

# Washington Solar Interconnection Checklist

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Prepared by PNW Electrical Engineering, PLLC — WA PE #55998

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This guide outlines the practical steps to design and interconnect commercial solar PV and battery storage systems, including one-line diagrams, transformer adequacy, utility pre-application, permitting, and final approval — the work

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## Step-by-Step Checklist

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- 1) Site Assessment & Load Review — roof/ground mount; service size; panel schedules; transformer capacity
- 2) Preliminary One-Line Diagram — PV array, inverter(s), battery (if any), protection devices, interconnection
- 3) Utility Pre-Application — PSE, Avista, Pacific Power, SnoPUD, etc.; timelines, fees, and study thresholds
- 4) Detailed Design & PE Stamp — calcs, equipment specs, NEC/NESC compliance; coordinate assumptions
- 5) Submittal — package for Utility + AHJ; ensure forms, drawings, and assumptions are aligned.
- 6) Construction & Inspection — closeout notes, redlines, and as-builts; meter configuration as required.
- 7) Final Interconnection Approval — PTO (permission to operate) and post-install monitoring as applicable

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## Washington Utility Notes

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- PSE — Fast-track paths for small systems; clear one-line and load impact notes reduce back-and-forth.
- Avista — Pay attention to transformer loading and feeder impacts; coordinate early for DC-coupled storage.
- Pacific Power — Study thresholds and fees vary; align assumptions and protection settings in the submittal.
- Snohomish PUD, Seattle City Light, Benton REA — local forms, timelines, and NEC interpretations vary.

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## Common Mistakes to Avoid

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- Missing or incomplete PE-stamped documentation.
- Unclear diversity and PF assumptions; transformer undersized or oversized.
- Conflicting Utility vs. AHJ submittal requirements.
- Omitting growth margin recommendations for near-term expansion.

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**Ready to Submit? We Can Help.**

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PNW Electrical Engineering, PLLC provides stamped, utility-ready interconnection packages, load studies, EV charging/solar + storage integration. Get a fast, clear submittal with coordination handled.

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