

Frequently Asked Questions- Renewable Generation and Interconnection

Does Union Power Sell or Install Renewable Generation such as solar panels or wind turbines?

No. Although these resources might be interconnected with our electric system, we do not sell, install, service, or maintain such systems.

How much does Union Power pay for energy generated by a renewable generator?

This is governed by our SQF rate schedule. Currently, Union Power pays 4.25¢ per kWh for energy delivered into our system, and we assess a facilities charge of \$33.75.

What is the process for connecting renewable generation to Union Power's system?

1. Read our interconnection documents:
 - **Interconnection Standard:** the technical details which spell out how the renewable generator will be connected to our system.
 - **Interconnection Agreement:** this document is completed after both parties agree to the terms and conditions spelled out in the Interconnection Standard, the Interconnection Application has been received, and our engineering group has completed any analysis necessary for interconnection.
 - **Interconnection Application:** similar to an application which indicates interest in connecting a renewable resource; this provides the technical details for our engineering group, and "gets the ball rolling."
 - **Rate Rider SQF:** this is the rate that we will pay for energy delivered to our system from a renewable resource.
2. Complete the Interconnection Application and Agreement and send to Union Power.
3. Once an inspection has been completed, Union Power will change out the meter, and you will be ready to connect your renewable generator to UPC's system.

How much will it cost to connect a renewable generator?

Costs may vary significantly. All applications will require a minimum \$250.00 non-refundable application fee. After that, it depends on a number of factors such as location, generator size and voltage, and existing power line and transformer facilities. The generator owner is responsible for all interconnection costs, including additional metering or system upgrades necessary to accommodate the interconnection.

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Will Union Power require a separate meter?

Maybe. Depending on the nature, size, and configuration of the existing facility and the renewable generator, a second meter may be required. Also, the intended use of the generator by the owner may dictate the metering configuration.

Does Union Power provide consultation or advice about connecting Renewable Generation?

No. Union Power has always strived to help its member manage their energy consumption. However, providing consulting services such as engineering advice or financial modeling of a renewable resource is not a service that we will provide.

Can Union Power provide me with copies of applicable standards such as IEEE1547 or UL1741?

No. These materials are copyrighted and are available for purchase from the appropriate organization.

Does Union Power offer net metering?

No. Union Power will pay an “avoided cost” rate under rate Rider SQF for kWh delivered into its system.

Can Union Power recommend other resources for those interested in renewable generation?

We recommend that those interested in renewable generation visit the following websites:

NC Green Power: www.ncgreenpower.org

NC Solar Center: nccleantech.ncsu.edu

Interconnecting seems complex and/or expensive to me right now. Does Union Power offer other green solutions?

Yes. We participate in the NC Green Power program. Through this program, interested members may purchase blocks of renewable energy at flat rate. Currently, blocks are sold a \$4 per 100kWh per month.