

Cooperative Policy

Policy Number: 120

Subject: Interconnection Of Distributive Generating Facilities

Objective: To state the Cooperative's policy regarding interconnection of distributive generating facilities with the Cooperative's distribution system.

Policy:

All eligible distributive generation facilities that interconnect with the Cooperative's distribution system that permits parallel operation of the facilities must be owned by the Member. This policy does not apply to generation facilities that are used only as backup supply which is only operated thru an approved transfer switch or other appropriate isolation method that completely isolates the generation facility from the Cooperative's distribution system and does not permit parallel operation of the facilities.

All distributive generation facilities that request interconnection to the Cooperative's facilities must comply with the following specifications and standards:

- IEEE Standard 1547, including all future updates and amendments
- National Electric Safety Code (NESC)
- National Electric Code (NEC)
- American National Standards Institute (ANSI)
- All future, applicable standards that govern such installation including that of federal, state and local authorities

In addition, any member-owned, eligible distributive generating facility with a capacity rating equal to or greater than 40 KW AC shall also comply with Southern Illinois Power Cooperative's (SIPC) Facilities Connection Requirements.

All distributive generation facilities must include a disconnect device between the Cooperative's facilities and those facilities owned by the generation facility. The disconnect device shall meet all requirements of IEEE Standard 1547, National Electric Safety Code, National Electric Code, Underwriters Laboratories and must provide a visible opening between Cooperative facilities and the generation facilities. The disconnect device shall be readily accessible and be lockable by Cooperative employees.

When the Cooperative receives a request for a member-owned, eligible distributive generating facility with a total rated capacity of less than 40 KW AC, the Cooperative will:

1. Provide the applicant with an application (*SEIEC Application for Operation of Member-Owned Generation*) that shall be completed by the applicant.
2. After receipt of the application, the Cooperative will determine if a system impact study is required. If the system impact study is required, the Cooperative will provide the applicant with the cost to perform the study. The applicant will then make the decision to pay for the study and proceed or to abandon the project.

3. In the event the system impact study indicates that the generation capacity must be limited, the Cooperative will work with the applicant to determine the capacity limit of the generation on a case-by-case basis.
4. The Cooperative will determine the costs of the required system upgrades or additional work that must be performed (if any) in order to accommodate the interconnection with the facility. The applicant shall be responsible for such upgrades and additional work. The applicant shall pay for such costs (if any) prior to interconnection.
5. The applicant will complete the interconnection agreement (*SEIEC Agreement For Interconnection and Parallel Operation of Distributed Generation*) which states the requirements of the applicant for installation.
6. Once the interconnection agreement is executed by both parties and the applicant has paid for all required amounts (if any), the Cooperative will proceed with its responsibilities as shown in the agreement.

When the Cooperative receives a request for a member-owned, eligible distributive generating facility with a total rated capacity of equal to or greater than 40 KW AC or, the Cooperative and SIPC will:

1. Provide the applicant with an application (*SEIEC Application for Operation of Member-Owned Generation*) that shall be completed by the applicant.
2. After receipt of the application, the Cooperative and SIPC will determine if a system impact study is required. If the system impact study is required, the Cooperative will provide the applicant with the cost to perform the study. The applicant will then make the decision to pay for the study and proceed or to abandon the project.
3. In the event the system impact study indicates that the generation capacity must be limited, the Cooperative and SIPC will work with the applicant to determine the capacity limit of the generation on a case-by-case basis.
4. The Cooperative and SIPC will determine the costs of the required system upgrades or additional work that must be performed (if any) in order to accommodate the interconnection with the facility.
5. If the applicant agrees to pay for the required system upgrades and additional work required (if any), the applicant will complete the interconnection agreement which states the requirements of the applicant for installation.
6. Once the interconnection agreement is executed by all parties and the applicant has paid for all required amounts (if any), the Cooperative and SIPC will proceed with the respective responsibilities for installation.

The Cooperative retains the right to review the amount of distributed generation interconnected to the distribution system and may limit the total amount connected, if necessary.

Approved: August 7, 2007
Revised: December 20, 2016
Revised: November 27, 2018
Revised: February 22, 2022