
New York State Standardized Interconnection Requirements (SIR)

NYS Department of Public Service

September 2009

Rules of Grid Interconnection

- ❑ Intelligent rules developed collaboratively
 - *Utilities implement rules*
 - *DPS Staff / PSC enforces rules and resolves conflicts*

- ❑ Standardized Interconnection Requirements (SIR)
 - *Defines application process / deadlines*
 - *Defines technical interconnection requirements*
 - *Applies to systems 2 MW and below*
 - *Contains model contract language and application*
 - *Certified equipment list*

- ❑ Connection is governed by the utilities
 - *Safety is the primary focus*

SIR History

- ❑ Originally adopted in December 1999 for systems up to 300 kVA
- ❑ Revised in November 2000 to provide further clarification
- ❑ Amended in November 2002 to streamline application process and provide ordered study and review phases
 - *Added net metering requirements*
- ❑ Modified in November 2004 to increase system capacity to 2 MW and include network distribution systems
- ❑ Recently revised in February 2008 to incorporate new net metering laws and other modifications

Summary of 2008 SIR Changes

- ❑ Incorporate newly passed net metering laws
- ❑ Simplified application process for projects 25 kW and below
- ❑ Incorporate UL 1741 (November 2005 revision) and update equipment certification requirements
- ❑ Eliminate disconnect switch for inverter based systems 25 kW or less
- ❑ Requires utilities to implement a web-based system for interconnection project status
- ❑ For systems 25 kW and below, allow customers the ability to submit application via the web
- ❑ Miscellaneous changes / updates

Simplified SIR Application Process

- ❑ Systems 25 kW and below
 - *Six (6) step process*
 - *Reduces utility review process and requirements*
 - *Applicant should be able to interconnect within a 30 business day timeframe*
 - *Formal letter of acceptance from utility should be received within a maximum of 30 business days after verification test*

UL 1741 Testing & Certification

- ❑ Certified equipment shall be tested in accordance with UL 1741 (November 2005 revision).
- ❑ Equipment tested and certified by a Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory (NRTL) is no longer required to be submitted to the PSC for certification.
 - *Instead, equipment testing & certification information can be submitted to the utilities by the applicant.*
 - *DPS Staff will continue to maintain a certified equipment list for those who wish to list their equipment on the Department's website.*
- ❑ DPS Staff will review the equipment and associated equipment tested to UL 1741 (November 2005 revision) by a non-NRTL documentation before final approval and posting on the Department's website.

Disconnect Switch Requirements

- ❑ Eliminate disconnect switch requirement for inverter based systems 25 kW and below.
- ❑ Continue to require disconnect switch for all non-inverter based systems and inverter based systems above 25 kW.
- ❑ Eliminate any additional equipment costs on systems where disconnecting means are already provided within the unit while still maintaining optimal safety conditions.

Web Based Interconnection Status

- ❑ Requires utilities to provide a web page where distributed generator customers and contractors can review an existing project's status.
- ❑ Customer or contractor would enter a project name or identification number and that specific project's status would be provided.
- ❑ Information would include what stage the project application is in, along with what the next steps would be, with associated responsibility.
- ❑ For systems 25 kW and below, in addition to the web based status information, utilities shall provide distributed generator customers with the ability to submit their application for interconnection via the web.

PSC Contact Information

Standard Interconnection Requirements Inquiries

Jason Pause

Electric Distribution Systems

518-486-2889

jason_pause@dps.state.ny.us

Michael Worden

Chief, Electric Distribution Systems

518-486-2498

michael_worden@dps.state.ny.us