



To: Nick Koverman
CC:
From: Tom Nigon, PE
Date: December 7, 2016
Re: Distributed Generation Application Process Revisions

I've reviewed and revised the application process for the interconnection of distributed generation to the St. Charles electric utility. The following is a summary of the changes included in the revised application process:

1. The forms and application materials have been consolidated to one document that includes all information for the applicant except for the Ordinance Establishing Regulations Concerning Alternative Energy Systems and other information on building permits.
2. The application materials have been updated with requirements from the State of MN generation interconnection requirements.
3. The application process includes information on the application fee which is \$100 for units less than 20 kW and \$250 for units with a rating between 20 and 39.9 kW. There may be other fees for building permits.
4. The testing requirements are included in the application process.
5. The contract has been updated to the MN standard interconnection contract.

The application materials don't include information on the rebate for the Solar Program. This information is included on the City of St. Charles Energy Star Rebate Website. The current rebate offered is \$1/watt for installations of 0.5 to 10 kW. This rebate was established in 2011 when the average cost to install residential solar was about \$6.00/watt. The present cost to install residential solar is about \$3.60/watt. I recommend the current rebate be eliminated due to the decrease in the cost for residential solar.