Requirements for Line Side Interconnections for Distributed Generation

SUMMARY

This bulletin describes requirements for any line side interconnections performed on 0-600 Volt meter panels and switchboards for Distributed Generation (DG) customers. Any type of modification made to metering equipment that interconnects a customer generation source ahead of the main service disconnect is considered a line side or supply side interconnection.

Level of Use: Informational Use

AFFECTED DOCUMENT

N/A

TARGET AUDIENCE

PG&E customers that are interconnecting an approved generation system under the Rule 21 tariff and PG&E employees who perform customer contact and electric field work.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

General Requirements

PG&E’s preferred interconnection for distributed generation interconnections is on the load side of the panel, after the service main disconnect. This interconnection is described in National Electrical Code (NEC) 705.

For line side interconnections the following requirements apply.

1. A variance request must be submitted to the PG&E Electric Generation Interconnection department for review by Electric Metering Engineering and Electric Distribution Standards departments.

2. The interconnection must be between the PGE meter and main breaker in the customer section of the equipment and not in the PG&E, termination, metering, or other sealed compartment or section.

3. Generation conduit and conductors must not be routed through any PGE sealed sections for the purpose of interconnection.

4. A fused AC disconnect switch must be installed within 10 feet and line of sight to the PGE meter. The fused AC disconnect switch must all meet all of the PG&E requirements as described in Numbered Document 060559, Disconnect Switch Requirements For Distributed Generation Customers.

5. The Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) must sign off and approve the line (supply) side interconnection and fused AC disconnect before PG&E will re-energize. PG&E also recommends the interconnection proposal and single line diagrams are pre-approved by their AHJ.
6. The Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) must sign off the building permit for the generation system before PG&E will give the final approval to operate.

7. Residential “solar ready” service panels designed with an alternative energy (customer generation) interconnection circuit breaker on the line side of the main breaker is allowable. “Solar ready” panels must be EUSERC approved and have factory installed labels showing location and ratings of the generation source.

8. New pad-mounted (floor-standing) switchboards must have a separate compartment / section for line side connections.

Specific Requirements

1. For line side interconnection requests, developers must submit the following to EGI for review:

   a. Single line diagram

   b. Detailed drawings and pictures showing the point of interconnection

      i. Drawings must provide specific details on where in the compartment section and how the interconnection will be made.

      ii. Pictures must show the whole service panel and marked-up where the interconnection will be.

2. Figures 1-3 below distinguishes separation between PG&E’s and the customer’s section and also the designated line side interconnection locations.

![Figure 1. Typical Wall-Mounted Meter Panel](image-url)
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Figure 2. Switchboard with Metering Section Above the Main Breaker Section

Figure 3. Switchboard with Metering Section Above the Termination Section
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DOCUMENT APPROVER

Alex Yan, Meter Engineering Supervisor

DOCUMENT CONTACT

Albert Pham, Senior Meter Engineer, 415-973-6412

INCLUSION PLAN

This Bulletin will reside on PG&E’s Technical Information Library and will be in effect until cancelled or incorporated by another document.

The information in the Bulletin will be included into the Electric and Gas Service Requirements (Greenbook) Manual.