CESA
CALIFORNIA ENERGY STORAGE ALLIANCE

EPIC Strategic Goals Workshop: DERs

September 6, 2023

Rachel McMahon
VP, Policy, CA Energy Storage Alliance

Interconnection Process Timelines: Guidehouse (2021)

Table 63. Summary of NEM Key Tariff Step Timeline Results

Timeline Step*	PG&E Count	PG&E % Met	SCE Count†	SCE % Met	SDG&E Count	SDG&E % Met
Expedited 30-day provision for NEM projects	185,908	96.3%	82	90.1%	71,250	99.1%
Time to validate application	188,737	86.7%	85	96.3%	67,954	97.4%
Time to notify customer of application deficiencies	58,051	83.9%	47	90.4%	Not analyzed‡	
Time to respond to notification deficiencies	30,026	61.0%	25	93.7%	Not analyzed‡	
Time to complete IR	188,680	96.9%	85	100%	Not analyzed	

Positive performance on interconnection timelines for smaller and solar-only NEM systems.

Interconnection timelines for non-NEM/NBT and "electrification" systems, including standalone storage, microgrid solutions, vehicle charging, etc., need improvement

Table 112. Summary of Non-NEM Key Tariff Step Timeline Results

Timeline Step*	PG&E Count	PG&E % Met	SCE Count†	SCE % Met	SDG&E Count	SDG&E % Met
Time to validate application	144	17.4%	911	25.0%	133	82.7%
Time to notify customer of application deficiencies	311	98.4%	122	55.7%	Not analyzed†	
Time to respond to notification deficiencies	143	49.0%	65	58.5%	Not analyzed	
Time to complete IR	131	34.4%	685	43.1%	132	72.3%
Time to complete SR after IR	11	27.3%	108	50.0%	Not applicable‡	
Time to complete SIS after DSA Execution	1	Met§	Not analyzed		Not analyzed	
Time to complete SIS after IR or SR	Not applicable		15	93.3%	1	Met
Time to send GIA to customer after IR or SR	101	76.2%	403	45.2%	127	96.9%
Time to send GIA to customer after SIS	1	Met	8	100%	1	Met
Time for customer to execute GIA	82	84.1%	408	80.6%	129	38.8%

* See Table 14 for the tariff-derived timeline requirements for each step.
† Not analyzed means that the analysis was not performed due to missing or incomplete data.
‡ Not applicable means that the step was not relevant to any project in the project population.

Source: Guidehouse Rule 21 Interconnection Program Evaluation Report (March 2021)

EPIC – DER Interconnection Ideas

Interconnection

- Vast majority of systems that interconnect to the distribution system do not require any network upgrades, suggesting that interconnection timelines could improve for most projects.
- Opportunities to streamline interconnection of majority of systems must be evaluated.
- Evaluate expanding "notification only" or "instant interconnection" to all customer-sited "electrification" technologies, including systems that export.

Hosting Capacity

- Integration of ICA distribution system hosting capacity analyses into the DER interconnection process is positive. Continued refinement overtime, supported by research and analysis, will be necessary as more electrification technologies are energized, and as penetration expands to a greater % of load.