

ConnectGEN

Interconnection Process Workshop 2
Stakeholder Presentations
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*Connecting Power,
Projects, and People*

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Agenda

- Who is ConnectGen?
- What's important?
- What is and is not working?
- Solutions to Ponder

Who is ConnectGen and why is this workshop/topic important to us?

ConnectGen is a developer, owner, and operator of wind, solar, and energy storage projects across the U.S. with active interconnection positions across CAISO, ERCOT, ISO-NE, MISO, NYISO, PJM, and bilateral markets.

ConnectGen starts any new project development effort with a thorough review of the transmission system to identify high-quality interconnection locations and right-sized projects.

...but this process relies on accurate and available data and information.

What is Important?

Access to accurate information (read “quality-assured”) to make decisions:

- **Models and queue entry information** to advise where to focus new development
- **Study reports** that aren’t in conflict with other nearby studies with similar impacted facilities
- **NU cost estimates** within a band of reasonability
- **Drivers and contributors** for the need for NUs
- **Estimates of financial security and timelines for such** to allow for proper budgeting

Reasonable timelines and informative notifications when delays are expected

Reasonable optionality to make changes that make a project more viable (MWe, fuel-type, configuration)

What is working?

- Queue Point
- Deposit levels
- Access to models

What is NOT working? (1/2)

Data Transparency

- New Services Queue postings that are sometimes completely inaccurate in comparison to the actual project POI
- Complete and utter lack of feedback on when a study is going to be started or re-tooled; delays and reasons for delays;
- Extreme difficulty in tracking network upgrades:
 - Drivers
 - Changes to sub-allocations (projects and amounts)
 - Additional system value that could offset costs to GI customers (Multi-Driver Projects)
 - IARR value (Is PJM even following its process on FTR evaluation? [206.5])
 - Category for financial security estimation

Inflexibility to make changes to:

- Energy MW (of any significance)
- Full or partial fuel-changes

What is NOT working? (2/2)

Overall Timing

- Prioritization of Feasibility Studies over SIS (first round) and re-tools
- Being billed for PJM overhead every month while my studies lie dormant awaiting re-tool or whatever else has caused delay

Light Load studies being performed for Wind projects but not for NatGas projects

Solutions to Ponder

Problem: Study timelines and difficulty to track drivers and allocations of NUs

Solutions to consider:

- Cluster studies
- System impact mitigation exchange/platform
- Relay on more consultants
- Involve the states – they need to be aware that renewables/zero-carbon policies need to consider the transmission grid expansion needs as well.



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