

Large Generator Interconnection Transition Cluster Scoping Meeting Questions & Answers Log

The following set of questions and answers are derived from the public meeting held on March 5, 2025, the Transition Cluster Scoping Meeting for BPA's Large Generator Interconnection Transition Cluster Study and are intended to help clarify questions and comments from the meeting and from any follow-up in response to the content. Materials from the meeting are available on the [GQR web page](#).

1. Where can the spreadsheet of requests in BPA's Interconnection Request Queue shared during the Transition Cluster Scoping Meeting be found?

BPA's Interconnection Request Queue spreadsheet is posted to OASIS. You will need an OASIS log-in to access it. The spreadsheet can also be found here: [Interconnection Request Queue](#).

2. Where can the materials presented by BPA during the Transition Cluster Scoping Meeting be found?

The presentation is available [here](#).

3. Column Z of the list of requests in BPA's Interconnection Request Queue, posted on OASIS and on BPA's LGIP web page, identifies requests as "Transition Cluster" or "Transition Late-Stage." What does Transition Late-Stage indicate? Are Interconnection Requests identified as Transition Late-Stage in the Interconnection Request Queue table being studied in the Transition Cluster Study?

Requests identified as Transition Late Stage in column Z of the BPA Interconnection Request Queue table identifies a Late-Stage Project, a tariff defined term, that elected to continue being studied in a serial manner during the Transition Process. Requests identified as Transition Late Stage in the queue table will not be participating in the Transition Cluster Study.

4. How do I navigate the list of requests in BPA's Interconnection Request Queue, posted on OASIS and on BPA's LGIP web page, to identify information about the requests participating in the Transition Cluster Study?

The Interconnection Request Queue spreadsheet includes all Large Generator Interconnection Requests (LGIRs) and Line and Load Interconnection Requests (LLIRs). Filter column J, Connection Type, to view only the LGIRs. Additionally, the spreadsheet includes requests in WITHDRAWN status. Filter column G, Status, to view only the requests with "STUDY." The spreadsheet includes LGIRs being studied in the Transition Cluster Study and those being studied serially under the Transition Process. Filter column Z, Cluster, to view only the requests with "Transition Cluster." The spreadsheet now identifies the Transition Requests being studied in the Transition Cluster Study. The spreadsheet can be further filtered and sorted to review the provided information about the requests.

5. Can BPA elaborate on the Phase One Study deposit details?

The Phase One Cluster Study Deposit is outlined in Section 6.1.1 of BPA's Standard Large Generator Interconnection Procedures (LGIP). The formula is:

\$25,000 plus \$500 per MW of Generating Facility Capacity of the Generating Facility, up to a maximum of \$100,000.

Please note that "Generating Facility Capacity" is defined as the net nameplate or net aggregate nameplate at the Point of Interconnection (POI). During the early stages of the study process, the

Generating Facility Capacity is assumed to be the same as the requested Interconnection Service, which is defined as being the MW requested for injection at the POI.

6. When will BPA update the Transition Cluster Study timeline that was posted on the Generator Interconnection Queue Reform page on Sept. 4, 2024?

BPA will post an updated Transition Cluster Study Timeline as part of the post-scoping meeting materials on March 19, 2025.

7. When will Phase One Cluster Study Agreements be tendered, and when will they be due?

BPA tendered all Phase One Cluster Study Agreements within five business days of the Cluster Scoping Meeting, which was March 12, 2025. Customers have 15 business days from the date they receive their agreement to return the executed agreement and the study deposit.

8. Can an Interconnection Customer reduce the project size of a Transition Request during the Customer Engagement Window? When in the Transition Cluster Study may an Interconnection Customer reduce the size of a Transition Request?

Customers do not have the right to reduce the project size of a request during a Customer Engagement Window. Under Section 4.4 of the LGIP, an Interconnection Customer may make modifications outlined in that tariff section, including a reduction in the size of a project, during the Phase One Cluster Study Customer Review Period and the Phase Two Cluster Study Customer Review Period. Any other modifications must go through the Material Modification analysis process outlined in Section 4.4.3 of the LGIP and Section I of the Large Generator Interconnection Business Practice. The Phase One Cluster Study Customer Review Period will be a 90 Calendar Days window that opens after the Phase One Cluster Study Report/s are posted.

9. Will an Interconnection Customer receive cost estimates on Interconnection Facilities and Network Upgrades required to interconnect a request prior to the Phase One Cluster Study Customer Review Period to inform the decision about whether to reduce the electrical output of the project, as outlined in section 4.4.1 of the LGIP?

Interconnection Customers will receive information on Network Upgrades and Interconnection Facilities required for a project and estimates on project costs in the Phase One Cluster Study Report. Interconnection Customers will receive the Phase One Cluster Study Report prior to the Phase One Cluster Study Customer Review Period, during which a customer may reduce the electrical output of a project. BPA will not update any Phase One Cluster Study Report to reflect a reduction in the electrical output of a project made during the Phase One Cluster Study Customer Review Period.

10. Will BPA use the regions identified in the materials presented at the Cluster Scoping Meeting as path interfaces in study models or base cases used in the Transition Cluster Study?

No, the regions are not being used as path interfaces in the study models or base cases used in the Transition Cluster Study. As outlined in Section 6.5 of the LGIP, BPA may segment and perform the Transition Cluster Study according to geographically or electrically relevant areas (defined as a Cluster Area). The regions identified in the materials presented at the Cluster Scoping Meeting demonstrate the geographic location of requests in the study and reflect possible Cluster Areas that BPA may use to segment the Transition Cluster Study.

11. Will all Transition Requests move through the Transition Cluster Study Process at the same pace?

If BPA segments the Transition Cluster Study into Cluster Areas, as described in Section 6.5 of the LGIP, or Scalable Plan Blocks, as described in Section 4.2.4 of the LGIP, BPA will release a Phase One Cluster Study Report for each Cluster Area or Scalable Plan Block, as applicable. BPA intends to release all the Phase One Cluster Study Reports at the same time. After the Phase One Cluster Study Reports are issued, BPA may, at its sole discretion, allow requests in specific Cluster Areas or Scalable Plan Blocks to advance to the Phase Two Cluster Study on a separate schedule than other Cluster Areas or Scalable Plan Blocks, as outlined in Section 7.1 of the LGIP.

12. How will BPA coordinate with neighboring utilities if a neighboring Transmission Provider's facilities are identified as affected by an interconnection?

Any Affected Systems identified in the study process will be provided with the relevant study report at the same time as customers receive it, and any Affected System Transmission Providers will be invited to meetings related to the study. The Transmission Providers of any Affected Systems identified in the Phase One Cluster Study will receive notice when the Phase One Cluster Study Report/s is/are published. Customers must work with an Affected System Transmission Provider as outlined in the Affected System Transmission Provider's tariff to receive an Affected System Study Report. BPA will share information with the Affected System Transmission Provider to assist in the completion of that study.

13. How will Battery Energy Storage System charging be studied in Transition Cluster Study?

Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) projects that are not identified as being grid-charged will be studied assuming that the BESS is charging from an energy source co-located at the same POI. BESS projects identified as grid-charging will be studied assuming that the BESS is charging from an energy source that is not co-located at the same POI.

14. How does an Interconnection Request's in-service date impact the results of the study?

For purposes of modeling, during the Phase One Cluster Study and Phase Two Cluster Study, BPA will presume that all generators at a common POI station have the same energization date regardless of requested Commercial Operation Date.

15. Will steady state analyses be included as part of Phase Two Cluster Study?

Steady state and short circuit ratio (SCR) analyses will be conducted during the Phase One Cluster Study and as needed during the Phase Two Cluster Study. Stability and EMT analyses will be conducted during the Phase Two Cluster Study.

16. What assumptions about load are used in the Cluster Study process?

BPA will use the 2030 and 2034 WECC planning base cases and will adjust the cases as necessary to complete the Transition Cluster Study. Loads that have a reasonable likelihood of being online inside this 10-year planning horizon are included in WECC cases per the load serving entities' forecasts provided to WECC.

Deliverability to load is not studied in the Transition Cluster Study.

17. What cost allocation method will BPA use in the Transition Cluster Study?

As outlined in Section 4.2.3 of the LGIP, BPA shall calculate each Interconnection Customer's share of the costs of Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities and Network Upgrades by allocating costs among customers within the same Cluster Area or Scalable Plan Block, as applicable. Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities costs are directly assigned or allocated on a per capita basis when shared. Station equipment Network Upgrades costs are

allocated on a per capita basis. All other Network Upgrade costs are allocated based on proportional capacity of each Generating Facility, as explained in Section 4.2.3(b) of the LGIP.

18. Which software is BPA using for the Cluster Study? Has BPA considered more advanced software like TARA?

BPA will use PowerWorld and ASPEN Oneliner for the Phase One and Phase Two Cluster Studies. BPA will use PSCAD for the Phase Two Cluster Study if any EMT analyses are required. BPA has found that PowerWorld has comparable features to TARA.

19. Will N-1 & N-2 analyses be performed in Phase One or Phase Two Cluster Study?

The Phase One and Phase Two Cluster Studies will include full NERC TPL-001 contingency analyses (e.g. N-1 and N-2).

20. How are requests for Network Resource Interconnection Service (NRIS) studied differently than requests for Energy Resource Interconnection Service (ERIS)?

NRIS will be assessed in the Phase Two Cluster Study and will get an extra scenario that analyzes the impacts to the main grid flow gates of taking the generation to the specified Network Load.

21. Does BPA have a generator interconnection withdrawal charge?

In the *Administrator's Final Record of Decision, TC-26-1-02, in the TC-26 Tariff Proceeding*, BPA adopted the TC-26 Settlement Agreement, including terms that apply a Generator Interconnection Withdrawal Charge as specified within that agreement. The Open Access Transmission Tariff adopted through that proceeding will take effect on October 1, 2025. Information about the TC-26 Tariff Proceeding, including the TC-26 Settlement Agreement can be found [here](#).

Additional details about the Generator Interconnection Withdrawal Charge are contained in the BP-26 Partial Rates Settlement Agreement. BPA initially proposed the adoption of the BP-26 Partial Rates Settlement Agreement in the BP-26 Rates Proceeding. Whether the BP-26 Partial Rates Settlement Agreement is adopted into BPA's *Transmission Provider's Transmission, Ancillary, and Control Area Service Rate Schedules and General Rate Schedule Provisions* depends on the outcome of the BP-26 Rates Proceeding. The Record of Decision in the BP-26 rates proceeding is anticipated to be published in July of 2025. Information about the BP-26 Rate Case can be found [here](#).