

EASTERN ILLINI ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

REGULATION NO. 26A

SUBJECT:

Interconnection of and Service to Qualifying Facilities under Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act (PURPA)

OBJECTIVE:

To provide, through joint integrated implementation with Prairie Power, Inc. (PPI) and other Members of PPI, for interconnection of and service to a Qualifying Facility located in the Eastern Illini Electric Cooperative's (Cooperative) service territory under the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act, consistent with the Waiver previously approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). This regulation is complementary to PPI Policy #509, dated October 16, 2019, and any revisions incorporated thereafter.

DEFINITIONS:

“PURPA” means Sections 201 and 210 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act codified at 16 U.S. Code §796 and §824a-3, as it has been or may hereafter be amended, together with all rules or regulations promulgated thereunder as they relate to Qualifying Facilities (e.g., Code of Federal Regulations, Title 18, Part 292).

“Qualifying Facility” or “QF” means a cogeneration facility or a small power production facility that meets the operational, efficiency, ownership and other standards set forth in PURPA and that has been certified by FERC as a qualifying facility.

“cogeneration facility” means a facility that produces electric energy and steam or forms of useful energy (such as heat) which are used for industrial, commercial, heating, or cooling purposes, but not including an electric generator that produces only an inconsequential amount of useful thermal energy.

“small power production facility” means a facility that produces electric energy using biomass, waste, renewable resources, including wind, solar energy and water, or which together with other facilities at the same site have a generating capacity equal to or less than 80 megawatts.

“Waiver” means the waiver of the Cooperative's obligation to purchase electricity from a QF and the waiver of the PPI's obligation to provide supplementary, back-up, maintenance, and interruptible power to a QF as approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) in the Order Granting Petition for Waiver, dated February 5, 1990, in FERC Docket No. IR-168-001.

“Prairie Power, Inc.” or “PPI” means Prairie Power, Inc., an Illinois not-for-profit corporation, or its successors in interest, which is an electric generation and transmission

cooperative of which the Cooperative is a Member, and from which, by contract, the Cooperative obtains its wholesale supply of electricity.

“Interconnector” means a member Member of the Cooperative that chooses to own, interconnect, and operate a Qualifying Facility in the Cooperative’s service territory, whether connected directly to the Cooperative’s electric distribution system or PPI’s electric transmission system.

“Nameplate Rating” means the maximum alternating current electric energy production capability of a generator, deliverable to the effective metering point.

“avoided costs” means the incremental costs to PPI of electric energy or capacity or both which, but for the purchase from the eligible renewable electrical facility, the Cooperative would generate itself or purchase from another source, averaged over the billing period.

“Generator Interconnection Agreement” or **“GIA”** means an agreement and any associated procedures and processes governing the design, engineering, materials procurement, facility upgrades, construction, installation, ownership, safe and reliable operation, maintenance, protection, metering, costs and cost recovery, and any other matters related to the interconnection of an electric generation facility to the electric distribution or transmission system consistent with industry standards.

REGULATION:

This regulation applies to Interconnectors who choose to own, interconnect, and operate a Qualifying Facility in the Cooperative’s service territory, whether to the Cooperative’s electric distribution system or PPI’s electric transmission system.

This regulation does not apply to the delivery of electric energy by a Member to the Cooperative from an eligible renewable electric generation facility (EREGF) where the Member has been approved to deliver such electric energy under the Cooperative’s Regulation No. 26 - Net Metering and Cooperative Purchase of Excess Member Owned Generation Capacity.

EVIDENCE OF QUALIFICATION:

The Qualifying Facility is required to provide the Cooperative evidence of status of the existing or proposed facility, demonstrated in accordance with the provisions of PURPA and the requirement to concurrently serve a copy of any filing on the electric utility with which the QF expects to interconnect, transmit or sell electric energy to, or purchase supplementary, standby, back-up or maintenance power from. Required evidence should consist of either:

- A. Self-certification by the Interconnector, or its representative, by properly completing Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Form No. 556 and – if required - filing that form with FERC; or
- B. In lieu of self-certification, the Interconnector, or its representative may obtain FERC certification that the facility is a Qualifying Facility.

PROVISIONS:

A. Consistent with the Waiver:

- a. The Cooperative and PPI agree to interconnect with any QF requesting interconnection;
- b. The Cooperative shall make available to the QF, upon request, supplementary, back-up, maintenance, and interruptible power at rates that are nondiscriminatory, just and reasonable, and in the public interest;
- c. PPI maintains the obligation to purchase power from a QF which the Cooperative would otherwise be required to purchase. The QF will not be subject to duplicate interconnection charges or additional fees as a result of PPI's purchase of power; and,
- d. A QF interconnecting directly to the Cooperative's electric distribution system will not be subject to charges for wheeling power to PPI across such distribution lines.

B. Interconnection:

- a. The Interconnector must be or become a Member of the Cooperative.
- b. If a QF of any Nameplate Capacity is to be interconnected with the Cooperative's electric system, the Interconnector and the QF shall at all times comply with the provisions, obligations, and requirements of the Cooperative's Regulation No. 27 (Interconnection and Parallel Operation of Distributed Generation).
- c. If the QF has a Nameplate Capacity of more than 100 kilowatts and is to be interconnected with the Cooperative's electric system, the Cooperative shall facilitate communications between the Interconnector and PPI to enable the Interconnector to enter into an additional interconnection agreement with PPI.
- d. If a QF of any Nameplate Capacity is to be interconnected with PPI's electric system, the Cooperative shall facilitate communications between the Interconnector and PPI.

- e. With any interconnection, system impacts to the Cooperative's electric system, PPI's electric system, and other electric systems or facilities will be considered. The results of such system impact studies may cause the Interconnector to become subject to additional requirements and costs.

C. Purchases from the Qualifying Facility

- a. PPI and/or the Cooperative may assess a monthly service and administration charge, and a monthly operation and maintenance charge to the Interconnector, as set forth in the applicable interconnection agreement.
- b. The purchase of electric energy and electric capacity (if any) from the Interconnector, or its representative, shall be:
 - i. limited to those who have executed an agreement (Service Contract) with PPI;
 - ii. made in accordance with PPI's Policy #509, which may be amended from time to time, and shall be made available by the Cooperative upon request; and
 - iii. in relation to the Interconnector's option provided herein, based on the avoided cost of the PPI system calculated at the time of delivery, unless paid pursuant to a legally enforceable obligation for the delivery of energy or capacity as provided for in PURPA, federal regulation 18 CFR 292.304(d).
- c. In the absence of alternative payment arrangements between PPI and the Interconnector, or its representative, compensation for the delivery of electric energy and capacity from the QF will be, at the Interconnector's sole option, either:
 - i. Standard QF: Payment of avoided cost, coupled with an assessment for monthly metering service, administration, operation, and maintenance charges by PPI; or,
 - ii. Waived QF: No payment of avoided cost, nor an assessment of monthly metering service, administration, operation, and maintenance charges by PPI; available only to QFs with a Nameplate Capacity of 100 kilowatts or less.
- d. Any service, administration, operation, and maintenance charges levied by PPI shall be the direct responsibility of the Interconnector.

D. Provision of Service to the Qualifying Facility

- a. The Cooperative will make available electrical service throughout its service territory in the form of supplementary, back-up, maintenance or interruptible power at the rate(s) applicable to the Interconnector, or its representative.
- b. The Interconnector, or its representative, may be subject to the provisions, obligations, and requirements of the Cooperative's regulation on Line Extension to the extent facilities are not adequate or available at the location of the Qualifying Facility interconnection.

Adopted: 09/26/17
Amended: 02/26/19
Amended: 05/26/20