

Paragraph 7 Potential Need for an ASO Study – Monthly Update

January 15, 2020

Distributed Generation Interconnection

National Grid Reporting Requirements – Affected System Operator Studies

In December 2019, The Narragansett Electric Company (NECo) identified, 15 Interconnection Service Applications totaling approximately 89.0MW in Western Rhode Island. Following initial notification of Paragraph 5, published December 31, 2019, National Grid is providing the next monthly update to the RI PUC and all affected DG applicants in accordance with Distributed Generation (DG) Interconnection National Grid Reporting Requirements – Affected System Operator (ASO) Studies.

- a) **Whether and what additional information is needed to determine if an ASO study is necessary:** No additional information is needed at this time.
- b) **Expected date when National Grid will know whether an ASO study is necessary:** NECo, working with the transmission provider in the area New England Power (NEP) and ISO-NE, determined in December 2019 that a DG Area ASO Level 3 Comprehensive Transmission System Impact Study is required for these projects.
- c) **Potential Impact on interconnection and costs.** The DG Area ASO Level 3 Comprehensive Transmission System Impact Study is estimated, at this point in time, to take 6-9 months and will not commence until after the completion of the ongoing RI DG Area ASO Level 3 Comprehensive Transmission System Impact Study on March 31, 2020. The cost of the 'New' RI DG Area ASO Level 3 Comprehensive Transmission System Impact Study will be allocated amongst all applicants on a per MW basis and is estimated, at this point in time, to be in the range of \$2,000 to \$5,000/MW.
- d) **Any proposed resolutions that National Grid is exploring to enable some affected DG applications to proceed with the interconnection process prior to completion of the ASO study:** No additional resolutions are being explored or are available at this time.
- e) **National Grid's plan to address the situation and minimize delays to interconnection timelines of potentially affected DG applications:** NECo, along with NEP and ISO-NE, will work to complete the required DG Area Level 3 Comprehensive Transmission System Impact Study as efficiently as possible once the ongoing RI DG Area ASO Level 3 Comprehensive Transmission System Impact Study is completed.