

**GUJARAT ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION (GERC)
GANDHINAGAR**

Draft Gujarat Electricity Regulatory Commission (Net Metering Rooftop Solar PV Grid Interactive Systems) (Fourth Amendment) Regulations, 2024.

Notification No. ____ of 2024.

In exercise of Powers conferred under Sections 61, 66, 86 (1) (e) read with 181 of the Electricity Act, 2003 (Act 36 of 2003) and all other powers enabling it in this behalf and after previous publication, the Gujarat Electricity Regulatory Commission hereby makes the following Regulations, to amend the Gujarat Electricity Regulatory Commission (Net Metering Rooftop Solar PV Grid Interactive Systems) Regulations, 2016, (hereinafter referred as 'The Principal Regulations' and its subsequent amendments thereof, namely:

1. Short Title, Scope Extent and Commencement

- (i) These Regulations shall be called Gujarat Electricity Regulatory Commission (Net Metering Rooftop Solar PV Grid Interactive Systems) (Fourth Amendment) Regulations, 2024.
- (ii) These Regulations extend to the whole of the State of Gujarat.

2. These Regulations shall come into force from the date of their publication in the Official Gazette.

3. Amendment in Clause 5.1 of the Principal Regulations.

The Regulation 5.1 shall be substituted as under:

5.1 The distribution licensee shall update distribution transformer capacity available for connecting Rooftop Solar PV Systems under net metering

arrangement on yearly basis and shall provide the information to the Commission.

Provided that the cost of strengthening of distribution infrastructure, including distribution transformer, as necessary, to facilitate the installation of Rooftop Solar PV System up to 6 KW including subsequent addition aggregating up to 6 KW, shall be included in the Annual Revenue Requirement of Distribution Licensee.

Provided further that for aggregate Rooftop Solar capacity above 6 KW, system strengthening charges shall be recovered by the Distribution Licensee from the applicant of Rooftop Solar system as per the below stipulations:

(a) For LT consumers installing Rooftop Solar PV System above 6 kW up to 100 kW in aggregate:

(i) In respect of State owned Discoms and Torrent Power Limited:

System strengthening charges for Rooftop Solar capacity above 6 kW up to 100 kW shall be recovered from the Applicant by the Distribution Licensee for the Rooftop Solar capacity based on per kW basis charges as applicable for release of new/additional load at Low Tension, being recovered from the applicant by the concerned Distribution Licensee as approved by the Commission from time to time.

Provided that in case of addition of Rooftop Solar capacity resulting into total Rooftop Solar capacity above 6 kW, the system strengthening charges shall be recovered only for additional Rooftop Solar capacity.

(ii) In respect of other Discoms:

In case there is any requirement of upgradation of distribution infrastructures like the augmentation of service line, distribution transformer capacity, and the like for installation of the required capacity of Rooftop Solar PV System, the same shall be carried out by the distribution licensee, the cost of such augmentation shall be borne by the consumer.

Provided that as and when the Commission approves recovery of charges on per kW basis for release of new connection/additional load, the same shall be applicable for recovery of charges towards system strengthening for installation of Rooftop Solar PV system.

(b) For HT consumers installing Rooftop Solar PV System above 6 kW up to 1000 kW in aggregate:

(i) In respect of State owned Discoms:

System strengthening charges for Rooftop Solar capacity above 6 kW up to 1000 kW shall be recovered from the Applicant by the Distribution Licensee for the Rooftop Solar capacity based on per KVA basis charges as applicable for release of new/additional load at High Tension, being recovered from the applicant by the concerned Distribution Licensee as approved by the Commission from time to time.

Provided that in case of addition of Rooftop Solar capacity resulting into total Rooftop Solar capacity above 6 kW, the system strengthening charges shall be recovered only for additional Rooftop Solar capacity.

(ii) In respect of other licensee:

In case there is any requirement of upgradation of distribution infrastructures like the augmentation of service line, and the like for

installation of the required capacity of Rooftop Solar PV System, the same shall be carried out by the distribution licensee, the cost of such augmentation shall be borne by the consumer.

Provided that as and when the Commission approves recovery of charges on per kW basis or per KVA basis for release of new connection/additional load, the same shall be applicable for recovery of charges towards system strengthening for installation of Rooftop Solar PV system.

The capacity of Rooftop Solar PV System to be installed at the premises of any consumer shall not be less than one Kilo Watt (1 kW).

4. Regulation 7 of the Principal Regulations shall be substituted as under:

Various activities and different authorities are associated with the Solar Rooftop PV project. It is necessary that the different entities carry out the works within prescribed time limit. Therefore, time frame prescribed in the table below shall be scrupulously followed by the concerned authorities.

Sr. No.	Activity	Sub Activity	Duration in day(s)
1	Registration at GEDA or agency designated by the Government of Gujarat	GEDA or agency designated by the Government of Gujarat shall issue Registration Certificate.	5 days from receipt of duty completed application
2	Approval from Chief Electrical Inspector	CEI shall approve Single Line Diagram, Earthing Diagram and Wiring Diagram	10 days from receipt of duly completed application
3	Application to Distribution Licensee	Applicant shall submit application in prescribed format along with following compliance and	

		documents to Distribution Licensee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity of Solar Rooftop to be installed (Subject to Regulation 6.2) 	
4	Technical Feasibility Report (TFR)	On Registration with Distribution Licensee, letter to concerned Circle/Division for TFR and informing applicant regarding specifications of CTPT, meter.	3 days from receipt of duly completed application
5	TFR from field	TFR to include following a) Name of Consumer. b) Load details of the building where rooftop is to be installed as under: Name of Division, Sub-Division, Consumer Name, Consumer No., Address, Tariff, Contract Demand/ Load, Connected Load c) Name of 11 KV feeder, Transformer capacity, Solar Rooftop capacity already connected as well as approved/sanctioned on this transformer including this proposed Solar Rooftop capacity whether total Rooftop solar capacity is within the rated capacity of transformer. d) Maximum demand recorded during last one year. e) No dues certificate. f) No legal disputes pending certificate. g) Estimate if any, to be recovered from applicant. Such estimate shall include details of works to be carried out for system	10 Days from the letter of Head Office.

		strengthening for providing connectivity and evacuation facility of surplus power to be injected by the applicant, if estimate is not recovered based on Per KW/Per KVA charges.	
6	Post TFR	On receipt of TFR from field, Head Office shall issue letter to applicant regarding 'In Principle' consent for connectivity, payment of connectivity charges and execution of connectivity agreement within 15 days. OR Issuing estimate subject to Regulation 5.1, to Applicant for system strengthening to be paid within 30 days, payment of connectivity charges and execution of connectivity agreement.	2 days from receipt of TFR from field office
7	Signing of connectivity agreement and issuance of letter to applicant for completion of project work	Case 1 (No system strengthening required) On payment of Connectivity Charges and execution of Connectivity Agreement within 15 days of consent. Letter to applicant to complete the project work within 6 months Case 2 (If system strengthening required) On payment of Connectivity Charges and execution of Connectivity Agreement within 30 days along with payment of estimate, if any. Letter to applicant to complete the project work within 6 months.	5 days from execution of agreement 5 days from execution of agreement

8	System strengthening by Distribution Licensee	Distribution Licensee to complete the work of system strengthening.	15 days from date of payment of connectivity charges and execution of connectivity agreement.
9	Notice to Applicant for commissioning	Issuance of two months' notice to applicant for commissioning of the project on expiry of 6 months project completion period.	Within 5 days on expiry of 6 months
10	In case of non-completion of work by applicant	If no intimation received from Applicant on expiry of 2 months' notice period, application shall be cancelled informing the applicant within 30 days forfeiting all charges paid for Solar Rooftop Project.	Within 5 days on expiry of 2 months
11	On completion of work by Applicant	Intimation to Applicant to submit following documents within 3 days: (if not submitted along with intimation of commissioning by applicant) 1. Ownership of Solar PV system 2. Installation charging approval of Chief Electrical Inspector(CEI) 3. Meter/CTPT testing certificate from High-tech lab and ERDA. 4. All equipment should comply with IEC standards. Applicant to submit relevant IEC certificate/test reports for all equipment's i.e. for modules/SPV/ inverters/ cables/ junction box/ Transformer /RMU/CTPT/meter etc. 5. Installation of proper protection system (inverter shall have anti	3 days from receipt of completion letter from applicant

		islanding feature) along with second line of protection such as no volt relay, (for Solar PV System above 10 Kw), applicant has to pay connectivity charges and execute connectivity agreement with Distribution Licensee. Note: If Applicant is not submitting above documents within 3 days, application shall be cancelled forfeiting all charges paid for Solar Rooftop Project.	
12	Intimation to Field Office	Upon receipt of documents from the Applicant, intimation to Field Office/Sub-division for installation of meter (Solar meter to record total generation and bidirectional/ABT meter for net metering).	2 days from receipt of documents from the applicant
13	Report from field/sub-division	Installation of meter (Solar meter to record total generation and bidirectional/ABT meter for net metering) and intimate to applicant and report to HO	5 days from receipt of letter from HO
14	Intimation to GEDA or agency designated by the Government of Gujarat	Distribution Licensee shall intimate to GEDA or agency designated by the Government of Gujarat for issuing commissioning certificate	2 days from receipt of letter from Distribution Licensee
15	Issuance of Commissioning Certificate from GEDA or agency designated by the Government of Gujarat	GEDA or agency designated by the Government of Gujarat shall visit the site in consultation with Distribution Licensee and applicant and issue Commissioning Certificate	3 days from the receipt of intimation from applicant

Provided that the application for Rooftop Solar Photovoltaic systems upto 10 kW capacity, complete in all respect shall be deemed to have been accepted without requiring technical feasibility study and any commensurate enhancement of the sanction load of the consumer, as may be required, shall be carried out by the Distribution Licensee.

5. Clause 8.1 of the Connectivity Agreement at 'Annexure IV' of Regulations shall be substituted as under:

8.1. The recovery of cost from the Applicant for strengthening of distribution infrastructure, including distribution transformer shall be governed as per Regulation 5.1.

Sd/-
Director
Gujarat Electricity Regulatory Commission
Gandhinagar, Gujarat

Place: Gandhinagar

Date: 18/05/2024