to make tariff filings to incorporate into their electric tariffs the revised Standard Interconnection Requirements set forth in Appendix A, and to remove any inconsistent tariff provisions. These tariff amendments shall become effective on not less than one day's notice, to take effect on or before January 1, 2020.

2. Department of Public Service Staff is directed to post the "DER Material Modifications: Guidance Document" contained in Appendix B to the Department of Public Service Distributed Generation Information website.

3. The requirements of Public Service Law §66(12)(b) and 16 NYCRR §720-8.1, related to newspaper publication of these tariff amendments, are waived.

4. In the Secretary's sole discretion, the deadlines set forth in this order may be extended. Any request for an extension must be in writing, must include a justification for the extension, and must be filed at least one day prior to the affected deadline.

5. This proceeding shall be closed upon compliance with Ordering Clause Nos. 1 and 2 above.

By the Commission,

(SIGNED)

MICHELLE L. PHILLIPS  
Secretary

**New York State  
Public Service Commission**

**New York State  
Standardized Interconnection Requirements and Application Process  
For New Distributed Generators and Energy Storage Systems 5 MW or Less Connected  
in Parallel with Utility Distribution Systems**

**December 2019**

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## Section I. Application Process

### **New York State Standardized Interconnection Requirements and Application Process for New Distributed Generators and Energy Storage Systems 5 MW or Less Connected in Parallel with Utility Distribution Systems (“SIR”)**

#### **A. Introduction**

This SIR provides a framework for processing applications to:

- interconnect new distributed generation (DG) facilities with an alternating current (AC) generator nameplate rating of 5 MW or less aggregated on the customer side of the point of common coupling (PCC);
- interconnect new energy storage system (ESS) facilities with an AC inverter/converter nameplate rating of 5 MW or less aggregated on the customer side of the PCC that may be stand-alone systems or combined with existing or new DG (Hybrid Projects), however, maximum export capacity onto the utility distribution system is capped at an AC nameplate rating or AC inverter/converter nameplate rating of 5 MW; and,
- review any modifications affecting the interface at the PCC to existing DG and/or ESS facilities with an AC nameplate rating of 5 MW or less (aggregated on the customer side of the PCC) that have been interconnected to the utility distribution system, and where an existing contract between the applicant and the utility is in place.

Distributed Generation or Energy Storage Systems neither designed to operate, nor operating, in parallel with the utility’s electrical system are not subject to these requirements. This document will ensure that applicants are aware of the technical interconnection requirements and utility interconnection policies and practices. This SIR will also provide applicants with an understanding of the process and information required to allow utilities to review and accept the applicants’ equipment for interconnection in a reasonable and expeditious manner.

The time required to complete the process will reflect the complexity of the proposed

project. Projects using previously submitted designs certified per the requirements of Section II.H, Equipment Certification, will move through the process more quickly, and several steps may be satisfied with an initial application depending on the detail and completeness of the application and supporting documentation submitted by the applicant. Applicants submitting systems utilizing certified equipment however, are not exempt from providing utilities with complete design packages necessary for the utilities to verify the electrical characteristics of the generator systems, the interconnecting facilities, and the impacts of the applicants' equipment on the utilities' systems.

The application process and the attendant services must be offered on a non-discriminatory basis. The utilities must clearly identify their costs related to the applicants' interconnections, specifically those costs the utilities would not have incurred but for the applicants' interconnections. The utilities will keep a log of all applications, milestones met, and justifications for application-specific requirements. The applicants are to be responsible for payment of the utilities' costs, as provided for herein. Any unspent project analysis/study fees shall be applied forward to any subsequent analysis applicable to a given application/project.

All application timelines shall commence the next Business Day following receipt of information from the applicant or the utility.

Staff of the Department of Public Service ("DPS Staff") will monitor the application process to ensure that applications are addressed in a timely manner. To perform this monitoring function, DPS Staff will meet periodically with utility and applicant representatives.

A glossary of terms used herein is provided in Section III.

## **B. Application Process Steps for Systems 50 kW or Less**

**Exception 1:** For inverter based systems above 50 kW up to 300 kW, applicants may follow the expedited application process outlined in this section provided that the inverter based system has been certified and tested in accordance with the most recent revision of UL 1741 and its supplement A (SA), and the utility has approved the project accordingly. The utility has ten (10) Business Days upon receipt of the original application submittal to determine if the application is complete, project is eligible for the expedited process, and whether it is approved for interconnection if eligible for expedited process. The utility shall notify the applicant in writing of its findings upon review of the application. If the utility determines that the inverter based system is not eligible for the expedited application process, the applicant can:



- 1) Proceed with the remaining steps of Section I.C of the SIR (Systems above 50 kW up to 5 MW); or
- 2) request a review by DPS Staff.

**Exception 2:** For non-inverter based system 50 kW or less, the applicant should be aware that additional information and review time may be required by the utility (refer to Step 3). The applicant must include the items required in Step 5 of the Application Process Steps for Systems above 50 kW up to 5 MW in its original application. This exception should not be considered the rule, but used by the utility only in justified situations. Utilities are encouraged to use the expedited process whenever possible. The utility has ten (10) Business Days upon receipt of the original application submittal to determine if the application is complete, project is eligible for expedited process, and whether it is approved for interconnection if eligible for expedited process. The utility shall notify the applicant in writing of its findings upon review of the application. If the utility determines that the non-inverter based system is not eligible for the expedited application process, the applicant can:

- 1) Proceed with the remaining steps of Section I.C of the SIR (Systems above 50 kW up to 5 MW); or
- 2) Request a review by DPS Staff.

**Exception 3:** For all systems 50 kW or less, that are proposed to be installed in underground secondary network areas, the applicant should be aware that additional information and review time may be required by the utility (refer to Step 3). In some cases, interconnection may not be allowed or approved. DG systems interconnected to underground secondary network systems can cause unique design issues and overall reliability problems for the utilities. For this reason, additional review and analysis may be needed on a case by case basis. The utility has ten (10) Business Days upon receipt of the original application submittal to determine if the application is complete, project is eligible for the expedited process, and whether it is approved for interconnection if eligible for expedited process. The utility shall notify the applicant in writing of its findings upon review of the application. If the utility determines that the DG system cannot be interconnected, the applicant can request a review by DPS Staff.

**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 may discuss the scope of the interconnection with the potential applicant (either by phone or in person) and provide a copy of the SIR document and any utility specific technical specifications that may apply. A utility representative shall be designated to serve as the single point of contact for the applicant in coordinating the potential applicant's project with the utility.

**STEP 3: Potential Applicant Files an Application**

The potential applicant submits an application package in the name of the customer<sup>1</sup> to the utility. No application fee is required of the applicant for systems 50 kW or less. A complete application package will consist of all items detailed in Appendix F. Electronic submission of all documents via the Interconnection Online Application Portal ("IOAP") is required. The utility has ten (10) Business Days upon receipt of the original application submittal to determine if the application is complete, meets the SIR technical requirements in Section II, and/or approved for interconnection if all other requirements are met. The utility shall notify the applicant by email, fax, or other form of written communication. If the application is deemed not complete by the utility, the utility shall provide a detailed explanation of the deficiencies identified and a list of the additional information required from the applicant. Once it has received the required information, the utility shall notify the applicant of the acceptance or rejection of the application within ten (10) Business days. If the applicant fails to submit the additional information to the utility within thirty (30) Business Days following the date of the utility's written notification, the application shall be removed from the queue and no

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<sup>1</sup> Per the Community Distributed Generation Program Order (15-E-0082), the project sponsor shall submit the interconnection application to the electric utility for approval. The sponsor may be any single entity, including the generation facility developer, an energy service company (ESCO), a municipal entity such as a town or village, a business or not-for-profit corporation, a limited liability company, a partnership, or other form of business or civic association.

further action on the part of the utility is required.

The utility's notification of acceptance to the applicant shall include an executed New York State Standardized Interconnection Contract and the applicant may proceed with the proposed installation. The utility shall also indicate in its response to the applicant whether or not it plans to witness the testing and verification process in person.

An application will be placed in each utility's interconnection inventory once it is accepted as complete. If the final acceptance as set out in Step 6 below is not completed within twelve (12) months as a result of applicant inactivity, the utility has the right to notify the applicant by U.S. first class mail with delivery receipt confirmation that the applicant's project will be removed from the utility's interconnection inventory if the applicant does not respond within thirty (30) Business Days of the issue of such notification and provide a project status update and/or justification as to why the project should remain in the utility's interconnection inventory for an additional period of time.

With respect to an applicant proposing to install a system rated 25 kW or less, that is to be net-metered, if the utility determines that it is necessary to install a dedicated transformer(s) or other equipment to protect the safety and adequacy of electric service provided to other customers, the applicant shall be informed of its responsibility for the actual costs for installing the dedicated transformer(s) and other safety equipment. Appendix E sets forth the responsibility each applicant shall have with respect to the actual cost of the dedicated transformer(s) and other safety equipment.

#### **STEP 4: System Installation**

The applicant will install the DG system according to the utility accepted design and the equipment manufacturer's requirements. If there are substantive design variations from the originally accepted system diagram, a revised system diagram (and other drawings for non-inverter based systems) shall be submitted by the applicant for the utility's review and acceptance. All inverter based systems will be allowed to interconnect to the utility system for a period not to exceed two hours, for the sole purpose of ensuring proper operation of the installed equipment.

For net metered systems as defined in Section II.A.6, Metering, any modifications related to existing metering configurations to allow for net energy metering for residential, farm service and non-residential wind electric generating systems shall be completed by the utility

within ten (10) Business Days of either notification to the utility that the installation has been completed or request for a verification test, whichever comes first.

**STEP 5: The Applicant's Facility is Tested in Accordance with the Standardized Interconnection Requirements**

Verification testing will be performed by the applicant in accordance with the written verification test procedure provided by the equipment manufacturer. If the utility requested to witness the testing and verification process in person as required in Step 3, the applicant shall provide a written letter of notification to the utility that the system installation is completed, including any applicable inspections and authorization. After receipt of notification, the verification testing will be performed within ten (10) Business Days, at a mutually agreeable time. If the utility has opted not to witness the test, the applicant will send the utility within five (5) Business Days of completion of such tests a written notification certifying that the system has been installed and tested in compliance with the SIR, the utility-accepted design and the equipment manufacturer's instructions. The applicant's facility will be allowed to commence parallel operation upon satisfactory completion of the tests in Step 5. The applicant must have complied with, and must continue to comply with, all contractual and technical requirements.

**STEP 6: Final Acceptance**

Within five (5) Business Days of receiving the written notification of successful test completion from Step 5, the utility will issue to the applicant a formal letter of acceptance for interconnection. Within five (5) Business Days of the completion of the on-site verification, the utility will issue to the applicant either a formal letter of acceptance for interconnection or a detailed explanation of the deficiencies in the system.

**C. Application Process Steps for Systems above 50 kW up to 5 MW**

For inverter based systems above 50 kW up to 300 kW, certified and tested in accordance with the most recent revision of UL 1741 and its supplement A (SA), applicants and utilities are encouraged, but not required, to use the expedited application process (Section I.B).

**Exception 1:** For all systems 50 kW up to 5 MW that are proposed to be installed in underground secondary network areas, the applicant should be aware that a Coordinated Electric System Interconnection Review (CESIR) may be required by the utility, based on each

utility's specific technical requirements and design considerations on a case-by-case basis. In some cases, interconnection may not be allowed or approved. DG systems interconnected to underground secondary network systems can cause unique design issues and overall reliability problems for the utilities. The utility has ten (10) Business Days upon receipt of the original application submittal to determine if the application is complete and whether it is eligible for interconnection. The utility shall notify the applicant in writing of its findings upon review of the application. If the utility determines that the DG system cannot be interconnected or requires additional information be submitted and/or additional review time is needed, the applicant can:

- 1) Work with the utility on an appropriate timeframe and approval schedule agreeable to both parties; or
- 2) request a review by DPS Staff.

**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 may discuss the scope of the interconnection with the potential applicant (either by phone or in person) and shall provide a copy of the SIR and any utility specific technical specifications that may apply. A utility representative shall be designated to serve as the single point of contact for the applicant in coordinating the potential applicant's project with the utility. At this time the applicant may also request that a Pre-Application Report (see Appendix D herein) be provided by the utility. The applicant shall provide a non-refundable fee of \$750 with its request for completion of the Pre-Application Report. The Pre-Application Report shall be provided to the applicant within ten (10) Business Days of receipt of the form and payment of the fee. The Pre-Application Report will be non-binding and shall only provide the electrical system data and information requested that is readily available to the utility. Should the applicant formally apply to interconnect their proposed DG project within fifteen (15) Business Days of receipt of the utility's Pre-Application Report, the \$750 will be applied towards the application fee in Step 3.

**STEP 3: Potential Applicant Files an Application**

The potential applicant submits an application to the utility in the name of the customer.<sup>2</sup>

A complete application package will consist of all items detailed in Appendix F. Electronic submission of all documents via the Interconnection Online Application Portal (IOAP) is required. If a Pre-Application Report has been provided to the customer, and an application is received by the utility within fifteen (15) Business Days of the date of issue of the Pre-Application Report, a \$750 credit will be applied towards the application fee. Otherwise, payment of a non-refundable \$750 application fee is required except that the application fee shall be refunded to net metering customer-generators unless applied toward the cost of installing a dedicated transformer(s) or other safety equipment. 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.

The utility shall review the application to determine whether it is complete in accordance with Appendix F, and whether any additional information is required from the applicant. The utility shall notify the applicant in writing within ten (10) Business Days following receipt of the application. If the application is not complete, the utility shall provide a detailed explanation of the deficiencies and provide a list of additional information needed to the applicant. The utility shall notify the applicant by email, fax, or other form of written communication.

If the applicant fails to submit all items required by Appendix F, or to provide additional information identified by the utility within thirty (30) Business Days following the date of the utility's notification, the application shall be deemed withdrawn and no further action on the part of the utility is required.

A completed application shall be placed in the utility's interconnection queue.

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<sup>2</sup> Per the Community Distributed Generation Program Order (15-E-0082), the project sponsor shall submit the interconnection application to the electric utility for approval. The sponsor may be any single entity, including the generation facility developer, an energy service company (ESCO), a municipal entity such as a town or village, a business or not-for-profit corporation, a limited liability company, a partnership, or other form of business or civic association.

If the required documentation is presented in this step, it will allow the utility to move to Step 4 and perform the required reviews and allow the process to proceed as expeditiously as possible.

The utility will refund any advance payments for services or construction not yet completed should the applicant be removed from the utility's interconnection inventory. If the costs incurred by the utility exceed the advance payments made by the applicant prior to removal from the interconnection inventory, the applicant will receive a bill for any balance due to the utility.

**STEP 4: Utility Performs Preliminary / Supplemental Screening Analysis and Develops a Cost Estimate for the Coordinated Electric System Interconnection Review (CESIR) if required**

The utility shall perform a Preliminary Screening Analysis of the proposed system interconnection utilizing the technical screens A through F detailed in Appendix G. The Preliminary Screening Analysis shall be completed and a written response detailing the results of each screen and the overall outcome of the Preliminary Screening Analysis shall be sent to the applicant within fifteen (15) Business Days of the completion of Step 3. Depending on the results of the Preliminary Screening Analysis and the subsequent choices of the applicant, the following process(es) will apply:

If the Preliminary Screening Analysis finds that the applicant's proposed system passes all of the relevant technical screens (i.e., Screens A through F) and is in compliance with the Interconnection Requirements outlined in Section II, and there are no requirements for Interconnection Facilities or Distribution Upgrades, the utility will return a signed and executed New York State Standardized Interconnection Contract to the applicant. The applicant will sign and return the contract within 15 Business Days after receipt from the utility and proceed with the interconnection process.

If the Preliminary Screening Analysis finds that the applicant's proposed system cannot pass all of the relevant technical screens (i.e., Screens A through F), the utility shall provide the technical reasons, data and analysis supporting the Preliminary Screening Analysis results in writing. The applicant shall notify the utility within ten (10) Business Days following such notification whether to (i) proceed to a Preliminary Screening Analysis results meeting, (ii) proceed to Supplemental Screening Review, (iii) proceed to a full CESIR, or (iv) withdraw the

Interconnection Request. If the applicant fails to notify the utility of their decision within thirty (30) Business Days of notification of the Preliminary Screening Analysis results, the application shall be removed from the queue and no further action on the part of the utility is required.

- i. If the applicant chooses to proceed to a Preliminary Screening Analysis results meeting and modifications that obviate the need for Supplemental Screening Analysis are identified, and the applicant and the utility agree to such modifications, the utility shall return a signed and executed New York State Standardized Interconnection Contract within fifteen (15) Business Days of the Preliminary Screening Analysis results meeting if no Interconnection Facilities or Distribution Upgrades are required. The applicant will sign and return the contract within 15 Business Days after receipt from the utility and proceed with the interconnection process.

If Interconnection Facilities or Distribution Upgrades are required and agreed to, the utility shall provide the applicant with a non-binding cost estimate of any Interconnection Facilities or Distribution Upgrades within fifteen (15) Business Days of the Preliminary Screening Analysis results meeting. The applicant will pay the cost estimate as provided in Section D.

If the applicant chooses to proceed to a Preliminary Screening Analysis results meeting and modifications that obviate the need for Supplemental Analysis are not identified and agreed to, the applicant shall notify the utility within ten (10) business days of the meeting of their intention to (i) proceed to Supplemental Screening Analysis, (ii) proceed to a full CESIR, or (iii) withdraw the application. If the applicant fails to notify the utility of their decision within thirty (30) business days, the application shall be removed from the queue and no further action on the part of the utility is required.

- ii. Applicants that elect to proceed to Supplemental Screening Analysis shall provide a nonrefundable fee of \$2,500 with their response; however actual costs up to a maximum of \$5,000 will be billable to the applicant upon reconciliation of utility costs as defined in Step 11 or exit from the interconnection queue. The utility shall complete the Supplemental Screening Analysis within twenty (20) Business Days, absent extraordinary circumstances, following authorization and receipt of the fee. If the Supplemental Screening Analysis finds that the applicant's proposed system passes all of the relevant technical screens (i.e., screens G through I) and is in compliance with the Interconnection Requirements outlined in Section II, then there are no requirements for Interconnection Facilities or Distribution Upgrades. Thus, the utility will return a signed and executed New York State Standardized Interconnection Contract to the applicant within fifteen (15) Business Days of providing the applicant the results of the Supplemental Screening Analysis. The applicant will sign and return the contract within fifteen (15) Business Days after receipt from the utility and proceed with the interconnection process.

If the Supplemental Screening Analysis finds that the applicant's proposed system cannot pass all of the relevant technical screens (i.e., Screens G through I), the utility shall



provide the technical reasons, data, and analysis supporting the Supplemental Screening Analysis results in writing. The applicant shall notify the utility within ten (10) Business Days following such notification whether to (i) proceed to a Supplemental Screening Analysis results meeting, (ii) proceed to a full CESIR, or (iii) withdraw the application. If the applicant fails to notify the utility of their decision within thirty (30) Business Days of notification of the Supplemental Screening Analysis results, the application shall be removed from the queue and no further action on the part of the utility is required.

- i. If the applicant chooses to proceed to a Supplemental Screening Analysis results meeting and modifications that obviate the need for a CESIR are identified, and the applicant and the utility agree to such modifications, the utility shall return a signed and executed New York State Standardized Interconnection Contract within fifteen (15) Business Days of the Supplemental Screening Analysis results meeting if no Interconnection Facilities or Distribution Upgrades are required. The applicant will sign and return the contract within 15 Business Days after receipt from the utility and proceed with the interconnection process.

If Interconnection Facilities or Distribution Upgrades are required and agreed to, the utility shall provide the applicant with a non-binding cost estimate of any Interconnection Facilities or Distribution Upgrades within fifteen (15) Business Days of the Supplemental Screening Analysis results meeting. The applicant will pay the cost estimate as provided in Section D.

- ii. If the applicant chooses to proceed to a Supplemental Screening Analysis results meeting and modifications that obviate the need for CESIR are not identified and agreed to, the applicant shall notify the utility, within ten (10) business days of the meeting, of their intention to proceed to a full CESIR or withdraw the application. If the applicant fails to notify the utility of their decision within thirty (30) Business Days of notification of the Supplemental Screening Analysis results, the application shall be removed from the queue and no further action on the part of the utility is required.
- iii. If the applicant and the utility are unable to identify or agree to modifications that enable the applicant to pass either the Initial or Supplemental Screening Analysis or if the applicant chooses at any time in the above process to proceed directly to a CESIR, the utility shall provide the applicant with an estimate of costs associated with the completion of the CESIR within five (5) Business Days of the final notification to/from the applicant. The applicant shall notify the utility within ten (10) business days of receiving this cost estimate of their intention to proceed to a full CESIR and move on to Step 5 or to withdraw their application.

If Interconnection Facilities or Distribution Upgrades are required to interconnect a proposed system that passes the relevant screens, the utility shall provide the applicant with a non-binding cost estimate for the Interconnection Facilities or Distribution Upgrades within fifteen (15)

Business Days of the Preliminary or Supplemental Screening Analysis. The applicant will pay the cost estimate as provided in Section D.

**STEP 5: Applicant Commits to the Completion of the CESIR**

Prior to commencement of the CESIR, the applicant shall provide the following information to the utility:

- a complete, detailed interconnection design package;
- proof of site control by executing the New York State Standard Site Control Certification Form, Appendix J;
- the name, phone number, and agent letter of authorization (if appropriate) of the individual(s) responsible for addressing technical and contractual questions regarding the proposed system; and
- if applicable, advance payment of the costs associated with the completion of the CESIR.

The complete detailed interconnection design package shall include:

- (1) Electrical schematic drawing(s), including a site plan, reflecting the complete proposed system design which are easily interpreted and of a quality necessary for full interconnection. The drawings shall show all electrical components proposed for the installation and their connections to the existing on-site electrical system from that point to the PCC, and shall be clearly marked to distinguish between new and existing equipment. For those systems proposed to be interconnected at a system voltage of 1000 volts or greater, the drawings shall be sealed by a NYS licensed Professional Engineer.
- (2) A complete listing of all interconnection devices proposed for use at the PCC. A set of specifications for this equipment shall be provided by the applicant upon request from the utility.
- (3) The written verification test procedure provided by the equipment manufacturer, if such procedure is required by this document. For non-inverter based systems, testing equipment must be capable of measuring that protection settings operate within the appropriate times and thresholds set forth in Section II.
- (4) Three (3) copies of the following information:
  - Proposed three-line diagram of the generation system showing the interconnection of major electrical components within the system. Single line diagrams shall be acceptable for single phase installations. Proposed equipment ratings clearly need to indicate:
    - 1) Number, individual ratings, and type of units comprising the above rating;

- 2) General high voltage bus configuration and relay functions; and
  - 3) Proposed generator step-up transformer MVA ratings, impedances, tap settings and winding voltage ratings;
- Electrical studies as requested by the utility to demonstrate that the design is within acceptable limits, inclusive and not limited to the following: system fault, relay coordination, flicker, voltage drop, and harmonics. This shall include all relay, communication, and controller set points.

If the utility determines that the detailed interconnection design package provided by the applicant is incomplete or otherwise deficient, the utility shall notify the applicant within ten (10) Business Days and provide a detailed explanation of the deficiencies identified and a list of what is required by the applicant. Unless otherwise notified by the utility, the CESIR review period begins upon confirmed receipt and acceptance of the applicant's interconnection design package and associated fees.

If the applicant fails to provide the utility authorization to proceed, CESIR fee, and information requested within thirty (30) Business Days of the request, the application shall be removed from the queue and no further action on the part of the utility is required.

#### **STEP 6: Utility Completes the CESIR**

The CESIR will consist of two parts:

- 1) a detailed review and explanation of the impacts to the utility system associated with the interconnection of the proposed system, and
- 2) a detailed review and explanation of the proposed system's compliance with the applicable criteria set forth below.

A CESIR will be performed by the utility to determine if the proposed generation on the circuit results in any protective coordination, fault current, thermal, voltage, power quality, or equipment stress concerns.

The CESIR shall be completed within sixty (60) Business Days of receipt of the information set forth in Step 5. For systems utilizing type-tested equipment, the time required to complete the CESIR may be reduced. The utility shall complete the CESIR within sixty (60) Business Days, absent extraordinary circumstances, following authorization, receipt of the CESIR fee, and complete information set forth in Step 5. If the applicant fails to provide the utility authorization to proceed, CESIR fee and information requested within thirty (30) Business Days, the interconnection request shall be removed from the queue and no further action on the

part of the utility is required.

The applicant and the utility may agree to allow up to an additional forty (40) Business Days beyond the time specified above for completion of the CESIR, provided that no other application is adversely impacted

Upon completion of the CESIR, the utility will provide the following, in writing, to the applicant:

1. notification of whether the proposed system meets the applicable criteria considered in the CESIR process;
2. utility system impacts, if any;
3. a description of where the proposed system is not in compliance with these requirements;
4. detailed description of reasoning and justification for any system upgrades and associated equipment deemed necessary for interconnection of the project;
5. a good faith, detailed estimate of the total cost of completion of the interconnection of the proposed system and/or a statement of cost responsibility for a dedicated transformer(s) or other required interconnection equipment, which is valid for sixty (60) Business Days.

Appendix E sets forth the responsibility each applicant shall have with respect to the actual cost of the dedicated transformer(s) and other safety equipment. Utility cost estimates provided in the CESIR shall be detailed and broken down by specific equipment requirements, material needs, labor, overhead, and any other categories or efforts incorporated in the estimate. Contingencies associated with the cost estimates shall not exceed +/- 25%.

#### **STEP 7: Applicant Commits to Utility Construction of Utility's System Modifications**

The applicant will execute the New York Standardized Interconnection Contract for interconnection and provide the utility with an advance payment of 25% of the utility's estimated costs as identified in Step 6 within the time provided in Section D. The utility is not required to procure any equipment or materials associated with the project or begin construction until full payment has been received.

#### **STEP 8: Project Construction**

The applicant and the utility shall collaborate to identify an in-service date and develop a project schedule (Appendix L). The applicant shall build the facility in accordance with the

utility-accepted design and the project schedule. The utility shall commence construction/installation of system modifications in accordance with the project schedule. Utility system modifications will vary in construction time depending on the extent of work and equipment required; the schedule for this work is to be discussed and agreed upon with the applicant in Step 6.

**STEP 9: The Applicant's Facility is Tested in Accordance with the Standardized Interconnection Requirements**

The verification testing shall be performed by the applicant in accordance with the written test procedure(s) provided by the applicant in Step 5 and any site-specific requirements identified by the utility in Step 6. The final verification testing shall be performed within ten (10) Business Days of notification to the utility by the applicant of complete installation at a mutually agreeable time, and the utility shall be given the opportunity to witness the tests. If the utility opts not to witness the tests, the applicant shall send the utility within five (5) Business Days of completion of such testing a written notification certifying that the system has been installed and tested in compliance with the SIR, the utility accepted design, and the equipment manufacturer's instructions.

**STEP 10: Interconnection**

The applicant's facility will be allowed to commence parallel operation upon satisfactory completion of the tests in Step 9. In addition, the applicant must have complied with and must continue to comply with the contractual and technical requirements.

**STEP 11: Final Acceptance and Utility Cost Reconciliation**

If the utility witnessed the verification testing, then, within ten (10) Business Days of the completion of such testing, the utility will issue to the applicant either a formal letter of acceptance for interconnection or a detailed explanation of the deficiencies in the system. If the utility did not witness the verification testing, then, within ten (10) Business Days of receiving the written test notification from Step 9, the utility will either issue to the applicant a formal letter of acceptance for interconnection, or will request that the applicant and utility set a date and time to witness operation of the DG system. This witnessed verification testing must be completed within twenty (20) Business Days after being requested. Within ten (10) Business Days of the completion of any such witnessed testing, the utility will issue to the applicant either

a formal letter of acceptance for interconnection or a detailed explanation of the deficiencies in the DG system. Within sixty (60) Business Days after issuance of the utility's formal letter of acceptance, or submittal of final as-built drawings to the utility, whichever occurs last, the utility shall prepare and submit to the applicant a final reconciliation statement of its actual costs less any CESIR and construction advance payments made by the applicant. Within twenty (20) Business Days after delivery of the reconciliation statement, the applicant will receive either a bill for any balance due or a reimbursement for overpayment from the utility as determined by the utility's reconciliation. The applicant may contest the reconciliation with the utility. If the utility's final reconciliation invoice states a balance due from the applicant, unless it is challenged by a formal complaint interposed by the applicant, it shall be paid to the utility within thirty (30) business days or the utility reserves the right to lock the generating system offline. If the utility's final reconciliation invoice states a reimbursement for overpayment to be paid by the utility, unless the reimbursement amount is challenged by a formal complaint interposed by the applicant, it shall be paid to the applicant within thirty (30) business days. If the applicant is not satisfied, a formal complaint may be filed with the Secretary to the Commission.

#### **D. Payment and Construction Milestones**

Applicants are responsible for payment of utility system modification cost estimates in accordance with the following rules and deadlines. All project costs will be subject to Appendix E, where applicable.

When the utility's estimated cost is \$10,000 or less, the applicant shall pay the utility 100% of the estimate within ninety (90) Business Days of receiving the cost estimate from the utility. Within fifteen (15) Business Days of receiving the payment, the utility will provide the applicant, via electronic communication, a signed New York State Standardized Interconnection Contract in the form of Appendix A and a written confirmation, on its letterhead, of the compensation eligibility for which the project has qualified. The applicant will sign and return the contract to the utility within fifteen (15) Business Days. If the applicant does not return the signed contract within this period, the application shall be removed from the utility's interconnection queue, and no further action on the part of the utility is required.

When the estimated cost is greater than \$10,000, the applicant will make an advance payment of 25% of the estimate to the utility within ninety (90) Business Days of receiving the cost estimate. Within fifteen (15) Business Days of receiving the applicant's payment, the utility

will provide the applicant, via electronic communication, a receipt for the payment, a signed New York State Standardized Interconnection Contract in the form of Appendix A, and a written confirmation, on its letterhead, of the compensation eligibility for which the project has qualified. The applicant will sign and return the contract to the utility within fifteen (15) Business Days. The applicant may request an extension of no more than fifteen (15) Business Days to return the contract. If the applicant does not return the signed contract within the time allowed, the application shall be removed from the utility's interconnection queue, and no further action on the part of the utility is required.

Within thirty (30) Business Days of receiving the 25% payment, the utility shall provide an initial construction schedule to the applicant (consistent with Appendix L). The utility shall commence design work in accordance with its published guidance, unless otherwise directed by the applicant.

The applicant will have one hundred and twenty (120) Business Days from when the utility confirms receipt of the 25% payment to pay the remaining 75% to the utility. The utility will provide a receipt to the applicant. Within thirty (30) Business Days of the payment, the utility will provide an updated construction schedule (consistent with Appendix L).

If the applicant does not make a payment due under this section in the time required, the application shall be removed from the utility's interconnection queue with no further action required of the utility.

If the applicant withdraws or is removed from the interconnection queue at any point after making a payment required under this section, any unspent portions of these payments will be refunded to the applicant consistent with the timelines described in Section C, Step 11.

If a local permitting moratorium prevents an applicant from meeting the above timelines, the utilities may grant affected project applicants an extension. To be granted an extension of the required timelines, the applicant must submit the New York State Standard Moratorium Attestation Form, Appendix I. Upon the applicant's payment of 25% expected upgrade costs, if applicant has received its CESIR, returned the executed Interconnection Contract, and submitted the Attestation Form to the utility, the due date for the remainder of the total upgrade payment shall be adjusted to 120 business days from the end of the moratorium. If applicable, any unused portion of the 25% payment shall be refunded if the project does not move forward after receiving an extension.

If the final acceptance as set out in Section C, Step 11 is not completed within twelve (12) months of the date the applicant returns the executed New York State Standardized Contract as a result of applicant inactivity, the utility has the right to notify the applicant by U.S. first class mail with delivery receipt confirmation that the applicant's project will be removed from the utility's interconnection queue if the applicant does not respond within thirty (30) Business Days of the issue of such notification and provide a project status update and/or justification as to why the project should remain in the utility's interconnection inventory for an additional period of time.

### **E. Application Process for Energy Storage Systems (ESS)**

Except as provided in this Section, the rules in Sections B and C shall apply to applications to: construct new Hybrid Projects; construct new stand-alone storage; add an ESS to an existing DG facility; and change the operating mode of an existing Hybrid Project or stand-alone storage facility. Whether an application will be handled under Section B or C will be determined by the sum of the AC nameplate ratings of all DG facilities and ESS facilities comprising the proposed Hybrid Project

#### **STEP 1. The Application**

An applicant proposing a Hybrid Project or stand-alone ESS shall complete and submit Appendix K with Appendix F.

The owner of an existing DG facility may apply to add an ESS by submitting completed Appendix K to the utility at any time.

For all projects involving ESS, the utility shall review the application and respond within the time frames provided in Section B or C, as applicable.

Following interconnection of a Hybrid Project or a stand-alone ESS, the owner may apply to the utility to change the operating characteristics of the storage component. To initiate review, the owner shall submit completed Appendix K specifying the proposed new operating characteristics to the utility.

#### **STEP 2. Protection and Control Review**

When performing screening analysis and system impact studies associated with ESS, operating characteristics including maximum export and import capacity shall be utilized, except that fault current contribution shall be evaluated based on aggregate AC nameplate rating. The



utility's technical review shall determine whether the proposed facility, operating per the characteristics identified in the application (Appendix K), can be safely and reliably interconnected to the utility's distribution system. The applicant shall pay the costs for the utility's review in advance.

Following the completion of Step 3 in Section I.B., or upon passing the Preliminary or Supplemental Screening Analysis in Step 4 in Section I.C., based on the application and proposed operating parameters, the utility will determine if a Protection and Control Review is required. The utility will notify the applicant of this determination. The applicant will have thirty (30) Business Days from the notification to pay the nonrefundable fee for the review, which shall be calculated as \$500 plus \$4/kW capped at \$3,000. The utilities shall have twenty (20) Business Days to perform the review and provide the results to the applicant, including a description of any modifications to the control systems that the utility determines are necessary.

Within ten (10) Business Days of an applicant's request, the utility shall discuss the results of the Protection and Control Review. Following the discussion, the applicant will have twenty (20) Business Days to determine whether or not to accept any required modifications to the control system and take the next step in the process as defined in Section B or C, as applicable, or to withdraw the application.

For all applications relating to ESS, the utility's written report of its technical review shall include a completed Attachment I, as defined below, specifying the operating parameters studied for the proposed facility. The utility and the applicant shall discuss the listed operating parameters promptly after delivery of the study results to the applicant.

For ESS applications requiring a CESIR, the utility will provide the applicant with any additional testing procedures required in connection with the ESS, using the applicant's load management control systems to limit reverse power. The utility will provide this information with the CESIR results.

### **STEP 3. Contract and Payment for Utility Construction Costs**

An applicant proposing a Hybrid Project, stand-alone storage, or the addition of ESS to an existing DG facility shall execute the New York State Standardized Interconnection Contract for Systems including Energy Storage, and make payment to the utility for its estimated construction costs within the time required by Section D.

Each contract shall include a completed Attachment I, which shall specify the operating

parameters for the interconnected ESS after consultation with the applicant.

An applicant proposing to change the operating characteristics listed in Appendix K for an existing ESS shall sign an amendment to the New York State Standard Interconnection Contract for Facilities including Energy Storage to incorporate the revised Attachment I and make payment for any utility construction costs within the time required by Section D.

#### **F. Rules for Combining DG Applications**

Distributed Generation applications that have been determined to be complete and that meet the following criteria may be combined:

- (a) the applications must be sequential in the utility's queue on both the circuit and substation bus, or non-sequential combined applications may proceed with the lower queue position;
- (b) there can be no non-SIR applications in the utility's queue between the applications that propose to aggregate;
- (c) the proposed projects must be located on the same or adjacent parcels;
- (d) both applications must be compensated at the same rate and; and
- (e) the size of the combined projects may not exceed an AC nameplate rating of 5 MW.

If none of the applications has reached the deadline for payment of 25% of the estimated utility construction costs necessary for its interconnection, the applicant(s) may ask the utility to perform a technical review of the applications as a combined project. The applicant(s) shall submit its request in writing to the utility. The utility shall cease any ongoing work on the individual applications and notify the applicant(s) within ten (10) Business Days of any additional information that is needed to perform the requested analysis and of the fee that will be charged. The utility shall apply any unspent study fees related to the individual applications to the charge for the new study. The applicant(s) shall pay the fee and provide the information sought by the utility within ten (10) Business Days of the notification. The construction cost payment due dates for the applications that are proposed to combine will be suspended until a new due date is established pursuant to this Section.

If any of the applications proposed to be combined has made a payment for estimated utility construction costs, the applicant(s) may still submit a request to study them as a combined project as provided above. Any additional payment due dates associated with the applications shall be suspended until a new due date is established. The utility shall cease work on the individual applications and shall cancel any procurements that the applicant(s) agree should be

cancelled. The applicant(s) shall bear any cost associated with such cancellations. The utility shall notify the applicant(s) of any information that is needed to perform the requested analysis and of the fee that will be charged for the study within ten (10) Business Days of receiving the request. The applicant(s) shall pay the fee and provide the information sought by the utility within ten (10) Business Days of the notification.

The utility shall have sixty (60) Business Days from receipt of the fee and the project information to perform the technical review of the combined applications. The utility's report of the results shall provide the information specified in Step 6 of Section C to the applicant(s). The applicant(s) may:

- (1) proceed to construct the combined project;
- (2) resume the interconnection of the separate applications; or
- (3) withdraw one or more of the applications.

If the applicant(s) selects option (1), payment for the full amount of the estimated utility construction costs shall be due sixty (60) Business Days after receipt of the results of the technical review. If the applicant(s) selects either option (2) or (3), full payment of the construction cost associated with the applications that are to continue to interconnect shall be due within the same time period. If the applicant(s) does not meet these deadlines, the applications shall be deemed withdrawn with no further action required by the utility.

#### **G. Interconnection On-Line Application Portal (IOAP)**

Each utility shall maintain an IOAP system to provide applicants a web-based application submittal process. Hard copy, email, and/or mailed in application will no longer be allowed or accepted unless the utility IOAP systems are down for maintenance or failure. The IOAP shall also provide applicants with updated information regarding the status of their SIR application process. The system shall be customer specific and post the real-time status of the SIR process. At a minimum, the following content shall be provided:

1. The applicant's name and project/application identification number.
2. Description of the project, including at a minimum, the project's type (energy source), size, metering, and location.
3. SIR project application status, including all the steps completed and to be completed, along with corresponding completion/deadline dates associated with each step.

- If the next action is to be taken by the utility, the expected date that action will be completed,
  - If the next action is to be taken by the applicant, what exactly is required and a contact for more information.
4. Information regarding any outstanding information request made by the utility of the applicant, and
  5. The status of all amounts paid and/or due to the utility by the applicant.

Access shall be available for the customer and their authorized agent(s), such that both can access the information. The IOAP must be private and secure from unauthorized access. Access to the IOAP shall be easily found on each electric utility's Interconnection / Distributed Generation home web page.

The IOAP application process must be consistent with the latest version of the SIR and include the ability to attach associated documentation or drawings for each project. Electronic signatures shall be accepted and approved for this process.

## **H. Modifications**

Applicants may propose a Modification at any time by submitting a request to the utility through the utility's on-line application portal and /or via email. Submission of such a request will not suspend any deadlines applicable to the pending application. The utility will review the request to determine whether the proposed Modification is a Material Modification and provide its determination to the applicant within ten (10) Business Days, unless the utility first notifies the applicant that additional information is needed to make the evaluation. In that case, the utility will have ten (10) Business Days from receipt of the additional information to determine whether the proposed Modification is a Material Modification.

A Material Modification to a project will require a new application, a new queue position, and removal of the original application if the applicant elects to move forward with the modification (if not yet interconnected).

The utility reserves the right to make the final determination as to whether a proposed change is a Material Modification.

When making the materiality determination, the utility will consider the DPS Staff posted Guidance Document on DER Material Modifications and will provide the applicant with a written explanation of its finding. At the applicant's request, the utility will meet with the applicant to discuss the materiality determination.

A Modification that is not determined to be material may still require evaluation and acceptance by the utility through the process described below. The applicant is obligated to pay any necessary study costs of the evaluation. The utility will notify the applicant of any additional funding and/or information that may be required to evaluate the Modification within five (5) Business Days of providing the materiality determination. The applicant shall have ten (10) Business Days to provide any requested information and pay the associated fees or choose to remain with the original interconnection application with associated uninterrupted timeline.

If the proposed change is not a Material Modification, and is proposed prior to the start of a CESIR, the utility will study the modified project in the CESIR process.

If the proposed change is not a Material Modification and is proposed following the start of a CESIR but no later than forty (40) Business Days after the start date, the utility may have an additional forty (40) Business Days to complete the CESIR incorporating the change.

If the proposed change is not a Material Modification and is proposed at a later date, or after completion of a CESIR, the change may require further study and will require mutual agreement between the utility and the applicant. The utility retains the right to determine the extent of evaluation necessary but will endeavor to complete any necessary study within a timeframe no longer than a standard CESIR. The applicant will be responsible for any costs related to the change.

## **Section II. Interconnection Requirements**

### **A. Design Requirements**

#### **1. Common**

The generator-owner shall provide appropriate protection and control equipment, including a protective device that utilizes an automatic disconnect device that will disconnect the generation in the event that the portion of the utility system that serves the generator is de-energized for any reason or for a fault in the generator-owner's system. The generator-owner's

protection and control equipment shall be capable of automatically disconnecting the generation upon detection of an islanding condition and upon detection of a utility system fault.

The type and size of the generation facility or energy storage system is based on electrical generator or inverter AC nameplate rating.

The generator-owner's protection and control scheme shall be designed to ensure that the generation remains in operation when the frequency and voltage of the utility system is within the limits specified by the required operating ranges. Upon request from the utility, the generator-owner shall provide documentation detailing compliance with the requirements set forth in this document.

The specific design of the protection, control, and grounding schemes will depend on the size and characteristics of the generator-owner's generation, as well the generator-owner's load level, in addition to the characteristics of the particular portion of the utility's system where the generator-owner is interconnecting.

The generator-owner shall have, as a minimum, an automatic disconnect device(s) sized to meet all applicable local, state, and federal codes and operated by over and under voltage and over and under frequency protection. For three-phase installations, the over and under voltage function should be included for each phase and the over and under frequency protection on at least one phase. All phases of a generator or inverter interface shall disconnect for voltage or frequency trip conditions sensed by the protective devices. Voltage protection shall be wired phase to ground for single phase installations and for applications using wye grounded-wye grounded service transformers.

The settings below are listed for single-phase and three-phase applications using wye grounded- wye grounded service transformers or wye grounded-wye grounded isolation transformers. For applications using other transformer connections, a site-specific review will be performed by the utility and the revised settings identified in Step 6 of the Application Process.

The requirements set forth in this document are intended to be consistent with those contained in the most current version of IEEE Std 1547, Standard for Interconnecting Distributed Resources with Electric Power Systems. The requirements in IEEE Std 1547 above and beyond those contained in this document shall be followed and any other Standards included in or referenced to in IEEE Std 1547 shall be adhered to.

### **Voltage Response**

The required operating range for the generators shall be from 88% to 110% of nominal voltage magnitude. In addition, the generator shall not cause the system voltage at the PCC to deviate from a range of 95% to 105% of the utility system voltage. For excursions outside these limits the protective device shall automatically initiate a disconnect sequence from the utility system as detailed in the most current version of IEEE Std 1547. Clearing time is defined as the time the range is initially exceeded until the generator-owner's equipment ceases to energize the PCC and includes detection and intentional time delay. Other static or dynamic voltage functionalities shall be permitted as agreed upon by the utility and generator-owner.

### **Frequency Response**

The required operating range for the generators shall be from 59.3 Hz to 60.5 Hz. If deemed necessary due to abnormal system conditions the utility may request that the generator operate at frequency ranges below 59.3 Hz in coordination with the load shedding schemes of the utility system. For excursions outside these limits the protective device shall automatically initiate a disconnect sequence from the utility system as detailed in the most current version of IEEE Std 1547. Clearing time is defined as the time the range is initially exceeded until the generator-owner's equipment ceases to energize the PCC and includes detection and intentional time delay. Other static or dynamic frequency functionalities shall be permitted as agreed upon by the utility and generator-owner.

### **Reconnection to the Utility System**

If the generation facility is disconnected as a result of the operation of a protective device, the generator-owner's equipment shall remain disconnected until the utility's service voltage and frequency have recovered to acceptable voltage and frequency limits as defined in the most current version of IEEE Std 1547 for a minimum of five (5) minutes. Systems greater than 25 kW that do not utilize inverter based interface equipment shall not have automatic recloser capability unless otherwise approved by the utility. If the utility determines that a facility must receive permission to reconnect, then any automatic reclosing functions must be disabled and verified to be disabled during verification testing.

## 2. Synchronous Generators

Synchronous generation shall require synchronizing facilities. These shall include automatic synchronizing equipment or manual synchronizing with relay supervision, voltage regulator, and power factor control.

For all synchronous generators sufficient reactive power capability shall be provided by the generator-owner to withstand normal voltage changes on the utility's system. The generator voltage VAR schedule, voltage regulator, and transformer ratio settings shall be jointly determined by the utility and the generator-owner to ensure proper coordination of voltages and regulator action. Generator-owners shall have synchronous generator reactive power capability to withstand voltage changes up to 5% of the base voltage levels.

A voltage regulator must be provided and be capable of maintaining the generator voltage under steady state conditions within plus or minus 1.5% of any set point and within an operating range of plus or minus 5% of the rated voltage of the generator.

Generator-owners shall adopt one of the following grounding methods for synchronous generators interconnected to effectively grounded circuits:

- a. Solid grounding
- b. High- or low-resistance grounding
- c. High- or low-reactance grounding
- d. Ground fault neutralizer grounding

Synchronous generators shall not be permitted to connect to utility secondary network systems without the acceptance of the utility.

## 3. Induction Generators

Induction generation may be connected and brought up to synchronous speed (as an induction motor) if it can be demonstrated that the initial voltage drop measured at the PCC is acceptable based on current inrush limits. The same requirements also apply to induction generation connected at or near synchronous speed because a voltage dip is present due to an inrush of magnetizing current. The generator-owner shall submit the expected number of starts per specific time period and maximum starting kVA draw data to the utility.

Starting or rapid load fluctuations on induction generators can adversely impact the utility's system voltage. Corrective step-switched capacitors or other techniques may be necessary. These measures can, in turn, cause ferro resonance. If these measures are installed on



the customer's side of the PCC, the utility will review these measures and may require the customer to install additional equipment.

#### **4. Inverters**

Direct current generation can only be installed in parallel with the utility's system using a synchronous inverter. The design shall be such as to disconnect this synchronous inverter upon a utility system event. Inverters intended to provide local grid support during system events that result in voltage and/or frequency excursions as described in Section II.A.1 shall be provided with the required onboard functionality to allow for the equipment to remain online for the duration of the event.

It is recommended that equipment be selected from the Department of Public Service "Certified Interconnection Equipment list" maintained on the Commission's website. Interconnected DG systems utilizing equipment not found in such list must meet all functional requirements of the current version of IEEE Std 1547 and be protected by utility grade relays (as defined in these requirements) using settings approved by the utility and verified in the field. The field verification test must demonstrate that the equipment meets the voltage and frequency requirements detailed in this section.

Synchronization or re-synchronization of an inverter to the utility system shall not result in a voltage deviation that exceeds the requirements contained in Section II.E, Power Quality. Only inverters designed to operate in parallel with the utility system shall be utilized for that purpose.

#### **5. Minimum Protective Function Requirements**

Protective system requirements for distributed generation facilities result from an assessment of many factors, including but not limited to:

- Type and size of the distributed generation facility
- Voltage level of the interconnection
- Location of the distributed generation facility on the circuit
- Distribution transformer
- Distribution system configuration
- Available fault current
- Load that can remain connected to the distributed generation facility under isolated conditions

- Amount of existing distributed generation on the local distribution system.

As a result, protection requirements cannot be standardized according to any single criteria. Minimum protective function requirements shall be as detailed in the table below. Function numbers, as detailed in the latest version of ANSI C37.2, are listed with each function. All voltage, frequency, and clearing time set points shall be field adjustable.

Synchronous Generators	Induction Generators	Inverters
Over/Under Voltage (Function 27/59)	Over/Under Voltage (Function 27/59)	Over/Under Voltage (Function 27/59)
Over/Under Frequency (Function 81O/81U)	Over/Under Frequency (Function 81O/81U)	Over/Under Frequency (Function 81O/81U)
Anti-Islanding Protection	Anti-Islanding Protection	Anti-Islanding Protection
Overcurrent (Function 50P/50G/51P/51G)	Overcurrent (Function 50P/50G/51P/51G)	Overcurrent (Function 50P/50G/51P/51G)

For energy storage systems or distributed generation where net export is limited, Reverse Power (Function 32) shall be required.

The need for additional protective functions shall be determined by the utility on a case-by-case basis. If the utility determines a need for additional functions, it shall notify the generator-owner in writing of the requirements. The notice shall include a description of the specific aspects of the utility system that necessitate the addition, and an explicit justification for the necessity of the enhanced capability. The utility shall specify and provide settings for those functions that the utility designates as being required to satisfy protection practices. Any protective equipment or setting specified by the utility shall not be changed or modified at any time by the generator-owner without written consent from the utility.

The generator-owner shall be responsible for ongoing compliance with all applicable local, state, and federal codes and standardized interconnection requirements as they pertain to the interconnection of the generating equipment. Protective devices shall utilize their own current transformers and potential transformers and not share electrical equipment associated with utility revenue metering.

A failure of the generator-owner's protective devices, including loss of control power, shall open the automatic disconnect device, thus disconnecting the generation from the utility

system. A generator-owner's protection equipment shall utilize a non-volatile memory design such that a loss of internal or external control power, including batteries, will not cause a loss of interconnection protection functions or loss of protection set points.

All interface protection and control equipment shall operate as specified independent of the calendar date.

For monitoring and control of new DG projects, the most current version of the Monitoring and Control Criteria shall be employed by the utilities to evaluate the need for such equipment. The Monitoring and Control Criteria document was developed and agreed to through a collaborative process as part of the Interconnection Technical Working Group (ITWG). This document can be found on the Department of Public Service website ([www.dps.ny.gov](http://www.dps.ny.gov)) at the Distributed Generation/Interconnections tab under Interconnection Technical Working Group Information. The communications hardware, protocols, and data models must comply with utility standards.

## **6. Metering**

Metering requirements shall be determined by the configuration of the DER system. New metering or modifications to existing metering will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and shall be consistent with metering requirements adopted by the Commission.

Any incremental metering costs are included in interconnection costs that may be required of an applicant.

The following table summarizes the applicable New York Net Metering Rules:

<b>New York (PSL §66-l) - Net Metering*</b>			
<b>Incentive Type:</b>	Net Metering Rules		
<b>Eligible Renewable/Other Technologies:</b>	Wind		
<b>Applicable Sectors:</b>	Residential	Non-Residential	Farm-Service Wind
<b>Limit on System Size:</b>	25 kW	Up to 2 MW	500 kW
<b>Remote Net Metering</b>	No**	Yes	Yes
<b>Limit on Overall Enrollment:</b>	.3% of 2005 Demand per IOU		

\* Refer to specific utility tariff leaves for more detailed rules and regulations applicable to net metering wind electric generating systems.

\*\* Residential customers who own or operate a farm operation as defined by Agriculture and Markets Law §301(11) and locate solar photovoltaic, micro-hydroelectric, wind, or fuel cells on property owned or leased by the customer are also eligible for remote net metering.

## **B. Operating Requirements**

The generator-owner shall provide a 24-hour telephone contact. This contact will be used by the utility to arrange access for repairs, inspection, or emergencies. The utility will make such arrangements (except for emergencies) during normal business hours.

Voltage and frequency trip set point adjustments shall be accessible to service personnel only. Any changes to these settings must be reviewed and approved by the utility.

The generator-owner shall not supply power to the utility during any outages of the utility system that serves the PCC. The generator-owner's generation may be operated during such outages only with an open tie to the utility. Islanding will not be permitted. The generator-owner shall not energize a de-energized utility circuit for any reason.

Energy storage systems cannot disconnect to self-generate if their operating characteristics require their stored energy to be discharged at that time. All control systems must be password protected from modification by the interconnection customer and property owner following Interconnection.

The disconnect switch specified for system size larger than 25 kW and non-inverter

based systems of 25 kW or less in Section II.D, Disconnect Switch, may be opened by the utility at any time for any of the following reasons:

- a. to eliminate conditions that constitute a potential hazard to utility personnel or the general public;
- b. pre-emergency or emergency conditions on the utility system;
- c. a hazardous condition is revealed by a utility inspection; protective device tampering; or,
- d. parallel operation prior to utility approval to interconnect.

The disconnect switch may be opened by the utility for the following reasons, after notice to the responsible party has been delivered and a reasonable time to correct (consistent with the conditions) has elapsed:

- a. A generator-owner has failed to make available records of verification tests and maintenance of its protective devices;
- b. A generator-owner's system adversely impacts the operation of utility equipment or equipment belonging to other utility customers; or,
- c. A generator-owner's system is found to adversely affect the quality of service to adjoining customers.

The utility will provide a name and telephone number so that the generator-owner can obtain information about the utility lock-out.

The generator-owner shall be allowed to disconnect from the utility without prior notice to self-generate.

If a generator-owner proposes any modification to the system that has an impact on the interface at the PCC after it has been installed and a contract between the utility and the generator-owner has already been executed, then any such modifications must be reviewed and approved by the utility before the modifications are made.

### **C. Dedicated Transformer**

The utility reserves the right to require a power-producing facility to connect to the utility system through a dedicated transformer. The transformer shall either be provided by the connecting utility at the generator-owner's expense, purchased from the utility, or conform to the connecting utility's specifications. The transformer that is part of the normal electrical service connection of a generator-owner's facility may meet this requirement if there are no other customers supplied from it. A dedicated transformer is not required if the installation is

designed and coordinated with the utility to protect the utility system and its customers adequately from potential detrimental net effects caused by the operation of the generator.

If the utility determines a need for a dedicated transformer, it shall notify the generator-owner in writing of the requirements. The notice shall include a description of the specific aspects of the utility system that necessitate the addition, the conditions under which the dedicated transformer is expected to enhance safety or prevent detrimental effects, and the expected response of a normal, shared transformer installation to such conditions.

#### **D. Disconnect Switch**

Generating equipment with system size larger than 25 kW and non-inverter based systems of 25 kW or less shall be capable of being isolated from the utility system by means of an external, manual, visible, gang-operated, load break disconnecting switch. The disconnect switch shall be installed, owned, and maintained by the customer-generator, and located between the generating equipment and its interconnection point with the utility system.

The disconnect switch must be rated for the voltage and current requirements of the installation.

The basic insulation level (BIL) of the disconnect switch shall be such that it will coordinate with that of the utility's equipment. Disconnect devices shall meet applicable requirements of the most current revision of UL, ANSI, and IEEE standards, and shall be installed to meet all applicable local, state, and federal codes. (New York City Building Code may require additional certification.)

The disconnect switch shall be clearly marked, "Generator Disconnect Switch," with permanent 3/8 inch or larger letters.

The customer-generator will propose, and the utility will approve, the location of the disconnect switch. The location and nature of the disconnect switch shall be indicated in the immediate proximity of the electric service entrance. The disconnect switch shall be readily accessible for operation and locking by utility personnel in accordance with Section II.B, Operating Requirements. The disconnect switch must be lockable in the open position with a 3/8" shank utility padlock.

For installations above 600V or with a full load output of greater than 960A, a draw-out type circuit breaker with the provision for padlocking at the draw-out position will not be an acceptable disconnect switch for the purposes of this requirement unless the use of such a circuit

breaker is specifically granted by the utility, based on site-specific technical requirements. If the utility grants such use, the generator-owner will be required, upon the utility's request, to provide qualified operating personnel to open the draw-out circuit breaker and ensure isolation of the DG system, with such operation to be witnessed by the utility followed immediately by the utility locking the device to prevent re-energization. In an emergency or outage situation, where there is no access to the draw-out breaker or no qualified personnel, utilities may disconnect the electric service to the premise in order to isolate the DG system.

#### **E. Power Quality**

The requirements for acceptable flicker levels shall be in accordance with the latest version of IEEE Std 1453 Recommended Practice for the Analysis of Fluctuating Installations on Power Systems. Short and long-term perception of flicker shall be within the planning and compatibility levels delineated in this standard. Mitigation measures necessary to comply with these requirements shall be at the generator-owner's expense.

#### **F. Power Factor**

If the average power factor, as measured at the PCC, is less than 0.9 (leading or lagging), the method of power factor correction necessitated by the installation of the generator will be negotiated with the utility as a commercial item. If the average power factor of the generator is proven to be above the minimum of 0.9 (leading or lagging) by the customer and accepted by the utility, that power factor value shall be used for any further utility design calculations and requirements.

Induction power generators may be provided VAR capacity from the utility system at the generator-owner's expense. The installation of VAR correction equipment by the generator-owner on the generator-owner's side of the PCC must be reviewed and approved by the utility prior to installation.

#### **G. Islanding**

Systems must be designed and operated so that islanding is not sustained on utility distribution circuits or on substation bus and transmission systems. The requirements listed in this document are designed and intended to prevent islanding. Special protection schemes and system modifications may be necessary based on the capacity of the proposed system and the configuration and existing loading on the subject circuit.

For inverter based systems, evaluation of the need for special measures to prevent unintentional islanding on radial distribution systems should be based on best practices related to the most current version of the Unintentional Islanding Protection Practice Connected to the Distribution System. This document can be found on the Department of Public Service website ([www.dps.ny.gov](http://www.dps.ny.gov)) at the Distributed Generation/Interconnections tab under Interconnection Technical Working Group Information.

The need for zero sequence voltage (3V0) and direct transfer trip (DTT) protection schemes shall be evaluated based on minimum loads on the associated feeder and substation bus, including certain fault conditions resulting from system installation to protect for an islanded condition.

#### **H. Equipment Certification**

In order for the equipment to be acceptable for interconnection to the utility system without additional protective devices, the interface equipment must be equipped with the minimum protective function requirements listed in the table in Section II.A.5 and be tested by a Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory (NRTL) recognized by the United States Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) in compliance with the most current revision of UL 1741 and its supplement SA.

For each interconnection application, documentation including the proposed equipment certification, stating compliance with UL 1741 and its supplement SA by an NRTL, shall be provided by the applicant to the utility. Supporting information from an NRTL website or UL's website stating compliance is acceptable for documentation.

If an equipment manufacturer, vendor, or any other party desires, documentation indicating compliance as stated above may be submitted to the Department of Public Service for listing under the certified equipment list on the Department of Public Service website ([www.dps.ny.gov](http://www.dps.ny.gov)) at the Distributed Generation/Interconnections tab.

Certification information for equipment tested and certified to the most current revision of UL 1741 and its supplement SA by a non-NRTL shall be provided by the manufacturer, or vendor, to the contacts listed on the Department of Public Service website for review before final acceptance and posting under the certified equipment list. Utilities are not responsible for reviewing and approving equipment tested and certified by a non-NRTL.

If equipment is UL 1741 and its supplement SA certified by an NRTL and compliance



documentation is submitted to the utility, the utility shall accept such equipment for interconnection in New York State. All equipment certified to the most current revision of UL 1741 and its supplement SA by an NRTL shall be deemed 'certified equipment' even if it does not appear on the Commission's website under the Certified Equipment list.

Utility grade relays need not be certified per the requirements of this section.

For DG systems that are already interconnected with the utility's electrical system and seek to use the New York State Standardized Interconnection Requirements and Application Process in order to qualify for net metering, no DG system will be required to obtain recertification the latest equipment certification standards, as long as the DG system met the equipment certification requirements by the utility in effect at the time of the DG unit's interconnection.

### **I. Verification Testing**

All interface equipment must include a verification test procedure as part of the documentation presented to the utility. Except for the case of small single-phase inverters as discussed later, the verification test must establish that the protection settings meet the SIR requirements. The verification testing may be site-specific and is performed periodically to assure continued acceptable performance.

Upon initial parallel operation of a generating system, or any time interface hardware or software is changed, the verification test must be performed. A qualified individual must perform verification testing in accordance with the manufacturer's published test procedure. Qualified individuals include professional engineers, factory-trained and certified technicians, and licensed electricians with experience in testing protective equipment. The utility reserves the right to witness verification testing or require written certification that the testing was successfully performed.

Verification testing shall be performed at least once every four years. All verification tests prescribed by the manufacturer shall be performed. If wires must be removed to perform certain tests, each wire and each terminal must be clearly and permanently marked. The generator-owner shall maintain verification test reports for inspection by the utility.

Single-phase inverters and inverter systems rated 25 kW and below shall be verified upon initial parallel operation and once every four years as follows: the generator-owner shall interrupt the utility source and verify that the equipment automatically disconnects and does not

reconnect for at least five minutes after the utility source is reconnected. The owner shall maintain a log of these operations for inspection by the connecting utility. Any system that depends upon a battery for trip power shall be checked and logged at least annually for proper voltage. Once every four (4) years the battery must be either replaced or a discharge test performed.

## **J. Interconnection Inventory**

The utilities will manage the queue of interconnection applications in their inventories in the order in which they are received and according to the timelines set forth in this document.

To ensure applications are addressed in a timely manner and monitor the overall interconnection activities, utilities shall submit an SIR inventory of projects monthly to the Public Service Commission by the 15th day of the following month. Therefore, 12 interconnection inventory submissions shall be provided each year by each of the electric utilities. Utilities shall provide DPS Staff with redacted and unredacted versions of its interconnection inventory, including the current queue, for the associated time period in Excel format. At a minimum, the following information shall be provided in the inventory:

1. Utility Name
2. Applicant Name
3. Developer
4. Application No.
5. Circuit ID
6. Substation
7. System Type
8. System Capacity
9. Metering Configuration
10. Protective Equipment
11. Application Review Start and End date
12. Preliminary Screening Analysis Start and End date
13. CESIR Start and End date
14. CESIR Costs
15. Utility CESIR Costs
16. Customer CESIR Costs
17. Utility System Upgrade Costs
18. Customer System Upgrade Costs
19. Verification Testing date
20. Final Letter of Acceptance date

### Section III. Glossary of Terms

**Automatic Disconnect Device:** An electronic or mechanical switch used to isolate a circuit or piece of equipment from a source of power without the need for human intervention.

**Business Day:** Monday through Friday, excluding utility holidays.

**Cease to Energize:** Cessation of energy flow capability.

**Coordinated Electric System Interconnection Review:** Any studies performed by utilities to ensure that the safety and reliability of the electric grid with respect to the interconnection of distributed generation as discussed in this document.

**Dedicated Transformer:** A transformer installed by the utility to isolate a DG system.

**Direct Transfer Trip:** Remote operation of a circuit breaker by means of a communication channel.

**Disconnect (verb):** To isolate a circuit or equipment from a source of power. If isolation is accomplished with a solid-state device, "Disconnect" shall mean to cease the transfer of power.

**Disconnect Switch:** A mechanical device used for isolating a circuit or equipment from a source of power.

**Distributed Energy Resources (DER):** Energy sources that consist of distributed generation facilities or energy storage systems or any combination thereof.

**Distributed Generation (DG):** Generation facilities supplementing on-site load or non-centralized electric power production facilities interconnected at the distribution side of an electric power system.

**Draw-out Type Circuit Breaker:** Circuit breakers that are disconnected by physically separating, or racking, the breaker assembly away from the switchgear bus.

**Electric Power System (EPS):** Refers to the electric power system owned, controlled, and/or operated by the utility and used to provide transmission and/or distribution services to its customers.

**Energy Storage System (ESS):** A commercially-available mechanical, electrical or electro-chemical means to store and release electrical energy, and its associated electrical inversion device and control functions that may stand-alone or be paired with a distributed generator at a point of common coupling.

**Generator-Owner:** An applicant to operate on-site power generation equipment in parallel with the utility grid per the requirements of this document.

**Hybrid Project:** A facility that operates, or is planned to operate, as a distributed generator paired with an energy storage system at a point of common coupling.

**Islanding:** A condition in which a portion of the utility system that contains both load and distributed generation is isolated from the remainder of the utility system (Adopted from IEEE Std 929.).

**Material Modification:** A Modification to a facility that may have adverse impacts on subsequently queued applications in the interconnection queue, or any Modification described below (regardless of impact to a queued project):

1. A change in the physical location of the DER such that the Property Owner Consent Form or Site Control Certification Form as required by the SIR is no longer valid.
2. A change in the PCC to a location on a different line segment or different distribution feeder for projects interconnecting to the utility's radial system, or any change in PCC for projects interconnecting to the utility's network system.
3. An increase in the nameplate kVA or kW rating of the originally proposed distributed generation facility or energy storage system of more than 2%.
4. An additional distributed generation or energy storage system (other than the 2% increase in nameplate in item 3 above) not disclosed in the original application, where a separate and distinct distributed generation facility or energy storage system already exists behind the same proposed PCC. This would include existing non-disclosed distributed generation or energy storage systems or a request for additional distributed generation or energy storage systems at the project site.

**Maximum Export:** The maximum export capacity of an Energy Storage System to the distribution grid at the PCC communicated by the Applicant and studied as such by the utility per their review of the impacts on the utility system based on the operating characteristic of the Energy Storage System.

**Maximum Import:** The maximum import capacity of an Energy Storage System from the distribution grid at the PCC communicated by the Applicant and studied as such by the utility per their review of the impacts on the utility system based on the operating characteristic of the Energy Storage System.

**Modification:** A change to the ownership, equipment, equipment ratings, equipment configuration, or operating characteristics\* of the facility, or to schedules\* associated with the facility as described in the application.

\*Modifications that alter operating characteristics or schedules may be deemed material. Please consult with host utility for review and resolution.

**Network:** A network (also known as an area network) is comprised of multiple, primary feeders supplying network transformers tied together in parallel on the secondary side to provide energy into a low voltage grid.

**Point of Common Coupling (PCC):** The point at which the interconnection between the

electric utility and the customer interface occurs. Typically, this is the customer side of the utility revenue meter.

**Preliminary Review:** A review of the generator-owner's proposed system capacity, location on the utility system, system characteristics, and general system regulation to determine if the interconnection is viable.

**Protective Device:** A device that continuously monitors a designated parameter related to the operation of the generation system that operates if preset limits are exceeded.

**Required Operating Range:** The range of magnitudes of the utility system voltage or frequency where the generator-owner's equipment, if operating, is required to remain in operation for the purposes of compliance with UL 1741. Excursions outside these ranges must result in the automatic disconnection of the generation within the prescribed time limits.

**Safety Equipment:** Includes dedicated transformers or equipment and facilities to protect the safety and adequacy of electric service provided to other customers.

**Spot Network:** A spot network is a network within a smaller area network where one or more multiple transformers are dedicated to serve a single customer or large energy-consuming facility such as a high-rise building.

**Stand-Alone Storage:** An energy storage system that is solely connected to a point of common coupling and not paired with a distributed generator.

**Utility Grade Relay:** A relay that is constructed to comply with, as a minimum, the most current version of the following standards for non-nuclear facilities:

<u>Standard</u>	<u>Conditions Covered</u>
ANSI/IEEE C37.90	Usual Service Condition Ratings - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current and Voltage Maximum design for all relay AC and DC auxiliary relays</li> <li>• Make and carry ratings for tripping contacts Tripping contacts duty cycle</li> <li>• Dielectric tests by manufacturer</li> <li>• Dielectric tests by user</li> </ul>
ANSI/IEEE C37.90.1	Surge Withstand Capability (SWC) Fast Transient
Test IEEE C37.90.2	Radio Frequency Interference
ANSI C37.2	Electric Power System Device Function
Numbers IEC 255-21-1	Vibration
IEC 255-22-2	Electrostatic Discharge
IEC 255-5	Insulation (Impulse Voltage Withstand)

**Verification Test:** A test performed upon initial installation and repeated periodically to determine that there is continued acceptable performance.

**Wind, Net Meter, Residential Applicant:** A residential applicant who is proposing to install a wind electric generating system, not to exceed a combined rated capacity of 25 kW, located and used at the applicant's primary residence, per the requirements of New York State Public Service Law §66-1.

**Wind, Net Meter, Non-Residential Applicant:** A non-residential applicant who is proposing to install a wind electric generating system located and used at the applicant's premises, not to exceed 2 MW, pursuant to New York State Public Service Law §66-1.

**Wind, Net Meter, Farm Applicant:** A farm applicant who is proposing to install a wind electric generating system, not to exceed a combined rated capacity of 500 kW, located and used at the applicant's primary residence, per the requirements of New York State Public Service Law §66-1.

**APPENDIX A**

**NEW YORK STATE STANDARDIZED CONTRACT  
FOR INTERCONNECTION OF NEW DISTRIBUTED GENERATION UNITS  
AND/OR ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS WITH CAPACITY OF 5 MW OR LESS  
CONNECTED IN PARALLEL WITH  
UTILITY DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS**

**Interconnection Customer Information:**

**Utility Information:**

Name:

Name:

Address:

Address:

Telephone:

Telephone:

Fax:

Fax:

Email:

Email:

Unit Application/File No.:

Utility Account Number:

## DEFINITIONS

**Delivery Service** means the services the Utility may provide to deliver capacity or energy generated by the Interconnection Customer to a buyer to a delivery point(s), including related ancillary services.

**Energy Storage System (ESS)** means a commercially available mechanical, electrical, or electro-chemical means to store and release electrical energy, and its associated electrical inversion device and control functions that may be stand-alone or paired with a distributed generator at a point of common coupling.

**Interconnection Customer** means the owner of the Unit.

**Interconnection Facilities** means the equipment and facilities on the Utility's system necessary to permit operation of the Unit in parallel with the Utility's system.

**Material Modification** means a Modification to a Unit that may have adverse impacts on the Utility's system, Utility customers, other projects, or applications in the interconnection queue.

**Modification** means a change to the ownership, equipment, equipment ratings, equipment configuration, or operating conditions of the Unit.

**Premises** means the real property where the Unit is located.

**SIR** means the New York State Standardized Interconnection Requirements for new distributed generation units with a nameplate capacity of 5 MW or less connected in parallel with the Utility's distribution system.

**Unit** means the distributed generation, stand-alone ESS, or combined generation and ESS facilities approved by the Utility for operation in parallel with the Utility's system. This Agreement relates only to such Unit, but a new agreement shall not be required if the Interconnection Customer makes physical alterations to the Unit that do not result in an increase in its nameplate generating capacity. The nameplate generating capacity or inverter/converter rating of the Unit shall not exceed 5 MW.

**Utility** means [insert legal name of the interconnecting utility].



## I. TERM AND TERMINATION

**1.1 Term:** This Agreement shall become effective when executed by both Parties and shall continue in effect until terminated.

**1.2 Termination:** This Agreement may be terminated as follows:

- a. The Interconnection Customer may terminate this Agreement at any time, by giving the Utility sixty (60) days' written notice.
- b. Failure by the Interconnection Customer to seek final acceptance by the Utility within twelve (12) months after completion of the utility construction process described in the SIR shall automatically terminate this Agreement.
- c. Either Party may, by giving the other Party at least sixty (60) days' prior written notice, terminate this Agreement in the event that the other Party is in default of any of the material terms and conditions of this Agreement. The terminating Party shall specify in the notice the basis for the termination and shall provide a reasonable opportunity to cure the default.
- d. The Utility may, by giving the Interconnection Customer at least sixty (60) days' prior written notice, terminate this Agreement for cause. The Interconnection Customer's non-compliance with an upgrade to the SIR, unless the Interconnection Customer's installation is "grandfathered," shall constitute good cause.

**1.3 Disconnection and Survival of Obligations:** Upon termination of this Agreement the Unit will be disconnected from the Utility's electric system. The termination of this Agreement shall not relieve either Party of its liabilities and obligations, owed or continuing at the time of the termination.

**1.4 Suspension:** This Agreement will be suspended during any period in which the Interconnection Customer is not eligible for Delivery Service from the Utility

## II. SCOPE OF AGREEMENT

**2.1 Scope of Agreement:** This Agreement relates solely to the conditions under which the Utility and the Interconnection Customer agree that the Unit may be interconnected to and operated in parallel with the Utility's system.

**III. Electricity Not Covered:** The Utility shall have no duty under this Agreement to account for, pay for, deliver, or return in kind any electricity produced by the Facility and delivered into the Utility's System unless the system is net metered as described in Public Service Law Section 66-1.

## INSTALLATION, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF UNIT

**3.1 Compliance with SIR:** Subject to the provisions of this Agreement, the Utility shall be required to interconnect the Unit to the Utility's system, for purposes of parallel operation, if the Utility accepts the Unit as in compliance with the SIR. The Interconnection Customer shall have a continuing obligation to maintain and operate the Unit in compliance with the SIR.

**3.2 Observation of the Unit - Construction Phase:** The Utility may, in its discretion and upon reasonable notice, perform reasonable on-site verifications during the construction of the Unit. Whenever the Utility chooses to exercise its right to perform observations herein it shall specify to the Interconnection Customer its reasons for its decision to perform the observation. For purposes of this paragraph and paragraphs 3.3 through 3.5, the term "on-site verification" shall not include testing of the Unit, and verification tests shall not be required except as provided in paragraphs

**3.3 Observation of the Unit - Ten-day Period:** The Utility may perform on-site verifications of the Unit and observe the execution of verification testing within a reasonable period of time, not exceeding ten (10) business days after system installation. The Unit will be allowed to commence parallel operation upon satisfactory completion of the verification test. The Interconnection Customer must have complied with and must continue to comply with all contractual and technical requirements.

**3.4 Observation of the Unit - Post-Ten-day Period:** If the Utility does not perform an on-site verification of the Unit and observe the execution of verification testing within the ten-day period, the Interconnection Customer will send the Utility within five (5) days of the verification testing a written notification certifying that the Unit has been installed and tested in compliance with the SIR, the utility-accepted design and the equipment manufacturer's instructions. The Interconnection Customer may begin to produce energy upon satisfactory completion of the verification test. After receiving the verification test notification, the Utility will either issue to the Interconnection Customer a formal letter of acceptance for interconnection, or may request that the applicant and utility set a date and time to perform an on-site verification of the Unit and make reasonable inquiries of the Interconnection Customer, but only for purposes of determining whether the verification tests were properly performed. The Interconnection Customer shall not be required to perform the verification tests a second time, unless irregularities appear in the verification test report or there are other objective indications that the tests were not properly performed in the first instance.

**3.5 Observation of the Unit - Operations:** The Utility may perform on-site verification of the operations of the Unit after it commences operations if the Utility has a reasonable basis for doing so based on its responsibility to provide continuous and reliable utility service or as authorized by the provisions of the Utility's Retail Electric Tariff relating to the verification of Interconnection Customer installations generally.

**3.6 Costs of Interconnection Facilities:** During the term of this Agreement, the Utility shall design, construct and install the Interconnection Facilities. The Interconnection Customer shall be responsible for paying the incremental capital cost of such Interconnection Facilities attributable to the Interconnection Customer's Unit. All costs associated with the operation and

maintenance of the Dedicated Facilities after the Unit first produces energy shall be the responsibility of the Utility.

**3.7 Modifications to the Unit:** The Interconnection Customer may request a Modification at any time after commencement of parallel operation. The Utility shall evaluate the request and determine whether the proposed change is a Material Modification in accordance with the rules for requesting changes to applications in the SIR. A Material Modification will be studied pursuant to the procedures in the SIR for new applications. In the case of a non-material modification that is accepted by the Utility, the parties will execute an amendment to this Agreement describing the Unit changes that have been approved.

#### IV. DISCONNECTION OF THE UNIT

**4.1 Emergency Disconnection:** The Utility may disconnect the Unit, without prior notice to the Interconnection Customer (a) to eliminate conditions that constitute a potential hazard to Utility personnel or the general public; (b) if pre-emergency or emergency conditions exist on the Utility system; (c) if a hazardous condition relating to the Unit is observed by a Utility inspection; or (d) if the Interconnection Customer has tampered with any protective device. The Utility shall notify the Interconnection Customer of the emergency if circumstances permit. The Interconnection Customer shall notify the Utility promptly when it becomes aware of an emergency condition that affects the Unit that may reasonably be expected to affect the Utility EPS.

**4.2 Non-Emergency Disconnection Due to Unit Performance:** The Utility may disconnect the Unit, after notice to the responsible party has been provided and a reasonable time to correct, consistent with the conditions, has elapsed, if (a) the Interconnection Customer has failed to make available records of verification tests and maintenance of his protective devices; (b) the Unit system interferes with Utility equipment or equipment belonging to other customers of the Utility; (c) the Unit adversely affects the quality of service of adjoining customers; (d) the ESS does not operate in compliance with the operating parameters and limits described in Attachment 1 to this Agreement.

**4.3 Non-Emergency Disconnection for Utility Work:** The Utility may disconnect the Unit after notice to Interconnection Customer when necessary for routine maintenance, construction, and repairs on the Utility EPS. The Interconnection Customer may request to reconnect its service prior to the completion of the Utility's work. The Utility shall accommodate such requests, provided that the Interconnection Customer shall be responsible for the costs of the Utility's review and any system modifications required to reconnect the Unit ahead of schedule.

**4.4 Disconnection by Interconnection Customer:** The Interconnection Customer may disconnect a Unit with an AC nameplate rating above 300 kW upon 18 hours advance notice to the Utility if the planned shutdown will last 8 hours or more. For non-emergency forced outages lasting 8 hours or more, the Interconnection Customer shall notify the Utility within 24 hours of the commencement of the shutdown

**4.5 Utility Obligation to Cure Adverse Effect:** If, after the Interconnection Customer meets all interconnection requirements, the operations of the Utility are adversely affecting the performance of the Unit or the Customer's premises, the Utility shall immediately take appropriate action to eliminate the adverse effect. If the Utility determines that it needs to upgrade or reconfigure its system, the Interconnection Customer will not be responsible for the cost of new or additional equipment beyond the point of common coupling between the Interconnection Customer and the Utility.

## V. ACCESS

**5.1 Access to Premises:** The Utility shall have access to the disconnect switch of the Unit at all times. At reasonable hours and upon reasonable notice consistent with Section III of this Agreement, or at any time without notice in the event of an emergency (as defined in paragraph 4.1), the Utility shall have access to the Premises.

**5.2 Utility and Interconnection Customer Representatives:** The Utility shall designate, and shall provide to the Interconnection Customer, the name and telephone number of a representative or representatives who can be reached at all times to allow the Interconnection Customer to report an emergency and obtain the assistance of the Utility. For the purpose of allowing access to the premises, the Interconnection Customer shall provide the Utility with the name and telephone number of a person who is responsible for providing access to the Premises.

**5.3 Utility Right to Access Utility-Owned Facilities and Equipment:** If necessary for the purposes of this Agreement, the Interconnection Customer shall allow the Utility access to the Utility's equipment and facilities located on the Premises. To the extent that the Interconnection Customer does not own all or any part of the property on which the Utility is required to locate its equipment or facilities to serve the Interconnection Customer under this Agreement, the Interconnection Customer shall secure and provide in favor of the Utility the necessary rights to obtain access to such equipment or facilities, including easements if the circumstances so require.

## VI. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

**6.1 Good Faith Resolution of Disputes:** Each Party agrees to attempt to resolve all disputes arising hereunder promptly, equitably and in a good faith manner.

**6.2 Mediation:** If a dispute arises under this Agreement, and if it cannot be resolved by the Parties within ten (10) business days after written notice of the dispute, the parties agree to submit the dispute to mediation by a mutually acceptable mediator, in a mutually convenient location in New York State, in accordance with the then current International Institute for Conflict prevention & Resolution Procedure, or to mediation by a mediator provided by the New York Public Service Commission. The Parties agree to participate in good faith in the mediation for a period of up to 90 days. If the Parties are not successful in resolving their disputes through mediation, then the

parties may refer the dispute for resolution to the New York Public Service Commission, which shall maintain continuing jurisdiction over this Agreement.

**6.3 Escrow:** If there are amounts in dispute of more than two thousand dollars (\$2,000), the Interconnection Customer shall either place such disputed amounts into an independent escrow account pending final resolution of the dispute in question, or provide to the Utility an appropriate irrevocable standby letter of credit in lieu thereof.

## VII. INSURANCE

**7.1. Commercial General Liability:** The Interconnection Customer shall, at its own expense, procure and maintain throughout the period of this Agreement the following minimum insurance coverage:

**7.1.1.** Commercial general liability insurance with limits not less than:

**7.1.1.1.** Five million dollars (\$5,000,000) for each occurrence and in the aggregate if the AC Nameplate rating of the Interconnection Customer's Facility is greater than five (5) MWAC;

**7.1.1.2.** Two million dollars (\$2,000,000) for each occurrence and five million dollars (\$5,000,000) in the aggregate if the AC Nameplate rating of the Interconnection Customer's Facility is greater than one (1) MWAC and less than or equal to five (5) MWAC;

**7.1.1.3.** One million dollars (\$1,000,000) for each occurrence and in the aggregate if the AC Nameplate rating of the Interconnection Customer's Facility is greater than or equal to 300 (kWAC) and less than or equal to one (1) MWAC

**7.1.2.** Any combination of general liability and umbrella/excess liability policy limits can be used to satisfy the limit requirements of Section 7.1.1 (a).

**7.1.3.** The general liability insurance required to be purchased in Section 7.1 (a) may be purchased for the direct benefit of the Utility and shall respond to third party claims asserted against the Utility (hereinafter known as "Owners Protective Liability"). Should this option be chosen, the requirement of Section 7.3(a) will not apply but the Owners Protective Liability policy will be purchased for the direct benefit of the Utility and the Utility will be designated as the primary and "Named Insured" under the policy.

**7.2. General Commercial Liability Insurance:** The Interconnection Customer is not required to provide general commercial liability insurance for facilities with an AC nameplate rating of 300 kW or less. Due to the risk of incurring damages however, the New York State Public Service Commission ("Commission") recommends that the Interconnection Customer obtain adequate insurance. The inability of the Utility to require the Interconnection Customer to provide general commercial liability insurance coverage for operation of the Unit is not a waiver of any rights the Utility may have to pursue remedies at law against the Interconnection

Customer to recover damages

**7.3. Insurer Requirements and Endorsements:** All required insurance shall be written by reputable insurers authorized to conduct business in New York. In addition, all general liability insurance shall, (a) include the Utility as an additional insured; (b) contain a severability of interest clause or cross-liability clause; (c) provide that the Utility shall not incur liability to the insurance carrier for payment of premium for such insurance; and (d) provide for thirty (30) calendar days' written notice to the Utility prior to cancellation or termination of such insurance, with the exception of a ten (10) days' notice in the event of premium non-payment; provided that to the extent the Interconnection Customer is satisfying the requirements of subpart (d) of this paragraph by means of a presently existing insurance policy, the Interconnection Customer shall only be required to make good faith efforts to satisfy that requirement and will assume the responsibility for notifying the Utility as required above.

**7.4. Evidence of Insurance:** Evidence of the insurance required shall state that coverage provided is primary and is not in excess to or contributing with any insurance or self-insurance maintained by Interconnecting Customer. Prior to the Utility commencing work on System Modifications, and annually thereafter, the Interconnection Customer shall have its insurer furnish to the Utility certificates of insurance evidencing the insurance coverage required above.

**7.4.1** If coverage is on a claims-made basis, the Interconnection Customer agrees that the policy effective date or retroactive date shall be no later than the effective date of this agreement, be continuously maintained throughout the life of this agreement, and remain in place for a minimum of three (3) years following the termination of this agreement or if policies are terminated will purchase a three-year extended reporting period. Evidence of such coverage will be provided on an annual basis.

**7.4.2** In the event that an Owners Protective Liability policy is provided, the original policy shall be provided to the Utility.

**7.5. Self-Insurance:** If the Interconnection Customer has a self-insurance program established in accordance with commercially acceptable risk management practices, the Interconnection Customer may comply with the following in lieu of the above requirements as reasonably approved by the Utility:

**7.5.1.** The Interconnection Customer shall provide to the Utility, at least thirty (30) calendar days prior to the Date of Initial Operation, evidence of such program to self-insure to a level of coverage equivalent to that required.

**7.5.2.** If the Interconnection Customer ceases to self-insure to the standards required hereunder, or if the Interconnection Customer is unable to provide continuing evidence of the Interconnection Customer's financial ability to self-insure, the Interconnection Customer agrees to promptly obtain the coverage required under Section 7.1.

**7.6. Utility Obligation to Maintain Insurance:** The Utility agrees to maintain general liability insurance or self-insurance consistent with its existing commercial practice. Such insurance or self-insurance shall not exclude coverage for the Utility's liabilities undertaken

pursuant to this Agreement.

**7.7. Notification Obligations:** The Parties further agree to notify each other whenever an accident or incident occurs resulting in any injuries or damages that are included within the scope of coverage of such insurance, whether or not such coverage is sought.

## **VIII. LIMITATION OF LIABILITY**

**8.1** Each Party's liability to the other Party for any loss, cost, claim, injury, liability, or expense, including reasonable attorney's fees, relating to or arising from any act or omission in its performance of this Agreement, shall be limited to the amount of direct damage actually incurred. In no event shall either Party be liable to the other Party for any indirect, special, consequential, or punitive damages of any kind whatsoever. Nothing herein is meant to limit the liability of a Party to an unaffiliated third-party claimant.

## **IX. INDEMNITY**

**9.1** This provision protects each Party from liability incurred to third parties arising from actions taken pursuant to the provisions of this Agreement. Liability under this provision is exempt from the general limitations on liability found in Section 7.

**9.2** Each Party (the "Indemnifying Party") shall at all times indemnify, defend, and hold the other Party (the "Indemnified Party") 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, demands, suits, recoveries, costs and expenses, court costs, attorney fees, and all other obligations by or to third parties, to the extent arising out of or resulting from the Indemnifying Party's action or failure to meet its obligations under this Agreement, except in cases of negligence, gross negligence or intentional wrongdoing by the Indemnified Party.

**9.3** If a Party is obligated to indemnify and hold the Indemnified Party harmless under this section, the amount owing to the Indemnified Party shall be the amount of such Indemnified Party's actual loss, as adjudicated by the Indemnifying Party's insurance carrier, net of any insurance or other recovery.

**9.4** Promptly after receipt by an Indemnified Party of any claim or notice of the commencement of any action or administrative or legal proceeding or investigation as to which the indemnity provided for in this section may apply, the Indemnified Party shall notify the Indemnifying Party of such fact. Any unintentional failure of or delay in such notification shall not affect a Party's indemnification obligation unless such failure or delay is materially prejudicial to the Indemnifying Party.

## **X. CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES**

**10.1** Other than as expressly provided for in this Agreement or pursuant to the utility tariff, neither Party shall be liable to the other Party under any provision of this Agreement for any losses, damages, costs, or expenses for any special, indirect, incidental, consequential, or punitive damages, including but not limited to loss of profit or revenue, loss of the use of

equipment, cost of capital, cost of temporary equipment or services, whether based in whole or in part in contract, in tort, including negligence, strict liability, or any other theory of liability; provided, however, that damages for which a Party may be liable to the other Party under another agreement will not be considered to be special, indirect, incidental, or consequential damages hereunder.



## **XI. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

**11.1 Beneficiaries:** This Agreement is intended solely for the benefit of the Parties hereto, and if a Party is an agent, its principal. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to create any duty to, or standard of care with reference to, or any liability to, any other person.

**11.2 Severability:** If any provision or portion of this Agreement shall for any reason be held or adjudged to be invalid or illegal or unenforceable by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion or provision shall be deemed separate and independent, and the remainder of this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.

**11.3 Entire Agreement:** This Agreement constitutes the entire Agreement between the Parties and supersedes all prior agreements or understandings, whether verbal or written.

**11.4 Waiver:** No delay or omission in the exercise of any right under this Agreement shall impair any such right or shall be taken, construed or considered as a waiver or relinquishment thereof, but any such right may be exercised from time to time and as often as may be deemed expedient. In the event that any agreement or covenant herein shall be breached and thereafter waived, such waiver shall be limited to the particular breach so waived and shall not be deemed to waive any other breach hereunder.

**11.5 Applicable Law:** This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the law of the State of New York.

**11.6 Amendments:** This Agreement shall not be amended unless the amendment is in writing and signed by the Utility and the Customer.

**11.7 Force Majeure:** For purposes of this Agreement, "Force Majeure Event" means any event: (a) that is beyond the reasonable control of the affected Party; and (b) that the affected Party is unable to prevent or provide against by exercising reasonable diligence, including the following events or circumstances, but only to the extent they satisfy the preceding requirements: acts of war, public disorder, insurrection, or rebellion; floods, hurricanes, earthquakes, lightning, storms, and other natural calamities; explosions or fires; strikes, work stoppages, or labor disputes; embargoes; and sabotage. If a Force Majeure Event prevents a Party from fulfilling any obligations under this Agreement, such Party will promptly notify the other Party in writing, and will keep the other Party informed on a continuing basis of the scope and duration of the Force Majeure Event. The affected Party will specify in reasonable detail the circumstances of the Force Majeure Event, its expected duration, and the steps that the affected Party is taking to mitigate the effects of the event on its performance. The affected Party will be entitled to suspend or modify its performance of obligations under this Agreement, other than the obligation to make payments then due or becoming due under this Agreement, but only to the extent that the effect of the Force Majeure Event cannot be mitigated by the use of reasonable efforts. The affected Party will use reasonable efforts to resume its performance as soon as possible.

**11.8 Assignment to Corporate Party:** At any time during the term, the Interconnection Customer may assign this Agreement to a corporation or other entity with limited liability,

provided that the Interconnection Customer obtains the consent of the Utility. Such consent will not be withheld unless the Utility can demonstrate that the corporate entity is not reasonably capable of performing the obligations of the assigning Interconnection Customer under this Agreement.

**11.9 Assignment to Individuals:** At any time during the term, the Interconnection Customer may assign this Agreement to another person, other than a corporation or other entity with limited liability, provided that the assignee is the owner, lessee, or is otherwise responsible for the Unit.

**11.10 Permits and Approvals:** Interconnection Customer shall obtain all environmental and other permits lawfully required by governmental authorities prior to the construction and for the operation of the Unit during the term of this Agreement.

**11.11 Limitation of Liability:** Neither by inspection, if any, or non-rejection, nor in any other way, does the Utility give any warranty, express or implied, as to the adequacy, safety, or other characteristics of any structures, equipment, wires, appliances or devices owned, installed or maintained by the Interconnection Customer or leased by the Interconnection Customer from third parties, including without limitation the Unit and any structures, equipment, wires, appliances or devices appurtenant thereto.

**ACCEPTED AND AGREED:**

**Interconnection Customer**

**Signature:**

**Printed Name:**

**Title: Date:**

**Utility Signature:**

**Printed Name: Title:**

**Date:**

**NEW YORK STATE STANDARDIZED CONTRACT  
FOR INTERCONNECTION OF DISTRIBUTED GENERATION UNITS THAT  
INCLUDE ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS**

**ATTACHMENT 1**

**APPENDIX B**

**NEW YORK STATE STANDARDIZED APPLICATION FOR  
INTERCONNECTION OF INVERTER BASED PARALLEL  
GENERATION EQUIPMENT TO THE ELECTRIC SYSTEM OF**

**Utility:**

**Customer:**

Name: Phone: (     )     )

Address: Fax: (     )     )

Email:

Municipality:

Utility Account No.: Utility Meter No.:

**Agent (if any):**

Name: Phone: (     )     )

Address: Fax: (     )     )

Email:

**Consulting Engineer or Contractor:**

Name: Phone: (     )     )

Address: Fax: (     )     )

Email:

**Existing Electric Service:**

Capacity: \_\_\_\_\_ Amperes

Voltage: \_\_\_\_\_ Volts

Service Character:     Single Phase         Three Phase

**Location of Protective Interface Equipment on Property:**

*(Include address if different from customer address.)*

**Energy Producing Inverter Information:**

Total AC Nameplate Rating of All Inverters:

Inverter

Inverter or System Tested to UL 1741 (most current version):

Yes     No    *If no, attach product literature.*

Manufacturer:

Model:

Quantity:

Rating per inverter:    \_\_\_\_\_ kW

Type:     Forced Commutated             Line Commutated

Utility Interactive             Stand Alone

Rated Output:            \_\_\_\_\_ Amperes            \_\_\_\_\_ Volts

Ramp Rate:

Method of Grounding:     Grounded             Ungrounded

Quantity of Inverters:

*If there is more than one inverter of different types of manufacturers, please provide information on a separate sheet.*

If applicable:

Step Up Transformer Winding Configuration:

Wye-Wye       Wye-Delta       Delta-Wye

Other existing DG such as emergency generators, other renewable technologies, microturbines, hydro, fuel cells, battery storage, etc.:

Yes       No

*If yes, provide information about existing generation on separate sheet and include detail on one-line diagram.*

**Signature:**

_____	_____	_____
CUSTOMER/AGENT SIGNATURE	TITLE	DATE

**APPENDIX C**

**NEW YORK STATE STANDARDIZED APPLICATION  
FOR INTERCONNECTION OF NON-INVERTER BASED PARALLEL  
GENERATION EQUIPMENT TO THE ELECTRIC SYSTEM OF**

**Utility:**

**Customer:**

Name: Phone: (     )

Address: Fax: (     )

Email:

Municipality:

Utility Account No.:

Utility Meter No.:

**Agent (if any):**

Name: Phone: (     )

Address: Fax: (     )

Email:

**Consulting Engineer or Contractor:**

Name: Phone: (     )

Address: Fax: (     )



Email:

**Estimated In-Service Date:**

**Existing Electric Service:**

Capacity: \_\_\_\_\_ Amperes

Voltage: \_\_\_\_\_ Volts

Service Character:     Single Phase         Three Phase

Secondary 3 Phase Transformer Connection:         Wye         Delta

**Location of Protective Interface Equipment on Property:**

*(Include address if different from customer address.)*

**Energy Producing Inverter Information:**

Manufacturer:

Model No.:

Version No.:

Synchronous     Induction     Other

Rating: \_\_\_\_\_ kW

Rating: \_\_\_\_\_ kVA

Rated Output: \_\_\_\_\_ VA

Rated Voltage: \_\_\_\_\_ Volts

Rated Frequency: \_\_\_\_\_ Hz

Rated Speed: \_\_\_\_\_ RPM

Efficiency: \_\_\_\_\_ %

Power Factor: \_\_\_\_\_ %

Rated Current: \_\_\_\_\_ Amps

Locked Rotor Current: \_\_\_\_\_ Amps

Synchronous Speed: \_\_\_\_\_ RPM

Winding Connection:

Min. Operating Freq./Time:

Generator Connection:    ( ) Delta    ( ) Wye    ( ) Wye Grounded

System Tested to UL 1741 (most current version) (Total System):

( ) Yes    ( ) No    *If no, attach product literature.*

Equipment Tested to UL 1741 (most current version) (i.e., Protection System):

( ) Yes    ( ) No    *If no, attach product literature.*

Three Line Diagram attached: ( ) Yes

Verification Test Plan attached: ( ) Yes

If applicable, Certification to UL 1741 attached: ( ) Yes

**For Synchronous Machines:**

Submit copies of the Saturation Curve and the Vee Curve

( ) Salient ( ) Non-Salient

Torque: \_\_\_\_\_ lb-ft

Rated RPM:

Field Amperes: \_\_\_\_\_ at rated generator voltage and current

and \_\_\_\_\_ % PF over-excited

Type of Exciter:

Output Power of Exciter:

Type of Voltage Regulator:

Direct-axis Synchronous Reactance ( $X_d$ ): \_\_\_\_\_ ohms

Direct-axis Transient Reactance ( $X'_d$ ): \_\_\_\_\_ ohms

Direct-axis Sub-transient Reactance ( $X''_d$ ): \_\_\_\_\_ ohms

**For Induction Machines:**

Rotor Resistance ( $R_r$ ): \_\_\_\_\_ ohms                      Exciting Current: \_\_\_\_\_ Amps

Rotor Reactance ( $X_r$ ): \_\_\_\_\_ ohms                      Reactive Power Required:

Magnetizing Reactance ( $X_m$ ): \_\_\_\_\_ ohms, \_\_\_\_\_ VARs (No Load)

Stator Resistance ( $R_s$ ): \_\_\_\_\_ ohms, \_\_\_\_\_ VARs (Full Load)

Stator Reactance ( $X_s$ ): \_\_\_\_\_ ohms

Short Circuit Reactance ( $X''_d$ ): \_\_\_\_\_ ohms,

Phases:    ( ) Single Phase                      ( ) Three Phase

Frame Size:                                              Design Letter:

Temp. Rise: \_\_\_\_\_ °C

Step Up Transformer Winding Configuration:

( ) Wye-Wye                      ( ) Wye-Delta                      ( ) Delta-Wye

**Signature:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
CUSTOMER/AGENT SIGNATURE                      TITLE                      DATE

**APPENDIX D****PRE-APPLICATION REPORT FOR THE CONNECTION OF PARALLEL GENERATION EQUIPMENT TO THE UTILITY DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM**

Utility:

<b>DG Project Information: (Provided to Utility by Applicant)</b>
Customer name
Location of Project: (Address and/or GPS Coordinates)
DG technology type
DG fuel source / configuration
Proposed project size in kW (AC)
Date of Pre-Application Request
<b>Pre-Application Report: (Provided to Applicant by Utility – 10 Business Days)</b>
Operating voltage of closest distribution line
Phasing at site
Approximate distance to 3-Phase (if only 1 or 2 phases nearby)
Circuit capacity (MW)
Fault current availability, if readily obtained
Circuit peak load for the previous calendar year
Circuit minimum load for the previous calendar year
Approximate distance (miles) between serving substation and project site
Number of substation banks
Total substation bank capacity (MW)
Total substation peak load (MW)
Aggregate existing distributed generation on the circuit (kW)
Aggregate queued distributed generation on the circuit (kW)

## APPENDIX E

### COST SHARING FOR SYSTEM MODIFICATIONS & COST RESPONSIBILITY FOR DEDICATED TRANSFORMER(S) AND OTHER SAFETY EQUIPMENT FOR NET METERED CUSTOMERS

Generator Type	Generator Size	Equipment Cost to <b>Residential</b> Net Metered Customers	Equipment Cost to <b>Non-Residential</b> Net Metered Customers****
Micro-CHP	Less than or equal to 10 kW	\$350 maximum	N/A
Fuel Cell	Less than or equal to 10 kW	\$350 maximum	As determined by Utility*
Fuel Cell	Over 10 kW up to 2MW	N/A	As determined by Utility*
Solar	Less than or equal to 25 kW	\$350 maximum	\$350 maximum
Solar****	Over 25 kW up to 2 MW	N/A	As determined by Utility*
Micro-hydroelectric	Less than or equal to 25 kW	\$350 maximum	As determined by Utility*
Micro-hydroelectric	Over 25 kW up to 2 MW	N/A	As determined by Utility*
Wind **	Less than or equal to 25 kW	\$750 maximum	\$750 maximum
Wind	Over 25 kW up to 2 MW	N/A	As determined by Utility*
Farm Wind ***	Over 25 kW up to 500 kW	N/A	\$5,000 maximum***
Farm Waste ***	Up to 2 MW	N/A	\$5,000 maximum***

\* Subject to review by the Commission at the request of the Customer. Such costs can include the total costs for upgrades to ensure the adequacy of the distribution system which would not have been necessary but for the interconnection of the net metered DG resource (as per PSL §66-1(3)(c)(iii)).

\*\* Residential and Non-Residential Wind Customers with a total rated capacity up to 25 kW, Farm Wind may be required to also pay for feeder line upgrades that would not be required but for the interconnection of the net metered DG resource. Residential and Non-Residential Wind, and Farm Wind Customers are responsible for all feeder line upgrade costs if the total nameplate rating of the generating equipment exceeds 20% of the rated capacity of the feeder line (as per PSL §66-1(5)(c)(ii)). Farm Wind Customers are responsible for 50% of feeder line upgrade costs if the total nameplate rating of the generating equipment does not exceed 20% of the rated capacity of the feeder line (as per PSL §66-1(2)).

\*\*\* For Farm Wind projects with a total nameplate rating of the generation equipment that does not exceed 20% of the rated capacity of the local feeder line to which the project will connect, that portion of the CESIR costs related to transformers or other equipment installed at the customer's site is included in the \$5,000 limitation; however, the customer is also responsible for 50% of the CESIR costs related to feeder line upgrades. Farm Wind projects with a total nameplate rating of the generation equipment that does exceed 20% of the rated capacity of the local feeder line to which the project will connect, CESIR costs related to transformers or other equipment installed at the customer's site is included in the \$5,000 limitation; however, Farm Wind customers are responsible for the CESIR costs related to feeder line upgrades.

\*\*\* The first project triggering an eligible upgrade will initially bear 100% of the cost, while subsequent projects benefitting from those upgrades will reimburse the first project developer. The share of the costs paid by subsequent developers shall be calculated by the utility as the ratio of the total upgrade cost to the total AC watts the upgrade serves. If a third project uses the upgrade, the utility will perform a new calculation based on the new number of total watts served; the third project will pay its share and the utility will divide the third project's contribution among the first two projects. Sharing continues according to this formula until the capacity of the upgrade is used up or the net costs to the participating projects falls to \$100,000 or lower, whichever comes first. The utilities shall administer the allocation process and track the payments among contributing projects. The utilities are authorized to collect a \$750 fee from applicants for processing each reimbursement. The Equipment Upgrade Cost Sharing Requirement is limited in several ways. First, cost sharing only applies to substation 3V0 protection, substation transformer upgrades, and other substation-level shared upgrades. Second, only those upgrades that cost in excess of \$250,000 are subject to sharing. Third, projects below 200 kW AC in size are not required to participate.

**APPENDIX F****APPLICATION PACKAGE CHECKLIST**

Completed standard application form	√
New York State Standardized Acknowledgement of Property Owner Consent Form – For Systems above 50 kW up to 5 MW Only – Refer to Appendix H for form	√
For residential systems rated 50 kW and below, a signed copy of the standard contract	√
Letter of authorization, signed by the Customer, to provide for the contractor to act as the customer's agent, if necessary	√
If requesting a new service, a site plan with the proposed interconnection point identified by a Google Earth, Bing Maps or similar satellite image. For those projects on existing services, account and meter numbers shall be provided	√
Description / Narrative of the project and site proposed. If multiple DG systems are being proposed at the same site/location, this information needs to be identified and explained in detail.	√
DG technology type	√
DG fuel source / configuration	√
Proposed project size in AC kW	√
Project is net metered, remote, or community net metered	√
Metering configuration	√
Copy of the certificate of compliance referencing UL 1741	√
Copy of the manufacturer's data sheet for the interface equipment	√
Copy of the manufacturer's verification test procedures, if required	√
System Diagram - A three-line diagram for designs proposed on three phase systems, including detailed information on the wiring configuration at the PCC and an exact representation of existing utility service. One-line diagrams shall be acceptable for single phase installations	√



## APPENDIX G

### PRELIMINARY SCREENING

All Preliminary Screens shall be completed by the utility and results shall be provided to the applicant in accordance with Section C, Step 4.

#### **Screen A: Is the PCC on a Networked Secondary System?**

Does the proposed system connect to a secondary network system?

- Yes (Proceed to Screen B, then complete Screens 1 through 3)
- No (Proceed to Screen B, then complete Screens C through F)

#### **Screen B: Is Certified Equipment Used?**

Does the applicant propose to use equipment that has been listed to meet UL 1741 (Inverters, Converters and Charge Controllers for Use in Independent Power Systems) and for inverter-based equipment, UL 1741 and its supplement SA, by a nationally recognized testing laboratory?

- Yes (Pass Screen)
- No (Fail Screen)

#### **Screen 1: Are the existing service, transformer, and network protector(s) adequate?**

- Yes (Pass Screen)
- No (Fail Screen)

Are the existing service, transformer (*i.e.*, transformer closest to PCC), and network protector(s) adequate to interconnect the aggregate and proposed DER capacity (inclusive of this proposed project)?

- Yes (Pass Screen)
- No (Fail Screen)

#### **Screen 2: Is the proposed DG system compatible with the utility grid?**

2(a) Identify the equipment type (inverter, synchronous, induction, or hybrid) and capacity (kW).

2(b) Can the network protector(s) accommodate reverse power?

- If answer to Items 2(a) and 2(b) Pass (Pass Screen)
- If answer to Item 2(a) or 2(b) Fails (Fail Screen)

**Screen 3: Simplified Penetration Test**

3(a) Is the aggregate interconnected and proposed DER capacity (including this proposed project) less than 15% of the minimum load of the network?

3(b) Is the sum of the aggregate interconnected and proposed DER capacity (inclusive of this proposed project) in the local network less than 50% of the minimum load on the transformer(s) in this area?

- If answer to Items 3(a) and 3(b) is Yes (Pass Screen)
- If answer to Item 3(a) or 3(b) is No (Fail Screen)

**Screen C: Is the Electric Power System (EPS) Rating Exceeded?**

Does the maximum aggregated generation or loading capacity connected to an EPS (existing and approved prior to application) exceed any EPS ratings (modified per established utility practice)?

- Yes (Fail Screen)
- No (Pass Screen)

**Screen D: Is the Line and Grounding Configuration Compatible with the Interconnection Type?**

1. Identify primary distribution line configuration that will serve the distributed generation or energy storage. Based on the DER interconnection and using the table below, determine compatibility with the electric power service, including, phase balance, line and grounding configuration. The following table shall be used to determine risk for ineffective grounding

<b>Primary distribution line configuration</b>	<b>Type of DER connection to primary</b>	<b>Result/Criteria</b>
Three-phase, three-wire	Any type	Pass
Three-phase, four-wire > 5 kV	Single-phase line-to-neutral	Pass
All Three-phase, four-wire (For any line that has sections or mixed three-wire and four-wire)	All others	Fail. To pass aggregate DER AC nameplate rating must be less than or equal to 10% of line-section peak load

2. Based on aggregate DER on the feeder, is phase balancing maintained within utility limits?
- If items 1 & 2 pass, (Pass Screen)
  - If items 1 or 2 fail, (Fail Screen)

### Screen E: Simplified Penetration Test

If the aggregate DER capacity on any medium voltage line section (existing and approved prior to application) is less than 15% of the annual peak load for all line sections bounded by automatic sectionalizing devices upstream of the DER?

- Yes (Pass Screen)
- No (Fail Screen)

### Screen F: Is Feeder Capacity Adequate for Individual and Aggregate DER?

1. Is the feeder available short circuit capacity at the medium voltage PCC, divided by the rating of the individual DER, greater than 25?
2. Is the feeder available short circuit capacity at the substation divided by the capacity all aggregate DER on the feeder, greater than 25?
  - If items 1 & 2 pass, (Pass Screen)
  - If items 1 or 2 fail, (Fail Screen)

## SUPPLEMENTAL SCREENING ANALYSIS

All Supplemental Screens (G-I) shall be completed by the utility and results shall be provided to the applicant in accordance with Section C, Step 4.

### Screen G: Supplemental Penetration Test

Where 12 months of line section minimum load data are available, can be calculated, can be estimated from existing data, or determined from a power flow model, is the aggregate DER capacity on the Line Section less than 100% of the minimum load for all line sections bounded by automatic sectionalizing devices upstream of the DER? Note the calculation of minimum load should consider both generation and charging modes of DER when energy storage is involved. Both generation and load limits need to be considered.

### Screen H: Voltage Flicker Test

Can it be determined that the voltage fluctuation is within acceptable limits as defined by IEEE 1453

1. Voltage flicker emission generated by each fluctuating installation (Pst) should be calculated using the following formula:

$$= \left( \frac{d}{d} \right) \times F \leq 0.35 \text{ and } d = \left( \frac{R_L \times \Delta P + X_L \times \Delta Q}{V^2} \right)$$

$$\text{When: } \frac{X_L}{R_L} \leq 5$$

**OR**

$$= \left(\frac{d}{d}\right) \times F \leq 0.35 \text{ and } d = \left(\frac{\Delta V}{V}\right) \approx \frac{\Delta S}{S}$$

$$\text{When: } \frac{X_L}{R_L} \geq 5$$

**Explanation of Variables & Acronyms** *d* is the relative voltage

*change caused by the DER at the PCC.*

*d<sub>pst</sub> = 1 (curve value) is the relative voltage change that yields a Pst value of unity when voltage fluctuations are rectangular.*

*P<sub>st</sub> is the short-term flicker emission limit for the customer installation (typically based on 10-minute time frame).*

*X<sub>L</sub> is the line reactance in ohms.*

*R<sub>L</sub> is the line resistance in ohms.*

*I<sub>sc</sub> is the maximum available 3-phase fault current at the PCC in amperes.*

*S<sub>sc</sub> is the maximum available fault apparent power at the PCC.*

*ΔS is the change in apparent power in volt amperes.*

*ΔP is the change in real power in watts of the DG.*

*ΔQ is the change in reactive power in vars of the DG.*

*V is the nominal line to line voltage.*

*ΔV is the change in voltage at the PCC.*

*F is the shape factor related to the shape of the expected voltage fluctuation*

2. Can it be determined within the Supplemental Review that aggregate DER does not cause voltage excursion outside of ANSI C84.1 Range A?
3. Can it be determined that an aggregate DER voltage fluctuation of 75% does not result in a voltage change of greater than half the bandwidth of any voltage regulating device on the associated feeder.

A Pst greater than 0.35 as calculated in Step 1 or no to the determination in Steps 2 and 3 constitutes failure of this screen.

**Screen I: Operating Limits, Protection Adequacy and Coordination Evaluation**

1. Review anti-islanding protection requirements based on the most recent version of the JU Unintentional Islanding Protection Practice and identify utility and DER system upgrades, if required.
2. Review DER system configuration to determine if design and operation meets utility's effective grounding and ground source contribution requirements.
3. Identify equipment where fault current exceeds 90% of its short circuit current interrupting capability.
4. Identify any additional concerns related to utility and DER protection adequacy and protection, including but not limited to: protective device coordination and coverage, load rejection overvoltage, and 3V0 protection (where applicable).

**APPENDIX H**

**New York State Standardized Acknowledgment of Property Owner Consent Form**

**Interconnecting Utility:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Utility Project Number (if available):** \_\_\_\_\_

(Note: This Acknowledgment is to be signed by the owner of the property where the proposed distributed generation facility and interconnection will be placed, when the owner or operator of the proposed distributed generation facility is not also the owner of the property, and the property owner’s electric facilities will not be involved in the interconnection of the distributed generation facility.)

This Acknowledgment is executed by \_\_\_\_\_,  
(the “Property Owner”; as used herein the term shall include the Property Owner’s successors in interest to the Property), as owner of the real property situated in the City/Town of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ County, New York, known as \_\_\_\_\_ [street address] (the “Property”), at the request of \_\_\_\_\_ [name of Developer] (the “Developer”; as used herein the term shall include the Developer’s successors and assigns).

This Acknowledgment does not grant or convey any interest in the Property to the Developer.

- 1. The Property Owner certifies as of the date indicated below that the Property Owner is working exclusively with the Developer on a proposal to install a distributed generation facility (the “Facility”) on the Property.

OR

- 2. The Property Owner certifies as of the date indicated below that the Developer has executed with the Property Owner one of the following: a signed option agreement to lease or purchase the Property, an executed Property lease, or an executed purchase agreement for the Property granting the Developer a right to use the Property for purposes of installing the Facility.

Property Owner:

Developer:

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**APPENDIX I**

**New York State Standard Moratorium Attestation Form**

[UTILITY COMPANY NAME]

[UTILITY DEPT. NAME AND CONTACT NAME]

[UTILITY STREET ADDRESS]

[CITY/TOWN, New York [ZIP CODE]]

<b>Re:</b>	DEVELOPER	[name]
		[contact information]
	PROJECT	[utility ID number]
	PROPERTY	[street address]
		[municipality/county]
		[city/town and zip code]

\_\_\_\_\_ [DEVELOPER NAME] hereby attests that it will notify the interconnecting utility identified above of the date that the moratorium on solar development in \_\_\_\_\_ [MUNICIPALITY NAME] is lifted.

By signing below, Developer confirms that this attestation is true and correct.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

**APPENDIX J**

**New York State Standard Site Control Certification Form**

UTILITY COMPANY NAME]  
 [UTILITY DEPT. NAME AND CONTACT NAME]  
 [UTILITY STREET ADDRESS]  
 [CITY/TOWN, New York [ZIP CODE]

<b>Re:</b>	DEVELOPER	[name]
		[contact information]
	PROJECT	[utility ID number]
	PROPERTY	[street address]
		[municipality/county]
	[city/town and zip code]	

\_\_\_\_\_ (the “Property Owner”) is the owner of the above- referenced property (the “Property”).

\_\_\_\_\_ (the “Developer”) is the developer of the project identified above.

The Property Owner and the Developer have entered into an agreement authorizing the Developer to use the Property for the purpose of constructing and operating a distributed generation facility. The type of agreement that is in place is indicated below by a check mark.

	Signed option agreement to lease or purchase the Property
	Executed lease agreement for the Property
	Executed agreement to purchase the Property
	License or other agreement granting exclusive right to use the Property for purposes of constructing and operating the distributed generation facility

Property Owner and Developer entered into the agreement on or about \_\_\_\_\_  
 (MM/DD/YYYY)

Terms of Agreement (including options to extend) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (MM/DD/YYYY)



**Property Owner**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Developer**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

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

**APPENDIX K****Energy Storage System (ESS) Application Requirements /  
System Operating Characteristics / Market Participation****Application Requirements:**

- a. Provide a general overview / description and associated scope of work for the proposed project. Is the new ESS project associated with a new or existing DG facility?
- b. Identify whether this is a Stand-Alone or Hybrid ESS proposal, or a change to the operating characteristics of an existing system. If Hybrid ESS, please select the configuration option:
  1. Hybrid Option A - ESS is charged exclusively by the DG
  2. Hybrid Option B - ESS will not export to the grid, only DG will.
    - a. Hybrid Option C - ESS may charge/discharge unrestricted, but grid consumption by ESS is netted out of grid exports. <sup>1</sup>
  3. Hybrid Option D - ESS may charge/discharge unrestricted, but any consumption on the account is netted out of grid exports
  4. N/A - not Value Stack
- c. Market participation:<sup>2</sup>
  1. Compensated under a utility tariff(s)? If yes, please specify. Identify any associated use case stacking (*i.e.*, parallel standby, net meter, VDER, import only, export only, peak shaving, generator firming, demand response, etc.) if applicable.
  2. NYISO markets? If yes, has the NYISO process been initiated? Please specify which anticipated NYISO market(s).
  3. As part of an NWA? If yes, please specify which associated NWA.
  4. program or market not listed? If yes, please describe.
- d. Indicate whether the ESS and DG system inverter(s)/converter(s) are DC-coupled or AC-coupled and provide the following:

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<sup>1</sup> ESS may have restricted charge/discharge to be defined in Question 2e

<sup>2</sup> Market participation information is non-binding but may be used to verify operating characteristics and metering configuration. Participation in NYISO markets and NWA programs may influence the technical study.

1. DER Nameplate Ratings:
  - i. Storage inverter rating (kW) for AC-coupled or stand-alone systems;
  - ii. DG inverter rating (kW) for AC-coupled systems (if DG present); or
  - iii. DG + ESS inverter rating (kW) for DC-coupled systems.
2. Storage capacity (kWh) <sup>3</sup>
  - e. Provide specification data/rating sheets for both the AC and/or DC components including the manufacturer, model, and nameplate ratings (kW) of the inverter(s)/converters(s) and controllers for the ESS and/or DG system, and capacity of ESS unit(s) (kWh).
  - f. Indicate the type of Energy Storage (ES) technology to be used. For example, NaS, Dry Cell, PB-acid, Li-ion, vanadium flow, etc.
  - g. Will the proposed project provide both real power and reactive power (PQ injection)?
  - h. Will the proposed project provide reactive power control, either via volt/VAR mode or specific power factor?
  - i. Indicate whether the interconnected inverters inverter(s)/converter(s) is/are compliant to the latest versions of the following additional standards. If partially compliant to subsections of the latest standards, please list those subsections:
    1. IEEE 1547a - 2018
    2. UL 1741 and its supplement SA
  - j. List the system's maximum import in kW AC, including any equipment and ancillary loads (*i.e.*, HVAC) to be installed to facilitate the ESS installation.
  - k. Indicate desired ramp rates in kW/second during charging and discharging (worst case will be assumed if not provided). Please attach a charge and discharge data/curve.
  - l. Is the ESS symmetrical or asymmetrical (*e.g.*, charge magnitude equivalent to discharge magnitude)? Provide proposed inverter(s) power factor operating range and anticipated operational setpoints<sup>4</sup> in the context of the expected two-quadrant or four-quadrant operation.
  - m. Indicate the maximum potential change in power magnitude expressed in equipment limitations such as per-second, minute, hour, or day, and kW or % of kW as applicable.

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<sup>3</sup> Kilowatt hour rating values are typically not utilized for impact review outside of a utility performance requirement under and NWA solution. However, kWh is required for utility reporting and is a mandatory date field.

<sup>4</sup> Final setpoints are subject to change per utility's direction

- n. Indicate any specific operational limitations that will be imposed (*e.g.*, will not charge or discharge across PCC between 2-7 pm on weekdays; ESS will not charge at any time that would increase customers peak demand, etc.). Charge/discharge at any time (24 hours) will be assumed by the utility if not provided.
- o. Provide a summary of protection and control scheme functionality and provide details of any integrated protection of control schematics and default settings within controllers.
- p. Submit control schemes, electrical configurations, and sufficient details for the utility to review and confirm acceptance of proposal. Detail any integrated control scheme(s) that are included in the interconnected inverter(s)/converters including a sequence of operations for expected events, energy flows, or power restrictions. For example, provide details if the ESS can be charged only through the DG input, or if the ESS can be switched to be charged from the line input, or if a control scheme is proposed to prohibit power flow directionality or peak values. Provide details on grounding of the interconnected ESS and/or DG system to meet utility's effective grounding requirements.
- q. Provide short circuit current capabilities and harmonic output from the hybrid ESS project or stand-alone ESS.
- r. If the intended use case for the ESS includes behind-the-meter backup services, please provide a description and documentation illustrating how the entire system disconnects from the utility during an outage (*e.g.*, mechanical or electronic, coordination, etc.).

## **2. Optional Questions:**

Questions in this section are not required for a complete application, although any responses provided may support the utility's decision to review the project performance in a manner that could result in less impact to the customer interconnection.

- a. Indicate whether the interconnected inverters inverter(s)/converter(s) is/are compliant to the latest versions of the following additional standards. If partially compliant to subsections of the latest standards, please list those subsections:

  - a. SunSpec Common Smart Inverter Profile (CSIP) v2.103-15-2018
- b. Any other recognized standard or practice. Indicate the maximum frequency of change in operating modes (*i.e.*, charging to discharging and vice-versa) that will be allowed based upon control system configurations.
- c. Provide details on standard communication as follows:

  - a. Hardware interfaces that are available, *e.g.*, TCP/IP, serial, etc.
  - b. Protocols that are available, *e.g.*, MODBUS, DNP-3, 2030.5, etc.

- c. Data models that are available, *e.g.*, 61850-90-7, SunSpec, MESA, 2030.5, OpenADR, etc.
- d. Provide details on whether the inverter(s)/converter(s) have any intrinsic grid support functions, such as autonomous or interactive voltage and frequency support. If so, please describe these functions and default settings.

## APPENDIX L

**Project Construction Schedule**

Utility Project Number (if available)

Project Name

Developer

- \* *This Interconnection schedule depends upon receipt of funds along with notification to proceed, executed Interconnection Agreement, weather, equipment delivery, public opposition to right-of-way and timely Customer design submittals. Close coordination is required to sequence construction and planned interruption events. As a result, any final schedule requires mutual agreement and would be subject to change.*

<b>Milestone</b>	<b>Estimated Time Duration to Completion (Weeks)</b>	<b>Responsible Party</b>
25% Payment		Interconnection Customer
Administrative Setup		Utility
Customer Submittals One Line and Three Line Diagrams Stamped Site Plans		Interconnection Customer
Design Queue		Utility
Permitting/Easements		Utility
Upgrade Design – Line/POI/Substation Design		Utility: Complete design to the point of material ordering
75% Payment**		Interconnection Customer (120 Business Days after 1 <sup>st</sup> Payment)
Scheduling/Procurement		Utility
Construction – Line/POI/Substation		
Verification Test Coordination Customer Witness Testing Energization/Permission to Operate	Per SIR Timelines	<u>Utility/Interconnection customer</u> <i>Customer submittals required to be <u>approved to schedule test</u></i>
Total Project Duration		Utility/Interconnection Customer

\*\* *The sequence of Milestone schedule might change for Non-CESIR projects.*

## **DER Material Modifications: Guidance Document**

This document lays out consensus-based examples of what are typically considered to be material vs non-material modifications for DER applications that are part of the SIR application process. Examples listed may be subject to change in materiality pending complexities or unique circumstances that may arise on a case by case basis. Although in most cases, these examples would represent an appropriate classification as they are intended to provide guidance to applicants desiring project changes.

Under all modification cases, including like-kind substitutions, the owner or applicant shall notify the utility through utility interconnection online application portal and/or via e-mail. The modification shall be reviewed and approved by the utility prior to acceptance of the change.

### **For projects above 50kW:**

**The following examples are typically considered Material modifications:**

- A change in point of common coupling (PCC) to a location served by a different circuit, moved to a different line segment (i.e. 3-phase to 1-phase segment, or change in zone of protection), change in site control<sup>1</sup> or any change in PCC for projects interconnecting to network systems.
- A change from certified (NRTL, e.g. UL listed) to non-certified devices.
- An increase in the name plate of the DG or ESS facility of more than 2%, or any increase causing adverse impact to subsequent applications' ability to interconnect.
- Addition of DG at the facility (other than the 2% increase in nameplate) not disclosed in the application, where separate and distinct DER already exists behind the same proposed PCC. This would include existing non-disclosed DER or request for additional generation at the project site.
- Change in DER operating characteristics or schedules, such as operating mode and smart inverter settings not solicited by the utility.
- A change of transformer connection(s) or grounding from that originally installed.

**Non-material modifications typically include, but not limited to, the following:**

- A change or replacement of generating equipment such as generator(s), inverter(s), transformers, relaying, controls, etc. that is like-kind substitution in size, ratings, impedances, efficiencies or capabilities of the equipment specified in the original or preceding interconnection request as long as the AC nameplate does not increase beyond the 2% threshold described above.
- A change of transformer connection(s) or grounding from that originally proposed prior to or within the CESIR period.
- A change reducing the AC output or nameplate rating of the generating facility.
- A change in PCC to a new location not described under material modifications.
- A change in ownership of a generating facility.
- Any necessary change not associated with the project modification or a suggested change requested by the utility.

**For projects 50kW and below:****The following are considered non-material modifications:**

- A change in ownership of a generating facility
- A like-kind change or replacement of generating equipment of same nameplate and characteristics such as generator(s), inverter(s), solar panel(s), transformers, relaying, controls, axis-tracking or fixed-tilt hardware.
- An increase in the AC nameplate for the DG facility less than 1kW or 10%, whichever is greater.

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<sup>i</sup> NOTE: The SIR requirements pertaining to “Property Owner Consent” and “Site Control Certification” always apply. Therefore, at all stages in the interconnection process, a project and its configuration must fall within the land area that is covered by the applicable document (Property Owner Consent Form or Site Control Certification). Put plainly, if the land area for a project changes from what is addressed by its applicable site documentation, the applicant must re-apply.