

Community Solar Project Interconnection  
**Tier 2 Community Solar Project Review**

Completed for

**(Applicant)**  
**OCS003**

Proposed Interconnection  
**On PacifiCorp's Existing**  
**Circuit 5L26 out of Merrill substation**

**May 18, 2020**

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### **1.0 DESCRIPTION OF THE GENERATING FACILITY**

(“Applicant”) proposed interconnecting 0.8 MW of new generation to PacifiCorp’s (“Public Utility”) circuit 5L26 out of Merrill substation located in Klamath County, Oregon. The project (“Project”) will consist of seven Sungrow SG125HV, 125 kW inverters (derated to 112.5 kW) for a total requested output of 0.8 MW. The interconnection customer has not provided a requested commercial operation date for this interconnection request.

The Public Utility has assigned the Project “OCS0003.”

### **2.0 APPROVAL CRITERIA FOR TIER 2 INTERCONNECTION REVIEW**

Pursuant to Public Utility Commission of Oregon Order 19-392 approved Community Solar Project procedures, a Public Utility must use the Tier 2 interconnection review procedures for an application to interconnect a small generator facility that meets the following requirements:

- (a) The Community Solar Project must have a nameplate capacity of two (2) megawatts or less;
- (b) The Community Solar Project must be interconnected to either a radial distribution circuit or a spot network distribution circuit limited to serving one customer;
- (c) The Community Solar Project must use interconnection equipment that is either lab-tested equipment or field –tested equipment. For equipment to gain status as field-tested equipment, the applicant must provide all the documentation from the prior Tier 4 study, review, and approval, including any interconnection studies and the certificate of completion.

### **3.0 PROPOSED POINT OF INTERCONNECTION**

The proposed Community Solar Project is to be interconnected to the Public Utility’s 12 kV circuit 5L26 out of Merrill substation.

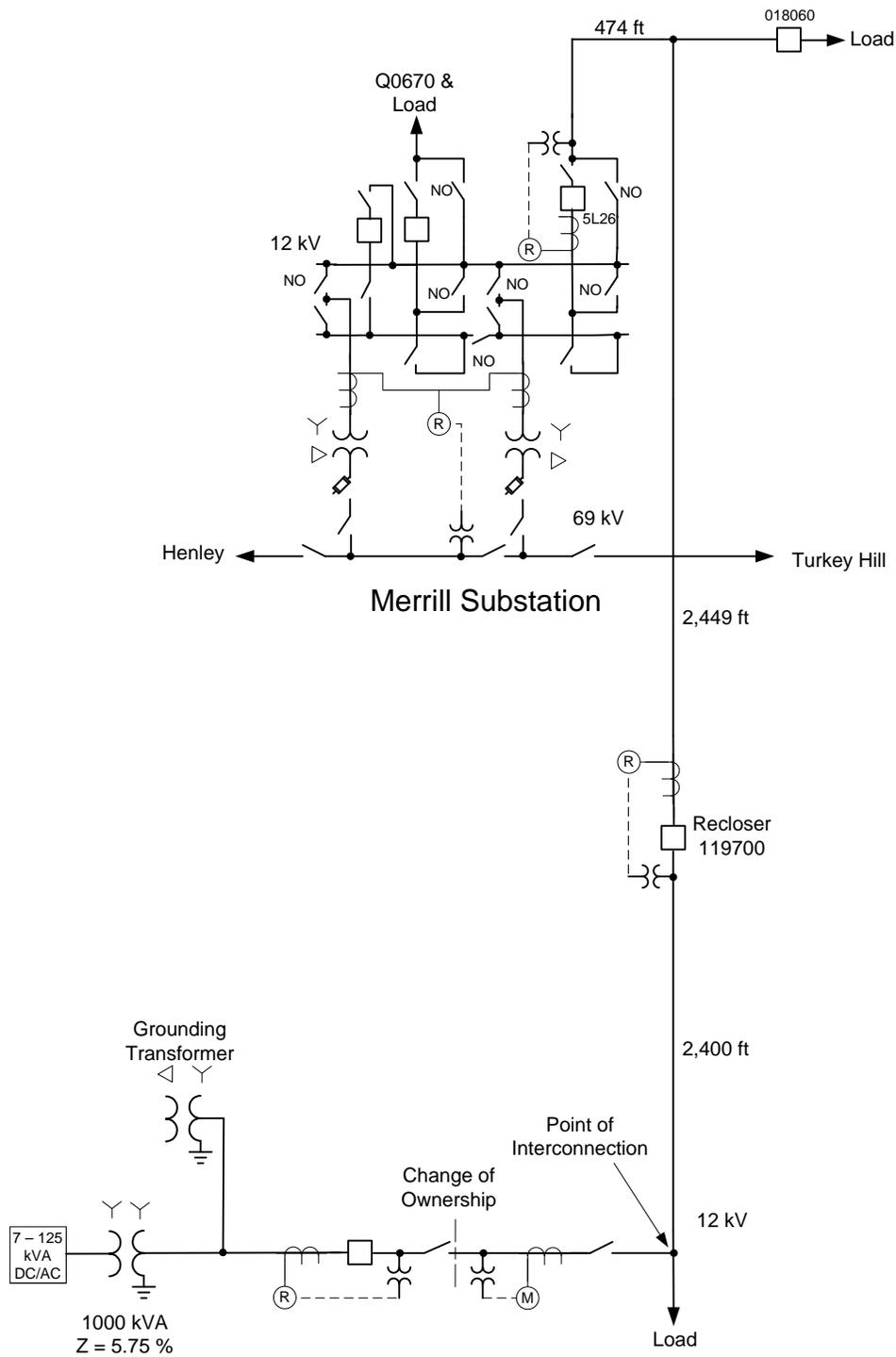


Figure 1: System One Line Diagram

### 3.1 Assumptions

- All active higher priority transmission service and/or generator interconnection and Community Solar Project requests will be considered in this review and are listed in Appendix 1. If any of these requests are withdrawn, the Public Utility reserves the right to restudy this request, as the results and conclusions contained within this review could significantly change:
  - Transmission Service Queue: to the extent practical, all network upgrades that are required to accommodate active transmission service requests and are expected to be in-service on or after the Applicant's requested in-service date for the Project will be modeled in this review.
  - Generation Interconnection and Community Solar Project Queues: Interconnection Facilities associated with higher queue requests will be modeled in this review
- The Applicant's request for interconnection service in and of itself does not convey any other form of service.
- This review assumes the Project will be integrated into Public Utility's system at the agreed upon and/or proposed Point of Interconnection.
- The Applicant will construct and own any facilities required between the point of interconnection and the Project.
- Generator tripping may be required for certain outages.
- All facilities will meet or exceed the minimum WECC, NERC, and Public Utility performance and design standards.
- This review is based on information available at the time of the review. It is the Applicant's responsibility to check the Public Utility's web site regularly for transmission system updates (<https://www.oasis.oati.com/ppw>)

## 4.0 TIER 2 COMMUNITY SOLAR PROJECT RESULTS

### 4.1 Screen 1

For interconnection of a Community Solar Project to a radial distribution circuit, the aggregated nameplate capacity on the circuit must not exceed 15 percent of the line section annual peak load as most recently measured at the substation or calculated for the line section.

#### **Result: Fail**

The aggregated generation capacity on circuit 5L26 of 1138 kW including the 800 kW from OCS003 is 22% of the 5L26 peak load without generation of 5175 kW. The aggregated generation capacity on the recloser 119700 line section of 1019 kW including the 800 kW from OCS003 is 41% of the recloser 119700 peak load without generation of 2497 kW. The calculated light load with full generation is 377 kW forward power flow on breaker 5L26 and 673 kW reverse power flow on recloser 119700.

The Public Utility will require additional study to determine requirements for interconnection.

#### **4.2 Screen 2**

For interconnection of a Community Solar Project to the load side of spot network protectors, the aggregated nameplate capacity on the load side of the spot network protectors must not exceed the lesser of five percent of a spot network's maximum load or 50 kilowatts.

**Result: N/A**

#### **4.3 Screen 3**

The aggregated nameplate capacity must not contribute more than 10 percent to the distribution circuit's maximum fault current at the point on the primary voltage distribution line nearest the point of interconnection.

**Result: Pass**

The three phase available fault current at the point of interconnection is 2341 amps without the aggregated generation capacity and 2519 amps with the aggregated generation capacity, an 8% increase.

#### **4.4 Screen 4**

The aggregated nameplate capacity on the distribution circuit must not cause any distribution protective devices and equipment (including substation breakers, fuse cutouts, and line reclosers) or other public utility equipment on the transmission or distribution system to be exposed to fault currents exceeding 90 percent of the short circuit interrupting capability. The Community Solar Project's Point of Interconnection must not be located on a circuit that already exceeds 90 percent of the short circuit interrupting capability.

**Result: Pass**

The highest available fault current on the distribution feeder with contribution from generation aggregated capacity is 3345 amp SLG. The available fault current is less than 90% of the line cutout 8 kA interrupting rating.

#### **4.5 Screen 5**

The aggregated nameplate capacity on the distribution side of a substation transformer feeding the circuit where the small generator facility proposes to interconnect must not exceed 10 megawatts in an area where there are known or posted transient stability limitations to generating units located in the general electrical vicinity (for example, three or four distribution busses from the point of interconnection).

**Result: Pass**

#### **4.6 Screen 6**

If the Community Solar Project interconnection is to a primary line on the distribution system, then the interconnection must meet the following criteria:

- (A) If the Community Solar Project is three-phase or single-phase and will be connected to a three-phase, three-wire primary line, then the Community Solar Project must be

connected phase-to-phase.

- (B) If the Community Solar Project is three-phase or single-phase and will be connected to a three-phase, four-wire primary line, then the Community Solar Project must be connected line-to-neutral and effectively grounded.

**Result: Pass**

OCS003 will connect to a three-phase, four-wire primary line and will require a grounding bank to meet the effectively grounded requirement.

**4.7 Screen 7**

For interconnection of a Community Solar Project to a single-phase shared service line on the distribution system, the aggregated nameplate capacity on the shared secondary line must not exceed 20 kilowatts.

**Result: N/A**

**4.8 Screen 8**

For interconnection of a single-phase Community Solar Project to the center tap neutral of a 240-volt service line, the addition of the Community Solar Project must not create a current imbalance between the two sides of the 240-volt service line of more than 20 percent of the nameplate rating of the service transformer.

**Result: N/A**

**4.9 Screen 9**

Except as provided in Screen 12, the interconnection of the Community Solar Project must not require system upgrades or interconnection facilities different from or in addition to the applicant's proposed interconnection equipment.

**Result: Fail**

The line recloser 119700 will need to be replaced with a unit that has a relay/controller that can communicate with the interconnection relay at the solar site. This recloser will also be equipped with voltage instrument transformers so that the relay can sense if line to the solar site is energized. An optical fiber cable will need to be install on the distribution line between the line recloser 119700 and the solar site. This is a length of approximately 2400 feet.

**4.10 Screen 10**

The aggregated nameplate capacity, in combination with exiting transmission loads, must not cause the transmission system circuit directly connected to the distribution circuit where the Community Solar Project interconnection is proposed to exceed its design capacity.

**Result: Pass**

**4.11 Screen 11**

If the public utility's distribution circuit uses high speed reclosing with less than two seconds of interruption, then the Community Solar Project must not be a synchronous machine. If the small generator facility is a synchronous machine, then the applicant must submit a Tier 4 application.

**Result: Pass**

**4.12 Screen 12**

If the Community Solar Project fails to meet one or more of the criteria in Screens 1 - 11, but the Public Utility determines that the Community Solar Project could be interconnected safely if minor modifications to the transmission or distribution system were made (for example, changing meters, fuses, or relay settings), then the Public Utility must offer the applicant a good-faith, non-binding estimate of the costs of such proposed minor modifications. Modifications are not considered minor under this subsection if the total cost of the modifications exceeds \$10,000. If the Applicant authorizes the Public Utility to proceed with the minor modifications and agrees to pay the entire cost of the modifications, then the Public Utility must approve the application under Tier 2.

**Result: Fail**

The replacement of the recloser 119700 and the installation of a communication path between the solar facility and recloser 119700 will exceed \$10,000.

**5.0 TIER 2 – NEXT STEPS**

As PacifiCorp has determined that the OCS0003 request cannot be safely interconnected without additional review and facilities construction, Applicant will be required to submit a new application under the Tier 4 of the Public Utility Commission of Oregon Order 19-392 approved Community Solar Procedures.

**6.0 PARTICIPATION BY AFFECTED SYSTEMS**

No Affected Systems were identified in relation to this Interconnection Request.

**7.0 APPENDICES**

Appendix 1: Higher Priority Requests

Appendix 2: Informational Network Resource Interconnection Service Assessment

# APPENDIX 1: HIGHER PRIORITY REQUESTS

All active higher priority transmission service and/or generator interconnection and Community Solar Project requests will be considered in this review and are identified below. If any of these requests are withdrawn, the Public Utility reserves the right to restudy this request, as the results and conclusions contained within this review could significantly change.

Transmission/Generation Interconnection/Community Solar Queue Requests considered:

Queue #	Size (MW)
660	10
721	55
741	40
849	100
905	50
971	2.7
1029	400
1031	80
1032	80
1033	80
1034	60
1055	4.2
1062	240
1087	50
1104	3
1120	3
1126	8
1133	80
1134	120
1135	80
1147	2.999
1158	1.8
1160	70
1192	238.5

**APPENDIX 2:  
INFORMATIONAL NETWORK RESOURCE INTERCONNECTION SERVICE  
ASSESSMENT**

The study results described above reflect an energy resource interconnection service (“ERIS”) evaluation, modified in the CSP program rules to examine only generation and load conditions local to the requested CSP project’s interconnection point (sometimes referred to as the “zoomed in view”). The “zoomed in view” functions to: (1) study the project’s proposed interconnection without considering certain existing or higher-queued requests outside of the local area; and (2) to inform whether the CSP facility must cap its project to mitigate, although not eliminate, the risk of potential deliverability-related network upgrades to accommodate the proposed CSP generator.

By contrast, the following informational section provides a network resource interconnection service (“NRIS”) evaluation performed with traditional assumptions, i.e., not modified to examine only local generation and load conditions, but rather one that assumes that all existing interconnections, higher-queued requests for interconnection service (in both the traditional and CSP queue), and generators with executed contracts beyond the local area are in-service. Depending on the severity of the conditions created when absorbing additional generation (capped or not capped) in that broader, “zoomed out” area, the local area-focused generator size cap developed in the “zoomed in” examination may not be sufficient to mitigate the need for deliverability-related network upgrades. Regardless of this report’s informational NRIS results, the deliverability-related network upgrades ultimately necessary to accommodate the proposed CSP generator will depend on conditions present when the future transmission service study is performed, as well as whether network upgrade alternatives are available at that time.

There are currently a significant number of higher-queued requests seeking interconnection in the southern Oregon area where the CSP generator proposes to interconnect. These interconnection studies must be completed before the transmission provider can determine what upgrades and associated cost estimates may be required for the aggregate of generation in the local area to be delivered to the aggregate of load on the transmission provider’s transmission system (the NRIS study scope).