



REQUIREMENTS FOR GRID INTERCONNECTION OF RENEWABLE GENERATION SYSTEMS

1. PURPOSE

This document describes the general provisions and technical requirements for connecting Renewable Generation Systems (“RGS”) up to 50kW, or larger if approved in writing by The Barbados Light & Power Company Limited (“BL&P”), to BL&P’s electric distribution system (“BL&P’s Grid”). It applies to a two (2) year pilot project and is aimed at, among other things:

- (i) ensuring the compatibility of the RGS with BL&P’s Grid;
- (ii) ensuring the safety of the RGS operating in parallel with BL&P’s Grid;
- (iii) facilitating the safety of BL&P’s employees, agents, customers and the general public; and
- (iv) maintaining a high standard of power quality.

2. SUMMARY OF APPLICATION AND INTERCONNECTION PROCESS

2.1 It is recommended that persons desirous of installing the RGS should contact BL&P, in order to obtain information on requirements for interconnection BEFORE acquiring the RGS.

2.2 Customers may obtain application forms, Renewable Energy Interconnection Agreements, Renewable Energy Power Purchase Agreements and information on RGS requirements from BL&P offices. This information is also available on BL&P’s website at www.blpc.com.bb.

2.3 In order for an interconnection to BL&P’s Grid to be approved, the Customer-Generator is required to do the following:

- (i) Understand BL&P’s interconnection requirements before starting the project;
- (ii) For existing installations, get approval from the Government Electrical Engineering Department (“GEED”) to alter and extend the existing electrical connection;
- (iii) Ensure a visible lockable AC disconnect is in an accessible location at or near BL&P’s meter;

- (iv) Submit an “Application for Grid Interconnection” form along with an Electrical One-Line Diagram and a GEED certificate;
- (v) Submit a valid certificate of insurance evidencing insurance coverage; and
- (vi) Sign a “Renewable Energy Interconnection Agreement” (“**Interconnection Agreement**”) and a “Renewable Energy Power Purchase Agreement” (“**Power Purchase Agreement**”) (if the Customer Generator proposes to sell excess electrical energy generated by the RGS to BLP).

3. GENERAL CONDITIONS

Persons desirous of connecting a RGS to BL&P’s Grid must be customers of BL&P and the power source must be located at the customer’s owned or rented premises.

The RGS must operate in parallel with BL&P’s Grid and offset some or all of the customer’s own electricity usage.

3.1 Electrical Generation Systems

3.1.1 Unless otherwise approved by BL&P, to be eligible to connect and operate in parallel with BL&P’s Grid, the RGS must be wind and/or solar powered with a maximum aggregate capacity per facility of:

- (i) 5kW (AC) for installations serviced under the Domestic Service, Employee and General Service tariffs; or
- (ii) 50kW (AC) for installations serviced under all other tariffs.

3.1.2 The RGS may be single phase or three phase but its rated size is limited to 80% of the size of the main breaker servicing the installation.

3.2 Application

Customers seeking to interconnect the RGS should submit the “**Application For Grid Interconnection**” form (the “Application”) with an Electrical One-Line diagram (see Appendix 1 for sample) specifying all the components of the RGS to BL&P. The customer should simultaneously make an application to the GEED for inspection and certification of the RGS. Where the customer has received approval of the installation by the GEED, the customer should then submit to BL&P the remaining documents as follows:

- (i) A certificate for general liability insurance with a minimum coverage of \$100,000 for RGS up to 5kW and \$500,000 for RGS greater than 5kW; and
- (ii) A “GEED” certificate approving the RGS for interconnection to BL&P’s Grid.

3.3 Application Fee

Applicants will be charged a non-refundable application fee of \$50 at the time of submitting the Application to BL&P.

3.4 Interconnection

3.4.1 Within six (6) weeks of receiving the completed Application, along with all required documentation, BL&P will carry out inspections and tests in accordance with Appendix 6 and will advise the applicant in writing whether or not the proposed interconnection of the RGS qualifies for interconnection to BL&P’s Grid.

3.4.2 Where the customer’s Application has been approved, the customer is required to sign an **Interconnection Agreement** with BL&P prior to commencement of parallel operation. The **Interconnection Agreement** outlines the applicable interconnection standards and requirements for on-going maintenance and operation. A separate **Power Purchase Agreement**, outlining the terms of sale and billing, is required to be signed by customers who wish to sell excess energy from the RGS to BL&P.

3.5 Unauthorized Connections

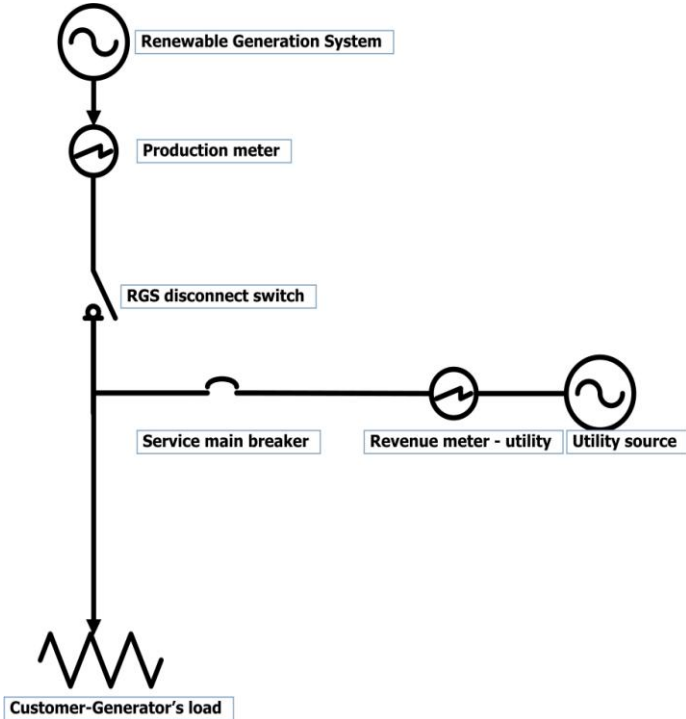
BL&P must grant approval in writing before any RGS is connected to BL&P’s Grid. For the purposes of public and utility personnel safety, BL&P reserves the right to disconnect the service to any customer who connects a RGS to the electrical installation without written authorisation from BL&P.

3.6 Metering

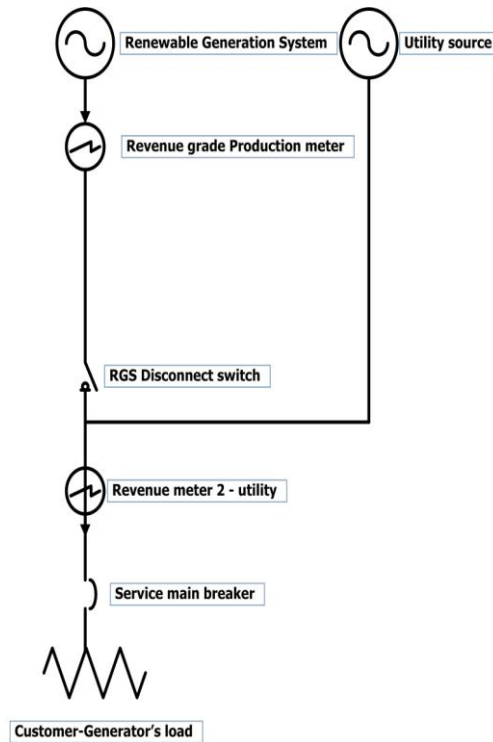
BL&P will furnish metering to measure separately the energy supplied from BL&P’s Grid to the customer and the energy supplied to BL&P’s Grid by the customer whose RGS has been approved by BL&P (“Customer-Generator”). Customer-Generators must

also make provision for measurement of the total energy produced by the RGS. This may be done by having additional metering installed by BL&P at the Customer-Generator's expense or by the Customer-Generator installing equipment suitable for this purpose, subject to BL&P's approval. All metering locations must be readily accessible to BL&P personnel. The two metering configurations are as follows:

METERING CONFIGURATION – 1



METERING CONFIGURATION – 2



For more detailed drawings, refer to Appendix 5, Figs 1 and 2

3.7 Labelling

BL&P shall furnish labelling for placement on or near the meter-base, manual AC disconnect, or other utility-accessible location for the purpose of informing utility personnel that a RGS is either located or operating at the premises. A sample is shown in Appendix 3.

3.8 Insurance

It is the Customer-Generator's sole responsibility to maintain in effect for the duration of the Interconnection Agreement general liability insurance in the amount of not less than ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$100,000.00) for RGS up to 5kW, or not less than FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$500,000.00) for RGS greater than 5kW. An endorsement on a homeowner's policy providing the required amount of coverage is acceptable to meet this insurance requirement. The Customer-Generator is required to submit a copy of a valid certificate of insurance for the RGS. The failure of the Customer-Generator to renew the insurance coverage will render the Interconnection

Agreement and the Power Purchase Agreement (if applicable) null and void. BL&P does not accept responsibility for the failure of the Customer-Generator to renew its insurance policy.

3.9 Liability

The Customer shall hold harmless and indemnify BL&P for all loss to third parties resulting from the operation of the RGS, except when the loss occurs due to the negligent actions of BL&P. BL&P shall hold harmless and indemnify the Customer-Generator for all loss to third parties resulting from the operation of BL&P's Grid, except when the loss occurs due to the negligent actions of the Customer-Generator.

3.10 Future Modifications and Expansion

Prior to modifying, expanding or altering the RGS, the Customer-Generator must obtain written permission from GEED to alter or extend an existing installation. Thereafter, the Customer-Generator must seek prior written approval from BL&P before interconnecting the modified RGS to BL&P's Grid.

3.11 Renewable Capacity on BL&P Grid

For the overall safety and protection of BL&P's Grid, the interconnection of all RGS, during the pilot programme, is limited to 1% of BL&P's system's peak demand. Any additional interconnections above this limit are at the sole discretion of BL&P.

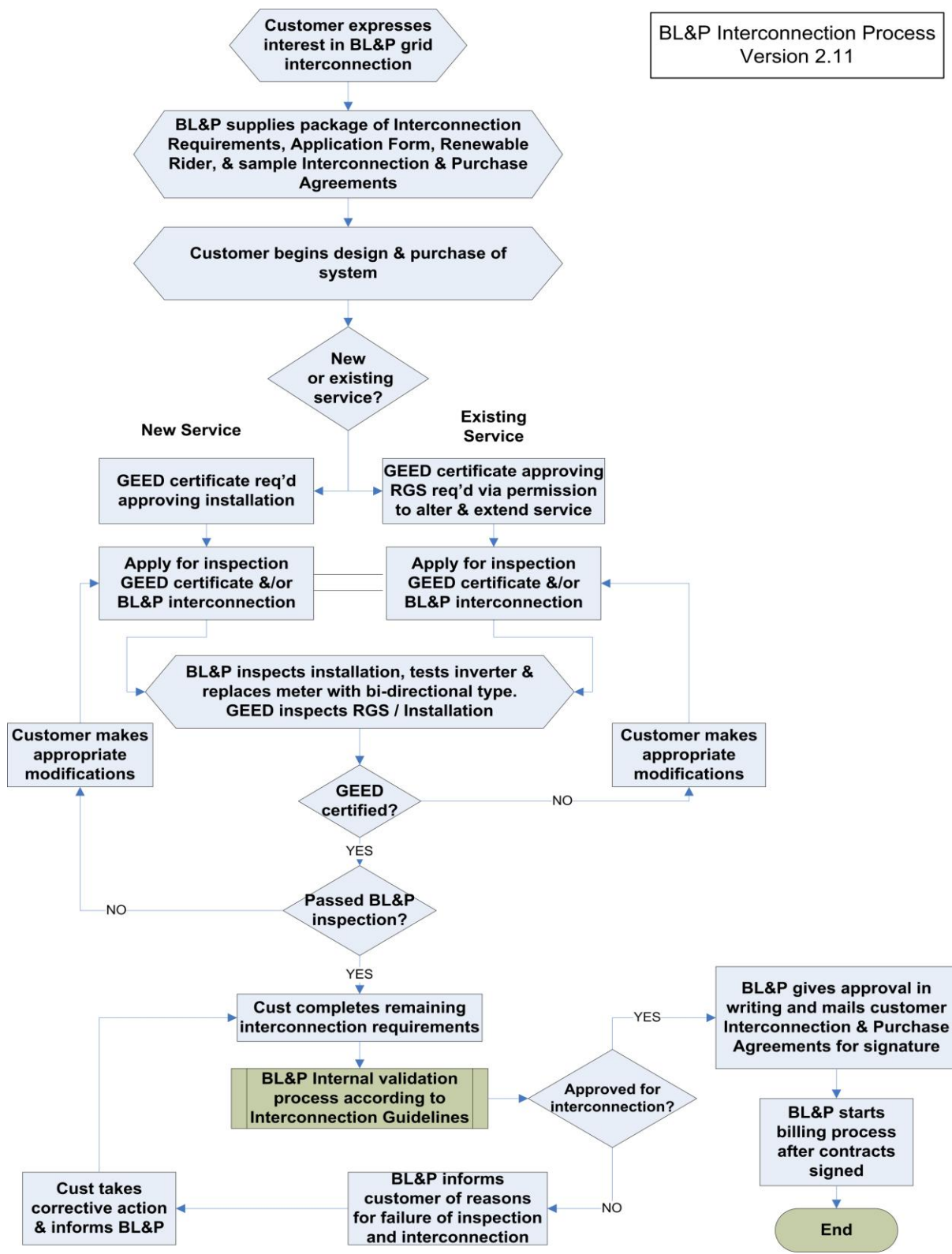
3.12 Customer-owned equipment protection

It is the Customer-Generator's sole responsibility to protect its facility loads and generation equipment and comply with the requirements of all appropriate and relevant standards, codes and local authorities. Please see Appendix 2.

3.13 Additional fees

Customer-Generators may be required to pay BL&P additional fees for services related to the installation of the RGS. Additional costs payable by the Customer-Generator to BL&P above and beyond the Application fee, if any, will be cost-based. For example, the Customer-Generator may undertake, at its expense, to have BL&P install the production meters required for interconnection.

Diagram 1 – Flowchart of the Application and Interconnection Process



This section describes typical BL&P distribution operating and power quality conditions within which the RGS should operate. These are representative values that BL&P attempts to maintain and includes some abnormal conditions that the RGS should be designed to withstand. It is the Customer-Generator’s responsibility to ensure that all equipment operates correctly in this environment.

4.1 System Voltage

BL&P supplies secondary voltages as stated in the latest revision of the “Information and Requirements Covering Installation of Electric Services and Meters”. A voltage tolerance of +/- 6 % is applicable to allow for varying load conditions as shown in **Table 1**. Contingencies may arise that cause the voltage to deviate outside of this tolerance and the RGS must be capable of operating satisfactorily within the extreme voltage level variation limits shown in **Table 1**.

TABLE 1

Nominal system voltages	Voltage variation limits for secondary distribution voltages			
	Extreme	Operating		Conditions
		Normal Operating Conditions		
Single Phase 115/230V				
115V	104V	108V	122V	127V
230V	207V	216V	244V	253V
3 Ph 4 wire 115/200V or 230/400V Wye				
115	104V	108V	122V	127V
200	180V	188V	212V	220V
230	207V	216V	244V	253V
400	360V	376V	424V	440V
3 Phase 3 wire 115/230V				
115	104V	108V	122V	127V
230	207V	216V	244V	253V

4.2 System Frequency

BL&P's Grid operates at 50 Hz. Frequency deviations typically range from 49.8 to 50.2 Hz for small contingencies resulting in modest disturbances where the RGS is expected to remain connected to BL&P's Grid. For larger contingencies, broader frequency variations may occur such as when major generation or transmission is lost and load shedding occurs. The RGS's required response in these situations is specified in **Table 3**.

4.3 Configuration

Single phase 115/230V 50 Hz service is derived from a split-phase transformer with centre-tapped secondary windings to provide a 3-wire supply comprising two phase conductors and one grounded neutral conductor.

4.3.1 Interconnection of grid-synchronous inverters

For split single phase services, due to the configuration of the Grid, a split-phase transformer is strongly recommended for interconnection of European type 240V (L - N) 50 Hz single phase inverters. However, some manufacturers state that, based on their inverter design, the transformer may be excluded. In this event, BL&P requires that:

- (i) the inverter is equipped with ground fault protection; and
- (ii) the manufacturer of the inverter or his agent must supply a statement approving the interconnection of same inverter with a split-phase grid configuration.

BL&P will not accept responsibility for any equipment malfunction or damage arising from the Customer-Generator's choice of configuration.

4.4 Harmonic Distortion

BL&P uses the IEEE Standard 519 "Recommended Practices and Requirements for Harmonic Control in Electric Power Systems" which sets out the quality of power that an electric utility is expected to deliver to the customer at the Point of Common Coupling ("PCC") and describes the voltage and current waveforms that exist throughout the BL&P's Grid. Transient conditions exceeding the limits may be encountered. **IEEE Standard 519** Section 11.5 recommends that the voltage distortion limits, as a percentage of the nominal fundamental frequency voltage in the utility service, should not exceed 5% for the total voltage harmonic distortion and 3% for any individual harmonic.

4.5 Voltage Imbalance

The voltage imbalance on BL&P's Grid under normal operating conditions is typically under 3% but may reach 6%. This imbalance is included in the voltage variation shown in **Table 1**. Voltage imbalance is calculated using RMS voltage levels measured phase to phase at the service entrance under no load conditions.

$$\text{Voltage imbalance (\%)} = 100 \times \{(\text{Maximum deviation from average voltage}) \div (\text{average voltage})\}$$

4.6 Fault and Line Clearing

BL&P may use automatic reclosing to maintain the reliability of BL&P's Grid. The owner of the RGS needs to be aware of line reclosing when designing or purchasing protection schemes to ensure that the RGS ceases to energize before the automatic reclosing of BL&P substation breakers. Grid-tied inverters manufactured to the **UL 1741 Standard** are recommended for this purpose. Systems manufactured to other international standards may be accepted subject to the written approval of BL&P.

5. TECHNICAL INTERCONNECTION REQUIREMENTS

This section provides the technical requirements to be met by the RGS in order to qualify for interconnection to BL&P's Grid and lists typical conditions and response to abnormal conditions that the RGS is required to meet. Except as modified herein, the RGS must conform to **IEEE Standard 1547** "Standard for Interconnecting Distributed Resources with Electric Power Systems".

5.1 Point of delivery – Responsibilities

The Point of Delivery must be identified on the renewable system Electrical One-Line Diagram sent with the Application. BL&P will co-ordinate the design, construction, maintenance and operation of the facilities on the BL&P side of the Point of Common Coupling. The Customer-Generator is responsible for the design, construction, maintenance and operation of the facilities on the Customer-Generator side of the Point of Delivery.

5.2 Point of Disconnection – Safety

A lockable disconnecting device with visible break is required to provide a point of isolation between the RGS and BL&P’s Grid for safe working purposes. It should be installed by the Customer-Generator in a visible and accessible location near to BL&P’s revenue meter or the Point of Delivery, whichever is acceptable to BL&P. A sample disconnect switch is shown in Appendix 4.

5.3 Interconnection Grounding

The RGS must be grounded as per the manufacturers’ recommendations and according to the requirements of the GEED. BL&P provides a grounded neutral service conductor.

5.4 Interrupting Device ratings

The design of the RGS must consider the fault current contributions from both generation sources to ensure that all circuit fault interrupters are adequately sized.

5.5 Over-current Protection

The RGS must detect and promptly cease to energize for over-current fault conditions within its system.

5.6 Under-Voltage and Over-Voltage Protection

Every grid-tied RGS shall have under/over-voltage protection and, on detection of such voltage, shall cease to energize within the timeframe indicated in **Table 2**. Three phase inverter systems shall detect the individual phase to neutral voltage on a grounded Wye system or any individual phase to phase voltage on an ungrounded Wye or delta system for the purposes of **Table 2**. Single phase inverter systems shall detect the phase to neutral voltage if connected to the neutral conductor. Single phase inverter systems connected phase to phase (not connected to the neutral conductor) shall detect the phase to phase voltage. The RGS shall not attempt to regulate the voltage or adversely affect the voltage at the Point of Delivery.

**TABLE 2
Inverter Response to Abnormal Voltage Levels**

Voltage Condition (% of nominal voltage)	Maximum time to disconnect
V<50%	0.16 secs – (8 cycles)
50% < V < 88%	2 secs – (100 cycles)
110 % <V <120%	1 sec – (50 cycles)
V > 120%	0.16 secs – (8 cycles)

5.7 Under Frequency and Over Frequency Protection

RGS shall cease to energize during over/under frequency conditions within the maximum delay times shown in **Table 3** and shall not reconnect until BL&P's Grid has stabilized.

TABLE 3
Inverter Frequency Operating Limits

BL&P Voltage condition	Frequency	Maximum time to disconnect
Rated voltage	F <49.5 Hz	0.16 secs – (8 cycles)
Rated voltage	F > 50.5 Hz	0.16 secs – (8 cycles)

5.8 Anti-Islanding

For an unintentional island condition, where the RGS energizes a portion of BL&P's Grid, the RGS shall detect the island condition and cease to energize BL&P's Grid within a maximum of two seconds after the formation of the island.

5.9 Voltage Flicker

Voltage Flicker is an increase or decrease in voltage over a short period of time and is normally associated with fluctuating loads or motor starting. A Flicker problem is site-specific and depends on the characteristics of the changes in load. A Flicker is considered objectionable when it either causes a modulation of lighting levels sufficient to be irritating to humans or it causes equipment to malfunction. The RGS shall not cause objectionable Flicker for other customers on BL&P's Grid. Refer to **IEC Standards EN61000-3-3 (2008)** and **EN61000-3-11 (2001)**.

5.10 Harmonic Distortion

RGS are expected to comply with **IEEE Standard 519** current distortion limits with regard to harmonic current injection into BL&P's Grid. The harmonic current injection arising from the RGS shall not exceed the values listed in **Table 4** – (excluding any harmonic currents associated with harmonic voltage distortion present on BL&P's Grid without the RGS connected). Total current harmonic distortion shall not exceed 5% of rated current.

TABLE 4

Limits of Maximum Harmonic Current Distortion

Total current harmonic distortion		5.0%
	Maximum distortion	
Harmonic Numbers	Even Harmonics	Odd Harmonics
h < 11	1.0%	4.0%
10 < h < 17	0.5%	2.0%
18 < h < 23	0.4%	1.5%
24 < h < 35	0.2%	0.6%
h > 35	0.1	0.3%

5.11 Voltage Imbalance

When single phase RGS are connected in multiple units and three phase service is available, then approximately equal amounts of generation capacity should be applied to each phase of a three phase circuit.

5.12 DC Injection

The RGS shall not inject a DC current greater than 0.5% of the unit's rated output current at the Point of Delivery after a period of 6 cycles following connection to BL&P's Grid.

5.13 Synchronization

The RGS that can generate an AC Voltage Waveform independent of BL&P's Grid shall be connected in parallel only in combination with its synchronizing capabilities. The RGS shall synchronize to BL&P's Grid while meeting the Flicker requirements of section 5.9 and causing no greater than a 5% voltage variation at the Point of Delivery. Synchronization may occur once BL&P's Grid is stabilized.

5.13.1 Grid-tied inverters

Grid-tied inverters are required to produce a sine wave output of 50 Hz frequency, be synchronous with BL&P's Grid and be listed and labelled to one of the following international standards: **UL 1741 (USA)**, **G83/1 (UK)**, **VDE0126-1-1 (Germany)**, **CSA C22.2 No. 107.1-01 (Canada)**, **4777.2 part 2 (Australia)**. Systems comprising grid-tied inverters with battery backup are configured differently and are more complex than battery-less grid-tied systems. In the interest of safety, the designs of battery back-up grid-tied systems must be approved by GEED and BL&P prior to installation.

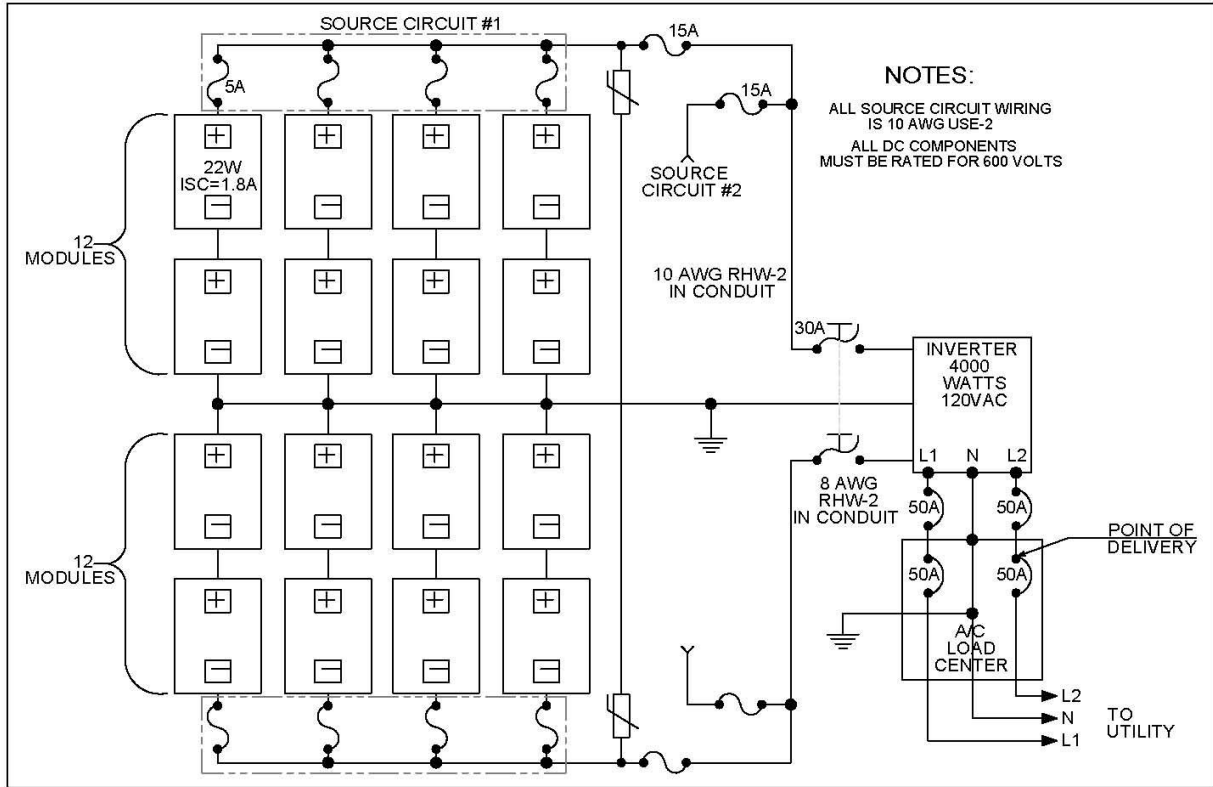
5.14 Interconnection Protection Function Requirements

5.14.1 The RGS shall incorporate the following protective functions:-

- (i) AC disconnecting;
- (ii) Anti-Islanding;
- (iii) Automatic synchronizing (inverters with stand-alone capability);
- (iv) Under-voltage trip (on each phase for 3-phase equipment);
- (v) Over-voltage trip (on each phase for 3-phase equipment);
- (vi) Instantaneous over-current trip (on each phase for 3-phase equipment);
- (vii) Timed over-current trip (on each phase for 3-phase equipment);
- (viii) Under-frequency trip; and
- (ix) Over-frequency trip.

APPENDIX 1 - Sample Electrical One-Line diagram

Centre-tapped PV grid-interconnected PV system



APPENDIX 2 - Summary of PV and Interconnection-Related Technical Standards

IEEE Std 928	Recommended Criteria for Terrestrial PV Power Systems
IEEE Std 1547	Standard for Distributed Resources Interconnected with Electric Power Systems – <i>standard for technical interconnection requirements</i>
IEEE Std 519	Recommended Practices and Requirements for Harmonic Control in Electrical Power Systems - <i>standard for allowable harmonic waveform distortions</i>
IEEE Std 1262	Recommended Practice for Qualification of Photovoltaic Modules
IEEE Std 1374	Guide for Terrestrial Photovoltaic Power System Safety
IEEE Std 1479	Recommended Practice for the Evaluation of Photovoltaic Module Energy Production
UL Std 1741	Static Inverters and Charge Controllers for use in PV Power Systems – <i>a testing protocol that certifies the safe operation of grid-connected inverters</i>
UL Std 1703	Flat-Plate Photovoltaic Modules and Panels
NFPA 70 Article 690 (NEC Code)	Solar Photovoltaic Systems – <i>standard for installation of PV systems</i>
NFPA 70 Article 705 (NEC Code)	Interconnected Electric Power Production Sources – <i>standard for installation of grid-connected systems</i>

APPENDIX 3 – SAMPLE OF UTILITY WARNING SIGN OF CUSTOMER GENERATION



(N. B. size not less than 8” x 6”)

APPENDIX 4 – SAMPLE OF SAFETY DISCONNECT SWITCH



APPENDIX 5 - CONFIGURATIONS

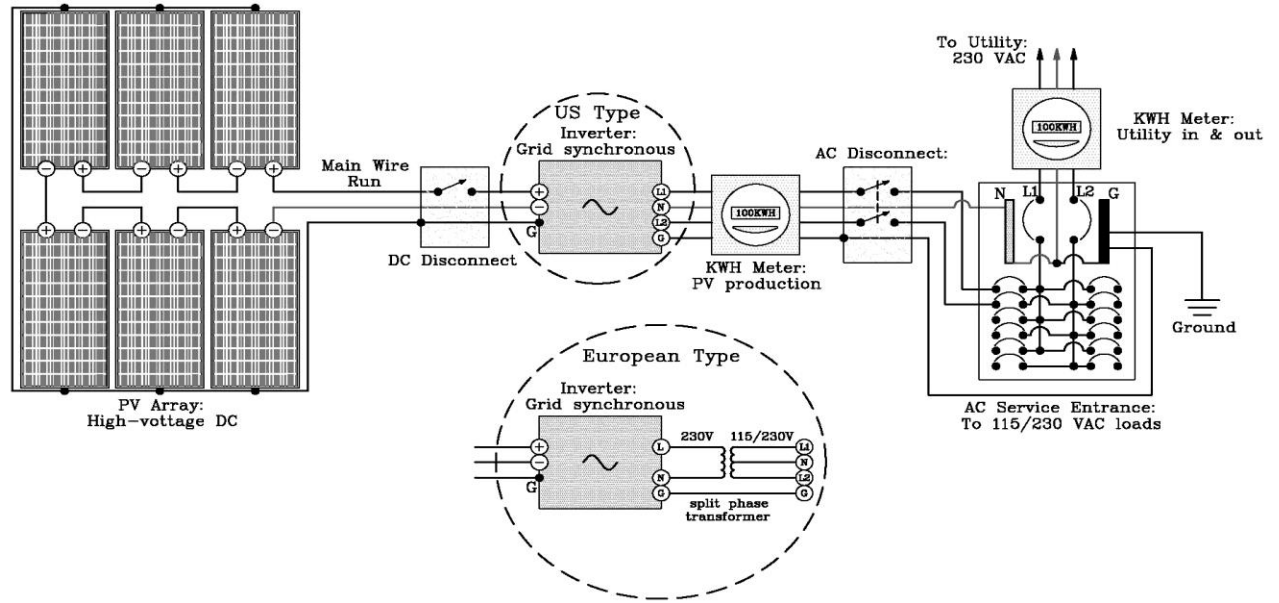


Fig. 1 Configuration 1 (net production to grid)

N.B this drawing is intended for illustration purposes only in the application for interconnection and does not represent a design or installation manual

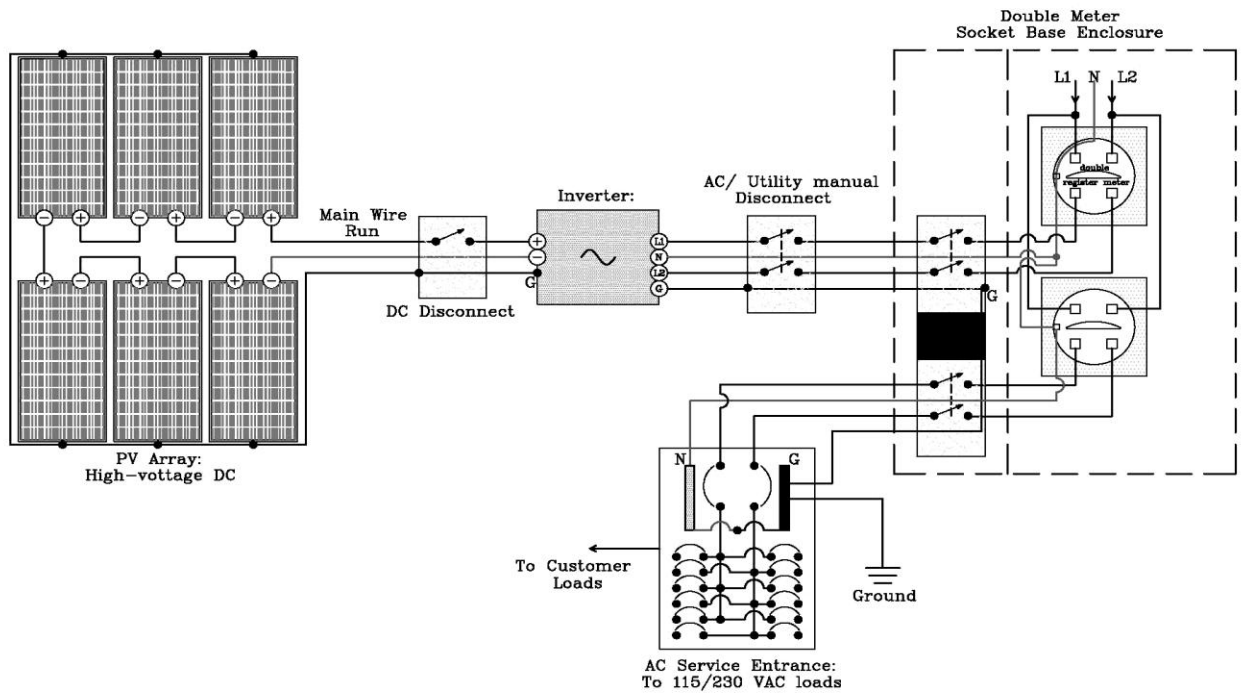


Fig.2 Configuration 2 – total production to grid

N.B this drawing is intended for illustration purposes only in the application for interconnection and does not represent a design or installation manual

APPENDIX 6 - RGS INTERCONNECTION SITE INSPECTION

Verify size of inverters per application
Verify output frequency of inverter
Verify inverter disconnects in the event of an outage
Verify main breaker size per application
Check whether loads are being metered correctly
Verify bi-directional meter is in place
Check whether meter change is required
Verify a.c. disconnect switch is readily accessible to BL&P personnel
Verify label is in place near the utility disconnect switch
Check whether label is required on utility pole
Verify a.c. disconnect switch is grounded via equipment grounding conductor
Verify a.c. disconnect switch is visibly open
Verify a.c. disconnect switch is properly wired
Verify utility disconnect switch is not a raceway for wiring to other components
Verify a.c. disconnect switch handle can be locked in the OFF position with a BL&P lock
Verify BL&P lock has been placed on utility disconnect switch
Verify utility disconnect switch has not been modified to accommodate the BL&P lock
Verify configuration conforms with Electrical One-line drawing & application
Verify measurement of RGS output is in place via production meter or other means
Note any other discrepancies

GLOSSARY

Alternating Current (AC): An electric current that reverses its direction at regularly occurring intervals, known as the frequency which, in the case of Barbados, is 50 times per second.

Automatic Reclosing: This refers to the automatic restoration of power by devices following a fault. It may involve a sequence of short interruptions before permanent restoration or cessation of power.

Capacity (gross): The full-load continuous rating of the Renewable Generation System, under specified conditions, as designated by the manufacturer. It is usually indicated on the nameplate attached to the equipment.

Customer-Generator: The person or entity accepting responsibility for the electricity account associated with the Renewable Generation System.

Delta (Δ) connection: A method for connecting three phase supply where each phase is connected in series with the next, separated by a phase rotation of 120 degrees. Compare with Wye (Y) (star) connection.

Direct Current (DC): An electric current that flows in a constant direction. The magnitude of the current does not vary or has a very slight variation.

Distribution System:

The local poles, wires, transformers, substations and other equipment used to deliver electricity to consumers. (See Grid also)

Flicker: Flicker (voltage) is an unsteady visual sensation associated with changing lighting luminance caused by sudden and repetitive increases or decreases in voltage over a short period of time. It is normally associated with fluctuating loads or motor starting.

Frequency Protection (over/under): Use of relays or other devices to protect lines or equipment by causing circuits to open based on the degree by which the measured frequency varies from a set value.

Generation (Electricity): The process of producing electric energy from other forms of energy; also, the amount of electric energy produced, expressed in Watthours (Wh).

Grid: A network for the transmission of electricity throughout a region. The term is also used to refer to the layout of an electric distribution system.

Grounding: An electrical connection to the earth or a body that extends from an earth connection for the purposes of safety and voltage reference.

Harmonics: Distortions in the sinusoidal voltage and current waveforms caused by the overlapping of the fundamental waveform at 50 Hz with other waveforms of integral multiple frequencies of the fundamental waveform. Total harmonic distortion (THD) is summation of all the distortions at the various harmonic frequencies.

Hybrid System: A self-generation system that combines multiple power sources (such as solar and wind) and is located behind a single electric utility service meter. Energy storage systems such as batteries do not constitute a power source for the purpose of this definition.

Interconnection Agreement: A legal document authorizing the flow of electricity between the facilities of two electric systems. Renewable energy systems must be permanently interconnected and operating in parallel to the electrical distribution grid of the utility serving the customer's electrical load.

Interrupting Device Rating: The highest current that a device is intended to interrupt safely at rated voltage.

Inverter: A device that converts dc electricity into ac electricity. Some types are used for stand-alone systems (not connected to the grid) and others are designed as utility-interactive (grid-tied) systems to operate in parallel with the utility to supply common loads and may deliver power to the utility.

Islanding: Islanding is a condition which occurs when an interconnected Renewable Generation System continues to energize the facility (and the grid) after a utility power interruption. Industry practice requires that the Renewable Generation System be disconnected promptly according to applicable standards to avoid equipment damage and safety hazards to personnel.

Overcurrent Protection: Use of a device or relay to protect the system by tripping it offline based on the degree by which the measured current varies from a set value. The trip may be instantaneous or after a preset time.

Kilowatt (kW): A measure of instantaneous power equal to one thousand Watts of electricity (See Watt).

Kilowatthour (kWh): A quantity of electricity usage equal to one thousand Watthours.

Manual Disconnect switch: A manual switch required for interconnection to disconnect the renewable generation source from the utility line.

Net Metering: An arrangement that permits a facility to offset its electrical consumption against energy delivered by the grid at the retail value and sell power in excess of its local consumption.

Net billing: Arrangement that permits the utility (using two meters or one meter that separately measures inflows and outflows of electricity) to sell power delivered to the customer at the prevailing tariff, and buy excess power from the customer's RGS at a rate contracted by the utility. The utility issues a net bill for each billing period.

Peak Watt: A manufacturer's unit indicating the amount of power a photovoltaic cell or module will produce at standard test conditions (normally 1,000 watts per square meter and 25 degrees Celsius).

Photovoltaic (PV) Cell: An electronic device capable of converting incident light directly into electricity (direct current)

Photovoltaic (PV) Module: An integrated assembly of interconnected photovoltaic cells designed to deliver a selected level of working voltage and current at its output terminals, packaged for protection against environment degradation, and suited for incorporation in photovoltaic power systems

Point of Common Coupling: The point where the electrical conductors of the utility's distribution system are connected to the customer's conductors and where any transfer of electric power between the customer and the distribution system takes place.

Point of Delivery: The point where the Renewable Generation System is electrically connected to the electric utility for metering purposes.

Point of Disconnection: The point at an accessible location where the disconnect switch used to isolate the Renewable Generation System from the utility is located.

Renewable Energy: Energy flows that occur naturally and repeatedly in the environment (such as solar, wind, biomass) and can be harnessed for human benefit.

Renewable Generation System: The total components and subsystems that, in combination, convert renewable energy into electrical energy suitable for connection to utilisation loads.

Root Mean Square (RMS): Used for AC voltage and current, this quantity equals the square root of the average of the squares of all the instantaneous values occurring during one cycle. It is considered as the effective value of AC because, for a fixed resistive load, the AC rms voltage will produce the same heating effect as a DC voltage of equivalent value.

Solar Energy: The radiant energy of the sun, which can be converted into other forms of energy, such as heat or electricity. Sunlight can be converted to electricity directly, as in the case of photovoltaic (PV) applications or indirectly as in the case of solar thermal applications.

Synchronization: The process of connecting two previously separated ac sources such as the customer's private generation system and the utility's grid, to allow them to operate in parallel (after matching frequency, voltage, phase angles etc.).

Total Harmonic Distortion (voltage and current): This is a single number representation of the amount of distortion of a voltage or current electrical waveform from a true sine wave.

Voltage protection (over/under): Use of relays or other devices to protect lines or equipment by causing circuits to open based on the degree by which the measured voltage varies from a set value.

Voltage (current) Waveform: The variation of voltage (current) over one cycle indicated by the pattern which results when the instantaneous value of voltage (current) is plotted with respect to

time over a cycle. Ideally, AC waveforms are represented by sinusoids and DC waveforms are constant over time.

Watt (Electric): The electrical unit of power represented by the rate of energy transfer of 1 Ampere of electric current flowing under a pressure of 1 Volt at unity Power Factor.

Watt hour (Wh): The electrical unit of energy represented by 1 Watt of power supplied to, or taken from, an electric circuit steadily for 1 hour.

Wind energy: Energy present in wind motion that can be converted to mechanical energy for driving pumps, mills, and electric power generators.

Wye (Y, star) Connection: A method for connecting three phase supply where each individual conductor is connected to a common point, which may be grounded or ungrounded. Compare with delta (Δ) connection.