

Looking into renewable energy for your home?

Butler Rural Electric Cooperative supports the installation of new renewable energy systems and offers a distributed generation program for qualifying systems. This program enables owners of on-site solar or wind systems to receive power from both the cooperative and a solar or wind system. When solar or wind generation exceeds the building's electricity requirement, the excess is purchased by Buckeye Power, our power supplier. When the renewable energy is not generating enough electricity for the building requirements, the cooperative supplies the power needed.



Is the distributed generation program right for you?

Review the cooperative's Distributed Generation Manual for policies, agreement templates, and an application for interconnecting to our system. The manual is accessible on the cooperative's website at www.butlerrural.coop/content/renewable-energy.

Please note, the manual covers many different scenarios, from a small residential installation up to a larger commercial size venture where standard distributed generation does not apply. A majority of members are able to focus on the two agreements in sections (I) and (J) of the manual, along with the application in Section (E). Also applicable, sections (A), (B), (C), (D) and (K) are policies, technical guidelines and rate information which the cooperative will follow with regards to the installation. You can verify the applicability using the questionnaire in the front of the manual.

- An accessible, lockable disconnect device must be installed with the system and proof of a county electrical inspection is required.
- Proof of homeowner's insurance, updated annually, is required as part of the agreements. We strongly suggest that you verify coverage requirements with your carrier prior to making a commitment for equipment. Requirements are in Section I on pages 9, 10, 11 (Article 9).
- The system must be a certified qualifying facility (QF) per the PURPA act of 1978. Form-556 has to be completed and electronically filed with FERC.

If the system qualifies for the distributed generation program, you can file as a self-certification and there is no fee involved. You will get an acknowledgement email from FERC and that can be forwarded to the cooperative's Manager of Engineering (see contact information below). For more info on the QF certification process, please go to the website www.ferc.gov/industries/electric/gen-info/qual-fac/obtain.asp.

This requirement is waived for residential installations of 25 kW and less of renewable energy generation.

Questions?


Contact Manager of Engineering

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Typical steps for installing a distributed generation system:

1. After selecting a system, complete and submit the application in Section (E) of the Distributed Generation Manual to the cooperative's Manager of Engineering for review.
2. Information contained in the application is put into the agreements found in Sections (I) and (J) and forwarded to you for review.
3. Submit proof of homeowner's insurance coverage for review.
4. After review, you will be notified if the insurance documentation is appropriate.
5. If required, submit Form 556 electronically to FERC to gain certification as a PURPA Qualifying Facility. FERC will send you a confirmation email with a docket # for your facility. Forward this email to the cooperative's Manager of Engineering for documentation.
6. Construct the system.
7. Have the installation inspected by your county's Building and Zoning department.
8. Forward the Electrical Inspection Form to the cooperative for documentation.
9. Forward signed copies of the two agreements in Section (I) and (J) to the cooperative. One of the agreements requires a witness signature.
10. Schedule the meter installation and test with the cooperative's Manager of Engineering.
11. The cooperative's Manager of Engineering will schedule an on-site visit to exchange the meter and test the system for proper shutdown and re-energize timing. You will receive fully executed copies of the two agreements for your records.

