

HB 877 -- Interconnection of Electric Generating Facilities with Utilities

Sponsor: Berry

This bill requires an electric utility to accept electricity produced from a customer who operates an electric generating facility in the service area of the utility. The Missouri Public Service Commission must adopt rules for the interconnection of electric generating facilities intended to operate in parallel with an electric utility's system. Eligible technologies will be renewable energy resources and waste heat recovery. Interconnection agreements, procedures, and fees must be nondiscriminatory, just, and reasonable and must establish uniform, clear, and transparent timelines.

An interconnection customer must be allowed to sell excess electricity to his or her utility at the utility's avoided cost subject to maximum kilowatt-hour limitations that the commission may impose to the extent necessary to ensure reliable operation of the grid. An electricity provider cannot charge an interconnection customer any fee or charge or require additional equipment, insurance, or any other requirements not specifically authorized by commission standards unless the fee, charge, or requirement would apply to other customers who are not interconnection customers. An electric utility will not be liable for any loss, damage, or injury caused by interconnection equipment not owned by the utility except for negligence by the utility in the purchase, installation, or modification of the equipment.

The governing body of a rural electric cooperative or municipal utility must adopt by August 28, 2012, policies consistent with the commission's rules governing interconnected systems and must establish a simple, standard interconnection contract.