

**JU REVISED DRAFT QUEUE MANAGEMENT PROPOSAL**  
**July 25, 2016**

**Preparatory Activities**

Utilities, representatives from the solar industry, and the State Ombudsmen will continue their efforts to clear the pre-April 29, 2016 inventory through voluntary withdrawals and application of the 12-month limit in the prior version of the SIR.

**Queue Reset for Pre-4/29 Applications**

The “start date” of this queue management process will be 20 business days after the issuance of an Order by the PSC related to this proposal. At the “start date”, the queue of interconnection applications submitted before 4/29/16 will need to meet the applicable requirements described below in the allowed timeframes. The first requirement applies to almost all applications and the other requirements are based on where the application is in the process. Projects that fail to meet the requirements defined in each step will be removed from the queue with no further action required by the utility. The reset will be accomplished by taking the following steps:

- 1) All applications, unless construction payments for an application have been received, will be required to provide the utilities with proof of landowner consent within 10 business days of the “start date”. Landowner consent will take the form of a signed statewide standard landowner consent form which will require that either a) the landowner acknowledges that he/she is working exclusively with that developer so only one application for that land can be submitted at any one time, or b) that there is a signed option agreement to lease or purchase the land, an executed land lease, or an executed purchase contract. Applications that do not meet this requirement will be withdrawn from the queue with no further required action by the utility.
- 2) The utilities will then update the interconnection queue and publish the revised queue within 30 business days from the end of the landowner consent verification period (i.e. completion of the 10 business days specified above). This date will be defined at the “reset date 1.” The utilities will thereafter provide the updated queue monthly on the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.
- 3) In all cases it will be the obligation of the developer to check the status of their projects relative to the required action dates. Applications that do not meet any of their required action dates will be withdrawn from the queue with no further action required by the utility.
- 4) The below timelines and required actions/payments will be applied to the remaining applications as follows:
  - a. **Projects with CESIRs that have been completed for more than 60 business days as of the “reset date 1”:** Any projects in this category that decide to move forward will have 15 business days after “reset date 1” to pay 25% of the expected upgrade cost, and execute the interconnection contract with the utility (as in the new SIR). Making upgrade payment means proof of check or electronic

transfer delivery. Checks must clear for this delivery to count. Any projects for which the 25% payment has not been received or for which an interconnection contract has not been executed by the end of this 15 business day period will be withdrawn from the queue with no further action required from the utility. The end of this 15 business day period will be defined at “reset date 2.” See section on Study and Construction Schedule for further details.

- b. **Projects for which a developer has only received a Preliminary Review as of the “reset date 2”:** Projects which have received only a Preliminary Review by the “reset date 2” will follow the process detailed below. Utilities will have 5 business days from “reset date 2” to contact, via email, the initial grouping of projects (determined based on each utilities capacity to complete CESIR studies) of their need to make a decision to move to full CESIR. Developers will then have 15 business days to notify the utility of their desire to move to full CESIR study. If the developer decides to move forward to CESIR they will be required to make full payment for the study prior to the end of this 15 business day period. Making payment means proof of check or electronic transfer. Checks must clear for electronic transfer to count. Projects must also meet all requirements of the pre-April 29 SIR (i.e. completed design package) prior to the end of this 15 business day period. Any project that fails to make payment or meet all other requirements described above within this 15 business day timeframe will be withdrawn from the queue with no further action required by the utility. As capability for a utility to perform additional CESIRs becomes available (i.e. additional capability added, projects withdrawn, or CESIRs completed) the utilities will have 5 business days to notify the developer of the next project of its need to make a decision to move to full CESIR. Developer will then have 15 business days to make a decision as described above. Utilities will identify the ability to cluster studies on the same circuit and or substation for a single developer. Developer would have the option to cluster but once that decision is made it is final.
- c. **Projects with CESIR studies that have not been completed or completed for less than 60 business days as of “reset date 1”:** The decision period for projects with CESIRs completed for less than 60 business days as of “reset date 1” will be 60 days after that date. All other projects in this category will have 60 business days after completion of their CESIR to decide whether to move forward. Projects that intend to progress must pay 25% of the expected upgrade cost and execute the interconnection contract with the utility (as in the new SIR) by the end of the relevant 60 business day period. Making upgrade payment means proof of check or electronic transfer delivery. Checks must clear for this delivery to count. Any projects for which the 25% payment has not been received or for which an interconnection contract has not been executed by the end of the applicable 60 business day period will be withdrawn from the queue with no further action required from the utility. See section on Study and Construction Schedule for further details.

**d. Study and Construction Schedule**

Each utility will publish a schedule for the completion of CESIRs as part of its monthly reports and will update it monthly. The schedule will show, at a minimum, the start and completion dates for each study. Each individual CESIR will be completed within 60 business days of the start date established for it in the schedule. Utilities will provide construction schedules back to the developer within 30 business days of receipt of the 25% of expected upgrade payment. Construction schedules will be good faith estimates recognizing that easements and permits that may be required for construction can be outside of the utility's control. Developers may arrange to pay additional funds to utilities to cover the costs of long lead-time items. The applicant has a total of 120 business days to provide full payment to the utility from the time of the executed contract.

**Post April 29 Applications**

In addition to complying with all of the timelines of the new SIR, all of these applications will be required to file with the utility a landowner consent form as defined above within 10 business days of the "start date" for all existing applications as of the date of the Order and for all subsequent applications in order to be submitted and enter the interconnection queue. Existing projects as of the date of the Order which do not provide the landowner consent form in the timeline described above will be withdrawn from the queue with no further action required by the utility. Post April 29 applications that meet the landowner consent requirement that proceed to the CESIR will be included in the process above to determine the study schedule. Once an applicant's study start date is posted to the CESIR schedule, the applicant will be given 30 business days to make a decision as to whether to proceed to CESIR and make payment as described above. Projects that do not meet these requirements or any of the other required timelines in the new SIR will be removed from the queue with no further action required by the utility. Once the CESIR for a project is completed the developer will have 60 business days to make payment of 25% of proposed upgrade costs or be removed from the queue as defined in the new SIR.