

STATE OF MICHIGAN

BEFORE THE MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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In the matter of the application of)	
ALPENA POWER COMPANY , for approval of its)	
interconnection procedures and forms, submitted)	Case No. U-21483
pursuant to the Commission’s own motion,)	
commencing a collaborative for the development of)	
electric utility interconnection procedures.)	
_____)	

At the January 23, 2025 meeting of the Michigan Public Service Commission in Lansing, Michigan.

PRESENT: Hon. Daniel C. Scripps, Chair
Hon. Katherine L. Peretick, Commissioner
Hon. Alessandra R. Carreon, Commissioner

ORDER

On April 24, 2023, the Commission issued an order in Case No. U-20890 adopting the Interconnection and Distributed Generation Standards (also known as the MIXDG rules), which are codified at Mich Admin Code, R 460.901a *et seq.*, and became effective on April 25, 2023. Included in the MIXDG rules is Mich Admin Code, R 460.920 (Rule 20), which reads (in pertinent part) as follows:

- Rule 20. (1) An electric utility shall file applications for approval of interconnection procedures and forms within 120 calendar days of the effective date of these rules.
- (2) The commission shall issue its order approving, rejecting, or modifying an electric utility’s proposed interconnection procedures and forms within 360 calendar days of the electric utility filing an application for approval of interconnection procedures and forms. If the commission finds the procedures and forms proposed by the electric utility to be inadequate or unacceptable, the

commission may either adopt procedures and forms proposed by another person in the proceeding or modify and accept the procedures and forms proposed by the electric utility.

(3) Until the commission accepts, rejects, or modifies an electric utility's interconnection procedures and forms, the electric utility may use the proposed interconnection procedures and forms when processing interconnection applications with the exception of fixed fees and fee caps. An electric utility shall only charge fees that comply with the requirements of R 460.926 until the commission accepts, rejects, or modifies the proposed interconnection procedures and forms, unless the commission approves different fees pursuant to R 460.926(5).

(4) Two or more electric utilities may file a joint application proposing interconnection procedures for use by the joint applicants. The proposed interconnection procedures must ensure compliance with these rules.

(5) The proposed interconnection procedures must, at a minimum, include all of the following:

- (a) All necessary applications, forms, and relevant template agreements.
- (b) A schedule of all applicable fixed fees and fee caps.
- (c) Voltage ranges for high voltage distribution and low voltage distribution.
- (d) Required initial review screens.
- (e) Required supplemental review screens.
- (f) The process for conducting system impact studies and facilities studies on DERs [distributed energy resources] when there is an affected system issue.
- (g) Testing and certification requirements of DER telecommunications, cybersecurity, data exchange, and remote control operation.
- (h) Parallel operation requirements.
- (i) A method to estimate the expected annual kWh [kilowatt-hour] output of the generator or generators.
- (j) If an electric utility uses alternative methods for power limited export DER pursuant to R 460.980(3), a description of those methods.
- (k) A cost allocation methodology for study track DERs.
- (l) An evaluation of an interconnection application for a project that includes single or multiple types of DERs at a site for which the applicant seeks a single point of common coupling.
- (m) Details describing how an energy storage device may be integrated into an existing legacy net metering program system without impacting the 10-year grandfathering period or participation in the distributed generation program.
- (n) For electric utilities that are member-regulated electric cooperatives, a procedure for fairly processing applications in instances in which the number of applications exceed the capacity of the electric cooperative to timely meet the deadlines in these rules.
- (o) Examples of modifications that are not material modifications.
- (p) The procedure for performing a material modification review to determine if a modification is material.
- (q) Any required terms and conditions that must be specified in the general liability insurance for level 3, 4, and 5 projects.
- (r) A list of the electric utility's holidays.

(s) If an electric utility uses an alternative process pursuant to R 460.956, a description of that process.

(t) Fast track eligibility criteria for applications proposing to interconnect DERs with 4.8 kV [kilovolt] distribution systems.

(u) In the event daytime loading data is not available for the initial screen provided in R 460.946(5)(b), the date when the data will be collected.

The May 18, 2023 order in Case No. U-21117 (May 18 order) directed the rate-regulated electric utilities to file draft interconnection procedures (MIXDG procedures) in the Case No. U-21117 docket by June 16, 2023, and directed the Commission Staff (Staff) to hold a working session for interested persons on June 21, 2023, to allow for input regarding the draft MIXDG procedures. The May 18 order required final MIXDG procedures to be filed no later than August 23, 2023, per the requirements of Rule 20(1).

On August 23, 2023, Alpena Power Company (Alpena) filed an application in this docket, along with supporting testimony and exhibits, seeking approval of proposed MIXDG procedures, forms, and agreements. On September 28, 2023, the Commission issued an order in this docket soliciting comments and reply comments on Alpena's application. On October 27, 2023, the Staff filed comments on the application.

On February 8, 2024, the Commission issued an order in Case Nos. U-21455 *et al.* (which included this docket) (February 8 order) addressing the changes to the statutory requirements for interconnection resulting from the passage of Public Act 235 of 2023 (Act 235). In the February 8 order, the Commission: (1) rejected Alpena's proposed MIXDG procedures due to the statutory changes; (2) directed Alpena to file a new application for proposed MIXDG procedures in this docket by March 22, 2024; (3) allowed for additional initial and reply comments to be filed in this docket no later than May 22 and June 5, 2024, respectively; and (4) invited comments on a Standard Level 1, 2, and 3 Interconnection Agreement in Case No. U-21543.

On March 22, 2024, Alpena filed a revised application, along with supporting testimony from Mr. Kenneth A. Dragiewicz, President and Chief Operating Officer of Alpena. On May 22, 2024, the Staff filed new comments on Alpena's application and attached a Sample Interconnection Agreement for Level 4 and 5 and Non-Certified Projects. The Staff suggested changes to Alpena's proposed interconnection procedures, pre-application report request form, Facilities Study Agreement, and Level 4 and 5 Interconnection Agreement. On December 9, 2024, Alpena filed reply comments accepting all of the Staff's proposed changes, and attaching both a red-line and a clean version of Alpena's proposed MIXDG procedures, forms, and agreement, which reflect all of the Staff's proposed changes with the exception of the proposed change to the Facilities Study Agreement. *See*, filing #U-21483-007. In further discussions with Alpena, the Staff withdrew the proposed change to the Facilities Study Agreement. The Commission also notes that, in the July 23, 2024 order in Case No. U-21543 (July 23 order), the Commission approved a Standard Level 1, 2, and 3 Interconnection Agreement.

The Commission approves Alpena's December 9, 2024 MIXDG procedures, forms, and agreement. The Commission finds that Alpena shall utilize the statewide Standard Level 1, 2, and 3 Interconnection Agreement approved in the July 23 order for Level 1, 2, and 3 certified projects, and the Standard Level 4 and 5 and Non-Certified Project Interconnection Agreement attached to the December 9, 2024 filing as Exhibit A-2, Schedule 7.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that:

A. Alpena Power Company's December 9, 2024 interconnection procedures, forms, and Standard Level 4 and 5 and Non-Certified Project Interconnection Agreement are approved.

B. Alpena Power Company shall utilize the Standard Level 1, 2, and 3 Interconnection Agreement approved in the July 23, 2024 order in Case No. U-21543 for Level 1, 2, and 3

certified projects.

The Commission reserves jurisdiction and may issue further orders as necessary.

Any party desiring to appeal this order must do so in the appropriate court within 30 days after issuance and notice of this order, pursuant to MCL 462.26. To comply with the Michigan Rules of Court's requirement to notify the Commission of an appeal, appellants shall send required notices to both the Commission's Executive Secretary and to the Commission's Legal Counsel. Electronic notifications should be sent to the Executive Secretary at LARA-MPSC-Edockets@michigan.gov and to the Michigan Department of Attorney General - Public Service Division at sheacl@michigan.gov. In lieu of electronic submissions, paper copies of such notifications may be sent to the Executive Secretary and the Attorney General - Public Service Division at 7109 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing, MI 48917.

MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Daniel C. Scripps, Chair

Katherine L. Peretick, Commissioner

Alessandra R. Carreon, Commissioner

By its action of January 23, 2025.

Lisa Felice, Executive Secretary

PROOF OF SERVICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN)

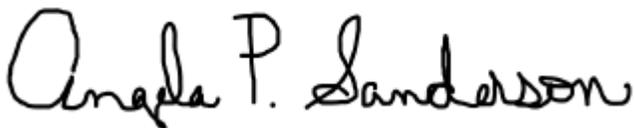
Case No. U-21483

County of Ingham)

Brianna Brown being duly sworn, deposes and says that on January 23, 2025 A.D. she electronically notified the attached list of this **Commission Order via e-mail transmission**, to the persons as shown on the attached service list (Listserv Distribution List).


Brianna Brown

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this 23rd day of January 2025.



Angela P. Sanderson
Notary Public, Shiawassee County, Michigan
As acting in Eaton County
My Commission Expires: May 21, 2030

Service List for Case: U-21483

Name	On Behalf Of	Email Address
Alpena Power Company	Alpena Power Company	kd@alpenapower.com
Timothy M. Gulden	Alpena Power Company	tmgulden@bfwlawfirm.com