

RAJASTHAN ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION, JAIPUR

In the matter of

Rajasthan Electricity Regulatory Commission (Grid Interactive Distributed Renewable Energy Generating Systems) Regulations, 2021.

Coram:

1. Dr. B.N. Sharma, Chairman
2. Shri Suresh Chandra Dinkar, Member
3. Shri Prithvi Raj, Member

Date of Order:

30.06.2021

ORDER

1. Commission has issued Rajasthan Electricity Regulatory Commission (Grid Interactive Distributed Renewable Energy Generating Systems) Regulations, 2021 (hereinafter 'RERC DREGS Regulations 2021') on 08.04.2021. The regulation 3.4 of the said Regulations reads as under:

"3.4 These Regulations shall be applicable to all Grid interactive Distributed Renewable Energy generating systems that are commissioned on or after 1st July 2021:

Provided that, Rooftop and Small Solar Grid Interactive Systems commissioned under Net Metering agreements up to 30th June 2021, shall continue to operate under the Net Metering arrangement till the period of Connection Agreement, as per the provisions of the Rajasthan Electricity Regulatory Commission (Connectivity and Net Metering for Rooftop and Small Solar Grid Interactive Systems) Regulations, 2015 and subsequent amendments thereof:

....."

2. The Commission has received representations from the stakeholders that due to second wave of COVID-19 pandemic the implementation of the projects under the different execution stages have come to a halt. They have requested the Commission to extend the date 30th June 2021 at least by another three months.
3. Rajasthan Renewable Energy Corporation Ltd., (RREC) vide their letter dated 23.06.2021 has also submitted that due to sudden spike in COVID-19 pandemic, the commissioning of ongoing projects has been greatly hampered and it would be difficult to complete these pending activities upto 30.06.2021. RREC further submitted that MNRE has granted the time extension in scheduled commissioning date (SCOD) of the RE projects considering disruption due to the second surge of COVID-19. In view of the above, RREC has also requested the Commission to extend the timeline for Commissioning of Rooftop projects under the net metering

arrangement as per Net Metering Regulations, 2015 for six months, i.e., upto 31.12.2021.

4. In order to facilitate the ease of doing business and as a measure of relief to RE projects to deal with difficulties arising out of the restrictions imposed on account of the second COVID-19 surge, MNRE vide Office Memorandum (OM) dated 29.06.2021 has decided that the entire period of disruption i.e., 1st April, 2021 to 15th June, 2021 (both inclusive) can be allowed as time-extension to RE projects, being implemented through Implementing Agencies designated by the MNRE or under various schemes of MNRE.
5. It has come to notice of the Commission that Ministry of Power ('MOP') has finalised the Electricity (Rights of Consumers) Amendment Rules,2021 to facilitate installation of Grid Interactive Systems by consumers as prosumers. For the purpose of implementation of the Electricity (Rights of Consumers) Amendment Rules finalised by MOP, the Commission may issue necessary directions or orders, if need be, as and when required in terms of the regulation 3.2 of the RERC DREGS Regulations 2021.
6. In consideration of the above, Commission in exercise of the power conferred under the regulation 19 and regulation 22 of the RERC DREGS Regulations 2021 directs that the Rooftop and Small Solar Grid Interactive Systems commissioned under Net Metering agreements upto 15th September, 2021, shall continue to operate under the Net Metering arrangement till the period of Connection Agreement, as per the provisions of the Rajasthan Electricity Regulatory Commission (Connectivity and Net Metering for Rooftop and Small Solar Grid Interactive Systems) Regulations, 2015 and subsequent amendments thereof.

(Prithvi Raj)
Member

(S.C. Dinkar)
Member

(Dr. B.N. Sharma)
Chairman