

## **Rule 024 and micro-generation application processes questionnaire**

### **Questions:**

1. Should there be a standardized methodology or minimum information requirements for utilities' calculation of the estimated annual consumption at a customer's existing or new site and the calculation of the micro-generation unit's output? Please provide an explanation.
  - a. Please identify and justify the best historical timespan for accurately assessing a customer's historical energy usage (for existing sites).
  - b. Please identify and justify the best way for accurately projecting a customer's future energy usage (for new sites).
  - c. Please specify and justify the minimum level of proof that utilities should accept if a customer explains that they intend to increase their electricity consumption shortly after installing a micro-generation system (such as electric vehicle proof of purchase, etc.).
  - d. Please explain how a new micro-generation unit's yearly energy output should be calculated, including accommodation for any partial shading or coverage of a rooftop solar photovoltaic system.
2. There are currently no specified mechanisms for monitoring the compliance of micro-generation systems with the *Micro-Generation Regulation* (i.e., the micro-generation system generates all or a part of, but not more than, the customer's yearly electricity consumption) after the system is approved. How important is post-approval compliance monitoring to ensure micro-generators are remaining aligned with the *Micro-Generation Regulation*? Please provide an explanation.
  - a. Please identify and justify the best way to structure mechanisms for post-approval compliance monitoring, particularly regarding which party (or parties) should assume primary responsibility (such as the AUC, the AESO, utilities, etc.).
3. What type of inverter de-rating, and associated evidence of this de-rating, would ensure that a micro-generation facility will not later increase its system capacity beyond the micro-generation system size approved by the utility? Please provide an explanation.
  - a. Should micro-generators be permitted to de-rate their inverters, subject to the previously described limitations? Please provide an explanation.

4. The City of Medicine Hat's micro-generation application process includes an initial step to determine a potential micro-generation system's maximum permissible size, which has been found to reduce the number of full applications received. Would it be useful for the micro-generation application process to include an initial sizing determination phase, where a utility first determines a customer's maximum permissible micro-generation system size before the customer makes a decision to proceed to a full application? Please provide an explanation.
5. The AUC has heard from stakeholders that inverter standards for micro-generation systems often change, creating temporary misalignment with some AUC guidance documents and contributing to some confusion among micro-generation applicants. Would it be helpful for the AUC to facilitate a working group of relevant parties that reviews technical standards (for inverters, etc.)? Please provide an explanation.
  - a. If yes, how often should the working group meet? (e.g. monthly, quarterly, bi-annually). Please provide examples of technical requirements, other than inverters, that should be included in the discussions.
  - b. If no, please suggest a different way that the AUC can keep abreast of changing technical standards.
6. Please identify, and provide justification and details for, any other high priority micro-generation issues that should be addressed to ensure the effective and efficient functioning of the micro-generation landscape.