

## **Cass County Electric Cooperative, Inc. Net-Billing Guidelines, Procedure and Application**

### **Introduction:**

Net-billing is available to members of Cass County Electric Cooperative Inc. (CCEC), who will generate their own electricity and be interconnected to CCEC's electrical grid.

Net-billing only applies to member-owned generating systems which:

- are located on CCEC's distribution system where the aggregated cumulative maximum nameplate generation capacity per distribution feeder is less than 10% of the minimum feeder load
- use one or more of the following renewable technologies as defined by North Dakota Century Code 49-02-25:
  - a. Solar, using the sun as the source of energy for producing electricity;
  - b. Wind, using the wind as the source of energy for producing electricity;
  - c. Biomass, using agricultural crops and agricultural wastes and residues, wood and wood wastes and residues, animal wastes, and landfill gas as the fuel to produce electricity;
  - d. Geothermal, using energy contained in heat that continuously flows outward from the earth as the source of energy to produce electricity;
  - e. Hydrogen, provided that the hydrogen is generated from a source listed in this section;
  - f. Recycled energy systems producing electricity from currently unused waste heat resulting from combustion or other processes into electricity and which do not use an additional combustion process. The term does not include any system whose primary purpose is the generation of electricity.

### **Procedure for application approval:**

CCEC will approve net-billing applications on a first-come, first-served basis. The criterion and action steps required for the approval are as follows:

1. Application is complete and received by CCEC along with any payable fees.
2. The member meets in person with CCEC to explain their project and receive all necessary information from CCEC regarding their requirements to receive approval for a net-billed installation.
3. CCEC will respond within 15 business days after meeting with the applicant to notify the member if the application is approved for net-billing, or if the generation system compromises system integrity.
4. Once the member is given written approval, the member has 12 months from date of approval for the system to be operational. If the system is not operational within this time frame, the application will be reviewed and may be given more time to complete or disallowed at that time.

### **Technical Requirements:**

The member must follow the technical requirements established in CCEC's Interconnection for Generation Systems. The member must also provide a separate Interconnection Application, Engineering Data Submittal, Interconnection Agreement, and the required insurance for the system to be interconnected. Detailed information and submittal forms can be found on CCEC's website at [www.casscountyelectric.com](http://www.casscountyelectric.com) or by calling CCEC's engineering department at 701-356-4400. The system must be approved for interconnection before connection to the electrical grid is allowed.

If the amount of net-billed generating system capacity per distribution feeder exceeds 10% of the minimum feeder load, based on the aggregated cumulative maximum nameplate generation capacity, an engineering study will be conducted to determine the capability of adding any additional generation.

If the member seeks to receive the Minnkota Power Cooperative (MPC) capacity credit, the participating member's generator must meet the guidelines for Accreditation of Generation established by the Mid-Continent Area Power Pool (MAPP). In order for the participating Member's generator to be MAPP accredited for use by Minnkota, the Member shall:

- a. Supply generating capability which can be accredited to MPC in accordance with Section 4.2.2 (Accreditation of Generation) Mid-Continent Area Power Pool Generation Reserve Sharing Pool Handbook.
- b. Annually perform a test of not less than four (4) hours of the generator output at stabilized operating conditions.
- c. Provide MPC with all necessary information and performance data to satisfy MPC's reporting requirements to MAPP or to another successor organization in a timely manner.
- d. Inform CCEC and MPC within 30 days of major equipment failure of its generator.
- e. Deliver each hour all excess renewable energy generated by the generator to MPC through CCEC.
- f. shall operate the generator as directed by MPC's Control Center under emergency and abnormal conditions as determined by MPC..

**Metering Costs:**

The member will pay any additional costs associated with adding a multi-channel bi-directional interval meter and any remote communication equipment associated with the meter setup that would monitor the excess generation delivered to CCEC's system.

**Rates:**

A member who is determined eligible for net-billing will pay electrical rates each billing period as follows:

1. The member will pay the cooperative for any energy supplied by the cooperative to the member's service location which is in excess of energy generated by the member, at the applicable cooperative retail rate.
2. If for any billing period, the member generates energy at the member's service location in excess of the member's consumption of energy:
  - a. The member will not be required to pay the Cooperative for energy supplied by the cooperative to the service location which is offset by the member's supplied generation, but will be required to pay the basic charge imposed by the cooperative as well as taxes and fees owed by the cooperative as a consequence of the arrangement; and
  - b. With respect to energy generated by the member at the service location during periods of time when the member's generation exceeds the member's use at the service location as determined by the interval meter, MPC will pay the member for the kwh of such excess energy during the applicable billing period at the then applicable MPC renewable energy rate. MPC will pay the participating member monthly, or as otherwise mutually agreed (but not more often than monthly), an amount equal to the product of the excess output of kilowatt-hours of renewable energy recorded on the interval meter, as described above, multiplied times MPC's renewable energy purchase rate effective for the applicable period.

**Non-Performance:**

CCEC will monitor for non-performance. The member must inform CCEC and MPC within 30 days of major equipment failure. The member has one (1) year from the date the system becomes non-operational to make the system operational or the member will lose their renewable resources status, interconnection approval, and by default, net-billing. The member must again reapply for net-billing and generator interconnection as outlined by the Net-Billing and Interconnection for Generator Systems policy and procedures. Due to the feeder limitations on net-billed generation, it is possible that a non-performing net-billing system will not be approved to rejoin the net-billing program even if the system becomes operational again.

**Application for net-billing of renewable sources**

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_

CCEC Account #: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Location of Proposed Generator: \_\_\_\_\_

Engineering/Design Firm \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Solar PV Type:**

Qty of Solar Panels: \_\_\_\_\_ x Nameplate Rating Watts (Each) \_\_\_\_\_ =Total Wattage \_\_\_\_\_

Solar Panel Manufacturer: \_\_\_\_\_ Model No. \_\_\_\_\_

Nameplate Data: \_\_\_\_\_

Maximum kW Output \_\_\_\_\_ Voltage Rating \_\_\_\_\_

Frequency \_\_\_\_\_ Battery Voltage (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Inverter Manufacturer \_\_\_\_\_ Model No. \_\_\_\_\_

UL 1741 Listed  Yes  No

**Wind Turbine:**

Wind Turbine Manufacturer: \_\_\_\_\_ Model No. \_\_\_\_\_

Nameplate Data: \_\_\_\_\_

Rated kW Output \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ mph Wind Speed.

Voltage Rating \_\_\_\_\_ Frequency \_\_\_\_\_ Power Factor \_\_\_\_\_

Inverter Manufacturer \_\_\_\_\_ Model No. \_\_\_\_\_

UL 1741 Listed  Yes  No

**Other Qualified Renewable Source:**

Describe System: \_\_\_\_\_

Manufacturer: \_\_\_\_\_ Model No. \_\_\_\_\_

Nameplate Data: \_\_\_\_\_

Rated kW Output \_\_\_\_\_ Voltage Rating \_\_\_\_\_

Frequency \_\_\_\_\_ Power Factor \_\_\_\_\_

Inverter Manufacturer \_\_\_\_\_ Model No. \_\_\_\_\_

UL 1741 Listed  Yes  No

Estimated Start Date \_\_\_\_\_ Estimated Completion Date \_\_\_\_\_

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**Customer Signature:**

I hereby certify that I have read the Net-Billing Interconnection Guidelines and Procedures and that the information provided in the application is true.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

This application is for the Net-Billing request only. A separate interconnection application must also be completed.

Return to:

Cass County Electric  
Engineering: Attn: Chris Erickson  
4100 32<sup>nd</sup> Ave SW  
Fargo ND 58104

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**For Utility Use Only:**

Date Received (please stamp) \_\_\_\_\_

Date Application Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

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