

From: [Shelby Reynolds](#)
To: [IPA.Solar](#)
Subject: [External] 25-26 Guidebook Feedback
Date: Sunday, March 9, 2025 10:21:32 AM

Hello,

I would like to request the following change to the Program Guidebook.

Section 4. B. Interconnection Date

For systems over 25kW, a signed interconnection agreement between the utility and the customer is a required upload to submit the Part 1 application.

While most cooperatives send this document to the customer and the solar installer, Ameren does not. Therefore, for each application, the solar installer has to email Ameren and ask for this agreement. This agreement is also not available for download within the Ameren Powerclerk portal.

While a copy of this document is provided to the customer from Ameren, oftentimes, asking the customer to send this document is an extra step in the process, slowing down their Illinois Shines application.

The biggest issue I see with this, is the volume of emails Ameren must be receiving on a daily basis for request of this document. There are two main contacts at Ameren, Brittney & Liz, that handle emails from every solar company across the State of Illinois.

I have requested Ameren update their portal to provide easy download of this document, but have not heard a response.

I would suggest changing the requirement from the signed interconnection agreement, to any proof that the interconnection agreement has been filed. Here are some recommendations:

- Screenshot of the Ameren portal proving the application has been filed with a DER number present.
- Downloaded pdf of the interconnection application, of which is not available for download until the application is submitted.
- Invoice paid email received by Ameren after the application has been submitted and invoice for the processing of the application paid.
- For projects already energized, the final Permission to Operate documents should suffice as proof of an interconnection application.

Please let me know if there are any questions, or if the Program would like examples of the bullet points above.

Finally, I would like to clarify that while I know this requirement is intended to ensure that project applications over 25kW are approved by the utility prior to the Illinois Shines application, just having an application submitted does not guarantee this. A signed interconnection agreement does not guarantee that the project will be energized. Prior to

construction of the solar array, a lot of applications are withdrawn due to Ameren requesting transformer upgrades, and the customer and/or the solar installer, not wanting to pay this cost and thus abandoning the solar project. Another delay in energization is often seen during Ameren's inspection process, which comes directly before PTO documents.

Thank you,



Shelby Reynolds

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