

ANDHRA PRADESH ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Vidyut Niyantrana Bhavan, Adjacent to 220/132/33 kV AP Carbides SS, Dinnedevarapadu Road, Kurnool - 518 002, Andhra Pradesh.
Phones: 08518 - 294823,24,25,26

Revised Draft

[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 aims to achieve 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 Centre (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, issued a draft amendment to Andhra Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission (The Grid Interactive Solar Rooftop Photovoltaic Systems under Net/Gross Metering) Regulation, 2023 (Regulation No. 4 of 2023).

The draft amendment was published on the Commission's website on 26.03.2025 along with a Public Notice inviting comments, suggestions, and objections from all stakeholders and interested parties. In response, the Commission received comments and suggestions on the draft amendment, as well as on other provisions of the Principal Regulation. After carefully examining all the submissions, the Commission has decided to issue a revised draft of the first amendment, as detailed below.

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. Clause 2(xi) of the Principal Regulation shall be substituted with the following:

"Virtual Net Metering" means a mechanism whereby total energy exported from the grid-interactive solar Rooftop Photovoltaic system of a group of prosumers/society is exported to the grid through a gross meter. The exported such energy is adjusted in the electricity service connection(s) of the same Group (society) prosumers in proportion to the share in their Grid-Interactive Solar Rooftop Photovoltaic system in units (kWh / kVAh) to arrive at the net imported or exported energy by an individual prosumer in the Group / Society from/to the Distribution licensee during the applicable billing period/cycle located within the same distribution licensee's area of supply. The net energy imported by the prosumers is billed by the distribution licensee on the basis of the applicable retail tariff as per the Tariff Order. The net energy exported by the prosumers is paid by the Distribution licensee at the Feed-In-Tariff as fixed by the Commission.

In case the prosumer(s) is/are in the ambit of the Time of Day (ToD) tariff, the share of exported energy of such prosumer(s) under virtual net metering shall be netted off against his/their electricity consumption during the respective ToD slots.

The applicable T&D losses and Distribution/wheeling charges as per MYT order of the Commission applicable for relevant periods from the injection point to the drawl point

shall be deducted while adjusting the generation against the consumption.

Provided that Distribution/wheeling charges shall be waived if the injection and withdrawal of power occur at the same voltage levels.

Provided also that, for projects implemented under schemes fully sponsored by the State Government, Distribution/wheeling charges shall be waived, irrespective of the voltage level.

3. Clause 2(xii) of the Principal Regulation shall be substituted with the following:

"Group Net Metering" means a mechanism whereby energy exported from the Grid - Interactive Solar Rooftop Photovoltaic system of an individual prosumer at one or more points is adjusted in consumption by multiple electricity service connection(s) of her/him in units (kWh /kVAh) to arrive at the net imported or exported energy from/to the Distribution licensee during the applicable billing period/cycle located within the same distribution licensee's area of supply. The net energy imported by the prosumers is billed by the distribution licensee on the basis of the applicable retail tariff as per the Tariff Order. The net energy exported by the prosumers is paid by the Distribution licensee at the Feed-In-Tariff as fixed by the Commission.

In case the prosumer(s) is/are in the ambit of the Time of Day (ToD) tariff, the share of exported energy of such prosumer(s) under Group Net Metering shall be netted off against his/their electricity consumption during the respective ToD slots.

The applicable T&D losses and Distribution/wheeling charges as per MYT order of the Commission applicable for relevant periods from the injection point to drawl point shall be deducted while adjusting the generation against the consumption.

Provided that Distribution/wheeling charges shall be waived if the injection and withdrawal of power occur at the same voltage levels.

4. 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 all categories of 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."

5. 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 all categories of 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."

6. The existing Clause 11.1 of the Principal Regulation shall be substituted with the following:

"The consumer shall make an application to Discom for setting up the SRTPVS by paying the requisite application fee either on AP Discoms websites and/or through designated Mee Seva centres or the National Portal for Solar Rooftop https://solarrooftop.gov.in/. The DISCOMS shall prepare their websites accordingly and also shall register at the National Portal for Solar Rooftop. The prescribed format for the application is shown in ANNEXURE-I of this Regulation. For Group Net Metering or Virtual Net Metering, the application shall be made to the Distribution Licensee in the prescribed format as per the MNRE Guiding/Helping Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the Implementation of Virtual Net Metering and Group Net Metering Mechanism, issued on 23.02.2023, and its subsequent amendments. Consumers intending to apply through the National Portal for Solar Rooftop shall use the applications in the portal."

7. 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."

8. The existing Clause 13.1 of the Principal Regulation shall be substituted with the following:

"The agreement (Annexure-IX (A) /(B) as applicable) duly filled and signed in by the consumer shall be submitted to DISCOM within four months from the date of receipt of the technical feasibility, and DISCOM shall provide the acknowledgement for the same. The agreement is deemed to have come into force if there are no remarks communicated by

DISCOM within two weeks from the date of receipt of the agreement. In case, within four

months of issuing Technical feasibility, if the Agreement is not submitted by the

consumer, the application is deemed to be cancelled. The officers designated for the

release of new services of supply as per the present DISCOMS' orders in vogue shall sign

the agreement. For Group Net Metering or Virtual Net Metering, the agreement shall be in

the prescribed format as per MNRE Guiding/Helping Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)

for Implementation of Virtual Net Metering and Group Net Metering Mechanism issued on

23.02.2023 and its amendments."

9. The existing Clause 15 of the Principal Regulation shall be substituted with

the following:

"15. Provisions applicable to prosumers/consumers

Subject to the present regulation, all provisions of the GTCS, Supply Code, and other

relevant regulations/guidelines applicable to consumers in general shall also be

applicable to prosumers. The SRTPVS behind the prosumer/consumer's meter without

any capacity limitation and without injection to the grid, not involving either Net Metering

Arrangement or Net Billing Arrangement, may be installed with prior intimation to the

DISCOM concerned.

The prosumer/consumer shall furnish an undertaking to pay the applicable charges as

determined by the Commission from time to time for such capacity of SRTPVS installed

behind the meter.

In case the prosumer/consumer installs SRTPVS behind the prosumer's meter without

prior intimation to the DISCOM concerned, or such installation does not conform to the

Central Electricity Authority (Technical Standards for Connectivity of the Distributed

Generation Resources) Regulations, 2013, the SRTPVS shall be disconnected from the

Grid after notice to the prosumer.

For SRTPVS behind the meter already connected to the electricity system on the date of

commencement of this regulation, the prosumer/consumer shall take all necessary steps

to meet the technical standards specified by CEA within sixty days of the coming into

force of this Regulation and intimate the same to the DISCOM concerned."

(By Order of the Commission)

Place: Kurnool

Date: 19.08.2025.

Sd/- 19.08.2025 P.KRISHNA

Commission Secretary i/c

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