**Summary of Maryland’s Small Generator Interconnection Process**

Distribution Utility Interconnection refers to when a customer is proposing to install a small generator facility and requests to connect the facility and operate in parallel with a utility’s electric distribution system. A small generator facility is used to generate or store electricity on the electric distribution system (i.e. a solar array, or battery storage system). In order to interconnect, the facility should work with the electric utility, the Public Service Commission and local authorities, and must follow the steps and guidelines outlined below related to interconnection agreements.

1. A small generator facility seeking interconnection must first be able to provide specific details and specifications about the facility to be installed. The facility should also be able to satisfy the following baseline requirements before submitting an interconnection request:
2. The facility is not subject to the interconnection requirements of PJM.
3. The facility is specifically designed to operate in parallel with the distribution system.
4. If a generator satisfies the pre-requisites in Step 1, the applicant then submits an official interconnection request to the utility using each individual utility’s interconnection web portal. The facility will also pay the appropriate interconnection request fee dependent on the level of interconnection request in utility tariff filings approved by the Public Service Commission. Level 1 interconnection requests have no interconnection request fees. There are four types of interconnection requests: Level 1, 2, 3, and 4.

* **Level 1 Interconnection Request -** An expedited review for facilities that request to connect an inverter-based small generator facility when the small generator facility, or multiple small generator facilities interconnecting has a nameplate capacity of 20kW or less.

* **Level 2 Interconnection Request -** For facilities that submit an interconnection request when the small generation facility, or multiple small generator facilities interconnecting has a nameplate capacity 2 MW or less, or the small generator facility was reviewed under Level 1 review procedures but not approved.
* **Level 3 Interconnection Request –** For facilities that submit an interconnection request and the facility’s electric power is not exported to the electric distribution system.
* **Level 4 Interconnection Request –** For facilities that submit an interconnection request and the request cannot be approved under a Level 1, Level 2, or Level 3 review.

1. The utility will review the interconnection request and perform a study, if needed. If electric grid upgrades are required to facilitate the approval of the interconnection request, the utility will provide a cost estimate to the facility for the required grid upgrades, and the facility will be requested to pay for these costs.
2. If the applicant agrees to continue with the interconnection project after the utility review and cost estimate, if applicable, the utility and applicant will enter into an interconnection agreement which is tendered by the utility to the applicant using a standard utility form for each level. This agreement can include modifications required for the particular facility interconnection. When the applicant submits the interconnection agreement form to the utility, there is additional documentation needed from the applicant which can include: rebate forms, permit applications, inspection forms, etc. The additional documentation required is detailed in the interconnection agreement for each utility.
3. The utility will review the completed interconnection agreement form and documentation submitted by the facility to ensure completion. After the utility’s review, the utility will either deny or grant the facility an approval to install.
4. If approved by the utility, the facility can begin construction and installation of the proposed facility.
5. After the facility has been successfully installed and inspected, the facility will submit to the utility a certificate of completion and a certificate of inspection.
6. If the utility certifies installation and inspection of the facility, the utility will install the correct meter equipment for the facility.
7. Finally, once the meter equipment is successfully installed, the utility will provide a letter authorizing commencement of the facility’s operation.

If a dispute arises at any point of the interconnection process, a party may seek immediate resolution through complaint procedures available through the Commission.