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**Gujarat Electricity Regulatory Commission**

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To,  
The Managing Director  
GETCO/ STU

Sub.- Procedure for "Grant of Connectivity to Projects based on Renewable Sources to Intra-State Transmission System

Ref:- (1) Your office letter No. ACE (R & C)/STU/513/4911 dated 21.12.2022  
(2) Your office letter no. ACE (R & C)/STU/513/44 dated 06.01.2023 received vide e-mail dated 07.01.2023

In pursuance to Clause 20 of the GERC (terms and Conditions of Intra-State Open Access) Regulations, 2011, the Commission hereby approves the Detailed Procedure for "Grant of Connectivity to Projects based on Renewable Sources to Intra-State Transmission System", submitted by you, as attached herewith incorporating necessary changes required.

As envisaged under the detailed procedure attached herewith, application for connectivity to STU/ Transmission Licensee network is to be made only through online portal to be launched on STU website for the same. To facilitate smooth transition from present method of physical submission of applications for connectivity to online portal method, it is clarified that the applicants who have applied for connectivity (irrespective whether such applicant is having LOA/LOI/PPA or otherwise) shall be treated as deemed Stage I connectivity grantee from the date of fulfilment of criteria as per para 6.2 of the approved procedure. STU shall by 24:00 Hrs of 09.01.2023, intimate all such applicants to comply with para 6.2 of the approved procedure within 10 days. Failing which, such applicants need to apply afresh as per the approved procedure. STU shall first upload all such applications duly complied with para 6.2 of the approved procedure and applications as mentioned in para 2.2 of the approved procedure maintaining priority of the applications as received initially from the applicants for connectivity, by 24:00 Hrs. of 20.01.2023. Thereafter, i.e. on 00:01 Hrs of 21.01.2023, the Online Portal for Grant of Connectivity (OPGC) shall be made open for all for making application for Stage I and/ or Stage II connectivity. Thus, there will be a stagnation period upto 00:01 Hrs of 21.01.2023 for making and receiving application for Stage I and/or Stage II connectivity.

Further, to facilitate the applicants for making applications for connectivity through OPGC, STU shall upload a tutorial video explaining step by step procedure about usage of the OPGC on its website latest by 24:00 Hrs of 09.01.2023. The applicants may learn from this tutorial video and operate the OPGC during the stagnation period upto 00:01 Hrs. of 21.01.2023.

Further, STU is directed to upload the format for Bank Guarantee required along with the approved procedure attached herewith on its website.

STU shall submit a compliance report on the directions issued vide this approval letter.



(Roopwant Singh, IAS)  
Secretary  
Gujarat Electricity Regulatory Commission  
Gandhinagar

Encl.:- As above

**PROCEDURE FOR “GRANT OF CONNECTIVITY TO PROJECTS BASED ON RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES TO INTRA-STATE TRANSMISSION SYSTEM”**

1. This Procedure is issued in accordance with Chapter 5, Regulation 20 of the Gujarat Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions of Intra-State Open Access) Regulations, 2011 (hereinafter referred to as “GERC OA Regulations”).

**2. Applicability**

- 2.1. This Procedure shall be applicable to the following:

- i) Persons/ Applicants covered under Regulation (4) of the GERC OA Regulations and relevant orders issued by the State Commission for projects based on Renewable Energy Sources, as applicable time to time.
- ii) This procedure shall be applicable to the concerned agencies such as Gujarat STU, Transmission Licensee(s), Distribution licensees, State Load Dispatch Centre (SLDC), RE Implementing Agencies, RE Park Developers etc.

- 2.2. Applications for connectivity under this procedure shall be process in two stages:

- i) Stage-I Connectivity
  - All persons/ applicants who desire connectivity with the grid after approval of this procedure by GERC.
  - RE projects who are already granted connectivity by GETCO/ STU as on date of approval of this procedure by GERC but, yet to sign connectivity agreement and have not submitted applicable BG shall be considered as deemed Stage-I connectivity grantee only and they have to apply for Stage-II connectivity as per this procedure.
- ii) Stage-II Connectivity
  - All persons/ applicants who desire connectivity with the grid after approval of this procedure by GERC.
  - RE projects who are already granted connectivity by GETCO/ STU and have signed connectivity agreement and have submitted applicable BG/LC shall be considered as Stage-II connectivity grantee as per this procedure.

- 2.3. An entity may apply for Stage-I Connectivity and Stage-II Connectivity separately or simultaneously. The application for Stage-II Connectivity may be made along with or after application for Stage-I Connectivity.

On operationalization of Online Portal for Grant of Connectivity (OPGC), application for Stage-I and Stage-II connectivity can only be made through this portal. Scanned copy of all the required documents shall be uploaded by the person/ applicant followed by physical submission of the printout of application form and copies of the required documents to GETCO/ STU within a week time from online application. A unique identification number in serial shall be generated on the portal on successful submission of application. This identification number shall serve as priority number as and when required.

Further, prior to operationalization of online portal for making applications for Stage-I connectivity by persons/ applicants, GETCO/ STU shall register the applications of deemed Stage-I connectivity grantee as defines in Para 2.2 (i) above and intimate such deemed grantee the unique identification number generated by the portal.

### **3. Address**

Communications with GETCO/ STU under this Procedure shall be done at the following address:

The Additional Chief Engineer (R&C),  
Gujarat Energy Transmission Corporation Limited,  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Sardar Patel Vidyut Bhavan,  
Race Course, Vadodara, Gujarat - 390007

### **4. Eligibility**

- 4.1 Persons/ Applicants covered under Regulation (4) of the GERC Connectivity Regulations and relevant orders issued by the State Commission for projects based on Renewable Energy Sources, as applicable time to time shall be eligible to apply for grant of Connectivity and undertake to carry out construction and commissioning activities related to lines, transformers, bus-bars, bays and other



equipment at substation as the case may be under this Procedure.

- 4.2 The generation capacity already connected to the Grid (Inter-State Transmission System or Intra-State Transmission System) or for which Connectivity is already granted, cannot apply for additional Connectivity for the same generation capacity.
- 4.3 In the event of augmentation of the generation capacity, a fresh application for additional generation capacity shall be submitted as per the provisions of this Procedure.
- 4.4 The Persons/ Applicants who have been granted Connectivity to Intra-State for the generation projects based on particular renewable energy source(s) may, for the same generation capacity, change to another renewable energy source(s) in part or full, under intimation to GETCO/STU. In such cases, GETCO/STU shall incorporate the necessary change in connection agreement.
- 4.5 Further, connectivity once granted, shall not be transferrable to other entity. Also, purpose of connectivity once granted cannot be changed or modified.

## **5. Provisions with regards to Connectivity and Bank Guarantee**

- 5.1 This provision is governed in accordance with the GERC Connectivity Regulations and relevant orders issued by the State Commission for projects based on Renewable Energy Sources, as applicable from time to time.

## **6. Application for Stage-I Connectivity**

- 6.1 Applications for grant of Connectivity to Intra-State transmission network shall be made as per the application form duly signed by authorized person of Applicant as per Format-2 of this procedure. Person/ Applicant has to select substation from the list available on GETCO/ STU website as updated at 11 AM on 1st day of every calendar Month. Such list shall depict the name, capacity in terms of MW available for RE connectivity, geographical coordinates and other relevant details of existing as well as planned substations with targeted dated of commercial operationalization of such planned substations.

6.2 Documents to be submitted along with the Application:

- i) Notarized affidavit as per Format-1.
- ii) Application shall be accompanied by a non-refundable fee as per Clause 5(3) of OA Regulations, as amended from time to time + applicable taxes as Stage-I Connectivity Fees.

Application fees is to be made to GETCO Account electronically through RTGS as per details given below:

- a) Payee: Gujarat Energy Transmission Corporation Limited
- b) Name of Bank: Bank of India
- c) Branch: Alkapuri
- d) IFSC: BKID0002501
- e) A/c No.: 250120100001167

Proof of payment must be attached with application.

- iii) Board resolution for proposed project.
- iv) Copy of Memorandum & Article of Association having provision to take up proposed business / project;

Provided that on operationalization of online portal for grant of connectivity, scanned copy of all above documents shall be uploaded by person/ applicant on portal along with physical submission.

6.3 The processing of applications for Stage-I Connectivity shall be in accordance with Regulation (4), (5) and (6) of the GERC Connectivity Regulations.

6.4 The Stage-I Connectivity grantee needs to apply for Stage-II Connectivity within (i) 6 (six) months from the date of grant of Stage-I Connectivity or (ii) till the date the particular substation gets booked by Stage-II connectivity grantee, whichever is earlier. Thereafter, all the granted Stage-I connectivity at particular substation, if any, shall stand cancelled.

The capacity of Stage-1 connectivity not utilized for stage-II connectivity shall be cancelled on expiry of time frame specified in this para.

## **7. Grant of Stage-I Connectivity**

- 7.1 Upon receipt of the application for grant of Connectivity, necessary study shall be carried out by STU to check about feasibility of connectivity demanded from the available margin in the upstream/ downstream existing network and/ or planned network envisaged for commissioning within six months from the date of application for Stage-I connectivity. Persons/ Applicants has to select Intra-State substation from the list of existing and/or planned substations available on STU website for connectivity applications.
- 7.2 New sub-stations for harnessing renewable Energy generation potential shall be planned by STU in consultation with State Nodal Agency (GEDA) and Government of Gujarat or its designated agency.
- 7.3 STU shall grant Stage-I Connectivity indicating the location (substation where Connectivity shall be granted) within 60 days from the date of receipt of application.

Provided that grant of Stage-I Connectivity shall not create any rights of physical connectivity / bay reservation, etc. in favour of the grantee on Intra-State transmission system.

Provided that the Stage-I connectivity grantee who fails to apply for Stage-II connectivity till the location of Stage-I connectivity gets completely booked by Stage II grantee/s the person who has obtained Stage I connectivity shall loose the earlier granted Stage-I connectivity and has to apply afresh for the Stage-I connectivity with the location available on STU website, if so desired by the applicant/ person/ generator.

- 7.4 STU shall indicate to the Connectivity grantee, the voltage level for the purpose of Connectivity of the Dedicated Transmission Line to the Intra-State substation line bay.
- 7.5 Unless otherwise indicated at the time of grant of Stage-I Connectivity, the power

carrying capacity of the Dedicated Transmission Line shall be as below:

**Table1: Capacity of the Dedicated Transmission line**

<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Voltage Level</b>	<b>Minimum Capacity of the Dedicated Transmission Line (per circuit)</b>
1	66 kV	50 MW
2	132 kV	80 MW
3	220 kV	300 MW
4	400 kV	900 MW

- 7.6 The connectivity granted under this procedure can also be utilized for Inter-State sell of power.
- 7.7 In cases where once an application for Stage-I connectivity is filed and thereafter there is a change in location of the RE Project and change not more than 10% in the quantum of power to be interchanged with Intra-State transmission system keeping the proposed location of transmission licensee substation unchanged, the same shall be informed by the person/ applicant within 30 days of application of Stage-I connectivity. Such intimation by the person/ applicant shall not be construed as material change. The STU shall grant Stage-I connectivity to such person/ applicant within 60 days from the date of receipt of such application from the person/ applicant. In such situation, the grant of Stage I connectivity shall be construed from the original date of application of connectivity for Stage I.

## **8. Application for Stage-II Connectivity**

- 8.1 Applications for grant of Stage-II Connectivity to Intra-State shall be made as per the application form [FORMAT-3] along with affidavit as per FORMAT-1 attached with this procedure.

### **8.2 Eligibility for Stage-II Connectivity**

Following shall be eligible for grant of Stage-II Connectivity:

- 8.2.1 An entity which (i) has been issued the Letter of Award (LOA)/LOI/PPA by,



or (ii) has entered into a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with, a Renewable Energy Implementing Agency as notified by the Government or a distribution licensee or an authorized agency on behalf of distribution licensee, on submission of such Letter of Award/ LoI or PPA, as the case may be.

Provided that:

- (a) All eligible Stage I grantee who have been awarded Stage I Connectivity shall be eligible for applying to Stage II connectivity with fulfilment of following criteria;
  - i) Tentative land location/ map;
  - ii) Bank Guarantee (BG) that the grantee has to provide as per prevailing Regulations or as specified by the State Commission in relevant orders, as applicable time to time.

In case of non-feasibility of substation for granting Stage-II connectivity, STU shall return submitted BG / applicant along with rejection letter.

- (b) An entity who has already applied for Stage-I connectivity prior to date of LoA/LoI/PPA or is applying Stage-I Connectivity and Stage- II Connectivity simultaneously.

- (c) An entity implementing the Renewable Hybrid Generating Station(s) including Round the Clock Hybrid Project, shall be eligible to apply for Stage-II connectivity at one location only in view of the Eligibility criteria for such Hybrid RE project as specified in the Regulations and/ or Orders of the Commission.

The Hybrid Projects set up by any person under the provisions of the Regulations and/ or Orders of the Commission and Gujarat Wind-Solar Hybrid Power Policy – 2018 and desires Stage II connectivity shall apply for such connectivity at one location only with fulfilment of above criteria.

Illustration:

Suppose a bidder is awarded LOA for 500 MW under Round the Clock

Hybrid Scheme and it has renewable hybrid generation project with installed capacity of 500 MW (wind), 500 MW (solar) and 200 MW (storage) at single location (for injection at same interconnection point). Such project shall be eligible for Stage-II Connectivity under Para 8.2.1, for the capacity of the project not exceeding the quantum of LOA (500 MW in the instant case). If the said project intends to sell surplus power over and above LOA, it shall be required to apply for additional Connectivity under Para 8.2.2 of this procedure.

- (d) Provided that, an entity implementing the Renewable Hybrid Generating Station(s) including Round the Clock Hybrid Project complemented with Power from Coal Based Thermal Power Projects, shall be eligible to apply for separate Stage-II Connectivity for each location based on the same LOA/LOI or PPA, for the capacity of the project not exceeding the quantum of power for which LOA/LOI has been awarded or PPA has been signed, as and when such RE Hybrid Project are allowed at different location through relevant Regulations and/ or Orders of the Commission or Policy of the State Government. For this purpose, the locations and capacity at each such location, duly certified by the Renewable Energy Implementing Agency notified by the Government or the distribution licensee, as the case may be, shall be submitted along with the Connectivity applications.

**Illustration:**

Suppose a bidder is awarded LOA for 500 MW under Round the Clock Hybrid Scheme with projects at multiple locations - 500 MW (solar) in Location 'A' and 700 MW (wind) at Location 'B'. Such project shall be eligible for Stage-II Connectivity under Para 8.2.1, for the capacity of the project not exceeding the quantum of LOA/LOI (500 MW in the instant case) at each location (i.e. 500 MW + 500 MW for instant case) on the basis of same LOA/LOI. If the said project intends to sell surplus power over and above the quantum for which Stage-II Connectivity has been granted under Para 8.2.1, it shall be required to apply for additional Connectivity under Para 8.2.2.