

Minutes of the October 12, 2023 Interconnection Working Group (IWG) Meeting

Attendees:

DER Industry

<u>Name</u>	<u>Company</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Company</u>
Dhruv Patel	NYSEIA	Jordan Graham	Tesla
Steve Foley	Sunrise Power Solution	Gurudatta Belavadi	New Leaf Energy
Nora Lardner	ConnectDER		
Emily Peck	ConnectDER		
Jean Pierre Clejan	Green Logic		
Steven Engelmann	Enter Solar		

PSEG LI

<u>Name</u>	<u>Company</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Company</u>
Scott Brown	PSEG LI	Amrit Singh	PSEG LI
Martin Weissman	PSEG LI	Evan Margolis	PSEG LI
John Ng	PSEG LI	John Koroglu	PSEG LI
Don Mathew	PSEG LI	Peter Davie	PSEG LI
Nick Montanaro	PSEG LI	Klint Bynoe	PSEG LI
Yuri Fishman	PSEG LI	Cameron Kemme	PSEG LI
Anie Philip	PSEG LI	Reigh Walling	PSEG LI Consultant
Alexandru Majeru	PSEG LI		
German Encalada	PSEG LI		
Joseph Abdilla	PSEG LI		
John Zimmermann	PSEG LI		

DPS /LIPA

<u>Name</u>	<u>Company</u>
Pete Mladinich	LIPA
Jami Nafiul	DPS-LI
Jason Pause	DPS-LI

Introduction

Mr. Brown opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and conducted a roll call.

IWG Compliance Guidelines

Mr. Brown reviewed the Compliance Guidelines with participants, including expectations, procedures, policies, and topics to avoid which are stated in the compliance document.

1. 3:10 Material cost matrix upgrade categories

Mr. Brown presented the cost matrix. Mr. Brown clarified that he will not go over the matrix as much in detail since it will eventually be posted on the PSEGLI website. Everyone can access it. In addition, prices are subject to change with cost estimates.

Mr. Belavadi asked if the matrix goes over all categories.

Mr. Brown answered that this matrix goes over the common categories that PSEGLI usually sees on the interconnection projects.

Mr. Engelmann asked what the price differences are relative to other utilities.

Mr. Brown answered that the prices tend to be higher relative to other utilities upstate because of the cost of labor. However, material cost is largely the same.

2. 3:25 Energy Storage System principles & challenges

Mr. Brown transitioned over to ESS principles and challenges topic. Mr. Brown commented that a lot of developers are participating in ESS projects. The red mark-up (track changes) on the document are PSEGLI's comments. Purpose of the red marks is to start discussions to receive input from developers. Reliability and safety is top priority when formulating this type of document. Flexibility is something PSEGLI agrees with, but that flexibility needs to respect other DERs on LIPA circuits. PSEGLI sees an increase in DER applications.

Mr. Brown clarified that PSEGLI wants to share data, but wants to be cautious and responsible as there can be cyber concerns. As a result, the approach of delivering data to developers is still in internal discussions.

Mr. Patel asked if an ESS is to be studied in worst case scenario, how the ESS is going preform? What are the factors to make informed time schedules? Are they too conservative?

Mr. Margolis responded that DER's that qualify for CESIR, PSEGLI takes into account a lot of factors. It's a case by case basis to ensure batteries are connected safety. It keeps evolving as time goes on.

Mr. Mathew added that the grid is dynamic and projects may not go online within 6 or 12 months of study results. By the time the project goes online factors may have changed.

Mr. Brown concluded by saying in a perfect world PSEGLI would want to provide less conservative charging and discharging but it's a matter of reliability and safety.

Mr. Belavadi followed up with the question by asking if PSEGLI sees any trends regarding time windows for charging and discharging.

Mr. Belavadi asked if the operating schedule is unique to each project.

Mr. Margolis answered that every project is unique and PSEGLI studies all scenarios for batteries and ensures reliability of power is there.

Mr. Patel concluded the subject by saying that developers do not want a time schedule to force them to charge during the peak hour. Mr. Brown and Mr. Patel agreed that this document will have higher level comments later.

3. 3:55 Flexible Roadmap

Mr. Brown transitioned over to discuss flexible interconnection road map. Many utilities have proposed flexible DER interconnection such as in Hawaii and upstate NY. The primary efforts to increase hosting capacity to promote flexible interconnection for PSEGLI would stem from the DOE grant. If the DOE grant is received, then 600 MW of hosting capacity will be increased on the distribution level.

Mr. Belavadi asked if there will be a pilot program while the funds are being confirmed.

Mr. Brown answered that PSEGLI will have a better answer once funds are confirmed.

Mr. Patel commented that with flexible interconnection applicant has more control of the output of the system and does not have to be observed under worst case.

Mr. Foley asked if the DOE grant is not granted, is there a plan to improve infrastructure.

Mr. Montanaro commented that there are existing programs to improve the infrastructure of LIPA grid. If the DOE grant is provided, then it will expedite the upgrades needed to increase hosting capacity.

4. 4:10 Connect DER & TESLA back-up switch

Mr. Brown opened the topic that the spring of this year PSEGLI had a presentation on ConnectDER and PSEGLI has been reviewing their product.

Mr. Bynoe commented that PSEGLI has had many conversations with ConnectDER. But, it is not approved at this time due to the device being behind the meter and a lot of training would need to take place in house.

Mrs. Lardner responded that ConnectDER is not looking for the utility to stock the devices.

Mr. Graham also commented that the backup switch is a big difference to the connector device. It helps with battery storage systems. He wants PSEG to look at meter collars. These devices are being deployed in 50 utilities.

Mr. Graham asked what it looks like for these devices to get approval.

Mr. Bynoe responded that PSEGLI is willing to look into it further. If there is a benefit and no risk for the company, then please contact PSEGLI to get it inspected.

5. 4:25 Router update – Is the 1101 still very delayed. Any update on testing of the newer 1821

Mr. Brown opened the topic by commenting that PSEGLI is not the group that says what router needs to be used. It is Verizon who provides the model number. PSEGLI has seen very long lead times. PSEGLI is working with Verizon to see alternatives. PSEGLI is going to perform tests on the 1821 router.

PSEGLI received an 1821 router from Verizon/Cisco as a loaner unit for testing. In the process of activating a sim card with Verizon to use in the 1821 for testing.

After sim card is activated, then it requires Verizon to configure 1821 router to communicate to Hub router, and then we can start testing in a test environment.

Mr. Patel asked on update on lead times on the 1101 router.

Mr. Ng responded that 9 months is the last time frame PSEGLI got.

Mr. Foley commented that the whole process is in Verizon's hands and could take longer. The process should be streamlined. Projects have been delayed for years because of this router.

6. 4:40 SGIP Tariff Changes

Mr. Brown closed the meeting by commenting that changes on the SIR are posted. The changes cover three areas; UL 1741 SB inverter settings, cost estimates, and property owner definition. November 27th LIPA is going to have two public sessions. Final comments are due to LIPA by December 3rd.

Mr. Brown concluded that the next IWG meeting will be on December 14th.