Draft

ANDHRA PRADESH ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION [Regulation No. of 2025]

First Amendment to the Andhra Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission (The Grid Interactive Solar Rooftop Photovoltaic Systems under Net/Gross Metering) Regulation, 2023 (Regulation No. 4 of 2023)

Introduction:

The Commission notified the Andhra Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission (The Grid Interactive Solar Rooftop Photovoltaic Systems under Net/Gross Metering) Regulation, 2023 (Regulation No. 4 of 2023) (hereinafter referred to as 'the Principal Regulation'), which was published in the AP Extraordinary Gazette on 24.02.2024.

Whereas the Government of Andhra Pradesh released the Integrated Clean Energy (ICE) Policy, 2024 on 16.10.2024 which aims to establish Andhra Pradesh as a leader in clean energy, focusing on attracting investments and promoting sustainable development. This policy targets achieving 50% cumulative electric power capacity from non-fossil fuel sources by 2030 and net-zero emissions by 2047 in AP.

Key aspects of the policy are:

- Focus on the entire value chain, which includes renewable energy (RE) manufacturing projects, which are crucial for achieving ambitious targets.
- Harnessing the RE potential in the State, which has significant potential in solar, wind, and hybrid energy sources, along with pumped storage projects.
- The democratisation of energy generation by supporting energy self-sufficiency through schemes like PM Surya Ghar Yojana and PM KUSUM.
- The Anticipated Investment of approximately Rs.10 lakh crores and the creation of around 7,50,000 direct and indirect jobs.
- Promotion of Green Hydrogen in the State, making it a global hub for the export of Green Hydrogen.
- Promotion of investments by simplifying processes, offering incentives for clean energy and RE manufacturing projects, and imparting skills in RE technologies.
- Promotion of a circular economy and reduction of the cost of production by including RE manufacturing projects.
- Aligning the policy with the Government of India's schemes.
- Development of Renewable Economic Zones (REZs) and Renewable Energy Manufacturing Zones (REMZs).
- Support for various clean energy technologies, including solar power, wind power, wind-solar hybrid power, green hydrogen and its derivatives, biofuels, energy storage (including Pumped Storage Power (PSP) and Battery Energy Storage

Systems), mini and small hydro projects, and electric mobility charging infrastructure.

- Establishment of a University for Green Energy & Circular Economy (UGC) and a Clean Energy Knowledge & Skill Development Center (CEKSDC).
- Single window clearance for projects.

To successfully implement the aforementioned policy, the Government of Andhra Pradesh (GoAP), acting through the Special Chief Secretary/Energy Department, and invoking Section 108 of the Electricity Act, 2003, addressed a letter to the Commission. In the letter, the GoAP proposed the following amendments to the Principal Regulation and requested the Commission to incorporate the same.

- A. "For installation of SRTPVS for residential consumers, the Distributed Energy Resource (DER) aggregators shall be allowed for the DISCOMs. The DER Aggregators shall have a commercial agreement with the DISCOM and shall be paid an Aggregator fee."
- B. "The application fee as specified below shall be collected:

Capacities up to 5 kWp: Nil, Capacities above 5 kWp and up to 100 kWp: Rs. 1,000, Capacities above 100 kWp and up to 1000 kWp: Rs. 10,000, Capacities above 1000 kWp: Rs.25,000/MWp."

After thoroughly examining the amendment proposed by the GoAP under Section 108 of the Electricity Act, 2003 and other relevant aspects, including the promotion of efficient and environmentally benign policies as envisaged in the preamble of the Electricity Act, 2003, the Commission, in exercise of the powers conferred on it under Sections 9, 61, 66, 86(1)(e) and 181(1) of the Electricity Act, 2003 (36 of 2003) and all other powers enabling it in that behalf, hereby amends the Principal Regulation as follows.

1. Short Title, Extent, and Commencement

- i. This Regulation shall be called the First Amendment to the Andhra Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission (The Grid Interactive Solar Rooftop Photovoltaic Systems under Net/Gross Metering) Regulation, 2023 (Regulation No. 4 of 2023).
- ii. This Regulation shall extend to the whole of the State of Andhra Pradesh.
- iii. This Regulation shall come into force on the date of its publication in the Andhra Pradesh Gazette.

2. The following definition shall be inserted as Clause 2 (xxiv) of the Principal Regulation.

"Distributed Energy Resources Aggregator or DERA" means an entity registered/ appointed with/by the distribution licensee to provide aggregation of one or more services like demand response services under the demand response mechanism, Distributed Generation, Energy Storage, etc., within a license area. The aggregators shall assist the DISCOMs, inter alia, in the promotion of Distributed Generation/storage like Solar Rooftop projects with/without storage for subsidised residential consumers by managing, dispatching, metering, and settling the individual Distributed Energy Resources (DERs) energy, disbursement of rooftop subsidies, within their aggregation, as well empanelling of vendors, and construction of systems, etc."

3. The following text shall be added as Clause 3.10 after Clause 3.9 in the Principal Regulation.

"For installation of Solar Rooftop Photovoltaic System for residential consumers, the Distributed Energy Resource (DER) aggregators shall be allowed for the DISCOMs. The DER Aggregators shall have a commercial agreement with the DISCOM and shall be paid an Aggregator fee."

4. The text in Clause 11.2 of the Principal Regulation shall be substituted with the following.

"The application fee as specified below shall be collected:

Capacities up to 5 kWp: Nil, Capacities above 5 kWp and up to 100 kWp: Rs. 1,000,

Capacities above 100 kWp and up to 1000 kWp: Rs. 10,000, Capacities above 1000

kWp: Rs.25,000/MWp."

(By Order of the Commission)

Place: Kurnool Date: 26.03.2025.

Sd/- 26/03/2025 P.Krishna Commission Secretary (i/c)