Small, Mid-Sized, and Large Embedded Generation Facility Connection Guide Greater than 12kW (May 2026)

Thank you for your inquiry regarding connecting a Small, Mid-Sized, or Large Embedded Generation Facility. These facilities are typically eligible to participate in the Net Metering program, which is governed by Ontario Regulation 541/05 (the "Regulation") made under the Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998. Any generation facility that is electrically connected to the ENWIN system must follow this procedure to apply and be approved for connection prior to connecting to the electrical grid.

ENWIN follows the rules of the Ontario Energy Board's ("OEB") Distribution System Code ("DSC") and Distributed Energy Resources Connection Procedures ("DERCP") for Generator connections. Please refer to the OEB's website for the latest version of these documents:

- Distribution System Code

https://www.oeb.ca/regulatory-rules-and-documents/rules-codes-and-requirements/distribution-system-code-dsc

- Distributed Energy Resources Connection Procedures V3.

https://www.oeb.ca/sites/default/files/DER_Connection_Procedures.pdf

The generator connection process is fully described in the DERCP. A summary of key steps is provided below.

The first step, once you have decided to participate, is to apply to ENWIN.

It should be noted that the requirements for projects over 12 kW are complex. The summary of steps below only deals with those components relevant to ENWIN. It remains the proponent's responsibility to be familiar with the complete requirements as they pertain to the DSC, DERCP, Net Metering Regulation, environmental approvals, financial plans, domestic content requirements, system impact plans (for Hydro One and the IESO), and other requirements. The process outlined below may be subject to additional legislation, regulations, OEB direction and guidance, and criteria stipulated by other authoritative bodies.

In addition, the connection process may involve monies for studies, costs and completion benchmarks. The remittance and return of any monies will be handled in accordance with the relevant requirements, including any applicable program rules.

The following steps are outlined in the approximate chronological order in which they should occur. Please also refer to DERCP Figures 3 to 7 for flowcharts of the various timelines and responsibilities for Small, Mid-Sized, and Large Embedded Generation Facilities.

PART 1: PRELIMINARY INFORMATION AND SCREENING PROCESS

Project proponents are encouraged to contact ENWIN early and often regarding the details of their proposed project. The first step is to conduct a screening process, which is intended to provide feedback to the applicant early in the process on any deficiencies in their submission that would prevent a distributor from proceeding with a review. To facilitate this, the project proponent may complete a Preliminary Consultation Information Request ("PCIR") form. ENWIN will then provide a Preliminary Consultation Report ("PCR"), which identifies the feasibility of the connection based on the information provided in the PCIR and knowledge of available capacity at the proposed point of connection. ENWIN will also make available information and technical packages relevant to the connection of the proposed project. Further details are available in the Ontario Energy Board's "Distributed Energy Resources Connection Procedures".

Proponents should be aware that ENWIN's technical requirements mirror those of Hydro One. A link to those requirements is set out at the end of this document in Appendix A and on ENWIN's website.

PART 2: SUBMITTING YOUR REQUEST

Project proponents must submit a completed Connection Impact Assessment ("CIA") Application Form, an executed CIA Study Agreement and a cheque for the CIA cost. A Fillable CIA Study Agreement has been posted on the website. The costs are also posted on the website and the customer should submit a cheque to cover the CIA costs as part of their initial application. Only after a complete CIA Application Form, executed CIA Study Agreement and cheque for CIA costs have been received will the application move to the next step. There are also insurance and other documentation requirements.

Some CIA Application Form Considerations

- All proponents must meet the CIA pre-approval requirements set out in section 6.2.4.1(c) of the DSC (e.g. site control, proposed connection date within 3 or 5 years).
- All proponents must pay a CIA deposit, prior to the CIA being conducted, as well as provide a complete CIA Application pursuant to section 6.2.11 of the DSC.
- Payment for the CIA deposit must be done by cheque in the amount specified in the CIA Study Agreement.

Insurance

The customer shall carry commercial general liability insurance for third party bodily injury, personal injury, and property damage in an amount as follows:

- If the Facility is a Small Embedded Generation Facility (see DERCP Table 1), not less than $1,000,000 per occurrence and in the annual aggregate.

- If the Facility is a Mid-sized Embedded Generation Facility (see DERCP Table 1), not less than $2,000,000 per occurrence and in the annual aggregate.
- If the Facility is a Large Embedded Generation Facility (see DERCP Table 1), not less than $5,000,000 per occurrence and in the annual aggregate.

Residential customers are exempt from the commercial general liability insurance requirement.

The Customer shall provide ENWIN with a valid certificate of insurance. The Customer shall provide ENWIN with prompt notice of any cancellation of the Customer's insurance by the insurer.

Other Documentation

- A Building Permit (or letter of exemption) from the City of Windsor, and
- Other documentation as may be specified.

PART 3: PROCESSING YOUR REQUEST:

The anticipated timeframe for ENWIN to conduct and prepare the CIA is 60, 75 or 90 days pursuant to section 6.2.13 of the DSC, depending on a number of factors, including the size of the proposed project and the need for system upgrades or expansions to facilitate connection.

The CIA prepared by ENWIN will contain information such as that set out in section 6.2.14 of the DSC.

A true-up for CIA related costs will be conducted after the CIA is completed. The proponent must pay for any costs incurred above the amount of the deposit.

PART 4: MAKING AN OFFER TO CONNECT

Conditional on a successful CIA, ENWIN will normally make an Offer to Connect by forwarding a proposed Connection Cost Agreement (“CCA”). This agreement will outline any work which ENWIN and Hydro One may need to undertake to effect the connection and any work which the proponent must perform to effect the connection and the costs for such work. This might entail metering and other costs.

Some CCA Considerations

- In accordance with DSC section 6.2.4.1, allocated capacity will be withdrawn if a CCA is not signed within:
    - 6 months of the date on which the applicant received a capacity allocation for the proposed embedded generation facility;

- 9 months of the date on which the applicant received a capacity allocation for a proposed large embedded generation facility if a transmission system impact assessment is required; and
- 17 months of the date on which the applicant received a capacity allocation for a proposed large embedded generation facility if transmission upgrades are required in order to connect the large embedded generation facility.

- ENWIN will incur costs to prepare its cost estimate and the proponent will be responsible for any such costs.
- The proponent must pay for the costs agreed to in the CCA, which may include the proponent's own costs, ENWIN's costs and Hydro One's costs.

PART 5: BUILD AND ENERGIZATION

Once the CCA is executed, ENWIN will assign a project manager to arrange for a kick-off meeting with the applicant within 45 days. At this meeting, the COVER requirements will be discussed to ensure that applicant is aware of the commissioning and energization requirements. If the project is greater than 12kW and equal to or less than 100kW a simplified COVER can be used. Otherwise, the standard COVER is required.

PART 6: CONNECTING THE PROJECT

Once the project construction has been completed and the proponent has demonstrated it has received all necessary approvals (including ESA approvals), ENWIN will normally provide the proponent with a proposed Connection Agreement.

Connection Considerations

- ENWIN will normally connect the project within 60 or 180 days of receiving the signed Connection Agreement, in accordance with section 6.2.21 of the DSC.

PART 7: CHARGES

Each project will be subject to applicable connection costs. All costs are based on cost-recovery principles established by the Ontario Energy Board.

PART 8: ENCLOSURES

As additional information, ENWIN also has the following information available on its website www.enwin.com :

- Approved Meter Sockets and Cabinets
- Metering Instructions
- SCADA Technical Requirements
- SCADA Information Form
- COVER document template

The CIA Study Agreement will be developed based on the application and the Offer to Connect. The Connection Cost Agreement will be developed based on the CIA and therefore no template is provided at this time.

Appendix E of the DSC sets terms and conditions for small embedded generation facilities, mid-sized embedded generation facilities and large embedded generation facilities Connection Agreements. A template is available on ENWIN's website.

All applications should be sent by e-mail to tsd@enwin.com or faxed to (519) 251-7309.

If you have any questions, please call ENWIN's Technical Services Department at (519) 251-7303 during regular business hours (8:00 am to 4:00 pm, Monday to Friday) or e-mail us at tsd@enwin.com.

Appendix A

Hydro One Technical Interconnection Requirements
(https://www.hydroone.com/business-services/generators/technical-requirements)