



Solar System Inter-Connect – Typical Steps to Follow

Lexington Electric System (LES), through a formal approval process, allows qualified and approved solar generation systems to be interconnected to its electrical distribution system.

- **An executed “*Interconnection Agreement*” between LES and the solar generation system owner is required before any physical interconnection or operation of an interconnected solar system.**
- **LES currently does not directly purchase any excess power** generated by an interconnected solar systems.
- Customers with approved interconnected solar systems may allow excess generated power to transfer to the LES distribution grid. LES will not buy or otherwise provide any compensation for the excess power delivered to the LES grid.
- Please note that **the solar generation system must block any flow of generated power into the LES grid when the LES grid is de-energized**. Confirmation of this safety requirement must be verified and witnessed by LES during the solar system commissioning process.
- TVA currently offers a program whereby TVA directly buys all or excess power generated by an approved and qualifying interconnected solar system. The program is called the “**Dispersed Power Production**” (DPP) program. TVA programs are subject to change and may be discontinued or modified over time.
- **Customers wishing to participate in TVA’s DPP program will need to contact TVA directly** and work with them to apply for inclusion into the TVA DPP program.
- Any customer that participates in TVA’s DPP program will be charged a \$25 monthly metering fee by LES to provide meter readings to TVA each month.

The following are the typical steps to install an interconnected solar system within the LES service area:

1. Customer or Installer should contact LES Customer Service or Engineering with the LES account number and address to obtain historic electrical usage. Permission is required from the account owner of record prior to LES releasing any account information to a third party.
2. Complete and submit an “*Application for an Interconnection*”.
3. LES will review the “*Application for an Interconnection*” and respond with questions and details of any make-ready work that will be required to allow the interconnection.
4. LES will provide “aid-to-construct” cost estimates to the Customer for any changes or additions to LES’ facilities that are required to accommodate the interconnection.
5. LES will approve or reject the “*Application for an Interconnection*”.
6. When the Application is approved, LES will provide a draft of an “*Interconnection Agreement*” for the Customer to review and execute. **The Customer will need to sign and notarize the Agreement.**
7. After the “*Interconnection Agreement*” is executed by both parties, LES will authorize the Customer to install their solar equipment. **But, the Customer is not allowed to operate the solar system in parallel interconnected until LES has witnessed a commissioning and safety verification of the system.**
8. The Customer’s Electrician should obtain all required State of Tennessee Electrical Inspection Permits.
9. The Customer’s electrician must have all electrical installation work inspected and passed by the State Electrical inspector before LES can authorize interconnection and operation.
10. After the State approves the installation, LES will schedule an on-site witness system commissioning visit with the Installer and Electrician.

If you have questions before or during this process, please call the Engineering Customer Service Clerk directly at 731-967-7320 or our main at 731-968-3662.