

GRID CAPACITY EVALUATION

Don't Let New Demands on an Old Grid Become a Power Struggle



When will we know if grid capacity is an issue for our project?

Without a grid capacity evaluation, the answer might be "too late in the design process."

LaBella works as a skilled intermediary for entities planning for development and utilities. Our team of power systems engineers perform a desktop review of the existing distribution system. By comparing the loading projections from the proposed development to the capacity of the grid, LaBella provides an evaluation that assesses grid support as it is and what, if any, improvements might be required.

What is the deliverable?

We prepare a comprehensive report containing a conceptual-level review and evaluation of distribution grid capacity. We draw on our extensive experience consulting with utilities and publicly available data. We can also provide insight into improvements that may be required and an opinion of probable cost for implementing them.

How does the utility come in?

Any person or entity requesting a new electric service, whether for a new facility or an increased load on an existing facility, will need to provide the approximate ratings (a report of how much energy will be required from the grid) to obtain a 'will-serve letter' from the utility. A grid capacity evaluation occurs far earlier in the process, when our clients are assessing multiple sites, performing feasibility studies, and funding assessments.

From housing to hospitals or bus stations to business districts - all new developments bring more power load to the grid.

In the push for electrification, knowing what electrical service your project will require is only the beginning of project planning. The developing entity must also know if the grid will need to be modified, and account for funding if it does.

An investigative analysis during the site evaluation process may be what prevents large, unplanned expenses to upgrade the grid later in the project process.

CONTACT

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