

APPENDIX 5
OPTIONAL INTERCONNECTION STUDY AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT is made and entered into this ____ day of _____, 20__ by and between _____, a _____ organized and existing under the laws of the State of _____ (“Interconnection Customer,”) and ISO New England Inc., a non-stock corporation existing under the laws of the State of Delaware (“System Operator”), and _____, a _____ organized and existing under the laws of the State of _____ (“Interconnecting Transmission Owner”). Interconnection Customer, System Operator, and Interconnecting Transmission Owner may be referred to as a “Party,” or collectively as the “Parties.”

RECITALS

WHEREAS, Interconnection Customer is proposing to develop a Large Generating Facility or generating capacity addition to an existing Generating Facility consistent with the Interconnection Request submitted by the Interconnection Customer dated _____; and

WHEREAS, Interconnection Customer is proposing to establish an interconnection to the Administered Transmission System; and

WHEREAS, Interconnection Customer has submitted to System Operator an Interconnection Request; and

WHEREAS, on or after the date when the Interconnection Customer receives the Interconnection System Impact Study results, Interconnection Customer has further requested that the System Operator and Interconnecting Transmission Owner prepare an Optional Interconnection Study.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of and subject to the mutual covenants contained herein the Parties agree as follows:

- 1.0 When used in this Agreement, with initial capitalization, the terms specified shall have the meanings indicated in the Commission-approved Large Generator Interconnection

Procedures (“LGIP”), or in the other provisions of the ISO New England Inc. Transmission, Markets and Services Tariff (the “Tariff”).

- 2.0 Interconnection Customer elects and System Operator shall cause an Optional Interconnection Study consistent with Section 10.0 of the LGIP to be performed in accordance with the Tariff.
- 3.0 The scope of the Optional Interconnection Study shall be subject to the assumptions set forth in Attachment A to this Agreement.
- 4.0 The Optional Interconnection Study shall be performed solely for informational purposes.
- 5.0 The Optional Interconnection Study report shall provide a sensitivity analysis based on the assumptions specified by the Interconnection Customer in Attachment A to this Agreement. The Optional Interconnection Study will identify Interconnecting Transmission Owner’s Interconnection Facilities and the Network Upgrades, and the estimated cost thereof, that may be required to provide transmission service or Interconnection Service based upon the assumptions specified by the Interconnection Customer in Attachment A.
In accordance with the LGIP, in performing the Optional Interconnection Study, the System Operator shall coordinate with Interconnecting Transmission Owner and Affected Parties, and shall receive and incorporate input from such entities into its study, and shall provide copies of the final study report to such entities.
- 6.0 The Interconnection Customer is providing herewith a deposit equal to 100 percent of the estimated cost of the study. Interconnecting Transmission Owner’s and System Operator’s good faith estimate for the time of completion of the Optional Interconnection Study is [insert date].

The total estimated cost of the performance of the Optional Interconnection Study consists of \$_____ which is comprised of the System Operator’s estimated cost of \$_____ and the Interconnecting Transmission Owner’s estimated cost of \$_____.

Any difference between the initial payment and the actual cost of the study shall be paid by or refunded to the Interconnection Customer, as appropriate. Upon receipt of the Optional Interconnection Study, System Operator and Interconnecting Transmission Owner shall charge and the Interconnection Customer shall pay the actual costs of the Optional Interconnection Study. Interconnection Customer shall pay any invoiced amounts within thirty (30) Calendar Days of receipt of invoice.

7.0 Miscellaneous.

7.1 Accuracy of Information. Except as a Party (“Providing Party”) may otherwise specify in writing when it provides information to the other Parties under this Agreement, the Providing Party represents and warrants that, to the best of its knowledge, the information it provides to the other Parties shall be accurate and complete as of the date the information is provided. The Providing Party shall promptly provide the other Parties with any additional information needed to update information previously provided.

7.2 Disclaimer of Warranty. In preparing and/or participating in the Optional Interconnection Study, as applicable, each Party and any subcontractor consultants employed by it shall have to rely on information provided by the Providing Party, and possibly by third parties, and may not have control over the accuracy of such information. Accordingly, beyond the commitment to use Reasonable Efforts in preparing and/or participating in the Optional Interconnection Study (including, but not limited to, exercise of Good Utility Practice in verifying the accuracy of information provided for or used in the Optional Interconnection Study), as applicable, no Party nor any subcontractor consultant employed by it makes any warranties, express or implied, whether arising by operation of law, course of performance or dealing, custom, usage in the trade or profession, or otherwise, including without limitation implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose, with regard to the accuracy of the information considered in conducting the Optional Interconnection Study, the content of the Optional Interconnection Study, or the conclusions of the Optional Interconnection Study. Interconnection Customer acknowledges that it has not relied on any representations or warranties not specifically set forth herein and that no such representations or warranties have formed the basis of its bargain hereunder.

7.3 Force Majeure, Liability and Indemnification.

7.3.1 Force Majeure. Neither System Operator, Interconnecting Transmission Owner nor an Interconnection Customer will be considered in default as to any obligation under this Agreement if prevented from fulfilling the obligation due to an event of Force Majeure; provided that no event of Force Majeure affecting any entity shall excuse that entity from making any payment that it is obligated to make hereunder. However, an entity whose performance under this Agreement is hindered by an event of Force Majeure shall make all reasonable efforts to perform its obligations under this Agreement, and shall promptly notify the System Operator, the Interconnecting Transmission Owner or the Interconnection Customer, whichever is appropriate, of the commencement and end of each event of Force Majeure.

7.3.2 Liability. System Operator shall not be liable for money damages or other compensation to the Interconnection Customer for action or omissions by System Operator in performing its obligations under this Agreement, except to the extent such act or omission by System Operator is found to result from its gross negligence or willful misconduct. Interconnecting Transmission Owner shall not be liable for money damages or other compensation to the Interconnection Customer for action or omissions by Interconnecting Transmission Owner in performing its obligations under this Agreement, except to the extent such act or omission by Interconnecting Transmission Owner is found to result from its gross negligence or willful misconduct. To the extent the Interconnection Customer has claims against System Operator or Interconnecting Transmission Owner, the Interconnection Customer may only look to the assets of System Operator or Interconnecting Transmission Owner (as the case may be) for the enforcement of such claims and may not seek to enforce any claims against the directors, members, shareholders, officers, employees or agents of System Operator or Interconnecting Transmission Owner or Affiliate of either who, the Interconnection Customer acknowledges and agrees, have no personal or other liability for obligations of System Operator or Interconnecting Transmission Owner by reason of their status as directors, members, shareholders, officers, employees or agents of System Operator or Interconnecting Transmission Owner

or Affiliate of either. In no event shall System Operator, Interconnecting Transmission Owner or any Interconnection Customer be liable for any incidental, consequential, multiple or punitive damages, loss of revenues or profits, attorneys fees or costs arising out of, or connected in any way with the performance or non-performance under this Agreement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing in this section shall diminish an Interconnection Customer's obligations under the Indemnification section below.

7.3.3 Indemnification. Interconnection Customer shall at all times indemnify, defend, and save harmless System Operator and the Interconnecting Transmission Owners and their respective directors, officers, members, employees and agents from any and all damages, losses, claims and liabilities ("Losses") by or to third parties arising out of or resulting from the performance by System Operator or Interconnecting Transmission Owners under this Agreement, any bankruptcy filings made by the Interconnection Customer, or the actions or omissions of the Interconnection Customer in connection with this Agreement, except in the case of System Operator, to the extent such Losses arise from gross negligence or willful misconduct by System Operator or its directors, officers, members, employees or agents, and, in the case of Interconnecting Transmission Owner, to the extent such Losses arise from the gross negligence or willful misconduct by Interconnecting Transmission Owner or its directors, officers, members, employees or agents. The amount of any indemnity payment hereunder shall be reduced (including, without limitation, retroactively) by any insurance proceeds or other amounts actually recovered by the indemnified party in respect of the indemnified action, claim, demand, cost, damage or liability. The obligations of Interconnection Customer to indemnify System Operator and Interconnecting Transmission Owners shall be several, and not joint or joint and several. The liability provisions of the Transmission Operating Agreement or other applicable operating agreements shall apply to the relationship between the System Operator and the Interconnecting Transmission Owner.

7.4 Third-Party Beneficiaries. Without limitation of Sections 7.2 and 7.3 of this Agreement, the Parties agree that subcontractor consultants hired by them to conduct, participate in,

or review, or to assist in the conducting, participating in, or reviewing of, an Optional Interconnection Study shall be deemed third party beneficiaries of Sections 7.2 and 7.3.

- 7.5 **Term and Termination.** This Agreement shall be effective from the date hereof and unless earlier terminated in accordance with this Section 7.5, shall continue in effect for a term of one year or until the Optional Interconnection Study is completed. This Agreement shall automatically terminate upon the withdrawal of Interconnection Request under Section 3.6 of the LGIP. The System Operator or the Interconnecting Transmission Owner may terminate this Agreement fifteen (15) days after providing written notice to the Interconnection Customer that it has breached one of its obligations hereunder, if the breach has not been cured within such fifteen (15) day period.
- 7.6 **Governing Law.** This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the state where the Point of Interconnection is located, without regard to any choice of laws provisions.
- 7.7 **Severability.** In the event that any part of this Agreement is deemed as a matter of law to be unenforceable or null and void, such unenforceable or void part shall be deemed severable from this Agreement and the Agreement shall continue in full force and effect as if each part was not contained herein.
- 7.8 **Counterparts.** This Agreement may be executed in counterparts, and each counterpart shall have the same force and effect as the original instrument.
- 7.9 **Amendment.** No amendment, modification or waiver of any term hereof shall be effective unless set forth in writing and signed by the Parties hereto.
- 7.10 **Survival.** All warranties, limitations of liability and confidentiality provisions provided herein shall survive the expiration or termination hereof.
- 7.11 **Independent Contractor.** Each of the Parties shall at all times be deemed to be an independent contractor of the other Parties, and none of its employees or the employees of its subcontractors shall be considered to be employees of the other Parties as a result of this Agreement.

- 7.12 No Implied Waivers. The failure of a Party to insist upon or enforce strict performance of any of the provisions of this Agreement shall not be construed as a waiver or relinquishment to any extent of such Party's right to insist or rely on any such provision, rights and remedies in that or any other instances; rather, the same shall be and remain in full force and effect.
- 7.13 Successors and Assigns. This Agreement may not be assigned, by operation of law or otherwise, without the prior written consent of the other Parties hereto, such consent not to be unreasonably withheld. Notwithstanding the foregoing, this Agreement, and each and every term and condition hereof, shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the Parties hereto and their respective successors and assigns, to the extent the same are authorized hereunder.
- 7.14 Due Authorization. Each Party to this Agreement represents and warrants that it has full power and authority to enter into this Agreement and to perform its obligations hereunder, that execution of this Agreement will not violate any other agreement with a third party, and that the person signing this Agreement on its behalf has been properly authorized and empowered to enter into this Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have caused this Agreement to be duly executed by their duly authorized officers or agents on the day and year first above written.

System Operator

Interconnecting Transmission Owner

By:

By:

Title:

Title:

Date:

Date:

[Insert name of Interconnection Customer]

By:

Title:

Date:

**ASSUMPTIONS USED IN CONDUCTING
THE OPTIONAL INTERCONNECTION STUDY**

[To be completed by Interconnection Customer consistent with Section 10 of the LGIP.]