

# NOBLE REMC INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT

This interconnection agreement ("Agreement") is made and entered into this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, by and between Noble Rural Electric Membership Corporation ("Company"), and \_\_\_\_\_ ("Customer"). Company and Customer are hereinafter sometimes referred to individually as "Party" or collectively as "Parties".

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, Customer is installing, or has installed, generation equipment, controls, and protective relays and equipment ("Generation Facilities") used to interconnect and operate in parallel with Company's electric system, which Generation Facilities are more fully described in Schedule NB-1 Residential Net Billing Rate Schedule, attached hereto and incorporated herein by this Agreement, and as follows:

Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Generator Size and Type: \_\_\_\_\_

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration thereof, Customer and Company agree as follows:

- 1. Application.** It is understood and agreed that this Agreement applies only to the operation of the Generation Facilities described above and in Schedule NB-1 Residential Net Billing Rate Schedule.
- 2. Interconnection.** Company agrees to allow Customer to interconnect and operate the Generation Facilities in parallel with Company's electric system in accordance with any operating procedures or other conditions specified in Schedule NB-1 Residential Net Billing Rate Schedule. By this Agreement, or by inspection, if any, or by non-rejection, or by approval, or in any other way, Company does not give any warranty, express or implied, as to the adequacy, safety, compliance with applicable codes or requirements, or as to any other characteristics, of the Generation Facilities. The Generation Facilities installed and operated by or for Customer shall comply with, and Customer represents and warrants their compliance with: (a) the National Electrical Code and the National Electrical Safety Code, as each may be revised from time to time; (b) Company's rules and regulations, including Company's Schedule NB-1 – Interconnection Service and Company's Service Regulations, each as contained in Company's Retail Electric Tariff and as each may be revised from time to time with the approval of Noble REMC Board of Directors ("Company Board"); and (c) all other applicable local, state, and federal codes and laws, as the same may be in effect from time to time.

Customer shall install, operate, and maintain, at Customer's sole cost and expense, the Generation Facilities in accordance with *IEEE 1547-2003 "IEEE Standard for Interconnecting Distributed Resources with Electric Power Systems."* (IEEE 1547) and the manufacturer's suggested practices for safe, efficient and reliable operation of the Generation Facilities in parallel with Company's electric system. Customer shall bear full responsibility for the installation, maintenance and safe operation of the Generation Facilities. Upon request from the Company, Customer shall supply copies of periodic test reports or inspection logs.

Customer shall be responsible for protecting, at Customer's sole cost and expense, the Generation Facilities from any condition or disturbance on Company's electric system, including, but not limited to, voltage sags or swells, system faults, outages, loss of a single phase of supply, equipment failures, and lightning or switching surges.

Customer agrees that, without the prior written permission from Company, no changes shall be made to the configuration of the Generation Facilities, as that configuration is described in Schedule NB-1 Residential Net Billing Rate Schedule, and no relay or other control or protection settings specified in Schedule NB-1 Residential Net Billing Rate Schedule shall be set, reset, adjusted or tampered with, except to the extent necessary to verify that the Generation Facilities comply with Company approved settings.

**3. Operation by Customer.** Customer shall operate the Generation Facilities in such a manner as not to cause undue fluctuations in voltage, intermittent load characteristics or otherwise interfere with the operation of Company's electric system. At all times when the Generation Facilities are being operated in parallel with Company's electric system, Customer shall so operate the Generation Facilities in such a manner that no disturbance will be produced thereby to the service rendered by Company to any of its other customers or to any electric system interconnected with Company's electric system. Customer understands and agrees that the interconnection and operation of the Generation Facilities pursuant to this Agreement is secondary to, and shall not interfere with, Company's ability to meet its primary responsibility of furnishing reasonably adequate service to its customers.

Customer's control equipment for the Generation Facilities shall immediately, completely, and automatically disconnect and isolate the Generation Facilities from Company's electric system in the event of a fault on Company's electric system, a fault on Customer's electric system, or loss of a source or sources on Company's electric system. The automatic disconnecting device included in such control equipment shall not be capable of reclosing until after service is restored on Company's electric system. Additionally, if the fault is on Customer's electric system, such automatic disconnecting device shall not be reclosed until after the fault is isolated from Customer's electric system. Upon Company's request, Customer shall promptly notify Company whenever such automatic disconnecting devices operate.

**4. Access and Inspection by Company.** Customer must provide the Company reasonable opportunity to inspect the Generation Facilities prior to operation and witness the initial testing and commissioning of the Generation Facilities. Company may witness any commissioning tests required by IEEE 1547. Following the initial testing and inspection of the Generation Facilities and upon reasonable advance notice to Customer, Company shall have access at reasonable times to the Generation Facilities to perform reasonable on-site inspections to verify that the installation, maintenance and operation of the Generation Facilities comply with the requirements of this Agreement. The Company's cost of such inspection(s) shall be at Company's expense; however, Company shall not be responsible for any other cost Customer may incur as a result of such inspection(s). Upon written request, Customer shall inform Company of the next scheduled maintenance and allow Company to witness the maintenance program and any associated testing. Company shall also have at all times immediate access to breakers or any other equipment that will isolate the Generation Facilities from Company's electric system.

**5. Disconnection of Generation Facilities.** Company shall have the right and authority to isolate the Generation Facilities at Company's sole discretion if Company believes that: (a) continued interconnection and parallel operation of the Generation Facilities with Company's electric system creates or contributes (or will create or contribute) to a system emergency on either Company's or Customer's electric system; (b) the Generation Facilities are not in compliance with the requirements of this Agreement, and the non-compliance adversely affects the safety, reliability or power quality of Company's electric system; or (c) the Generation Facilities interfere with the operation of Company's electric system. In non-emergency situations, Company shall give Customer notice of noncompliance including a description of the specific noncompliance condition and allow Customer a reasonable time to cure the noncompliance prior to isolating the Generating Facilities.

The Customer retains the option to temporarily disconnect from the Company's system at any time. Such temporary disconnection shall not be a termination of this Agreement unless the Customer exercises its termination rights under Section 9.

For routine maintenance and repairs on Company's utility system, Company shall provide Interconnection Service Customer with two business days' notice of service interruption.

**6. Rates and Other Charges.** This Agreement does not constitute an agreement by Company to purchase or wheel power produced by the Generation Facilities, or to furnish any backup, supplemental or other power or services associated with the Generation Facilities, and this Agreement does not address any charges for facilities that may be installed by Company in connection with interconnection of the Generation Facilities. It is understood that if Customer desires an agreement whereby Company wheels power, or purchases energy and/or capacity, produced by the Generation Facilities, or furnishes any backup, supplemental or other power or services associated with the Generation Facilities, then Company and Customer may enter into another mutually acceptable separate agreement detailing the charges, terms and conditions of such purchase or wheeling, or such backup, supplemental or other power or services. It is also understood that if any such facilities are required, including any additional metering equipment, as determined by Company, in order for the Generation Facilities to interconnect with and operate in parallel with Company's electric system, then a separate agreement shall be executed by Company and Customer detailing the charges and terms and conditions of payment.

**7. Insurance.** Customer shall maintain reasonable amounts of insurance coverage against risks related to the Generation Facilities for which there is a reasonable likelihood of occurrence. Customer shall agree to provide Company from time to time with proof of such insurance upon Company's request.

**8. Indemnification.** Each Party (the "Indemnifying Party") to the extent permitted by law shall indemnify and hold harmless the other Party from and against all claims, liability, damages and expenses, including attorney's fees, based on any injury to any person, including the loss of life, or damage to any property, including the loss of use thereof, arising out of, resulting from, or connected with, or that may be alleged to have arisen out of, resulted from, or connected with, an act or omission by the Indemnifying Party, its employees, agents, representatives, successors or assigns in the construction, ownership, operation or maintenance of the Indemnifying Party's facilities used in connection with this Agreement. Upon written request of the Party seeking relief under this Section 8, the Indemnifying Party shall defend any suit asserting a claim covered by this Section 8. If a Party is required to bring an action to enforce its rights under this Section 8, either as a separate action or in connection with another action, and said rights are upheld, the Indemnifying Party shall reimburse such Party for all expenses, including attorney's fees, incurred in connection with such action.

**9. Effective Term and Termination Rights.** This Agreement shall become effective when executed by both Parties and shall continue in effect until terminated in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement. This Agreement may be terminated for the following reasons: (a) Customer may terminate this Agreement at any time by giving Company at least sixty (60) days' prior written notice stating Customer's intent to terminate this Agreement at the expiration of such notice period; (b) Company may terminate this Agreement at any time following Customer's failure to generate energy from the Generation Facilities in parallel with Company's electric system by the later of two years from the date of execution of this Agreement or twelve (12) months after completion of the interconnection provided for by this Agreement; (c) either Party may terminate this Agreement at any time by giving the other Party at least sixty (60) days' prior written notice that the other Party is in default of any of the material terms and conditions of this Agreement, so long as the notice specifies the basis for termination and there is reasonable opportunity for the Party in default to cure the default; or (d) Company may terminate this Agreement at any time by giving Customer at least sixty (60) days' prior written notice in the event that there is a change in an applicable rule or statute affecting this Agreement.

Upon termination of this Agreement, Customer's Generation Facilities shall be disconnected from the Company's system.

Termination of this Agreement shall not relieve either party of its liabilities and obligations, owed or continuing at the time of the termination.

**10. Termination of Any Applicable Existing Agreement.** From and after the date when service commences under this Agreement, this Agreement shall supersede any oral and/or written agreement or understanding between Company and Customer concerning the service covered by this Agreement and any such agreement or understanding shall be deemed to be terminated as of the date service commences under this Agreement.

**11. Force Majeure.** For purposes of this Agreement, the term "Force Majeure" means any cause or event not reasonably within the control of the Party claiming Force Majeure, including, but not limited to, the following: acts of God, strikes, lockouts, or other industrial disturbances; acts of public enemies; orders or permits or the absence of the necessary orders or permits of any kind which have been properly applied for from the government of the United States, the State of Indiana, any political subdivision or municipal subdivision or any of their departments, agencies or officials, or any civil or military authority; unavailability of a fuel or resource used in connection with the generation of electricity; extraordinary delay in transportation; unforeseen soil conditions; equipment, material, supplies, labor or machinery shortages; epidemics; landslides; lightning; earthquakes; fires; hurricanes; tornadoes; storms; floods; washouts; drought; arrest; war; civil disturbances; explosions; breakage or accident to machinery, transmission lines, pipes or canals; partial or entire failure of utilities; breach of contract by any supplier, contractor, subcontractor, laborer or materialman; sabotage; injunction; blight; famine; blockade; or quarantine.

If either Party is rendered wholly or partly unable to perform its obligations under this Agreement because of Force Majeure, both Parties shall be excused from whatever obligations under this Agreement are affected by the Force Majeure (other than the obligation to pay money) and shall not be liable or responsible for any delay in the performance of, or the inability to perform, any such obligations for so long as the Force Majeure continues. The Party suffering an occurrence of Force Majeure shall, as soon as is reasonably possible after such occurrence, give the other Party written notice describing the particulars of the occurrence and shall use commercially reasonable efforts to remedy its inability to perform; provided, however, that the settlement of any strike, walkout, lockout or other labor dispute shall be entirely within the discretion of the Party involved in such labor dispute.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have executed this Agreement, effective as of the date first above written.

**Noble REMC**

**CUSTOMER**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Schedule NB-1**

(Schedule NB-1 will contain additional detailed information about the Generator Facilities.