

BLACK HILLS COLORADO ELECTRIC, LLC
d/b/a BLACK HILLS ENERGY

	Colo. PUC No.	<u>11</u>
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**RULES AND REGULATIONS
ELECTRIC**

INDEX

	<u>Section</u>	<u>Sheet No.</u>
1.	Definitions	R3
2.	General	R5
3.	Application.....	R6
4.	Deposits	R8
5.	Character of Service	R9
6.	Rate Application	R13
7.	Billing.....	R14
8.	Discontinuance of Service.....	R16
9.	Irregular Diversion of Electricity	R17
10.	Customer's Wiring Equipment.....	R19
11.	Service Entrance Equipment.....	R20
12.	Meters	R21
13.	Indoor Installations	R26
14.	Access.....	R26
15.	Liability	R27
16.	Mobile Home Park Service.....	R28
17.	Force and Effect of Other Rules and Regulations.....	R29
18.	Motors and Equipment	R30
19.	Budget Billing Plan	R32
20.	Co-generation and Small Power Production Facilities	R33
21.	Extension of Electric Distribution Facilities.....	R37
22.	Electric Transmission Line Extension Policy.....	R47
23.	Quality of Service Monitoring Plan.....	R51
24.	Customer Data.....	R57
25.	Black Hills Energy Assistance Program (BHEAP).....	R65
26.	Interconnection Service.....	R75

N

Advice Letter No.:	819	Decision or Authority No.	
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	Colo. PUC No.	<u>11</u>
	Cancels Colo. PUC No.	<u>10</u>
	Original	Sheet No. <u>R75</u>
Cancels		Sheet No. _____

**RULES AND REGULATIONS
ELECTRIC**

SECTION 26 – INTERCONNECTION SERVICE

Effective In	All territory served.	N
Availability	Available for residential, commercial, industrial, and institutional customers (“Customer”).	
Applicability	<p>This rule applies to generating facilities owned by the Customer (“Interconnection Customer” or “IC”) that will interconnect with the Company’s facilities and operate in parallel with the Company’s distribution system (“Interconnection Service”).</p> <p>Generating facilities are distributed energy resources (“DER”) which shall mean the Interconnection Customer’s source of electric power connected to the utility’s distribution grid, including retail renewable distributed generation, other small generation facilities for the production of electricity, energy storage systems, bi-directional storage, electric vehicle chargers with vehicle to grid, vehicle to home, vehicle to building, or any combination of any of these elements. DER shall not include the interconnection facilities not owned by the Interconnection Customer. DER includes an interconnection system or a supplemental DER device that is necessary for compliance with IEEE 1547-2018, until January 1, 2022, or until such time new DERs applying for interconnection will comply with IEEE 1547-2018. This tariff rule does not include any later amendments or editions of this standard. This standard is available for public inspection at the Public Utilities Commission of the State of Colorado at 1560 Broadway, Suite 250, Denver, Colorado 80202.</p> <p>DER shall be limited in size to the Maximum Rated Capacity as defined herein.</p>	

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Colo. PUC No. 11
Cancels Colo. PUC No. 10
Original Sheet No. R75A
Cancels Sheet No. _____

RULES AND REGULATIONS ELECTRIC

SECTION 26 – INTERCONNECTION SERVICE (CONTINUED)

Purpose	This tariff rule shall set forth the fees, deadlines, and procedures for Interconnection Service.	N
	All other rules applicable to Interconnection Service shall be governed by 4 CCR 723-3-3850 <i>et seq.</i> as may be amended from time to time by the Public Utilities Commission of the State of Colorado (“the Commission Rule”) and the Company’s Interconnection Manual. The Interconnection Manual is available for download at the Company’s website described herein.	
Grandfathered Exemption	Generating facilities interconnected prior to the effective date of this tariff rule are governed by the requirements of their existing interconnection agreements, as fully executed.	

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d/b/a BLACK HILLS ENERGY

Colo. PUC No. 11
Cancels Colo. PUC No. 10
Original Sheet No. R75B
Cancels Sheet No. _____

**RULES AND REGULATIONS
ELECTRIC**

SECTION 26 – INTERCONNECTION SERVICE (CONTINUED)

Definitions

A Customer shall initiate the process for Interconnection Service by submitting the appropriate application and fees, based on the size and type of DER, defined as follows:

Level 1

Customer-based generator facilities, certified inverter-based, with a nameplate rating of 25 kW AC or less, and which may be paired with a non-exporting Energy Storage System (ESS) of 25 kW or less.

Level 2 (Fast Track)

Customer-based generator facilities, with a nameplate rating greater than 25 kW, including synchronous and induction facilities no larger than 2 MW AC, but subject to larger sizes based on type, size, voltage, and location. For certified inverter-based systems, the size limit of the interconnection resource varies according to the voltage of the utility line at the proposed point of interconnection. Certified inverter-based interconnection resource facilities located within 2.5 electrical circuit miles of a substation and on a mainline are eligible.

Level 3 (Study Process)

An interconnection customer proposing to interconnect its interconnection resource with the utility's system if the interconnection resource does not meet the size limitations for the Level 2 Process, is not certified; or, is certified but did not pass the Level 1 Process or Level 2 Process.

Additional definitions that govern this tariff rule are found in 4 CCR 723-3-3852, as amended from time to time, and further supplemented with the definitions as follows:

Mainline

A mainline can be a bulk feeder that emanates from the feeder head. Mainline can include bulk feeder, sub-feeder, taps off the bulk electric network, or any primary line that brings power into an area wherein there are taps for end users. Mainlines can be enhanced by protection, or power factor correction, or voltage support equipment. Mainlines should not be limited to particular wire size ranges but limited by function.

Advice Letter No.:	819	Decision or Authority No.	
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Colo. PUC No. 11
Cancels Colo. PUC No. 10
Original Sheet No. R75C
Cancels Sheet No. _____

**RULES AND REGULATIONS
ELECTRIC**

SECTION 26 – INTERCONNECTION SERVICE (CONTINUED)

Definitions,
continued

Meter Collar Adapter

Meter collar adapter means a device that is installed between the Company's bi-directional electric billing meter and the meter socket box at a utility customer's premises. The device has electrical connection points both electrically upstream and electrically downstream of the meter.

Witness/Commissioning Test

Witness/Commissioning Test shall mean a site inspection by the Company witnessing the calibration and testing of the relays and operation and performance of the DER and inverters, before permanent interconnection with the Company's distribution system.

In the event of a conflict between definitions in this tariff rule and definitions in 4 CCR 723-3-3852, the latter shall apply.

N

Advice Letter No.:	819	Decision or Authority No.	
Signature of Issuing Officer:	/s/ Nick Wagner	Issue Date:	December 17, 2021
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Colo. PUC No. 11
Cancels Colo. PUC No. 10
Original Sheet No. R75D
Cancels Sheet No. _____

**RULES AND REGULATIONS
ELECTRIC**

SECTION 26 – INTERCONNECTION SERVICE (CONTINUED)

Fees and Deposits The cost-based fees for Interconnection Service are set forth in Table 1.
There are no deposit requirements for interconnection applications.

N

Table 1. Interconnection Fees

Application Description	Fee Amount
Pre-application	\$ 250
Level One	\$ 380
Level Two	\$ 760
Level Three	\$ 760

Procedures and Deadlines The general process for Interconnection Service is depicted in Figure 1. The timelines for Interconnection Service, establishing deadlines, are provided in Table 2, as follows:

Advice Letter No.:	819	Decision or Authority No.	
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Colo. PUC No. 11
Cancels Colo. PUC No. 10
Original Sheet No. R75E
Cancels Sheet No. _____

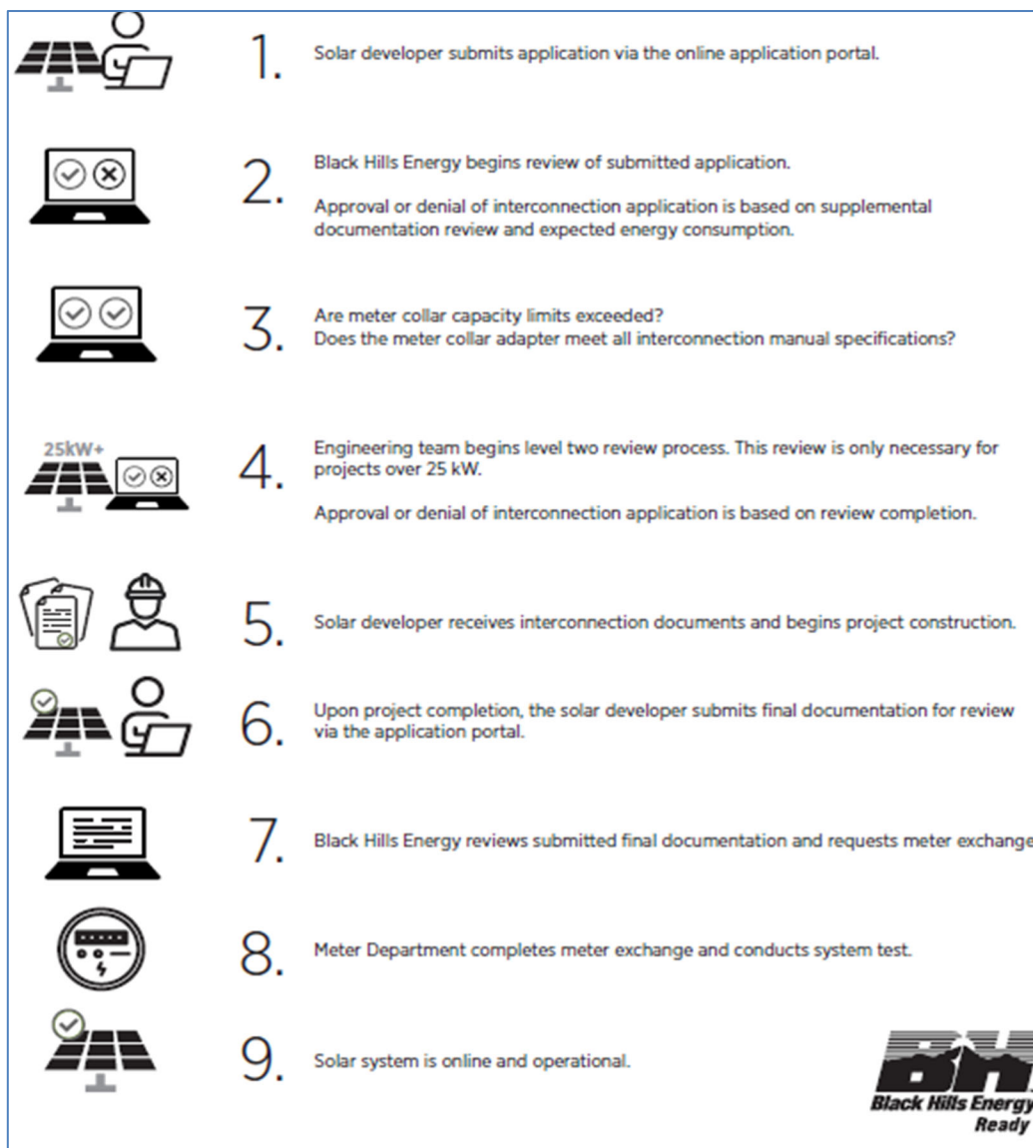
**RULES AND REGULATIONS
ELECTRIC**

SECTION 26 – INTERCONNECTION SERVICE (CONTINUED)

Procedures
and Deadlines,
continued

Figure 1. Interconnection Application Process

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Advice Letter No.:	819	Decision or Authority No.	
Signature of Issuing Officer:	/s/ Nick Wagner	Issue Date:	December 17, 2021
Title:	Vice President, Colorado Regulatory Affairs & Policy	Effective Date:	January 18, 2022

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	Colo. PUC No.	<u>11</u>
	Cancels Colo. PUC No.	<u>10</u>
	Original	Sheet No. <u>R75F</u>
Cancels		Sheet No. _____

RULES AND REGULATIONS ELECTRIC

SECTION 26 – INTERCONNECTION SERVICE (CONTINUED)Procedures
and Deadlines,
continued**Table 2. Timelines for Interconnection Process**

N

Pre-application

1	Informal inquiry. Prior to submitting its interconnection request, the IC may ask the Company whether the proposed interconnection is subject to these procedures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Commission Rule 3853(a)(I). 	15 business days is Company deadline to respond.
2	Formal inquiry. An IC may submit a formal request for a pre-application report on a proposed interconnection at a specific site using a form supplied by the Company and pay the pre-application fee defined in this tariff rule. The completed request form and payment of the pre-application fee shall set the deadline. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Commission Rule 3853(a)(IV)(A). 	20 business days is Company deadline to provide the pre-application report after receipt of completed form and full payment of pre-application fee.

Advice Letter No.:	819	Decision or Authority No.	
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Colo. PUC No. 11
 Cancels Colo. PUC No. 10
 Original Sheet No. R75G
 Cancels Sheet No. _____

**RULES AND REGULATIONS
ELECTRIC**
SECTION 26 – INTERCONNECTION SERVICE (CONTINUED)

 Procedures
and Deadlines,
continued

Table 2. Timelines for Interconnection Process (continued)

N

Interconnection requests (applications)

3	Application submittal. IC shall submit its interconnection request to the Company together with the processing fee defined in this tariff rule. The interconnection request shall be date-stamped and time-stamped upon receipt. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Commission Rule 3853(d)(I)-(III). 	3 business days is Company deadline to notify the IC of receipt.
4	Application completeness. If the interconnection request is incomplete, the Company shall provide, along with the notice, a written list detailing all information that must be provided to complete the interconnection request. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Commission Rule 3853(d)(IV) 	10 business days is Company deadline to determine completeness and notify IC.
5	Application re-submittal. The IC may re-submit the listed information or request an extension of time to provide such information. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Commission Rule 3853(d)(IV) 	10 business days is IC deadline after receipt of the Company notice.
6	Application withdrawal. If the IC does not re-submit or request an extension of time, the interconnection request will be deemed withdrawn. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Commission Rule 3853(d)(IV) 	1 year is IC deadline to re-submit the application without paying an additional interconnection application fee.

Advice Letter No.:	819	Decision or Authority No.	
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Colo. PUC No. 11
 Cancels Colo. PUC No. 10
 Original Sheet No. R75H
 Cancels Sheet No. _____

RULES AND REGULATIONS
ELECTRIC

SECTION 26 – INTERCONNECTION SERVICE (CONTINUED)

Procedures
and Deadlines,
continued

Table 2. Timelines for Interconnection Process (continued)

N

Interconnection requests (applications) - continued

7	Application modification, material. An IC may submit a modification(s) to its interconnection request for interconnection resource data or equipment configuration or to the interconnection site. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Commission Rule 3853(d)(VI) 	10 business days is the Company deadline to evaluate whether the modification is material (or not) as per this tariff rule and notify the IC in writing.
8	Application modification and IC determination. If the proposed modification is determined by the Company to be material, the IC shall provide its determination in writing whether to withdraw the proposed material modification or proceed with a new interconnection request for such material modification. If the proposed modification is determined by the Company not to be a material modification, then the modification shall be accepted by the Company and the IC shall retain its eligibility for interconnection, including its place in the interconnection queue. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Commission Rule 3853(d)(VI)(A) 	10 business days is the IC deadline for IC determination to withdraw or proceed with new interconnection request.

Advice Letter No.:	819	Decision or Authority No.	
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Colo. PUC No. 11
Cancels Colo. PUC No. 10
Original Sheet No. R75I
Cancels Sheet No.

**RULES AND REGULATIONS
ELECTRIC**

SECTION 26 – INTERCONNECTION SERVICE (CONTINUED)

Procedures
and Deadlines,
continued

Table 2. Timelines for Interconnection Process (continued)

N

Interconnection agreements

9	Interconnection agreement, initial document. The Company shall provide an interconnection agreement to the requesting Interconnection Customer. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Commission Rule 3853(f)(III) 	30 business days is the IC deadline to sign and return the interconnection agreement or to request that the Company file an unexecuted interconnection agreement with the Commission. Otherwise, the interconnection request shall be deemed withdrawn.
10	Interconnection agreement, executed document. After receiving the initial document, the IC shall execute and return the partially executed document to the Company. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Commission Rule 3853(f)(III) 	2 business days is the Company deadline to provide the IC with a fully executed interconnection agreement.

Advice Letter No.:	819	Decision or Authority No.	
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BLACK HILLS COLORADO ELECTRIC, LLC
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	Colo. PUC No. <u>11</u>
	Cancels Colo. PUC No. <u>10</u>
Original	Sheet No. <u>R75J</u>
Cancels	Sheet No. _____

RULES AND REGULATIONS ELECTRIC

SECTION 26 – INTERCONNECTION SERVICE (CONTINUED)Procedures
and Deadlines,
continued**Table 2. Timelines for Interconnection Process (continued)**

N

Level 1 Process (25 kW Inverters)

11	Application submittal. See Step 3.	
12	Application completeness. See Step 4.	
13	Screen tests. The Company shall verify whether the interconnection resource can be interconnected safely and reliably using the same screens in Level 2 which are applicable to Level 1; and additionally, the Company shall review the application for impacts to highly seasonal circuits, if applicable. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Commission Rule 3854(a)(IV) 	10 business days is Company deadline to verify
14	Screen failure. If screen tests fail, but the Company determines the interconnection resource may be interconnected consistent with safety, reliability and power quality standards, the Company shall provide the IC with an executed interconnection agreement. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Commission Rule 3854(a)(IV) 	5 business days is Company deadline for determination of interconnection
15	Application approval. Subject to Step 13 or 14, the Company approves and executes the application and returns it to the Customer. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Commission Rule 3854(a)(V) 	10 business days is Company deadline to approve and execute

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BLACK HILLS COLORADO ELECTRIC, LLC
d/b/a BLACK HILLS ENERGY

Colo. PUC No. 11
Cancels Colo. PUC No. 10
Original Sheet No. R75K
Cancels Sheet No. _____

**RULES AND REGULATIONS
ELECTRIC**

SECTION 26 – INTERCONNECTION SERVICE (CONTINUED)

Procedures
and Deadlines,
continued

Table 2. Timelines for Interconnection Process (continued)

N

Level 1 Process (25 kW Inverters) - continued

16	<p>Certificate of completion. After installation, the IC returns the certificate of completion to the Company. The Company shall notify the IC that parallel operation is authorized upon satisfactory inspection by the Company of the interconnected resource, a witness test, and appropriate metering replacement, each of which are at the sole discretion of the Company.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Commission Rule 3854(a)(VI)-(VII) 	10 business days is Company deadline to complete inspections and witness test and notify IC of the right to operate the interconnected resource in parallel operation
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BLACK HILLS COLORADO ELECTRIC, LLC
d/b/a BLACK HILLS ENERGY

	Colo. PUC No.	<u>11</u>
	Cancels Colo. PUC No.	<u>10</u>
	Original	Sheet No. <u>R75L</u>
Cancels		Sheet No. _____

RULES AND REGULATIONS ELECTRIC

SECTION 26 – INTERCONNECTION SERVICE (CONTINUED)Procedures
and Deadlines,
continued**Table 2. Timelines for Interconnection Process (continued)**

N

Level 2 Process (Fast Track)

17	Initial review. Upon Company receipt of a complete interconnection request, and notification to the IC, the Company shall perform an initial review using the appropriate screens. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Commission Rule 3855(b) • See Commission Rule 3855(b)(I)-(XII), Screens 	15 business days is Company deadline to perform initial review and notify IC of the results
18	Screens determination. The Company shall notify the IC of its determination that the interconnection request requires minor modification, a supplemental study or other additional studies or actions, or significant costs to address safety, reliability, or power quality problems. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Commission Rule 3855 (c)(II) 	5 business days is Company deadline after screens determination to notify the IC and provide data and analyses
19	Customer options meeting. The Company shall offer to convene a customer options meeting to review possible IC facility modifications or the screen analysis and related results. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Commission Rule 3855 (c)(II) 	10 business days is Company deadline after screens determinations to offer a customer options meeting

Advice Letter No.:	819	Decision or Authority No.	
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Title:	Vice President, Colorado Regulatory Affairs & Policy	Effective Date:	January 18, 2022

BLACK HILLS COLORADO ELECTRIC, LLC
d/b/a BLACK HILLS ENERGY

	Colo. PUC No. <u>11</u>
	Cancels Colo. PUC No. <u>10</u>
	Original Sheet No. <u>R75M</u>
Cancels _____	Sheet No. _____

RULES AND REGULATIONS ELECTRIC

SECTION 26 – INTERCONNECTION SERVICE (CONTINUED)Procedures
and Deadlines,
continued**Table 2. Timelines for Interconnection Process (continued)**

N

Level 2 Process (Fast Track) - continued

20	Supplemental review offer. The Company may offer to conduct a Supplemental Review and the IC shall be responsible for the Company's actual costs for conducting the Supplemental Review. If the written agreement and deposit (if applicable) have not been received by the Company, the interconnection request shall be evaluated under the Level 3 Process, unless the request is withdrawn by the IC. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Commission Rule 3855(d)(I) 	15 business days is IC deadline to accept in writing the Company offer for a Supplemental Review and submit a deposit (if applicable) for the estimated costs
21	Supplemental review invoice. IC must pay any review costs that exceed the deposit (if applicable). If the deposit (if applicable) exceeds the invoiced costs, the Company must return such excess without interest. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Commission Rule 3855(d)(I) 	20 business days is IC responsibility for payment after receipt of the Company's invoice and 20 business days is Company deadline to return an excess deposit (if applicable)
22	Supplemental review. Upon receipt of the deposit (if applicable), the Company will perform the Supplemental Review using the appropriate screens, notify the IC of the results in writing, and include copies of the analysis and underlying data. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Commission Rule 3855(d)(II) See Commission Rule 3855(d)(VI), Screens 	30 business days following receipt of the deposit (if applicable) is the Company deadline to perform the Supplemental Review

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Title:	Vice President, Colorado Regulatory Affairs & Policy	Effective Date:	January 18, 2022

BLACK HILLS COLORADO ELECTRIC, LLC
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	Colo. PUC No. <u>11</u>
	Cancels Colo. PUC No. <u>10</u>
	Original Sheet No. <u>R75N</u>
Cancels _____	Sheet No. _____

RULES AND REGULATIONS ELECTRIC

SECTION 26 – INTERCONNECTION SERVICE (CONTINUED)Procedures
and Deadlines,
continued**Table 2. Timelines for Interconnection Process (continued)**

N

Level 2 Process (Fast Track) - continued

23	Supplemental review screen failure. The Company shall notify the IC of the failure of any Supplemental Review screen or of the Company's inability to perform any screen for the interconnection resource. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Commission Rule 3855(d)(IV) 	2 business days is IC deadline to grant the Company permission for subsequent evaluations
24	Interconnection agreements. If the proposed interconnection passes the screens or fails the screens but the Company determines the interconnection can occur consistent with safety, reliability and power quality standards, the interconnection request shall be approved, and the Company will provide the IC with an executable interconnection agreement. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Commission Rule 3855(e)(I)-(II) 	5 business days is Company deadline after such determination to provide IC with an executable interconnection agreement
25	Modifications. If the IC agrees to pay for modifications, pursuant to Commission Rule 3855(c)(II)(A), the Company will provide the IC with an executable interconnection agreement. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Commission Rule 3855(e)(III) 	10 business days of the customer options meeting is the Company deadline to provide IC with an executable interconnection agreement

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	Colo. PUC No. <u>11</u>
	Cancels Colo. PUC No. <u>10</u>
Original	Sheet No. <u>R750</u>
Cancels	Sheet No. _____

RULES AND REGULATIONS ELECTRIC

SECTION 26 – INTERCONNECTION SERVICE (CONTINUED)Procedures
and Deadlines,
continued**Table 2. Timelines for Interconnection Process (continued)**

N

Level 2 Process (Fast Track) - continued

26	Modifications. If the IC agrees to pay for modifications, pursuant to Commission Rule 3855(d)(VII), the Company will provide the IC with an executable interconnection agreement. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Commission Rule 3855(e)(IV) 	5 business days of the IC agreement to pay is the Company deadline to provide IC with an executable interconnection agreement
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Level 3 Process (Study Process)

27	Scoping meeting. A scoping meeting between the IC and the Company will be held and include system engineers and other resources as may be reasonably required. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Commission Rule 3856(a)(I) 	10 business days after the interconnection request is deemed complete
28	Feasibility study agreement proposal. After the scoping meeting, and if the parties agree that a feasibility study should be performed, the Company shall provide a feasibility study agreement including an outline of the scope of the study and a non-binding good faith estimate to perform the study. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Commission Rule 3856(a)(II) 	5 business days after the scoping meeting is the Company deadline to provide a feasibility study agreement

Advice Letter No.:	819	Decision or Authority No.	
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BLACK HILLS COLORADO ELECTRIC, LLC
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	Original	Sheet No.	R75P
Cancels		Sheet No.	

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SECTION 26 – INTERCONNECTION SERVICE (CONTINUED)Procedures
and Deadlines,
continued**Table 2. Timelines for Interconnection Process (continued)**

N

Level 3 Process (Study Process) - continued

29	Feasibility study agreement executed. The IC must execute the feasibility study agreement and return it to the Company to remain in consideration for interconnection. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Commission Rule 3856(a)(III) 	15 business days after receipt of feasibility study agreement is IC deadline to execute and return
30	Feasibility study agreement declined. The IC may elect not to perform a feasibility study, after which, the Company shall provide to the IC a system impact study agreement proposal including an outline of the scope of the study and a non-binding good faith estimate to perform the study. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Commission Rule 3856(a)(III) 	5 business days after the scoping meeting is the Company deadline to provide a system impact study agreement proposal.
31	Waiver of studies. The feasibility study, scoping study, and facility study may be combined or waived by mutual agreement of the Company and the IC; after which, the Company shall provide the IC with an executable interconnection agreement. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Commission Rule 3856(a)(IV) 	10 business days after the scoping meeting is the Company deadline to provide IC with an executable interconnection agreement

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Colo. PUC No. 11
 Cancels Colo. PUC No. 10
 Original Sheet No. R75Q
 Cancels Sheet No. _____

**RULES AND REGULATIONS
ELECTRIC**
SECTION 26 – INTERCONNECTION SERVICE (CONTINUED)

 Procedures
and Deadlines,
continued

Table 2. Timelines for Interconnection Process (continued)

N

Level 3 Process (Study Process) - continued

32	Waiver of scoping meeting. By mutual agreement, if the scoping meeting is omitted, the Company shall provide the IC with an executable interconnection agreement. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Commission Rule 3856(a)(IV) 	10 business days is the Company deadline after the interconnection request is deemed complete and Level 2 Process is completed
33	Studies combined. If feasibility study, system impact study and facility study are combined, or required to be completed for a single application, the Company shall perform the combined studies. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Commission Rule 3856(a)(V) 	90 business days is the Company deadline after the date which the IC authorized the Company to proceed with the Level 3 Process
34	Feasibility study performed. The Company shall perform a feasibility study to identify any potential adverse system impacts. At its discretion, the Company may use the Level 2 supplemental review as described in Commission Rule 3855(d) as the feasibility study. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Commission Rule 3856(b)(I) 	30 business days after a feasibility study agreement is fully executed, is the Company deadline to perform a feasibility study
35	System impact study and feasibility study not required. If these studies are not required, the Company shall provide the IC with an executable interconnection agreement. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Commission Rule 3856(b)(VI) 	5 business days is the Company deadline to provide the IC with an executable interconnection agreement

Advice Letter No.:	819	Decision or Authority No.	
Signature of Issuing Officer:	/s/ Nick Wagner	Issue Date:	December 17, 2021
Title:	Vice President, Colorado Regulatory Affairs & Policy	Effective Date:	January 18, 2022

Colo. PUC No. 11
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Original Sheet No. R75R
Cancels Sheet No.

**RULES AND REGULATIONS
ELECTRIC**

SECTION 26 – INTERCONNECTION SERVICE (CONTINUED)

Procedures
and Deadlines,
continued

Table 2. Timelines for Interconnection Process (continued)

N

Level 3 Process (Study Process) - continued

36	System impact study performed. The Company shall perform a system impact study using the applicable screens. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Commission Rule 3856(c)(I) 	30 business days is the Company deadline to perform after receiving a fully executed system impact study agreement.
37	Distribution system impact study agreement. If potential distribution system adverse system impacts are identified in the scoping meeting or shown in the feasibility study, the Company shall send to the IC a distribution system impact study agreement. This agreement may be submitted following the scoping meeting if no feasibility study is to be performed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Commission Rule 3856(c)(II) 	15 business days is the Company deadline to submit the distribution system impact study agreement
38	Transmission system impact study agreement. If potential transmission system adverse system impacts are identified in the feasibility study or the distribution system impact study, the Company shall send to the IC a transmission system impact study agreement. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Commission Rule 3856(c)(III) 	5 business days is the Company deadline to submit the transmission system impact study agreement

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BLACK HILLS COLORADO ELECTRIC, LLC
d/b/a BLACK HILLS ENERGY

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RULES AND REGULATIONS
ELECTRIC

SECTION 26 – INTERCONNECTION SERVICE (CONTINUED)

Procedures
and Deadlines,
continued

Table 2. Timelines for Interconnection Process (continued)

N

Level 3 Process (Study Process) - continued

39	System impact study agreement(s) executed. In order to remain under consideration for interconnection, the IC must return executed system impact study agreement(s). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Commission Rule 3856(c)(VI) 	30 business days is IC deadline to return an executed agreement
40	No facilities study is required. If no facilities study is required for the interconnection resource, the company shall provide the IC with an executable interconnection agreement. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Commission Rule 3856(c)(X) 	5 business days is the Company deadline after the completion of the system impact study.
41	System impact study report. Once the required system impact study(s) is completed, a system impact study report shall be prepared by the Company and transmitted to the IC along with a facilities study agreement. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Commission Rule 3856(d)(I) 	5 business days is the Company deadline to provide the system impact study report and facilities study agreement
42	Facilities study performed. The Company shall perform a facilities study once the appropriate agreement has been fully executed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Commission Rule 3856(d)(I) 	45 business days is the Company deadline to perform the facilities study

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BLACK HILLS COLORADO ELECTRIC, LLC
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Cancels Sheet No. _____

**RULES AND REGULATIONS
ELECTRIC**

SECTION 26 – INTERCONNECTION SERVICE (CONTINUED)

Procedures
and Deadlines,
continued

Table 2. Timelines for Interconnection Process (continued)

N

Level 3 Process (Study Process) - continued

43	Facilities study agreement executed, or request for an extension of time. In order to remain under consideration for interconnection, the IC must return the executed facilities study agreement or a request for an extension of time. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Commission Rule 3856(d)(II) 	30 business days is IC deadline to return an executed facilities study agreement
44	Interconnection agreement. Upon completion of the facilities study, and with the agreement of the IC to pay for interconnection facilities and upgrades identified in the facilities study, the Company shall provide the IC with an executable interconnection agreement. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Commission Rule 3856(d)(VII) 	5 business days is the Company deadline to provide IC with an executable interconnection agreement

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Colo. PUC No. 11
Cancels Colo. PUC No. 10
Original Sheet No. R75U
Cancels Sheet No. _____

**RULES AND REGULATIONS
ELECTRIC**

SECTION 26 – INTERCONNECTION SERVICE (CONTINUED)

Maximum Rated Capacity	The Maximum Rated Capacity of the DER shall be the maximum specified by the interconnection customer in the interconnection request.	N
Material Modification Withdrawals	Modification(s) of the Customer's application shall be considered material whenever such modification(s) cause the generating facility to change process levels (<i>i.e.</i> , Level 1, 2, or 3). In addition, in some cases, a material modification may exist within a Level 2 or Level 3 application. The Customer's application thereafter shall be deemed withdrawn, at the discretion of the Company. Such withdrawal will require the Customer to resubmit a new application with the appropriate supporting documentation.	
Meter Collar Adapters	A Customer-owned meter collar adapter must be Company approved and UL-listed. The standards for a meter collar adapter, and the approval process, are included in the Company's Interconnection Manual, available for download at the Company's website www.blackhillsenergy.com .	

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Colo. PUC No. 11
 Cancels Colo. PUC No. 10
 Original Sheet No. R75V
 Cancels Sheet No. _____

RULES AND REGULATIONS ELECTRIC

SECTION 26 – INTERCONNECTION SERVICE (CONTINUED)

Company website for Interconnection Service Information <https://www.blackhillsenergy.com/services/electric-services/compliance>

N

Company email for Interconnection Service Inquiries BHESolar@blackhillscorp.com

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