

Steps to take if you are interested in distributed generation

1) Talk to the Marketing & Technical Services Department at Three Rivers Electric Cooperative. They will provide information to help you make an informed decision.

2) Make sure you are involved with a reputable dealer and installer. Make sure they understand all codes as well as the requirements of all applicable state statutes, rules and/or regulations. These requirements are intended to, among other things, maintain safety and system reliability.

The requirements include but are not limited to the following:

- UL 1741, IEEE 929-2000, IEEE 1547

- The hardware and its installation must comply with all applicable National Electric Safety Code (NESC), Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), and Underwriters Laboratories (UL) requirements.

- The requirements also include a visible, lockable safety disconnect of the distributed generation unit accessible to the Cooperative at the metering point or other location as agreed to between the member and Three Rivers Electric Cooperative.

3) Check with your insurance agent about liability insurance on the member-generator distributed generation unit. This is not required but highly recommended.

4) Acquire an [Application and Agreement for Interconnection and Net Metering of systems with capacity of 100kW or less](#) (found on our website) and fill out sections A, B, C, D, F and G. This is outlined in the agreement. This will require you to give the Cooperative:

- Your personal information.

- The member-generator's system information including but not limited to system type, manufacturer, system type, manufacturer, system plans and specifications, county/city permit numbers, IEEE 1547 compatible inverter details, disconnect location, and a site specific power flow diagram.

- Installer information as well as the identity and qualifications of the qualified person or agency who will certify the installation.

- Pre-Construction Certification by a professional and licensed electrician or engineer.

If the rated output of the system is less than or equal to 10 kW, the Cooperative has 30 days from receipt of the application to approve or deny the application. If more than 10 kW, the time frame is 90 days. If denied, the member will be provided with a reason(s) for denial.

5) Schedule installation of the system. The Cooperative will schedule the necessary metering upgrades to take place in conjunction with the completion of the distributed generation unit installation.

6) When the system is installed in compliance with the plans and specifications as described in the application, the member-generator needs to complete section H of the application and forward the completed application to the Cooperative for review and completion of section I.

7) The Cooperative will complete section I, and with the arrangements made for payment of any applicable fees and/or aid to construction costs, the Cooperative will, within 30 days, return the member's completed copy of the Application of Agreement for Interconnection and Net Metering and finalize the interconnection process with an active service to the Cooperative's electrical system.

For a member who is assuming ownership or operational control of an existing member-generator system, an [Application and Agreement for Interconnection and Net Metering of systems with capacity of 100kW or less](#) (found on our website) needs to be acquired with completed sections A,B,C,D,F,G, and H. The Cooperative has 30 days to approve or reject the new agreement.

Note: This is a general overview of the process for interconnecting for net metering. The member-generator is requested, at least once every year, to conduct a test to confirm that the net metering unit automatically ceases to energize the output (interconnection equipment output voltage goes to zero) within 2 seconds of being disconnected from the retail electric power supplier's system. The member-generator should maintain a record of these tests and, upon request, shall provide a copy of the test results to Three Rivers Electric Cooperative.

(*SENATE BILL NO. 54 386.890 Net Metering and Easy Connect Act).