



MLGW 2020 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

This document provides a brief summary of key steps in the application, construction, interconnection and system acceptance processes. For details, please email 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; other resources are available at 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. Select a contractor to conduct a site review and develop a project plan for consideration. MLGW and TVA recommend that your installer maintain at least Associate-Level certification from the North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners (NABCEP), which requires training, experience and ethics. Find solar installers at 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 Dispersed Power Production (either separately or in combination with Self-Generation), call TVA at 423-751-8640 or email dpp@tva.gov to request a standard contract, and then proceed simultaneously with MLGW steps below.
 - b. If any other interconnection option, go to next step.
5. Submit an MLGW *Application for Interconnection of Distributed Generation*, along with check for application fee 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 proposed system size, location and available infrastructure, an interconnection study may be necessary. If a study is required, you will be notified.
8. Receive a prepared copy of the *Interconnection and Parallel Operation Agreement* for your signature.
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 and required system upgrades (if any).
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 electrical 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 by emailing bwilliamson@mlgw.org or calling Becky Williamson at 901-528-4748 to request.
17. Await scheduled date for MLGW site visit for system acceptance test. Installer or participant must be present during test. 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 Federal tax incentives. Learn more from your tax professional and these resources:

- Residential Renewable Energy Tax Credit: <http://programs.dsireusa.org/system/program/detail/1235>
- Business Energy Investment Tax Credit: <http://programs.dsireusa.org/system/program/detail/658> and IRS Notice 2018-59, <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-drop/n-18-59.pdf>, which defines eligible construction timelines

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>