

**ARKANSAS  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**



**NET-METERING RULES**

Last Revised: June 1, 2020  
Order No. 28  
Docket No. 16-027-R  
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x x x x

## SECTION 2. NET-METERING REQUIREMENTS

### **Rule 2.01 Electric Utility Requirements**

An Electric Utility shall allow Net-Metering Facilities to be interconnected using a standard meter capable of registering the flow of electricity in two (2) directions.

### **Rule 2.02 Metering Requirements**

- A. Metering equipment shall be installed to both accurately measure the electricity supplied by the Electric Utility to each Net-Metering Customer and also to accurately measure the electricity generated by each Net-Metering Customer that is fed back to the Electric Utility over the applicable Billing Period. If nonstandard metering equipment is required, the customer is responsible for the cost differential between the required metering equipment and the utility's standard metering equipment for the customer's current rate schedule.
- B. Accuracy requirements for a meter operating in both forward and reverse registration modes shall be as defined in the Commission's Special Rules - Electric. A test to determine compliance with this accuracy requirement shall be made by the Electric Utility either before or at the time the Net-Metering Facility is placed in operation in accordance with these Rules.

### **Rule 2.03 New or Additional Charges**

Any new or additional charge which would increase a Net-Metering Customer's costs beyond those of other customers in the rate class shall be filed by the Electric Utility with the Commission for approval. The filing shall be supported by the cost/benefit analysis described in Ark. Code Ann. § 23-18-604(b)(4).

### **Rule 2.04 Billing for Net Metering**

- A. On a monthly basis, the Net-Metering Customer shall be billed the charges applicable under the currently effective standard rate schedule and any appropriate rider schedules. Under Net-Metering, only the kilowatt hour (kWh) units of a customer's bill are netted, except as provided herein.
  1. For Net-Metering Customers who receive service under a rate that does not include a demand component:
    - a. Except as provided in Rule 2.04 A.1.b, an Electric Utility shall credit a Net-Metering Customer with the amount of any accumulated Net Excess Generation as measured in kilowatt hours or kilowatt hours multiplied by the applicable retail rate in the next applicable billing period and base the bill of the Net-Metering Customer on the net amount of electricity as measured in kilowatt hours or kilowatt hours multiplied by the applicable retail rate that the Net-Metering Customer has received from or fed back to the electric utility during the billing period.
    - b. After December 31, 2022, an Electric Utility or any other party



**SECTION 3. INTERCONNECTION OF NET- METERING FACILITIES TO EXISTING ELECTRIC POWER SYSTEMS**

**Rule 3.01 Requirements for Initial Interconnection of a Net-Metering Facility**

- A. A Net-Metering customer and owner of the Net-Metering Facility, if different, shall execute a Standard Interconnection Agreement for Net-Metering Facilities (Appendix A) prior to interconnection with the utility's facilities.
- B. A Net-Metering Facility shall be capable of operating in parallel and safely commencing the delivery of power into the utility system at a single point of interconnection. To prevent a Net-Metering Facility from back-feeding a de-energized line, a Net-Metering Facility shall have a visibly open, lockable, manual disconnect switch which is accessible by the Electric Utility and clearly labeled. This requirement for a manual disconnect switch shall be waived if the following three conditions are met: 1) The inverter equipment must be designed to shut down or disconnect and cannot be manually overridden by the customer upon loss of utility service; 2) The inverter must be warranted by the manufacturer to shut down or disconnect upon loss of utility service; and 3) The inverter must be properly installed and operated, and inspected and tested by utility personnel.
- C. The customer and owner of the Net-Metering Facility, if different, shall submit a Standard Interconnection Agreement to the Electric Utility at least thirty (30) days prior to the date the customer intends to interconnect the Net-Metering Facilities to the utility's facilities. Part I, Standard Information, Sections 1 through 4 of the Standard Interconnection Agreement must be completed for the notification to be valid. The customer shall have all equipment necessary to complete the interconnection prior to such notification. If mailed, the date of notification shall be the third day following the mailing of the Standard Interconnection Agreement. The Electric Utility shall provide a copy of the Standard Interconnection Agreement to the customer upon request.
- D. Following notification by the customer or owner as specified in Rule 3.01.C., the utility shall review the plans of the facility and provide the results of its review to the customer, in writing, within 30 calendar days. Any items that would prevent Parallel Operation due to violation of safety standards and/or power generation limits shall be explained along with a description of the modifications necessary to remedy the violations.
- E. The Net-Metering Facility, at the Net-Metering Customer's expense, shall meet safety and performance standards established by local and national electrical codes including the National Electrical Code (NEC), the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), the National Electrical Safety Code (NESC), and Underwriters Laboratories (UL).



- F. The Net-Metering Facility, at the Net-Metering Customer's expense, shall meet all safety and performance standards adopted by the Electric Utility and filed with and approved by the Commission pursuant to these Rules that are necessary to assure safe and reliable operation of the Net-Metering Facility to the Electric Utility's system.
- G. If the Electric Utility's existing facilities are not adequate to interconnect with the Net-Metering Facility, the Net-Metering Customer shall pay the cost of additional or reconfigured facilities prior to the installation or reconfiguration of the facilities.

**Rule 3.02 Requirements for Modifications or Changes to a Net-Metering Facility**

- A. Prior to being made, the Net-Metering Customer or owner of the Net-Metering Facility shall notify the Electric Utility of, and the Electric Utility shall evaluate, any modifications or changes to the Net-Metering Facility described in Part I, Standard Information, Section 2 of the Standard Interconnection Agreement for Net-Metering Facilities. The notice provided by the Net-Metering Customer or owner of the Net-Metering Facility shall provide detailed information describing the modifications or changes to the Electric Utility in writing, including a revised Standard Interconnection Agreement for Net-Metering Facilities that clearly identifies the changes to be made. The utility shall review the proposed changes to the facility and provide the results of its evaluation to the customer, in writing, within thirty (30) days of receipt of the customer's proposal. Any items that would prevent Parallel Operation due to violation of applicable safety standards and/or power generation limits shall be explained along with a description of the modifications necessary to remedy the violations.
- B. If the Net-Metering Customer or owner of the Net-Metering Facility makes such modification without the Electric Utility's prior written authorization and the execution of a new Standard Interconnection Agreement, the Electric Utility shall have the right to suspend Net-Metering service pursuant to the procedures in Section 6 of the Commission's General Service Rules.
- C. A Net-Metering Facility shall not be modified or changed to generate electrical energy in excess of the amount necessary to offset all of the Net-Metering Customer requirements for electricity.

**Rule 3.03 Requirements for Preliminary Interconnection Site Review Request**

- A. For the purpose of requesting that the Electric Utility conduct a preliminary interconnection site review for a proposed Net-Metering Facility pursuant to Rule 2.06.B.4, or as otherwise requested by the customer, the customer shall notify the Electric Utility by submitting a completed Preliminary Interconnection Site Review Request. The customer shall submit a separate Preliminary Interconnection Site Review Request for each point of interconnection if information about multiple