

Rule 024 (Version 1.1)

Rules Respecting Micro-Generation

This revised rule was approved by the Alberta Utilities Commission on July 16, 2019, and is effective on July 16, 2019.

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1 Definitions

In this rule,

- (a) "aggregated sites" means aggregated sites as defined in the *Micro-Generation Regulation*;
- (b) "Commission" means the Alberta Utilities Commission;
- (c) "customer" has the meaning set out in the *Electric Utilities Act*;
- (d) "inverter" means an electronic device that converts DC electricity into AC electricity;
- (e) "micro-generation generating unit" means a micro-generation generating unit as defined in the *Micro-Generation Regulation*;
- (f) "micro-generation notice" means a micro-generation notice provided by the customer to the owner in accordance with Section 2(1) or 2.1(1) of the *Micro-Generation Regulation* and this rule;
- (g) "notice of dispute" means a notice prepared by the owner and filed with the Commission in accordance with Section 2(2) or 2.1(2) or Section 4(3) or 4(3.1) of the *Micro-Generation Regulation* and this rule;
- (h) "notice of complaint" means a notice prepared by the customer and filed with the Commission in accordance with Section 3(5) of the *Micro-Generation Regulation* and this rule:
- (i) "owner" means the owner of an electric distribution system in the service area where the customer plans to construct or alter and operate a micro-generation generating unit.

2 Exemption from power plant application

A customer who plans to construct or alter and operate a micro-generation generating unit to meet all or a portion of the customer's total energy consumption, and the unit's total nameplate capacity does not exceed five megawatts, and who intends to connect the unit to the interconnected electric system may proceed without filing a power plant application under Rule 007: Applications for Power Plants, Substations, Transmission Lines, Industrial System Designations and Hydro Developments to the Commission if the construction or alteration and operation of the unit

- (a) does not directly and adversely affect any person;
- (b) does not have any adverse environmental impact; and
- (c) the unit is constructed or altered and operated, in compliance with Rule 012: *Noise Control*.

3 Micro-generation notice process

- (1) Prior to filing a micro-generation notice with the owner, a customer must notify and consult with stakeholders, in accordance with Appendix A1- Participant involvement program guidelines of Rule 007, on the plan to construct or alter and operate a micro-generation generating unit.
- (2) A customer who intends to construct or alter and operate a micro-generation generating unit shall complete a micro-generation notice, Form A, and send the completed notice and all supporting documents to the owner.
- (3) Within 14 days of the receipt of a micro-generation notice, the owner shall
 - (a) notify the customer of whether the notice and required documents are complete;
 - (b) if the notice and the required documents are complete,
 - (i) notify the customer that the owner accepts the notice and inform the customer of the estimated connection date of the micro-generation generating unit; or
 - (ii) notify the customer that the owner is disputing that the proposed generating unit qualifies as a micro-generation generating unit.
- (4) If the owner does not dispute that the micro-generation generating unit qualifies as a micro-generation generating unit or in the event that the Commission decides that a disputed unit is a micro-generation generating unit, the customer must provide notice in writing to the customer's retailer or regulated rate provider of the micro-generation generating unit in order to receive credit compensation for micro-generation.

4 Qualification as a micro-generation generating unit

- (1) Within 14 days of receipt of a completed micro-generation notice from a customer, if the owner considers that the customer's proposed micro-generation generating unit will not qualify as a micro-generation generating unit, the owner shall complete a notice of dispute, Form B, and send a copy of the notice of dispute to the customer, at the contact address in the manner indicated in the micro-generation notice.
- (2) An owner shall file a notice of dispute with the Commission through the Commission's eFiling System within 14 days of receipt of a complete microgeneration notice.
- (3) On receipt of the notice of dispute, the Commission shall, within 30 days or such longer period as the Commission considers necessary, issue its decision in accordance with Section 2(3) or 2.1(3) of the *Micro-Generation Regulation*.

5 Costs of bi-directional interval meter

- (1) If a customer requests the installation of a bi-directional interval meter for small micro-generation under Section 3(3) of the *Micro-Generation Regulation*, and the owner declines the request, the owner shall notify the customer of its decision at the customer's contact address in the manner indicated in the request, within 14 days following receipt of this request.
- (2) Within 14 days of the receipt of a notification declining the bi-directional interval meter request, the customer may apply for an order requiring the owner to comply with the customer's request for the installation of a bi-directional interval meter by completing a notice of complaint, Form C, and filing it with the Commission through the Commission's eFiling System.
- (3) The customer shall send a copy of the notice of complaint to the owner at the owner's contact address in the manner indicated in the notification given by the owner.

6 Extraordinary interconnection costs

- (1) Following receipt of a complete micro-generation notice from a customer, if the owner considers the costs of connecting a customer's micro-generation generating unit to be extraordinary for the reasons set out in Section 4(3) or 4(3.1) of the *Micro-Generation Regulation*, the owner shall file a completed notice of dispute, Form B, through the Commission's eFiling System within 14 days from the date in which the owner finalizes its cost estimate.
- (2) The owner shall send a copy of the notice of dispute to the customer, at the customer's contact address in the manner indicated in the micro-generation notice within 14 days from the date in which the owner finalizes its cost estimate.

7 General provisions

- (1) With respect to a notice of dispute or a notice of complaint filed with the Commission, the Commission will determine the process for the notice.
- (2) Rules 007 and 012 apply to a micro-generation generating unit.
- (3) Rule 021: Settlement System Code Rules applies to all transactions conducted under the Micro-Generation Regulation.

8 Retention of records

- (1) A customer shall retain, as long as the micro-generation generating unit is in operation,
 - (a) all information on the participant involvement program conducted under Section 3(1) respecting the construction or alteration and operation of a micro-generation generating unit;

- (b) all information and documents filed in support of a power plant application under Rule 007, if the micro-generation generating unit is not exempt from the filing of a power plant application;
- (c) the completed micro-generation notice and all supporting documents submitted to the owner under Section 3(2);
- (d) all documents related to a dispute under Section 4 or a complaint under Section 5;
- (e) all records pertaining to the construction or alteration and operation of the micro-generation generating unit.
- (2) An owner shall retain all information and documents pertaining to a customer's micro-generation generating unit, as long as the micro-generation generating unit is in operation.
- (3) The Commission may request from a customer or an owner the information or documentation required to be kept under this section.
- (4) A customer or an owner shall submit the information or documentation required to be kept under this section in accordance with the Commission's request.

Form A – Micro-generation notice, Form B – Notice of dispute and Form C – Notice of complaint can be found on the AUC website in the "Forms, templates and reference documents" section of the Industry reference page.