

Chhattisgarh State Electricity Regulatory Commission
Irrigation Colony, Shanti Nagar,
Raipur, (CG) 492 007

**Chhattisgarh State Electricity Regulatory Commission (Grid
Interactive Distributed Renewable Energy Sources) (First
Amendment) Regulations, 2021**

Dated July27, 2021

XX/CSERC/2021- In exercise of powers vested under section 42, 61, 66, 86 read with Section 181 of the Electricity Act 2003 (36 of 2003) and all other powers enabling it in this behalf, the Chhattisgarh State Electricity Regulatory Commission (the Commission) made Chhattisgarh State Electricity Regulatory Commission (Grid Interactive Distributed Renewable Energy Sources) Regulations, 2019 (henceforth, CSERC DRE Regulations 2019 or the Principal Regulations) for specifying the terms and conditions for distributed solar power projects in the State.

Various representations have been received from the stakeholders with regard difficulties in implementation of the principal regulations, which is affecting the growth of the renewable plants in the State. Some of the parties have also filed petition before the Commission for relaxing the various provisions of these regulations.

Meanwhile Central Government has notified Electricity (Rights of Consumers) Rules 2020 and its Amendments in the year 2021, wherein, some of the provisions related to net metering of prosumers have been specified.

Therefore, in pursuance of the Principal Regulations, the Commission hereby makes the following regulations to amend the Principal Regulations.

1. Short title and commencement

1.1 These Regulations may be called Chhattisgarh State Electricity Regulatory Commission (Grid Interactive Distributed Renewable Energy Sources) (First Amendment) Regulations, 2021

1.2 These Regulations shall come into force from date of publications in the CG Rajpatra.

2. Substitution of new sub regulation for sub regulation 8.1 of regulation 8.

For sub regulation 8.1 of regulation 8 of the principal Regulations, the following sub regulation shall be substituted, namely:-

8.1 The voltage level for interconnection with the grid shall be the voltage level at which the prosumer has been receiving supply from the distribution licensee.

Provided that the HT consumer executing the renewable energy project under net metering framework may connect the renewable energy system at its LT bus bar. The metering shall be done at HT level bus bar at the same voltage the consumer is presently connected with the distribution licensee.

3 Insertion of proviso for sub regulation 9.4 of regulation 9

A following proviso shall be inserted in sub regulation 9.4 of regulation 9 of the principal Regulations, namely:-

Provided that if meters are procured by prosumer and if he produces valid meter testing certificate from National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) accredited laboratories, it shall be exempted from meter testing by the distribution licensee.

4 Substitution of proviso for sub regulation (c) of regulation 10.1

For sub regulation (c) of regulation 10.1 of the principal Regulations, the following proviso shall be substituted, namely:-

Provided that, the prosumer shall be eligible to establish two or more systems with single injection point to the grid for all such systems.

5 Substitution of new sub regulation for sub regulation (a) of regulation 10.2

For sub regulation (a) of regulation 10.2 of the principal Regulations, the following sub regulation shall be substituted, namely:-

- a) The capacity of PDRES shall not exceed the sanctioned load or contract demand of the prosumer, as the case may be.

Provided that maximum size of renewable energy system that can be set up under net metering arrangement would be 500 kW.

Provided further that minimum size of renewable energy system that can be set up under net metering arrangement would be 1 kW.

6 Substitution of new sub regulation for sub regulation (viii) of regulation 16

For sub regulation (viii) of regulation 16 of the principal Regulations, the following sub regulation shall be substituted, namely:-

- (viii) The injected electricity measured in kilowatt hour (kWh)/kVAh shall only be utilized to offset the kWh/kVAh supplied by distribution licensee and shall not be utilized to compensate any other fee and charges levied by the distribution licensee;

7 Substitution of first proviso for sub regulation a) of regulation 18.2

For first proviso of sub regulation a) of regulation 18.2 of the principal

Regulations, the following proviso shall be substituted, namely:-

Provided that the minimum size of distributed renewable energy system that can be set up under this arrangement shall be 500 kW. Further, maximum size of distributed renewable energy system that can be set up under this arrangement shall be two times of the sanctioned load from the licensee for captive use and three times of the desired open access quantum.

8 Substitution of regulation for regulation 20.1 of Principal Regulations

For regulation 20.1 of Principal Regulations, the following regulations shall be substituted, namely:-

20.1 In case of IDRES, the Interconnection Point shall mean a point on the network of the licensee, including a sub-station or a switchyard, where the interconnection is established between the IDRES and the Licensee's system and where electricity injected into the Licensee's system can be measured unambiguously.

Provided that, the interface point shall be as per CEA (Installation and Operation of Meters), Regulations, 2006 and subsequent amendments thereof.

9 Substitution of regulation for regulation 21 of Principal Regulations

For regulation 21 of Principal Regulations, the following regulations shall be substituted, namely:-

21. Banking and wheeling of Energy

21.1 All solar power projects shall be awarded must-run status i.e. injection from the solar power projects shall be considered as deemed to be scheduled.

21.2 Banking facility will be available for useful life period of the project.

- 21.3** Banking of 100% of energy after netting (in-house auxiliary requirement) shall be permitted for all captive and open access consumers.
- 21.4** Banking charges @ 5% of banked energy shall be payable in kind. The banking year shall be from April to March.
- 21.5** Banked units redeemed during normal period (5 am to 6 pm or as specified in the applicable Tariff Order) and off-peak load period (11 pm to 5 am next day or as specified in the applicable Tariff Order) shall not have any withdrawal charges. Banked energy redeemed during evening peak load period (6 pm to 11 pm or as specified in the applicable Tariff Order) shall attract peak withdrawal charges in kind, which shall be 30% of energy drawn during the peak load hrs.
- 21.6** For captive/ third party sale, energy injected into the grid from date of synchronization to open access approval date will be considered as deemed energy banked. For the purpose of this provision, the date of synchronization shall be considered as date of commercial operation (COD).
- 21.7** The unutilized banked energy/surplus energy, if any, at the end of financial year shall be purchased by distribution licensee at lowest rooftop solar tariff discovered through competitive bidding undertaken by distribution licensee in the last financial year. If such tariff is not available, lowest tariff through competitive bidding undertaken by SECI in last financial year shall be considered.
- For Sale to distribution licensee, energy injected into the grid from date of synchronization to Commercial Operation Date (COD) will be purchased by the distribution licensee at the first year tariff of the project, as per the provisions of the PPA with distribution licensee.
- 21.8** For the open access from IDRES, Cross Subsidy Surcharge (CSS) and transmission and wheeling charges in cash shall not be levied for the entire useful life of the solar project for first 300 MW capacity achieved COD or projects achieved COD within 2 years from date of notification of these regulations, whichever is earlier.

Also, SLDC charges shall not be payable for entire useful life of the solar project for first 300 MW achieved COD or projects achieved COD within 2 years from date of notification of these regulations, whichever is earlier.

21.9 Transmission and wheeling charges 8% in kind shall remain applicable for entire useful life of the solar project.

21.10 Notwithstanding anything contained in any regulation framed under the Electricity Act 2003, all IDRES projects shall not be subjected to scheduling and deviation settlement.

Provided that in case of supply of power to multiple beneficiaries within the State, scheduling and deviation settlement shall be applicable.

10 Substitution of new sub regulation for sub regulation (d) of regulation 22.1

For sub regulation (d) of regulation 22.1 of the principal Regulations, the following sub regulation shall be substituted, namely:-

d) The distribution licensee shall undertake technical studies to assess the impact of penetration of DRE systems on the distribution system within six months of notification of these regulations and upload the same in its website.

11 Substitution of new sub regulation for sub regulation (e) of regulation 22.1

For sub regulation (e) of regulation 22.1 of the principal Regulations, the following sub regulation shall be substituted, namely:-

e) The distribution licensee shall undertake technical studies to assess the impact of different types of storage systems on the distribution system within six months of notification of these regulations and upload the same in its website.

12 Substitution of new sub regulation for sub regulation (g) of regulation 22.1

For sub regulation (g) of regulation 22.1 of the principal Regulations, the following sub regulation shall be substituted, namely:-

- g) The distribution licensee to explore appropriate utility driven business models such as demand aggregation, Third Party Owner, EPC, best practices from other States etc. to promote installations of distributed renewable energy in its area of supply.

Further, distribution licensee to explore introduction of TOD tariff, whereby prosumers are incentivised to install energy storage for utilization of stored solar energy by them or feeding into the grid during peak hrs thus helping the grid by participating in demand response of distribution licensee, and submit the report to the Commission within one year of notification of these regulations.

13 Substitution of new sub regulation for sub regulation (23.3) of regulation 23

For sub regulation 23.3 of regulation 23 of the principal Regulations, the following sub regulation shall be substituted, namely:-

23.3 The Committee shall consist of the following members:

- a) CEO of SNA – Ex-officio chairman of the Advisory Committee
- b) Representative from the State Energy Department;
- c) Representative of each distribution licensee in the State;
- d) In-Charge of DRE Cell of State Distribution Utility- Ex- officio secretary and convener of the Advisory Committee;
- e) Representative from the Office of Electrical Inspector;
- f) Two independent external members from different Government departments
- g) Three representatives from consumer or consumer

associations representing interests of domestic, commercial, and industrial category consumers.

By the Order of the Commission

Secretary