



Distributed Generation Metering & Payment Tariff

City of Chicopee, Massachusetts
Municipal Lighting Plant

M.D.P.U. No.145

Cancels M.D.P.U No. 110
Effective Billing: March 1, 2025

Distributed Generation Metering and Payment Tariff	
Designation	Distributed Generation Metering and Payment Tariff
Available	In Chicopee, Massachusetts
Filed	February 7, 2025

Policy Description: In an effort to ensure fair treatment of all of its customers, this policy specifies the treatment of distributed generation (“DG”) installations based on the facility’s maximum, aggregate AC power output expressed in kilowatts (kW). This policy has been designed to reduce the effect of cost-shifting that occurs as a result of Net Metering these resources. Although CEL encourages the installation of small-scale renewable energy projects, it recognizes that much of the financial burden of these installations is borne by other customers. CEL may charge DG customers for costs associated with installing additional meter requirements, incidental administration costs, and the direct costs of any electric system modifications required to interconnect a DG facility. All potential DG customers must have an approved Interconnection Agreement with CEL prior to the installation of a DG system. The customer must meet all requirements in the Interconnection Agreement prior to commercial operation (see Table 1 for fee schedule).

Net Metering: Net Metering refers to the method by which specifically defined classes of DG customers be shall compensated for the output of their DG facility. The following shall apply to ALL Net Metered facilities:

- Net Metered DG facilities must utilize an inverter (or inverters) which complies (or comply) with the most recent revisions of UL 1741 and IEEE 1547 at the time of installation.
- Net Metered DG facilities must be located on property owned or legally occupied (i.e., via lease, rental, or similar agreement) by the DG Customer.
- Net Metered DG facilities must be associated with an existing or proposed electric service – with electric load – and CEL account for the Net Metering credit to be applied to. Transformer losses, protective relays, generator parasitic loads, service outlets, and area lighting SHALL NOT be considered loads for this purpose.
- Net Metered DG facilities shall be assigned a Net Metering Class (described below) based on the type of customer the DG facility is associated with and the size of the DG facility. Only facilities which qualify for one of the listed Net Metering classes shall be eligible for Net Metering. A DG facility may be assigned a new Net Metering class (or disqualified for Net Metering) at any time if appropriate.
- Net Metered DG facilities shall receive a monetary credit (referred to as the Net Metering Credit) for the energy, in kilowatt-hours, produced by the facility. The monetary value of the credit shall be determined by the electric rate of the DG Customer, its Net Metering class (as defined below), and the time at which the energy is generated if the service qualifies for and receives a time-of-use rate.
- Net Metering Credits shall be applied to the customer account associated with the DG facility. Net Metering credits shall be permitted to offset any NORMAL energy (kWh), demand (kVA), or fixed charges (i.e., the customer charge) which accrue on the account.





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- Net Metering Credits are not transferrable and no party shall EVER receive direct payment for Net Metering Credits in the form of a check, wire transfer, cash, cryptocurrency, or any other form of liquid funds.
- Any Net Metering Credits which have been outstanding on a customer's account for a period of at least one year shall be deleted.
- Any Net Metering Credit outstanding when an account is closed – for any reason – shall be deleted.

CEL allows for Third Party Lease of DG Installations but does not allow third party Purchase Power Agreements (PPA's). Third party PPA's refer to arrangements by which generation developers or installers sell electricity directly to customers competing with CEL for that customer's sales, which is considered retail wheeling. State Law exempts municipal electric utilities from offering retail wheeling.

CEL limits the cumulative generating capacity of all Net Metered Residential and Small Customer DG Installations to two percent (2%) of its highest historical peak system demand. The cumulative generating capacity of all Net Metered DG Installations will be limited to five percent (5%) of CEL's highest historical peak demand. At the time of publishing, the CEL historical peak demand was 101 MW, which occurred in 2006.

CEL reserves the right to be offered the option to purchase the Renewable Energy Credits (REC's) associated with any Net Metered DG Facility on its system.

In order to provide reasonable protection to all customers but provide incentive for small scale DG projects, CEL offers Net Metering for the classes describe below:

Residential Net Metering Facilities: In order to receive Residential Net Metering benefits, the installed DG facility must meet all other Net Metering criteria, shall be less than or equal to 15.000 kW, and must be installed at a service which qualifies for and receives a residential rate. The kilowatt-hours produced by the DG Facility will be credited at the full retail value per the Customer Rate Schedule at the normal rate for that DG customer's current class of service. A DG Facility larger than 15.000 kW installed on a residential service shall be classified as a Small Customer Net Metering Installation as defined below. Such systems must still follow the technical guidelines for Residential DG Facilities (see CEL Service Handbook).

Small Customer Net Metering Facilities (< 100 kW): In order to receive Small Customer Net Metering, DG facilities installed at Commercial services (or residential services if the DG facility is > 15.000 kW), must meet all other Net Metering criteria, shall be limited to sixty percent (60%) of the DG customer's annual energy usage assuming a reasonable capacity factor (fifteen percent (15%) for photovoltaic facilities), and shall be limited to a maximum size of 100.000 kW. The kilowatt-hours produced by the DG facility will be credited at the full retail value minus the Distribution/Access Charge (per kWh) at the normal rate for that DG customer's current class of service.





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A \$10.00/month Net Metering Fee will apply for all Small Customer DG Installations due to the ongoing costs associated with maintaining the additional metering point.

Large Customer Net Metering Facilities (< 999 kW): DG facilities which do not qualify for Residential or Small Customer Net Metering, but meet all other criteria for Net Metering, shall receive Large Customer Net Metering. Large Customer Net Metering Facilities (and therefore ALL Net Metering Facilities) will be limited to a maximum size of 999.000 kW AC. The kilowatt-hours produced by the DG facility will be credited at the electric customer’s retail Generation rate per the Customer Rate Schedule.

A \$25.00/month Net Metering Fee will apply for all Large Customer DG Installations due to the ongoing costs associated with maintaining the additional metering point

DG Generators: Proposed DG facilities that intend to seek compensation for their energy and do not meet the requirements defined above, do not qualify for Net Metering. Such DG facilities will be considered DG generators. DG generators may be permitted to execute wholesale transactions – to ISO-NE, third parties outside CEL’s territory, or to CEL directly via a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA). If permitted to do so, additional requirements may apply, including (but not limited to): registering as an ISO-NE Market Participant, participating in regional impact studies at the DG Generator’s expense, executing an Interconnection Agreement with ISO-NE in addition to an Interconnection Agreement with CEL, and wheeling charges collected by CEL. Should CEL and a DG Generator enter into a PPA, then all generation will be governed by the terms of the PPA.

CEL reserves the right to change this policy at any time to reflect changes in its Electric Rate Schedules or to bill the customer-generator for any costs that occur as a result of charges directly related to the customer-generator.

Indemnification: CEL shall not be liable, directly or indirectly, for permitting or continuing to allow the attachment of DG facility, or for the acts or omissions of the customer-generator that cause property damage, or loss, or injury, including death, to any party. CEL will not be held liable for any financial harm that this policy or modifications to this policy cause the customer-generator.

Safety & Operation: Customers must not interconnect their generating facility with the Department’s distribution facilities until they receive approval from the Wiring Inspector and written Permission to Operate (PTO) from CEL. ALL interconnections must follow the terms of any Interconnection Agreements and CEL’s current policies and procedures. Unauthorized interconnections may result in injury to persons and damage to equipment or property for which the customer may be liable. CEL reserves the right to disconnect generation systems when they are determined to interfere with the operation of Department or other customer equipment, in the sole judgment of the Department. Any corrections or modifications to the equipment will be at the sole expense of the customer-generator.

Table 1 – Distributed Generation Fee Schedules

Chicopee Electric Light
P.O. Box 405 • 725 Front Street
Chicopee, MA 01021-0405

413-598-8311
www.celd.com
www.crossroadsfiber.net





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	≤ 100 kW	> 100 kW
	Listed DG	Any DG
Application Fee (covers screens)	\$5/kW Minimum \$100 Maximum \$500	\$5/kW Minimum \$500 Maximum \$3,000
Supplemental Review or Additional Review (if applicable)	N/A	Up to 10 Engineering hours at \$150/hr (\$1,500 maximum)
Standard Interconnection Initial Review	N/A	Included in Application fee (if applicable)
Impact and Detailed Study (if required)	N/A	Actual Cost
Facility Upgrades	Actual Cost	Actual Cost
O&M	TBD	TBD
Witness Test	Actual Cost	Actual Cost

General Terms and Conditions Service hereunder is subject to any terms and conditions in the applicable rate class and is subjected to the General Terms and Conditions which are incorporated as part of this rate.

CITY OF CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT
725 Front Street
Chicopee, Massachusetts 01020

413-598-8311
<http://www.celd.com>

