Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) - Interconnections

What is net metering?
Net metering allows eligible customers with generation that is fueled entirely by a renewable resource to interconnect the generator with power from the grid under a net meter arrangement. The output from the renewable power generation is used to offset electricity purchases from Dominion Energy, and the net metering customer is billed monthly for the “net” energy consumed. In Virginia, the maximum renewable generator size eligible for net metering is 20 kW for residential customers and 500 kW for non-residential customers; in North Carolina the maximum eligible renewable generator size is 1000 kW for all customers. More information can be found in the Net Metering Terms and Conditions for either Dominion Energy Virginia or Dominion Energy North Carolina.

Can I sell power instead of net metering?
Yes. There are a number of entities that will buy your power output. If you want to sell your power, you should explore the options available to you. The options include, but are not limited to, selling power into the PJM Market and selling it to Dominion.

What is renewable power?
There are various definitions of renewable power. In general, renewable power is electricity that is generated from sources that can be replenished, such as sunlight, wind, falling water, sustainable biomass, energy from waste, wave motion, tides, or geothermal sources. Renewable energy is defined in §56-576 of the Code of Virginia and in §62.1-133.8 of North Carolina General Statutes. Additional information about renewable power is available on the Renewable & Alternate Fuels web page of the Department of Energy’s Energy Information Administration.

What is a Qualifying Facility (QF)?
A Qualifying Facility (QF) is a cogenerator, small power producer, or non-utility generator that meets certain ownership, operating and efficiency criteria established by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). Additional information about obtaining QF status is available at FERC’s Qualifying Facility web page on www.ferc.gov.

What does it cost to interconnect a generating facility?
Often there are no charges for net metering interconnections on Dominion Energy’s system. For other generator interconnections, the customer is responsible for costs associated with the interconnection. Dominion Energy’s charges can vary substantially depending on the amount of engineering time and construction work necessary to complete the interconnection.
What is the study process?
Prior to interconnecting the generating facility, various studies may be required to determine the feasibility of the interconnection, the interconnection’s impact on the system, and the facilities required to interconnect the generating facility. The complexity and scope of these studies will determine the time required to complete the study process. The customer is responsible for all study costs.

What are facilities charges?
For some facilities constructed to interconnect a generator, there are monthly charges to cover Dominion Energy’s cost of owning and operating the facilities. Facilities charges are specified in Dominion Energy’s Terms and Conditions for Dominion Energy Virginia and for Dominion Energy North Carolina, which are on file with the Virginia and North Carolina commissions. Facilities charges will vary based on the facilities and construction required to interconnect the generating facility.

What is NC Green Power?
Available to Dominion Energy North Carolina customers, NC GreenPower is an independent, non-profit program that provides an easy and effective way to protect and improve the quality of the environment. The program allows participants to contribute to the reduction of carbon emissions and to the production of renewable energy (e.g., solar, wind, small hydro and biomass materials) for North Carolina's power supply.

What is a REC?
A Renewable Energy Certificate (REC) is a tradable commodity that represents one megawatt-hour (MWh) of electricity generated from an eligible renewable energy resource. Additional information about RECs can be found on the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency’s REC Web Page at US Environmental Protection Agency.

What are the addresses for official notice to Dominion Energy concerning net metering and generator interconnections?
For net metering installations, send your notice to:

Dominion Energy Virginia (or Dominion Energy North Carolina)
Net Metering
One James River Plaza, 8th Floor
P. O. Box 26666
Richmond, VA 23261-6666

For other interconnections, send your notice to:

Generator Interconnections
Dominion Energy Virginia (or Dominion Energy North Carolina)
One James River Plaza, 8th Floor,
P.O. Box 26666
Richmond, Virginia 23261 - 6666