

Department of Public Utilities

Ordinance No. 621-2026

This request is to enact Section 523.252 of the Codified Ordinances of Cleveland, Ohio, relating to interconnection into the Division of Cleveland Public Power's electric system by qualifying facilities, eligible large commercial customers, and eligible large industrial customers.

Background/Purpose:

When Cleveland Public Power (CPP) receives interconnection requests from qualifying facilities under the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act (PURPA), CPP is required to respond and meet certain defined requirements, up to and including allowing interconnection to CPP's electric distribution system. This ordinance would authorize CPP to define a response process for these and similar large customer interconnection requests while allowing for the recovery of related costs.

Scope of Work:

Codified Ordinance 523.252 identifies requirements for interconnection by a Qualifying Facility, Eligible Large Commercial Customer, or Eligible Large Industrial Customer (Interconnector). The ordinance allows CPP to fully comply with federal requirements related to renewable energy interconnection and respond to large customer interconnection requests while protecting CPP's electric distribution system and customers.

The Codified Ordinance defines key terms that are specific to Interconnectors, the application, Interconnection process, and related reviews and approvals.

The ordinance additionally establishes the Interconnector as being responsible for payment of all costs associated with the Interconnection and prohibits the Interconnector delivering electric service within CPP's municipal boundaries.

The Director of Public Utilities will be authorized to determine eligibility for a Preliminary Interconnection agreement, the Interconnection Plan, and the Interconnection Agreement. The Director will also be authorized to receive reimbursement of CPP's costs, invoice the Interconnector, including in advance, and to enter into agreements necessary for studying and implementing the Interconnection.

Justification/Urgency:

CPP has received a request for interconnection from a Qualifying Facility as defined under PURPA, as is required by federal law to respond to this and similar requests. To comply with requirements and protect CPP's customers and electric system, CPP needs to be able to complete studies and perform or contract for work, equipment and materials that are funded by an entity requesting interconnection.

Anticipated Costs and Funding Source:

N/A