

**Department of Public Utilities | Staff Straw Proposal
D.P.U. 19-55: Management of High-Volume Queues**

Topic	Requirements								
<p>Hosting Capacity Maps</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Electric distribution companies (“EDCs”) shall publish online hosting capacity maps¹ by May 1, 2020. - Hosting capacity maps shall include, but not be limited to: distributed generation (“DG”) saturation by location, circuit, and/or substation; potential or on-going affected system operator (“ASO”) studies; and current jurisdiction of circuits, <u>i.e.</u>, Open Access Transmission Tariff (“OATT”) or state/EDC. - EDCs shall update hosting capacity maps at least once a month, by the 15th of each month. 								
<p>Revisions to Pre-application Process</p>	<p><i>General Requirements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Additions to pre-application report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • substation name; • substation transformer rating; • aggregate connected facilities on the substation transformer and submitted complete applications of facilities not yet interconnected; • whether 3V0 is deployed or scheduled for deployment on the circuit or substation; • from the nearest available feeder, circuit rating and approximate circuit length from proposed facility to substation; • whether an ASO has informed the EDC that an ASO study is required, or the EDC is aware of a potential or on-going ASO study for the proposed facility interconnection location; and • whether the circuit to which the facility seeks to interconnect is OATT or state/EDC jurisdictional, at the date of the pre-application report. - Pre-application report shall be required for projects 50 kW or greater. - Pre-application report is optional for projects less than 50 kW.² <p><i>Fees:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DG applicant must pay a fee to receive a pre-application report: <table border="1" data-bbox="467 1228 1260 1377"> <thead> <tr> <th align="center">Project Size</th> <th align="center">Application Fee</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td align="center">< 50 kW AC</td> <td align="center">\$100</td> </tr> <tr> <td align="center">50 kW AC - 500 kW AC</td> <td align="center">\$250</td> </tr> <tr> <td align="center">> 500 kW AC</td> <td align="center">\$1,000</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Following receipt of payment of fee for either a mandatory or optional pre-application report, the EDC shall provide the report within 10 business days. The EDC shall refund the DG applicant’s fee if pre-application report is not provided within 10 business days of receipt of payment of fee. <p><i>Modifications/Cost Information:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Each EDC shall annually post in a prominent location on its website, a list of typical system additions/modifications required for DG interconnection, including an estimated range of 	Project Size	Application Fee	< 50 kW AC	\$100	50 kW AC - 500 kW AC	\$250	> 500 kW AC	\$1,000
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¹ These maps shall comply with G.L. c. 164, §146(a).

² The Department notes that the New York State Public Service Commission currently requires pre-application reports for DG applicants 50 kW- 5 MW. The Department estimates that in Massachusetts, requiring pre-application reports for DG applicants 50 kW or greater would increase EDC creation of pre-application reports by ~150%, whereas requiring pre-application reports for DG applicants 250 kW or greater would increase EDC creation of pre-application reports by ~50%.

	<p>costs associated with each addition/modification (e.g., the typical cost of a new pole is \$X-\$Y).³</p>
<p>Revisions to DG Application</p>	<p><i>Project Maturity:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DG applicants shall demonstrate site control at time of application by self-certifying ownership or attaching a landowner consent agreement. <p><i>State/FERC Jurisdiction:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Questions shall be added to the interconnection application to elicit the DG applicant’s intent to participate in any ISO New England Inc. (“ISO-NE”) market as lead market participant, to inform EDC’s jurisdictional determination. For example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does DG applicant intend to participate in any ISO-NE market as lead market participant? If so, in which ISO-NE market(s) do(es) the DG applicant intend to participate? • For DG facilities paired with an energy storage system, DG applicant shall state intent for DG facility and energy storage system separately.
<p>Revisions to DG Application Process</p>	<p><i>Project Changes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - “Material change” means any change that would require a new impact study or that otherwise would have a material impact on the configuration or estimated cost or construction schedule for the DG facility set out in the interconnection service agreement (“ISA”). - EDCs shall notify DG applicants at least 15 business days before commencement of an impact study. - DG applicants may only propose a material change to its application by or before 5 business days before commencement of an impact study. - If a DG applicant proposes a material change during or after an impact study, EDCs may require a new application, resulting in loss of queue position. <p><i>Timelines:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Applications will be “sidelined” if they are on hold for legal disputes or other long-term extensions that are six months or longer.⁴ - The DG applicant shall make the first payment of 25% of the estimated cost of system modifications within 15 business days after the DG applicant signs the ISA. - The DG applicant shall make second payment of remaining 75% of estimated system modification costs within 120 business days after the DG applicant signs the ISA. - If an EDC fails to countersign the ISA within 15 business days after receipt of the first system modifications payment, the date of the EDC’s countersignature shall be deemed to be 15 business days after the EDC received the first system modifications payment. - If the DG applicant fails to make either of the above system modification payments, its application and ISA will be cancelled, and its queue position will be lost.

³ The Department recommends use of the construction line items and costs produced by the Interconnection Working Group in D.P.U. 11-75 as reference. See Dr. Jonathan Raab, PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE UNIFORM STANDARDS FOR INTERCONNECTING DISTRIBUTED GENERATION 18 (Sept. 14, 2012) (available at <https://fileservice.eea.comacloud.net/FileService.Api/file/FileRoom/9254143>).

⁴ The Department seeks comments on how to define “sidelined.”