



## MLGW 2018 Distributed Generation Process Overview

MLGW offers customers the opportunity to generate renewable electricity onsite and interconnect to MLGW's electric grid through various options. Learn about available options, policies and system requirements at: [www.mlgw.com/greenpower](http://www.mlgw.com/greenpower)

This document provides a brief summary of key steps in the application, construction and approval process. For details, please email [bwilliamson@mlgw.org](mailto:bwilliamson@mlgw.org) or call Becky Williamson at 901-528-4748.

### Customers should:

1. Consider energy efficiency improvements to reduce overall energy consumption and cost. Residential and small business customers can find personalized recommendations in My Account at [www.mlgw.com](http://www.mlgw.com); other resources are available at [www.energyright.com](http://www.energyright.com) and <https://mlgw.bizenergyadvisor.com/>
2. Research potential system sizes and costs based on regional data and local electric rates, using the Tennessee Valley Solar Calculator at <https://edt.tva.gov/>
3. Find a contractor to conduct a site review and develop a project plan for consideration. If pursuing solar generation through Green Power Providers, your solar installer must hold at least Associate-Level certification from the North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners (NABCEP). Find solar installers at [www.nabcep.org](http://www.nabcep.org) and <https://www.tva.com/Energy/Valley-Renewable-Energy/Green-Power-Providers/NABCEP-Installers-List>
4. Determine which interconnection option you wish to pursue.
  - a. If Green Power Providers, complete the following steps:
    - i. Check the TVA dashboard <https://www.tva.com/Energy/Valley-Renewable-Energy/Green-Power-Providers/Green-Power-Providers-Dashboard> for remaining program availability
    - ii. Submit a *Capacity Reservation Request* through the TVA portal by clicking "Apply Now/Login" at <https://www.tva.com/Energy/Valley-Renewable-Energy/Green-Power-Providers> beginning 1/31/2018 and ending 12/17/2018, or until program capacity is filled.
    - iii. Await notification as to whether your request has been accepted, and then proceed to next step.
  - b. If Dispersed Power Production, call TVA at 423-751-8640 or email [dpp@tva.gov](mailto:dpp@tva.gov) to request a standard contract, and then proceed simultaneously with MLGW steps below.
  - c. If any other interconnection option, go to next step.
5. Submit an MLGW *Application for Interconnection of Distributed Generation*, along with application fee payment and required technical documents listed therein. Download the PDF (Tier 1 or Tier 2, based on proposed project size) from <http://www.mlgw.com/about/greenpowerswitchdocs> *Do not order or purchase equipment until MLGW and TVA (if applicable) have approved the project.*
6. Submit project to Memphis/Shelby County Office of Construction Code Enforcement (or suburban jurisdiction, if applicable) and await approval. (This step can be taken simultaneously with MLGW processes.)
7. Await MLGW's technical review of the proposed installation. (Most projects are reviewed within 10 business days. Depending on size, location and available infrastructure, an interconnection study may be required. If required, you will be notified.)
8. Receive response from MLGW technical review.
  - a. If Green Power Providers, Customer should login to TVA portal (using credentials emailed by TVA) and submit the *Participation Agreement Request*, which MLGW and TVA will execute after approving the project's technical plan. MLGW also will send a prepared copy of the *Interconnection and Parallel Operation Agreement* to the Customer.

- b. If any other option, Customer will receive from MLGW the prepared copy of the *Interconnection and Parallel Operation Agreement*.
9. Receive the interconnection cost quote from MLGW Customer Engineering and pay amount due. Project cannot proceed without payment. Cost quote includes metering equipment, interconnection labor, required system upgrades (if any) and one system acceptance test.
10. Sign and return the *Interconnection and Parallel Operation Agreement* with insurance documentation. (MLGW will sign and return a copy for your records.)
11. Notify contractor to order materials and begin installation.
12. Have contractor obtain generation meter's electric meter socket from MLGW Electric Meter Operations and install.
13. Have contractor notify Code Enforcement of construction completion and request final inspection.
14. Have contractor call MLGW's Builder Services Center, 901-729-8630, to request installation of the generation meter. (MLGW must have received Code Enforcement's computerized notice of final inspection before a meter installation service order can be created. *This is not a same-day process, so plan accordingly.*)
15. Await MLGW installation of the generation meter. *System must be off to avoid unauthorized generation until project passes system acceptance test.*
16. Notify MLGW of readiness for the acceptance test:
  - a. If Green Power Providers, Contractor will login to TVA portal (using credentials emailed by TVA) to complete and submit the *System Acceptance Form*, which will alert MLGW.
  - b. If any other option, email [bwilliamson@mlgw.org](mailto:bwilliamson@mlgw.org) or call Becky Williamson at 901-528-4748 to request.
17. Await scheduled date for MLGW site visit for system acceptance test. (Installer or participant representative must be present during test.)
  - a. If Green Power Providers, upon successful test MLGW will complete and submit the *System Acceptance Form* to TVA, which authorizes the start of parallel operation for the renewable generation system.
  - b. If any other option, upon successful test MLGW will complete the *System Acceptance Form* and send copy for your records, which authorizes the start of parallel operation for the renewable generation system.
18. Pay \$200 for additional System Acceptance Test, if system failed initial test. \$200 fee must be paid (by check, payable to MLGW) prior to scheduling next test date and repeating step 17.

Please note that a distributed generation project is not finished until all applicable steps have been completed. Generation is prohibited until system has passed MLGW's acceptance test.

#### **Federal Tax Credits and Potential Funding Source**

Homeowners and businesses may qualify for a Federal tax credit equal to 30% of the installed cost, for solar and small wind renewable generation systems which begin construction by 12/31/2019. Tax incentives decline after 2019. For details, consult your tax professional and <http://programs.dsireusa.org/system/program/detail/1235> and <http://programs.dsireusa.org/system/program/detail/658>

Businesses and some non-profit organizations in Tennessee may qualify for a low-interest energy efficiency and renewable generation loan through Pathway Lending. Find details at: <https://www.pathwaylending.org>