

MAHARASHTRA ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

DRAFT NOTIFICATION

ELECTRICITY ACT, 2003.

No. MERC/Tech/Regulation/____.- In exercise of the powers conferred under Section 61 and Section 86(3) read with Section 181 of the Electricity Act, 2003 (36 of 2003) and in pursuance to Clause 5.3 of the Tariff Policy, 2016 and all other powers enabling it in this behalf, and after previous publication, the Maharashtra Electricity Regulatory Commission makes the following Regulations to amend the Maharashtra Electricity Regulatory Commission (Grid Interactive Rooftop Renewable Energy Generating Systems) Regulations, 2019 read with and Maharashtra Electricity Regulatory Commission (Grid Interactive Rooftop Renewable Energy Generating Systems) (First Amendment) Regulations, 2023 (**‘the Principal Regulations’**), namely:

1 Short title and commencement

- 1.1 These Regulations may be called the Maharashtra Electricity Regulatory Commission (Grid Interactive Rooftop Renewable Energy Generating Systems) (Second Amendment) Regulations, 2024.
- 1.2 These Regulations shall come into force from the date of their publication in the Official Gazette.

2 Amendment to Regulation 2 of the Principal Regulations

Introduction of 4th and 5th proviso to Regulation 2.1 (j) of the Principal Regulations: -

“Provided also that Residential consumer can setup Renewable Energy Generating System at any place located within same Distribution Licensee’s area of supply and source renewable energy generated from such plant under Virtual Net-Metering Arrangement:

Provided also that multiple Residential consumers including common connection of housing society can come together and set-up Renewable Energy Generating System at a common place under Virtual Net Metering arrangement subject to condition that total capacity of such Renewable Energy Generating system shall not exceed summation of capacity eligible to each participating consumer.”

Introduction of Regulation 2.1 (z)(a) after Regulation 2.1 (z) of the Principal Regulations:

“2.1(z)(a) **“Virtual Net Metering”** means a modality whereby entire energy generated from a Renewable Energy Generating System is exported to the grid from Renewable energy meter or gross meter and the energy exported is adjusted in

either one or more than one participating Residential consumer(s) including common connection of housing society located within the same Distribution Licensee's area of supply.

3 Amendment to Regulation 4 of the Principal Regulations in PART A – GENERAL

Introduction of Regulation 4.4 after Regulation 4.3 of the Principal Regulations:

“ 4.4. Grid connectivity and scheduling of the Renewable Energy Generating System installed under virtual net-metering arrangement shall be governed by relevant Regulations of the Commission.”

4 Amendment to Regulation 8 and 9 of the Principal Regulations in PART B – TECHNICAL ARRANGEMENTS

Substitution of Regulation 8.11 of the Amendment Regulations: -

“8.11 In case of Renewable Energy Generating System set up under **Gross Metering Arrangement and Virtual Net Metering Arrangement**, an additional Check Meter for the Renewable Energy Generation Meter of appropriate class shall be installed by the Distribution Licensee.”

Substitution of Regulation 9.7 of the Principal Regulations:

“9.7 Before rejecting any application for setting up a Renewable Energy Generating System at a particular Distribution Transformer, the Distribution Licensee shall serve the applicant with a notice to rectify the defects in the ambit of the consumer, within 15 days or such longer period as may be necessary for removing the deficiencies:

Provided that application may be considered in chronological order of seniority.”

Introduction of Regulation 9.7 (a) after Regulation 9.7 of the Principal Regulations:

“ 9.7 (a) During the time period from the feasibility study or deemed acceptance of the application till the completion of installation, in case, there is any requirement of upgradation of distribution infrastructure like augmentation of service line, distribution transformer capacity, and the like for installation of the required capacity of roof top solar photo voltaic system, the same shall be carried out by the Distribution Licensee in adherence to the timeline specified in Maharashtra Electricity Regulatory Commission (Electricity Supply Code and Standards Of Performance for Distribution Licensees, including Power Quality) Regulations, 2021 as amended from time to time:

Provided that the cost of strengthening the distribution infrastructure, including distribution transformer, as necessary, to facilitate the installation of roof top solar

photovoltaic systems, shall be included in the annual revenue requirement of the Distribution Licensee.”

**5 Amendment to Regulation 11 of the Principal Regulations in PART C –
COMMERCIAL ARRANGEMENTS**

Introduction of Regulation 11.10 after Regulation 11.9 of the Principal Regulations:

“11.10 Virtual Net Metering– Energy Accounting and Settlement

- (a) The energy generated from Renewable Energy Generating System shall be credited in the monthly electricity bill of each participating Residential consumer(s) including common connection of housing society as per the ratio of procurement from Renewable Energy Generating System indicated under the agreement entered by the consumer(s):

Provided that capacity of Renewable Energy Generating System becomes available to participating consumer based on such ratio shall not exceed capacity eligible for such consumer under net-metering arrangement;

Provided further that participating consumers shall have option to change the ratio of procurement once in financial year by giving advance notice of two months to Distribution Licensee.

- (b) The electricity consumption in any time block (e.g., peak hours, off-peak hours, etc.) shall be first compensated with the electricity generation in the similar time blocks in the same billing cycle of the participating consumer(s). Any surplus generation over consumption in any time block in a billing cycle shall be accounted as if the surplus generation/ Energy Credits occurred during the off-peak time block for Time of Day (TOD) Consumers and normal time block for Non-TOD Consumer.
- (c) Where the units credited during any billing period of any participating consumer exceeds the import of units by that consumer, such surplus credited units shall be carried forward in the next billing period as energy credits for such participating consumer(s).
- (d) For unadjusted net credited Units of electricity at the end of each financial year, the provisions of Clause 11.4 (c) will be applicable for each participating consumer.
- (e) Applicability of Open Access Charges and losses for sourcing electricity from Renewable Energy Generating System is exempted till installed capacity of rooftop solar reaches 5000 MW in Maharashtra ”

6 Amendment to Annexure-1 of the Principal Regulations

Substitution of Clause C of Annexure-1 of the Principal Regulations: -

- “ c For installation of Renewable Energy Generating Systems, the technical feasibility study shall be completed within a period of (15) days and the outcome of the study shall be intimated to the applicant, failing which it shall be presumed that the proposal is technically feasible:

Provided that the applications for Renewable Energy Generating Systems upto 10 kW capacity, complete in all respects shall be deemed to have been accepted without requiring technical feasibility study and any commensurate enhancement of the sanctioned load of the consumer, as may be required, shall be carried out by the Distribution Licensee.”

Introduction of Clause i after Clause h of the Principal Regulations: —

- “ i. The Formats of Model Net Metering/Net Billing /Gross Metering connection agreement shall be placed on web-portal of the distribution licensee.”

7 Amendment to Annexure-3 of the Principal Regulations

Introduction of Clause 8.7 after clause 8.6 of Annexure-3 of the Principal Regulations: -

- “ 8.7 (a) In case of Virtual Net Metering, the energy generated by the Renewable Energy Generating System shall be credited in the monthly electricity bill of each participating Residential consumer(s) including common connection of housing society as per the ratio of procurement as indicated below:

Sr. No.	Name of consumer (Starting with primary connection)	Consumer No.	Sharing Ratio (%)

- (b) Participating consumers shall have option to change the ratio of procurement once in financial year with as advance notice of two months.
- (c) The electricity consumption in any time block (e.g., peak hours, off-peak hours, etc.) shall be first compensated with the electricity generation in the similar time blocks in the same billing cycle of the participating consumer(s). Any surplus generation over consumption in any time block in a billing cycle shall be accounted as if the surplus generation/ Energy Credits occurred during

the off-peak time block for Time of Day (TOD) Consumers and normal time block for Non-TOD Consumer.

- (d) Where the units credited during any billing period of any participating consumer exceeds the import of units by that consumer, such surplus credited units shall be carried forward in the next billing period as energy credits for such participating consumer(s).
- (e) For unadjusted net credited Units of electricity at the end of each financial year, the provisions of Clause 11.4 (c) will be applicable for each participating consumer.
- (f) Applicability of Open Access Charges and losses for sourcing electricity from Renewable Energy Generating System is exempted till installed capacity of rooftop solar reaches 5000 MW in Maharashtra.

Mumbai

Dated: __May 2024

(Dr. Rajendra G. Ambekar)

Secretary,

Maharashtra Electricity Regulatory Commission