



सत्यमेव जयते



ORDER

OF THE

WEST BENGAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF

CASE NO: WBERC/A-82/1

In Re the Order of the West Bengal Electricity Regulatory Commission (WBERC) to remove the difficulty faced by the intending consumers falling under net billing as per West Bengal Electricity Regulatory Commission (Co-Generation and Generation of Electricity from Renewable Sources of Energy) (First Amendment) Regulations, 2020

PRESENT:

SRI SUTIRTHA BHATTACHARYA, CHAIRPERSON

SRI DURGADAS GOSWAMI, MEMBER

SRI PULAK KUMAR TEWARI, MEMBER

DATE: 19.03.2021



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FACTS IN BRIEF

- 1.0 The Commission has notified West Bengal Electricity Regulatory Commission (Cogeneration and Generation of Electricity from Renewable Sources of Energy) (First Amendment) Regulations, 2020 [hereinafter referred to as 'RE first Amendment Regulations'] on 22nd December 2020 vide Notification No 71/WBERC dated 21.12.2020 with revised RPO targets, increasing numbers of obligated entities and promoting roof-top solar by way of net-metering and net-billing. As a follow up of the above Regulations, WBERC has floated a discussion paper on determination of generic tariff for grid connected roof-top solar PV where the last date of submission of comments/suggestions/objections is 22.03.2021. Further, the detailed procedures for implementation of roof-top solar under net metering and net billing are yet to be finalized.
- 2.0 Prior to notification of RE first Amendment Regulations, only the institutional, industrial, commercial consumers and consumers of housing complexes were allowed to install grid connected roof-top solar-PV of 5 kW and above under net-metering arrangement.
- 3.0 In the notification of RE first Amendment Regulations, the Commission has allowed net-metering to all agriculture consumers and all other consumers having sanctioned load upto 5kW and net-billing to consumers having sanctioned load above 5 kW. It is also mentioned that consumers who have already been connected under net-metering, the same arrangement will continue.
- 4.0 Now, some of the consumers and solar entrepreneurs have submitted that, for ongoing projects where investments have been made based on Notification 50/WBERC dated 22.03.2013, net-metering may be allowed as per provision of earlier regulations.

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COMMISSION'S OBSERVATION

- 5.0 The Commission observes that in respect of the projects where investment have been planned based on provisions prior to notification of RE first Amendment Regulations, the submission of the consumers and solar entrepreneurs are reasonable. Moreover, it is observed that it will take some more time to notify the feed-in-tariff in case of net-billing. The licensees are also required to submit their detailed procedure for implementation of roof-top solar under net-metering and net-billing.
- 6.0 In this context, the Commission also observes that the consumers applying for roof-top solar connection falling under net-billing shall not be able to get connected till such time the feed-in-tariff is notified by the Commission.

ORDER

- 7.0 In view of the above, to remove the difficulties faced by the consumers to implement their roof-top connection under net-billing, the Commission in exercise of its inherent power under regulation 19.0 of the West Bengal Electricity Regulatory Commission (Co-Generation and Generation of Electricity from Renewable Sources of Energy) Regulations, 2013. (The Principal Regulation) orders as follows :
- (i) The consumers who will install their solar PV system and notify the same to the concerned licensee within 30.6.2021 subject to verification by the distribution licensee concerned shall be considered under net-metering as per provisions that prevailed in the Principal Regulations prior to notification of RE first Amendment Regulations.
- (ii) The Distribution licensee concerned shall verify and confirm the date of installation of the solar PV system before effecting the system under net metering.

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- (iii) Let a copy of this order be served upon all the Distribution Licensees under the Commission and a copy of this order be posted in the website of the Commission.

7.1 The matter is disposed off.

Sd/-
(PULAK KUMAR TEWARI)
Member

Sd/-
(DURGADAS GOSWAMI)
Member

Sd/-
(SUTIRTHA BHATTACHARYA)
Chairperson

Date : 19.03.2021


(M Guha Roy)
Secretary

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