

Interconnection System Impact Study Agreement

THIS AGREEMENT is made and entered into this ____ day of _____ 20__ by and between _____, a _____ organized and existing under the laws of the State of _____, ("Interconnection Customer,") and ISO New England Inc., a non-stock corporation existing under the laws of the State of Delaware ("System Operator"), and _____, a _____ existing under the laws of the State of _____, ("Interconnecting Transmission Owner"). Interconnection Customer, System Operator and Interconnecting Transmission Owner each may be referred to as a "Party," or collectively as the "Parties."

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the Interconnection Customer is proposing to develop a Small Generating Facility or generating capacity addition to an existing Small Generating Facility consistent with the Interconnection Request completed by the Interconnection Customer on _____; and

WHEREAS, the Interconnection Customer desires to interconnect the Small Generating Facility with the Administered Transmission System;

WHEREAS, the System Operator and Interconnecting Transmission Owner have completed an Interconnection Feasibility Study and provided the results of said study to the Interconnection Customer (This recital to be omitted if the Parties have agreed to forego the Interconnection Feasibility Study.); and

WHEREAS, the Interconnection Customer has requested the System Operator and Interconnecting Transmission Owner to perform an Interconnection System Impact Study(s) to assess the impact of interconnecting the Small Generating Facility with the facilities that are part of the Interconnecting Transmission Owner’s Administered Transmission System, and of any Affected Systems;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of and subject to the mutual covenants contained herein the Parties agreed as follows:

- 1.0 When used in this Agreement, with initial capitalization, the terms specified shall have the meanings indicated or the meanings specified in the standard Small Generator Interconnection Procedures.
- 2.0 The Interconnection Customer elects and the System Operator and Interconnecting Transmission Owner shall cause to be performed an Interconnection System Impact

Study(s) consistent with the standard Small Generator Interconnection Procedures in accordance with the Open Access Transmission Tariff.

- 3.0 The scope of an Interconnection System Impact Study shall be subject to the assumptions set forth in Attachment A to this Agreement.
- 4.0 An Interconnection System Impact Study will be based upon the results of the Interconnection Feasibility Study and the technical information provided by Interconnection Customer in the Interconnection Request. The System Operator and Interconnecting Transmission Owner reserve the right to request additional technical information from the Interconnection Customer as may reasonably become necessary consistent with Good Utility Practice during the course of the Interconnection System Impact Study. If the Interconnection Customer modifies its designated Point of Interconnection, Interconnection Request, or the technical information provided therein is modified, the time to complete the Interconnection System Impact Study may be extended.
- 5.0 An Interconnection System Impact Study shall consist of a short circuit analysis, a stability analysis, a power flow analysis, voltage drop and flicker studies, protection and set point coordination studies, and grounding reviews, as necessary. An Interconnection System Impact Study shall state the assumptions upon which it is based, state the results of the analyses, and provide the requirement or potential impediments to providing the requested interconnection service, including a preliminary indication of the cost and length of time that would be necessary to correct any problems identified in those analyses and implement the interconnection. An Interconnection System Impact Study shall provide a list of facilities that are required as a result of the Interconnection Request and non-binding good faith estimates of cost responsibility and time to construct.
- 6.0 A distribution Interconnection System Impact Study shall incorporate a distribution load flow study, an analysis of equipment interrupting ratings, protection coordination study, voltage drop and flicker studies, protection and set point coordination studies, grounding reviews, and the impact on electric system operation, as necessary.
- 7.0 Affected Systems may participate in the preparation of an Interconnection System Impact Study, with a division of costs among such entities as they may agree. All Affected Systems shall be afforded an opportunity to review and comment upon an Interconnection System Impact Study that covers potential adverse system impacts on their electric systems, and the System Operator and Interconnecting Transmission Owner have 20 additional Business Days to complete an Interconnection System Impact Study requiring review by Affected Systems.
- 8.0 If the System Operator uses a queuing procedure for sorting or prioritizing projects and their associated cost responsibilities for any required Network Upgrades, the Interconnection System Impact Study shall consider all generating facilities (and with respect to paragraph 8.3 below, any identified Upgrades associated with such higher

queued interconnection) that, on the date the Interconnection System Impact Study is commenced.

- 8.1 Are directly interconnected with the Administered Transmission System;
or
 - 8.2 Are interconnected with Affected Systems and may have an impact on the proposed interconnection; and
 - 8.3 Have a pending higher queued Interconnection Request to interconnect with the Administered Transmission System.
- 9.0 A distribution Interconnection System Impact Study, if required, shall be completed and the results transmitted to the Interconnection Customer within 30 Business Days after this Agreement is signed by the Parties. A transmission Interconnection System Impact Study, if required, shall be completed and the results transmitted to the Interconnection Customer within 45 Business Days after this Agreement is signed by the Parties.
- 10.0 A deposit of the equivalent of the good faith estimated cost of a distribution Interconnection System Impact Study shall be paid to the System Operator by the Interconnection Customer; and the one half the good faith estimated cost of a transmission Interconnection System Impact Study shall be paid to the System Operator by the Interconnection Customer.
- 11.0 Any study fees shall be based on the System Operator's and Interconnecting Transmission Owner's actual costs, including the cost of developing the study agreement and its attachment(s) and the costs of developing the Interconnection Agreement and its attachments, and will be invoiced to the Interconnection Customer after the study is completed and delivered and will include a summary of professional time.
- 12.0 The Interconnection Customer must pay any study costs that exceed the deposit without interest within 30 calendar days on receipt of the invoice or resolution of any dispute. If the deposit exceeds the invoiced fees, the System Operator or Interconnecting Transmission Owner, as applicable, shall refund such excess within 30 calendar days of the invoice without interest.
- 13.0 Miscellaneous.
- 13.1 Accuracy of Information. Except as a Party ("Providing Party") may otherwise specify in writing when it provides information to the other Parties under this Agreement, the Providing Party represents and warrants that, to the best of its knowledge, the information it provides to the other Parties shall be accurate and complete as of the date the information is provided. The Providing Party shall promptly provide the other Parties with any additional information needed to update information previously provided.

13.2 Disclaimer of Warranty. In preparing and/or participating in the Interconnection System Impact Study, as applicable, each Party and any subcontractor consultants employed by it shall have to rely on information provided by the Providing Party, and possibly by third parties, and may not have control over the accuracy of such information. Accordingly, beyond the commitment to use Reasonable Efforts in preparing and/or participating in the Interconnection System Impact Study (including, but not limited to, exercise of Good Utility Practice in verifying the accuracy of information provided for or used in the Interconnection System Impact Study), as applicable, no Party nor any subcontractor consultant employed by it makes any warranties, express or implied, whether arising by operation of law, course of performance or dealing, custom, usage in the trade or profession, or otherwise, including without limitation implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose, with regard to the accuracy of the information considered in conducting the Interconnection System Impact Study, the content of the Interconnection System Impact Study, or the conclusions of the Interconnection System Impact Study. Interconnection Customer acknowledges that it has not relied on any representations or warranties not specifically set forth herein and that no such representations or warranties have formed the basis of its bargain hereunder.

13.3 Force Majeure, Liability and Indemnification.

13.3.1 Force Majeure. Neither System Operator, Interconnecting Transmission Owner nor an Interconnection Customer will be considered in default as to any obligation under this Agreement if prevented from fulfilling the obligation due to an event of Force Majeure; provided that no event of Force Majeure affecting any entity shall excuse that entity from making any payment that it is obligated to make hereunder. However, an entity whose performance under this Agreement is hindered by an event of Force Majeure shall make all Reasonable Efforts to perform its obligations under this Agreement, and shall promptly notify the System Operator, the Interconnecting Transmission Owner or the Interconnection Customer, whichever is appropriate, of the commencement and end of each event of Force Majeure.

13.3.2 Liability. System Operator shall not be liable for money damages or other compensation to the Interconnection Customer for action or omissions by System Operator in performing its obligations under this Agreement, except to the extent such act or omission by System Operator is found to result from its gross negligence or willful misconduct. Interconnecting Transmission Owner shall not be liable for money damages or other compensation to the Interconnection Customer for action or omissions by Interconnecting Transmission Owner in performing its obligations under this Agreement, except to the extent such act or omission by Interconnecting Transmission Owner is found to result from its gross negligence or willful misconduct. To the extent the Interconnection Customer has claims against System Operator or Interconnecting

Transmission Owner, the Interconnection Customer may only look to the assets of System Operator or Interconnecting Transmission Owner (as the case may be) for the enforcement of such claims and may not seek to enforce any claims against the directors, members, shareholders, officers, employees or agents of System Operator or Interconnecting Transmission Owner or Affiliate of either who, the Interconnection Customer acknowledges and agrees, have no personal or other liability for obligations of System Operator or Interconnecting Transmission Owner by reason of their status as directors, members, shareholders, officers, employees or agents of System Operator or Interconnecting Transmission Owner or Affiliate of either. In no event shall System Operator, Interconnecting Transmission Owner or Interconnection Customer be liable for any incidental, consequential, multiple or punitive damages, loss of revenues or profits, attorneys fees or costs arising out of, or connected in any way with the performance or non-performance under this Agreement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing in this section shall diminish an Interconnection Customer's obligations under the Indemnification section below.

13.3.3 Indemnification. Interconnection Customer shall at all times indemnify, defend, and save harmless System Operator and the Interconnecting Transmission Owner and their respective directors, officers, members, employees and agents from any and all damages, losses, claims and liabilities ("Losses") by or to third parties arising out of or resulting from the performance by System Operator or Interconnecting Transmission Owner under this Agreement, any bankruptcy filings made by the Interconnection Customer, or the actions or omissions of the Interconnection Customer in connection with this Agreement, except in the case of System Operator, to the extent such Losses arise from the gross negligence or willful misconduct by System Operator or its directors, officers, members, employees or agents, and, in the case of Interconnecting Transmission Owner, to the extent such Losses arise from the gross negligence or willful misconduct by Interconnecting Transmission Owner or its directors, officers, members, employees or agents. The amount of any indemnity payment hereunder shall be reduced (including, without limitation, retroactively) by any insurance proceeds or other amounts actually recovered by the indemnified party in respect of the indemnified action, claim, demand, cost, damage or liability. The obligations of Interconnection Customer to indemnify System Operator and Interconnecting Transmission Owner shall be several, and not joint or joint and several. The liability provisions of the Transmission Operating Agreement ("TOA") or other applicable operating agreements shall apply to the relationship between the System Operator and the Interconnecting Transmission Owner.

13.4 Third-Party Beneficiaries. This Agreement is not intended to and does not create rights, remedies, or benefits of any character whatsoever in favor of any persons,

corporations, associations, or entities other than the Parties, and the obligations herein assumed are solely for the use and benefit of the Parties, their successors in interest and where permitted, their assigns. Notwithstanding the foregoing, and without limitation of Sections 13.2 and 13.3 of this Agreement, the Parties agree that subcontractor consultants hired by them to conduct, participate in, or review, or to assist in the conducting, participating in, or reviewing of, an Interconnection System Impact Study shall not be deemed third party beneficiaries of Sections 13.2 and 13.3.

- 13.5 Term and Termination. This Agreement shall be effective from the date hereof and unless earlier terminated in accordance with this Section 13.5, shall continue in effect for a term of one year or until the Interconnection System Impact Study is completed. This Agreement shall automatically terminate upon the withdrawal of Interconnection Request under Section 1.8 of the SGIP. The System Operator or the Interconnecting Transmission Owner may terminate this Agreement fifteen (15) days after providing written notice to the Interconnection Customer that it has breached one of its obligations hereunder, if the breach has not been cured within such fifteen (15) day period.
- 13.6 Governing Law, Regulatory Authority, and Rules. The validity, interpretation and enforcement of this Agreement and each of its provisions shall be governed by the laws of the state of _____ (where the Point of Interconnection is located), without regard to its conflicts of law principles. This Agreement is subject to all Applicable Laws and Regulations. Each Party expressly reserves the right to seek changes in, appeal, or otherwise contest any laws, orders, or regulations of a Governmental Authority.
- 13.7 Severability. If any provision or portion of this Agreement shall for any reason be held or adjudged to be invalid or illegal or unenforceable by any court of competent jurisdiction or other Governmental Authority: (1) such portion or provision shall be deemed separate and independent; (2) the Parties shall negotiate in good faith to restore insofar as practicable the benefits to each Party that were affected by such ruling; and (3) the remainder of this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.
- 13.8 Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in counterparts, and each counterpart shall have the same force and effect as the original instrument.
- 13.9 Amendment. No amendment, modification or waiver of any term hereof shall be effective unless set forth in writing and signed by the Parties hereto.
- 13.10 Survival. All warranties, limitations of liability and confidentiality provisions provided herein shall survive the expiration or termination hereof.
- 13.11 No Partnership. This Agreement shall not be interpreted or construed to create an association, joint venture, agency relationship, or partnership between the Parties or to impose any partnership obligation or partnership liability upon either Party. Neither Party shall have any right, power or authority to enter into any agreement or undertaking for, or act on behalf of, or to act as or be an agent or representative of, or to otherwise bind, the other Party.

- 13.12 No Implied Waivers. The failure of a Party to insist upon or enforce strict performance of any of the provisions of this Agreement shall not be construed as a waiver or relinquishment to any extent of such Party's right to insist or rely on any such provision, rights and remedies in that or any other instance; rather, the same shall be and remain in full force and effect. Any waiver at any time by any Party of its rights with respect to this Agreement shall not be deemed a continuing waiver or a waiver with respect to any other failure to comply with any other obligation, right, duty of this Agreement. Termination or default of this Agreement for any reason by Interconnection Customer shall not constitute a waiver of the Interconnection Customer's legal rights to obtain an interconnection from the System Operator and the Interconnecting Transmission Owner. Any waiver of this Agreement shall, if requested, be provided in writing.
- 13.13 Successors and Assigns. This Agreement may not be assigned, by operation of law or otherwise, without the prior written consent of the other Parties hereto, such consent not to be unreasonably withheld. Notwithstanding the foregoing, this Agreement, and each and every term and condition hereof, shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the Parties hereto and their respective successors and assigns, to the extent the same are authorized hereunder.
- 13.14 Due Authorization. Each Party to this Agreement represents and warrants that it has full power and authority to enter into this Agreement and to perform its obligations hereunder, that execution of this Agreement will not violate any other agreement with a third party, and that the person signing this Agreement on its behalf has been properly authorized and empowered to enter into this Agreement.
- 13.15 Subcontractors. Nothing in this Agreement shall prevent a Party from utilizing the services of any subcontractor as it deems appropriate to perform its obligations under this Agreement; provided, however, that each Party shall require its subcontractors to comply with all applicable terms and conditions of this Agreement in providing such services and each Party shall remain primarily liable to the other Parties for the performance of such subcontractor.
- 13.15.1 The creation of any subcontract relationship shall not relieve the hiring Party of any of its obligations under this Agreement. The hiring Party shall be fully responsible to the other Parties for the acts or omissions of any subcontractor the hiring Party hires as if no subcontract had been made; provided, however, that in no event shall the System Operator or Interconnecting Transmission Owner be liable for the actions or inactions of the Interconnection Customer or its subcontractors with respect to obligations of the Interconnection Customer under this Agreement. Any applicable obligation imposed by this Agreement upon the hiring Party shall be equally binding upon, and shall be construed as having application to, any subcontractor of such Party.
- 13.15.2 The obligations under this article will not be limited in any way by any limitation of subcontractor's insurance.

13.16 Reservation of Rights. Subject to the TO Agreement, the System Operator and the Interconnecting Transmission Owner shall have the right to make a unilateral filing with FERC to modify this Agreement with respect to any rates, terms and conditions, charges, classifications of service, rule or regulation under section 205 or any other applicable provision of the Federal Power Act and FERC's rules and regulations thereunder, and the Interconnection Customer shall have the right to make a unilateral filing with FERC to modify this Agreement under any applicable provision of the Federal Power Act and FERC's rules and regulations; provided that each Party shall have the right to protest any such filing by the other Party and to participate fully in any proceeding before FERC in which such modifications may be considered. Nothing in this Agreement shall limit the rights of the Parties or of FERC under sections 205 or 206 of the Federal Power Act and FERC's rules and regulations, except to the extent that the Parties otherwise agree as provided herein.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, the Parties have caused this Agreement to be duly executed by their duly authorized officers or agents on the day and year first above written.

[Insert name of System Operator] [Insert name of Interconnection Customer]

Signed _____ Signed _____

Name (Printed): _____ Name (Printed): _____

Title _____ Title _____

[Insert name of Interconnecting Transmission Owner]

Signed _____

Name (Printed): _____

Title _____

**Attachment A to System
Impact Study Agreement**

Assumptions Used in Conducting the System Impact Study

The Interconnection System Impact Study shall be based upon the results of the Interconnection Feasibility Study, subject to any modifications in accordance with the standard Small Generator Interconnection Procedures, and the following assumptions:

- 1) Designation of Point of Interconnection and configuration to be studied.

- 2) Designation of alternative Points of Interconnection and configuration.

1) and 2) are to be completed by the Interconnection Customer. Other assumptions (listed below) are to be provided by the Interconnection Customer, System Operator and Interconnecting Transmission Owner.