

CE/Comm/GIRREGS Regulations 2019/ **No 0 6 6 3 3**

Date: **17 MAR 2022**

**COMMERCIAL CIRCULAR No. 334**

**Sub:** Guidelines in the matter of RE generators intending to connect their power plants "Behind the meter" as per the provisions of MERC (Grid Interactive Rooftop Renewable Energy Generating Systems) Regulations, 2019.

**Ref:** 1. MERC (Grid Interactive Rooftop Renewable Energy Generating Systems) Regulations, 2019  
2. Commercial Circular no. 322 dated 21.01.2020

In pursuance of the MERC (Grid Interactive Rooftop Renewable Energy Generating Systems) Regulations, 2019, the Commercial Circular No. 322 dated 21.01.20 was issued for information of the various provisions to the field offices.

However, this office is in receipt of various queries from the field seeking clarifications regarding the procedure of connecting RE plants behind the consumer's meter.

In view of the above, it is clarified as under:

The Clause 7.9 of MERC (Grid Interactive Rooftop Renewable Energy Generating Systems) Regulations, 2019 provides as below:

7.9.....

*"Grid Connected Renewable Energy Generating Systems connected behind the Consumer's meter, and not opting for either Net Metering Arrangement or Net Billing Arrangement, shall be allowed only after prior intimation to the respective Distribution Licensee:*

*Provided that the Consumer shall be responsible for ensuring that all necessary safeguarding measures as specified by Central Electricity Authority (CEA) are taken:*

*Provided further that the Commission may determine additional Fixed Charges or Demand Charges and any other Charges for such Grid Connected systems excluding Non-fossil fuel-based Cogeneration Plants, in the retail Tariff Order, if the Distribution Licensee proposes such additional Fixed Charges or Demand Charges and any other Charges for such systems, in its retail supply Tariff Petition, supported by adequate justification:*

*Provided also that in case the Consumer installs Renewable Energy Generating Systems behind the Consumer's meter without prior intimation to the respective Distribution Licensee, then the total additional liabilities in terms of additional Fixed Charges or Demand Charges and any other Charges for such systems, shall be levied at twice the determined rate for such period of default."*



## Clarification:

### a) Prior Intimation & Sanction of application:

As per the above Clause 7.9, the consumer is permitted to install and connect his RE generating system behind the meter only after giving prior intimation to the host Distribution Licensee.

Therefore, the consumer is required to submit an application **online** at the "RE Energy Portal" provided under Consumer Portal at the official website of Mahavitaran. This on-line application shall be treated as prior intimation. No separate sanction is required.

Only on-line applications will be considered and processed further in the IT billing system for proper tagging of the consumer.

### b) Safety norms specified by the CEA :

As per the regulatory provisions, the consumer shall ensure that all the safety norms specified by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) are adhered to and followed.

Therefore, the consumer shall be asked to obtain the charging permission/certificate about compliance of safety norms from the concerned Electrical Inspector office and to upload the same while submitting the online application. The application will not be considered as prior intimation in absence of the said charging permission/certificate. If plant capacity is  $\leq 200$  KW, the certificate about compliance of safety norms issued by Licensed Electrical Contractor shall be obtained and uploaded.

### c) Authority to deal the matters:

As per the existing practice, the matters related to HT consumers shall be dealt by the O&M Circle and the matters related to the LT consumers shall be dealt by the O&M Subdivision in consultation with Testing Department.

The application and the uploaded charging permission/certificate about compliance of safety norms shall be verified and acknowledged by the concerned authority online. In case of discrepancy, if any, the application will not be accepted and intimation will be triggered to the consumer via sms/email for compliance & resubmit.

  
Chief Engineer (Commercial)

To

All field offices,

As per Mailing list