



Policy & Regulatory Updates



Issued by Central Government & its organizations:

I. Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE)

1. Scheme Guidelines for implementation of Pilot projects for use of Green Hydrogen in the Shipping Sector under the National Green Hydrogen Mission (NGHM):	01st Feb 2024
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The Ministry issued Scheme Guidelines for implementation of Pilot projects for use of Green Hydrogen in the Shipping Sector under the National Green Hydrogen Mission (NGHM) on 01.02.2024.

The objectives of the scheme are:

- To support the deployment of Green Hydrogen and its derivatives as fuel for ship propulsion, including bunkering and refuelling, on a pilot basis.
- To validate the technical feasibility and performance of Green Hydrogen and its derivatives-based ship propulsion in real-world operational conditions.
- To evaluate the economic viability of the use of Green Hydrogen and its derivatives in the shipping sector.
- To assess the effectiveness of Green Hydrogen and its derivatives in ship propulsion and bunkering & refuelling systems on ports.
- To evaluate the performance of Green Hydrogen and its derivatives-based propulsion system, bunkering and refuelling systems, and identify the areas for improvement.
- To demonstrate safe and secure operations of Green Hydrogen and its derivatives-based propulsion system, bunkering and refuelling systems.

The Shipping Corporation of India or its successor, in case of disinvestment, will be the Implementing Agency for retrofitting of the existing ships. Components on creation of bunkers and refuelling facilities will be implemented by the agency nominated by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW).

Budgetary Outlay INR 115 Crore till FY 2025-26 will be met from the provisions under the National Green Hydrogen Mission Head.

Component-A: Retrofitting of Existing Ships (80 Crore)

Component-B: Creation of Bunkers and Refuelling Facilities (35 Crores)

The Implementing Agencies shall make all necessary efforts to complete the pilot project, in all aspects, before 31.12.2027 for Component-A and before 31.12.2025 for Component-B. Overall monitoring of the scheme and projects undertaken will be carried out by a Steering Committee co-chaired by Secretary, MoPSW and Secretary, MNRE.

A Project Appraisal Committee (PAC) chaired by Additional Secretary/ Joint Secretary, MoPSW, with Mission Director, NGHM as a member and other members nominated by MoPSW shall monitor/review/evaluate the project proposals and recommend projects for sanction of Central Financial Assistance (CFA). The PAC shall monitor sanctioned projects on a quarterly basis for the allocation of funds based upon the progress of the project. The PAC shall send recommendations to MNRE for the release of CFA through MoPSW.

Download link:

<https://cdnbbsr.s3waas.gov.in/s3716e1b8c6cd17b771da77391355749f3/uploads/2024/02/202402021243386059.pdf>

2. Scheme Guidelines for implementation of Pilot projects for use of Green Hydrogen in the Steel Sector under the National Green Hydrogen Mission (NGHM):	02nd Feb 2024
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The Ministry issued Scheme Guidelines for implementation of Pilot projects for use of Green Hydrogen in the Steel Sector under the National Green Hydrogen Mission (NGHM) on 2.2.2024.

The objectives of the scheme are:

- To advance technologies and expertise for the utilization of Green Hydrogen in the steelmaking process, addressing any existing gaps.
- To support the deployment of Green Hydrogen and its derivatives in the steel, on a pilot basis.
- To validate the technical feasibility and performance of Green Hydrogen and its derivatives in the Iron & Steel manufacturing in real-world operational conditions.
- To evaluate the economic viability of the use of Green Hydrogen and its derivatives in the iron & steel sector.
- To evaluate the performance of Green Hydrogen and its derivatives based on low- carbon iron & steel and identify the areas for improvement.
- To demonstrate safe and secure operations of Green Hydrogen and its derivatives-based production of low-carbon iron & steel.

The Implementing Agency for this scheme shall be nominated by the Ministry of Steel.

Budgetary Outlay INR 455 Crore till FY 2029-30 will be met from the provisions under the National Green Hydrogen Mission Head.

Overall monitoring of the scheme and projects undertaken will be carried out by a Steering Committee co-chaired by Secretary, Ministry of Steel and Secretary, MNRE. The Steering Committee shall be responsible for overall monitoring and implementation of this scheme and suggest modifications and course corrections for its successful implementation. In case of any

ambiguity in the interpretation of any of the provisions of this scheme, the decision of MNRE shall be final. The Committee will also facilitate/ recommend measures to resolve difficulties, if any.

A Project Appraisal Committee (PAC) chaired by Secretary/Additional Secretary, Ministry of Steel, with Mission Director, NGHM as a member and other members nominated by Ministry of Steel shall monitor/review/evaluate the project proposals and recommend projects for sanction of CFA. The PAC shall monitor sanctioned projects on a quarterly basis for the allocation of funds based upon the progress of the project. The PAC shall send recommendations to MNRE for the release of CFA through Ministry of Steel.

Download link:

<https://cdnbbsr.s3waas.gov.in/s3716e1b8c6cd17b771da77391355749f3/uploads/2024/02/202402022064546305.pdf>

3. Scheme Guidelines for implementation of Pilot projects for use of Green Hydrogen in the Transport Sector under the National Green Hydrogen Mission (NGHM):	14th Feb 2024
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The Ministry issued Scheme Guidelines for implementation of Pilot projects for use of Green Hydrogen in the Transport Sector under the National Green Hydrogen Mission (NGHM) on 14.02.2024.

The Scheme has following objectives:

- To support the deployment of Green Hydrogen as fuel in buses, trucks and four-wheeler vehicles in a phased manner on a pilot basis
- To validate the technical feasibility and performance of Green Hydrogen operated vehicles under real-world operational conditions
- To evaluate the economic viability of hydrogen-based vehicles
- To assess the effectiveness of hydrogen refuelling station.
- To evaluate the performance of hydrogen-based vehicles and identify the areas for improvement.
- To demonstrate safe and secure operations of hydrogen-based vehicles and hydrogen refuelling stations.

The Implementing Agencies for this scheme shall be nominated by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH).

Budgetary Outlay INR 496 Crore till FY 2025-26 will be met from the provisions under the National Green Hydrogen Mission Head.

Overall monitoring of the scheme and projects undertaken will be carried out by a Steering Committee co-chaired by Secretary, MoRTH and Secretary, MNRE. The Steering Committee shall be responsible for overall monitoring and implementation of this scheme and suggest modifications and course corrections for its successful implementation. In case of any ambiguity

in the interpretation of any of the provisions of this scheme, the decision of MNRE shall be final. The Committee will also facilitate/ recommend measures to resolve.

A Project Appraisal Committee (PAC) chaired by Additional Secretary/Joint Secretary, MoRTH, with Mission Director, NGHM as a member and expert members nominated by MoRTH shall monitor/review evaluate the project proposals and recommend projects for sanction of CFA. The PAC shall monitor sanctioned projects on a quarterly basis for the allocation of funds based upon the milestone achieved/ progress of the project. The PAC shall send recommendation to MNRE for the release of CFA through MoRTH

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<https://cdnbbsr.s3waas.gov.in/s3716e1b8c6cd17b771da77391355749f3/uploads/2024/02/20240214177858805.pdf>

4. Sanction of the project "Green Energy Corridor Phase-II Inter-State Transmission System for 13 GW Renewable Energy Project in Ladakh:	15th Feb 2024
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The MNRE has sanctioned implementation of the project "Green Energy Corridor Phase-II - Inter-State Transmission System for 13 GW Renewable Energy Project in Ladakh (ISTS GEC-II)" on 15.02.2024.

The ISTS GEC-II project envisages setting up of about 713 km [or 1268 circuit kilometres (ckm)] transmission lines and two nos. of 5 GW capacity of High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) terminals - one each at Pang (Ladakh) and Kaithal (Haryana).

The project will facilitate evacuation of power from renewable energy (RE) power project comprising of 13 GW capacity along with 12 GWh Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) in Ladakh.

The project will be implemented by Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (POWERGRID). The project will be implemented in a single phase and is scheduled to be completed by Financial Year 2029-30.

The total estimated project cost is INR 20,773.70 Crores [excluding the Interest During Construction (IDC)]. The approved CFA @ 40% of the project cost is Rs. 8,309.48 Crore. The CFA will be capped at Rs. 8,309.48 Crore or 40% of the DPR cost or 40% of project completion cost, whichever is lower.

The balance project cost is to be arranged by POWERGRID through debt and equity. As recommended by the Public Investment Board (PIB), Department of Expenditure, the Return on Equity (ROE) for the transmission project under ISTS GEC-II will be capped at 14% (post-tax). The other components of tariff will be governed by extant CERC tariff regulations for Regulated Tariff Mechanism (RTM) projects and its amendments thereof.

The MNRE will coordinate with Ministry of Power to ensure that RE generation and the transmission projects are planned and executed in a systematic manner to ensure efficient and optimal utilization of the RE transmission system.

The project will be monitored closely by CEA and CTUIL.

Download link:

<https://cdnbbsr.s3waas.gov.in/s3716e1b8c6cd17b771da77391355749f3/uploads/2024/02/202402201747890976.pdf>

5. PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana for installing rooftop solar in One Crore households	29th Feb 2024
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The Union Cabinet, approved **PM-Surya Ghar:Muft Bijli Yojana** with a total outlay of Rs.75,021 crore for installing rooftop solar and providing free electricity up to 300 units every month for One Crore households. The scheme was launched by Hon'ble Prime Minister on 13th February, 2024.

The main features of the scheme include:

- i. The scheme provides a CFA of 60% of system cost for 2 kW systems and 40% of additional system cost for systems between 2 to 3 kW capacity. The CFA will be capped at 3 kW. At current benchmark prices, this will mean Rs 30,000 subsidy for 1 kW system, Rs 60,000 for 2 kW systems and Rs 78,000 for 3 kW systems or higher.
- ii. The households will apply for subsidy through the National Portal <https://pmsuryaghar.gov.in> and will be able to select a suitable vendor for installing rooftop solar. The National Portal will assist the households in their decision- making process by providing relevant information such as appropriate system sizes, benefits calculator, vendor rating etc.
- iii. Households will be able to access collateral-free low-interest loan products of around 7% at present for installation of residential RTS systems up to 3 kW.
- iv. A Model Solar Village will be developed in each district of the country to act as a role model for adoption of rooftop solar in rural areas,
- v. Urban Local Bodies and Panchayati Raj Institutions shall also benefit from incentives for promoting RTS installations in their areas.
- vi. The scheme provides a component for payment security for renewable energy service company (RESCO) based models as well as a fund for innovative projects in RTS.
- vii. The scheme will result in addition of 30 GW of solar capacity through rooftop solar in the residential sector.

Download link:

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=2010133>

II. Ministry of Power (MoP)

1. Amendment to the Guidelines for Tariff Based Competitive Bidding Process for Procurement of Firm and Dispatchable Power from Grid Connected Renewable Energy Power Projects with Energy Storage Systems:	02nd Feb 2024
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The Ministry of Power has amended its Clause 14.3 of the existing guidelines as follows: -

Clause 14.3: Delay in Commencement of Supply of Power:

Clause 14.3 (b) (ii) “The RE Power Generator shall be debarred from participating in bids issued by any procurer or any intermediary procurer for the following period:

- a. For one year in case of first default
 - b. For not less than 2 years and not more than 3 years for second and any subsequent defaults”
- shall stand deleted.**

Download link:

<https://cdnbbsr.s3waas.gov.in/s3716e1b8c6cd17b771da77391355749f3/uploads/2024/02/2024020528757098.pdf>

2. Amendment to the Guidelines for Tariff Based Competitive Bidding Process for Procurement of Power from Grid Connected Wind Solar Hybrid Projects:	02nd Feb 2024
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The Ministry of Power has amended its Clause 15.5 of the existing guidelines as follows: -

Clause 15.5: Delay in Commencement of Supply of Power:

Clause 15.5 (b) (ii) “The HPG shall be debarred from participating in bids issued by any procurer, or any intermediary procurer for the following period:

- a. For one year, in case of first default
 - b. For not less than 2 years, and not more than 3 years for second and any subsequent defaults”
- shall stand deleted.**

Download link:

<https://cdnbbsr.s3waas.gov.in/s3716e1b8c6cd17b771da77391355749f3/uploads/2024/02/202402051508630331.pdf>

3. Amendment to the Guidelines for Tariff Based Competitive Bidding Process for Procurement of Power from Grid Connected Solar PV Power Projects:	02nd Feb 2024
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The Ministry of Power has amended its Clause 13.3 of the existing guidelines as follows: -

Clause 13.3: Delay in Commencement of Supply of Power:

Clause 13.3 (b) (ii) “The Generator shall be debarred from participating in bids issued by any Procurer or any Intermediary Procurer for the following period:

- a. For one year in case of first default
- b. For not less than 2 years and not more than 3 years for second and any subsequent defaults” **shall stand deleted.**

Download link:

<https://cdnbbsr.s3waas.gov.in/s3716e1b8c6cd17b771da77391355749f3/uploads/2024/02/20240205689166806.pdf>

4. Amendment to the Guidelines for Tariff Based Competitive Bidding Process for Procurement Power from Grid Connected Wind Power Projects:	02nd Feb 2024
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The Ministry of Power has amended its Clause 14.5 of the existing guidelines as follows: -

Clause 13.3: Delay in Commencement of Supply of Power:

Clause 13.3 (b) (ii) “The WPG shall be debarred from participating in bids issued by any procurer, or any intermediary procurer for the following period:

- a. For one year, in case of first default
- b. For not less than 2 years, and not more than 3 years for second and any subsequent defaults” **shall stand deleted.**

Download link:

<https://cdnbbsr.s3waas.gov.in/s3716e1b8c6cd17b771da77391355749f3/uploads/2024/02/202402051370082762.pdf>

5. Alignment with Open Access Regulations, on aggregation basis-reg.:	12th Feb 2024
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The Ministry of Power has requested all States/UTs to take appropriate action for implementation of the Electricity (Promoting Renewable Energy through Green Energy Open Access) Rules, 2022 (as amended from time to time) notified by the Central Government and align Open Access Regulations, on aggregation basis, in accordance with the notified Rules, at the earliest.

Download link:

https://powermin.gov.in/sites/default/files/Alignment_with_Open_Access_Regulations_GEOA_12022024.pdf

6. Implementation of Uniform Renewable Energy Tariff Mechanism Date of initiation of solar power central pool and designation of Intermediary Procurers - reg:	14th Feb 2024
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In compliance of Electricity Amendment Rules, 2022 notified on 29th December 2022, two pools viz. 'Solar Power Central Pool' and 'Solar-Wind Hybrid Central Pool' have now been considered for implementation under URET.

The start date of the 'Solar Power Central Pool' and 'Solar-Wind Hybrid Central Pool' under the URET mechanism shall be 15th February 2024 and its duration shall be as per rule 19 of the Electricity Amendment Rules, 2022 as amended from time to time. Further, the solar and solar-wind hybrid capacity bidded after 15th February 2024 in accordance with the bidding guidelines issued by the Government of India shall be considered under their respective pools.

The principle of operation of a pool shall be based on a First in First out (FIFO) approach i.e. solar and solar-wind hybrid capacity whose Letter of Award (LOA) has been placed first would be included in their respective pool first and sold first.

Furthermore, the following Renewable Energy Implementation Agencies (REIAs) of Ministry of New & Renewable Energy shall act as Intermediary Procurers for the purpose of implementation of URET Procedure: -

- NTPC Limited
- NHPC Limited
- SJVN Limited
- Solar Energy Corporation of India Limited

Download link:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1AO0ImXTmPPrJCF5dyn7Lc2C_NQcz_UAD/view?usp=sharing

7. Electricity (Rights of Consumers) Amendment Rules, 2024:	22nd Feb 2024
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Ministry of Power has amended the Electricity (Rights of Consumers) Rules, 2020 vide notification of the Electricity (Rights of Consumers) Amendment Rules, 2024 on 22.02.2024.

The definitions of "Owner" and "Resident Welfare Association" have been inserted in the new Rules.

The new rules have specified the time frame for new connections after receipt of application and special provision has been provided for rural areas of States and Union Territories having hilly terrain.

The distribution licensee shall provide either a single point connection for the Association (RWA) or individual connections for each and every owner, on the basis of choice of the majority of the

house or flat owners in such Association and the choice shall be ascertained by means of a transparent ballot to be held by the distribution licensee subject to other provisions as detailed in the rules.

On the request of an Association or an owner of the flat or house in an Association or any other consumer, the distribution licensee shall provide a separate connection for supply of electricity for Electric Vehicle charging system as per provision of the rules.

In case of consumer complaints regarding meter readings not being commensurate with his consumption of electricity, stoppage of meter, damage to the seal, burning or damage of the meter, and the like, the testing of meters shall be done by the distribution licensee within thirty days of receipt of the complaint. Also, 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 five days from the date of receipt of the complaint, to verify the consumption, for a minimum period of three months.

For installation of roof top solar photo voltaic systems, the technical feasibility study shall be completed within a period of fifteen days and the outcome of the study shall be intimated to the applicant, failing which it shall be presumed that the proposal is technically feasible. The applications for roof top solar photo voltaic systems up to 10 kW capacity, complete in all respects shall be deemed to have been accepted without requiring technical feasibility study and any commensurate enhancement of the sanctioned load of the consumer, as may be required, shall be carried out by the distribution licensee.

The cost of strengthening the distribution infrastructure, including distribution transformer, as necessary, to facilitate the installation of roof top solar photovoltaic systems up to a capacity of 5 kW or a higher capacity as prescribed by the State Commission, shall be included in the revenue requirement of the distribution licensee.

After installation of roof top solar photovoltaic system, the consumer shall submit the installation certificate to such distribution licensee and such distribution licensee shall complete signing of connection agreement, installation of meter and successful commissioning of the roof top solar photovoltaic system within fifteen days from the date of submission of the installation certificate.

The Formats of connection agreement and installation certificate shall be placed on web-portal of the distribution licensee.”

Download link:

https://powermin.gov.in/sites/default/files/webform/notices/Electricity_Rights_of_Consumers_Amendment_Rules_2024.pdf

III. Central Electricity Authority

1. Techno-Economic Analysis of Renewable Energy-Round the Clock (RE-RTC) Supply for Achieving India's 500 GW Non-Fossil Fuel Based Capacity Target by 2030:	February 2024
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The conclusion of techno-economic analysis of Renewable Energy Round the Clock (RE-RTC) Supply for Achieving India's 500 GW Non-Fossil Fuel Based Capacity Target by 2030 are as follows:

- RE-RTC is a promising power supply option for meeting different kind of load /demand requirements from end consumers like distribution utilities, industries, commercial setup etc. It can facilitate RPO fulfilment by the utilities and mitigate the challenges associated with RE generation intermittency by providing reliable supply.
- The ideal case of RE-RTC procurement exploits the diversity in RE generation profile across states and provides the most optimized power procurement option. However, power procurement in such a fashion may be practically challenging.
- Storage capacity may play an important role in realizing the objective of RE-RTC power. In this regard, PSP offers a competitive and affordable option for storing energy compared to BESS which is an expensive option presently. However, with decreasing trend of prices of BESS, it may become competitive option to facilitate RE-RTC supply. This will also give a boost to Government of India 's initiative to promote PSP as a Storage option.
- It can be observed that 100 % RE-RTC case is most economical and provides maximum reliability. However, the capacity requirement is highest in that case. RE RTC may be customized as per requirement of customer based on the Solar, Wind profile and demand requirement
- It was analysed that power procurement from different states leverages the diversity in generation profile and results in higher utilization RE capacities which results in lower per unit generation cost. This also reduces the risk of uncertainty in generation due to abrupt change in weather pattern and minimizes the generator risk.

Download link:

https://cea.nic.in/wp-content/uploads/notification/2024/02/RE_RTC_Final_Report.pdf



Issued by State Governments & their organizations:

I. Tamil Nadu Electricity Regulatory Commission

1. Tamil Nadu Electricity Regulatory Commission (Forecasting, Scheduling and Deviation Settlement and related matters for Wind and Solar Generation) Regulations, 2024:	31st January 2024
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These Regulations are intended to facilitate Grid integration of Wind and Solar energy generated in Tamil Nadu while maintaining Grid stability and security as envisaged under the State Grid Code and the Act, through forecasting, scheduling and a mechanism for the settlement of deviations by such Generators.

The SLDC shall make use of the flexibility provided by conventional Generating Units and the capacity of inter-Grid tie-lines to accommodate Wind and Solar energy generation to the largest extent possible subject to Grid security.

These Regulations shall apply to all Wind and Solar Energy Generators including hybrid (wind and solar) systems (excluding Grid Interactive Solar PV Energy Generating System projects (Rooftop PV Solar power projects) of capacity less than 1 MW) in Tamil Nadu connected to the Intra-State Transmission System or Distribution System, including those connected through Pooling substation, and using the power generated for self-consumption or sale within or outside the State.

Download link:

<http://tnerc.gov.in/Regulation/files/Reg-300120241722Eng.pdf>

II. Gujarat Electricity Regulatory Commission

1. Gujarat Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions for Green Energy Open Access) Regulations, 2024:	21st Feb 2024
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The Gujarat Regulatory Commission has issued “Gujarat Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions for Green Energy Open Access) Regulations, 2024”.

These Regulations shall be applicable for Green Energy Open Access (GEOA) desire to avail by the Licensee, Green Energy Generator or Consumer who have contracted demand or sanctioned load of Hundred (100) kW or more, either through single connection or through multiple connections aggregating Hundred (100) kW or more located in same electricity division of a distribution licensee.

Provided that there shall be no capacity restriction for setting up of RE projects for captive use with respect to the consumer's contract demand/sanctioned load (kW/MW, kVA/MVA) with Discoms.

The objective of these Regulations is to provide non-discriminatory Open Access for Green Energy (Renewable Energy) for use of Intra-State Transmission System(s) (InSTS) and/or Distribution System(s) of licensee(s) in State including Intra-State Transmission or Distribution System(s), which are incidental to Inter-State Transmission of electricity, for grant of open access, methodology for the determination of Open Access Charges and Banking Charges etc. for Green Energy Open Access consumers.

Download link:

<https://gercin.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/GERC-Terms-and-Conditions-for-Green-Energy-Open-Access-Regulations2024.pdf>

III. Andhra Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission

<p>1. Fifth Amendment to the Andhra Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission Terms and Conditions for Determination of Tariff for Wheeling and Retail Sale of Electricity Regulation 2005 Regulation No. 4 of 2005 .</p> <p>Document Link: https://aperc.gov.in/admin/upload/5thAmendmenttoDistributionTariffRegulations_Gazette.pdf</p>	<p>7th Feb 2024</p>
<p>2. Sixth Amendment to the Andhra Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission Terms and Conditions for Determination of Tariff for Wheeling and Retail Sale of Electricity Regulation 2005 Regulation No. 4 of 2005 .</p> <p>Document Link: https://aperc.gov.in/admin/upload/6thAmendmenttoDistributionTariffRegulations_Gazette.pdf</p>	<p>7th Feb 2024</p>
<p>3. APERC The Grid Interactive Solar Rooftop Photovoltaic System under Gross/Net Metering Regulation 2023.</p> <p>Document Link: https://aperc.gov.in/admin/upload/RegulationNo.4of2023.pdf</p>	<p>23rd Feb 2024</p>

IV. Maharashtra Electricity Regulatory Commission

<p>1. Maharashtra Electricity Regulatory Commission (Renewable Purchase Obligation, its Compliance and Implementation of Renewable Energy Certificate Framework) (First Amendment) Regulations, 2024</p> <p>Document Link : https://merc.gov.in/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/MERC-RPO-REC-First-Amendment-Regulation-2024.pdf</p>	23 rd Feb 2024
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Ministry of New and Renewable