Southern California Edison
R.17-07-007 – Rule 21 OIR to Streamline

DATA REQUEST SET G P I - S C E - G I P T R e q u e s t

To: CEC
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Job Title: Sr Mgr
Received Date: 5/18/2020

Response Date: 5/28/2020

Question 001-009:
Please respond to the following questions, within 10 calendar days:

1. To what degree has GIPT replaced legacy systems and consolidation of DER data (as the attached 2018 document, slide 1, describes)?

2. Similarly, to what degree has GIPT "automated routine analysis" (slide 2)?

3. Similarly, to what degree has GIPT "automated portions of the technical study" (slide 2)?

4. To what degree has GIPT automated the deemed complete or screening process? (slide 2: "screening applications during intake")

5. Has GIPT consolidated all interconnection information from existing databases into a centralized repository (slide 4)?

6. To what degree has GIPT otherwise (in ways not mentioned above) changed SCE's internal processing of applications?

7. Are these changes quantified at this point? Can SCE share this data?

8. You stated in the spreadsheet sent on April 3 "The ICA and DrPep maps are often more useful than PARs in determining the early viability of a project." Please explain what data or qualitative considerations support this statement (the widely held view has long been that PARs are more accurate than the ICA maps, but you are suggesting that is no longer the case it seems?)

9. When will SCE be sharing info about GIPT Phase 2?

Response to Question 001-009:

1. As of May 2020, GIPT is in Phase I of its development, which is ongoing and is expected to include additional functionality. GIPT is currently a stand-alone interconnection portal for Rule 21 Non-export projects. As such, GIPT at this time has not replaced any legacy systems or consolidated DER data. The expected future development plan for GIPT includes plans to replace legacy systems and consolidate DER data with the expectation that

Power Clerk Interconnect, currently utilized for some Net Energy Metering projects, along with other legacy systems will be folded into GIPT in future development phases.

2. As of May 2020, GIPT has been designed to automate a limited scope of routine tasks. Specifically, Screen B (certified equipment) is automatically passed when the interconnection customer selects a certified inverter from the pull-down list of certified inverters imbedded in the application. In addition, Initial Review Screens F, G, H, and L are partially automated in that they pull data input in the application together with built-in calculators to assist SCE's engineers in evaluating the screens.

3. The functionality that will allow GIPT to "integrate with the System Modeling Tool (SMT) to automate portions of the technical study" is not included in Phase I (as of May 2020), but this advanced functionality is expected in future phases of both the SMT and the GIPT.

4. As of May 2020, the GIPT interface allows an interconnection customer to initiate a new case/project through the use of several user prompts and drop-down menus along with help text boxes. The GIPT application will not allow a new interconnection request to proceed to the next step or next screen unless certain data has been provided by the interconnection customer. This minimizes errors of omission and deficiencies from a "deemed complete" standpoint.

   In addition, as of May 2020, the GIPT interface also streamlines the payment of interconnection request fees via online payments via ACH, which reduces time to submit the application and arrive at a "deemed complete" status. GIPT also now has a cloning feature that allows customers to "clone" technical components of applications already submitted, reducing time to prepare and submit applications.

   As stated within SCE's response to Question Two, Screen B is also now completed while the customer is entering information into the case/project and is based solely on customer-provided information. Other screens (F, G, H, and L) are partially automated, based on customer-provided information, as part of Initial Review completed by SCE engineers after the interconnection application has been deemed complete.

5. As of May 2020, the GIPT interface has not yet consolidated all interconnection information from existing databases into a centralized repository. This feature is expected in future GIPT phases.

6. In addition to GIPT functionality mentioned above, GIPT has been designed to automate a number of interconnection customer communications touch/outreach-points, such as deficiency notices. Interconnection customers receive automated email communications that specify which deficiencies must be cleared before the application can be deemed complete. In addition, GIPT sends internal and external email communication reminders (based on role such as engineer, contract advisor, or interconnection customer) of upcoming due dates to minimize the risk of missing important milestones.

As of May 2020, GIPT also automatically populates the draft interconnection agreement forms with relevant data/fields based on the information included on the application with no re-keying of this data, saving time and errors in the interconnection agreement phase of the process.

7. As of May 2020, GIPT is applicable to Rule 21 non-exporting projects and related timelines. Consistent with commitments SCE made as part of Working Group Three of the open interconnection rulemaking, SCE provides reporting of selected timelines related to processing of Rule 21 non-exporting projects that can be located at the following link [https://www.sce.com/sites/default/files/inline-files/Rule21_ProcessingTimelinesReport-2020Q1.xlsx].

8. The ICA values are derived from power flow evaluations to determine the thermal, protection, power quality, and other characteristics of a circuit. On the other hand, the PAR is silent on these factors and does not provide any information for any of these limiting components. In Working Group Two of the current interconnection rulemaking, parties discussed how customers can use ICA values in the interconnection process, given that those values provide more information than what is provided currently in a PAR. As a result, SCE views the ICA information as more valuable to interconnection customers than PARs.

   Neither the ICA and DrPEP maps nor a PAR can replace the information quality and quantity of SCE's interconnection studies. However, each of these tools can provide some useful information to interconnection customers prior to submitting an interconnection request and commencement of interconnection studies.

9. Future phases of GIPT are under internal review as of May 2020. SCE has committed to complete Phase I in 2020 and has no additional updates to share regarding timing of Phase II development beyond general goals. SCE has a strong desire to bring the GIPT interconnection portal to the vision outlined in the 2018 presentation. Future GIPT phases are contingent on funding, among other variables.

   Once future phases have been definitively scoped and funding secured, SCE will update stakeholders at a venue to be determined at that time.