

Interconnection Introspection



Tom Stanton, Technical Assistant
Electric Division

Michigan Public Service Commission

thomas.s.stanton@cis.state.mi.us

voice: (517) 241-6086

Ideas presented are my own & not necessarily those of the Michigan PSC or its Staff.



Summary

- **Fair, simple, fast, safe interconnection is the key that unlocks the door.**
- **The strong financial incentive not to lose sales combined with too much utility discretion is a po**
- **What do good interconnection standards include?**
 - **Absolute safety and protection for people.**
 - **Near-absolute safety and protection for equipment.**
 - **Non-technical, contractual provisions.**

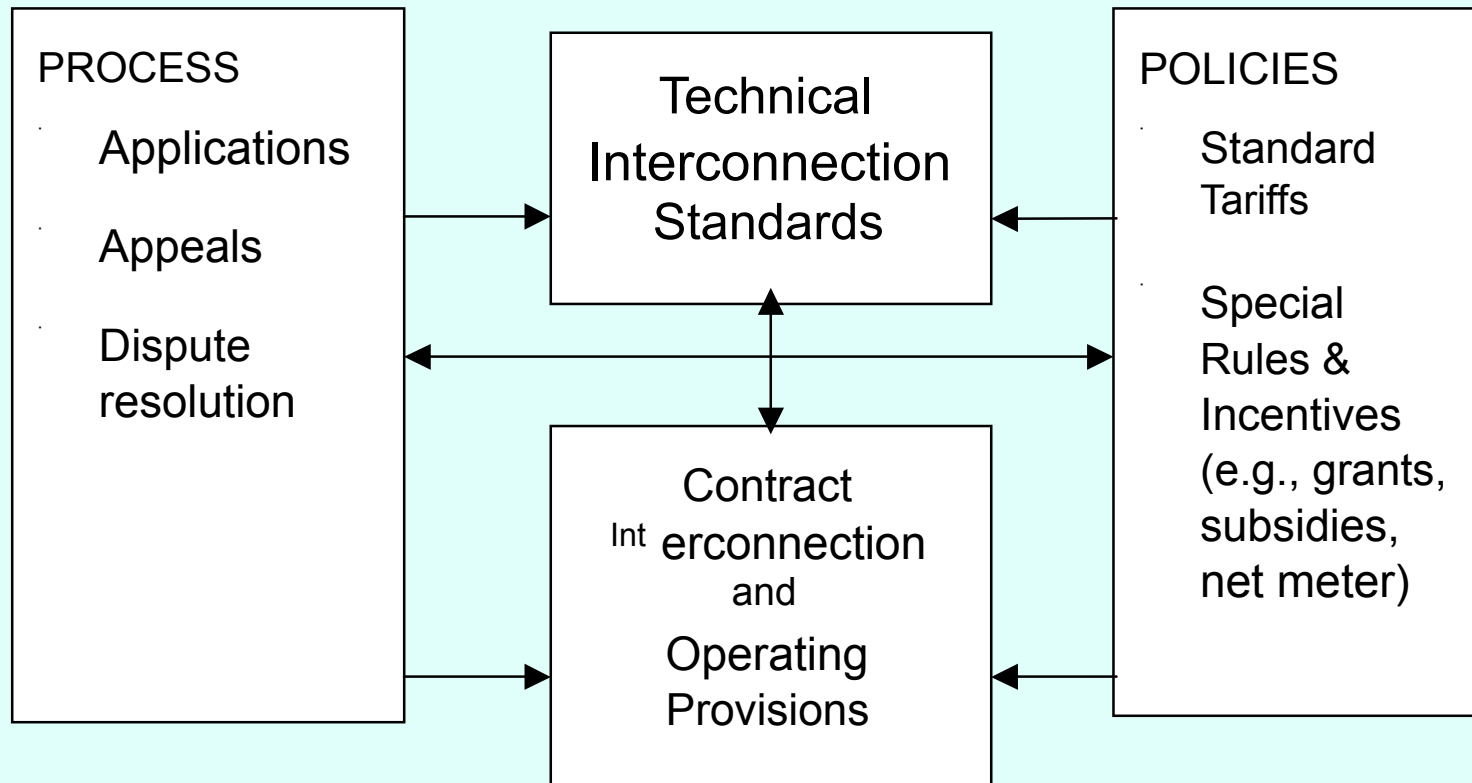


Good Standards Include

- **TECHNICAL TERMS:**
 - Absolute safety & protection for people
 - Near-absolute safety and protection for equipment (both utility and customer equipment)
 - System studies, pre-certification
- **NON-TECHNICAL TERMS**
 - Fair rates & defined services
 - Hook-up fees, insurance
 - Non-technical contractual & tariff requirements
 - Procedures & schedules, policies, forms, contact persons, complaint resolution



Role of Interconnection & Tariff Non-Technical Provisions



Tariff & Contract Issues

- ▶ Rates & services
- ▶ Types & sizes of systems
- ▶ Control & monitoring (metering, telemetry, reports, data, etc.)
- ▶ Certification & testing
- ▶ System approval process & data needs (including timing)
- ▶ Liability & insurance
- ▶ Permitting & siting (environ-mental, local codes, etc.)
- ▶ Wires bypass & standby charges
- ▶ Exit fees, CTC's
- ▶ Other policy relationships



Neutralize your regulations

- ▶ Regulations should be realigned so that they are technologically and scale neutral, supporting market
- ▶ G, T, & D are all at least partial substitutes for one another. Allow competition with LDC in as many
- ▶ Don't give utilities a monopoly on load control. Give customers the ability to respond to price signals

