### **Interconnection Engineering Updates**

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**Interconnection Engineering and Power Quality** 

2018



### **Agenda Topics**

- Required Diagrams & PV Sample One-Line
- Site Plan Diagram & System Layout Examples (Residential and Commercial)
- NEW AHJ Changes & PE Stamp Requirements
- Standard Interconnection Requirements & NEW Residential Production Metering Wiring Configuration
- Supply Side Connections
- REVISED Battery Systems, Isolation & Metering Considerations
- NEW APS Advanced Inverter Requirements
- Q/A
- Appendix



### **Required Diagrams for PV Systems**

### (Residential and Small Commercial Larger than 1kW, < 1MW)

- <u>Residential</u>
  - Electrical One-Line Diagram\*
  - Electrical Three-Line Diagram
  - Site Plan
- <u>Commercial</u>
  - Electrical One-Line Diagram
  - Electrical Three-Line Diagram & Three-Line Array
  - Plant Location
  - Site Plan

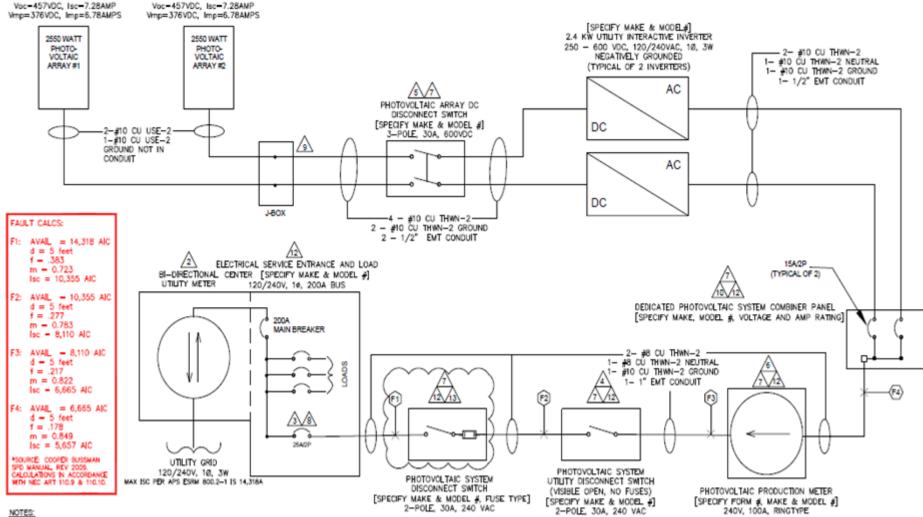
APS will not accept copyrighted, proprietary or confidential drawings. Drawings shall be site specific without any extraneous information, and shall be prepared specifically for APS use. All drawings are to be professionally drawn, using only black print on white paper, and shall be in accordance with APS Sample Diagrams. <u>Battery Backup Systems may have other drawing requirements in addition to</u> <u>standard drawings as required by APS.</u>

NOTE: Customer should discuss project plans with APS before designing its DG or purchasing and installing equipment.

\* Electrical one line diagrams are only required for supply side taps, load side taps, three phase, 12 kW or larger and battery systems

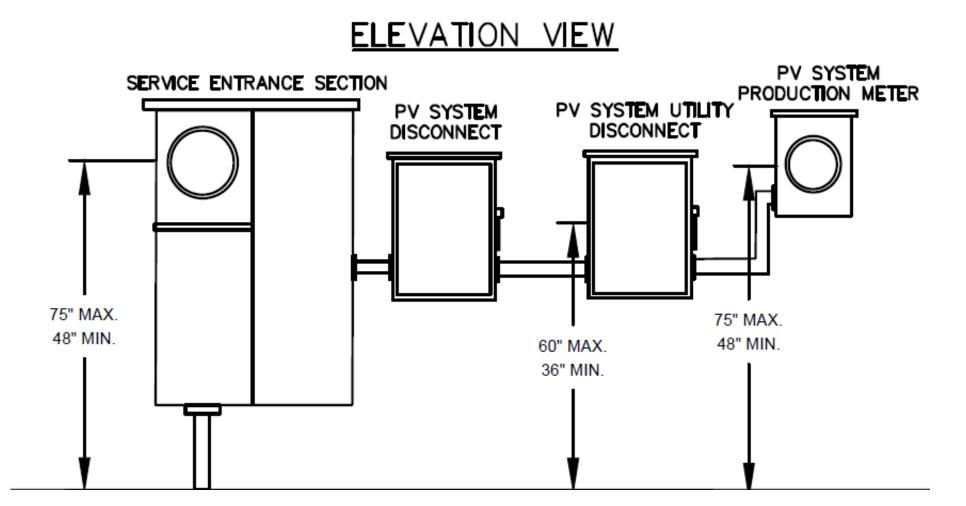


### **Sample 1-Line Diagram**



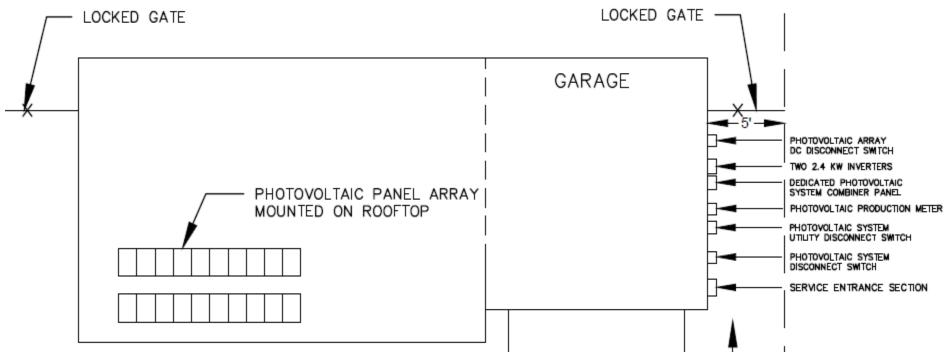


### **Example - Residential PV System**





### Sample Site Plan



NOTE: UTILITY HAS 24-HR UNRESTRICTED ACCESS TO ALL PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEM COMPONENTS LOCATED AT SERVICE ENTRANCE.

NOTE: REFERENCE SECTION 301.15 OF THE APS ESRM FOR ELECTRIC METER SEPARATION BETWEEN WATER AND GAS. NOTE: WORKSPACE IN FRONT OF AC ELECTRICAL SYSTEM COMPONENTS SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH APS AND NEC REQUIREMENTS. APS FOR REFEREN SECTION REQUIREMEN CF IS ESRM AND SECTION 300 THE APS APS THF INTERCONNECTION REQUIREMENTS.



### AHJ Changes & PE Stamp Requirements

Some AHJs (i.e. Yavapai County) are no longer issuing permits for Photovoltaic Systems citing increased cost burden and difficulties with keeping up with the various technologies in place. APS expects other areas to follow suit.

#### What to do if an AHJ doesn't issue a permit for PV/Energy Storage System:

- 1. Once APS approval is granted, in accordance with SB1417, install GF following APS and NEC applicable requirements.
- 2. Sign and provide the "Letter In-Lieu of Electrical Clearance" form to APS.

# What about stamping my drawings by a Professional Engineer (Electrical) registered in the State of Arizona?

- 1. Not required, <u>although recommended</u>, for residential applications unless gross violations are identified, and after multiple unsuccessful attempts to work with the customer/installer.
- 2. Will be required for all commercial applications in the future.

NOTE: Per Section 17 of the APS Interconnection Requirements manual, APS reserves the right to require diagrams submitted to be stamped by Professional Engineer (Electrical) registered in the State of Arizona.



#### **Disconnect Switch (Utility Disconnect): Section 8.2**

- Must be locked with an APS Padlock with a 3/8" shank.
- Must be placed in a safe, unobstructed location, available 24 hours a day.
- Shall be installed in accordance with the NEC and APS requirements, and the center of the pivot handle of the switch shall be located between 36" and 60" above grade and include a 36" square clear working space.
- If the Disconnect switch is not located within close proximity to the SES, APS requires a placard at the SES with explicit directions as to the location of the disconnect switch:





#### **Disconnect Switch (cont.)**

- The "Utility Disconnect Switch" <u>blades, jaws and air gap</u> between them shall be clearly <u>visible</u> when the switch is in the open position.
- Blades shall always be on the Inverter Side, and shall be de-energized in the open position in accordance with NEC 404.6(C).
- Arc shields are acceptable only if they do not impede our ability to verify a visual open. NOTE: Arc shields may not be removed in order to verify the visual open.
- Multiple Utility Disconnects are allowed in the event of a system expansion just as long as the disconnect switches are properly labeled and contain switch numbers (i.e. 1 of 2, 2 of 2).
- <u>Note that APS requires a fused disconnect ahead of the</u> <u>APS required unfused disconnect to meet fault current</u> <u>requirements (Refer to APS ESRM 800.2):</u>
  - The required fused disconnect shall be locked by the customer/installer, and does not need to meet APS visual open requirements like the APS required Utility Disconnect Switch.





#### **Production Metering**

Customer must provide and install, at Customer's expense, meter sockets and metering cabinets in accordance with APS service standards, in locations acceptable to APS

- Shall be ring-type. Ring-less is not permitted.
- 36" X 36" working space
- Meter height must be between 48" and 75" from finished grade to the center of the meter socket.
- CT rated production metering sections shall have suitable visual open disconnecting means, subject to APS approval.

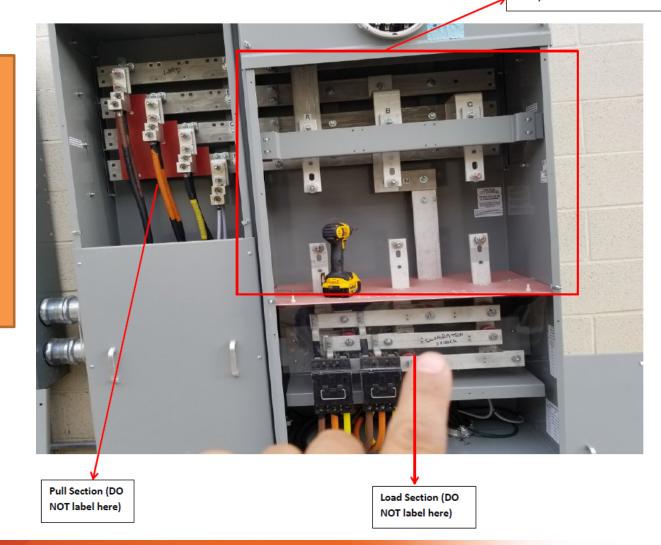




Meter Section (ONLY LABEL HERE)

#### **Production Metering**

All CT rated metering enclosures shall have the bus identified with reference to the generation source side prior to metering installation with a temporary tag labeled "Generation Source".





#### **Production Metering (cont.)**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Production Metering
  - Customer's installing 3<sup>rd</sup> party production meters, may do so just as long as the 3<sup>rd</sup> party meter is correctly labeled and is located on the inverter side of the APS Production Meter.
- Multiple Production Metering
  - An example would be a system expansion in which the Customer has an existing Incentive and wishes to expand the system by adding a nonprogram system. Production Meters shall be properly labeled with meter identification (i.e. 1 of 2, 2 of 2).



APS Production Meter labeled "Photovoltaic System Meter" or "Photovoltaic System Dedicated kWH Meter."

3<sup>rd</sup> Party Production Meter labeled "Leasing Company PV Production Meter"



#### Production Metering (cont.)

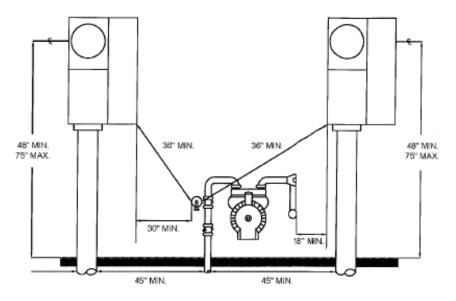
- Meter Cover vs. Test Meter
  - Residential customers may verify PV/Solar production with use of a test meter. Note that flats or jumpers are not permitted.
  - Additionally, for residential customers, In lieu of providing a Production Meter, Customer may install a commercially available meter cover over the Production Meter Socket.





#### **Production Metering (cont.)** ESRM 301.15: ELECTRIC METER SEPARATION BETWEEN WATER AND GAS

- The Production Meter is subject to this requirement.
- Based on the NFPA Gas Code & the Arizona Gas Pipeline Standards
  - Require a 36" radial clearance from a "venting source" of a gas system to any "potential source of ignition."
  - APS interprets the "potential source of ignition" the edge of the meter panel, and the "venting source" the gas regulator.
  - Working Clearance shall be a minimum of 36" wide. If electric panels extend wider than the 36" minimum, working clearance shall be the width of the entire assembly. Working space extend out from the face of electric meter panel a minimum of 36".



- Water valves or hose bibs within the 36"X36" Safe Work Area are prohibited.
- Drain pipes or soffits are prohibited above the meter enclosure to ensure the 36"X36" Safe Work Area remains safe and dry.



The Utility Disconnect Switch and Production Metering Enclosure shall be installed in a Readily Accessible location:

<u>**Readily Accessible as defined by APS:**</u> Capable of being reached quickly and conveniently on a <u>24-Hour</u> basis without requiring climbing over or removing obstacles, obtaining special permission, keys or security clearances.

- <u>Commercial Applications</u>: If access is restricted for security reasons, subject to APS approval, a lock-box may be provided to gain access to the Utility Disconnect Switch and/or Production Metering as long as the lock box is installed within 36" of the door/gate and located between 36" and 60" from finished grade.
- The Utility Disconnect Switch and/or Production Metering Shall not be:
  - 1. Located behind an electrically operated gate or door unless the electric operator is backed up by a UPS to ensure it can be operated in the event of a utility power outage.
  - 2. Installed under a breezeway, patio, porch or any area that can be enclosed.
  - 3. installed behind a gate, fence, wall or other barrier unless expressly agreed to by APS (we may grant exceptions for Commercial customers).



# **Standardizing Metering**

<u>New in 2018</u>: in order to standardize all AMI metering across APS's entire system going forward, APS is modifying our metering and wiring configurations for Residential 120/240V AMI production metering to match existing AMI billing meters.

#### Why is APS doing this?

- 1. Standardize wiring for all AMI meters
- 2. Minimize confusion with wiring meter sockets "opposite" of standard configurations
- 3. Reduces multiple truck rolls to resolve issues with miswired meter sets

*NOTE: Applies to self contained, 4-jaw, form 2S compliant meter sockets only. Commercial & Three Phase self-contained implementation not planned at this time.* 



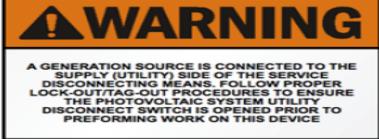
# **Supply Side Connection**

- Allowed per 2011/2014/2017 NEC 705.12 (A):
  - "The output of a utility-interactive inverter shall be permitted to be connected to the supply side of the service disconnecting means as permitted in 230.82 (6)" (similar to installing a second service per APS ESRM 104.11.2).
- RMC (Rigid Metal Conduit) between the connection and the fused disconnect.
- Ampere rating of conductors between fused disconnect and connection shall not be less than the ampere rating of the disconnect.
- Neutral to ground bond must be re-established in the fused disconnect, and tied to GEC.
  - Note that if the SSC is made via a breaker or fused disconnect located within the SES, then the existing N-G bond will suffice (i.e. Solar Ready Panels).
- Fused Disconnect must be adjacent (within 10') to SES, subject to ESRM 301.12 requirements, NEC 225.32, 230.79(D) & 240.24(B).
- MFG approval in writing or UL field evaluation and certification for SSC is required (i.e. letter of compliance and approval sticker).



# **Supply Side Connection (cont.)**

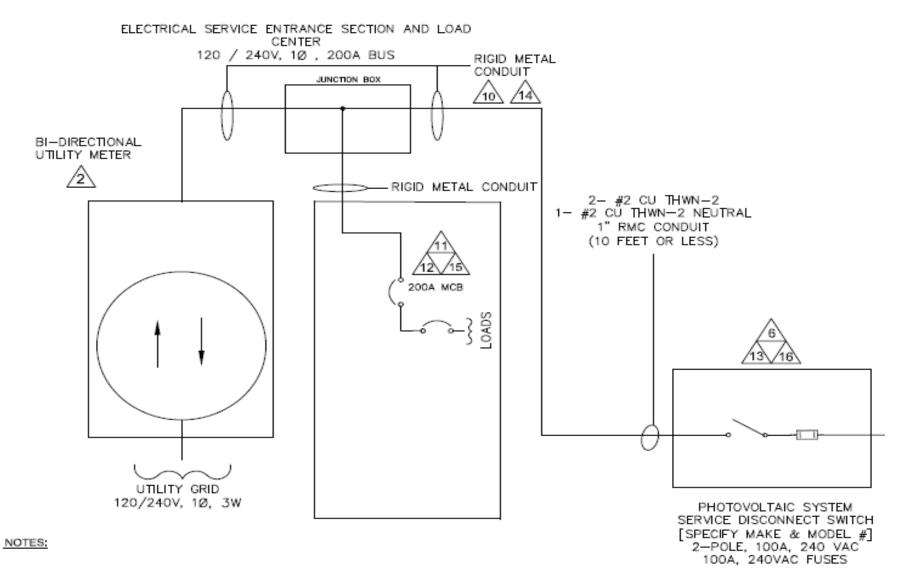
- No connections allowed inside the APS Sealed CT/Metering Compartments.
- Fused and unfused conductors shall not occupy the same raceway unless they are isolated from each other via a firewall barrier in a manner acceptable to APS.
- Disconnecting/opening the main breaker will not disconnect the PV system.
- Warning label shall be located at the main service with the following language:



- APS will only operate the Photovoltaic System Utility Disconnect Switch, as this is our clearance point.
- For most applications, APS will require two disconnect switches (exception to this would be an approved "Solar Ready" panel)



### **Supply Side Connection (cont.)**





### **Supply Side Connection – Don't Do This**

Don't remove factory installed conductors



UL Listing of panel was violated entire service entrance panel had to be replaced in order to pass city and APS inspections



### **Battery Back-Up Systems Background**

- Sometimes installed in conjunction with Photovoltaic Systems.
- In the event there is an APS outage (planned or unplanned), the customer's critical loads are powered by the battery back-up system.
- Opening the Utility Disconnect Switch may not kill all AC power feeding the Home.
- Customer's may opt to activate "Grid-Sell" or "Battery Charger" modes. Either option is acceptable to APS.
- The installation of a bypass switch (manual or automatic transfer switch) is acceptable just as long as proper warning signs and written procedures/instructions are provided.
- Some battery backup applications require specific metering ("Grid Sell" mode) if the customer wishes to net out any load.
- Installer is required to provide operating instructions for proper isolation of AC power to the home as well as isolation instructions for the inverters for home owner, First Responders and maintenance personnel that may work on the system from time to time.
- Inverters listed to UL1741/UL1741SA.



# **Peak Shaving**

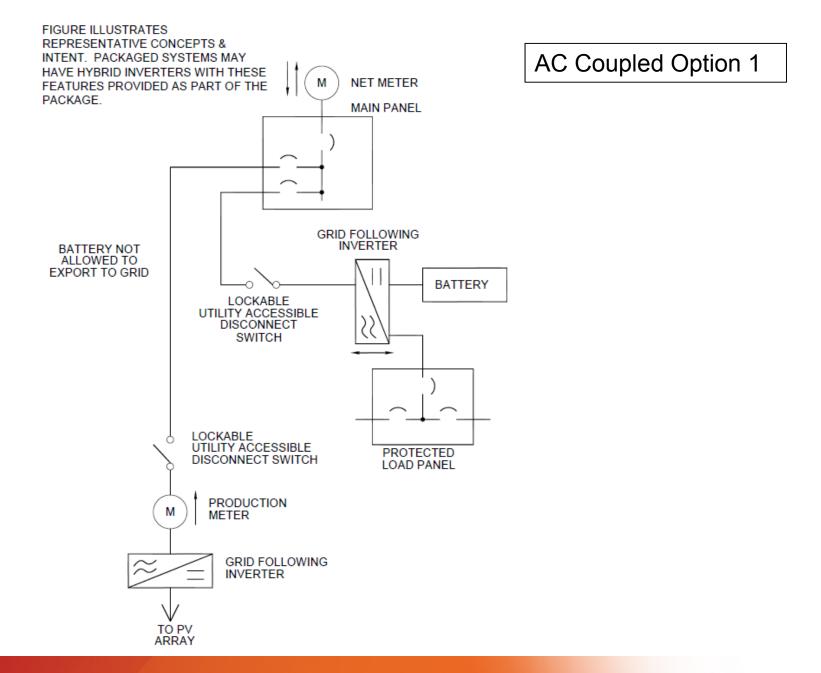
- PV Panels and Critical load panel is not required.
- Normally will have either one or two inverters.
- In the event of an outage, the system will shut down.
- APS will require a single Utility Disconnect Switch and Production Meter if a PV system is installed in conjunction with battery system.
- Battery system (via a DC to AC inverter) is programed to provide a portion of the load draw to the customer's electric service via CTs and communication circuitry.



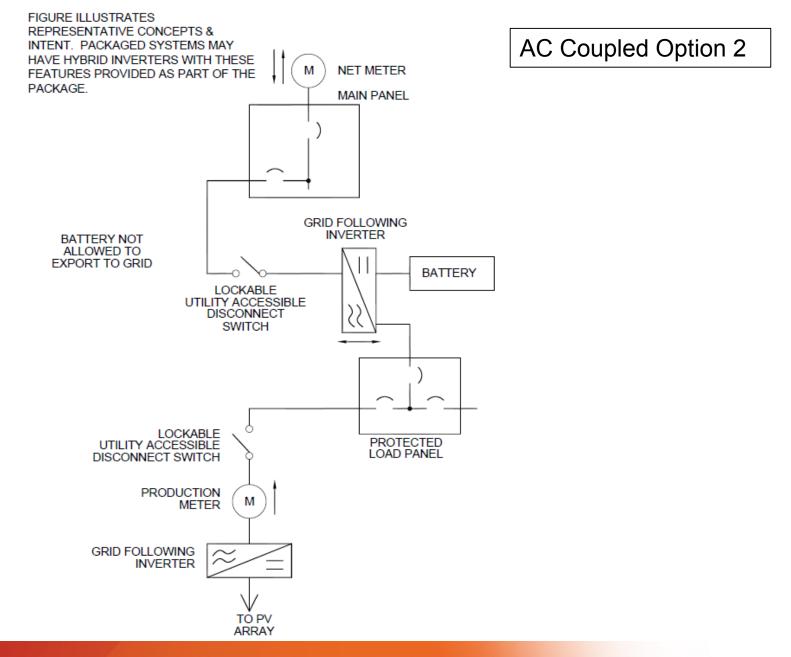
# **AC Coupled Systems**

- Normally installed in conjunction with a separate PV System.
- Battery System will draw power from the utility to keep batteries charged.
- Essential loads placed in-between PV System and main electric service
- In the event of an outage: (1) PV system ceases to operate, (2)
  Isolation Relay opens up, and (3) Battery System will power the essential load panel.
- The Battery System is not required to be metered (exceptions of APS owned).
- APS will require a Utility Disconnect Switch at each system (PV and Battery Back-up), and a Production Meter at the PV system.









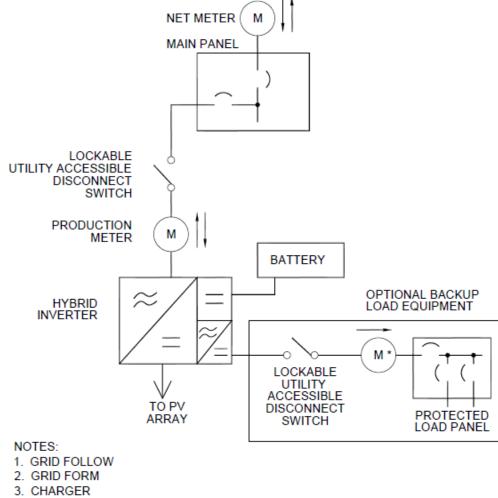


# **DC Coupled Systems**

- More common designs/installations normally by Outback Power Systems.
- This is a one (or two) inverter system with both batteries and panels connected to the inverter (separate inputs).
- Essential load panel is installed as an output to the inverter.
- Inverter DC Disconnect and Bypass switch required to disconnect power to the Essential Load panel.
- In the event of an outage: (1) back-feed controller to the grid is disabled, (2) essential loads are powered by the batteries with the PV panels (or optional generator input) charging batteries.
- APS will require Utility Disconnect Switches & Production Meters.
- Meters required would be 2S, but older design could be 12S electro-mechanical.
- NOTE: Batteries must be fully charged prior to APS Meter-Set



FIGURE ILLUSTRATES REPRESENTATIVE CONCEPTS & INTENT. PACKAGED SYSTEMS MAY HAVE HYBRID INVERTERS WITH THESE FEATURES PROVIDED AS PART OF THE PACKAGE.



4. TRANSFER

\* 5. METER REQUIRED WHEN PROTECTED LOAD PANEL IS INTALLED ON INVERTER SIDE OF PRODUCTION METER

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#### DC Coupled

# **Battery Back-Up Systems (cont.)**

- This is an example of two 2S production meters installed for a 120/240V battery backup system (Outback DC Coupled Type).
  - For testing purposes, Customers may provide <u>electro-mechanical</u> meters. Meter-sockets shall be labeled per APS requirements.
  - Each Meter is comprised of a utility energy component and an output circuit component.
  - APS will change out meters to AMI type metering for remote reads (could occur prior to PTO).
  - ACC mandates that APS accounts for all customer owned power production sources that nets out load that otherwise would be served by APS.

#### GF Meters and Utility Disconnect Switch (Common for 240V Systems)



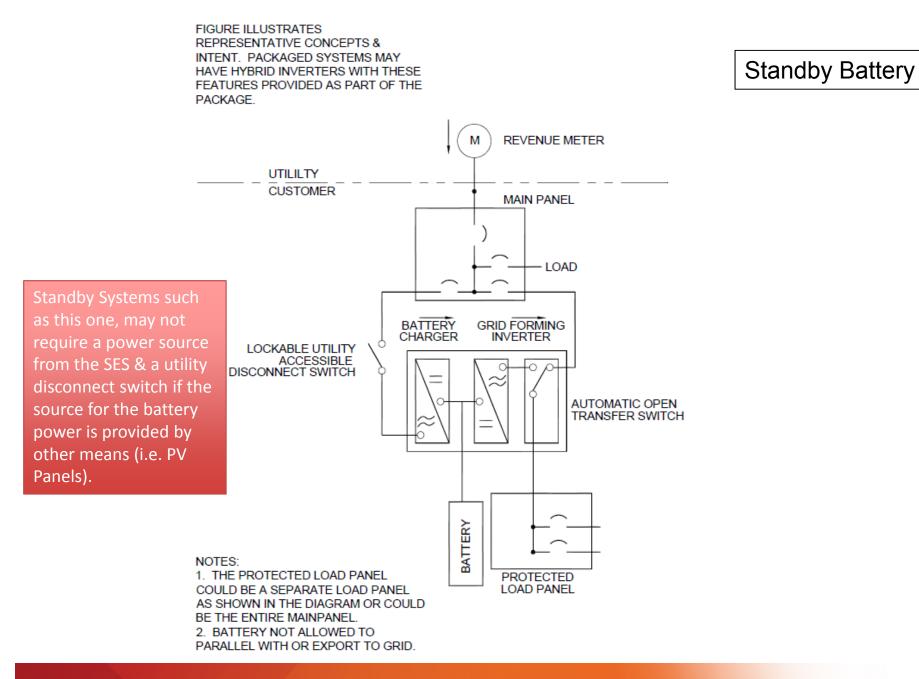
 Customer's shall apply NEC 300.3(B): All conductors of the same circuit (including the neutral and ground) shall be contained within the same raceway, conduit, gutter, cable tray, etc..



# **Standby Battery Systems**

- Installed for backup power only, will not backfeed the APS System.
- Only systems utilizing a transfer switch tested, listed and marked UL 1008 will be considered as a separate system.
- Off-grid and/or other systems not utilizing a UL 1008 listed transfer switch will be required to sign a connection agreement with APS, demonstrate to APS that the system does not backfeed the utility, and will be required to install a visual open disconnect switch in accordance with Section 4.1 and 8.2 of the APS Interconnection Requirements Manual.
- APS is in development of short process document to aid with the installation of standby systems (battery and generators).







# **IEEE 1547 & Advanced Inverter Standards**

On February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018, the IEEE-SA Standards board approved the revised IEEE 1547 Standard. The IEEE Standard outlines the various Advanced Inverter grid support capabilities.

#### What does an Advanced Inverter offer?

- 1. Voltage support at the point of interconnection
- 2. Rides through grid level voltage and/or frequency events
- 3. Remote control and monitoring

#### How Does this Fit within the APS Interconnection Requirements manual?

- 1. Section 8.7(A)(11) Outlines the various capabilities documented within IEEE 1547
- 2. Not yet a requirement, however many inverter manufacturers build in Advanced Inverter capabilities
- 3. No changes to settings unless APS requires based on feeder level need

*In the future as is the case in the State of California; Arizona will require "Advanced Inverters" for all installations.* 



# Questions?



# **Appendix - Sample Breaker & Wire Sizing**

Example: 2-8kW Static Inverters in Parallel (120/240V, 1Ø, 3W). Calculate the AC output Current, Determine the correct breaker size and wire.

#### Breaker Sizing: NEC (2011) 690.8(A)(3), 690.8(B)(1)(a), 240.6(A)

Inverter AC Output Current Rating X 1.25 8kW/240V = 33.3A X 1.25 = 41.6A OCPD = 45A (combiner box)

#### In Parallel

16kW/240V = 66.6A X 1.25 = 83.3A

OCPD = 90A (back-fed breaker)

 Wire Sizing: NEC (2011) 690.8(B)(2), Table 310.15(B)(16) - 90°C Colum X Temp Correction [Table 310.15(B)(2)(A)]

Assume and ambient temp of 104°F

Temp Correction = 0.91

41.6A (circuit to combiner above), Will need to use 1-#8 Cu THWN-2 per phase

#### In Parallel

83.3A (parallel circuit above), Will need to use 1-#3 Cu THWN-2 per phase

NOTE: If wire length is less than 10' OR less than 10% of the run is above ground, then a temperature correction factor may not be required.



# **Appendix - NEC Code References**

#### Six Handle Rule: NEC 230.71(A)

- In the event we have six disconnects and no main, customer wants to add a 7<sup>th</sup> breaker for a backfed device (PV). Some AHJs consider this a violation others consider PV as a separate source and exempt from NEC 230.71(A).
- <u>Systems without a main need to consider NEC 230.90(A), Exception No. 3</u>: The sum of the ratings of CBs/fuses shall be permitted to exceed the ampacity of the service conductors provided the calculated load doesn't exceed the ampacity of the service conductors. Provide load calculations to APS, panel schedules and consider PV into the load calculations provided.

#### - Main Breaker De-Rate: NEC 230.79

- If customer is in violation of the 120% Rule [NEC 2011\_705.12(D)(2)], customer may de-rate the main in order to accommodate the installation of a PV system. Load calculations will be required by the AHJ and APS prior to de-rating the main breaker. APS can provide 12 month historical load to the customer for calculation purposes [NEC 220.87].
- Note 12 Month historical Loads are provided in kW. To convert from kW to kVA, we assume a 0.91PF for residential and 0.85PF for commercial
- A placard/label is required per APS Requirements.

#### - <u>GEC: NEC 250.66, NEC 250.166</u>

- For new services, customers shall review APS ESRM 701.0.
- PV Systems requiring a GEC installed back to the SES, may consider NEC 250.166, 690.47(C)(2).

#### <u>Non-isolated (Transformerless) Inverters</u>

- Not addressed very well in the 2011 NEC, typical practice is to install ONLY an EGC in accordance with NEC 250.122.
- Some inverters are shipped with a GEC terminal, some are not. Decision as to install a GEC is left up to the AHJ for these types of Inverters.
- <u>2014/2017 NEC covers this topic in better detail [NEC 690.47(C)(3)]</u>: For ungrounded systems, this conductor shall be sized in accordance with 250.122 and shall not be required to be larger than the largest ungrounded phase conductor.



# **Appendix - Residential Drawing Engineering Audit**

#### Common issues Identified:

- 1. <u>Drawings were not per APS Samples</u>: i.e. block drawings vs. schematic drawings, production meter on line side of the Disconnect Switch, text not legible at 11X17, etc..
- 2. <u>Grounding and bonding issues</u>: case ground for individual equipment not shown, bond jumpers as required by NEC 250.64(E)(1) & 690.47(C)(3), and supply side connection grounding.
- 3. <u>Wire sizing issues:</u> ensure compliance with NEC 240.4(B), identify insulation and if Cu or Al.
- 4. <u>Fault Current Calculations</u>: APS requires compliance with recently updated ESRM 800.2, NEC Art 110.9 & NEC Art 110.10.
  - a. If a fused disconnect is not shown on the line side of the APS required Utility Disconnect Switch, APS will require fault current calculations to verify compliance.
  - b. Note that most unfused disconnect switches are rated for only 10k AIC.
- <u>NEC and APS Required Labels Missing</u>: Refer to APS Equipment Labels (Interconnection Requirements & Equipment Labels available via <u>www.aps.com/dg</u>) & various NEC code references. Label references shall be identified on diagrams.
- 6. <u>Required Keyed Notes:</u> APS Engineering will reject applications missing this information Keyed Notes.
- 7. <u>Access/Workspace Notes:</u> Provide 24-hr access, workspace clearance and meter separation between water and gas notes.
- 8. <u>Production Meter orientation</u>: APS requires the Utility Disconnect switch to be located on the line/utility side of the APS production meter.
  - a. If a leasing company production meter is installed, it shall be located on the load/inverter side of the APS required production metering.



#### **Appendix - Residential Drawing Engineering Audit (cont.)**

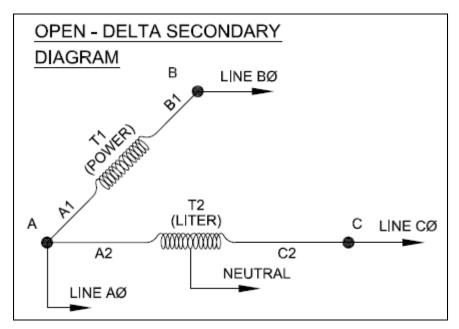
#### 9. Other common issues:

- a. Wrong size tap kit for supply side connection
- b. Blades for disconnect switches facing the wrong direction
- c. Lack of details and ambiguity on drawings
- d. Missing one line diagram on applications
- e. Terminals on meters not properly shown, line and load side for bi-directional meters missing, missing information on form type, ring type
- f. Combiner panels being labelled as load center
- g. Colored drawings not allowed



### **Appendix - Open Delta Transformers**

- Installed in older areas of APS service territory (i.e. North-Central Phoenix, Downtown Phoenix, Rural areas, Tempe, Chandler, Paradise Valley and Central Scottsdale)
- Secondary voltage of 120/240V, limited to 25 horsepower motor load and 50kVA 3-phase load
- Comprised of two transformer configuration made up of a power pot and a liter pot.
  - Power pot is where two pole loads can be connected (no center tap neutral on the power pot, so connecting single phase load is not permitted).
  - Liter pot can have a combination of single pole and two pole loads.
  - Three phase loads are connected across all three phases.



- Customer load is generally not balanced for these configurations.
- Liter Pot sees 100% of the 1-phase load + 58% of the 3-phase load.
- Power Pot sees 58% of the 3-phase load
- APS recommends installing inverters across A-B and A-C. Keep in mind not to over-duty the APS transformers tied across A-B and A-C.



### **Appendix - References and Sources for Further Information**

#### **APS Commercial Renewables**

Phone: (602) 371-6160, email: <u>commercial-renewables@aps.com</u> web: <u>http://www.aps.com/dg</u>

#### NEC: National Electrical Code, Section 690 "Solar Photovoltaic Systems"

NEC: National Electrical Code, Section 705 "Interconnected Electric Power Production Sources"

<u>"Understanding NEC Requirements for Solar Photovoltaic Systems" – Mike Holt</u> <u>IEEE Std 1547-2018: IEEE Standard for Interconnecting Distributed Resources with</u> <u>Electric Power Systems Interfaces</u>

#### **APS Requirements:**

- 1. APS "Interconnection Requirements for Distributed Generation" <u>http://www.aps.com/dg http://www.aps.com/main/green/choice/choice\_79.html</u>
- 2. APS "Electric Service Requirements Manual" (ESRM) <u>http://www.aps.com/main/services/construction/corner/corner\_66.html</u>

