April 2024

Policy & Regulatory Updates



Issued by Central Government & its organizations:

I. Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE)

1. Extension for submission of proposals under R&D Scheme for Green Hydrogen :

09th April 2024

R&D Scheme for Green Hydrogen issued vide OM dated 15th March 2024 and a call for Proposals was released on 16th March 2024, requesting eligible institutions to submit R&D proposals latest by 12th April 2024.

The Ministry has received representations from various stakeholders requesting extension for submission of the R&D proposals. In view of the requests received and to allow sufficient time to the institutions to submit quality proposals, the deadline for submission of R&D proposals is extended to 27th April 2024.

Further, Vide OM dated 26th April 2024, the deadline is extended to 12th May 2024 to submit quality proposals on receipt of representation of stakeholders. It is to be noted that, this is the final extension and no further extension would be given.

Download link:

https://cdnbbsr.s3waas.gov.in/s3716e1b8c6cd17b771da77391355749f3/uploads/2024/04/2024 04092126376439.pdf

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https://cdnbbsr.s3waas.gov.in/s3716e1b8c6cd17b771da77391355749f3/uploads/2024/04/2024 042682088426.pdf

2. Updation of List I (Manufacturers and Models of Solar PV Modules) of ALMM Order, 2019 - Reg

10th April 2024

Updated List I (Manufacturers and Models of Solar PV Modules) is uploaded on the MNRE website post the O.M. dated 10.05.2023 and subsequent O.M. dated 22.03.2024. Only such model of Solar PV Modules have been considered for enlistment under ALMM List-I, whose module efficiency is meeting the eligibility criteria as mentioned in the OM.

Download link:

https://cdnbbsr.s3waas.gov.in/s3716e1b8c6cd17b771da77391355749f3/uploads/2024/04/2024 04102091214049.pdf

3. Seeking comments/suggestions on draft Guidelines for Implementation of PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana in Residential Sector:

16th April 2024

The Government of India launched the PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana on 13th February 2024, aimed at installing rooftop solar plants in one crore households, with a total financial outlay of Rs. 75,021 crore.

The administrative approval was granted to the scheme vide order No. 318/17/2024- Grid Connected Rooftop dated 16th March 2024. Consequently, the draft Guidelines for Implementation of PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana for the component "CFA to Residential Sector" is issued for inviting the comments of all stakeholders.

The comments/suggestions may be sent in the format rts-mnre@gov.in. The last date for receiving the comments/suggestions is 23.04.2024.

The last date of receiving comments/suggestions is further extended to 30th April 2024 vide OM dated 23.04.2024.

Download link:

https://cdnbbsr.s3waas.gov.in/s3716e1b8c6cd17b771da77391355749f3/uploads/2024/04/2024 04162127034309.pdf

II. Ministry of Power (MoP)

1. Constitution of an Independent Thermal Project Monitoring Group (TPMG) for monitoring the execution of Thermal Power Projects, under implementation-reg.

2nd April 2024

An Independent Thermal Project Monitoring Group (TPMG) has been constituted to conduct site inspections and provide assessment of each site of the Thermal Power Project under implementation by a Central/State utility and IPPs.

Detailed report outlining the findings of the site visit and progress review including observations and any deviations from the proposed timelines is to be prepared by the TPMG in prescribed format. The report shall also include the latest photographs of the critical areas and achievements.

The Members shall submit a progress review report within 07 working days after the site visit. TPMG shall apprise the progress/timelines of the site of the Thermal Power Projects under implementation to the Ministry of Power after every visit.

Download link:

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

2. Directions to Gas Based Generating Stations (GBSS) under Section 11 of the Electricity Act, 2003 regarding.

12th April 2024

Operational capacity of the Gas-Based Generating Stations (GBSS) need to be utilized during the crunch period to optimise the availability of power during ensuing high demand period of upcoming hot weather season.

GRID-INDIA shall notify the detailed procedure for implementing the directions within seven days of issue of this order.

This Order shall remain valid for generation and supply of power from 01.05.2024 to 30.06.2024.

Download link:

https://powermin.gov.in/sites/default/files/webform/notices/Direction_to_Gas_Based_Generating Stations GBSs under Section of the Electricity Act 2003.pdf

3. Clarification regarding Guidelines for operationalizing optimum utilization of generating stations as per the requirement in the Electricity Grid-regarding.

22nd April 2024

It has been observed that some power generators are not offering the un-requisitioned surplus power (after meeting the requirement of the medium/long term procurer) in the power market, thus resulting in unused power capacity at national level.

Ministry of Power has received representations from power utilities highlighting that existing Fuel Supply Agreement FSA (through LoA route) as well as under SHAKTI B (ii) for IPPs do not allow usage of linkage coal for any other purpose other than to meet the long term PPA obligations with the DISCOMS.

In accordance with the provisions of Tariff Policy, 2016 and Electricity (Late Payment Surcharge and Related Matters) Rules, as amended from time to time, allows generating company, including the generating company having long term coal linkage under FSA with coal companies, to offer the un-requisitioned surplus power in the power market.

Download link:

https://powermin.gov.in/sites/default/files/webform/notices/Clarification_regarding_Guideline s_for_operationalizing_optimum_utilization_of_generating_stations_as_per_the_requirement_ in_the_Electricity.pdf

III. Central Electricity Regulatory Commission

1. Draft Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Fees and Charges of Regional Load Despatch Centre and other related matters) Regulations, 2024.

04th April 2024

The Commission has published Draft Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Fees and Charges of Regional Load Despatch Centre and other related matters) Regulations, 2024 and the same is posted on the website of the Commission (www.cercind.gov.in).

The comments/suggestions/objections may be sent on or before 6th May, 2024 at the email addresses secy@cercind.gov.in and shilpa@cercind.gov.in.

Download link: https://www.cercind.gov.in/2024/draft_reg/PN4.pdf & https://www.cercind.gov.in/2024/draft_reg/Noti4.pdf

IV. Central Electricity Authority

1. Procedure for assessment of the Design Temperature for RE Plants in compliance to CEA (Technical Standards for Connectivity to the Grid) Regulations

08th April 2024

The Working Group comprising of members from CEA, CTU, Grid-India & SECI, had in July,2022 submitted their Report on various issues related to compliance of Central Electricity Authority (Technical Standards for Connectivity to the Grid), Regulations for guidance of the RE Generators. The Working Group Report was duly accepted and approved by Chairperson, CEA, for consideration of all the stakeholders.

One of the aspect deliberated in the said Report of the Working Group was concerning the temperature extremes corresponding to the location of the RE generating station for design of their machines (WTG/Inverter), for which the temperature data recorded by the nearest measuring station of the India Meteorological Department (IMD) under Ministry of Earth Sciences, Govt. of India, was to be considered.

In view of the issues and difficulties being faced by RE developers in seeking temperature data from IMD corresponding to the location of the RE generating station for design of the machines, CEA had pursued the subject matter with IMD. The data of maximum temperature of 389 IMD measuring stations for the period 2001 to 2023 furnished by IMD along with the coordinates of the stations as well as the maximum temperature data plotted on the map of the country, as received from IMD. The said information are available along with procedure.

Download link: https://cea.nic.in/wp-content/uploads/notification/2024/04/Procedure for assessment of the Design Temperature for RE Projects.pdf

2. Clarification regarding GIS and Hybrid Switchgear type test validity for the Distribution sector-reg.

08th April 2024

Central Electricity Authority has published the "Guidelines for the Validity Period of Type Test(S) Conducted on Major Electrical Equipment in Power Transmission, 2020". Further, CEA has revised the above mentioned guidelines and has issued the "Guidelines for the Type Tests Validity for Major Equipment of Power Sector, 2022".

Various representations are being received in CEA to clarify the type test validity for the GIS and Hybrid Switchgear under the heading of "distribution sector". due to ambiguity in the Type test validity for GIS and Hybrid Switchgear.

The type test validity for the GIS and Hybrid Switchgear for complete power/electricity sector should be kept uniform to avoid the ambiguity and to keep the process simple. Therefore, type test validity for complete power sector i.e. Generation, Transmission and Distribution may be considered as 15 years.

Download link:

https://cea.nic.in/wp-content/uploads/pse td/2024/04/GIS type test validity.pdf

3. List of smart meter/net meter providers:

16th April 2024

The list of smart meter/net meter providers are uploaded on the CEA's website.

The DISCOMs/ PDs (Power Departments) are suggested to get the Smart Meters installed through the AMISP (advance metering infrastructure service provider) for all Solar Roof Top systems in the areas where the Smart Metering works have already been awarded under RDSS.

In case the Smart Metering works are yet to be awarded, the DISCOMs may prioritise Smart Meters to be installed as Net Meters so that, at a later stage, when AMISP is in place for the Smart meter works under RDSS these Smart Meters may be integrated with the Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) established by the respective AMISP.

Download link:

https://cea.nic.in/wp-content/uploads/notification/2024/04/List_of_Net_Meter_Manufacturers-2.pdf



Issued by State Governments & their organizations:

I. JERC for Manipur & Mizoram

1. Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for Manipur and Mizoram (Methodology for determination of Green Energy Open Access Charges) Regulations, 2024.

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https://jerc.mizoram.gov.in/uploads/attachments/2024/04/5df8a7602d5fdea879a6dafd70e50d4 7/methodology-for-determination-of-green-energy-open-access-charges-regulations-2024.pdf
