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Net Metering Interconnection Procedure for Systems 15 kW and Smaller

To ensure that net metered projects (<15 kW) are interconnected to VEC's electrical system in a safe and timely manner, VEC has developed the following procedures. For more detailed information on interconnection requirements, please review the Interconnection Guidelines on our website: https://vermontelectric.coop/electric-system/distributed-generation.

VEC makes every effort to support our members and solar partners on net metering projects. Often a new system can trigger the need for a service upgrade, including the transformer. VEC recommends that installer/developers contact VEC early with any questions regarding service capacity and that they inform potential customers that the installation could require a transformer upgrade. VEC asks that that installers and developers are clear that all costs associated with a service upgrade reside with the member.

- 1. Upon receipt of a new net metering registration, VEC will make every effort to screen the application within 15 business days to determine if it requires a transformer upgrade.
- 2. If a transformer upgrade is required, VEC will inform the member and/or installer of the need for the upgrade and cost (typically \$1,200 to \$2,000 based on transformer size).
- 3. In some cases, a site visit may be required; VEC will reach out to the member to schedule a time to meet.
- 4. If VEC determines any upgrades are required, payment for the costs associated with those upgrades shall be paid prior to VEC performing the work.
- 5. The net metered system shall not be connected to VEC's distribution system prior to any upgrades that are determined necessary by VEC.
- 6. The member's installation and their licensed dealer/electrician must meet all current National Electric Code (NEC), National Electrical Safety Code (NESC), VEC interconnection guidelines, and the current Vermont Rules 5.100 and 5.500 as applicable.
- 7. A qualified contractor/installer may energize their installation for testing purposes only. VEC shall not be liable for any generation created and accrued on the contractor/installer's solar production meter and shall not consider the net metering point commissioned until a VEC meter is installed.
- 8. For single meter, direct-tie systems, production will be recorded only after commissioning and installation of the VEC AMI meter.