



North Bihar Power Distribution Company Limited

(Regd. Office : Vidyut Bhawan, Baily Road, Patna)

(Commercial Department)

CIN-U40109BR2012SGC018920

COM/NB/BoD/85/2017

Email- cecom.nbpdcl@gmail.com

Notification No. 30.....

Notification

Dated...06/01/2018

Detailed Guidelines and Procedure under Bihar Electricity Regulatory Commission (Rooftop Solar Grid Interactive Systems Based on Net-Metering) Regulations, 2015

Introduction: In order to promote development of roof top and small solar photovoltaic systems in the state, Hon'ble BERC has framed BERC (Rooftop Solar Grid Interactive Systems based on Net Metering) Regulations, 2015 and notified vide Gazette Notification No. 737 dated 07.07.2015. These regulations permit consumers to install roof top and small solar photovoltaic systems in his premises with the provision of net metering arrangement under which the electricity generated by the roof top and small solar photovoltaic systems owned by the consumer and delivered to the distribution licensee shall be utilized to offset the electricity supplied by the distribution licensee to the consumer during the applicable billing period and adjustment/accounting of extra generation during the "Settlement period" as per provisions in the Regulations.

In order to implement the above Regulations and to avail the above facility, the Board of Directors of the Company in its 73rd meeting held on 11.12.2017 vide Resolution no. 73-12 passed the following resolution for procedure prescribed for the field officers and accordingly approval for the installation of roof top and small solar photovoltaic systems with net metering arrangement to the willing consumers shall be accorded.

1. Short Title and Commencement

1.1. The BERC (Rooftop Solar Grid Interactive Systems based on Net Metering) Regulations, 2015 is available on the web site of BERC which may be referred in continuation with these guidelines.

1.2. Words and expressions used in these Guidelines and not defined herein but defined in the Electricity Act, 2003 (hereinafter referred to as 'the Act'), as amended from time to time, and in the BERC (Rooftop Solar Grid Interactive Systems based on Net Metering) Regulations, 2015 shall have the meaning as assigned to them under the Act and Regulations.

2. Definitions and Interpretations

2.1. In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires,

- a) **"Accuracy Class Index"** shall mean the index as specified in Central Electricity Authority (Installation & Operation of Meters) Regulations 2006 and subsequent amendments thereof;
- b) **"Act"** means the Electricity Act, 2003 (36 of 2003) and subsequent amendments thereof;
- c) **"Billing Cycle"** or **"Billing period"** means the period for which electricity bills as specified in the Bihar Electricity Supply Code, 2007 as amended from time to time, shall be prepared for different categories of consumers by the Licensee.
- d) **"Commission"** means the Bihar Electricity Regulatory Commission constituted under the Act;
- e) **"Consumer"** means any person who is supplied with electricity for his own use by a Licensee or the Government or by any other person engaged in the business of supplying electricity to the public under the Act or any other law for the time being in force and includes any person whose premises are, for the time being, connected for the purpose of receiving electricity with the works of a Distribution Licensee, the Government or such other person, as the case may be;
- f) **"Contracted Load"** or **"Contract demand"** means the maximum demand in kW, kVA or BHP, agreed to be supplied by the licensee and indicated in the agreement executed between the licensee and the consumer;
- g) **"Distribution Licensee"** or **"Licensee"** means a person granted a license under Section 14 of the Act authorizing him to operate and maintain a distribution system for supplying electricity to the consumers in his area of supply;

- h) "Electricity Supply Code" means the Bihar Electricity Supply Code 2007 specified by the Commission under section 50 of the Act and subsequent amendments thereof;
- i) "Eligible consumer" means a consumer of electricity in the area of supply of the distribution licensee, who uses a rooftop solar system installed in the consumer premises, to offset part or all of the consumer's own electrical requirements, given that such systems can be self-owned or third party owned;
- j) "Financial Year" or "Year" means the period beginning from first of April in an English calendar year and ending with the thirty first of the March of the next year;
- k) "Inter-Connection Agreement" means the agreement entered into for connecting rooftop Solar PV system to the distribution system;
- l) "Interconnection Point" means the interface point of the Solar PV power generation facility with the distribution system of the Licensee. The interface point shall be the appropriate meter as per CEA (Installation and Operation of Meters), Regulations, 2006 and subsequent amendments thereof, installed at consumer's premises or distribution substation;
- m) "Invoice" means either a Monthly Bill / Supplementary Bill or a Monthly Invoice/ Supplementary Invoice raised by the Distribution Licensee
- n) "kWp" means kilo Watt peak;
- o) "Net metering" means an arrangement for measurement of energy in a system under which rooftop solar PV system installed at eligible consumer premises delivers surplus electricity, if any, to the Distribution Licensee after off-setting the electricity supplied by Distribution Licensee during the applicable billing period.
- p) "Net Meter" means an appropriate energy meter capable of recording both import and export of electricity or a pair of meters one each for recording the import and export of electricity as the case may be; which shall be an integral part of the net metering system;
- q) "Obligated entity" means the entity mandated under clause (e) of subsection (1) of section 86 of the Act to fulfil the renewable purchase obligation and identified under BERC (RPO its Compliance and REC Framework Implementation) Regulations, 2010 and subsequent amendments thereof;
- r) "Premises" means rooftops or/and elevated areas on the land, building or infrastructure or part or combination thereof in respect of which a separate meter or metering arrangements have been made by the Licensee for supply of electricity;

- s) “**Rooftop solar system**” means the solar photo voltaic power system installed on the rooftops or any other structure in consumer premises that uses sunlight for direct conversion into electricity through photo voltaic technology;
- t) “**Renewable Energy Certificate (REC)**” means the certificate issued in accordance with the procedures approved by the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission;
- u) “**Solar Meter**” means a unidirectional energy meter installed as an integral part of the net metering system , at the point at which the electricity generated by solar energy system is delivered to the main panel of the eligible consumer ;
- v) “**Settlement Period**” means the period beginning from first of April in an English calendar year and ending with the thirty first of the March of the next year;
- w) “**Tariff Order**” in respect of a Licensee means the most recent order issued by the Commission for that Licensee indicating the rates to be charged by the Licensee from various categories of consumers for supply of electrical energy and services and its validity has not expired;
- x) All other words and expressions used in these Regulations although not specifically defined herein above, but defined in the Act, shall have the meaning assigned to them in the Act. The other words and expressions used herein but not specifically defined in the Regulations or in the Act but defined under any law passed by the Parliament applicable to the electricity industry in the State shall have the meaning assigned to them in such law.

3. Scope and Application:

- 3.1. The eligible consumers of electricity in the area of supply of the distribution licensee can participate in the solar rooftop net metering arrangement in pursuant to BERC (Rooftop Solar Grid Interactive Systems based on Net Metering) Regulations, 2015 as notified by Hon’ble Commission on 7th July, 2015.
- 3.2. The maximum rooftop solar system capacity to be installed at any eligible consumer premises shall be governed by the eligibility of interconnection with the grid for that eligible consumer. The maximum capacity of an individual rooftop PV system would be equal to the sanctioned load of the consumer subject to minimum capacity of 1 KWp.

3.3. The capacity of the solar energy system to be installed at the premises of any eligible consumer shall not be less than one kWp (kilo watt peak) and shall not exceed one MWp (Mega Watt Peak) subject to the condition as specified in sub para 3.2 above.

3.4. Consumers having dues of Electricity will not be allowed for Net Metering Scheme.

4. Procedure for application:

For LT Consumer:

- 4.1. The Eligible Consumer who proposes to install a solar energy system in his premises shall submit application to the Revenue collection counter in the office of the AEE, Electric Supply Sub-division in the prescribed Application form (Annexure –II), which can be downloaded from the website of DISTRIBUTION LICENSEE/BSPHCL or which can be obtained from the concerned Electric Supply Sub-division/Division office of DISTRIBUTION LICENSEE and deposit the same in concerned Subdivision office along with the application fee as specified in (Annexure –VIII). The eligible consumer who intends to install grid connected rooftop solar system, in the supply area of distribution licensee shall be treated on first come first serve basis. The priority for such application shall be maintained at Subdivision office for which a separate register shall be maintained.
- 4.2. Within Seven (7) working days of receipt of Eligible Consumer's application, Assistant Electrical Engineer of concerned Electric Supply Subdivision shall perform general screening and register the application with an acknowledgement (Attached in Application Form) to the applicant that it has received all documents required as per the standard interconnection agreement and requisite application fee.
- 4.3. Feasibility for the connection of roof top shall be done by Assistant Electrical Engineer of concerned Electric Supply Subdivision within fifteen (15) working days from the receipt of completed application,
- 4.4. The Applicant at his liberty to select a reputed system, installer, to gather technical information of RTSPV system and furnish the technical details of PV modules, Inverters and other equipments of the RTSPV system.
- 4.5. If any discrepancies in application form or during inspection of premises is found then AEE, Supply will inform in writing to the applicant within next seven (7) days.

- 4.6. If Connection feasibility report is satisfactory and no further documents are required then concerned Assistant Electrical Engineer, Electric Supply Sub-division will sanction the load of rooftop solar system within seven (7) working days.
- 4.7. The sanction order should contain supervision charge, security deposit amount and meter installation charge to be deposited by the eligible consumer as defined under Annexure VIII. The applicant will deposit the charges within seven working days of sanction order.
- 4.8. The applicant will execute an inter connection agreement with the concerned AEE, Electric Supply Sub-division.
- 4.9. The applicant will provide declaration regarding work completion of installation of Solar Photovoltaic Roof Top Power Plant with document of solar modules having ISI mark. After receipt of declaration towards work completion from applicant, testing, commissioning and synchronization of RTSPV system along with metering arrangement for net metering connection will be done under supervision of concerned AEE/JEE, Electric Supply Division within next seven (7) working days. The meters will be tested at MRT test lab.
- 4.10. AEE, Electric Supply Sub-division will send service connection report to the billing office within 7 days.

For HT Consumer:-

- 4.11. The Eligible Consumer who proposes to install a solar energy system in his premises shall submit application to the Revenue collection counter in the office of the AEE, Electric Supply Sub-division in the prescribed Application form (Annexure –II), which can be downloaded from the website of DISTRIBUTION LICENSEE/BSPHCL or which can be obtained from the concerned Electric Supply Sub-division/Division office of DISTRIBUTION LICENSEE and deposit the same in concerned Subdivision office along with the application fee as specified in (Annexure –VIII). The eligible consumer who intends to install grid connected rooftop solar system, in the supply area of distribution licensee shall be treated on first come first serve basis. The priority for such application shall be maintained at Subdivision office for which a separate register shall be maintained.
- 4.12. Within Seven (7) working days of receipt of Eligible Consumer's application, Assistant Electrical Engineer of concerned Electric Supply Subdivision shall perform general

screening and register the application with an acknowledgement (Attached in Application Form) to the applicant that it has received all documents required as per the standard interconnection agreement and requisite application fee.

- 4.13. Feasibility for the connection of roof top shall be done by AEE Supply, AEE/EEE, MRT within fifteen (15) working days from the receipt of completed application which will be approved by EEE Supply. In case of 33 KV and above consumer EEE/ESD will do inspection for the feasibility and it will be approved by ESE.
- 4.14. The applicant will have liberty to select a reputed system, installer, to gather technical information of RTSPV system and furnish the technical details of PV modules, Inverters and other equipments of the RTSPV system..
- 4.15. If any discrepancies in application form or during inspection of premises is found then EEE, Supply will inform in writing to the applicant within next 7 working days.
- 4.16. If connection feasibility report is satisfactory and no further documents are required then concerned EEE, Supply (in case of 11 KV consumers)/ESE, Supply (in case of 33 KV consumers) will sanction/give approval of the proposal of the rooftop solar system within 7 working days.
- 4.17. The sanction order should contain supervision charge, security deposit amount and meter installation charge to be deposited by the eligible consumer as defined under Annexure VIII. The applicant will deposit the charges within seven working days of sanction order.
- 4.18. The applicant will execute an inter connection agreement with the concerned EEE, Supply (in case of 11 KV consumer)/ESE, Supply (in case of 33 KV consumer).
- 4.19. The applicant will provide declaration regarding work completion of installation of Solar Photovoltaic Roof Top Power Plant with document of solar modules having ISI mark. After receipt of declaration towards work completion from applicant, testing, commissioning and synchronization of RTSPV system along with metering arrangement for net metering connection will be done by concerned EEE/AEE, MRT Electric Supply Division within next 7 working days after submission of clearance for Electrical Inspection by the applicant consumer.
- 4.20. AEE, Electric Supply Sub-division will send service connection report to the billing office within 7 days.

5. Other Conditions:

- 5.1. The DISTRIBUTION LICENSEE shall offer the provision of net metering arrangement to a consumer, who intends to install Grid connected Rooftop PV Solar Power Plants, in its Area of Supply on non-discriminatory and first come first serve basis, however, priority will be given to applicants having installed the rooftop solar system before implementation of the net metering system by the Discom:
- i. Provided further that the Consumer is eligible to install the Grid connected Rooftop PV Solar power Plants of the rated Capacity as specified in para 3.
 - ii. Provided also that the interconnection of such system with the grid is undertaken as specified as above and in compliance of Central Electricity Authority (Technical Standard for Connectivity of the Distributed Generation Resources) Regulation, 2013.
 - iii. In case the applicant consumer does not install the rooftop solar system as per approval given within 90 days of its approval, the application will be cancelled. He will have to apply afresh application if he so desires.

6. Capacity Targets for Distribution Licensee:

- 6.1. The DISTRIBUTION LICENSEE shall provide net metering arrangement to eligible consumers as long as the total capacity (in MW) does not exceed the target capacity determined by the Commission;
- Provided a maximum cumulative capacity of 10MW shall be allowed to eligible consumers under net metering, on yearly basis, in the area of supply of the DISTRIBUTION LICENSEE or as per the BERC (Rooftop solar Grid Interactive Systems Based on Net-Metering) Regulations, 2015 and its amendment notified by the Commission from time to time;
- Provided that the cumulative capacity to be allowed at a particular distribution transformer shall not exceed 15% of the capacity of the distribution transformer; as per the BERC (Rooftop solar Grid Interactive Systems Based on Net-Metering) Regulations, 2015 and its amendment notified by the Commission from time to time.
- 6.2. The DISTRIBUTION LICENSEE shall update distribution transformer level capacity available for connecting rooftop solar systems under net metering arrangement on yearly basis and shall provide the information on its website as well as to the Commission.