

Division of Power – Policies and Procedures Manual	
AUB Distributed Generation Policy	
Policy Number – AUB-04-07	Revision Number: 2
Subject Distributed Generation	Effective Date: 07-01-2022
	Superintendent Approval:
	General Manager Approval:

1.0 PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to outline the requirements associated with attaching distributed power generation resources to the AUB power distribution grid.

2.0 SCOPE

This policy applies to all residential and industrial users who are physically connected or have the potential to be physically connected to the associated AUB utility distribution systems.

3.0 REFERENCES

- (1) Athens Utilities Board, Schedule of Rates and Fees, AUB-03
- (2) Athens Utilities Board Division of Power, Policies and Procedures

4.0 GENERAL

The following policy is established to provide customers with the flexibility of deploying distributed generation (DG) (i.e. solar, generators, wind power, etc.) while maintaining the safety, power quality, and reliability of the power grid owned and maintained by the Athens Utilities Board (AUB).

AUB has an all requirements contract to purchase its power from the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA). Therefore, AUB cannot purchase any portion of the output of any DG connected to its distribution system. AUB can only provide distribution facilities to connect the DG and transmit energy to TVA. The owner who wishes to sell the output of DG must obtain from TVA either 1) a Power Purchase Agreement to buy the electrical energy, or 2) a transmission Service Contract to move the power to another utility. The owner may operate DG for their own purposes without either of these agreements understanding that AUB will not purchase any energy from the owner's DG.

Each customer who desires to attach DG to the power grid to sell power output should submit the appropriately completed DG application to TVA and supporting documents to AUB prior to purchasing or installing any DG equipment. Application submission does not indicate approval by TVA or AUB. Customers who desire to attach DG to the power grid without reimbursement for power output should submit their plans to AUB prior to purchasing or installing DG equipment to avoid conflicts with safety or operations by the customer or AUB. Failure to communicate with AUB about DG systems that are to be attached to the AUB power grid and/or not having all the proper inspections, both AUB and State Fire Marshal's Electrical Inspector, are subject to be locked off or not attached to the AUB power grid.

The customer must pay the cost of interconnection construction prior to obtaining service. For the purposes of this policy, cost of service shall include material and labor costs for the installation and/or removal of any primary, secondary, transformer(s), metering equipment, and other materials and equipment. Cost of service shall be determined by AUB.

AUB has the right to refuse a requested interconnection if the interconnection to the distribution system can be shown to pose a risk to the distribution system or to the normal operation and maintenance of the utility's systems.

5.0 DEFINITIONS

AUB – means the Athens Utilities Board and its duly authorized employees, agents, and representatives

Board – means the Chairman and all Commissioners but does not include any employees

Customer – Any person, business, or other entity that receives utilities from Athens Utilities Board, any division

Division – The Athens Utilities Board, Division of Power, Gas, Water or Wastewater

Local Control Authority – Superintendent, director or manager of the responsible division or duly authorized representative

Service Connection – Shall mean the point of connection between the customer's termination point (weather head or meter base) where AUB makes the physical connection to his/her facilities. For meters located elsewhere on private property the service connection is considered to extend from only the tap of the main to the property line, plus the meter and meter installation.

Distributed Generation – any source of electrical power attached directly or indirectly to AUB's power distribution grid that is not owned and operated by TVA.

6.0 PROCEDURES/POLICY

6.1 General Guidelines

This policy establishes (or recognizes already established) program application fees, participant/system owner transfer fees, recurring charges, eligibility, installer certification requirements, and defines billing procedures.

1. Application fees and transfer fees.
 - a. Applications shall include all upfront, non-refundable fees as prescribed under the defined programs. DG not adequately defined by the outlined programs shall be evaluated for assessment at the point of application.
 - b. Fees shall include any required for participant/system owner transfers, as applicable. If the agreement between the customer and AUB provides for customer installation of equipment to be owned and maintained by AUB after installation as mutually agreed by both parties, the customer shall cover the any costs associated with transfer of property/equipment to AUB.
2. Site specific requirements and customer eligibility.
 - a. The "site" of the qualifying system shall be owned by the customer seeking to participate in any DG program.
3. The site qualifications must be evaluated and confirmed by AUB staff prior to application.
4. The qualifying system site must be maintained in accordance with the safety standards and operational procedures of AUB and all electrical and safety requirements under the jurisdiction of local, state, and federal law. Facilities will be available for reasonable inspection to verify standards are met.

6.2 Contracts

AUB's standard form of application for service is the basic contract for utility service. However, large commercial or industrial customers may be requested to execute a General Utility Contract, which shall contain provisions and stipulations as may be desirable to protect the interests of AUB and the customer. The use of utility services by a customer shall be interpreted as binding the customer by the terms of the applicable standard contract even though such contract may not actually be signed.

If the customer has fulfilled their contract terms and wishes to discontinue service, he/she must give at least three (3) written days' notice to that effect, unless the customer contract specifies otherwise. Notice to discontinue service prior to expiration of contract term will not relieve customer from any minimum or guaranteed payment under any contract or rate.

Participation in TVA administered DG products binds the customer to specific terms and conditions in addition to those required by AUB. As authorized power distributors for TVA, AUB has responsibilities to administer elements of TVA products and programs consistent with the customer's contract requirements.

6.3 Dispersed Power Production (DPP)

A program administered by TVA for power generation installations ranging in size from 7kW to 80 MW. Steps required:

1. Meet TVA requirements and secure TVA approval. All TVA applications are made online.
2. Customer will bear the full costs of any impact assessments and/or engineering studies on a per application assessment.
3. The voltage and other electrical characteristics proposed by the customer design must be compatible with AUB's distribution system.
4. Customer will pay for any necessary system costs recommended by the engineering study required to safely operate the generation source with the existing power grid.
5. Customer will agree to and pay for a yearly safety inspection administered by AUB or their agent to ensure proper working coordination with the power grid.
6. AUB will pay the customer for power fed to the power grid according to the terms of the TVA agreement and AUB policy.
7. AUB has the right to disconnect the source of power from the power grid at any time if it is found to be in violation of safety or contractual boundaries.
8. After TVA approval, AUB still may refuse the installation based on safety, connection/configuration issues or operational issues until such time that all issues are satisfactorily addressed.

6.4 Generations Partner Program (GPP)

A program administered by TVA for power generation installations up to 50 kW in size.

Service characteristics:

1. Capacity requirements shall follow the limits defined and approved by TVA.
2. Service voltage and other characteristics shall follow those already installed and in use at the metered location proposed.
3. Customer will include a lockable and AUB-accessible disconnect in series with the power meter/source. The customer grants AUB the right to disconnect the customer's power supply from the grid where safety of personnel, equipment, or grid stability are concerns. AUB

personnel or agents will make reasonable efforts to inform the customer prior to any disconnect activity, but recognize AUB may need to disconnect the source without contact if safety of personnel or grid stability is at issue.

Steps required:

1. Meet TVA requirements and secure TVA approval. All applications are made online.
2. AUB will review the application after receipt of the documentation plus an evaluation fee of \$500. The fee covers the following expenses:
 - a. Engineering review of interconnect requirements including one site visit with customer. Estimated three (3) hours of engineering resources.
 - b. Paperwork review of TVA submittal and any additional information required by AUB for billing and technical resources. Estimated four (4) hours of technical resources.
 - c. AUB will bill the customer for any additional time required to resolve unexpected issues as an aid of construction fee.
3. If approved, customer will install the proposed facilities according to the approved plan. AUB will supply the meter base and meter. AUB will bill the customer for these and any other supplied materials and labor expended to attach the source to the power grid as described in the engineering assessment and will follow AUB's normal procedures for assessing and collecting aid of construction.
4. Initial installation must pass a final inspection to include, but not limited to, the following items:
 - a. Verification of the system elements and build compared to the TVA contract and AUB engineering plan.
 - b. Verification of safety provision to prevent back feed into the power grid when source voltage is absent.
5. Customer and AUB will agree on a yearly safety inspection administered by AUB or its agent to ensure proper working coordination with the power grid and customer will pay the associated inspection fee.
6. AUB will pay the customer for power according to the terms of the TVA agreement.
7. AUB has the right to disconnect the source of power from the local grid at any time if it is found to be in violation of safety or contractual boundaries.

6.5 Customer Owned and Operated

Customers may own and operate distributed generation for their sole purposes without a need for contract with TVA. Customers understand that AUB is contractually bound to TVA as the sole supplier of wholesale power and therefore cannot pay customers for any power fed into the power grid.

Service characteristics:

1. Where the planned system interfaces with the AUB power grid meter, the customer system shall match the voltage and power characteristics (including capacity) of the AUB supplied source to the metered account.
2. Customer will include a lockable and AUB accessible disconnect in series with the power meter/source. The customer grants AUB the right to disconnect the customer's power supply from the grid where safety of personnel or equipment are concerns. AUB personnel or agents will make reasonable efforts to inform the customer prior to any disconnect activity, but recognize AUB may need to disconnect the source without contact if safety of personnel or grid stability is at issue.
3. AUB will not pay the customer for any power fed to the local power grid.

Steps required:

1. Customer may plan and deploy any various arrangements of power as they desire for their internal purposes. AUB has an obligation to review the plans for possible impact on the local distribution grid including but not limited to:
 - a. System impact evaluations, engineering site visits, and safety inspections.
 - b. CIS and other administrative steps necessary to establish the service.
2. Customer agrees to bear the full costs of any power grid modifications and engineering studies necessary to safely and reliably connect the DG on a per application assessment.
3. Customer will agree on a yearly safety inspection administered by AUB or its agent to ensure proper working coordination with the power grid and will pay the associated inspection fee.