



POLICY

SUBJECT: Member-Owned Distributed Generation

POLICY: **Emergency or Standby Generation**

Member-owned emergency or standby generation that is intended to serve the member only during outages shall be connected to the member's service using an approved transfer switch. The installation shall be inspected and approved by an electrical inspection agency. In no case shall an emergency or standby generator be connected to the Cooperative's distribution lines.

Generation Connected in Parallel

It shall be the policy of the Cooperative to accommodate members who wish to generate electricity on their own premises using qualified renewable energy resources while remaining connected to the Cooperative's electrical system ("self generation"). Member-owned self generation is consistent with the Cooperative's goals of minimizing dependency on fossil fuel sources of energy that it secures for its members.

The Cooperative will make information readily available to members pertaining to the procedures for application and appropriate technical requirements for self generation. It is recognized that industry-established procedures and requirements must be followed to ensure the protection of Cooperative personnel and facilities, and the public.

The Cooperative will use reasonable efforts to provide support and guidance to members who are interested in developing and investing in renewable energy facilities. However, it shall be the responsibility of the member, financial and otherwise, to comply with interconnection requirements, arrange for contractors, secure financing and operate and maintain such facilities in compliance with this policy.

The Cooperative recognizes that extensive self generation could adversely impact the Cooperative's wholesale energy costs, which may, in turn, affect the cost of electric service to its members. For this reason, self generation sources that are interconnected to the Cooperative's electrical systems shall normally be limited to 15 kW maximum nameplate capacity. Proposed distributed generation systems rated greater than 15kW but less than 10 MVA will be considered on an individual basis subject to the constraints of the Cooperative's system. Self generation with a nameplate capacity of greater than 10 MVA will not be considered.

Further, it is recognized that self generation may result in circumstances where such generation exceeds the member's electrical consumption. During those times, and for systems rated at 15 kW or less, the Cooperative shall purchase that amount of energy that exceeds consumption and is injected into the Cooperative's electrical system at DCEC's avoided cost of wholesale energy, as shown on Rural Utility Service Form 7, Part K. Members who have executed with the Cooperative an Agreement for Interconnection of Member-Owned Distributed Generation prior to November 26, 2013 are eligible to continue selling their excess energy production to the Cooperative on a net-metered basis for a period not to exceed 10 years from the date of execution of their Agreement.

As a condition of connecting self generation systems rated at 15 kW or less to the Cooperative's system, a member must maintain liability insurance in the amount of \$300,000 and, if requested by DCEC, provide DCEC proof of insurance.

Distributed generation systems rated greater than 15 kW but less than 10 MVA will be considered on an individual basis through a separate purchased power agreement or power wheeling arrangement. As a condition of connecting self generation systems rated greater than 15kW but less than 10 MVA, a member must provide DCEC proof of liability insurance in an amount of at least \$1 million dollars with the Cooperative named as an additional insured.

PROCEDURE:

Members interested in self generation shall contact the Cooperative and become familiar with relevant rules, requirements and procedures. The member shall submit a completed "Interconnection Application for Distributed Generation" to the Cooperative providing details of the project plans, along with a \$50.00 application fee. The Cooperative will review the information provided in the application and shall respond to the member with comments or acceptance within twelve (12) business days of receipt.

Cooperative staff shall encourage the member to consider a full range of energy conservation, energy efficiency, and renewable generation options as part of their research and planning, prior to installing self-generation at their service location. Cooperative staff shall provide information to the member about the availability of home energy audits to aid in the member's research and planning.

Upon acceptance by the Cooperative of the application, the member shall execute an "Interconnection Agreement for Distributed



Generation” which includes acknowledgement of the member’s obligations and responsibilities. Upon completion of the installation by the member of the self generation facility, the member will notify the Cooperative to schedule a pre-connection inspection of the facility. The member shall pay the Cooperative a \$100.00 inspection fee for each visit to the premises.

The member shall not connect the facility to the Cooperative’s electrical system until it receives written permission from the Cooperative to do so. The Cooperative shall provide such permission upon receipt of all relevant payments and upon validation that the facility complies with all stated requirements. The Cooperative shall have the right to access and inspect the facilities on the member’s premises at any time and shall have the right to disconnect the facility if it is found that the facility violates any provisions of the interconnect requirements and/or due to concerns over employee or public safety or the reliability of Cooperative electric service.

RESPONSIBILITY: General Manager

DELAWARE COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

Approved by Board of Directors May 26, 2009
Revised by Board of Directors Dec 27, 2011
Revised by Board of Directors Nov 26, 2013
Revised by Board of Directors Jul 22, 2014
Revised by Board of Directors Sep 27, 2016
Revised by Board of Directors May 12, 2020
Reviewed by Board of Directors November 22, 2022