

Rule 024

Rules Respecting Micro-Generation

The Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC/Commission) has approved this rule on June 17, 2008.

Definitions

1 In these rules:

- (a) “Act” means the *Electric Utilities Act*;
- (b) “applicable owner” means the owner of an electric distribution system in whose service territory the relevant micro-generation unit and interconnection of that unit is located;
- (c) “Commission” means the Alberta Utilities Commission;
- (d) “customer” means a person purchasing electricity for the person’s own use;
- (e) “inverter” means an electronic device that converts DC electricity into AC electricity;
- (f) “mini micro-generator” means a micro-generation generating unit of a micro-generator which is using an inverter, or a technology which has been proven by an independent third party to act like an inverter, and has a generation capacity of no more than 10kW of electrical energy and is generating or proposing to generate electric energy solely for the customer’s own use;
- (g) “notice of application” means a notice provided by the customer to the applicable owner in accordance with section 2(1) of the regulation and in the form set out in Appendix A;
- (h) “notice of complaint” means a notice prepared by the customer and filed with the Commission in accordance with subsection 3(5) of the regulation and in the form set out as Appendix C;
- (i) “notice of dispute” means a notice prepared by the applicable owner and filed with the Commission in accordance with section 2(2) or section 4(3) of the regulation and in the form set out in Appendix B;
- (j) “owner” means the owner of an electric distribution system;
- (k) “regulation” means the *Micro-Generation Regulation, Alta. Reg. 27/2008*.

Hydro and Electric Energy Act Requirements

- 2 The customer must obtain approval from the Commission to construct and operate its proposed micro-generation generating unit pursuant to section 11 of the *Hydro and Electric Energy Act* unless the customer is proposing to generate within the meaning of section 13 of *Hydro and Electric Energy Act*. **see HEEA notes at the end of the document**
- 3 The customer may use the notice of application form as its application form for *Hydro and Electric Energy Act* approval.
- 4 Section 2 of the rules does not apply to a customer who intends to install a mini micro-generator.

Application to Supply Electric Energy

- 5 A customer who intends to supply electric energy to the interconnected electric system from a micro-generation generating unit shall complete a notice of application and shall serve the notice of application on the applicable owner.

Qualification as a Micro-Generation Generating Unit

- 6 If, following receipt of a complete notice of application from a customer, the applicable owner considers that the customer's proposed generating unit will not qualify as a micro-generation generating unit, the applicable owner shall complete a notice of dispute.
- 7 Within 14 days following receipt of a complete notice of application, a copy of the notice of dispute shall be served by the applicable owner on the customer at the contact address and in the manner indicated in the notice of application.
- 8 The notice of dispute shall be filed with the Commission by the applicable owner within 14 days following receipt of a complete notice of application. On receipt of the notice of dispute, the Commission shall, within 30 days or such long period as the Commission considers necessary issue its decision in accordance with the provisions of subsection 2 (3) of the regulation.

Costs of Interval Meter

- 9 If a customer has requested that a bi-directional interval meter be installed for its small micro-generation and the applicable owner declines the request, the applicable owner shall notify the customer of its decision within 14 days following receipt of this request.
- 10 The notice required under section 9 of these rules, declining the bi-directional interval meter request, shall be served on the customer at the contact address and in the

manner indicated in the notice of application, and shall indicate the contact address and manner in which the applicable owner may be served.

- 11** On receipt of a notice declining the bi-directional interval meter request, the customer may apply to the Commission for an order requiring the applicable owner to comply with the customer's request for the installation of a bi-directional interval meter by completing and filing with the Commission a notice of complaint.
- 12** The notice of complaint must be filed with the Commission within 14 days following receipt of the notice declining the bi-directional interval meter request.
- 13** A copy of the notice of complaint must be served by the customer on the applicable owner.

Extraordinary Interconnection Costs

- 14** Following receipt of a complete notice of application from a customer, if the applicable owner considers the costs of connecting a customer's micro-generation generating unit to be extraordinary for the reasons set out in subsection 4(3) of the regulation, the applicable owner shall file a notice of dispute with the Commission within 14 days from the date in which the applicable owner finalizes its cost estimate.
- 15** A copy of the notice of dispute shall be served on the customer, by the applicable owner, at the contact address and in the manner indicated in the notice of application within 14 days from the date in which the applicable owner finalizes its cost estimate.

General Provisions

- 16** With respect to any application or complaint filed with the Commission pursuant to the regulation or these rules, the Commission will determine the process it considers appropriate to follow given the subject matter before it.
- 17** AUC Rule 021, Settlement System Code, shall apply, as required, to all transactions conducted under the regulation.

HEEA: Approval of power plant

11 No person shall construct or operate a power plant unless the Board, by order, has approved the construction and operation of the power plant.

HEEA: Exemptions

13(1) Sections 9, 10 and 11 do not apply to a person generating or proposing to generate electric energy solely for the person's own use, unless the Board otherwise directs.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), a person generating or proposing to generate electric energy solely for the person's own use shall, if required by regulation to do so, immediately notify the Board of the use or proposed use and provide any details of the generation and use that the Board requires.