



## Grow Solar Wisconsin Issue Brief Streamlining Interconnection Standards

Most small renewable electric generators interconnect to the electricity grid. Renewable system costs will decline as the interconnection process and requirements are simplified and streamlined. However maintaining the electric grid's safety and integrity remains the first priority.

### Problem

Wisconsin received a "C" rating on a national Interconnection scorecard, which evaluated best practices<sup>i</sup>.

### Policy Needs

The Grow Solar Wisconsin team is focusing on rectifying nine issues that require immediate attention, help streamline and simplify the interconnection process, while maintaining safety.

Top recommendations:

1. Uniform statewide interconnection standards (legislation and/or electric cooperative memorandum of understanding (MOU))
2. Adopting Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's technical screens (Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSCW) review)
3. Removal requirement for redundant external disconnect switch (PSCW review)
4. Defining and reducing insurance requirements (PSCW review)
5. Reducing the time it takes for application review (PSCW review)
6. Increasing the maximum distributed generation capacity definition from 15 MW to 20 MW (legislation)
7. Improving the dispute mediation process (PSCW review)
8. Defining capacity based on maximum AC production into the grid (PSCW review)
9. Allowing least cost monitoring systems (PSCW review)

### Action Needed

The interconnection rules can be upgraded through the PSCW for regulated utilities (PSCW review), legislative changes, and MOUs with electric cooperative utilities.

### Contact

Don Wichert, RENEW Wisconsin, [dwichert@renewwisconsin.org](mailto:dwichert@renewwisconsin.org), 608.255-4044

---

<sup>i</sup> Source: 2011, Freeing the Grid Report from Network for New Energy Choices