

Frequently Asked Questions for SCE’s Rule 21 Tariff

(Not applicable for WDAT or CAISO projects)

Southern California Edison (SCE) offers these guidelines to help you understand our Generator Interconnection Procedures. However, in the case of discrepancies, SCE’s tariffs and interconnection documents prevail.

All capitalized items used but not defined within this document will have the same meaning assigned in the Rule 21 tariff.

*Note: The answers shown below were developed from the information found in the **Rule 21 tariff** located at: https://www.sce.com/NR/sc3/tm2/pdf/Rule21_1.pdf*

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A. Contact Us for Additional Assistance

We have created this document to provide you with background information that may be helpful to you.

If you have additional questions, technical or otherwise, after reading the Frequently Asked Questions, please feel free to contact us through any of the following methods:

Email: InterconnectionQA@sce.com

Phone: (626) 302-3688

Mail: Grid Interconnection & Contract Development
Southern California Edison
2244 Walnut Grove Ave
PO Box 945
Rosemead, CA 91770

B. Getting Started

1. What is a Pre-Application Report?

Response

The Pre-Application Report is an optional request that can be submitted in order to obtain more technical information about a potential project site. The Pre-Application Report data represents the best available information about Southern California Edison’s (SCE) Distribution System at the time the report is provided.

The Pre-Application Report has different options available depending on the type of information that is needed for your potential request. This can be helpful if the redacted reports, posted public queue, and posted Distributed Energy Resource Interconnection Map (DERiM) do not provide the level of detail that is needed. The information provided in the various report packages can be found in Section E.1 of the Rule 21 Tariff.

For pricing and duration range for the various Pre-Application Report options, please see the request form at the following link:

[Rule 21 Pre-Application Report Request Form](#)

Please note that a Pre-Application Report is provided for information only and is not an Interconnection Study. The distribution system is dynamic and subject to change and data provided in the Pre-Application Report may become outdated and not useful at the time of submission of a complete Interconnection Request.

2. What is a Rule 21 application?

Response

A Rule 21 application is a request for the interconnection of a Generating Facility to SCE’s Distribution System, over which the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) has jurisdiction.

For more information about Rule 21 and getting started, please see the following link:

<https://www.sce.com/wps/portal/home/business/generating-your-own-power/Grid-Interconnections/Interconnecting-Generation-under-Rule-21/>

3. Where can I find the Rule 21 Tariff and application Forms?

Response

The Rule 21 Tariff is located at the following link:

https://www.sce.com/NR/sc3/tm2/pdf/Rule21_1.pdf

There are three Rule 21 Application forms:

- Rule 21 Exporting Application ([Form 14-918](#))
- Rule 21 Non-Exporting Application (Form 14-732) which is available online [Form 14-732 via PowerClerk](#)
- Rule 21 Net Energy Metering (NEM) Application (Form 14-957) which is available online [Form 14-957 via PowerClerk](#)

For additional information please see the following link:

<https://www.sce.com/wps/portal/home/business/generating-your-own-power/Grid-Interconnections/Interconnecting-Generation-under-Rule-21/>

For further information about NEM (Net Energy Metering) please click on the following link:

<https://www.sce.com/wps/portal/home/business/generating-your-own-power/net-energy-metering/>

4. What is the Fast Track process?

Response

“Fast Track” is a process for expedited interconnection. Non-exporting projects and exporting projects up to 3 MW may submit interconnection requests under the Fast Track process (see SCE’s Rule 21, Section E.2.b.i for details).

The application can be completed at any time of the year and allows an *eligible* facility to bypass some interconnection studies *if* it meets a series of “screens”.

To learn more about SCE’S Rule 21 Fast Track process please visit:

<https://www.sce.com/wps/portal/home/business/generating-your-own-power/Grid-Interconnections/Interconnecting-Generation-under-Rule-21/>

(scroll down the page and select the “Fast Track Process under Rule 21”)

5. What’s the difference between applying under the WDAT vs. Rule 21 Tariff? What’s the right tariff for my project?

Response

The WDAT is a FERC jurisdictional tariff and Rule 21 is under the CPUC jurisdiction. There are some differences in the study processes under the two tariffs. Please refer to SCE’s WDAT and SCE’s Rule 21 for each tariff’s applicability.

Prior to applying for interconnection service under any of the tariffs above, consult with the entity you are negotiating a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with to identify any requirements that may affect the selection of the interconnection process.

If your project is interconnecting to SCE but you intend to sell power to another entity, you will typically need to apply under the WDAT.

For more information, please visit the [Generating Power for Sales](#) section of our [website](#).

If you are Net Energy Metering or a Non-export, please visit one of following:

<http://www.sce.com/nem>

<https://www.sce.com/wps/portal/home/business/generating-your-own-power/Grid-Interconnections/Interconnecting-Generation-under-Rule-21/>

6. What documents must be submitted with a Rule 21 application?

Response

For Rule 21 Non-Export, Isolated Operation Mode, Multi Tariff, or Uncompensated Export Generating Facilities, please submit the following items:

- Application form for non-exporting generators: *Generating Facility Interconnection Application, Form 14-732*, or the new online application form at <https://scerule21nonexport.powerclerk.com/Account/Login>
- A single line drawing; [sample drawings](#) are available
- Site/plot plan drawing
- Diagrams, manufacturer’s data, and written descriptions of the switching device or scheme proposed, as applicable
- Diagrams, manufacturer’s data, and written descriptions of the backup switch, protective device or any other control that will trip the generator in the event that the transfer switch or scheme does not complete the transfer in one second or less
- Nonrefundable fee of \$800. Instructions on how to make this payment are included in the application form listed above (Note: No fee for Isolated Operation Mode applications)

For a Rule 21 Export project applications, please submit the following items:

- Application form: *Rule 21 Exporting Generator Interconnection Request*, [Form 14-918](#)
- A single-line drawing; [sample drawings](#) are available
- Site/plot plan drawing
- Proof of [Site Exclusivity](#)
- Diagrams, manufacturer’s data, and written descriptions of the generating facilities
- Nonrefundable fee of \$800. Instructions on how to make this payment are included in the application form available at the link above

Please note that digital copies of application documents are greatly appreciated and may be submitted to: Rule21@sce.com

7. How much does it cost to submit a Rule 21 application?

Response

A Rule 21 Interconnection Request fee is generally \$800. Table E.1 below provides a summary of applicable interconnection fees, deposits and exemptions:

Table E.1 Summary of Interconnection Request Fees, Deposits and Exemptions

Generating Facility Type	Interconnection Request Fee	Supplemental Review Fee	Detailed Study Deposit	Additional Commissioning Test Verification
Non-Net Energy Metering and >1 MW NEM-2	\$800	\$2,500*	For a Generating Facility with a Gross Nameplate Rating of 5 MW or less and applying to the Independent Study Process, \$10,000 for a System Impact Study or the DGS Phase I Interconnection Study in the case of the Distribution Group Study Process and \$15,000 for an Interconnection Facilities Study or DGS Phase II Interconnection Study in the case of the Distribution Group Study Process. For a Generating Facility with a Gross Nameplate Rating above 5 MW, \$50,000 plus \$1,000 per MW of electrical output of the Generating Facility, or the increase in electrical output of the existing Generation Facility, as applicable, rounded up to the nearest whole MW, up to a maximum of \$250,000	\$150/Person Hour**
≤ 1 MW NEM-2***	\$75	\$0	\$0	N/A
NEM-1	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
Solar ≤1 MW that does not sell power (per D.01-07-027) nor participate in NEM-1 or NEM-2	First \$5,000 of study fees waived			\$150/Person Hour *

* Optional \$1,000 additional fault current study fee pursuant to Section F.2.c.ii.

** Plus additional costs for travel, lodging and meals.

*** Applicants that participate in the Single-Family Affordable Solar Homes (SASH) program are exempt from the Interconnection Request fee.

8. How can we submit a Rule 21 application?

Response

For Non-Export applications, we encourage you to apply online at [Rule 21 Non-export Online Interconnection Application System](#).

For Exporting Generating Facility applications, please email digital copies of application documents to Rule21@sce.com. Instructions for sending the application are on page 2 of Form 14-732 and page 3 of Form 14-918.

In addition, you may mail to the following:

Grid Interconnection & Contract Development
Southern California Edison
2244 Walnut Grove Ave
Rosemead, CA 91770

If you have any questions, please email us at InterconnectionQA@sce.com

9. Is there a project review process or timeline?

Response

The review process and timeline for the processing of an interconnection request are fully explained in Rule 21. Please see the relevant tariff sections for timelines associated with the specific review at the following link:

<https://www.sce.com/wps/portal/home/business/generating-your-own-power/Grid-Interconnections/Interconnecting-Generation-under-Rule-21/>

- Then scroll down the webpage and select “**Fast Track Process under Rule 21**”
- For an overview of the interconnection request process, refer to Section F.1 of Rule 21.
- For the Fast Track interconnection request process, refer to Section F.2 of Rule 21.
- For the Detailed Study interconnection request process, refer to Section F.3 of Rule 21.

10. I am considering developing a new renewable project at a property or parcel. What do I need to do to develop a renewable project at that property?

Response

There are different options available for interconnecting a renewable generator.

To get started and learn more about the different options available for interconnecting a renewable generator, please visit the “Generation Project Types” heading on our [Grid Interconnections](#) webpage. The following links are available:

- [Generating Power for Sales](#) (start here if you plan to export your power for sale)

- [Programs for Self-Generation at Home or Business](#) (start here if you plan to generate power for use at the generating facility site)
- [Backup Systems](#) (start here if you are installing a backup system)

11. Where can I find more technical information about a potential project site?

Response

Technical information about your project will be evaluated during the interconnection process. For some preliminary data, please see the [Distributed Energy Resource Interconnection Map \(DERiM\)](#) along with the [DERiM User Guide](#)

Disclaimer: The DERiM maps are updated on a monthly basis. While Southern California Edison makes every effort to ensure the accuracy of DERiM, the data provided is for information only. Southern California Edison makes no guarantee, expressly or implied, for the outcome of an interconnection request.

Additional information may be obtained by requesting an “Optional Pre-Application Report”. This is an optional report that is described in Section E.1 of the Rule 21. A copy of the tariff may be accessed at the following [Rule 21](#) link.

The Rule 21 Optional Pre-Application Report Request, containing fee payment instructions, is available at the following link: [Rule 21 Optional Pre-Application Report Request](#)

12. Where do I find more general information about meters or switchboards?

Response

SCE’s [Electrical Service Requirements](#) (ESR) Handbook provides guidance and instructions pertaining to electrical service connections, and includes information about meters and switchboards. The purpose of the ESR is to assist electrical contractors, engineers, architects, and manufacturers engaged in the installation of electrical service wiring and equipment.

In many cases, your local Service Planning Office may also be of further assistance. A list of locations and phone numbers is available on Table 1-2 of the ESR.

C. Fast Track or Distribution Group Study (DGS)

1. What is the Fast Track process?

Response

“Fast Track” is a process for expedited interconnection. Non-exporting projects and exporting projects up to 3 MW may submit interconnection requests under the Fast Track process (see SCE’s Rule 21, Section E.2.b.i for details).

The application can be completed at any time of the year and allows an *eligible* facility to bypass some interconnection studies *if* it meets a series of “screens”.

To learn more about SCE’S Rule 21 Fast Track process please visit:

<https://www.sce.com/wps/portal/home/business/generating-your-own-power/Grid-Interconnections/Interconnecting-Generation-under-Rule-21/>

(scroll down the page and select the “Fast Track Process under Rule 21”)

2. What is the difference between an Initial Review and Supplemental Review? Does every project need both?

Response

The Initial Review and Supplemental Review are both parts of the Fast Track process. All Fast Track interconnection requests will undergo an Initial Review of applicable screens (see Section G.1). The Initial Review indicates whether or not the project may cause any potential issues to SCE’s existing system (with the existing queue of generators).

Based on the results of the initial screens, your project may need a Supplemental Review. A Supplemental Review includes 3 additional screens, as applicable (see Section G.2). These screens may indicate that your project may be interconnected under the Fast Track process (see Sections F.2.a and F.2.b). The Supplemental Review could also reveal that an additional study is needed (see Sections F.2.c and F.2.d).

To learn more about SCE’S Rule 21 Fast Track process please visit:

<https://www.sce.com/wps/portal/home/business/generating-your-own-power/Grid-Interconnections/Interconnecting-Generation-under-Rule-21/>

(scroll down the page and select the “Fast Track Process under Rule 21”)

3. What is the Distribution Group Study (DGS) process? When are the windows for participating in DGS?

Response

The DGS process is a review of a group of projects comprised of Interconnection Requests. Those projects that pass Screen Q as a group and fail Screen R demonstrate that they are electrically interdependent in accordance with Section F.3.c.

For eligibility and details, see SCE Rule 21, Section F.3.c. at the following link:

https://www.sce.com/NR/sc3/tm2/pdf/Rule21_1.pdf

The DGS process has two windows during the year for receipt of DGS requests. The first window of the year opens on March 1 and closes on March 31. The second window opens on September 1 and closes on September 30.

D. Other Helpful Websites and Contacts

1. Other helpful websites and contacts

Response

For information about NEM (Net Energy Metering)

<https://www.sce.com/wps/portal/home/business/generating-your-own-power/net-energy-metering/>

For Information on Generating Your Own Power:

<https://www.sce.com/wps/portal/home/residential/generating-your-own-power/>

For information about RES-BCT (Renewable Energy Self Generation Bill Credit Transfer) Program:

<https://www.sce.com/wps/portal/home/business/generating-your-own-power/renewable-energy-self-generation-bill-credit-transfer/>

For information on Energy Procurement:

<https://www.sce.com/wps/portal/home/procurement/>