

CUSTOMER BRIEF

PowerClerk® enabled Alliant Energy to modernize interconnection workflows, reducing approval time by 37%

Challenge

Distributed generation interconnection at Alliant Energy spans multiple jurisdictions and stakeholder groups, including regulatory, engineering, operations, customer service and billing. The interconnection workflow, implemented in PowerClerk in 2016, evolved over time to support new requirements, approval steps and data collection needs. After years of incremental updates, the workflow was ready for a broader modernization to address inconsistencies, eliminate duplication and automate additional tasks. The team needed to make those changes without disrupting daily operations or interrupting more than 1,000 in-flight applications.

Solution

With support from Clean Power Research, Alliant Energy mapped end-to-end workflows, identified optimizations and prioritized operational improvements. Changes were implemented iteratively, allowing Alliant Energy to modernize its workflows while applications already in the system continued to be processed.

Alliant Energy consolidated data fields, reducing the total count by 35%, and removed duplicative applicant and reviewer form questions. The team also aligned data across jurisdictions and standardized naming conventions to improve usability and long-term maintainability.

Other enhancements included automated technical screening through system integrations, which eliminated manual data lookups across multiple systems. Administrative and technical reviews were configured to run in parallel, while support for new compliance requirements and eSignature automation further improved approval efficiency.



Alliant Energy, headquartered in Madison, Wisconsin, serves customers across Iowa and Wisconsin. The utility processes approximately 4,000 interconnection applications annually and manages more than 300 MW of interconnected solar across two jurisdictions.

Clean Power Research enables utilities to plan and optimize for the clean energy transformation.

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Results

Modernizing the PowerClerk interconnection workflow delivered measurable efficiency gains:

- Eliminated unnecessary reviews, duplicate efforts and orphaned applications
- Reduced application approval steps from 12 to 5, cutting review cycle times by 37%
- Reduced end-to-end cycle times by 95 days (68% improvement) for sub-20 kW projects