

## 2023 Freeing the Grid Interconnection Scoring Criteria

Category	Point Value	FTG Interconnection Scoring Criteria	Total Points Possible (by Category)
<b>Rule Applicability</b> <u>(only one may apply within outlined box)</u>	1	All generators qualify (generator definition must explicitly include energy storage systems in addition to other DERs)	3
	0.5	Generators up to at least 2 MW are eligible	
	1	Generators larger than 2 MW and up to 20 MW are eligible	
	2	All state-jurisdictional generator interconnections are eligible, regardless of size	
<b>Streamlined Review</b> <u>(only one may apply within each of the two outlined boxes)</u>	0.5	Simplified process for certified, inverter-based generators up to 10 kW	8
	1	Simplified process for certified, inverter-based generators at least 25 kW	
	2	Simplified process for certified, inverter-based generators at least 50 kW with export capacity of 25 kW or higher	
	0.5	Expedited (Fast Track or Level 2) interconnection process available for certified, inverter-based generators up to 2 MW	
	2	Expedited (Fast Track or Level 2) interconnection process available for certified, inverter-based generators up to at least 5 MW, based on line capacity and distance from substation	
	2	Eligibility for Fast Track (also called Level 2) is based on a system's export capacity rather than nameplate capacity	
	1	Offers an option for a group or cluster study process	
	1	Rules include at least one provision to streamline, incentivize, or otherwise support DER interconnection to the benefit of disadvantaged or underserved households (or communities)	
<b>Modifications</b>	1	Generators that require minor/low cost grid upgrades identified in initial or supplemental review are not required to undergo full study	3
	1	Rules allow for minor project modifications to resolve certain issues identified in the screening or study process	
	1	Rules define what constitutes a material modification and the process associated with requesting material modification review	
	1	Application completeness reviewed in no more than 10 business days	

<b>Timelines &amp; Efficiency</b>	1	Simplified (Level 1) review completed within 10 business days	8
	1	Initial review (e.g., Fast Track or Level 2) screens, if any, applied in no more than 15 business days	
	1	Supplemental review, if any, applied in no more than 20 business days	
	1	Timeframe for utility completion of study process is less than 120 calendar days	
	1	Timeframe specified for utility to provide an interconnection agreement	
	1	Utilities are required to provide interconnection agreement at the same time that customers are notified that they passed interconnection screens	
	1	Timeframe specified for utility to provide permission to operate (PTO)	
<b>Interconnection Costs &amp; Requirements</b>	0.5	Rules clearly identify site control requirements and require documentation to be submitted with the interconnection request	7
	0.5	Application fees are no more than \$300 for certified, inverter-based generators up to 25 kW	
	0.5	Application fees are no more than \$2,000 for certified, inverter-based generators up to 5 MW	
	0.5	Supplemental review cost, if any, is capped at no more than \$2,500	
	1	Upgrade costs capped at amount estimated in interconnection agreement or studies (+/- 10-30%)	
	2	Mechanism available to enable customers to share the costs of distribution upgrades (e.g., fee waivers, group studies, fixed fees, etc.)	
	1	Insurance requirements waived for inverter-based generators up to 25 kW	
<b>Updated Standards &amp; Export Provisions</b>	1	Date by which DER must comply with IEEE 1547-2018 is clearly identified in the rules	7
	2	Identification of categories, voltage regulation function activation, and settings within rule or rule references external Commission-approved documentation	
	1	Rules explicitly define and differentiate between the concept of nameplate and export capacity	
	2	Rules identify acceptable export control methods	
	1	Rules identify certified Power Control Systems as an acceptable export control method	

<b>Initial Review Screens</b>	3	Initial review includes objective screen to allow expedited interconnection of projects that do not cause exceedence of at least 90% of minimum load with aggregated generation	9
	2	Above technical review screen is based on export capacity ( <i>note: a state can only meet this criterion if it has received credit for the criterion in the row above</i> )	
	1	The initial review transformer (shared secondary) screen evaluates projects based upon the ratio of aggregated DER (nameplate or export) to transformer nameplate rating being greater than or equal to 65 percent	
	1	Above transformer screen is based on export capacity ( <i>note: a state can only meet this criterion if it has received credit for the criterion in the row above</i> )	
	1	Clearly defined Line Configuration Screen (LCS) within Initial Review that differentiate requirement for inverter based DER vs. Rotating DERs	
	1	Inadvertent export screen applied during initial review for systems with non-exporting capacity greater than 250 kW	
<b>Supplemental Review Screens</b>	2	Supplemental review screens applied to generators that do not pass initial review screens to allow expedited interconnection up to at least 100% of minimum load	5
	2	Above supplemental review screen is based on export capacity ( <i>note: a state can only meet this criterion if it has received credit for the criterion in the row above</i> )	
	1	A voltage and power quality screen within the Supplemental Review that either (a) references IEEE 1547-2018 without reference to IEEE 519, (b) uses an equivalent screen (i.e., 3% rapid voltage change limit or Pst voltage flicker calculation), or (c) does not require rapid voltage or flicker screening for solar energy systems	
	1	Screen results (for simplified, fast track and supplemental review where available) are provided in a detailed format	
	1	Study reports are required to provide details of analysis and how conclusions are reached	

<b>Data Sharing &amp; Reporting</b>	1	Upgrade cost estimates are provided in a detailed and itemized format that identifies labor, equipment, etc.	10
	1	Utilities post an interconnection queue that is updated at least monthly	
	2	Utilities are required to publish queues that enable tracking of timelines associated with each step of the interconnection process for each project in the queue	
	1	Customers may request a pre-application report that provides specific information on an identified point of interconnection for a fee that does not exceed \$500	
	2	Hosting capacity analysis is utilized in the screening process	
	1	Utilities required to provide a public report on interconnection timelines and costs at least once annually	
<b>Dispute Resolution</b>	1	Dispute resolution process in place to address disputes	3
	1	A regular interconnection forum is provided to facilitate resolution of technical and policy issues that arise	
	1	Rules require Commission or other entity to offer services of an ombudsperson or equivalent role to track and facilitate dispute resolution.	
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>63</b>