



TAMIL NADU ELECTRICITY CONSUMERS' ASSOCIATION

Regd. No. 181-8524/1998 – CIN.No. U37102TZ1998GAP008524

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01st July 2021

CIRCULAR

To All Members

Dear Sir,

Sub: **Solar Power**-Both Roof Top and Ground Mounted SPGs within the premises-
The accounting procedure may likely to be influenced by the Electricity
(Rights of Consumers) Amendment Rules 2021-Comments.

Ref: The Government of India Gazette No. 360 dated 29.06.2021 publishing the
Notification in G.S.R. No. 448 (E) dated 28.06.2021

We would like to inform our members that the Ministry of Power, Government of India, has regulated a New Regulation, under the title of "**Electricity (Rights of Consumers) Rules, 2020**" and accordingly, an Amendment was brought in to the Rules 2020, through the Gazette of India No. 360 dated 29.06.2021, publishing the Notification No. G.S.R. 448 (E) dated 28.06.2021 as Electricity (Rights of Consumers) Amendment Rules 2021. Accordingly, the New Amended Rules are coming in to force from 29.06.2021 onwards.

Inter-alia, the amended Rules are mandating as below.

"2. In the Electricity (Rights of Consumers) Rules, 2020 (hereinafter referred to as the said rule), in rule 2, in sub-rule (1),-

(a) after clause (i), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:-

*'(ia) "**gross-metering**" means a mechanism whereby the total solar energy generated from Grid Interactive rooftop Solar Photovoltaic system of a Prosumer and the total energy consumed by the Prosumer are accounted separately through appropriate metering arrangements and for the billing purpose, the total energy consumed by the Prosumer is accounted at the applicable retail tariff and total solar power generated is accounted for at feed-in tariff determined by the Commission;*

(b) after clause (j), the following clauses shall be inserted, namely:-

*'(ja) "**net-billing or net feed-in**" means a single bidirectional energy meter used for net-billing or net feed in at the point of supply wherein the energy imported from the Grid and energy exported from Grid Interactive rooftop Solar photovoltaic system of a Prosumer are valued at two different tariffs, where*



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i. the monetary value of the imported energy is based on the applicable retail tariff;

ii. the monetary value of the exported solar energy is based on feed-in tariff determined by the Commission;.

iii. the monetary value of the exported energy is deducted from the monetary value of the imported energy to arrive at the net amount to be billed (or credited / carried-over);

(jb) "net-metering" means a mechanism whereby solar energy exported to the Grid from Grid Interactive rooftop Solar Photovoltaic system of a Prosumer is deducted from energy imported from the Grid in units (kWh) to arrive at the net imported or exported energy and the net energy import or export is billed or credited or carried-over by the distribution licensee on the basis of the applicable retail tariff by using a single bidirectional energy meter for net-metering at the point of supply;’.

3. In the said rules, in rule 11, -

(a) for sub-rule (4), the following sub-rule shall be substituted, namely:-

"(4) The arrangements for net-metering, gross-metering, net billing or net feed-in shall be in accordance with the regulations made by the State Commission, from time to time:

Provided that where the regulations does not provide for net-metering, net-billing or net feed-in, the Commission may allow net metering to the Prosumer for loads up to five hundred Kilowatt or up to the sanctioned load, whichever is lower and net billing or net feed-in for other loads:

Provided further that in the case of Prosumers availing net-billing or net feed-in, the Commissions may introduce time-of-the-day tariffs whereby Prosumers are incentivised to install energy storage for utilization of stored solar energy by them or feeding into the grid during peak hours thus helping the grid by participating in demand response of the DISCOMs:

Provided also that in case of net-metering or net-billing or net feed-in, the distribution licensee may install a solar energy meter to measure the gross solar energy generated from the Grid Interactive rooftop Solar Photovoltaic system for the purpose of renewable energy purchase obligation credit, if any:

Provided also that the Commission may permit gross-metering for Prosumers who would like to sell all the generated solar energy to the distribution licensee



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instead of availing the net-metering, net-billing or net feed-in facility and the Commission shall decide for this purpose the generic tariff for gross-metering as per tariff regulations:'

(b) for sub-rule (13), the following sub-rule shall be substituted namely:-

"(13) The solar energy generated by prosumer shall be adjusted against energy consumed and bill amount as per regulations made by the Commission for Grid Interactive rooftop Solar Photovoltaic system."

Accordingly, now the Hon'ble Commission is obligated as below.

- A. As per the Rule 11(a)(4), *the arrangements for net-metering, gross-metering, net-billing or net feed-in shall be in accordance with the regulations made by the State Commission, from time to time.* However, so far in the State of Tamil Nadu, there was no such Regulation provided for Solar Energy, dealing with the matters relating to the *arrangements for net-metering, gross-metering, net-billing or net feed-in.* Hence, the Hon'ble Commission is now under obligation to provide the Regulation in line with the above Amended Rule.
- B. Since, there is no such Regulation available at present for the Solar Energy in the State of Tamil Nadu, as per the Proviso Clause of the newly introduced Rule, *the Hon'ble Commission may allow net metering to the Prosumer for loads up to five hundred Kilowatt or up to the sanctioned load, whichever is lower and net-billing or net feed-in for other loads.*
- C. Further, in the absence of such a Regulation available at present for the Solar Energy in the State of Tamil Nadu, it was obligated *that in the case of Prosumers availing net-billing or net feed-in, the Hon'ble Commission may introduce time-of-the-day tariffs whereby Prosumers are incentivised to install energy storage for utilization of stored solar energy by them or feeding into the grid during peak hours thus helping the grid by participating in demand response of the DISCOMs.*
- D. Further, the DISCOMs were also obligated *that in case of net-metering or net-billing or net feed-in, the distribution licensee may install a solar energy meter to measure the gross solar energy generated from the Grid Interactive rooftop Solar Photovoltaic*



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system for the purpose of renewable energy purchase obligation credit, if any.

E. Further, the Hon'ble Commission was also obligated to permit gross-metering for Prosumers who would like to sell all the generated solar energy to the distribution licensee instead of availing the net-metering, net-billing or net feed-in facility and the Commission shall decide for this purpose the generic tariff for gross-metering as per tariff regulations.

F. Further, as per the sub-Rule (13), the solar energy generated by prosumer shall be adjusted against energy consumed and bill amount as per regulations made by the Commission for Grid Interactive rooftop Solar Photovoltaic system.

Already, a Petition filed by the CE-NCES is under adjudication before the Hon'ble TNERC in M.P. No. 14 of 2021 and the same was heard lastly on 29.06.2021.

However, now the Hon'ble Commission is obligated to issue a New Regulation and therefore, it would be issuing a Draft Regulation shortly on the matter. While the Hon'ble Commission is obligated take care of the newly introduced Electricity (Rights of Consumers) Amendment Rules 2021, those members having SPG at Roof Tops and also Ground Mounted should make a keen monitoring as how the Draft Regulation would be issued by the Hon'ble Commission and how the interest of the SPGs would be influenced by the Regulation to be unveiled. To certain extent, the Electricity (Rights of Consumers) Amendment Rules 2021 would also influence the Grid Connected

Solar Power Projects also, who are in Captive Consumption.

We are enclosing the copy of the Government of India Gazette No. 360 dated 29.06.2021 publishing the Notification in G.S.R. No. 448 (E) dated 28.06.2021 for your reference.

TECA is monitoring closely all the developments. TECA will report once the Draft Regulations are issued for comments.

With Warm Regards

Dr. CB Senthilkumar
Secretary