

Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Co. Ltd.

Office of the Director (Commercial)
'Prakashgad', 6th Floor, Station Road, Bandra (E), Mumbai-400 051.
Tel.: (P) 26476743 Extn: 2066, (O) 26474211
Email: directorcomm@mahadiscom.in • Website : www.mahadiscom.in

Ref. MSEDCL/Comments/5th Amendment/NOAR 2 1 4 1 2 Date: 0 6 SEP 2018

To,
The Secretary,
Central Electricity Regulatory Commission,
3 rd & 4th Floor, Chandralok Building,
36, Janpath, New Delhi -110 001.

Sub: Submission of comments / suggestions / objections on draft 5th Amendment of CERC (Open Access in inter-State Transmission) Regulations, 2008

Ref: Public notice by CERC for Draft 5th Amendment to OA Regulation dated 08.08.18

Respected Sir,

This is in reference to public notice issued by Hon'ble CERC on draft 5th Amendment of CERC(Open Access in inter-State Transmission) Regulations, 2008. MSEDCL is hereby submitting the comments on the proposed draft amendment, which is attached herewith.

MSEDCL requests the Hon'ble Commission to kindly consider MSEDCL's comments / suggestions on draft 5th Amendment of CERC(Open Access in inter-State Transmission) Regulations, 2008.

Thanking You.

Yours faithfully

(Satish Chavan)

Director (Commercial)

MSEDCL

Copy s.w.r.to:

Chairman & Managing Director, MSEDCL, Corporate office Mumbai

Clause	Existing	Proposed	Comments/Suggestions	
1(j) (new)	New Provision	National Open Access Registry (NOAR)' means the Registry as provided under Regulation 3A	No comments	
3A (1) (New)	New Provision	"National Open Access Registry (NOAR) 3A (1). NOAR shall be a centralized electronic platform with the following functions: i. Provide single point electronic interface for all the stakeholders, including open access participant, trading licensees, Power Exchanges, NLDC/RLDCs/SLDCs and Regional Power Committees		
	2	 Automate the administration of the short term open access in inter-state transmission system. 		
		iii. Provide audit trail of the applications and dash board facility summarizing at any point of time the details of the short term open applications made, approvals/rejections accorded by RLDC/SLDC's, applications pending etc.		
		iv. Act as a repository of information related to short term open access in interstate transmission system		
		v. Interface with the scheduling software applications of the RLDCs/SLDCs for processing short-term open access bilateral transactions		
		vi. Interface with the Power Exchange(s) for verification of standing clearance and processing of term-ahead and day-ahead transactions.		
		vii. Provide a payment gateway for making payments related to short term open access transactions and facilitate financial accounting and tracking of short term open access transactions		
		viii. Facilitate in generating periodic reports for market monitoring and surveillance related activities		
		ix. Any other functions, as assigned by the Commission from time to time after assessment of the functioning of the Registry		

Clause	Existing	Proposed	Comments/Suggestions
3A (2) (New)	New Provision	The short term open access applications shall be processed through NOAR and information related to approvals, rejections, revisions, curtailment, payment schedules, etc. shall be made available through the NOAR to the respective market participants including providing alerts through email/SMS.	No comments
3A (3) (New)	New Provision	NOAR shall be owned and operated by NLDC (POSOCO). Provided that i. NLDC shall take all steps necessary to ensure cyber security compliance of NOAR, and report the compliance to the Commission on annual basis; ii. NLDC shall review the operations of NOAR from time to time and suggest changes required if any; iii. Additional expenses incurred on account of implementing and operating the NOAR shall be allowed to be recovered under the provisions of CERC (Fees and Charges of RLDC and other related matters) Regulations, 2009."	In event of failure of NOAR server like fire, downtime of server, hacking etc, there need alternate arrangement.
4.1	Subject to the provisions of these regulations, the Central Transmission Utility, till the Regional Load Despatch Centre is operated by it and thereafter the Government company or any authority or corporation notified by the Central Government under sub-section (2) of Section 27 of the Act: shall, after obtaining prior approval of the Commission, issue the detailed procedure to operationalise open access and on any residual matter not covered under these regulations.	conducting the stakeholder consultation, issue the detailed procedure with prior approval of the Commission to operationalise open access through National Open Access Registry and on any residual matter not covered under these regulations.	No comments

Clause		Proposed	Comments/Suggestions
5A (New)	New Flovision	bilateraltransactions by the nodal RLDC and for collective	It is propose that in case of Bilateral transactions, no other physical verification shall be required, when required input is furnished by both parties involved.
5B (New)	New Provision	Registration in NOAR 5B. The short term open access applicant shall initially apply for registration in the NOAR with the information/document(s) as specified under the detailed procedure. Provided that i. The application for registration shall be accompanied by Rs. 2000/- to be completed within 7 working days from the date of receipt of application for registration. ii. The registration shall be valid for a period of 3 years and may be renewed thereafter with the payment of renewal charges of Rs. 1000/"	
6.1	An short term customer or the power exchange (on behalf of buyers and sellers) intending to avail of short term open access for use of the transmission lines or associated facilities for such lines on the inter-State transmission system, shall make an application to the nodal agency in accordance with these regulations. shall makean application to the nodal agency	for use of the transmission lines or associated facilities for such lines on the inter-State transmission system, shall make an application to the nodal agency in accordance with these	

Clause	Existing	Proposed	Comments/Suggestions
7	Application fee An application made for each bilateral transaction or the collective transaction shall be accompanied by a non-refundable fee of Rupees five thousand (Rs.5000/-) only: Provided that the fee for bilateral transaction on the day of the application or on the day immediately following the day of the application may be deposited within three working days of submission of the application		No comments
8(1) & (2)	Concurrence of State Load Despatch Centre for bilateral and collective transactions 8(1) Wherever the proposed bilateral transaction has a State utility or an intra-State entity as a buyer or a seller, concurrence of the State LoadDespatch Centre shall be obtained in advance and submitted along with the application to the nodal agency. The concurrence of the State Load DespatchCentre shall be in such form as may be provided in the detailed procedure. 8(2) When a State utility or an intra-State entity proposes to participate in trading through a power exchange, it shall obtain a "no objection" or a prior standing clearance from the State Load Despatch Centre in such form as may be prescribed in the detailed procedure, specifying the MW up to which the entity may submit a buy or sell bid in a power exchange taken together. The "no objection" or a prior standing clearance issued by State Load Despatch Centre shall not be exchange specific. No Objection or Prior Standing Clearance obtained by the State utility or intra-State entity from the State Load Despatch Centre can beused for collective transaction for day ahead on any Power Exchange(s) and/or for bilateral intra-day transaction/contingency transaction in OTC	Transactions 8. (1) An online application, through the NOAR, shall be made by the short term open access applicant to the concerned SLDC/RLDC for issuance of a 'standing clearance' for availing short term open access in interstate transmission for a pre-specified quantum and time period in accordance with the detailed procedures. Provided that while making application a declaration in the format prescribed in the detailed procedure shall be submitted along with the application declaring that	of corridor; particularly by traders and thereby depriving others from allocation of corridor both in state network as well as ISTS network. Further in case of traders, generator source must be specified in application and standing clearance must be used for wheeling of power from that particular generator only. If there are more than one trader specifying name of same generator, the total approved standing clearance must belimited to merchant capacity (i.e not tie up in LTA/MTOA) of said generator. The NOAR System should able to have check for same. For Example, if there

market or on the Power Exchange market

Provided that while making application to SLDC for obtaining No for standing clearance the SLDC/RLDC Objection or Prior Standing Clearance for collective transactions for dayahead or for bilateral intra-day transaction/contingency transaction, theapplicant shall declare that he agrees to ensure that aggregate quantum in each time block of 15 minutes for all bid(s) in collective transaction transactions (day ahead contracts on Power Exchange(s)) and/or forintra-day/contingency transactions (in OTC market and/or Power Exchange Market) shall not exceed the quantum for which No Objection or Prior Standing Clearance has been granted:

Provided also that while granting Standing Clearance time period network, as the case may be; for the clearance may be defined either in time blocks of hours or on the basis of peak period or off-peak period or round the clock (RTC):

3(a) For obtaining concurrence or 'no objection' or prior standing clearance an application shall be made before the State Load Despatch Centre who shall, acknowledge receipt of the application, either by e-mail or fax, or any other usually recognised mode of communication, within twenty four hours from the time of receipt of the application:

Provided that where the application has been submitted in person, the acknowledgement shall be provided at the time of submission of the application.

Provided further that while making application to the RLDC/SLDC for obtaining concurrence for bilateral transactions (except for intra-day transaction/contingency transactions), an affidavit in the format prescribed in the Detailed Procedure, duly notarized, shall be submitted, along with the application, declaring that:

(i) There is a valid contract with the concerned persons for

clearance has been applied for.

- (2) While processing the application as the case may be, shall verify the following, namely-
- (i) Existence of infrastructure necessary for time-block wise energy metering and accounting accordance with the provisions of the Grid code in force;
- (ii) Availability of surplus transmission capacity in the intra-State/inter- State (iii) Submission of declaration according to the proviso to clause (1)

of this regulation.

- Generator 'X' having untied exportable capacity of 500MW, then total standing clearance of these two traders must be limited to 500MW from that particular generating source. The corridor booked by Trader shall be non-transferable and if end users change, the trader shall rebook the corridor
- *In case of 1st time applicant, declaration* shall also be obtained regarding installation of SEM. This is in view of problem may arise in commercial settlement of transaction due to noninstallation of required SEM specially in case of deemed approved OA applications.
- It is not specified in this clause on how NOAR will address compliance of provision of State Regulation of respective states related to open access. For example, in Maharashtra, as per State Open access regulation, consumer of DISCOM intending to avail Open access either in Intra or interstate transmission network, needs to obtain consent of DISCOM & this become one of the document for SLDC before sanction of open access of DISOCM's consumer. As per said regulation, DISCOM has to physically verify the installation of SEM for which reports from respective field office of DISCOM are required to be obtained. Further it is

the sale or purchase, as the case may be, of power under the proposed transaction for which concurrence is applied for, and;

(ii) There is no other contract for sale or purchase, as the case may be, of the same power as mentioned in (i) above.

Provided further that while making application to the SLDC for obtaining no objection or prior standing clearance in case of collective transactions, the affidavit shall also include the declaration that there is no other contract for sale or purchase, as the case may be, of the same power for which no objection or prior standing clearance is applied for.

- (b) While processing the application for concurrence or 'no objection' or prior standing clearance, as the case may be, the State Load Despatch Centre shall verify the following, namely(i) existence of infrastructure necessary for time-block-wise energy
- (i) existence of infrastructure necessary for time-block-wise energy metering and accounting in accordance with the provisions of the Grid Code in force, and
- (ii) availability of surplus transmission capacity in the State network.
- "(iii) submission of affidavit regarding existence of valid contract according to the second proviso to sub-clause (a) of clause (3) of this regulation with respect to bilateral transactions and according to the last proviso with respect to collective transactions

also required to check technical feasibility so see that if Distribution network is having margin/capacity to accommodate open access transaction of said consumer. In addition to this, arrears of consumer applying to open access route is also required to verified. All these verification process needs time period of atleast two weeks. Hence NOAR should abide by provision made by respective Regulatory related to open access. The state specific OA regulation shall not be violated. If this provision is not made in NOAR, then commercial loss to DISCOM on account sanction of standing clearance by SLDC shall be bear by respective SLDC. Otherwise DISCOM shall be involved in this process of standing clearance being granted by SLDC in respect of consumer of DISCOM who intend to avail short term Open access to ISTS network. Further iIt is necessary to device a mechanism for online co-ordination between SLDC and Discom for issuance of NOC in case of inter state OA transaction.

Clause Existing	Proposed	Comments/Suggestions
availability of surplus transmission of State network and submission of required under provisos to sub-claus (3) of this regulation have been estate Load Despatch Centre	i. The concerned SLDC/RLDC shall issue to standing clearance within 3 working days receipt of such application ii. The standing clearance may be issued by to concerned SLDC/RLDC for a maximum permotes may be, ceipt of the customer.	must in respect of Open access of DISCOM consumers, period of three or seven working days is insufficient for sanction of standing clearance by respective SLDC. In case applicant is a consumer of DISCOM & applying for Open access for first time, then time period for issue of standing clearance shall be fourteen working days instead of seven working days so as to ensure proper co ordination with DISCOM. Further in case applicant is a consumer of DISCOM & already availed Open access through NOAR, then time period for issue of standing clearance shall be seven working days instead of three working days so as to ensure proper co-ordination with DISCOM while issue of Standing clearance, priority shall be given to beneficiaries having Long term access to ISTS network. he DC ce,

Clause	Existing	Proposed	Comments/Suggestions
8(4)	In case the State Load Despatch Centre finds that the application forconcurrence or 'no objection' or prior standing clearance, as the case may be, is incomplete or defective in any respect, it shall communicate the deficiency or defect to the applicant by e-mail or fax, in addition to any other usually recognised mode of communication, within two (2) working days of receipt of the application: Provided that in cases where the State Load Despatch Centre has communicated any deficiency or defect in the application, the date of receipt of application shall be the date on which the application has been received duly completed, after removing the deficiency or rectifying the defects, as the case may be."	application for standing clearance is incomplete or defective in any respect, it shall communicate the deficiency or defect to the applicant through NOAR within two (2) working days of receipt of application: Provided that in cases where the concerned SLDC/RLDC has communicated any deficiency or defect in the application, the date of receipt of application shall be the date on which the application has been received duly completed after removing the deficiency or rectifying the	As brought earlier in comments given for clause 8(1) & (2), Since DISCOM consent is must in respect of Open access of DISCOM's consumers, period of two working days is insufficient for communicating deficiency in the application & same Needs to increase as elaborated earlier comments given for clause 8(3).
8(5)	In case the application has been found to be in order but the State Load DespatchCentre refuses to give concurrence or 'no objection' or prior standing clearance as thecase may be, or the grounds of non-existence of necessary infrastructure or	the concernedSLDC/RLDC refuses to give the standing clearance on the grounds of nonexistence of necessary infrastructure or unavailability of surplustransmission capacity in intra-state/inter-state network as the case may be, or non-submission of the declaration in accordance with proviso to clause(1) of this regulation then such refusal shall be communicated to theapplicant through NOAR within the period of three (3) working days or seven (7) working days as the case may be, from the date of receipt of theapplication along with reasons for such refusal. Provided that where the concerned SLDC/RLDC has not communicated any deficiency or defect in the application within two (2) days from the receipt of the application or	NOAR shall issue a reminder message to the concerned SLDC/RLDC to respond to the application for refusal or issuance of standing clearance within the next working day so as to avoid further delay in approval and processing fee of SLDC/RLDC shall be curtailed as a penalty

	refusal or concurrence or 'no objection' or prior standing clearance, as the case may be, within the specified period of three (3) working days or seven (7) working days, as applicable, from the date of receipt of the application, concurrence or 'no objection' or prior standing clearance, as the case may be, shall be deemed to have been granted:	(7) working days, as applicable, from the date of receipt of the application, the NOAR shall issue a reminder message to the concerned SLDC/RLDC to respond to the	
8(6)	Provided further that the same clearance may be utilized for the day ahead bilateral transaction also, subject to limit of quantum and time as specified in the standing clearance: Provided further that where concurrence or 'no objection' or prior standing clearance, as the case may be, is deemed to have been granted by the State Load Despatch Centre, the applicant while making application under clause (1) of regulation 9 shall submit to the nodal agency an affidavit (in the format provided in the detailed procedure), duly notarised, declaring that— (a) the State Load Despatch Centre has failed to convey any deficiency or defect in the application or its refusal or concurrence or 'no objection' or prior standing clearance, as the case may be, within the specified time, (b) necessary infrastructure for time-block-wise energy metering and accounting in accordance with the provisions of the Grid Code in force, is in place; and enclosing with the affidavit— (i) a copy of the complete application after removal of deficiency or rectification of defects, if any communicated, made to the State Load Despatch	clearance has been issued or deemed to have been issued, may schedule transactions under any of the categories of short term bilateral or collective transactions in OTC market and/or Power Exchange(s) market provided that the total trade under all types of short-term inter-state transactions does not exceed the quantum of standing clearance issued by the concerned SLDC/RLDC	OA customer shall initially submit an affidavit as per clause (1) of this regulation stating that necessary infrastructure for time-block-

Cla use	Existing	Proposed	Comments/Suggestions
8(7)	violations of the limit of quantum and time are reported by SLDC against any entity, the Commission may, after giving an opportunity of hearing, debar the said entity from	clearance may lead to withdrawal of the standing clearance by the concerned SLDC/RLDC under intimation to the NOAR. Provided that persistent default (more than 3 such events) shall lead to debarring of the open access customer from NOAR for a	Being, NOAR is software based, there must be provision to alert OA customer that it is violating its standing Clearance limit and NOAR should not allowed to apply for any Open access transaction above sanctioned standing clearance.
8(8)	No provision earlier	quantum (MW) or period of the standing clearance issued in respect of any open access customer in case of transmission constraint or in the interest of secure grid operation or if the allocated transmission	NOAR should able to track utilisation of standing clearance on daily basis & give alert to respective SLDC/RLDC. Before curtailment of approved quantum of standing clearance due to under utilisation of allocated transmission corridor, reason for under utilisation& expected utilisation in near future shall be sought from concerned open access customer before taking any decision by RLDC/SLDC. The action in this regard shall be via NOAR by giving intimation through SMS/emails. The report of underutilisation shall be available on NOAR on daily basis. If there is persistence underutilisation of standing clearance (for say 2 or 3days) & OA customer fails to provide sufficient cause, then only action beinitiated by SLDC/RLDC. Further if OA customer fails to provide any justified reason for underutilisation on more than 3 occasions in its validity period of standing instruction, then while processing application for next period, SLDC/RLDC shall curtails quantum of standing clearance of said period. The NLDC should check past history of under utilisation through NOAR and it is propose that heavy penalty shall be imposed for under utilization of corridor. NLDC shall monitor the past history of under utilization and take strict action against defaulters

Clause	Existing	Proposed	Comments/Suggestions
9(1)	Application for advance scheduling for a bilateral transaction may be submitted to the nodal agency up to the fourth month"	application for advance scheduling for a bilateral transaction may be submitted to the nodal agency through NOAR up to the fourth month"	No comments
Sub- Clause (c) of Clause (2), (3) & (4) of Regulation	nodal agency shall convey its acceptance or otherwise to the applicant	nodal agency shall convey its acceptance or otherwise to the applicant through NOAR".	No comments
9(5)	Wherever the nodal agency rejects an application, it shall convey itsreasons to the applicant in writing	Wherever the nodal agency rejects an application, it shall convey its reasons to the applicant through NOAR	No comments
10	Where in the opinion of the nodal agency, grant of all applications at a particular stage of advance scheduling is likely to cause congestion in one or more of the transmission corridors to be used, it shall conduct electronic bidding for grant of open access for the available surplus transmission capacity among the applicants at that stage, in accordance with the detailed procedure	agency, grant of all applications at a particular stage of advance scheduling is likely to cause congestion in one or more of the transmission corridors to be used, it shall conduct electronic bidding through NOAR for grant of open access for the available surplus	The Open access is granted on margin available in ISTS network (as mentioned in sub clauses a,b& c of clause 2 of Regulation 3) and LTA customer are paying for POC charges for all related ISTS line, its is necessary that while approving any kind of STOA application (advanced, FCFS, day ahead or contingency) of LTA customer, first priority to be given for approval of STOA application of LTA customer (since it is already paying for that corridor through POC mechanism) and margin left shall then be utilised for rest of applicant. Further SMS/Email notification shall be sent through NOAR to respective OA customer for electronic biding

Clause	Existing	Proposed	Comments/Suggestions
12	Procedure for scheduling day ahead transactions	Procedure for scheduling day ahead bilateral transactions	No comments
13	Procedure for scheduling of transactions in a contingency	Procedure for scheduling contingency bilateral transactions	No comments
13	even after the cut-off time of 1500 hrs of thepreceding day	source of power tomeet short-term contingency requirement even after the cut-off time of 1500 hrs of thepreceding day and apply to the nodal agency for short-termopen access and scheduling through NOAR and in that event, the nodal agency shall endeavour to accommodate such request as soonas and to the extent practically feasible, in accordance with the detailed procedure.	No comments
13A	New provision	"Procedure for scheduling collective transactions 13A. The Power Exchange shall make an application to the nodal agency through the NOAR for scheduling of the collective transactions discovered on its platform. The nodal agency shall approve or advise the Power Exchange to revise the application for scheduling of collective transactions based on the transmission corridor availability in accordance with the detailed procedures."	No comments

Clause	Existing	Proposed	Comments/Suggestions
14	accepted by the nodal agency in advance and on first-come-first-served basis may be cancelled or revised downwards on anApplication to that	schedules accepted by the nodal agency in advance and on first-come-first-served basis may be cancelled or revised downwards on an application to that effectmade	The Hon'ble Commission want the frequency to be get closer to 50Hz & accordingly many new concept are implemented (like RRAS, AGC etc.) and are in pipeline (like Draft Real time market concept, Draft 4th DSM, draft five minute scheduling etc.). These are really welcome steps taken/being taken by Honble commission. In this concept, in order to have flexibility in generation availability, provision for downward revision in STOA transaction need to be modified. As per present regulation, downward revision for generator in event of tripping of units is governed by regulation 6.5 of CERC (IEGC-2010). However if buyer want to have downward revision, as per provision in present regulation(clause 1 of Regulation 14), downward revision in case of STOA are accepted in case of FCFS & advanced STOA application only and downward revision is effected only after expiry of minimum period of 2 days only. The revision in case STOA transaction shall also need to be revised as per provision stipulated in sub clause 18 of clause 5 of Regulation 6 of IEGC-2010. Presently, at intra state level in Maharashtra, STOA transactions are also under MOD concept, provided STOA more than 50MW.
15(2)	The intimation about such revision or cancellation shall as soon as possible, beconveyed to the affected short-term customers	or cancellation shall as soon as	

Clause	Existing	Proposed	Comments/Suggestions
18A	New provision	18A. All charges payable under these regulations shall be paid online through the payment gateway made available in the NOAR."	No comments
25A	New provision	"Provided that if the default in payment exceeds 90 days from the due date of payment of the charges as mentioned above, the NLDC or RLDC, as the case may be, may deny short term open access to the defaulting entity without approaching the Commission for specific directions in this regard."	No comments
27	'Information System- National Load Despatch Centre and Regional Load Despatch Centre"	Information System-NOAR	No comments
27		NOAR shall give information regarding openaccess in interstate transmission including but not limited to the following	No comments
27A(a)			No comments

Clause	Existing	Proposed	Comments/Suggestions
sub-clause (ii) of clause (a) of Regulations 27A	Period of concurrence or no objection or prior standing clearance, as the case may be(Start date and end date)		No comment
27A(d)	List of applications where concurrence or no objection or prior standing clearance, as the case may be, was not granted, alongwith reason for refusal, to be displayed till one month, after the scheduling period given in the application	granted, alongwith reason for refusal, to be displayed till one month, after the scheduling period given in the application	No comment