



Solar*Rewards Community
Overview of Pre-Application Step: Interconnection Process Training

Last Updated on 6.5.2020

Disclaimer

This PPT Manual is frequently revised.

Please use the web version **only**,
To ensure the most up-to-date information.

Looking for a specific page or step? Try searching for keywords using Ctrl + F

Pre-Application Process

- Snap-shot of estimated site capacity before formally applying
- Check first:
 - Map of MN Service Territories
 - Interactive Hosting Capacity Map
- \$300 Processing Fee
- This process is done 100% on the portal
 - No physical or PDF documents need to be mailed nor emailed in
 - Payments are made online via the e-Pay portal
- Results will be provided in 15 business days

Pre-Application Disclaimer

** The capacity screen data only includes existing data. A request for a capacity screen does not obligate Xcel Energy to conduct a study or other analysis of the proposed DER in the event that data is not readily available. If Xcel Energy cannot complete all or some of a capacity screen report due to lack of available data, Xcel Energy will provide the Interconnection Customer with a capacity screen report that includes the data that is available. The provision of information on "available capacity" **does not imply** that an interconnection up to this level may be completed without impacts since there are many variables studied as part of the interconnection review process. The distribution system is dynamic and **subject to change**, and data provided in the capacity screen report may become outdated at the time of the submission of the complete Interconnection Application. Xcel Energy will, in good faith, include data in the capacity screen that represents the best available information at the time of reporting.*

Pre-Application Process

Application **Pre-Application Report Request**

Pre-Application Report Request Form

Requests for an Interconnection Pre-Application Report shall include the information identified in Sections 1.4.1.1 through 1.4.1.8 of the Minnesota Distributed Energy Resource Interconnection Process (MN DIP) (and as provided in the fields below) to clearly and sufficiently identify the location of the proposed Point of Common Coupling and relevant project details.

Additionally, a non-refundable processing fee of \$300 is required as specified in Section 1.4.1 of the MN DIP.

Upon receipt of a complete Request Form (including site map) and processing fee, the Area EPS Operator shall provide a report containing as much of the data described in Section 1.4.2 as is pre-existing and available within 15 business days. A Pre-Application Report request does not obligate the Area EPS Operator to conduct a study or other analysis of the proposed project if data is not available.

Click "NEXT" to start the Pre-Application Report Request Form.

Next

- Pre-Applications can be found on the homepage next to the Application tab

Pre-Application Process

First Pre-App Screen

Requestor Contact Information

*Required

*Name

Company Name (if applicable)

* Street Address

*City

* State

* Zip Code

* Phone Number

* Email Address

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Second Pre-App Screen

Project Information

*Required

* Project Name

* DER Nameplate Rating (kW)

* DER Type

* DER Number of Phases ⓘ

* Service Voltage ⓘ

* Stand-alone Generator (no onsite load)?

* Existing DER? ⓘ

Back **Next**

Pre-Application Process



Click *Complete Pre-Application* to move into the Widget and see your required Action Items

Case #: [REDACTED]
Status: Pre-Application
Step: Draft
Sub-Step:
App Owner: Sign Pre-Application Report request form and upload site map.

[Finalize](#)

[Actions](#) [Finalized Actions](#) [Milestones](#) [Completed Milestones](#)

ACTION NAME	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	REQUIRED?	ACTION
Pre-Application Fee	Please pay the Application Fee through online payment to advance your application to the next step.	Open	Applicant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Action
Pre-Application Report Request eSign	Please check your email and sign all required eSignature documents to advance your application to the next step.	Open	Applicant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Action
Site Map	Please provide a site map that includes true north, proposed project location (including general area of project), proposed service point location, and major roads, streets and/or highways.	Open	Applicant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Action

Please see Milestones tab for deadline.

- Once your Action Items are complete, they will move from Open to Draft status.
- Then click Finalize to submit the Pre-Application (can't be submitted without finalizing)

Pre-Application Process

- In the portal you will see your Pre-application is now in Review
- All notifications will be sent to the email previously input
- Results will live and be accessible in the portal

Case #: [REDACTED]
Status: Pre-Application
Step: In Review
Sub-Step:
App Owner: Your Pre-Application Report is being generated. Xcel Energy: Create Pre-Application Report.

[Actions](#) Finalized Actions Milestones Completed Milestones

ACTION NAME	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	REQUIRED?	ACTION
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Please see Milestones tab for deadline.

Pre-Application Details

- Pre-Applications are indicative, and not a comprehensive study-ready view of a substation.
 - To offer that type of thorough investigation would not be possible in the 15-day timeline and at the \$300 cost for Pre-Applications.
- Pre-Applications are not typically be able to discern any feeder level upgrades or capacity due to voltage rise
 - This type of limitation is not something that shows up in a Pre-Application.
- Missed generation on a Pre-Application does occur from time to time, and we have communicated with the workgroup and developers as to the level of rigor and completeness to expect.

Pre-Application Details

- As a matter of program practice, non-comprehensive Pre-Applications are not grounds for a refund of your Interconnection Study costs. Interconnection studies are tied to a specific application, Pre-Applications are a more general view and are not tied to a specific application.
 - This complicates the idea of notification during the study process if additional generation is discovered.
- We have worked to investigate industry practices, and the level of accuracy and detail we provide in our Pre-Applications is in line with industry norms.
- The level of accuracy and detail provided by Pre-Applications has been thoroughly discussed and explored through the workshops creating the Minnesota Distributed Energy Resources Interconnection Process, which was approved by the MN PUC on April 19, 2019, and took effect June, 2019.

