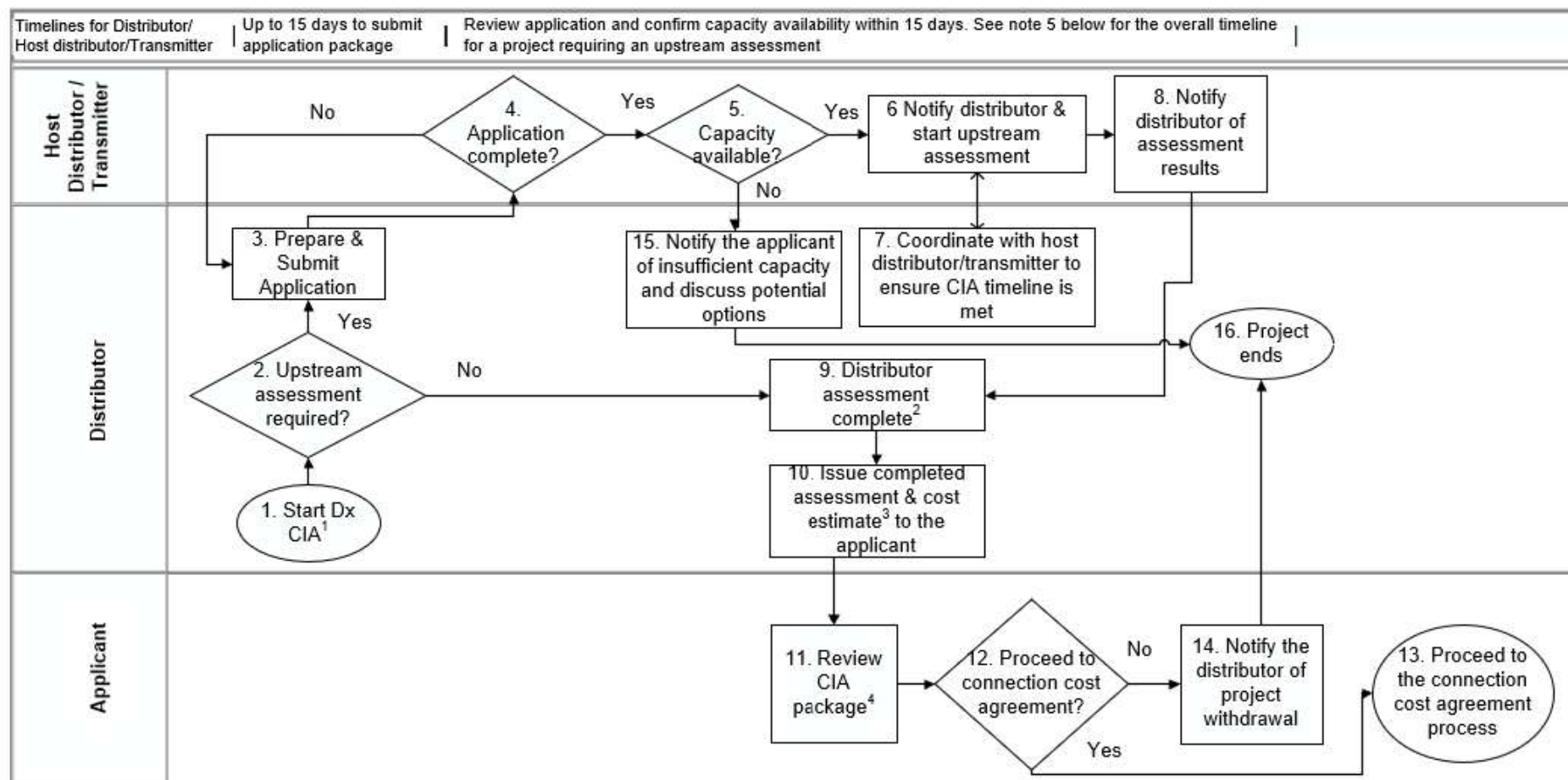


CIA Process: Small, Mid-sized, or Large Generation Facility



¹ Refer to CIA Screening flowchart for prior process steps; ² Distributor consolidates finalized assessments

³ For mid-sized and large generation facility applications, the applicant may elect to obtain a detailed cost estimate which is a separate process that may require a new agreement between the applicant and the distributor, as well as associated fees; ⁴ The applicant to see CIA expiration terms and conditions

⁵ Overall CIA timeline for a project requires an upstream assessment: 60 days (Small DER – no system reinforcement/expansion)/ 90 days (Small DER – with system reinforcement/expansion)/ 75 days (Mid-sized DER) / 105 days (Large DER).

Figure 4: CIA Process for Small, Mid-sized, or Large Generation Facility

Step 1	The distributor initiates the distribution CIA when the CIA application is deemed substantially complete and gathers required information.
Step 2	The distributor determines if an upstream assessment from a host distributor/transmitter is required. If so, proceed to step 3. If not, proceed to step 9.
Step 3	If an upstream assessment is required, the distributor submits the completed CIA application package to the host distributor/transmitter, including completed application form, payment for required studies, attachments, and application checklist. The distributor must submit a completed application as soon as possible and no later than 15 days after starting the downstream CIA to ensure there is adequate time for the host distributor/transmitter to carry out upstream assessment(s) and to consolidate upstream assessment results into the distributor's CIA. The distributor must include information on the expected timeline for the host distributor CIA in its application, in accordance with the project classification and the date the CIA application is deemed substantially complete in Step 1.
Step 4	The host distributor/transmitter reviews the application and determines if the application is complete. If additional information or changes to the application is/are needed, the host distributor/transmitter must inform the distributor as soon as possible, and no later than 15 days. This ensures there is sufficient time for the distributor to submit the revised application package and for the upstream assessment to be completed concurrently with the distributor's CIA.
Step 5	The host distributor/transmitter confirms there is capacity for the connection. This check can take place again during the CIA process. If there is capacity available, proceed to step 6. If not, notify the distributor there is insufficient capacity and discuss the feasibility of a flexible hosting capacity arrangement.
Step 6	If the application is complete and capacity is available, the host distributor/transmitter notifies distributor and begins the upstream assessment.
Step 7	Distributor coordinates with the host distributor/transmitter to ensure the host distributor/transmitter sends the upstream assessment in time for the distributor to complete the distribution CIA within the prescribed CIA timeline. The overall CIA timeline for a project requires an upstream assessment based on the size of the proposed DER:

	• Small DER: ○ 60 days (without system reinforcement/expansion) ○ 90 days (with system reinforcement/expansion) • Mid-sized DER: 75 days • Large DER: 105 days
Step 8	The host distributor/transmitter notifies distributor of assessment results.
Step 9	Upon receiving upstream assessment results, the distributor completes its CIA.
Step 10	The distributor issues a completed CIA and cost estimate to the applicant. For mid-sized and large generation facility applications, the applicant may elect to obtain a detailed cost estimate which is a separate process that may require a new agreement between the applicant and the distributor, as well as associated fees.
Step 11	The applicant will review the CIA package and signs the connection cost agreement within a prescribed timeline, in accordance with the terms and conditions regarding the expiration of the capacity allocation.
Step 12	The applicant decides whether to proceed to the connection cost agreement to move forward with the connection process. If so, proceed to step 13. If not, proceed to step 15.
Step 13	The applicant proceeds to the connection cost agreement process.
Step 14	If the applicant decides not to proceed, notify the distributor in writing of project withdrawal.
Step 15	Upon receiving the notification from the host distributor/transmitter that there is insufficient capacity in Step 5, the distributor notifies the applicant. The distributor identifies the potential for entering into a flexible hosting capacity arrangement.
Step 16	Project ends due to insufficient capacity, or the applicant's decision not to proceed to the connection cost agreement process.