

ORIGINAL

DOCKET NO. 010982-EU

CERTIFICATION OF
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION ADMINISTRATIVE RULES
FILED WITH THE
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

I do hereby certify:

/x/ (1) That all statutory rulemaking requirements of Chapter 120, F.S., have been complied with; and

/x/ (2) There is no administrative determination under subsection 120.56(2), F.S., pending on any rule covered by this certification; and

/x/ (3) All rules covered by this certification are filed within the prescribed time limitations of paragraph 120.54(3)(e), F.S. They are filed not less than 28 days after the notice required by paragraph 120.54(3)(a), F.S., and;

/ (a) Are filed not more than 90 days after the notice; or

/ (b) Are filed not more than 90 days after the notice not including days an administrative determination was pending; or

/x/ (c) Are filed more than 90 days after the notice but not less than 21 days nor more than 45 days from the date of publication of the notice of change; or

/ (d) Are filed more than 90 days after the notice but

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not less than 14 nor more than 45 days after the adjournment of the final public hearing on the rule; or

 / (e) Are filed more than 90 days after the notice, but within 21 days after the date of receipt of all material authorized to be submitted at the hearing; or

 / (f) Are filed more than 90 days after the notice, but within 21 days after the date the transcript was received by this agency; or

 / (g) Are filed not more than 90 days after the notice, not including days the adoption of the rule was postponed following notification from the Joint Administrative Procedures Committee that an objection to the rule was being considered; or

 / (h) Are filed more than 90 days after the notice, but within 21 days after a good faith written proposal for a lower cost regulatory alternative to a proposed rule is submitted which substantially accomplishes the objectives of the law being implemented; or

 / (i) Are filed more than 90 days after the notice, but within 21 days after a regulatory alternative is offered by the small business ombudsman.

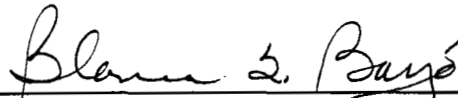
Attached are the original and two copies of each rule covered by this certification. The rules are hereby adopted by the undersigned agency by and upon their filing with the Department of State.

Rule No.

25-6.065

Under the provision of subparagraph 120.54(3)(e)6., F.S.,
the rules take effect 20 days from the date filed with the
Department of State or a later date as set out below:

Effective: _____
(month) (day) (year)



BLANCA S. BAYÓ, Director
Division of the Commission Clerk
and Administrative Services

Number of Pages Certified

(S E A L)

CTM

1 25-6.065 Interconnection of Small Photovoltaic Systems

2 (1) A small photovoltaic system (SPS) is a solar powered
3 generating system that uses an inverter rated at no more than 10 kW
4 alternating current (AC) power output and is primarily intended to
5 offset part or all of a customer's current electricity requirements.

6 (2) Each investor-owned electric utility (utility), within 30
7 days of the effective date of this rule, shall file for Commission
8 approval a Standard Interconnection Agreement for interconnecting
9 an SPS. Where a utility refuses to interconnect with an SPS or
10 attempts to impose unreasonable standards or conditions, the SPS
11 customer may petition the Commission for relief. The utility shall
12 have the burden of demonstrating to the Commission why
13 interconnection with the SPS should not be required or that the
14 standards or conditions the utility seeks to impose on the SPS are
15 reasonable. The SPS Standard Interconnection Agreement shall, at
16 a minimum, contain the following:

17 (a) A list of standards approved by nationally recognized
18 professional organizations that address the design, installation,
19 and operation of the SPS. It is the customer's responsibility to
20 ensure compliance with such standards.

21 (b) A requirement that the SPS must be inspected and approved
22 by local code officials prior to its operation in parallel with an
23 investor-owned electric utility to ensure compliance with applicable
24 local codes.

25 (c) A requirement for general liability insurance for persons

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1 and property damage in the amount of no more than \$100,000. A
2 homeowner's policy that furnishes at least this level of liability
3 coverage will meet the requirement for insurance.

4 (d) Identification of a reasonable charge for processing the
5 application for interconnection.

6 (e) Provisions that permit the utility to inspect the SPS and
7 its component equipment, and the documents necessary to ensure
8 compliance with subsections (a) through (d). The utility has the
9 right to have personnel present at the initial testing of customer
10 equipment and protective apparatus.

11 (f) A provision that the customer who operates an SPS is
12 responsible for protecting its generating equipment, inverters,
13 protection devices, and other system components from damage from the
14 normal and abnormal conditions and operations that occur on the
15 utility system in delivering and restoring system power; and is
16 responsible for ensuring that the SPS equipment is inspected,
17 maintained, and tested in accordance with the manufacturer's
18 instructions to insure that it is operating correctly and safely.

19 (3) The SPS Interconnection Agreement may require the customer
20 to:

21 (a) Install, at the customer's expense, a manual disconnect
22 switch of the visible load break type to provide a separation point
23 between the AC power output of the SPS and any customer wiring
24 connected to the utility's system. The manual disconnect switch
25 shall be mounted separate from the meter socket and shall be readily

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1 accessible to the utility and capable of being locked in the open
2 position with a utility padlock. The utility may open the switch,
3 isolating the SPS, without prior notice to the customer. To the
4 extent practicable, however, prior notice shall be given.

5 (b) Provide a written agreement to hold harmless and indemnify
6 the utility from all loss resulting from the operation of the SPS,
7 except in those cases where loss occurs due to the negligent actions
8 of the utility.

9 (4) The utility shall provide the customer with written notice
10 that it has received the documents required by the Standard
11 Interconnection Agreement within 10 business days of receipt. The
12 customer shall not begin parallel operations until the customer has
13 received this written notice.

14 (5) Any of the following conditions shall be cause for the
15 utility to disconnect the SPS from its system:

16 (a) Utility system emergencies or maintenance requirements;

17 (b) Hazardous conditions existing on the utility system due
18 to the operation of the customer's SPS generating or protective
19 equipment as determined by the utility;

20 (c) Adverse electrical effects (such as power quality
21 problems) on the electrical equipment of the utility's other
22 electric consumers caused by the SPS as determined by the utility;

23 or

24 (d) Failure of the customer to maintain the required
25 insurance.

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1 The SPS shall be reconnected to the utility grid as soon as
2 practical once the conditions causing the disconnection cease to
3 exist.

4 (6) The utility may install an additional meter or metering
5 equipment on the customer's premises capable of measuring any excess
6 kilowatt-hours produced by the SPS and delivered back to the
7 utility. The cost of the meter, installation, maintenance, and any
8 recurring or non-recurring costs for reading and billing for this
9 second meter shall be borne by the utility. The value of such
10 excess generation shall be credited to the customer's bill based on
11 the host utility's COG-1 tariff, or by other applicable tariffs
12 approved by the Florida Public Service Commission. If the utility
13 does not install such a meter or metering equipment, the utility
14 shall permit the customer to net meter any excess power delivered
15 to the utility by use of a single standard watt-hour meter capable
16 of reversing directions to offset recorded consumption by the
17 customer. If the kilowatt-hour of energy produced by the SPS
18 exceeds the customer's kilowatt-hour consumption for any billing
19 period, such that when the meter is read the value displayed on the
20 register is less than the value displayed on the register when it
21 was read at the end of the previous billing period, the utility
22 shall carry forward credit for the excess energy to the next billing
23 period. Credits may accumulate and be carried forward for a 12-
24 month period specified by the utility in the SPS Interconnection
25 Agreement. In no event shall the customer be paid for excess energy

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1 delivered to the utility at the end of the 12-month period.

2 Specific Authority: 350.127(2), 366.05(1), F.S.

3 Law Implemented: 366.04(2)(c) (5) (6), 366.041, 366.05(1), 366.81,
4 F.S.

5 History: New _____.

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SUMMARY OF RULE

Rule 25-6.065 establishes standards for the interconnection of small photovoltaic systems (SPS) with the electric grid and requires investor-owned electric utilities to file an interconnection agreement with the Commission.

SUMMARY OF HEARINGS ON THE RULE

No hearing was requested and none was held.

FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES JUSTIFYING THE RULE

Section 187.201(12) (a), Florida Statutes, states that Florida's energy goal is to reduce its energy requirements through enhanced conservation and efficiency measures, while at the same time promoting an increased use of renewable energy resources. Section 187.201(12) (b) 7., Florida Statutes, specifically states the policy to promote the development and application of solar energy technologies and passive solar design techniques. In addition, section 366.81, Florida Statutes, of the Florida Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act (FEECA), states the Legislature's intent that the use of solar energy be encouraged.

Rule 25-6.065 establishes appropriate operating, safety, and insurance requirements for customers with small photovoltaic systems (SPS) who request interconnection and parallel operation with an investor-owned electric utility. These small, usually rooftop-mounted solar panels take sunlight and directly convert it to direct current (DC) electricity. Inverters change the DC current to normal household 60 cycle alternating current (AC) current which is then used to power the customer's household load. While there are very few such systems operating in Florida, grant funds are currently available to subsidize installation for homeowners who interconnect to the electric grid and the demand appears to be increasing in Florida. In addition, there are now national interconnection safety standards adopted by the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers and Underwriters Laboratory for small photovoltaic systems. The rule is needed to require investor-owned electric utilities to file an interconnection agreement with the Commission.

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