

An Overview of the Interconnection Process

Guiding Principles

First and foremost, the Pella Cooperative Electric will emphasize:

1. **Safety.** Taking all necessary precautions to ensure the safety of the cooperative's employees and members.
2. **Reliability.** Performing necessary tasks to protect and maintain the reliability and integrity of the power grid.
3. **Cost Fairness.** Operating with fairness to other members of the cooperative from a cost causation point of view. (The cost causer will be the cost bearer.)

Member & Cooperative Responsibilities

The cooperative and the member must work together in connecting distributed generation to the grid, following any applicable federal or state laws or regulations. A written agreement between the cooperative and the member is required in order to facilitate a safe, reliable, and fair connection. This agreement must be executed prior to connecting to the facility to the grid.

Members are responsible for paying all costs associated with interconnection and additional system protection that may be required to protect the qualifying facility, the cooperative's distribution system, or CIPCO's transmission system.

Issue	Required	Responsibility
Application	Yes	Member
Insurance	Yes	Member
Written Agreement	Yes	Cooperative & Member
Interconnection	Yes	Cooperative & Member
Interconnection Costs	Yes	Member
Inspection	Yes	Cooperative & Member
Service, Maintenance	Yes	Member

Written Agreement

The written agreement shall address the following items:

- Cooperative representatives must be allowed access to the facilities for purposes of inspecting or testing member's equipment, facilities or apparatus and the accuracy of the cooperative's metering equipment.
- The member and the cooperative will have access to the interconnection switch at all times and the interconnection will be provided with a switch that provides a visible break or opening. The switch must be capable of being padlocked in the open position.
- Communication indicating that the member is responsible for the costs of installation and maintenance of power factor correction capacitors required to maintain the equivalent of an average power factor of 90 percent (lagging) at the interconnection.

- A requirement that the member's electric generating equipment be designed, operated, and maintained in a manner which does not adversely affect the cooperative's voltage wave form.
- Acknowledgment that the member is responsible for costs incurred by the cooperative for connection of the facility.
- Acknowledgment that the member agrees to insure and indemnify the cooperative and its representatives against liability for any injuries or damages caused by the operation of the facility. This requires the member to maintain liability insurance or other proof of financial responsibility.
- Acknowledgment that the member will regularly inspect, maintain, and service the facility for safe and reliable operation and maintain a record or log.
- Acknowledgment that the member's facility will be subject to disconnection without notice by the cooperative in the event the facility causes unacceptable safety, voltage, or frequency conditions, service interruptions, or communications interference.
- Acknowledgment that the member will furnish and install an over-current device on the facility to automatically disconnect the facility at all currents that exceed the full-load current rating of the facility.
- Acknowledgment that the member's facility will be equipped with automatic disconnection upon loss of electric voltage supplied by the cooperative.
- Certain other technical requirements as outlined in the cooperative's tariff.

Interconnection Process

