



Wholesale Distribution Independent Study and Cluster Study Interconnection Processes

Interconnecting Your Generating Facility with
PG&E's Electric Grid

Getting Started Guide

This Getting Started Guide explains how to apply for interconnection under the Independent Study or Cluster Study interconnection process. The information in this guide will be particularly helpful if you're a first-time applicant or would like a refresher on the application process. View an explanation of the differences between the [Independent Study and Cluster Study processes](#).

1 Choose your project site

You'll find important information about PG&E circuit names, the voltage of the electric facility nearest your project site, loading and more on our Photovoltaic Renewable Auction Mechanism map. This information can help you choose an appropriate project site. [View the map](#)

2 Contact your local building department

Contact your local city or county building or planning department to learn about the requirements for your project and secure any needed permits. [Find your local building department](#)

3 Get ready to apply for interconnection

Here's what you'll need to submit when you apply for interconnection:

- The online [Generator Interconnection Request application form](#).
- Proof of site control. If you do not already have legal control of your site through ownership or lease, you'll need to prove that you are legally entitled to develop generation capacity on the site. This proof can be in

- the form of an agreement between you (the generation developer) and the land owner. [See tariff for examples](#)
- Site plan. This is a plan of your proposed generating facility overlaid on a birds-eye-view image of the area, showing names of nearby streets. [See example](#)
 - Single-Line Diagram. This detailed drawing, to be completed by an electrical engineer, shows all electrical equipment and power lines from the generation source to the utility grid. [See example](#)

4 Choose Full-Capacity Delivery or Energy-Only Delivery

In section 3 of the Generator Interconnection Request form, you'll be asked to choose between Full-Capacity Delivery and Energy-Only Delivery:

- Select **Full-Capacity Delivery** if your generating facility will interconnect with PG&E's distribution system and will deliver its full output to the aggregate of load on the CAISO grid, consistent with the CAISO reliability criteria, procedures and On-Peak Deliverability Assessment. (View more information about [CAISO requirements](#).) Please also make sure to become familiar with the requirements of your Power Purchase Agreement for resource adequacy. If you are applying for Full-Capacity Delivery, you must commit to delivering at maximum power whenever possible. This requires a network-wide engineering analysis to mitigate any potential impact on transmission-level voltage facilities.
- Choose **Energy-Only Delivery** if your generating facility will interconnect to the PG&E distribution system but will not deliver its full output to the aggregate of load on the grid. In this case, you are responsible only for the costs of reliability network upgrades and not for the costs of delivery network upgrades. An Energy-Only project may deliver intermittently and be asked to shut down if electrical constraints occur.

5 Apply for interconnection

To make sure you're ready to complete your application, review

- The [Process Flow slides](#)
- [How to Complete the Generator Interconnection Request](#)
- The [Online Application Checklist](#)

When you're ready to apply, go to the online [Generator Interconnection Request application form](#).

Once PG&E receives your application package, we will request a wire transfer of \$50,000, plus \$1,000 per megawatt up to \$250,000, to cover our technical study and assessment of your project.

6 Meet with PG&E to discuss your proposed project

After we receive your completed application package and applicable fees, you will be invited to meet with PG&E to discuss the scope of your project. During your scoping meeting, you and representatives from PG&E's Generation Interconnection Services will:

- Discuss the PG&E engineering team's initial assessment of the impact of and minimum requirements for establishing an electrical connection between your installation and our distribution system
- Set expectations for how long it will take PG&E to study and fully assess the impact and requirements described above
- Give you an overview of the study process and key milestones

7 PG&E performs various studies

These studies identify the facilities and equipment that will be required to interconnect your generating facility with our distribution system and our determination of the cost thereof. They also include an engineering evaluation of the impact of your proposed interconnection on the safety and reliability of our distribution system. Once the studies are completed, we prepare a draft of your interconnection agreement and forward it to you for negotiation and signature. After the agreement is signed, the installation completed and the required testing conducted, we'll issue your Permission to Operate.

8 Apply for a Power Purchase Agreement

PG&E purchases wholesale electric energy and capacity from generators and suppliers. Learn more about [Power Purchase Agreements](#). If you would like to receive notification of PG&E's Request for Offers (RFOs) and related information, complete and return the [RFO Distribution List form](#).

★NEW★ SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION ONLINE!

[Go to application instructions and checklist](#)

[Go to online application](#)

PG&E is here to help

If you have questions about the distribution interconnection process and its rules, PG&E is here to help. Our Wholesale Generation Interconnection Services team can help you ensure a successful project and a safe, reliable interconnection to the grid. For assistance, please email wholesalegen@pge.com.