

Received:



Level 1 Small Generator Facility Interconnection Request

Applicability

For interconnecting an electric Small Generator Facility with aggregate Nameplate Capacity of up to 50 kilowatts (“kW”) alternating current (“AC”) using certified interconnection equipment.

Electric Distribution Company: NorthWestern Energy (“NorthWestern”)

Designated Contact Person: Interconnection Specialist

Address: 11 East Park
Butte, MT 59701

Telephone: 406-497-4165

E-Mail: northwesternenergymeter@northwestern.com

Request for Interconnection (“Request”) is considered complete when all applicable information required below is provided. Additional information to evaluate the Request may be required.

Preamble and Instructions

When used in this Request, with initial capitalization, the terms specified shall have the meanings indicated or specified in the Request. This Request applies to a Small Generator Facility located on the utility Customer's premises that:

- is connected, or will be connected, to NorthWestern’s Electric Distribution System,
- has an aggregate Nameplate Capacity of generation and storage components of not more than 50 kW AC,
- has storage components that store and discharge only electrical energy produced from the net metering system and do not store or discharge electrical energy received from NorthWestern’s Electric Distribution System, and

- is designed to operate in parallel with the Electric Distribution System, and has equipment-labeled and publicly listed by a Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory at the time of the Request.

For Level 1 Small Generator Facilities that include a net meter, refer to NorthWestern’s Electric Tariff Rule No. 16 Electric Net Metering for applicability, terms and conditions, and additional relevant information.

The Customer installing the Small Generator Facility must be in Good Standing with NorthWestern.

An Applicant may submit this Request by hand delivery, mail, or e-mail to NorthWestern’s Interconnection Department.

Processing Fee

A non-refundable processing fee of \$200 must accompany this Request.

Applicant

Legal Name of Applicant (or, if a business, business’s name) – Must be the NorthWestern Customer, or the owner of the premises if the Customer is a tenant.

Name: _____

Contact Person: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone (Day): _____ (Evening): _____

E-Mail: _____

Alternate Contact Information:

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone (Day): _____ (Evening): _____

E-Mail: _____

Installer Contact Information

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone (Day): _____ (Evening): _____

E-Mail: _____

- Request is for:** New Small Generator Facility on existing electric service that will be net metered
- Capacity addition to existing Small Generator Facility
- New Small Generator Facility on new electric service (New Construction)

For installations at locations with existing electric service to which the proposed Small Generator Facility will interconnect, provide:

Premises Address of Existing Service:

Existing Electric Account Number:

Existing Electric Meter Number

(located on bill - is meter that will be replaced if net meter will be installed):

Small Generator Facility Information – Check all that apply (Note: Net metered facilities can only be fueled by solar, wind, and/or hydropower)

Energy Source: Solar Wind Hydro Diesel Natural Gas
 Fuel Oil Battery Other (describe) _____

Prime Mover: Reciprocating Engine Fuel Cell Not Turbine
 Other (state type) _____ Not Applicable

Generator Type: Synchronous Generator Induction Generator
 Inverter Based Generator Not Applicable

Total Nameplate AC Capacity (Aggregate of all Sources): _____(kW)

Generator Nameplate AC Capacity: _____(kW) (list for each source, if multiple generating sources)

Phase: Single Phase Three Phase

Storage Nameplate Capacity _____(kW)

If the proposed net metering system includes storage components, please provide an explanation of the charging, discharging, and operating plan for the storage device, including a one-line diagram that includes the storage device. Prior to connection of the net metering system to NorthWestern Energy’s Electric Distribution System, Customer must be prepared to demonstrate that the net metering system’s storage charge and discharge functions comply with Rule 16 of NorthWestern Energy’s Electric Tariff.

Estimated Small Generator Facility Installation Date: _____

Estimated Small Generator Facility In-Service Date: _____

There must be an external, visible and lockable disconnect within 10 feet of the utility meter.

Will the external, visible load break switch (generator disconnect switch) be located more than 10 feet from the meter? Yes No

Under NorthWestern Energy’s Tariff Rules approved by the Montana Public Service Commission, the AC disconnect switch must be located within 10 feet of the electric meter.

If the AC disconnect switch is physically unable to be installed within 10 feet of the meter, NorthWestern Energy must approve the proposed location prior to installation, which may require a site visit. NorthWestern Energy retains ultimate authority to grant a variance from the 10-foot requirement on a limited, case-by-case basis. If seeking a variance, the applicant must show the proposed location of the AC disconnect switch in the detailed site diagram, and include an explanation sufficiently justifying the need to locate the AC disconnect switch more than 10 feet from the meter. NorthWestern Energy must grant written approval before installation of the AC disconnect switch more than 10 feet from the meter.

List components of the Small Generator Facility electrical equipment package, the certifying entity, and standard number. Attach additional sheets as needed for the components list and attach manufacturer specification sheets for all certified or standardized equipment, including Manufacturer and Model information. See Example below.

Electrical Equipment Description	Certifying Entity (IEEE 1547, NRTL*)	Standard #
1.	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____

*Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory

Enclose copy of site electrical one-line diagram showing the configuration of all Small Generator Facility equipment, current and potential circuits, and protection and control schemes if applicable. See example below. **Is One-Line Diagram enclosed?** Yes No

Enclose a detailed site diagram and any other documentation necessary to indicate the precise physical location of the proposed Small Generator Facility and related equipment (e.g., solar array diagram, inverter location, storage location, USGS topographic map or other diagram or documentation including solar array, inverter location, disconnect location, etc.). An example has been provided below.

Is Physical Location Documentation enclosed? Yes No

Include in this Request a Line Diagram, Site Map of the proposed Small Scale Generator Facility and product specification sheets. See examples A, B and C as reference.

For installations requiring a net meter, provide the information required in Exhibit A, attached.

Applicant Signature

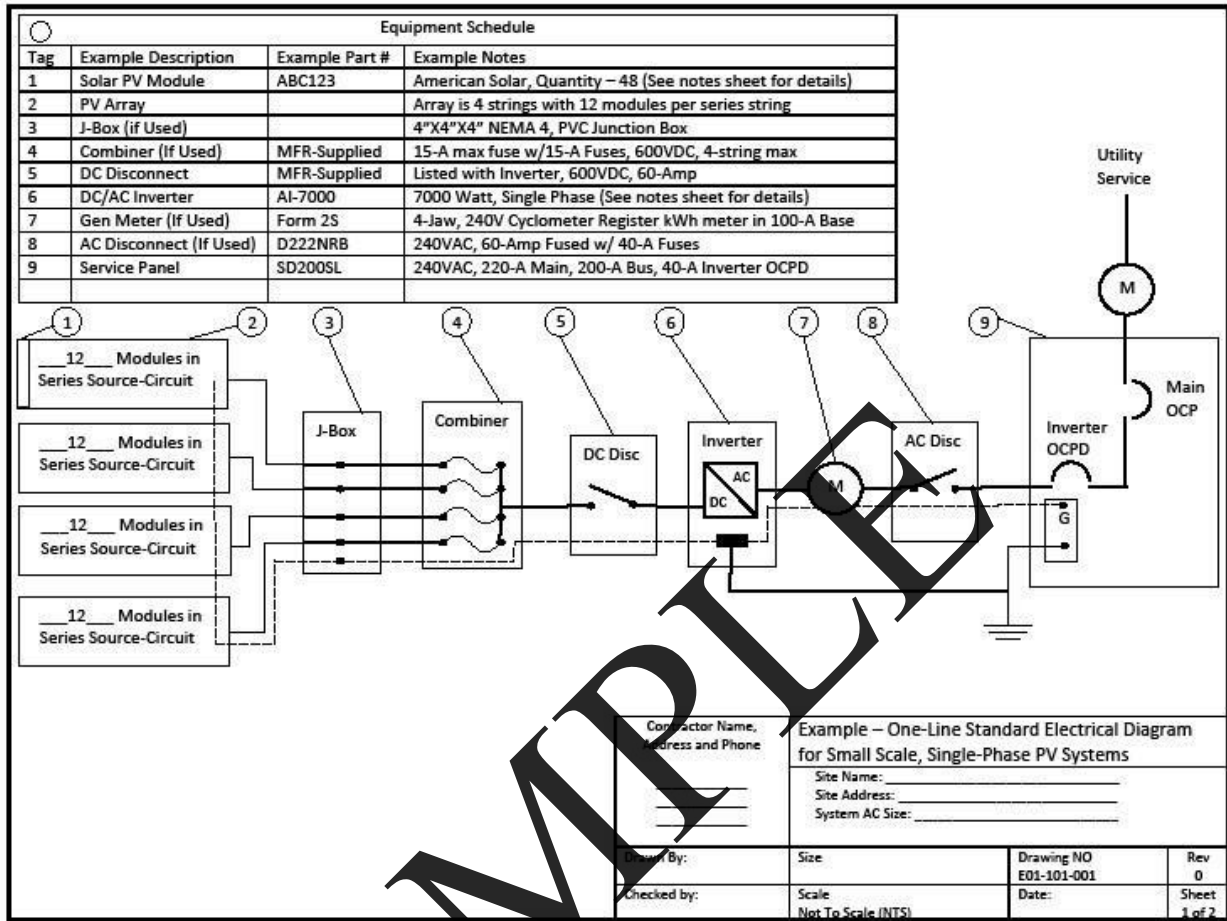
I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the information provided in this Request is true.

Print Name: _____

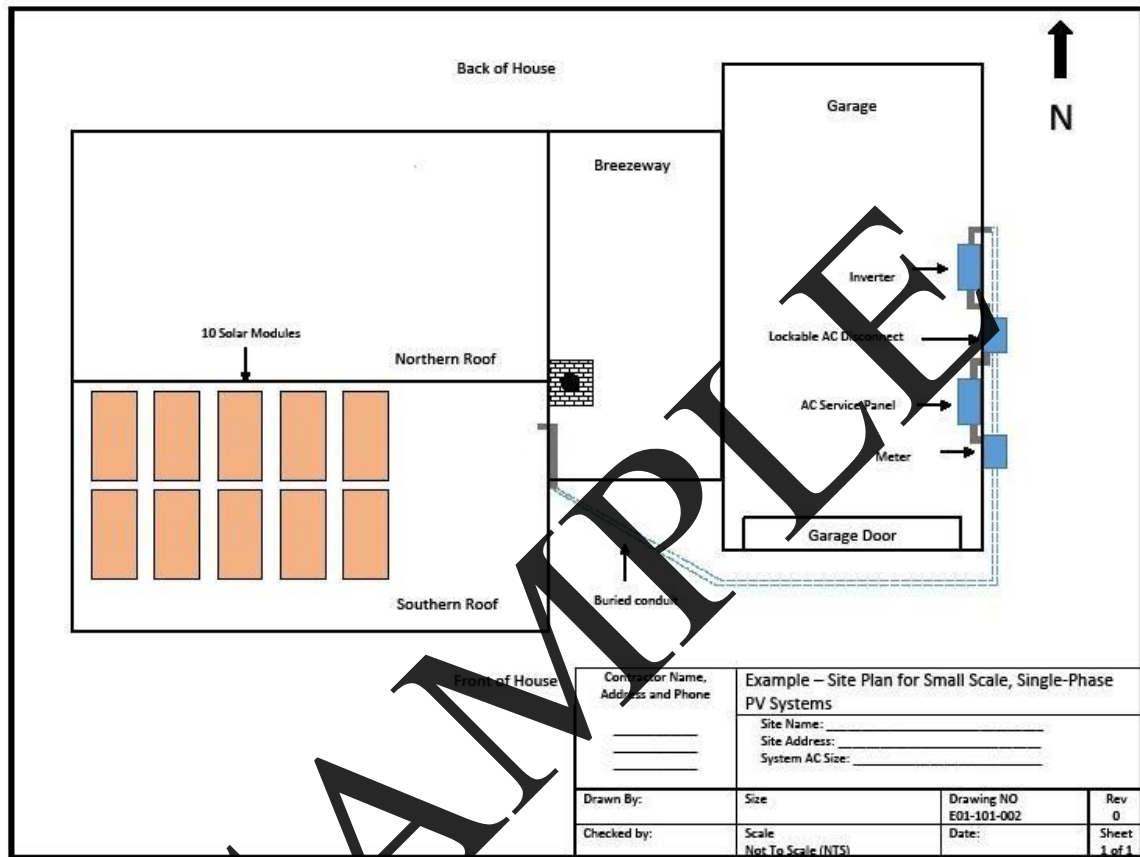
Signature: _____

Title (if applicable): _____ Date: _____

EXAMPLE A: Line Diagram



EXAMPLE B: Site Plan



Example C: Equipment Specification Sheets

PV Module Ratings @STC	
Module Make	
Module Model	
Max Power-Point Current (I_{MP})	A
Max Power-Point Voltage (V_{MP})	V
Open-Circuit Voltage (V_{OC})	V
Short-Circuit Current (I_{SC})	A
Max Series Fuse (OCPD)	A
Max Power (P_{MAX})	W
Max Voltage (TYP 600V _{DC})	V
VOC Temp Coeff (mV/°C <input type="checkbox"/> or %/°C <input type="checkbox"/>)	
If Coeff Supplied, Circle Units	

Inverter Ratings	
Inverter Make	
Inverter Model	
Max DC Volt Rating	V
Max Power @ 40 °C	W
Nominal AC Voltage	V
Max AC Current	A
Max OCPD Rating	A

Contractor Name, Address and Phone	Example – One-Line Standard Electrical Diagram for Small Scale, Single-Phase PV Systems Site Name: _____ Site Address: _____ System AC Size: _____		
Drawn by:	Size	Drawing NO E01-101-001	Rev 0
Checked by:	Scale Not To Scale (NTS)	Date:	Sheet 2 of 2

SAMPLE

Exhibit A

Required Net Meter Applicant Information

Generally, Applicants utilizing a Net Meter strive to reduce their monthly total billed usage and minimize their unused excess energy balance (kilowatt-hour) at the time of the annual settle-up at the end of the selected 12-month billing period. This is very important because the excess energy balance resets to zero at that time.

In order to receive a Net Meter, please choose a settle-up month below. In accordance with normal metering practices, your applicable meter reading day during the selected settle-up month will be your annual settle-up date for the 12-month billing period. Depending on the date that the Small Generator Facility commences Interconnected operation, the first settle-up period may be more than 12 months. Tracking of excess electricity for billing purposes begins only after the Applicant is authorized for Interconnected operation of the Small Generator Facility in accordance with the Applicant’s Interconnection Agreement. The Applicant should be aware that any generation from the Small Generator Facility that is exported onto NorthWestern’s Electric Distribution System before a net meter installation is complete will be registered by the existing non-net meter and billed as consumption.

Settle-up Month for the 12-month Billing Period

January April July October

The selection of the settle-up month for the 12-month billing period is an important decision. Applicants are encouraged to examine and understand their electrical usage patterns and renewable energy system output in order to select the settle-up month that works best. A graph of the most recent 12 months of electrical usage is shown on your monthly electric bill. It may also be helpful to consult with a renewable energy installer.

Once the original settle-up month has been selected, the Applicant could choose to change their settle-up month. NorthWestern will grant a one-time change to the settle-up month for the 12-month billing period. After the one-time change has been confirmed by NorthWestern, the Applicant’s applicable meter reading day in the new settle-up month will then become the permanent settle-up date.

For Applicant:

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____

Title: (if applicable) _____

Date: _____