

40.6 Queue Position/ Modification/ Withdrawal/ Withdrawal Penalties

40.6.1 Queue Position

40.6.1.1 Assignment of Queue Position

The ISO shall assign a Queue Position for an Interconnection Customer's Interconnection Request or CRIS-Only Request based upon the date and time of the ISO's receipt during the Application Window of the Interconnection Customer's complete submission of an Interconnection Request or CRIS-Only Request pursuant to Sections 40.5.4 and 40.5.5. If the ISO validates the Interconnection Request or CRIS-Only Request pursuant to Section 40.5.7, then the Interconnection Request or CRIS-Only Request shall retain its assigned Queue Position based on the date and time the submission was originally filed.

40.6.1.2 Higher Queue Position

A higher "Queue Position" assigned to an Interconnection Request or CRIS-Only Request is one that has been placed "earlier" in the Queue in relation to another Interconnection Request or CRIS-Only Request that is assigned a lower Queue Position. All Interconnection Requests and CRIS-Only Requests submitted and validated in a single Application Window that are a part of a single Cluster for the Cluster Study Process shall be considered equally queued as between the Interconnection Requests and CRIS-Only Requests within the same Cluster; *provided, however*, that an Interconnection Request's individual Queue Position will be used to determine priority as between Interconnection Requests in the same Cluster in the event of a Physical Infeasibility determination as set forth in Section 40.7.3. Interconnection Requests and CRIS-Only Requests that are part of a particular Class Year Study or Cluster Study shall be considered to have a higher Queue Position than Interconnection Requests and CRIS-Only Requests that are part of a subsequent Cluster Study.

40.6.2 Transferability of Queue Position

An Interconnection Customer may transfer its Queue Position for its Interconnection Request or CRIS-Only Request to another entity only if: (i) such entity acquires the specific Facility identified in the Interconnection Request or CRIS-Only Request, (ii) the Point of Interconnection does not change, (iii) for an Interconnection Request, the acquiring entity demonstrates Site Control for its Project, (iv) the transferring Interconnection Customer is up-to-date on payments to the ISO, and (v) the acquiring entity submits any deposits required for its Interconnection Request or CRIS-Only Request under this Attachment HH. As a result of such a transfer, the acquiring entity shall become the Interconnection Customer of the specific Facility identified in the Interconnection Request or CRIS-Only Request. After such transfer, the ISO will refund to the transferring Interconnection Customer any refundable cash portion of the Study Deposit, Readiness Deposit(s), or Site Control Deposit or provide written authorization for Interconnection Customer to request that the bank cancel any remaining letter of credit or surety bond provided as a deposit.

40.6.3 Modifications

An Interconnection Customer may request an ISO determination as to whether an Interconnection Customer's proposed modification to any information provided in the Interconnection Request or CRIS-Only Request for its project is permitted or is a Material Modification by submitting to the ISO: (i) a Facility Modification Request in the form of Appendix 5 to these Standard Interconnection Procedures, (ii) a study deposit in cash in the amount of \$10,000, and (iii) any supporting information or documentation required under this Section 40.6.3; *provided, however*, that an Interconnection Customer is not required to provide a study deposit to submit a permitted extension of its Commercial Operation Date pursuant to

Section 40.6.3.4, a change to its Point of Interconnection pursuant to Section 40.6.3.1, a name change for the Cluster Study Project, or a name change for the Interconnection Customer. Any proposed modification to any information provided in the Interconnection Request or CRIS-Only Request must be accompanied by any resulting updates to the models included in such requests to the extent required in the Facility Modification Request. Except as otherwise provided in Sections 40.6.3.1 and 40.6.3.7, an Interconnection Customer cannot request a modification to the information provided in its validated Interconnection Request or CRIS-Only Request for its Cluster Study Project until the completion of the later of the Final Decision Period or Additional SDU Study Decision Period in which its Cluster Study Project is participating. Except as otherwise indicated in Section 40.6.3.1, the Interconnection Customer shall retain its Queue Position if its requested modification is permitted in accordance with Sections 40.6.3.4 or is determined not to be Material Modifications pursuant to this Section 40.6.3.

40.6.3.1 Within five (5) Business Days after the ISO posts the Cluster Study Project List during the Customer Engagement Window pursuant to Section 40.7.2, the Interconnection Customer may propose a modification to the Point of Interconnection in its Interconnection Request in accordance with the requirements in Section 40.7.2.3 to this Attachment HH.

40.6.3.2 Upon the ISO's receipt of an Interconnection Customer's Facility Modification Request, the ISO shall commence and perform any necessary additional studies as soon as practicable, but in no event shall the ISO commence such studies later than thirty (30) Calendar Days after receiving Interconnection Customer's complete Facility Modification Request; *provided, however*, that: (i) the ISO will not perform a study for a proposed modification to a Point of

Interconnection pursuant to Section 40.6.3.1; (ii) for a modification subject to the Commercial Operation Date extension requirements in Section 40.6.3.5, the ISO and Connecting Transmission Owner shall assess the proposed modification in accordance with the requirements in 40.6.3.5; and (iii) for a proposed technological change pursuant to Section 40.6.3.7, the ISO shall assess the proposed modification in accordance with the requirements in Section 40.6.3.7. Any additional studies resulting from such modification shall be done at Interconnection Customer's cost in accordance with the requirements in Section 40.24.3.

40.6.3.3 Prior to making any modification other than those specifically permitted by Section 40.6.3.4, Interconnection Customer shall first request that the ISO evaluate whether such modification is a Material Modification in accordance with the requirements in this Section 40.6.3. In response to Interconnection Customer's request, the ISO shall evaluate the proposed modifications, including performing any studies required by this Section 40.6.3, prior to making them and inform the Interconnection Customer in writing of whether the modifications would constitute a Material Modification. Any change to the Point of Interconnection except the change deemed acceptable under Section 40.6.3.1 or so allowed elsewhere shall constitute a Material Modification. Any change in requested CRIS from the requested CRIS set forth in the Interconnection Request or CRIS-Only Request or any request for CRIS not included in the Interconnection Request (*i.e.*, if the Interconnection Request included only a request for ERIS) or CRIS-Only Request shall constitute a Material Modification.

Except as otherwise set forth in Section 40.6.3.1 above, any modification to a Cluster Study Project during a Cluster Study Process for which it is a member of the Cluster shall constitute a Material Modification. For proposed modifications deemed to be Material Modifications, the Interconnection Customer may withdraw the proposed modification request or proceed with a new Interconnection Request or CRIS-Only Request in a subsequent Cluster Study Process for such modification.

40.6.3.4 Extensions of the proposed Commercial Operation Date will not be Material Modifications if either the requirements in Section 40.6.3.4(A) or 40.6.3.4(B) are satisfied:

(A) (i) the proposed Commercial Operation Date is within five (5) years from the date set forth, as applicable, in Sections 40.6.3.4.1, 40.6.3.4.2, or 40.6.3.4.3, and (ii) if the Interconnection Customer is requesting an extension of the Commercial Operation Date for a Facility, Large Generating Facility, or Small Generating Facility that participated in the Transition Cluster Study, a prior Class Year Study, or a prior facilities study performed pursuant to the Small Generator Interconnection Procedures beyond four years from the date set forth, as applicable, in Sections 40.6.3.4.1, 40.6.3.4.2, or 40.6.3.4.3 below, the Interconnection Customer satisfies the requirements for a Cost Estimate Update to update the cost estimates for the five-year duration and to accept such costs and to provide cash or post Security for any increased cost estimates in accordance with the requirements in Section 40.6.3.5.3; or

(B) (i) the ISO, Connecting Transmission Owner, and Interconnection Customer mutually agree to include a Commercial Operation Date beyond this five-year period for the initial Standard Interconnection Agreement due to either: (a) the attributes of the technology type of the Facility or (b) the expected sequencing of work on the transmission or distribution system that is beyond Interconnection Customer's control (e.g., expected unavailability of required system outages, expected delays in the completion of facilities included in the base case of applicable study for the Facility), and (ii) the Interconnection Customer satisfies the requirements for a Cost Estimate Update to update the cost estimates for the agreed-upon extended duration and to accept such costs and to provide cash or post Security for any increased cost estimates in accordance with the requirements in Section 40.6.3.5.3.

40.6.3.4.1 For all Facilities that participated in a Cluster Study Process, the date the Interconnection Customer and all other Interconnection Customers remaining in the Final Decision Period for the Cluster Study provided the required cash or Security in the Final Decision Round of the Final Decision Period (i.e., the completion of the Cluster Study).

40.6.3.4.2 For all Large Facilities and for Small Generating Facilities that participated in a Class Year Interconnection Facilities Study subject to Attachment S to the ISO OATT, the date the Interconnection Customer and all other Interconnection Customers remaining in the Class Year provided the required cash or Security as part of a Class Year Interconnection Facilities Study (i.e., completion of the Class Year).

40.6.3.4.3 For Small Generating Facilities that were subject to the Small Generator Interconnection Procedures in Attachment Z to the ISO OATT and did not participate in a Class Year Interconnection Facilities Study or Cluster Study, the date the ISO tendered the SGIA to the Interconnection Customer.

40.6.3.5 An Interconnection Customer may request an extension of its Commercial Operation Date beyond the limit specified in Section 40.6.3.4 or beyond the limit of a previous extension that the ISO determined was not a Material Modification. Such request for an extension will not be a Material Modification only if the ISO determines that all three components of the extension requirements set forth in Sections 40.6.3.5.1, 40.6.3.5.2, and 40.6.3.5.3 have been met. If an Interconnection Customer is requesting an extension of the Commercial Operation Date for a Small Generating Facility: (i) which requested interconnection was studied in a facilities study pursuant to the Small Generator Interconnection Procedures in Attachment Z of the ISO OATT and (ii) for which the Interconnection Customer agreed prior to March 20, 2024 (*i.e.*, the effective date of the requirements in Section 32.3.5.7) to pay for the System Upgrade Facilities identified in its facilities study report to proceed to a Small Generator Interconnection Agreement in accordance with the then-applicable requirements in Attachment Z, then Interconnection Customer must also satisfy Section 40.6.3.5.5 to obtain an extension of its Commercial Operation Date.

40.6.3.5.1 An Interconnection Customer must satisfy the first component of the extension requirements by meeting the requirements set forth in Section

40.6.3.5.1.1 or 40.6.3.5.1.2, for an extension of its Commercial Operation Date.

40.6.3.5.1.1 Interconnection Customer's requested extension of its Commercial Operation Date for its Facility is on or before May 2, 2028; or

40.6.3.5.1.2 An Interconnection Customer has an executed Interconnection Agreement or unexecuted Interconnection Agreement accepted by the Commission and demonstrates (via an officer certification) that it has made reasonable progress in the development of its project against milestones set forth in the interconnection agreement , including progress within the six months prior to the request (*e.g.*, (i) completion of engineering design, (ii) major equipment orders, (iii) commencement and continuation of construction of the Facility and associated Attachment Facilities, Distribution Upgrades, or System Upgrade Facilities, as applicable, (iv) completion of applicable permitting process, (v) application of the applicable primary siting permitting process deemed complete with demonstration that project is on course to obtain final permit in time to meet requested Commercial Operation Date).

40.6.3.5.1.3 Upon the ISO's request, an Interconnection Customer shall promptly provide the ISO with information concerning its demonstration that its project has made reasonable progress pursuant to Section 40.6.3.5.1.2.

40.6.3.5.1.4 An Interconnection Customer that relied on its satisfaction of certain milestones to extend its Commercial Operation Date in accordance with the requirements in this Section 40.6.3.5.1 must demonstrate satisfaction of additional milestones for any subsequent requested extensions.

40.6.3.5.2 As the second component of the extension requirements, Interconnection

Customer must also provide the ISO with a milestone schedule for the interconnection of the Project that it has agreed upon with the Connecting Transmission Owner and any Affected Transmission Owner(s), as applicable, that meets the requested extended Commercial Operation Date. The Connecting Transmission Owner's and Affected Transmission Owner's agreement to the revised milestone schedule shall not be unreasonably withheld; *provided however*, that a Connecting Transmission Owner or Affected Transmission Owner reviewing a milestone schedule proposed by an Interconnection Customer pursuant to this Section 40.6.3.5.2 may request and Interconnection Customer must furnish supporting information and documentation demonstrating the status of the Project in relation to the proposed milestones.

40.6.3.5.3 As the third component of the extension requirements, the ISO, in consultation with the Connecting Transmission Owner or Affected Transmission Owner, must either determine that: (i) a Cost Estimate Update is not required to update the cost estimates of the Connecting Transmission Owner's or Affected Transmission Owner's Attachment Facilities, Distribution Upgrades, or System Upgrade Facilities identified in the Small Generator facilities study, Class Year Study, or Cluster Study for the Facility, or (ii) if the ISO, in consultation with the Connecting Transmission Owner or Affected Transmission Owner, determines that a Cost Estimate Update is required, the Interconnection Customer must agree in writing that the Cost

Estimate Update be performed, that it will be responsible for the costs of such evaluation, and that its extended Commercial Operation Date shall be subject to its acceptance of, and its posting of any additional Security, of any increase in the cost estimate as described in Section 40.6.3.5.3.3.

40.6.3.5.3.1 To determine whether a Cost Estimate Update is required and when such study will be performed, the ISO, in consultation with the Connecting Transmission Owner and/or any Affected Transmission Owner(s), will consider the requested length of the extension, the duration in time since the cost estimates were determined in a Small Generator facilities study, Class Year Study, or Cluster Study, the updated milestone schedule for the Project agreed upon by the Interconnection Customer and Connecting Transmission Owner, and whether the interconnection facilities are shared with other projects. If the ISO determines, in consultation with the Connecting Transmission Owner and/or any Affected Transmission Owner(s), that a Cost Estimate Update is required, the ISO will provide the Interconnection Customer its basis for requiring such update. The need and timeframe for the update will be included in the interconnection agreement or an amended version of the interconnection agreement for the project, as applicable, unless the Cost Estimate Update will be performed prior to the execution, or the unexecuted filing, of the interconnection agreement.

40.6.3.5.3.2 The Connecting Transmission Owner or Affected Transmission Owner will perform, at Interconnection Customer's expense, any Cost Estimate Update agreed upon with the Interconnection Customer to

update the cost estimates of the Connecting Transmission Owner's or Affected Transmission Owner's Attachment Facilities, Distribution Upgrades, or System Upgrade Facilities identified in the Small Generator facilities study, Class Year Study, or Cluster Study for the Facility. If the Connecting Transmission Owner or Affected Transmission Owner determines that equipment identified in the applicable interconnection study for the Connecting Transmission Owner's or Affected Transmission Owner's Attachment Facilities, Distribution Upgrades, or System Upgrade Facilities for Interconnection Customer's project is no longer available, the Connecting Transmission Owner or Affected Transmission Owner may, as part of its Cost Estimate Update, identify and provide the cost estimate for any replacement equipment.

40.6.3.5.3.3 If the Cost Estimate Update identifies revised cost estimates, including for any replacement equipment, the Interconnection Customer will only be permitted to proceed with its requested Commercial Operation Date extension if, within thirty (30) Calendar Days of the conclusion of the Cost Estimate Update or such other time period mutually agreed upon with the Connecting Transmission Owner or Affected Transmission Owner, Interconnection Customer: (i) accepts its cost allocation for the revised cost estimates and (ii) provides cash or posts Security to the Connecting Transmission Owner or Affected Transmission Owner for the revised cost estimates to the extent agreed to by the Connecting Transmission Owner or Affected Transmission Owner. In such case, the updated cost estimates and

the cash or Security amounts will be included in the interconnection agreement for the project. Any updated cost estimate and Security provided in accordance with this section shall be subject to the Security forfeiture requirements in Section 40.16.1 and the requirements for future cost responsibility set forth in Section 40.16.3.

40.6.3.5.4 If an Interconnection Customer is requesting an extension of the Commercial Operation Date for a Small Generating Facility: (i) which requested interconnection was studied in a facilities study pursuant to the Small Generator Interconnection Procedures in Attachment Z of the ISO OATT and (ii) for which the Interconnection Customer agreed prior to March 20, 2024 (*i.e.*, the effective date of the requirements in Section 32.3.5.7) to pay for the System Upgrade Facilities identified in its facilities study report to proceed to a Small Generator Interconnection Agreement in accordance with the then-applicable requirements in Attachment Z, then Interconnection Customer must agree - to obtain its requested extension of the Commercial Operation Date - that the cash or Security that it has provided to Connecting Transmission Owner and/or Affected Transmission Owner(s) for the System Upgrade Facilities for its Small Generating Facility, including any additional Security that it has provided or is required to provide in connection with a Cost Estimate Update, shall be subject to the Security forfeiture rules in Section 40.16.1.

40.6.3.6 As soon as it becomes apparent that the most recent proposed Initial Backfeed Date posted on the Queue is infeasible, and also prior to the expiration of the proposed Initial Backfeed Date posted on the ISO Queue, Interconnection

Customer is obligated to provide the ISO with notice of any proposed extensions of the proposed Initial Backfeed Date, proposed Synchronization Date, or proposed Commercial Operation Date.

40.6.3.7 Technological Change Procedure. A technological change that satisfies the definition of a Permissible Technology Advancement or that the ISO determines is not a Material Modification under this technological change procedure is a permissible modification that will not result in an Interconnection Customer losing its Queue Position if it elects to proceed with the requested modification; provided however, if an Interconnection Customer in an ongoing Cluster Study requests a technological change, such request (1) must be submitted to the ISO no later than ten (10) Business Days prior to the close the Customer Engagement Window pursuant to Section 40.7.2 of this Attachment HH and (2) must fully satisfy the requirements in Section 40.6.3.7.1 of this Attachment HH no later than the cutoff of this ten (10) Business Day period prior to the close of the Customer Engagement Window. Technological changes proposed less than ten (10) Business Days prior to the close of the Customer Engagement Window, or any time following the close of the Customer Engagement Window during the ongoing Cluster Study, will be deemed material during the remainder of the Cluster Study.

40.6.3.7.1 An Interconnection Customer seeking to modify its proposed Facility based upon a change to the turbines, inverters, or plant supervisory controls or other similar advancements to the existing technology proposed in the Interconnection Customer's Interconnection Request shall submit, in accordance

with Section 40.6.3, a Facility Modification Request, study deposit, and any support relied on by the Interconnection Customer to show that the change is a Permissible Technological Advancement or not a Material Modification. Upon receipt of a Facility Modification Request that identifies a request for a technological change, the ISO, in consultation with the Connecting Transmission Owner(s) to the extent practicable, shall first conduct a review of the technological change and supporting information to determine whether such change constitutes a Permissible Technological Advancement. The ISO shall commence such review within thirty (30) Calendar Days after receiving notice of Interconnection Customer's complete Facility Modification Request. If the Facility Modification Request demonstrates that the proposed technological change satisfies the definition of Permissible Technological Advancement and does not result in a change to the electrical characteristics that is (i) greater than two (2) percent voltage drop at the Point of Interconnection or (ii) greater than 100 amperes short circuit contribution, then no additional study is required and the technological change shall constitute a Permissible Technological Advancement.

40.6.3.7.2 If the ISO identifies that additional studies are required to determine whether the technological change constitutes a Permissible Technological Advancement, the ISO shall commence and perform any necessary studies to determine whether the electrical performance is equal or better than the electrical performance prior to the technological change and it does not result in adverse reliability concerns. Such additional studies shall be identified and performed

based on the ISO's engineering judgment and at the Interconnection Customer's expense. If the Interconnection Customer fails to provide information or data that is required by the ISO to conduct the additional studies, the ISO shall reject the requested technological change; however, the Interconnection Customer may resubmit a Facility Modification Request for the same technological change with the required information.

40.6.3.7.3 If the ISO concludes that the requested technological change does not constitute a Permissible Technological Advancement after completing the additional studies, the ISO shall review whether the technological change would constitute a Material Modification consistent with Section 40.6.3 of this Attachment HH.

40.6.3.7.4 The ISO will complete its review and any additional studies required under this technological change procedure in accordance with the requirements in Section 40.6.3.2. Following completion of the ISO's review and any additional studies, the ISO shall describe the studies that were conducted, if any.

40.6.4 Withdrawal

40.6.4.1 The Interconnection Customer may withdraw its Interconnection Request or CRIS-Only Request at any time by written notice of such withdrawal to the ISO. In addition, if the Interconnection Customer fails to adhere to all requirements of these Standard Interconnection Procedures, except as provided in Section 40.24.5 (Disputes), the ISO shall deem the Interconnection Request or CRIS-Only Request to be withdrawn and shall provide written notice to the Interconnection Customer of the deemed withdrawal and an explanation of the reasons for such deemed withdrawal. Upon receipt of such written notice, the

Interconnection Customer shall have a cure period of fifteen (15) Business Days in which to either respond with information or actions that cures the deficiency or to notify the ISO of its intent to pursue Dispute Resolution; except that the cure period set forth in this Section 40.6.4.1 does not extend the following specific deadlines:

- (i) deadlines set forth in Section 40.5.7.2 for an Interconnection Customer to cure a deficiency in its Interconnection Request or CRIS-Only Request identified by the ISO;
- (ii) deadline in Section 40.5.7.3 for an Interconnection Customer to cure a deficiency in its submission of information requested under Section 40.5.7.3 or 40.5.7.4;
- (iii) deadline for Decision Period 1 set forth in Section 40.7.5;
- (iv) deadline for Decision Period 2 set forth in Section 40.10.8.3; and
- (v) deadlines for the Final Decision Period and Additional SDU Decision Periods set forth in Section 40.15.2.

40.6.4.2 Withdrawal shall result in the loss of the Interconnection Customer's Queue Position. If an Interconnection Customer disputes the withdrawal and loss of its Queue Position, then during Dispute Resolution, the Interconnection Customer's Interconnection Request or CRIS-Only Request is eliminated from the Queue until such time that the outcome of Dispute Resolution would restore its Queue Position. An Interconnection Customer that withdraws or is deemed to have withdrawn its Interconnection Request or CRIS-Only Request shall pay to the ISO and Connecting Transmission Owner all costs that the ISO and Connecting Transmission Owner prudently incurred with respect to that Interconnection Request or CRIS-Only Request

prior to the receipt of notice described above. The Interconnection Customer must pay all monies due to the ISO and Connecting Transmission Owner before it is allowed to obtain any Cluster Study data or results.

40.6.4.3 If Interconnection Customer withdraws its Interconnection Request or CRIS-Only Request, or is deemed withdrawn by the ISO, pursuant to this Section 40.6.4, the ISO shall (i) update the OASIS Queue posting to remove the Queue Position for the Interconnection Request or CRIS-Only Request, and (ii) conduct a final reconciliation of Interconnection Customer's costs and any applicable Withdrawal Penalties and follow the process set forth in 40.24.3 for returning or cancelling deposits. The ISO shall also refund to the Interconnection Customer the refundable cash portion of the Interconnection Customer's Site Control Deposit, if applicable, or provide written authorization for Interconnection Customer to request that the bank cancel any remaining letter of credit or surety bond provided as a deposit.

40.6.4.4 In the event of such withdrawal, the ISO and Connecting Transmission Owner, subject to non-disclosure arrangements consistent with Section 40.24.1, shall provide, at Interconnection Customer's request, supporting documentation, workpapers, and databases or data that the ISO and Connecting Transmission Owner developed in the preparation of the applicable study conducted up to the date of withdrawal of the Interconnection Request or CRIS-Only Request.

40.6.5 Withdrawal Penalties

40.6.5.1 Interconnection Requests and CRIS-Only Requests Subject to Withdrawal Penalties

40.6.5.1.1 If an Interconnection Customer withdraws its Interconnection Request or CRIS-Only Request, or such Interconnection Request or CRIS-Only Request is deemed withdrawn by the ISO, either during the Application Window or during the Customer

Engagement Window up to five (5) Business Days after the ISO posts the Cluster Study Project List in the Customer Engagement Window pursuant to Section 40.7.2.2, the Interconnection Request or CRIS-Only Request shall not be subject to a Withdrawal Penalty.

40.6.5.1.2 If an Interconnection Customer withdraws its Interconnection Request or CRIS-Only Request, or such Interconnection Request or CRIS-Only Request is deemed withdrawn by the ISO, after the periods sets forth in Sections 40.6.5.1.1, the Interconnection Request or CRIS-Only Request may be subject to a Withdrawal Penalty as determined based on when in the Cluster Study Process the Interconnection Request or CRIS-Only Request withdraws or is deemed withdrawn by the ISO as detailed in Sections 40.7.6, 40.10.9, and 40.15.5 to this Attachment HH. If the Interconnection Customer has accepted its Project Cost Allocation and paid cash or posted Security in the Final Round of the Final Decision Period or Additional SDU Study Decision Period for any required Connecting Transmission Owner's Attachment Facilities, Distribution Upgrades, System Upgrades Facilities, and/or System Deliverability Upgrades, the Interconnection Customer's Security will be subject to the forfeiture requirements in Section 40.16.1.

40.6.5.2 Distribution of Withdrawal Penalties

40.6.5.2.1 For each Cluster Study Process, the ISO shall hold all Withdrawal Penalty Funds that it has collected from any Cluster Study Project(s) participating in the Cluster for that study that withdraw or are deemed withdrawn by the ISO at or before the completion of the later of: (i) the Final Decision Period or (ii) the Additional SDU Study Decision Period for that Cluster Study Process. The ISO shall post the balance of Withdrawal Penalty Funds held by the ISO but not yet dispersed on its OASIS or a publicly accessible portion of its website and update this posting on a quarterly basis.

40.6.5.2.2 The ISO shall first use any collected Withdrawal Penalty Funds to offset the study costs of the Cluster Study Process, as applicable, that were incurred by those Interconnection Customers: (i) for the Cluster Study Project(s) in that Cluster that accepted their Project Cost Allocation and paid cash or posted Security (if any required) for any Connecting Transmission Owner's Attachment Facilities, Distribution Upgrades, and/or System Upgrade Facilities identified in the study process and (ii) for the CRIS-Only Cluster Study Project(s) in that Cluster: (A) that accepted their Deliverable MW or Project Cost Allocation and paid cash or posted Security (if any required) for any System Deliverability Upgrades or (B) that participated in an Additional SDU Study that was not completed for that Cluster Study Process ("Payment Eligible Projects").

40.6.5.2.3 Within one hundred fifty (150) Calendar Days of the completion of the later of, as applicable, the Final Decision Period or Additional SDU Study Decision Period for the Cluster Study Process, the ISO shall refund to the Interconnection Customers of each Payment Eligible Project a share of the Withdrawal Penalty Funds to offset the study costs it incurred in that Cluster Study Process. The ISO shall calculate the refund payment for each individual Payment Eligible Project by dividing the total Withdrawal Penalty Funds amount by the number of Payment Eligible Projects. The ISO shall then provide this refund payment to the Interconnection Customer for each Payment Eligible Project; *provided, however*, that an Interconnection Customer shall not receive from the ISO a higher study refund payment for its Payment Eligible Project than the total payments it made to the ISO for the actual study costs of the Payment Eligible Project in that particular Cluster Study Process.

40.6.5.2.4 If, after the ISO makes the payments required by Section 40.6.5.2.3, there remains Withdrawal Penalty Funds for that Cluster, the ISO shall then calculate and apply the Commercial Operation Incentive Payment Amount for that Cluster.

40.6.5.2.5 The ISO shall calculate the Commercial Operation Incentive Payment Amount for a Cluster by dividing the remaining Withdrawal Penalty Funds by the total number of Payment Eligible Projects except for CRIS-Only Cluster Study Projects.

40.6.5.2.6 The ISO shall hold the remaining Withdrawal Penalty Funds for the Cluster until the Commercial Operation Incentive Payment Amount has been applied for each Payment Eligible Project, except CRIS-Only Cluster Study Projects, as follows. If a Payment Eligible Project enters Commercial Operation, the ISO shall pay the Interconnection Customer for that Payment Eligible Project the Commercial Operation Incentive Payment Amount. If a Payment Eligible Project withdraws or is deemed withdrawn by the ISO prior to entering Commercial Operation, it shall forfeit at that time its Commercial Operation Incentive Payment Amount, which amount the ISO shall use to offset the ISO's administration costs.

40.6.5.2.7 The following is an example of the distribution of the Withdrawal Penalty Fund pursuant to this Section 40.6.5.2.

40.6.5.2.7.1 Assume at the conclusion of a Cluster Study Process that there are ten Payment Eligible Projects and \$2,000,000 in Withdrawal Penalty Funds. The ISO will first determine the share of study costs that will be refunded to the Payment Eligible Projects by dividing the \$2,000,000 by 10, which results in a refund payment share for each project of \$200,000. The ISO would make this refund payment to each Payment Eligible Project up to the amount in actual study cost such project paid in that Cluster Study Process. Accordingly, if a Payment Eligible Project only paid \$100,000 in actual

study costs during the Cluster Study Process, its refund payment would be limited to \$100,000, and the remaining \$100,000 would be subject to the second stage of the Withdrawal Penalty Fund distribution.

40.6.5.2.7.2 Assume for this second stage, that \$500,000 remained following the study cost refund payments. The ISO would then calculate the Commercial Operation Incentive Payment Amount. This would be calculated as the remaining \$500,000 divided by 10 or a \$50,000 amount for which each Payment Eligible Project would be eligible. Assume 7 of the 10 Payment Eligible Projects entered into Commercial Operation. In such case, those 7 projects would each receive the \$50,000 Commercial Operation Incentive Payment Amount. The remaining \$150,000 associated with the 3 projects that did not enter Commercial Operation would be forfeited and used by the ISO to offset its administration costs.