

### **30.6 Optional Interconnection Feasibility Study**

The requirements for the Optional Interconnection Feasibility Study set forth in this Section 30.6 shall be subject to the interim transition procedures in Section 30.5.3 of this Attachment X and shall be superseded by the requirements in Section 30.5.3 in the event of conflicting requirements.

#### **30.6.1 Commencing an Optional Interconnection Feasibility Study**

If, within five (5) Business Days after the Scoping Meeting, Developer advises the ISO that it elects to proceed with an Optional Interconnection Feasibility Study, the ISO shall provide to Developer and Connecting Transmission Owner a good faith estimate of the cost and timeframe for completing the Optional Interconnection Feasibility Study. The Developer is responsible for the actual cost of the Optional Interconnection Feasibility Study. Developer shall specify the Point(s) of Interconnection and any reasonable alternative Point(s) of Interconnection. The Developer must provide a \$10,000 or \$60,000 study deposit, depending on the scope of analyses requested pursuant to Section 30.6.2 of this Attachment X. The Developer shall deliver to the ISO the required deposit of \$10,000 or \$60,000, depending upon the scope of the study work elected pursuant to Section 30.6.2 of this Attachment X and the technical data requested by the ISO no later than fifteen (15) Business Days after Developer's receipt of the ISO's good faith estimate of the study costs. If the Developer does not provide the required study deposit within fifteen (15) Business Days after the ISO's notice to Developer and the Connecting Transmission Owner of the good faith estimate of the cost and timeframe for completing the SRIS, the Interconnection Request will be subject to withdrawal. If the Developer does not provide all required technical data, the ISO shall notify the Developer of the deficiency and the Developer shall cure the deficiency within ten (10) Business Days of receipt

of the notice, provided, however, such ability to cure technical deficiencies does not apply to failure to submit the required deposit. The ISO shall notify the Developer and the Connecting Transmission Owner that the Optional Interconnection Feasibility Study has commenced following receipt of the required deposit and once the ISO deems the required technical data sufficient.

If the Optional Interconnection Feasibility Study uncovers any unexpected result(s) not contemplated during the Scoping Meeting, a substitute Point of Interconnection identified by either Developer or Connecting Transmission Owner and the ISO, and acceptable to the other Parties, such acceptance not to be unreasonably withheld, may be substituted for the designated Point of Interconnection specified above without loss of Queue Position, and re-studies shall be completed pursuant to Section 30.6.4 as applicable. For the purpose of this Section 30.6.1, if the ISO, Connecting Transmission Owner and Developer cannot agree on the substituted Point of Interconnection, then Developer may direct that an alternative, as specified pursuant to Section 30.3.3.4, shall be the substitute.

If the Developer opts to forego the Optional Interconnection Feasibility Study, the ISO will initiate an Interconnection System Reliability Impact Study under Section 30.7 of these Large Facility Interconnection Procedures.

### **30.6.2 Scope of Optional Interconnection Feasibility Study**

The Optional Interconnection Feasibility Study shall preliminarily evaluate the feasibility of the proposed interconnection to the New York State Transmission System in accordance with the scope that the Developer elects pursuant to this Section 30.6.2. The scope of the Optional Interconnection Feasibility Study will be provided to the Developer and Connecting Transmission Owner for review and comment. After the Optional Feasibility Study scope is

finalized, the ISO will provide the final scope to the Developer and Connecting Transmission Owner. The Connecting Transmission Owner shall indicate its agreement to the Optional Feasibility Study scope by signing it and promptly returning it to the ISO, such agreement not to be unreasonably withheld.

The Optional Interconnection Feasibility Study shall be conducted in accordance with Applicable Reliability Standards.

The Optional Interconnection Feasibility Study will consider the Base Case and, if not already included in the Base Case, all generators and Class Year Transmission Projects (and with respect to (iii), any identified System Upgrade Facilities and, if security or cash has been posted in accordance with Attachment S, System Deliverability Upgrades, except for Highway facility upgrades that have not yet been triggered under Section 25.7.12.3.1 of Attachment S) that, on the date the Optional Interconnection Feasibility Study commences: (i) are directly interconnected to the New York State Transmission System; (ii) are interconnected to Affected Systems and may have an impact on the Interconnection Request; (iii) have accepted their cost allocation for System Upgrade Facilities and posted security for such System Upgrade Facilities in accordance with Attachment S; and (iv) have no Queue Position but have executed a Standard Large Generator Interconnection Agreement or requested that an unexecuted Standard Large Generator Interconnection Agreement be filed with FERC.

The Optional Interconnection Feasibility Study may consist of the any of the following levels of analysis, at Developer's election:

For a \$10,000 Optional Interconnection Feasibility Study Deposit, Developer may request the following limited analyses:

*Draft for Discussion Purposes*  
*Interconnection Issues Task Force – October 20, 2023*

- (1) Development of conceptual breaker-level one-line diagram of existing NYS Transmission System or Distribution System where the Large Facility proposes to interconnect (i.e., how to integrate the Large Facility into the existing system); and/or
- (2) Review of feasibility/constructability of a conceptual breaker-level one-line diagram of the proposed interconnection (e.g., space for additional breaker bay in existing substation or identification of cable routing concerns inside existing substation).

For a \$60,000 Optional Interconnection Feasibility Study Deposit, Developer may request the following detailed analyses:

- (1) Development of conceptual breaker-level one-line diagram of existing NYS Transmission System or Distribution System where the Large Facility proposes to interconnect (i.e., how to integrate the Large Facility into the existing system);
- (2) Review of feasibility/constructability of a conceptual breaker-level one-line diagram of the proposed interconnection (e.g., space for additional breaker bay in existing substation or identification of cable routing concerns inside existing substation);
- (3) Preliminary review of local protection, communication, and grounding issues associated with the proposed interconnection;
- (4) Power flow, short circuit, and/or bus flow analyses; and/or
- (5) Identification of Connecting Transmission Owner Attachment Facilities and Local System Upgrade Facilities with a non-binding good faith estimate of cost responsibility and a non-binding good faith estimated time to construct.

### **30.6.3 Optional Interconnection Feasibility Study Procedures**

ISO may request additional information from Developer and Connecting Transmission Owner as may reasonably become necessary consistent with Good Utility Practice during the course of the Optional Interconnection Feasibility Study. Upon request from the ISO for additional information required for or related to the Optional Interconnection Feasibility Study, Developer and Connecting Transmission Owner shall provide such additional information in a prompt manner.

The ISO shall utilize existing studies to the extent practicable when it performs the study. If Developer elects the more limited study scope described in Section 30.6.2, the ISO shall use Reasonable Efforts to complete the Optional Interconnection Feasibility Study no later than forty-five (45) Calendar Days after the ISO confirms receipt of the required study deposit and required technical data. If Developer elects the more detailed study scope described in Section 30.6.2, the ISO shall use Reasonable Efforts to complete the Optional Interconnection Feasibility Study no later than ninety (90) Calendar Days after the ISO confirms receipt of the required study deposit and required technical data. At the request of the Developer or at any time the ISO determines that it will not meet the required time frame for completing the Optional Interconnection Feasibility Study, ISO shall notify the Developer as to the schedule status of the Optional Interconnection Feasibility Study. If the ISO is unable to complete the Optional Interconnection Feasibility Study within that time period, it shall notify the Developer and provide an estimated completion date with an explanation of the reasons why additional time is required. Upon request, the ISO shall provide the Developer supporting documentation, workpapers and relevant power flow, and short circuit databases for the Optional Interconnection Feasibility Study, subject to confidentiality arrangements consistent with Section 30.13.1.

The ISO and Connecting Transmission Owner shall study the Interconnection Request at the level of ERIS requested by the Developer, unless otherwise required to study the full output due to safety or reliability concerns based on the ISO's and Connecting Transmission Owner's determination using Good Utility Practice and related engineering considerations and after accounting for any control technology proposed by the Developer.

#### **30.6.3.1 Study Report Meeting**

Connecting Transmission Owner and any Affecting Transmission Owners, together with Developer, will be provided with drafts of the Optional Interconnection Feasibility Study report for review. Review and comments shall be provided to the ISO within fifteen (15) Business Days of receipt. Within ten (10) Business Days of providing a final draft of the Optional Interconnection Feasibility Study report to Developer, the ISO and Connecting Transmission Owner shall meet with Developer to discuss the results of the Optional Interconnection Feasibility Study.

#### **30.6.4 Re-Study**

If the ISO determines that re-study of the Optional Interconnection Feasibility Study is required due to a higher queued project dropping out of the queue, or a modification of a higher queued project subject to Section 30.4.4, or re-designation of the Point of Interconnection pursuant to Section 30.6.1 the ISO shall notify Developer in writing. Such re-study shall take not longer than forty-five (45) Calendar Days from the date of the notice. Any cost of re-study shall be borne by the Developer being re-studied.