

**DOCKETED**

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**Joint California Energy Commission and ElaadNL Webinar**

# Grid Codes in California and Existing Gaps for Vehicle-to-Grid



# In California, grid codes are typically outlined in “Rule 21”

- Electric Rule 21 defines requirements for generating devices connected to the distribution system
- Utilities individually maintain a Rule 21 document
  - California’s largest investor-owned utilities are regulated by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC)
  - CPUC oversees these utilities’ development of Rule 21
- The grid codes in Rule 21 are derived from the **Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) 1547 standard**

Pacific Gas and Electric Company		Revised	Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No.	42298-E
U 39 San Francisco, California		Revised	Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No.	40278-E
ELECTRIC RULE NO. 21				Sheet 1
GENERATING FACILITY INTERCONNECTIONS				
TABLE OF CONTENTS				
A.	TABLE OF CONTENTS			1
B.	APPLICABILITY			15 (T)
1.	APPLICABILITY			15
2.	DEFINITIONS			15
3.	APPLICABLE CODES AND STANDARDS			16
4.	RETAIL CUSTOMER ENERGY STORAGE DEVICES			16
C.	DEFINITIONS			16
D.	GENERAL, RULES, RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS			34
1.	AUTHORIZATION REQUIRED TO OPERATE			34
2.	SEPARATE AGREEMENTS REQUIRED FOR OTHER SERVICES			34
3.	SERVICES UNDER THIS TARIFF LIMITED TO INTERCONNECTION			35
4.	COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS, RULES, AND TARIFFS			35
5.	DESIGN REVIEWS AND INSPECTIONS			36
6.	RIGHT TO ACCESS			36
7.	CONFIDENTIALITY			36
a.	Scope			36
b.	Limitations on Scope			37
c.	Disclosure to Commission, FERC, or their respective Staff			38
d.	Required Disclosure			39 (T)

(Continued)

Advice Decision	5187-E-A 16-08-052	Issued by <b>Robert S. Kenney</b> Vice President, Regulatory Affairs	Date Filed May 31, 2018 Effective June 30, 2018 Resolution
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For example: PG&E’s [Rule 21 document](#)



# Rule 21 specifies smart inverter communication protocols and certification requirements

- During vehicle-to-grid (V2G) discharge, smart inverters ensure that electricity exported from the vehicle conforms to grid requirements
- Rule 21 requires that smart inverters, including those used for V2G:
  1. Be certified to **Underwriters Laboratory (UL) 1741 Supplement A<sup>1</sup>**
  2. Be capable of communication using the **IEEE 2030.5** standard by default, and that “other application-level protocols may be used by mutual agreement”
- SunSpec’s [Common Smart Inverter Profile](#) certification verifies IEEE 2030.5 communication capability

1. Utilities have [proposed](#) a transition to UL 1741 Supplement B certification beginning April 2023



# Rule 21 implications for bidirectional charging

- **Direct current (DC) vehicle-to-grid (V2G)** is allowed under Rule 21 today
  - Inverter is off-board the vehicle and treated like any other inverter under Rule 21
  - Inverter is typically part of the electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE or “charger”)
- With **alternating current (AC) V2G**, the inverter is on-board the vehicle
  - Different certification procedures apply to automotive and stationary equipment
  - There is **no interconnection pathway** for AC V2G under Rule 21 today

Default architecture for DC V2G implied by Rule 21 today:





## Gap: EV industry implementation differs from Rule 21 defaults

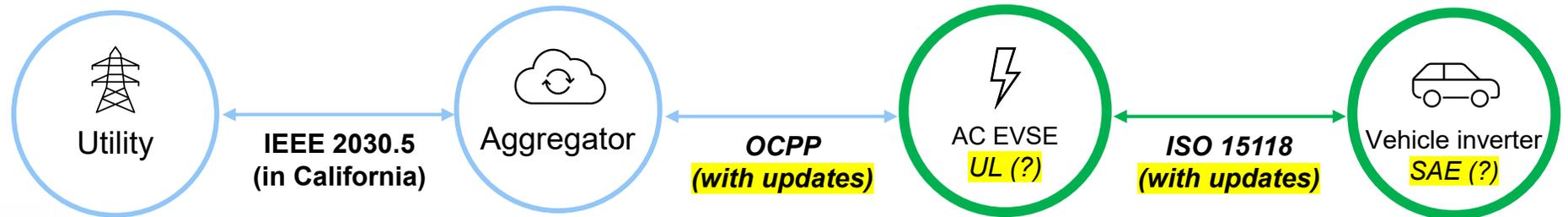
- While IEEE 2030.5 has been the Rule 21 default for years, the EV and charging industries have not adopted this communication protocol
  - Today, no commercially available vehicles and few EVSE use IEEE 2030.5
  - The industry has standardized around **Open Charge Point Protocol** (between network and EVSE) and **ISO 15118** (between vehicle and EVSE)
- Rule 21 specifies minimum capabilities for certification, whereas the protocols used in practice may differ from the Rule 21 defaults
- Pending industry efforts will update both ISO 15118 and OCPP to support grid code communication
  - These updates may help ISO 15118 and OCPP meet Rule 21 requirements
  - These updates to **globally-aligned protocols** may support greater V2G adoption, implementation, and economies of scale



# Updated technical solutions *paired with* regulatory acceptance may help break through a V2G stalemate

**AC V2G:** Updated ISO 15118 + OCPP (with grid codes) may provide a V2G pathway using existing, globally-aligned protocols. Even so, Rule 21, other standards, and associated certifications would need to accommodate this pathway.

Possible globally-aligned AC pathway:



**DC V2G:** Updated OCPP (with grid codes) may lower barriers to V2G for charger manufacturers and charging networks who already use OCPP today.

Possible globally-aligned DC pathway:



**Highlight** indicates pending developments or unclear certification requirements.



Thank you!

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# Questions?

Please direct questions after the webinar to [jeffrey.lu@energy.ca.gov](mailto:jeffrey.lu@energy.ca.gov)