



**NOTICE SOLICITING
DISTRIBUTED GENERATION WORKGROUP MEMBERS**
*In the Matter of Updating the Generic Standards for the Interconnection and Operation of
Distributed Generation Facilities Established under Minn. Stat. §216B.1611*

DATE: February 14, 2017

TO: All Interested Persons

FROM: Daniel P. Wolf
Executive Secretary

SUBJECT: Notice Soliciting DG Workgroup Members and Observers

PUC Docket Number/s: E-999/CI-16-521

DEADLINE: March 1, 2017

NOTE: Parties interested in being Distributed Generation Workgroup Participants should participate in the initial comment period (see Notice of Comment Period also filed in this docket on February 14, 2017).

Project Background: The Commission issued its Order Establishing Workgroup and Process to Update and Improve State Interconnection Standards in Docket No. 16-521 on January 24, 2017. The update will include two phases: 1) transition Minnesota's distributed generation interconnection process to one based upon the FERC Small Generation Interconnection Procedures (SGIP) and Agreement (SGIA); and 2) update Minnesota's distributed generation interconnection technical requirements. In all, it is anticipated this update will replace first Attachments 1,3,4,5 followed by Attachment 2 of Minnesota's Interconnection Process and Requirements standards established by Commission order in Docket No. 01-1023.

Workgroup membership:

The Commission invites requests to serve on a Distributed Generation Workgroup tasked to develop the record more fully in this docket updating Minnesota's interconnection standards for distributed generation. The workgroup will be comprised of knowledgeable and interested parties and will work in a collaborative setting. Its work, guided by statutory requirements and

Commission Order, will be informed by national learnings, anchored with technical facts, and firmly grounded in the expertise, experience, and perspectives of Minnesota's utilities, businesses, advocates, and other interested parties. The workgroup is advisory to commission staff and will inform the development of recommendations for consideration by the full Commission in this docket

For Phase 1, the workgroup is anticipated to meet in-person five times, every other month, over the year (starting in April); with meetings via webinar/teleconference in the alternate months (see tentative schedule below). Staff will develop and distribute meeting agendas prior to each meeting.

Participants: Workgroup membership is open to all but members will be divided into "Participants" or "Observers" to facilitate active, consistent, and constructive engagement. Those interested in fully and actively engage in the Workgroup must submit a letter of request to be listed as a Workgroup Participant. The request to be a Participant should include their organization name and a brief description (or, request participation as an individual). Also, include the name(s), position(s), and contact information(s) for the lead representative, alternate representative, and, if not the lead or alternate, a technical representative. The letter of request to be considered a Participant should also indicate agreement to the following:

- 1) Participate in the written comments round in advance of the first work group meeting;
- 2) Prepare for and attend the meetings and conference calls consistently throughout each phase (see tentative schedule below);
- 3) Engage actively and respectfully in constructive dialogue during the issue discussions;
- 4) Review in a timely manner workgroup materials distributed by commission staff provided via work group listserv or e-dockets;
- 5) Develop, when invited, as an organization or a member of an ad hoc subgroup, presentations and/or subtopic materials for consideration by the workgroup at upcoming meetings; and,
- 6) Work toward agreement where possible and, where not possible, clearly articulate differences.

The Commission may limit the number of workgroup Participants appearing on behalf of a single organization or stakeholder group. As listed in the Commission's Order, the Executive Secretary retains the authority to determine the appropriate size and composition of the workgroup.

Observers: Those interested in attending workshop meetings as Observers should submit their name, organization, and contact information. Observers are welcome to attend and monitor meetings as their schedules permit and communicate their ideas or concerns to Participants for discussion or consideration by the Workgroup. Observers will receive Workgroup materials and may participate during public comment in the Workgroup meetings.

The meetings and conference calls/webinars are open to all interested parties. There will be a public comment period at the end of each workgroup meeting on issues addressed during the meeting. Public comment may not be taken during conference calls that are primarily informational. Interested parties can sign up on eDockets to receive notifications when new documents are filed in the associated docket (CI-16-521). Interested parties who are not Participants or Observers can contact Commission staff for workgroup agendas in advance of the meetings which are shared over the Workgroup email list.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that requests to serve on the DG Workgroup as a Participant or Observer are due no later than **March 1, 2017**. Requests must be e-filed in the Commission’s eDockets system. The Commission anticipates confirming the initial Workgroup roster by March 8, 2017.

Below is the tentative schedule:

Phase 1 – Interconnection Process

In-Person Meeting	Webinar/Teleconference
All meetings are tentatively scheduled for Fridays 9am-2pm in the PUC Large Hearing Room	All webinar/teleconference are tentatively scheduled for Fridays 9am – 12pm
April 7 Develop and clarify areas of agreement and outstanding issues	May 5
June 2	June 23
July 28	Aug 25
Sept 15	Oct 6
Nov 3	Dec 1

- March 2018 (tentative) Notice for Comment on draft staff Phase 1 summary and recommendations
- May 2018 (tentative) Agenda meeting for consideration and decision on new Interconnection Process (Phase 1)

Phase 2 – Technical Requirements

Dec 2017–Oct 2018 (tentative) Notice for comment; workgroup meetings; conference calls

Nov 2018 (tentative)	Notice for Comment on draft staff Phase 2 summary and recommendations
Feb 2019 (tentative)	Agenda meeting for consideration and decision on new Interconnection Technical Requirements (Phase 2)

The Commission will share additional information on the Workgroup process with Participants and Observers after review of initial comments and in advance of the first Workgroup meeting.

Filing Requirements: Utilities, telecommunications carriers, official parties, and state agencies are **required** to file documents using the Commission's electronic filing system (eFiling). All parties, participants and interested persons are encouraged to use eFiling: mn.gov/puc, select *eFiling*, and follow the prompts.

Full Case Record: See all documents filed in this docket via the Commission's website - mn.gov/puc, select *Search eDockets*, enter the year (*16*) and the docket number (*521*), select *Search*.

Subscribe to receive email notification when new documents are filed in this docket at mn.gov/puc, select *Subscribe*, and follow the prompts.

Questions about this docket or Commission process and procedure? Contact Commission staff, Michelle Rosier, at michelle.rosier@state.mn.us or 651-201-2212.

Change your mailing preferences: Email docketing.puc@state.mn.us or call 651-201-2204

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