

DTE
MICHIGAN ELECTRIC UTILITY
Distributed Generation Tariff (Rider 18)
and Legacy Net Metering (Rider 16)
supplemental interconnection
Procedures
August 23, 2023

These procedures are in addition to the Standard Interconnection procedures and define specific program requirements or policies. Applicants must first comply with and follow the base interconnection requirements applicable to their project. Procedures in this document are in addition to the base procedures and specific exceptions may be defined in this document as part of the program.

Applicability

Customers Seeking to apply for interconnection and applying for DG Tariff Rider 18 or Customers on existing Rider 16.

Fee Adjustments

There are no additional fees for this program. For additional information on fees, see the respective standard interconnection procedures.

Review Process for Customer Generation Program Consideration

The procedure below is DTE Electric's ("Company") review process for eligibility for its customers to participate in its customer generation programs Rider DG (18) and for Legacy Net Metering (Rider 16). It provides additional context to the guidelines in the Rate book of Electric Service. The methods further clarify an "eligible generator" and the determining factors for application approval.

Expected Generation is the estimated electric power produced by a renewable generator or aggregation of generators. For solar generation it is derived by multiplying the generator nameplate capacity, a capacity factor, and the number of hours in a year as follows:

$$\text{Expected Generation} = \text{Total Generator Nameplate Capacity (DC)} * 0.1274 * 8760$$

Shading is not considered in this calculation for eligibility.

A generator is deemed "eligible" for program participation when expected generation does not exceed annual electric usage in as measured in kWh ("kWh usage") and the requirement that the generator be renewable in nature and no source of non-renewable generation will be part of the aggregate interconnection.

Upon implementation of this method, for projects that have already been approved under Rider DG or net metering using historically applied AC rating sizing criteria no change will occur. However, upon any proposed modification to aggregate DER on the site or modification to the system that requires a new application, the new application and aggregate DER will be reviewed under the new DC sizing method. The applicant will be given the choice of maintaining their current system and withdrawing the application or proceeding with the new application and having the DC calculation performed for the aggregate site generation.

Other methods can be employed to derive expected generation if acceptable documentation or sufficient data is provided to support.

Customer has 12 months of usage

An eligible generator is “Approved” based on one of the following:

1. Expected Generation does not exceed the customer’s most recent 12-month kWh usage from the review date.
3. Expected Generation is sized to meet criteria 1 with additional documentation (a or b) that substantiates additional load, at the Company’s discretion.
 - a. Evidence of additional load may include receipts of newly purchased electric vehicle with electric vehicle charger/major appliances/machinery dated from no greater than 90 days (3 months) before date of review.
 - b. Receipts that are time-stamped with a date and/or written summary that justifies a timestamp that exceeds 3 months.
4. Expected Generation does not exceed the customer’s 12-month kWh usage history from a previous year with a summary and/or documentation validating a lifestyle change. Ex. Unexpected length of time where the site was unoccupied.

Customer has 6 months of usage but less than 12 months

An eligible generator is subject to be “Approved” by DTE, based on one of the following:

1. Expected Generation does not exceed the customer’s average monthly kWh usage multiplied by 12.
2. Expected Generation does not exceed the customer’s average monthly kWh usage multiplied by 12 (omitting 1-2 outlier months).
3. Expected Generation does not exceed the customer’s average kWh usage multiplied by 12 (omitting up to 6 outlier months) with a summary and /or documentation validating a lifestyle change. Ex. Unexpected length of time where the site was unoccupied.

Customer has less than 6 months of usage

An eligible generator is subject to be “Approved” by DTE, based on one of the following:

1. Along with customer’s monthly usage, a submission that includes documents indicating square footage of the building, a load estimation sheet, and a summary and /or documentation validating a lifestyle change. Ex. Unexpected length of time where the site was unoccupied.
2. Along with customer’s monthly usage, a submission that includes any combination of receipts, that reasonably validate expected generation would not exceed load with context of existing load.
3. Along with customer’s monthly usage, a submission that includes any combination of an Electrical Scope of Work, Electric Panel Diagram, Blueprint, and receipts that reasonably validates expected generation would not exceed load.

Customer has 0 months of recorded usage on the account:

An eligible generator is subject to be “Approved” by DTE, based on one of the following:

New Construction

1. Submission that includes any combination of an Electrical Scope of Work, Electric Panel Diagram, Blueprint, and receipts that reasonably validates expected generation would not exceed load.
2. Review of the request for service or Method of Service to DTE to determine expected load.

Other Projects

1. Submission that includes any combination of receipts, that reasonably validate expected generation would not exceed load.

Customer Generation Program System Modification & Battery Storage Policy

Pursuant to DTE Electric ("Company") Electric Rate Book ("Rate Book"), the procedure below provides the review processes for customer generation program eligibility with battery storage and for modifying an existing generating facility.

Per Rate Book, an existing Legacy Net Metering customer will be subject to the terms and conditions of the Distributed Generation Program if an increase to aggregate generation occurs. An increase to aggregate generation includes one of the following:

1. Additional generation capacity (kW) has been installed on the local area system which has been approved for Legacy Net Metering.
2. An existing generator has been modified to increase the AC or DC nameplate rating.

Additional consideration to maintain Legacy Net Metering eligibility status may be reviewed at the Company's discretion for modifications involving:

1. Added power or operational capacity (kW) to the DC nameplate dedicated solely for backup battery storage.
2. Added power or operational capacity (kW) to the DC nameplate with inoperable ability to provide energy to the electric grid.

Battery Storage in both the Legacy Net Metering and Distributed Generation programs must demonstrate the following:

1. Meet a minimum of UL 1741 SA certification in addition to other safety and operation standards for battery storage.
2. Be configured to prohibit the ability to provide energy to the grid.
3. Operate in an acceptable storage mode (refer to Acceptable Storage Device Modes).
4. Include specification sheets and manufacturers guide with application submission.
5. Meet any other legacy net metering, distributed generation, or interconnection requirements as indicated in the Rate Book, Michigan Public Service Commission ("MPSC") rules, the Interconnection and Parallel Operating Agreement, the Generator Interconnection & Operating Agreement, the Michigan Electric Utility

Generator Interconnection Procedures, the Michigan Generator Interconnection Requirements, and other relevant law.

Acceptable Storage Device Modes:

1. Import Only Mode – The Energy Storage System (ESS) may import active power from the utility for charging purposes but shall not discharge when exporting active power to the utility.
2. No Exchange Mode – The ESS shall not exchange active power with the utility for charging or discharging purposes.

Conditions that would allow legacy net metering to be maintained

1. Applying for a new application with only the addition of storage that is configured for an Acceptable Storage Device Modes to the existing approved inverter

Conditions that would require a change from Legacy Net Metering to DG tariff

1. Addition of any new DC generation source (IE additional or different panels)
2. Addition of a battery through a new AC coupled inverter
3. Replacement of the existing approved inverter with a different make or model.
4. A change to the existing power limiting setting
5. Other material modifications of the system

Failure to adhere to the Company's policies regarding Battery Storage will be subject to the Company Termination of the Net Metering and Distributed Generation rules as detailed in Rate Book.

Exceptions to base interconnection procedures

None.