

generation projects that are not participating in the System Operator's interconnection process, but are expected to achieve approval pursuant to Section I.3.9 of the Tariff within ninety (90) days from the date of the creation of the Base Cases and for which steady state, short circuit, stability and electromagnetic transient network models for the generation projects and any associated system upgrades have been provided to the System Operator. ~~The Interconnection Customer~~Interconnection Customer, where applicable, shall provide Base Case Data to the Interconnecting Transmission Owner and System Operator to facilitate required Interconnection Studies.

System Operator shall provide a link to the secured location on its website that contains the information required under this Section 2.3 on System Operator's OASIS site. System Operator is permitted to require that Interconnection Customers or their third party consultants, OASIS site users, and users of the secured location on System Operator's website sign a confidentiality agreement before the release of information governed by Section 13.1 or the ISO New England Information Policy, or the release of any other information that is commercially sensitive or Critical Energy Infrastructure Information.

#### **2.4 No Applicability to Transmission Service.**

Nothing in this SGIP shall constitute a request for, nor the provision of, any service except for Interconnection Service, including, but not limited to, transmission delivery service, local delivery service, distribution service, capacity service, energy service or Ancillary Services under any applicable tariff, and does not convey any right to deliver electricity to any specific customer or Point of Delivery.

#### **2.5 Time Requirements.**

Parties that must perform a specific obligation under a provision of the SGIP or Standard Small Generator Interconnection Agreement within a specified time period shall use Reasonable Efforts to complete such obligation within the applicable time period. A Party may, in the exercise of reasonable discretion and within the time period set forth by the applicable procedure or agreement, request that the relevant Party consent to a mutually agreeable alternative time schedule, such consent not to be unreasonably withheld.

### **SECTION 3. INTERCONNECTION REQUESTS.**

#### **3.1 General.**

To initiate an Interconnection Request, an Interconnection Customer must comply with all of the requirements set forth in Section 3.4.1. ~~The Interconnection Customer~~Interconnection Customer shall submit a separate Interconnection Request for each site. Where multiple Generating Facilities share a

site, Interconnection Customer(s) may submit separate Interconnection Requests or a single Interconnection Request. Within three (3) Business Days after the close of the Cluster Request Window, System Operator shall submit a copy of all valid Interconnection Requests received to Interconnecting Transmission Owner(s).

At Interconnection Customer's option, System Operator, Interconnection Customer, Interconnecting Transmission Owner, and any Internal Affected Party as deemed appropriate by the System Operator in accordance with applicable codes of conduct and confidentiality requirements, will identify alternative Point(s) of Interconnection and configurations at a Scoping Meeting within the Customer Engagement Window to evaluate in this process and attempt to eliminate alternatives in a reasonable fashion given resources and information available. Interconnection Customer will select the definitive Point of Interconnection to be studied no later than the execution of the Cluster Study Agreement. For purposes of Clustering of Interconnection Requests, System Operator may propose changes to the requested Point of Interconnection to facilitate efficient interconnection of Interconnection Customers at common Point(s) of Interconnection. System Operator shall notify Interconnection Customers in writing of any intended changes to the requested Point of Interconnection within the Customer Engagement Window, and the Point of Interconnection shall only change upon mutual agreement of the involved parties.

System Operator shall consider requests for Interconnection Service below the Small Generating Facility capability. An Interconnection Customer that submits an Interconnection Request for Interconnection Service below the Small Generating Facility capability shall include in the Interconnection Request the proposed control technologies to restrict the Small Generating Facility's output to the requested Interconnection Service levels. These requests for Interconnection Service shall be studied based on the nameplate capability of the Small Generating Facility at the level of Interconnection Service requested for purposes of determining necessary Interconnection Facilities, Network Upgrades, and associated costs, and the requests shall be studied at the full Generating Facility capability to ensure the acceptability of the proposed control technology to restrict the facility's output and the safety and reliability of the system, with the study costs borne by Interconnection Customer. Interconnection Customers may be subject to additional control technologies as well as testing and validation of those technologies consistent with Article 2 of the SGIA. The necessary control technologies and protection systems shall be established in Attachment 2 of the executed, or requested to be filed unexecuted, SGIA.

System Operator shall study Generating Facilities that include at least one electric storage resource, when studying the charging mode of the electric storage resource(s), using net shoulder system load as defined in ISO New England Planning Procedures.

Unless otherwise stated, all Commercial Readiness Deposits that must be submitted to the System Operator under this SGIP must be (a) delivered to the System Operator's bank account by electronic transfer, (b) through the provision and maintenance of an irrevocable letter of credit in a form and from a financial institution acceptable to System Operator, and included on the List of Eligible Commercial Readiness Deposit Letter of Credit Issuers, as described on the System Operator's public website, (c) a surety bond in a form and from a financial institution acceptable to System Operator and included on the List of Eligible Commercial Readiness Deposit Surety Bond Issuers, as described on the System Operator's public website or (d) ~~or (e)~~ a combination thereof. Each letter of credit or surety bond must specify the Interconnection Request to which it corresponds. Further, notwithstanding Section 5 of this SGIP to the contrary, an Interconnection Customer may replace the acceptable forms of Commercial Readiness Deposits provided therein with a surety bond any time after such form is deemed acceptable by the System Operator. All costs associated with obtaining a letter of credit shall be borne by the ~~Interconnection Customer~~ Interconnection Customer. In the event that System Operator identifies an administrative deficiency with a submitted letter of credit, or surety bond, Interconnection Customer shall have ~~ten (10) [TBC BY SYSTEM OPERATOR] five (5)~~ Business Days to cure the deficiency.

If the System Operator removes the financial institution from the list, Interconnection Customer shall have ~~ten (10) [TBC BY SYSTEM OPERATOR] five (5)~~ Business Days from the date on which System Operator provides notice of such removal to replace the letter of credit, or surety bond with a letter of credit, or surety bond from a financial institution on the list. The System Operator may extend this cure period in its sole discretion. Failure to cure a deficiency within the periods prescribed in this Section 3.1 shall result in the withdrawal of the Interconnection Request pursuant to Section 3.7 of the SGIP without further opportunity to cure. System Operator shall only provide refunds and/or distribute funds held as part of a Commercial Readiness Deposit to the extent that there are sufficient funds available from the applicable form of financial security.

All other deposits that must be submitted to the System Operator under this SGIP must be paid in cash and delivered to the System Operator's bank account by electronic transfer within the period specified in the respective provision.

A deposit will not be considered received until it is in the System Operator's bank account or, in the case of a letter of credit, or surety bond provided as a Commercial Readiness Deposit, the letter of credit or surety bond is accepted by System Operator. Deposits that must be submitted to the Interconnecting Transmission Owner may shall be submitted in a form acceptable to the Interconnecting Transmission Owner.

### **3.2 Type of Interconnection Services**

At the time the Interconnection Request is submitted, ~~the Interconnection Customer~~ Interconnection Customer must request either CNR Interconnection Service or NR Interconnection Service, as described in Sections 3.2.1 and 3.2.2 below. An Interconnection Customer that meets the requirements to obtain CNR Interconnection Service shall obtain NR Interconnection Service up to the NR Capability upon completion of all requirements for NR Interconnection Service, including all necessary upgrades. Upon completion of all requirements for the CNR Interconnection Service, ~~the Interconnection Customer~~ Interconnection Customer shall also receive CNR Interconnection Service for CNR Capability. An Interconnection Customer that meets the requirements to obtain NR Interconnection Service shall receive NR Interconnection Service for ~~the Interconnection Customer~~ Interconnection Customer's NR Capability.

#### **3.2.1 Capacity Network Resource Interconnection Service**

##### **3.2.1.1 The Product.**

The System Operator must conduct the necessary studies in conjunction with the Interconnecting Transmission Owner, and with other Affected Parties as appropriate and in accordance with applicable codes of conduct and confidentiality requirements, and the Interconnecting Transmission Owner and other Affected Parties as appropriate must construct the Network Upgrades needed to interconnect the Small Generating Facility in a manner comparable to that in which CNRs are interconnected under the CC Interconnection Standard. CNR Interconnection Service allows ~~the Interconnection Customer~~ Interconnection Customer's Small Generating Facility to be designated as a CNR, and to participate in the New England Markets, in accordance with Market Rule 1, Section III of the Tariff, up to the CNR Capability or as otherwise provided in the Tariff, on the same basis as existing CNRs, and to be studied as a CNR on the assumption that such a designation will occur.

##### **3.2.1.2 The Studies.**

The portions of the deposit of \$15,000 that have not been applied as provided in this Section 3.4.1 shall be refundable if ~~the Interconnection Customer~~Interconnection Customer executes an SGIA or where the Interconnection Request is withdrawn by ~~the Interconnection Customer~~Interconnection Customer within ten (10) Business Days of the Cluster Scoping Meeting. Otherwise, any unused balance of the deposit of \$15,000 shall be non-refundable and applied on a pro-rata basis to offset costs incurred by Interconnection Customers that are subject to re-study, as determined by the System Operator in accordance with the provisions of this SGIP, as a result of the withdrawal of an Interconnection Request within the same Cluster.

The expected Initial Synchronization Date of the new Small Generating Facility, of the increase in capacity of the existing Generating Facility, or of the implementation of the Material Modification to the existing Generating Facility shall not exceed seven (7) years from the date the Interconnection Request is received by the System Operator, unless ~~the Interconnection Customer~~Interconnection Customer demonstrates that such time required to actively engineer, permit and construct the new Small Generating Facility or increase in capacity of the existing Generating Facility or implement the Material Modification to the existing Generating Facility will take longer than the seven year period. Upon such demonstration, the Initial Synchronization Date may succeed the date the Interconnection Request is received by the System Operator by a period of greater than seven (7) years so long as ~~the Interconnection Customer~~Interconnection Customer, System Operator, and Interconnecting Transmission Owner agree, such agreement shall not be unreasonably withheld.

### **3.4.3 Acknowledgment of Interconnection Request.**

System Operator shall acknowledge receipt of the Interconnection Request within five (5) Business Days of receipt of the request and attach a copy of the received Interconnection Request to the acknowledgement.

### **3.4.4 Deficiencies in Interconnection Request.**

An Interconnection Request will not be considered to be a valid Interconnection Request until all items in Section 3.4.2 of this SGIP have been received by the System Operator **during the Cluster Request Window**. If an Interconnection Request fails to meet the requirements set forth in Section 3.4.2 of this SGIP, the System Operator shall notify ~~the Interconnection Customer~~Interconnection Customer within five (5) Business Days of receipt of the initial Interconnection Request of the reasons for such failure and that the Interconnection Request does not constitute a valid request. Interconnection Customer shall provide the System Operator the additional requested information needed to constitute a valid request

within ten (10) Business Days after receipt of such notice but no later than the close of the Cluster Request Window. In the event that Interconnection Customer fails to comply with this Section 3.4.4 of this LGIP, System Operator shall deem the Interconnection Request withdrawn (without the cure period provided under Section 3.7 of this SGIP), \$5,000 of the application fee is forfeited to System Operator, and any unspent portion of the application fee, and the study deposit, and Commercial Readiness Deposit shall be returned to Interconnection Customer.

### **3.4.5 Customer Engagement Window.**

Upon the close of each Cluster Request Window, System Operator shall open a sixty (60) Calendar Day period (Customer Engagement Window). During the Customer Engagement Window, System Operator shall hold a Scoping Meeting with all Interconnecting Transmission Owners, Interconnection Customers whose valid Interconnection Requests were received in that Cluster Request Window, and any identified Affected Parties, or Internal Affected Parties as deemed appropriate by the System Operator in accordance with applicable codes of conduct and confidentiality requirements. Notwithstanding the preceding requirements and upon written consent of all Interconnection Customers within the Cluster, System Operator may shorten the Customer Engagement Window and begin the Cluster Study. Within ten (10) Business Days of the opening of the Customer Engagement Window, System Operator shall post on its OASIS a list of Interconnection Requests for that Cluster. The list shall identify, for each anonymized Interconnection Request: (1) the requested amount of Interconnection Service; (2) the location by county and state; (3) the station or transmission line or lines where the interconnection will be made; (4) the projected In-Service Date; (5) the type of Interconnection Service requested; and (6) the type of Generating Facility or Facilities to be constructed, including fuel types, such as coal, natural gas, solar, or wind. The System Operator must ensure that project information is anonymized and does not reveal the identity or commercial information of Interconnection Customers with submitted requests. During the Customer Engagement Window, System Operator shall provide to Interconnection Customer a non-binding, updated good faith estimate of the cost and timeframe for completing the Cluster Study and a Cluster Study Agreement to be executed prior to the close of the Customer Engagement Window.

At the end of the Customer Engagement Window, all Interconnection Requests deemed valid that have executed a Cluster Study Agreement in the form of Appendix 2 to this SGIP shall be included in the Cluster Study. Any Interconnection Requests for which Interconnection Customer has not executed a Cluster Study Agreement not deemed valid at the close of the Customer Engagement Window shall be deemed withdrawn (without the cure period provided under Section 3.7 of this SGIP) by System