

Missoula Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Policy 510
Net Metering and Distributed Generation

1.0 Objective

This Policy outlines the means and requirements for interconnection of member-owned, net-metered generating resources up to 10kW to Missoula Electric Cooperative's (MEC) distribution lines. It is recognized that a member may generate without interconnecting to MEC lines by displacing their native load with equipment approved by and inspected by MEC that will prevent such interconnection.

2.0 Policy

- 2.1 Availability and Requirements: When a member desires to interconnect to MEC's grid, the following requirements must be met:
 - 2.1.1 A signed interconnection agreement outlining specific terms and conditions with MEC is required; and
 - 2.1.2 The generation source may be renewable including but not limited to wind, solar, geothermal, hydro or fuel cells;
- 2.2 Net Metering Program: Net Metering is defined as the interconnection of member-owned generation from a renewable source to MEC facilities, in which the generation output of energy not used at the service is netted against the energy delivered by MEC within the following guidelines:
 - 2.2.1 MEC will not purchase energy produced by the Member;
 - 2.2.2 Name-plate generating capacity generally may not exceed 10 kW;
 - 2.2.3 All member request for net metering beyond the 10kW limit will be reviewed by MEC's Manager of Engineering and presented to MEC's Board of Trustees for consideration. In no case will the allowable name-plate generating capacity rating exceed 50 kW.
 - 2.2.4 Member generation is intended primarily to offset part or all of the Member's own electrical requirements at the service;
 - 2.2.5 Costs Associated with interconnecting or administering net metering systems are the responsibility of member generator
 - 2.2.6 A standard non-detent meter may be allowed to turn the direction the power flows. Two detent meters may be required if needed for automated meter reading systems;
 - 2.2.7 Charges for energy delivered by MEC in excess of the energy flowed back onto the system shall be billed monthly at a retail rate. Excess kWh's may be banked beyond the monthly billing period. (banking is a method of accounting, within an annual billing period, for energy produced for export into the distribution system for later use at that customer's service);
 - 2.2.8 MEC may annually true-up (zero) banked kWh's. The true-up will occur following the April billing cycle.
 - 2.2.9 Monthly facilities charges will be assessed for MEC costs and expenses including distribution and transmission costs and expenses.

Missoula Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Policy 510
Net Metering and Distributed Generation

- 2.2.10 MEC recommends that a visual disconnect be installed at the metering point to give a means of visual open that can be locked during MEC outage or its convenience. This visual disconnect will also give the consumer the necessary protection to isolate their equipment from MEC facilities.
- 2.2.11 MEC will inspect the installation prior to energizing and any deficiencies noted by the inspection shall be corrected prior to energizing. This inspection will not relieve the Member of any liability. MEC reserves the right to inspect the installation at any future time to ensure correct operating parameters.
- 2.2.12 The Member's system shall be equipped and constructed such that it will automatically disconnect from a de-energized or faulted utility line. The protective requirements are intended to achieve the following:
 - 2.2.12.1 Insure safety of the general public, members and MEC personnel.
 - 2.2.12.2 Minimize damage to property of the general public, MEC and its consumers.
 - 2.2.12.3 Minimize adverse operating conditions.
- 2.2.13 To achieve these objectives, certain power protective equipment (invertors, relays, circuit breakers, etc.) must be installed. These devices insure that faults or other abnormalities initiate prompt and appropriate disconnection of the Project from MEC's system.

3.0 Responsibility:

- 3.1 Manager of Engineering
 - 3.1.1 Reviewing all request for net metering interconnection to determine MEC system impacts,
 - 3.1.2 Recommending revisions of this Policy to the General Manager.
- 3.2 General Manager
 - 3.2.1 Recommending to the Board revisions to this Policy.

Approved: Jan 17, 2017

Revised: New

Implementing Procedures: None

Review Due Date: Jan 2019



Approved: _____