

MidAmerican Energy Company – Distributed Generation Interconnection Process Overview



Applicability

The information contained within this document applies only to electric power generators either directly interconnected to MidAmerican Energy's electric distribution system or connected to the electric facilities of a MidAmerican Energy retail customer. An interconnection in this context refers to a connection of electric facilities between MidAmerican Energy and a customer. This includes only electric generators rated up to 10,000 kilowatts (kW) and ultimately interconnecting to MidAmerican Energy's electric distribution system at voltages less than 100 kilovolts. The information contained within this document does not pertain to generators interconnecting under the jurisdiction of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). Customers interested in interconnecting distributed generation that does not fall within the scope of this document should call (888) 427-5632 for further information.

Customer Responsibilities

The customer is responsible for the design, installation, operation, and maintenance of the generator and all associated equipment. The customer is also obligated to install and operate the distributed generation facility in compliance with all applicable MidAmerican Energy tariffs, rules, and agreements as well as applicable governmental laws and regulations (local, state, and federal). MidAmerican Energy highly recommends any customer who desires to install distributed generation on their property to check local city codes and zoning requirements. At their expense, the customer shall obtain any and all authorizations, permits and licenses required for the construction and operation of their generating facilities.

The customer must notify MidAmerican Energy if a material modification is made to the generation equipment at any time during or after the interconnection process. A material modification is any modification that changes the maximum electrical output of a customer generation facility or changes the interconnection equipment which includes changing from certified to non-certified devices or replacing a component with a component of different functionality or UL listing.

The next section gives a general overview of the distributed generation interconnection process. The purpose of the interconnection process is to protect our other customers and our employees from risks that could result from improper installations.



Overview

MidAmerican's goal throughout the interconnection process is to provide a cost-effective interconnection and to carry out the interconnection process in a timely manner. Throughout the interconnection process the customer will be assisted by an engineer. The role of the engineer is to guide the customer through the interconnection process, assist with applications and interconnection agreements, provide technical support for the interconnection, and conduct MidAmerican Energy electric distribution system engineering studies.

Interconnection Process

Step 1: Customers interested in interconnecting distributed generation to MidAmerican Energy's electric distribution system may find it helpful to consult with a qualified distributed generation developer, installer, or electrical consultant to determine potential costs and requirements. MidAmerican Energy cannot provide specific contact information.

Step 2: The customer should call MidAmerican Energy at (888) 427-5632 to indicate they are interested in interconnecting distributed generation. The customer will be put in touch with an engineer involved in distributed generation and will provide the customer the necessary information and applications to begin the interconnection process.

Step 3: The customer must complete and mail the interconnection application and the application fee to MidAmerican Energy. The application fee amount and the mailing address are provided on the interconnection application.

Step 4: Within 10 business days of receiving the interconnection application, MidAmerican Energy will notify the customer whether the application is complete. If the application is deemed incomplete, the customer will be asked to provide additional information.

Step 5: Once the application is deemed complete, MidAmerican Energy will begin the initial engineering review. The initial engineering review is a screening process that will determine if the addition of the distributed generation will cause any adverse system impacts to MidAmerican Energy's electric distribution system and if additional engineering studies are required. The time



required for MidAmerican Energy to conduct the initial review depends on the nameplate capacity in kilowatts of the generator(s) and the generation technology. The timeline for the initial engineering review generally takes 10 business days for small generators 10 kW and below, and 20 business days for generators over 10 kW and less than 2,000 kW. Generators rated over 2,000 kW and less than 10,000 kW will go through a detailed study process that begins with a scoping meeting between the customer and MidAmerican Energy. The scoping meeting will determine the necessary engineering studies to be conducted by MidAmerican Energy.

Step 6: Skip to Step 10 if the distributed generation facility passed the initial engineering review (Step 5). If the initial Engineering review determined that additional review or studies were needed, then MidAmerican will provide a written explanation as to the technical reason the generating facility failed the initial review. If further engineering studies are deemed necessary, MidAmerican will also provide a non-binding good faith cost estimate and time schedule for completing these studies.

Step 7: Upon receiving written notification to proceed and payment of the applicable fee, MidAmerican Energy will conduct the engineering study. This study is to assess the level of impact the DG system will have once connected to MidAmerican Energy's electric distribution system.

Step 8: MidAmerican Energy will notify the customer of the results of the engineering study and if an additional study, otherwise known as a facilities study, is needed to determine the facilities required on MidAmerican Energy's electric distribution system to accommodate the distributed generation project. If no facilities study is required, then skip to Step 10.

Step 9: MidAmerican Energy will notify the customer of the results of the facilities study and of the costs associated with any construction or modifications to MidAmerican Energy's electric distribution system. The customer will then be provided a written agreement to pay for work related to the interconnection modifications. The customer shall agree to install the generating equipment within a timeframe that is mutually agreed upon by MidAmerican Energy. MidAmerican Energy must receive a payment before any construction is started on its electric distribution system.

Step 10: MidAmerican Energy will provide a written agreement to proceed with construction of the generating facility.



Step 11: Upon completion of construction, the customer will provide proof that the generating facility has been inspected per local electrical and construction codes.

Step 12: The customer is required to give MidAmerican Energy the opportunity to witness or verify the system testing. MidAmerican Energy shall be notified in advance when the customer is ready to perform the generator testing.

Step 13: If system testing is approved and all other conditions in the interconnection agreement are satisfied, MidAmerican Energy will provide a certificate of completion that the generator is eligible to operate in parallel with its electric distribution system.

Contact Information

The information contained in this document is intended as a general explanation of the MidAmerican Energy distributed generation interconnection process. Some projects may have additional requirements or steps in the interconnection process in order that MidAmerican Energy can adequately review the interconnection. If you have additional questions, please contact MidAmerican Energy at (888) 427-5632. You will be referred to an engineer who can answer your questions and assist with the interconnection process.

