

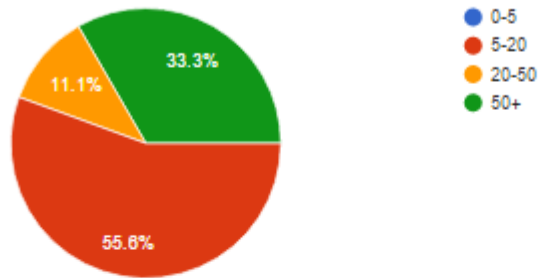
WIDRC Interconnection Practices Survey for Utilities Results

Survey conducted July, 2016

9 Responses

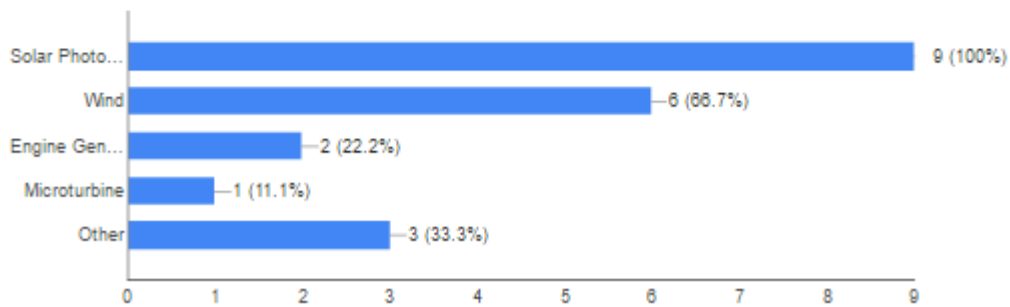
1. How many distributed generation installations have been interconnected to your system in Wisconsin?

(9 responses)



2. What types of distributed generation installations exist in your Wisconsin service territory that are interconnected to your system?

(9 responses)

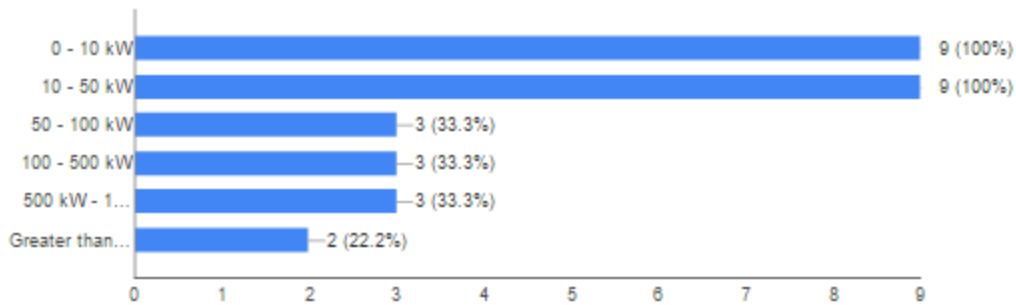


Q2. "Other" responses included:

- Hydro (2)
- Bio (1)
- Diesel (1)
- Steam (1)

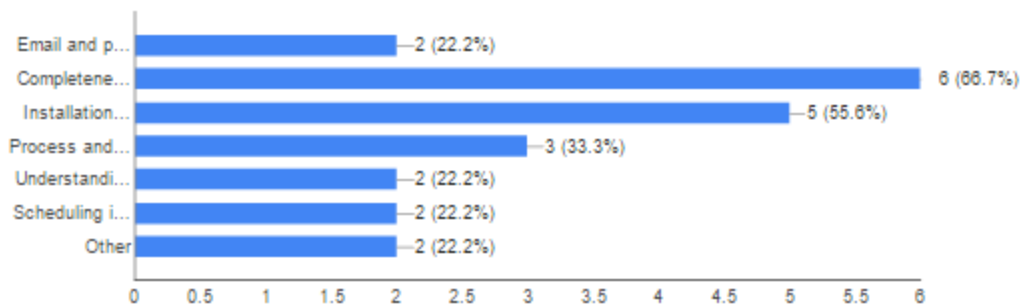
3. What sizes of distributed generation installations exist in your Wisconsin service territory that are interconnected to your system?

(9 responses)



4. Which of the following are the most difficult aspects of working with an installer/contractor or customer on an interconnection?

(9 responses)



Q4 asked for respondents to choose up to 3 options. Answer options included:

- Email and phone communication
- Completeness of application form
- Installation and compliance with technical rules
- Process and timeframes
- Understanding and following the parallel generation tariff rules
- Scheduling inspections
- Other

Q4. "Other" responses included:

- Insurance documents for installations greater than 20 kW
- Usually insurance coverage is missing

5. Would the use of an online application process streamline the interconnection process for your company?

(9 responses)

Yes and we are currently working on developing one to streamline and speed up the interconnection process.

Yes, I think if we had an online tool it would be great, it would also be better for saving the documents for future reference.

Yes, it would help give customer/contractor better guidance through the process (both technical and procedural)

Yes, it would prevent easier storage and retrieval of the documents

Yes, if it were connected to our CIS system. We currently process applications very quickly. Only large installations (over 200 kW) have taken more time due to required insurance documentation, engineering studies and distribution studies.

Not unless it required completeness before allowing submittal.

Yes, this would be easier

I think it would give another option which is not a bad thing. We can always print these and keep them on file. I don't have any problem with the current process.

Yes, online application would likely streamline management of data regarding applications/installations

6. What barriers exist in your company to implementing an online interconnection application process?

(9 responses)

IT challenges with internal programs/firewalls and additional info needed above and beyond what is requested on the PSC forms.

None

getting it done

Proper form available on the website

Limited resources.

cost and weak/poor web interface for utilities

None that I see at this point

We would need a form fillable option for creating this application. I don't know that they are that large other than having the form available and putting it on the website.

Cost for IT development of online application infrastructure. The company would need to gain internal management approval to incur the cost, and it would need to be viewed as a cost effective improvement to the interconnection process. Investing in online application capability is currently under consideration.

7. What improvements in the interconnection process would you suggest?

(9 responses)

Have an e-form where fields are required before the app can be submitted. We waste more time going back to dealers/installers/customers requesting information that should have been included before the form was submitted.

Possibly having the city official/inspector sign the 6029 form showing that it has been approved and inspected. It may slow the process down is the only negative.

Implementing a mechanism to help walk customers through it; more training opportunities to utilities about it

Streamline process from paperwork to connection

N/A

no answer

I can into this process later in the design, so the more information on anything about this would be grateful

I really don't have any improvements other than to give installers a list of who to contact for each utility.

#1 It would be helpful to have a way to deal with changes of ownership of DG. New owners often don't know much about the system they have taken over, and don't know that they have to submit a new application and get a new agreement signed with the utility.

#2 It would be helpful to have a way to specifically address increases in capacity of DG installations over time. Customers may apply for interconnection at a certain capacity but then think they can add additional capacity (i.e. solar panels) at a later date without doing anything additional to notify the utility.

#3 May want to consider an obligation for DG owner to submit an updated certificate of insurance each year to the utility.

8. For larger interconnection applications your company receives that require ISO review, do you have suggestions for improving the process for ISO review?

(9 responses)

No but it is very slow to get them to respond.

No

Include distribution impact studies/analysis up front

I'm not familiar with the ISO review

We request that installers contact us as soon as possible so we can meet the customer's required deadlines.

no answer

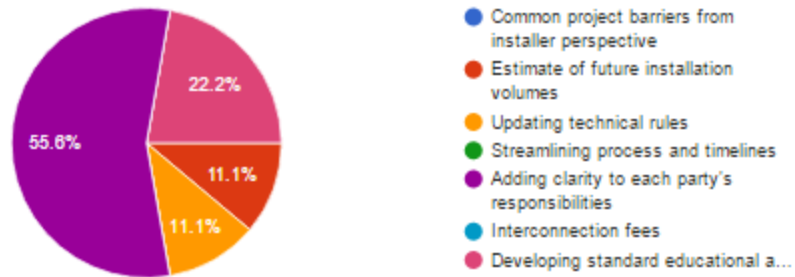
We did have to do this from what I understand in this process.

Haven't dealt with this to date.

We have not really ever dealt with this in Wisconsin. MISO is not interested in reviewing the applications that we have gotten to date.

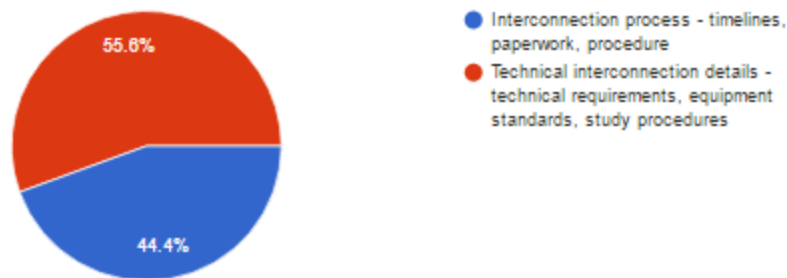
9. What would you most like to discuss or get more information about from installers?

(9 responses)



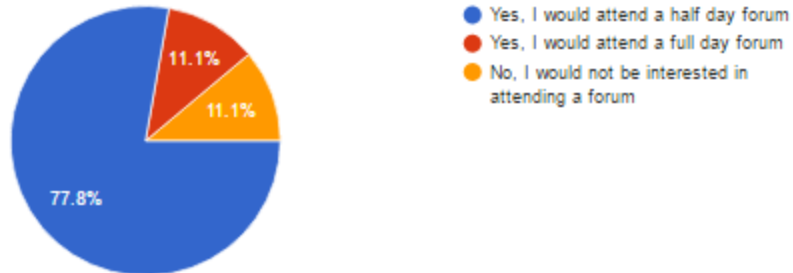
10. If you could spend time with installers discussing one of the following, which would you prioritize?

(9 responses)



11. Would you be interested in attending an educational, information-sharing forum for electric providers and installers/contractors in Wisconsin regarding distributed generation interconnection?

(9 responses)



12. When is the best time to hold an educational, information-sharing forum for electric providers and installers/contractors in Wisconsin regarding distributed generation interconnection?

(9 responses)

