CASE STUDY: ARIZONA PUBLIC SERVICE (APS)

APS utilizes PowerClerk® to enable efficient, flexible FERC generator interconnection management

Automation and consolidation empower the APS FERC Generator Interconnection team to scale and operate with confidence, knowledge and power

Challenge

APS experienced a dramatic increase in Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Large Generator Interconnection Applications, fueled by growing market interest in siting renewable projects in Arizona. This tested APS's interconnection processes, which relied on manually updating many disconnected tools and processing hand-written applications, all while juggling FERC deadlines, cluster studies, agreements and lengthy reporting processes. These inefficient processes led to costly administration and growing backlogs.

Partner Solution

The APS FERC Generator Interconnection team worked with Clean Power Research to iteratively build out a workflow in PowerClerk—the utility industry's leading program management software—to automate this manual work. Implementing PowerClerk reduced data entry errors by eliminating manual transcription and file processing, automating document creation, and streamlining record keeping and reporting. PowerClerk empowered APS to automate FERC deadlines and milestone management, saving a significant amount of manual effort and avoiding delays. APS is now able to quickly adjust to changes in OATT or FERC guidelines, without negatively impacting their processes. APS now has timely data in a single system of record to triage and guide applicants who get 'stuck' in the process.

Results

Implementing PowerClerk increased APS's bandwidth to process FERC Generator Interconnection Applications by eliminating common errors, consolidating all application information to a single system of record and greatly reducing administrative labor. Applications used to take the team 5+ days to process; processing time has been reduced to 2-3 days. APS receives 80-120 applications per year, so the improvement in efficiency equates to hundreds of days of manual processing time saved per year. The team is now empowered to deliver a highly efficient and scalable process to handle the growing request for transmission-level interconnections.

APS is Arizona's largest and longest serving electric utility, providing power for nearly 1.2 million customers in 11 of the state's 15 counties. APS's mission is "Creating a sustainable energy future for Arizona."

Clean Power Research products are cloud-first solutions that are architected and deployed using the AWS Well-Architected Framework which ensures our software architecture is designed and built to ensure security, reliability, performance efficiency, cost optimization, and operational excellence. AWS helps provide our customers with a highly secure, performant and reliable solution with nearly infinite scalability. Additionally, by inheriting and leveraging AWS's security and compliance attestations, Clean Power Research is better enabled to meet the increasing security and data protection requirements of our Energy and Utility customers.

Clean Power Research enables utilities to plan and optimize for the clean energy transformation.
Contact us to learn more about Clean Power Research products and utility solutions, including PowerClerk.