



**What is the first step to become a micro-generator?**

As an EQUS member-owner, the first step to apply to be a micro-generator is to complete the EQUS micro-generation application.

**What if my generator does NOT qualify as a renewable?**

Generators that do not qualify as renewable are classified as Distributed Generation (DG) and will need to apply as a DG.

**Are there costs from EQUS for any aspects of the micro-generator process such as the application approval, bi-directional meter or installation of the bi-directional meter?**

There are no costs incurred to the applicant from EQUS, if the member uses cumulative metering. If the member requires interval metering, then there will be an installation cost and monthly cost for the metering.

**Why do I need to get acceptance from EQUS to connect my micro-generator?**

EQUS is the Wire Service Provider who operates the power grid that you will tie your micro-generator to. In order to tie into the grid, EQUS' approval is required to ensure that your micro-generator meets the applicable rules and regulations for micro-generation and to ensure the safe operation of your micro-generator.

**Why do I need to obtain an electrical permit to install my micro-generator?**

An inspection is necessary to ensure safety for both yourself and for EQUS staff that may be working on the power line in an emergency situation. EQUS must have a signed inspection from the electrical inspector prior to installing the bi-directional meter.

**What is a bi-directional meter and why do I need it?**

A bi-directional meter records power flow in two directions; power you used **from** the electrical grid to power your home and power you supplied **to** the grid from your generator. With a bi-directional meter you will receive a credit for any excess power that you produce over what you used in the month

**Following installation, what happens if I choose to make additions or modifications to my micro-generator?**

You must inform EQUS prior to making any modifications or changes to ensure the safe operation of your micro-generator.

**What happens during a power failure?**

Your grid-tied micro-generator system will safely disconnect in the event of a power failure. If you would like to continue to generate power for your house during a power failure using your micro-generator, you would need to install extra equipment, which includes a transfer switch, and an external power source like a battery system.

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**Are micro-generator customers still responsible for paying administration, distribution, transmission, riders and local municipal fees on their bill?**

Yes. Micro-generators, like all customers, benefit from being connected to Alberta's interconnected electric system. The *Micro-Generation Regulation* provides for a credit for the excess electricity a micro-generator sends into the grid; however, micro-generation customers pay for any additional electricity required from the grid, as well as all fees associated with being connected to the grid such as energy delivery, monthly administration, billing and interconnection.

**Where can I find more information regarding the Government of Alberta's regulations and guidelines for renewable generation?**

- [Province of Alberta Electric Utilities Act - Micro-Generation Regulation](#)
- [Alberta Utility Commission Micro-Generator Application Guideline](#)
- [Alberta Utility Commission Bulletin 2013-16 - Hydro and Electric Energy Amendment Regulation](#)
- [Alberta Utility Commission Rule 007 – Applications for Power Plants, Substations, Transmission lines, Industrial System Designations, and Hydro Developments](#)
- [Alberta Utility Commission Rule 024 – Rules Respecting Micro-Generation](#)