



DER Material Modifications: Guidance Document

This document lays out consensus-based examples of what are typically considered to be material vs non-material modifications for DER applications that are part of the SGIP application process. Examples listed may be subject to change in materiality pending complexities or unique circumstances that may arise on a case by case basis. Although in most cases, these examples would represent an appropriate classification as they are intended to provide guidance to applicants desiring project changes.

Under all modification cases, including like-kind substitutions, the owner or applicant shall notify the utility through utility interconnection online application portal and/or via e-mail. The modification shall be reviewed and approved by the utility prior to acceptance of the change.

For projects above 50kW:

The following examples are typically considered Material modifications:

- A change in point of common coupling (PCC) to a location served by a different circuit, moved to a different line segment (i.e. 3-phase to 1-phase segment, or change in zone of protection), change in site control¹ or any change in PCC for projects interconnecting to network systems.
- A change from certified (NRTL, e.g. UL listed) to non-certified devices.
- An increase in the name plate of the DG or ESS facility of more than 2%, or any increase causing adverse impact to subsequent applications' ability to interconnect.
- Addition of DG at the facility (other than the 2% increase in nameplate) not disclosed in the application, where separate and distinct DER already exists behind the same proposed PCC. This would include existing non-disclosed DER or request for additional generation at the project site.
- Change in DER operating characteristics or schedules, such as operating mode and smart inverter settings not solicited by the utility.
- A change of transformer connection(s) or grounding from that originally installed.

Non-material modifications typically include, but not limited to, the following:

- A change or replacement of generating equipment such as generator(s), inverter(s), transformers, relaying, controls, etc. that is like-kind substitution in size, ratings, impedances, efficiencies or capabilities of the equipment specified in the original or preceding interconnection request as long as the AC nameplate does not increase beyond the 2% threshold described above.
- A change of transformer connection(s) or grounding from that originally proposed prior to or within the CESIR period.
- A change reducing the AC output or nameplate rating of the generating facility.



- A change in PCC to a new location not described under material modifications.
- A change in ownership of a generating facility.
- Any necessary change not associated with the project modification or a suggested change requested by the utility.

For projects 50kW and below:

The following are considered non-material modifications:

- A change in ownership of a generating facility
- A like-kind change or replacement of generating equipment of same nameplate and characteristics such as generator(s), inverter(s), solar panel(s), transformers, relaying, controls, axis-tracking or fixed-tilt hardware.
- An increase in the AC nameplate for the DG facility less than 1kW or 10%, whichever is greater.

ⁱ NOTE: The SGIP requirements pertaining to “Property Owner Consent” and “Site Control Certification” always apply. Therefore, at all stages in the interconnection process, a project and its configuration must fall within the land area that is covered by the applicable document (Property Owner Consent Form or Site Control Certification). Put plainly, if the land area for a project changes from what is addressed by its applicable site documentation, the applicant must re-apply.