

## Small Generator Interconnection, Version 3

Effective: 6/28/12

The Generator Interconnection-Small Business Practice provides the procedures and requirements for Small Generator Interconnection (SGI).

Version 3 incorporates the Suspension of Linked Transmission and Generation Requests Bulletin in Section H.

### A. General Small Generator Interconnection Procedures (SGIP) Eligibility Criteria

1. Prior to submitting an Interconnection Request, Interconnection Customers may contact BPA Transmission Services' SGIP Administrator to review whether the proposed interconnection of a Small Generating Facility is appropriately subject to the SGIP.
  - a. Contact the SGIP Administrator at:

Phone: (360) 619-6047

Email: [Interconnection@bpa.gov](mailto:Interconnection@bpa.gov)

2. For an Interconnection Request to interconnect a new Small Generating Facility, the aggregate nameplate capacity of the new Generating Facility must not exceed 20 MW for the request to be eligible for consideration under the SGIP.
3. For an Interconnection Request to increase the capacity of an existing Generating Facility, the sum of the requested increase in capacity plus the existing Small Generating Facility capacity must not exceed 20 MW for the request to be eligible for consideration under the SGIP.
4. In addition to the factors set out in the sections above, all Interconnection Requests are subject to further review by BPA Transmission Services to determine whether the request is subject to the SGIP. The review will consider relevant factors, including, but not limited to, ownership or Affiliation, proximity of facilities, and whether facilities share a point of interconnection. Other such factors, without limitation, may include:
  - a. The Generating Facility has been or will be constructed so that it can and will be metered separately and discretely from any other project.
  - b. The Generating Facility has been or will be constructed so that the Transmission Operator views its operation as independent of any other Generating Facility.
  - c. The Generating Facility has been or will be constructed so that if a special protection system (e.g., remedial action scheme) is a requirement for interconnection of the project, any such special protection system action could and may be initiated for, and effective on, the subject Generating Facility independently of any other Generating Facility.
  - d. Any site permit related to the Generating Facility addresses only the Generating Facility in the Interconnection Request and no other Generating Facility, whether larger in scope or not.
  - e. The Generating Facility occupies a discrete and distinguishable topographical footprint, not commingled in any way with any other Generating Facility.



- f. Whether the Plan of Service and Interconnection Facilities provide Interconnection Service to the Generating Facility alone, or to other facilities.
  - g. The ownership structure and any Affiliate relationships of the owner of the Generating Facility or the entity submitting the Interconnection Request.
5. Interconnection requests submitted under the SGIP that BPA Transmission Services determines not to meet the eligibility criteria will be deemed not to be subject to the SGIP and will not be assigned an interconnection Queue Position.
  6. An Interconnection Request deemed to be subject to the SGIP will be assigned a Queue Position, in accordance with the interconnection Queue Time section below, and reviewed for completeness.

## B. Deposits

1. Study deposits for each study conducted under the SGIP will be the greater of \$5,000 or the good faith estimated study costs.
2. All deposits required during the processing of an Interconnection Request must be remitted in accordance with the criteria described below:
  - a. Electronic Funds
    - i. For instructions to pay the deposit by electronic funds transfer to BPA Transmission Services, either through FedWire or Automated Clearing House (ACH), contact your Account Executive.
    - ii. When using FedWire, after "OBI=" include the words "GI Request Deposit".
    - iii. When using the ACH type of electronic transfer, include the same information in the "memo" field on the transfer.
    - iv. If a bank removes information from the "OBI" or "memo" field, BPA Transmission Services will not declare an Interconnection Request valid.
3. Refunds
  - a. A deposit refund shall be calculated following completion of the studies under the SGIP or Withdrawal of the Interconnection Request, whichever occurs earliest.
  - b. The Entity whose name is on the Interconnection Request and W9e, Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification, shall receive the deposit refund.
  - c. The final accounting for the closing out of an Interconnection Request will include costs incurred by BPA Transmission Services in processing, evaluating and scoping the Interconnection Request prior to the commencement of the study.

## C. General Requirements for Interconnection Requests

1. The Interconnection Customer must provide BPA Transmission Services the following in any Interconnection Request for a Small Generating Facility:
  - a. A completed Small Generator Interconnection Request, Attachment 2 of the SGIP, with the paragraph index preserved and signed by a person holding signatory contractual authority.
  - b. A deposit transmitted within one Business Day of the submission of the Interconnection Request.
  - c. Site Control documentation.
  - d. W9e, Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification of the Interconnection Customer. This requirement may be waived at the discretion of BPA Transmission Services if the Interconnection Customer has submitted previous Interconnection Requests to BPA Transmission Services. The Interconnection

- Customer should consult with its Account Executive prior to submitting its Interconnection Request for clarification.
- e. Certificate of Incorporation of the Interconnection Customer if not previously submitted to BPA Transmission Services.
    - i. If an Interconnection Customer is an Affiliate of another entity, or if another entity controls the Interconnection Customer, a letter from the parent or controlling entity's letterhead is required and must include the name(s) and position(s) of those holding contractual signatory authority on behalf of the Interconnection Customer.
    - ii. The Interconnection Customer must provide BPA Transmission Services with written notification of a name change to the Entity within 15 Business Days and include a cover letter with the company's official correspondence letterhead stating the new name of the company.
  2. The expected In-Service Date of the new Small Generating Facility (or increase in capacity to the existing Generating Facility) must occur within seven years of the date that the Interconnection Request is received by BPA Transmission Services, unless the Interconnection Customer demonstrates through documentation:
    - a. The engineering, permitting and construction will require as long as ten years, or
    - b. BPA Transmission Services and the Interconnection Customer agree to a longer period.
  3. The Interconnection Request transmitted by fax or email should be followed by an executed hard copy of that request to be received by BPA Transmission Services within five Business Days of receipt by BPA Transmission Services of the faxed or emailed request to the address specified below in Submission Procedures.
  4. Interconnection Customers also applying for transmission service with the intent to link the Transmission Service Request (TSR) to the Interconnection Request, must state that the TSR is linked to an Interconnection Request in the Customer Comments field, on the same calendar day as the Interconnection Request and the TSR are submitted, fax or email, to their Account Executive and include the following:
    - a. Assignment Reference (AREF) number of the TSR
    - b. Point-of-Receipt (POR)
    - c. Point-of-Delivery (POD)
    - d. Requested MW
    - e. Time of request of any TSR(s) to which the Interconnection Request is to be considered to be linked.
    - f. The Interconnection Request number that the TSR is to be linked to, if issued, but no later than five Business Days after submitting the TSR.
    - g. A copy of Attachment 2 of the SGIP.

#### **D. Requirements for Wind Power Plant Interconnection Requests**

1. In addition to the requirements listed above, an Interconnection Customer submitting an Interconnection Request for a wind power plant interconnection must:
  - a. Provide a set of preliminary electrical design specifications depicting the wind plant as a single equivalent generator.
  - b. Submit detailed electrical design specifications, including collector system layout and individual turbine generator data during the Interconnection System Impact Study portion of the Study Process, but no later than six months after the Small Generation Interconnection Request submittal.

- c. Submit schematic drawing for all protective and control relaying and alarm/monitoring circuits.

**E. Submission Procedures**

1. The Interconnection Customer must submit the Interconnection Request to BPA Transmission Services by one of the following methods:

<p><b>Overnight Delivery Service</b></p>	<p>Bonneville Power Administration -          Attn: (Addressee)          Organization Mailstop: (e.g. TSE/TPP-2; TPC/TPP-4, TPP/OPP-3)          905 NE 11th Avenue          Portland, OR 97232</p> <p>The address above should be used if the Interconnection Customer requests a return receipt.</p>
<p><b>US Postal Service</b></p>	<p>Regular Mail Only - Express or return receipt requested mail must be sent to the address shown under Overnight Delivery above.</p> <p>Bonneville Power Administration          Transmission Marketing and Sales - TSE-TPP-2,          P.O. Box 61409,          Vancouver, WA 98666-1409</p>
<p><b>Email</b></p>	<p>Address emailed Interconnection Requests to:  <a href="mailto:interconnection@bpa.gov">interconnection@bpa.gov</a></p> <p>Important: Enter "Generator Interconnection" as the Subject Line of the email</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interconnection Requests sent to other email addresses will not be entered into the Interconnection Queue.</li> <li>• When emailing an Interconnection Request, the signed Attachment 2 must be submitted as a Portable Document Format (.pdf) scan, including an image scan of the signature page(s), attached to a single email. Any additional documents shall be scanned and, if the combined size does not exceed five MB, attached to the same email.</li> <li>• Any scanned files that exceed five MB may be submitted by File Transfer Protocol (ftp.) found at <a href="http://www.bpa.gov/ftp">http://www.bpa.gov/ftp</a>. The files should be referenced and specified by their exact names in the email.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Facsimile (fax)</b></p>	<p>A cover page specifying the number of Interconnection Requests and the number of pages should accompany Interconnection Requests submitted by fax.</p> <p>Faxed Interconnection Requests will be accepted only at (360) 619-6940</p> <p>BPA Transmission Services is not responsible for the failure of fax transmissions.</p>

## F. Interconnection Queue Time

1. Queue time of an Interconnection Request is determined as follows for:
  - a. **Overnight Delivery Service:** date and time when the Interconnection Request is delivered to the BPA mailroom.
  - b. **Fax:** the date and time stamp on the fax.
  - c. **Email:** the date and time that the email is received in the [Interconnection@bpa.gov](mailto:Interconnection@bpa.gov) inbox by BPA Transmission Services.
  - d. **Mail:** the date and time stamp when the Interconnection Request is received by BPA Transmission Services at the TSE mailstop office.

## G. NEPA Studies

1. BPA Transmission Services will offer the Interconnection Customer an Environmental Study Agreement (ESA) as soon as practicable after the Scoping Meeting.
2. The ESA may be modified as additional environmental review circumstances are identified.
3. BPA Transmission Services will accept for review, and possible contribution to NEPA compliance, an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or other environmental compliance documentation prepared in accordance with State or Local Government permitting.
4. BPA Transmission Services normally will complete its environmental review conducted pursuant to the ESA only after the Interconnection Customer's State or local permitting processes are complete.
5. If all other requirements are met, upon completion of the environmental review conducted pursuant to the ESA and approval by BPA Transmission Services to proceed, BPA Transmission Services will offer the Interconnection Customer a Construction Agreement, if needed, and an Interconnection Agreement.

## H. Suspension of Linked Transmission and Generation Requests

1. BPA Transmission Services has a cycle of Network Open Season (NOS). For all requests participating in NOS, BPA Transmission Services prohibits Customers from linking Transmission Service Requests to a Generation Interconnection Request.
2. Therefore, for all requests participating in a Network Open Season, BPA Transmission Services has suspended implementation in its business practices related to linkage:
  - Generator Interconnection-Large
  - Generator Interconnection- Small
  - Long-Term Firm Queue Management
  - Network Open Season Bulletin 2008
  - Network Open Season Bulletin 2009
  - Network Open Season Bulletin 2010

## I. Additional Information

### Policy References

- [OATT](#): Attachment N
- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

### Related Business Practices

- New Customer Application Process for Transmission Service

### Forms

- [Assignment of Transmission Credits](#)
- Standard Small Generator Interconnection Agreement ([OATT](#), Attachment N)

### Version History

Please send requests for version history to [techforum@bpa.gov](mailto:techforum@bpa.gov) .