

No. 23/05/2020-R&R (Part-1)
Government of India
Ministry of Power

Shram Shakti Bhawan, Rafi Marg.
New Delhi, 13th December, 2023

To,

1. Secretary, MNRE, New Delhi.
2. Chairperson, CEA, Sewa Bhawan, R.K. Puram, New Delhi.
3. Secretary, Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC), New Delhi.
4. Principal Secretaries/Secretaries (Power/Energy) of all State Governments/UTs.
5. Secretaries of All State Electricity Regulatory Commissions/JERCs.
6. Chairman/CMDs of all PSUs under administrative control of Ministry of Power.
7. CMD, SECI, New Delhi.
8. CMDs/MDs of Discoms/Gencos of all State Governments.
9. CMD, IEX LTD New Delhi & MD/CEO, PXIL, Mumbai/ HPX New Delhi.
10. DG, Association of Power Producers, New Delhi.
11. President, FICCI, House No. 1, Tansen Marg New Delhi.
12. President, CII, New Delhi.
13. President, PHDCCI, New Delhi.
14. ASSOCHAM, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi.
15. Member, PRAYAS Energy Group, Pune.
16. DG, Electric Power Transmission Association (EPTA), New Delhi.
17. Chairman Indian Wind Power Association, New Delhi.
18. Chairman, Indian Wind Turbine Manufacturers Association, New Delhi.
19. Director General, National Solar Energy Federation of India (NSEFI), New Delhi.
20. DG, Solar Power Developers Association, New Delhi.

Subject: Seeking comments on draft Electricity (Rights of Consumers) Second Amendment Rules, 2023.

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to forward herewith the draft Electricity (Rights of Consumers) Second Amendment Rules, 2023 with request to provide your comments, if any, to this Ministry within 30 days from the date of issuance of this letter i.e. by 12th January, 2024. The comments in word file may also be emailed at debranjana.chattopadhyay@nic.in and narendra.kumar65@nic.in.

2. This issues with the approval of Competent Authority.

Encl: as above

Yours faithfully,


(Narendra Kumar)
Director
011- 23736275

Copy for information to:

PS to Hon'ble Minister of Power and NRE, APS to Hon'ble MoSP, Sr.PPS to Secy(P), PPS to AS(SN), PSO to CE(R&R), Ministry of Power.

Copy to: Technical Director, NIC Cell for uploading on MOP's website under "Current Notices" with the heading of "**Seeking comments on Draft Electricity (Rights of Consumers) Second Amendment Rules, 2023**".

[To be published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section 3, Sub-section (i)]

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
MINISTRY OF POWER

NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the December, 2023

G.S.R. (E).- In exercise of the powers conferred under sub-section (1), clause (z) of sub-section (2) of section 176 of the Electricity Act, 2003 (36 of 2003), the Central Government hereby makes the following rules, further to amend the Electricity (Rights of Consumers) Rules, 2020, namely:-

1. (1) These rules may be called the Electricity (Rights of Consumers) Second Amendment Rules, 2023.

(2) They shall come into force on the date of their publication in the Official Gazette.

2. In the Electricity (Rights of Consumers) rules, 2020 (hereinafter referred to as the principal rules), in rule 4, for sub-rule (11), the following sub-rule shall be substituted, namely:-

“(11) The Commission shall specify the maximum time period, post submission of application complete in all respect, not exceeding three days in metro cities, seven days in other municipal areas and fifteen days in rural areas, within which the distribution licenses shall provide new connection and modify an existing connection:

Provided that where such supply requires extension of distribution mains, or commissioning of new sub-stations, the distribution licensee shall supply the electricity to such premises immediately after such extension or commissioning or within such period as may be specified by the Commission.”

3. In the principal rules, in rule 4, after sub-rule 13, the following sub-rules shall be inserted, namely:-

“(14) The distribution licensee shall provide individual connection for supply of Electricity to owner(s) or occupier(s) of any premise in a Group Housing Society or Residential Colony or Resident Welfare Association (RWA) or similar body registered with Appropriate Government, on their request, in the manner prescribed by the Appropriate Commission:

Provided that the Appropriate Commission shall notify the Regulations in this regard within six months from the date of issue of this notification:

Provided also that in case the electricity is supplied through single point connection, the tariff charged by Group Housing Society or residential colony or Resident Welfare Association (RWA) or similar body registered with Appropriate Government, from the owner or occupier of any premise, shall not exceed the retail tariff as determined by the Appropriate Commission for that category of consumers:

Provided further that in case of single point connection, the Group Housing Society or residential colony or Resident Welfare Association(RWA) or similar body registered with Appropriate Government, can charge an additional amount, towards the cost incurred for providing electricity upto the premises of the individual consumer from single point connection, only to the extent prescribed by the Appropriate Commission and the same shall be notified within six (6) months of publication of these Rules.

(15) The distribution licensee shall provide a separate connection for supply of Electricity for Electric Vehicle (EV) charging system, if requested by the individual consumer or Group Housing Society or residential colony or Resident Welfare Association (RWA) or similar body registered with Appropriate Government:

Provided that the timeline for getting new connection for Electric Vehicle (EV) charging system shall be in accordance with the sub-rule 11 of Rule 4.”

4. In the principal rules, in rule 5, for sub-rule (7), the following sub-rule shall be substituted, namely:-

“(7) Testing of meters shall be done by the distribution licensee within a period as may be specified by the Commission, not exceeding thirty days, of receipt of the complaint from the consumer about their meter readings not being commensurate with his consumption of electricity, stoppage of meter, damage to the seal, burning or damage of the meter, etc:

Provided that in case of complaint by a consumer regarding meter reading not being commensurate with his consumption of electricity, distribution licensee shall install an additional meter within 3 days from the date of receipt of the complaint, to verify the consumption, for a minimum period as specified by the Commission but not less than three months.”

5. In the principal rules, in rule 11, for sub-rule (7), the following sub-rule shall be substituted, namely:-

“(7) The technical feasibility study shall be completed within the time period specified by the Commission, not exceeding fifteen days and the outcome of the study shall be intimated to the applicant:

Provided that no technical feasibility study shall be required for installation of rooftop solar upto 10 kW:

Provided that the Appropriate Commission may prescribe higher limit exceeding 10 kW for exemption from technical feasibility study:

Provided also that strengthening of the required distribution infrastructure including distribution transformer (s) for the installation of rooftop solar upto the capacity mentioned in the first and second provisos shall be developed by the Distribution Licensee and the cost shall be included in its revenue requirement:

Provided further that if the outcome of the technical feasibility study is not intimated to the applicant within the above prescribed period, then it will be presumed that the proposal is technically feasible.”

6. In the principal rules, in rule 11, for sub-rule (9), the following sub-rule shall be substituted, namely:-

“(7) After installation of solar PV system, the consumer shall submit the installation certificate to the distribution licensee. The licensee shall complete signing of connection agreement, installation of meter and successful commissioning of the solar PV system within the timelines specified by the Commission which shall not be more than **fifteen** days from the date of submission of the installation certificate. Formats of contract agreement and installation certificate shall be placed on web-portal of the distribution licensee.”

[File No. 23/05/2020-R&R]

(Piyush Singh)

Joint Secretary to the Govt. of India

Note: The principal rules were published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, sub-section (i) *vide* number G.S.R. 818(E), dated the 31st December, 2020, *vide* number G.S.R. 448 (E), dated 28th June, 2021, *vide* number G.S.R. 306(E), dated 20th April, 2022 and last amended *vide* number G.S.R. 437E), dated 14th June, 2023.