

**Central Electricity Regulatory Commission
New Delhi**

A. Explanatory Memorandum to draft Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Grant of Connectivity, Long-term Access and Medium-term Open Access in inter-State Transmission and related matters) (Seventh Amendment) Regulations, 2018

1. Provisions related to ‘Applicant’ in respect of grant of Connectivity

1.1. The Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE) has vide notification No. 238/78/2017-Wind dated 14th May, 2018 issued “National Wind-Solar Hybrid Policy” with objective to provide a framework for promotion of large grid connected wind-solar PV hybrid system for optimal and efficient utilization of transmission infrastructure and land, reducing the variability in renewable power generation and achieving better grid stability. The relevant portion of the said hybrid policy dated 14th May, 2018 is reproduced as under:

“1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 India has set an ambitious target of reaching 175 GW of installed capacity from renewable energy sources by the year 2022, which includes 100 GW of solar and 60 GW of wind power capacity. Various policy initiatives have been taken to achieve this target. At the end of 2017-18 the total renewable power installed capacity in the country was almost 70 GW.

1.2 Solar and wind power being variable in nature pose certain challenges on grid security and stability. Studies revealed that in India solar and wind resources are complementary to each other and hybridization of these two technologies would help in minimizing the variability apart from optimally utilizing the infrastructure including land and transmission system.

1.3 Superimposition of wind and solar resource maps shows that there are large areas where both wind and solar have high to moderate potential.

1.4 The existing wind farms have scope of adding solar PV capacity and similarly there may be wind potential in the vicinity of existing solar PV plant.

1.5 Suitable policy interventions are therefore, required not only for new wind-solar hybrid plants but also for encouraging hybridization of existing wind and solar plants.

1.6 To smoothen the wind solar hybrid power further, appropriate capacity of battery storage may also be added to the project.

2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVE

2.1 The main objective of the Policy is to provide a framework for promotion of large grid connected wind-solar PV hybrid system for optimal and efficient utilization of transmission infrastructure and land, reducing the variability in renewable power generation and achieving better grid stability.

2.2 Policy also aims to encourage new technologies, methods and wayouts involving combined operation of wind and solar PV plants.

3. PERIOD OF ENFORCEMENT

This policy will remain in force unless withdrawn, modified or superseded by the Government. The Government will undertake a review of this Policy as and when required.

4. WIND-SOLAR HYBRID SYSTEMS

4.1 Under the category of wind-solar hybrid power plants, Wind Turbine Generators (WTGs) and Solar PV systems will be configured to operate at the same point of grid connection. There can be different approaches towards integrating wind and solar depending upon the size of each of the source integrated and the technology type.

4.2 In case of fixed speed wind turbines connected to grid using an induction generator, the integration can be on the HT side at the AC output bus. However, in case of variable speed wind turbines deploying inverters for connecting the generator to the grid, the wind and the Solar PV system can be connected to the intermediate DC bus of the AC-DC-AC converter

4.3 The second important aspect would be related to the sizing – which would depend on the resource characteristics. In order to achieve the benefits of hybrid plant in terms of optimal and efficient utilization of transmission infrastructure and better grid stability by reducing the variability in renewable power generation, in the locations where the wind power density is quite good, the size of the solar PVs capacity to be added as the solar-hybrid component could be relatively smaller. On the other hand, in case of the sites where the wind power density is relatively lower or moderate, the component of the solar PV capacity could be relatively on a higher side.

However, a wind-solar plant will be recognized as hybrid plant if the rated power capacity of one resource is at least 25% of the rated power capacity of other resource.

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5.4 Battery Storage:

Battery storage may be added to the hybrid project (i) to reduce the variability of output power from wind solar hybrid plant; (ii) providing higher energy output for a given capacity (bid/ sanctioned capacity) at delivery

point, by installing additional capacity of wind and solar power in a wind solar hybrid plant; and (iii) ensuring availability of firm power for a particular period.

Bidding factors for wind solar hybrid plants with battery storage may include minimum firm power output throughout the day or for defined hours during the day, extent of variability allowed in output power, unit price of electricity, etc.....”

1.2. Accordingly, any company authorized by Central/State Government as Wind/Wind-Solar Power Park developer, generation projects based on renewable energy source including hybrid project based on renewable and storage has been proposed as an applicant eligible for grant of Connectivity or Access. The project based on storage can be of any technology such as Mechanical storage systems (Pumped hydro storage (PHS), Compressed air energy storage (CAES), Fly wheel energy storage (FES)), Electro-chemical storage systems (Secondary batteries, Flow batteries), Chemical energy storage (Hydrogen (H₂), Synthetic natural gas (SNG)), Electrical storage systems (Double-layer capacitors (DLC), Superconducting magnetic energy storage (SMES)), Thermal storage systems, etc.

1.3. Further, for the integration of renewable energy generation into the grid, Storage plants can help ensuring availability of firm power from the renewable project. Therefore, it has been proposed to include storage plants (irrespective of technology used) of installed capacity 50MW and above as applicant eligible for grant of Connectivity. Such standalone storage may draw power from the grid. For example, in pumped hydro storage (PHS) water is released from the high reservoir through a hydroelectric turbine into the low reservoir to generate electricity during demand and power from the grid is drawn to pump water from a reservoir up to another reservoir at a higher elevation. Therefore, it has been proposed that PHS will apply for connectivity for the quantum of maximum injection or maximum drawal, whichever is higher, and sign separate agreements for both injection and drawal of power.

1.4. In case of hybrid wind-solar or wind-solar-storage projects, the aggregate power supplied from the project may be lesser than the combined installed capacity of wind and solar of the hybrid plant. Considering the same, the developer of the

hybrid wind-solar or wind-solar-storage projects may apply for connectivity quantum based on assessed aggregate power supplied from the project which may be lesser than combined installed capacity of wind and solar of the hybrid plant. In such cases, the hybrid plant developer shall maintain power injection into the grid upto the requested connectivity quantum.

1.5. Based on above discussions, amendments have been proposed to sub-clause (b)(i)(a), (b)(i)(b), (b)(i)(c), (b)(i)(e) and (b)(i)(f). Further, sub-clause (b)(i)(aa), has been added after clause (b)(i)(a), sub-clause (b)(i)(cc), has been added after clause (b)(i)(c) and a new sub-clause (b)(i)(h) have been added in clause (1) of Regulation 2 of the Principal Regulations as under:

“(a) A generating station other than Renewable Energy Generating Station with installed capacity of 250 MW and above, including a captive generating plant of exportable capacity of 250 MW and above; or

“(aa) A Renewable Generating Station with installed capacity of 50MW and above, or”

“(b) A Hydro Generating station of installed capacity between 50 MW and 250 MW; or”

“(c) One of the Hydro Generating stations or standalone storage project, individually having less than 50 MW installed capacity, but collectively having an aggregate installed capacity of 50 MW and above, and acting on behalf of all these generating stations, and seeking connection from CTU at a single connection point at the pooling sub-station under CTU, termed as the lead generator; or”

“(cc) Renewable Energy Generating Station individually having less than 50 MW installed capacity, but collectively having an aggregate installed capacity of 50 MW and above, and acting on behalf of all these generating stations, and seeking connection from CTU at a single connection point at the pooling sub-station under CTU, termed as the lead generator; or”

“(e) Any renewable energy generating station of 5 MW capacity and above developed by a generating company in its existing generating station of the description referred to in sub-clauses (b)(i)(a) to (b)(i)(cc) of this clause and seeking connectivity to the existing connection point with inter-State Transmission System through the electrical system of the generating station subject to availability of Connectivity capacity in existing station as assessed by CTU; or”

“(f) A company or entity authorized by the Central Government or State Government as Renewable Power Park developer; or”

“(h) A Project Developer based on standalone storage source(s) of installed capacity 50 MW or above;”

1.6. SECI has vide letter dated 21.4.2018 submitted that it is the designated implementing agency for the MNRE grid connected wind and solar scheme and requested the Commission to allow it to take connectivity as Implementing Agency on behalf of SPDs/WPDs shortlisted through competitive bidding. The relevant portion of suggestion given by SECI is reproduced as under:

“SECI is the designated implementing agency for the MNRE ISTS grid connected wind and Solar scheme. The scheme aims to provide wind and solar power at very competitive rates to obligated states/UTs to fulfil RPO obligations.

As per provisions of scheme, SECI will select developers through a transparent bidding process, purchase power from the selected developers and sell the same to utilities. PPA and PSA are valid for min. period of 25 years from the date of commissioning of 1st Unit.

Apart from above, SECI’s role also includes financial closer, monitoring, and also successful commissioning of project through standard commissioning procedure including declaration of COD.

In view of above, it is pertinent to mention that SECI’s role is not limited to signing of PPA, PSA but also doing all activities for successful implementation of project.

We would like to request Honourable Commission to allow SECI to take connectivity on behalf of SPDs/WPDs shortlisted through competitive bidding as implementing agency or as a park developer.”

1.7. SECI has vide letter dated 21.4.2018 further submitted that the present regulation does not allow implementing agency to apply for connectivity and transfer connectivity right to the generator selected for implementation of solar or wind power projects. The relevant portion of suggestion given by SECI is reproduced as under

“In recent past SPDs and WPDs are facing problem to obtain connectivity in nearby CTU substations. During consultation with CTU, it was known that many applications were received for same substation and due to this constraint successful bidders under SECI’s scheme are not able to get connectivity. To continue with developmental progress, role of Solar Energy Corporation of India Ltd (SECI) is very important. Due to SECI’s effort market has received record low tariff for solar and wind power. Presently Renewable power price is much below the conventional power price

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Present regulation does not allow implementing agency to apply and transfer connectivity right to other generator. It is requested to Honourable Commission to allow SECI to take connectivity on behalf of SPDs/WPDs for Stage-I connectivity and transfer the connectivity right to successful bidder under SECIs scheme before Stage-II application.

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... In continuation to that our humble submission is that SECI shall submit application fee for connectivity for stage-I to CTU and BG if any shall be submitted by generator after successful bidding and transfer of connectivity right before stage-II application.

As per clause of 16.5 of connectivity regulation, CTU shall share the available capacity of ISTS to bidding agency such as SECI. In that case SECI may take the same information for bidding purpose. According to the data, SECI may float the RfS based on substations which will eliminate risk of mismatch between development of project and connected substation/transmission line.

Even before the bidding, SECI may file connectivity application as per available data shared by CTU on behalf of Generator. Based on approval from CTU, SECI may float bidding document. This will save time and give certainty to generator for investment, resulting reduction in tariff of renewable energy.

This will eliminate risk of blocking of bays in substations and bays would be used effective way through SECIs tender.

It is worthwhile to mention that DISCOMs shall express in buying power on finalization of rates only, After finalization of buying utilities, SECI shall share the information within 7 days to CTU for future planning of bays/substation and GNA.”

1.8. Considering the submissions of SECI, it is proposed that Central Government nominated Implementing Agency will be eligible for grant of Stage-I Connectivity and LTA on behalf of generators based on renewable source(s) or Renewable Hybrid projects. The said Implementing Agency or Designated Agency may apply for Stage-I Connectivity or LTA to the nodal agency as per the extant Connectivity Regulations and detailed procedure issued therein.

1.9. Further, gestation period in case of renewable generating station is very less but planning transmission evacuation related to these generating stations from conceptualization to commissioning takes more time (36-56 months under TBCB and 30-50 months under compressed time schedule). Therefore, it essential to plan and start implementation of transmission system required for evacuation of renewable generating station in advance to avoid bottling up of generation and consequential

financial loss. However, the nodal agency cannot proceed for planning and implementation of transmission system without LTA application indicating source of generation and beneficiary (either firm or target). Also, it will be difficult for the Implementing Agency or Designated Agency to indicate firm beneficiary/target beneficiary in the application for LTA prior to completion of bid. Keeping in view the low gestation period of renewable generating station and necessity of transmission system for evacuation of power from renewable source of energy, it is proposed that the Central Government nominated Implementing Agency or Designated Agency can apply for LTA without indicating any beneficiary/region, if not available at the time of filing of application for grant of LTA. Further, it will be mandatory for the Implementing Agency or Designated Agency to intimate the name of beneficiary to the nodal agency within a week after signing PPA. The nodal agency may undertake revision in planned transmission system, if required, to transmit power from renewable generating station to the beneficiaries.

1.10. Accordingly, a new sub-clause (b)(i)(g) has been proposed to be added in clause (1) of Regulation 2 of the Principal Regulations as under:

“(g) Any company or entity designated by the Central Government or State Government as Implementing Agency on behalf of the Renewable Power Developers who are eligible for grant of connectivity under Clause 2(1)(b)(i)(aa), and 2(1)(b)(i)(cc); or”

1.11. The addition of certain new categories as applicants for connectivity also necessitates amendment in the sub-clauses (ii) and (iii) of clause (1) of Regulation 2 of the Connectivity Regulations. Accordingly, following amendments have been proposed:

“(ii) A generating station including a captive generating plants a consumer, an electricity trader or a distribution licensee or applicants covered under Clause 2(1)(b)(i)(a) to (e) and 2(1)(b)(i)(h), in respect of long-term access or medium-term open access, as the case may be;”

“(iii) Applicants covered under Clause 2(1)(b)(i)(f) or Clause 2(1)(b)(i)(g), in respect of long term access;”

1.12. SECI has been authorized as the “Implementing Agency” by MNRE for selection of developers based on tariff based competitive bidding for implementation of grid connected Solar and Wind Scheme. In line with SECI, the Central Government or the State Governments may nominate any other agency to act as “Implementing Agency” for selection of developers based on tariff based competitive bidding for implementation of grid connected Solar and Wind Scheme. Therefore, the word “Implementing Agency” has been defined in the Regulations.

1.13. Further, projects based on renewable energy sources are getting connected to the grid in large number. In future, the developers may integrate storage with projects based on renewable energy sources to reduce intermittency of RE generation. In order to bring clarity to developers and to facilitate them in smooth integration with grid, some definitions have been added.

1.14. Based on above discussions, following amendments have been proposed:

“(k-a) “Implementing Agency” means a company or entity designated by the Central Government or the State Government for selection of Renewable Power Developer and to act as Intermediary Procurer who shall buy power from these developers and sell the same to one or more distribution licensees in accordance with the Guidelines issued from time to time by the Ministry of Power, Government of India or the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Government of India or the State Government;”

(r-a) “Renewable Energy Generating Station” shall mean a generating station based on any renewable source of energy, and shall include Renewable Hybrid Generating Station;

(r-b) “Renewable Hybrid Power Park” shall mean the Power Park based on hybrid of any renewable source(s) with or without storage;

(r-c) “Renewable Hybrid Generating Station” shall mean a generating station based on hybrid of any renewable source(s) with or without storage;

(r-d) “Renewable Power Developer” shall mean a Solar Power Developer or Wind Power Developer or Renewable Hybrid Power Developer which shall be responsible for developing the Renewable Energy Generating Station;

(r-e) “Renewable Power Park Developers” shall mean a Solar Power Park Developer or Wind Power Park Developer or Renewable Hybrid Power Park Developer.

(u-a) “Storage” means energy storage system utilizing methods and technologies like, Solid State Batteries, Flow Batteries, Pumped Storage hydro-power, Compressed Air, or any other technology, to store various forms of energy;”

2. Processing of applications for connectivity (Regulation 8)

2.1. Changes in the definition of “applicants” for connectivity requires corresponding changes in the provisions under Regulation 8 of Connectivity Regulations. Accordingly, 1st proviso Regulation 8(1) has been proposed to be amended and a new proviso is proposed to be introduced after fourth proviso as under:

“Provided that where after filing of an application, there has been any material change in the location of the applicant or change in the quantum of power to be interchanged with the inter-state transmission system, by more than 100 MW in the case of applicant defined under sub-clauses (b)(i)(a) of Clause (1) of Regulation 2, 100MW or 40%of the installed capacity, whichever is less, in the case of applicant defined under sub-clauses (b)(i)(aa), (b)(i)(b), and (b)(i)(h) of Clause (1) of Regulation 2 and 100MW or 40% of the aggregate installed capacity, whichever is less, in the case of applicant defined under sub-clauses (b)(i)(c) and (b)(i)(cc) of Clause (1) of Regulation 2, such an applicant shall make a fresh application, which shall be considered in accordance with these regulations”

2.2. Further, in the existing 2nd proviso Regulation 8(1) (3rd Proviso as per the proposed amendment), the words “and Regulation 2(1)(b)(i)(cc)” shall be added after the words “Provided further that the application by the applicant defined under Regulation 2 (1) (b) (i) (c)”.

2.3. M/s Adani Green Energy Limited (AGEL) has vide letter dated 21.6.2018 requested the Commission to make suitable amendment in the existing Detailed Procedure for grant of Connectivity to project based on RE sources to ISTS to allow the additional connectivity in the existing capacity granted to solar/wind project developer without increasing exiting capacity granted to wind /solar project developers. The relevant portion of the letter dated 21.6.2018 is reproduced as under :

“If a Wind project developer develops a project its annual grid utilization capacity is approx. 30% to 35% and for solar it would be 20% to 25%. In this condition utilization of transmission line as well as associated substation infrastructure would be very less. If we connect additional wind

capacity in to the existing solar project or Vice versa with the existing infrastructure already developed, grid utilization will increase significantly.”

- 2.4. The Commission feels that this is a sensible suggestion for optimum utilization of connectivity. Accordingly, a new proviso has been proposed to be added after first proviso to clause (1) of Regulation 8 of the Principal Regulations to allow an existing generating station or an applicant granted connectivity to get additional connectivity through already granted connectivity provided that net injection remains limited up to granted Connectivity as under:

“Provided that an applicant connected with the grid or granted connectivity for a specific project can, with prior approval of CTU, utilize the same Connectivity for additional generation capacity (for same or hybrid of renewable sources), subject to the condition that net injection at any point of time does not exceed the quantum of total Connectivity granted for the existing project. For such additional generation capacity, existing generating station shall undertake all operational and commercial responsibilities for the additional capacity in following the provisions of the Indian Electricity Grid Code and all other regulations of the Commission, such as grid security, scheduling and dispatch, collection and payment/adjustment of Transmission charges, UI charges, congestion and other charges etc., and submit an undertaking in this regard to the CTU, with copy to the respective RLDC in whose control area it is located.”

- 2.5. A provision has also been proposed that an existing generating station can seek additional Connectivity through existing Connectivity for projects more than 5 MW. The upper limit of 50 MW has been proposed to be removed and upper limit may be as per the Connectivity available as decided by CTU.
- 2.6. Further, in view of changes in the definition of “applicant” of connectivity and introduction of definition of the term “Renewable Power Park Developer”, the fourth proviso to clause (1) of Regulation 8 (5th Proviso as per the proposed amendment) of the existing Regulations has been modified.
- 2.7. The Commission in order dated 29.9.2017 in Petition No.145/MP/2017 had decided that for renewable energy generators, there shall be two stage connectivity. Accordingly, the following provisions are made under Regulation 8 after Clause (2):

“(2A) Applications for grant of Connectivity made by applicants covered under sub-clauses (aa), (cc), (e), (f), (g) and (h) of clause (1)(b)(i) of Regulation 2 of the Principal Regulations shall be processed in two stages:

- (a) Stage-I Connectivity
- (b) Stage-II Connectivity

(2B) Grant of Stage-I and Stage-II Connectivity shall be regulated as per the Detailed Procedure issued from time to time.

Provided that the ‘Detailed Procedure for grant of Connectivity to Projects based on Renewable Sources to inter-State transmission system’ issue vide order dated 15.5.2018 in File No. L-1/(3)/2009-CERC shall be deemed to have been issued under these regulations.”

- 2.8. Further, the connectivity proposed to be taken by the Park Developers and Implementing Agency is ultimately meant for the project developers who shall develop the projects. In order to facilitate the process, the following provision has been proposed to be introduced under Regulation 8 after Clause (2):

“(2C) In case of applicants covered under sub-clause (b)(i)(g) of clause (1) of Regulation 2, the connectivity granted to such applicants may be transferred or assigned, in part or full, in favour of the Renewable Power Developers selected by the said applicants after award of the project. On transfer or assignment of connectivity, such developers shall enter into Connectivity Agreement with CTU and accept all responsibilities and liabilities for connectivity as required under these Regulations and Detailed Procedure.”

- 2.9. As stated herein above that for renewable energy generators, there shall be two stage connectivity, accordingly

- 2.9.1. The words “except applicants indicated in Clause 3A below” has been proposed to be added after the words “While granting connectivity, the nodal agency shall specify the name of the sub-station or pooling station or switchyard where connectivity is to be granted” in clause (3) of Regulation 8 of the Principal Regulations.

- 2.9.2. A new sub-clause has been proposed to be added after Clause (3) of Regulation 8 of the Principal Regulations as under:

“(3A) For applicants covered under sub-clauses (aa), (cc), (e), (f), (g) and (h) of clause (1)(b)(i) of Regulation 2, CTU shall grant Stage-I Connectivity by indicating two locations - one Primary and other alternate location.”

- 2.10. In view of changes in the definition of “applicant” for grant of connectivity, corresponding changes have been made in the provisions related to the

maximum length of dedicated transmission line. Accordingly, the First Proviso to sub-clause (8) of Regulation 8 of the Principal Regulations shall be substituted as under:

“Provided that in case of a thermal generating station of 500 MW and above or a hydro generating station or a renewable energy generating station or a project based on standalone storage source(s) of capacity of 250 MW and above, CTU shall plan the system such that maximum length of dedicated transmission line does not exceed 100 km from switchyard of the generating station till the nearest pooling substation of transmission licensee.”

3. Transfer of Connectivity and LTA:

3.1. The Commission vide order dated 29.9.2017 in Petition No. 145/MP/2017 inter alia observed as under:

120. The Commission has considered this issue. Though there is no provision for transfer of connectivity to any other entity, RfS issued by SECI allows creation of SPVs for project implementation. The Respondents have submitted that such SPVs face difficulties in implementation of their projects since they cannot utilize the connectivity granted to their parent companies.

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122. Keeping in view the fact that creation of SPV is an option under RfS issued by SECI and that a number of companies are executing the projects through creation of 100% subsidiaries after winning the bids, we are of the view that the 100% subsidiary companies should be allowed to utilize the connectivity granted to the parent company.....”

3.2. In view of the above, it is hereby clarified that a person who has been granted Connectivity or LTA shall not transfer, assign or pledge its connectivity or LTA and the associated rights and obligations to any other person. Only, the 100% subsidiary companies shall be allowed to utilize the connectivity granted to the parent company and vice versa. However, the applicants covered under the sub-clause (b)(i)(g) of Clause (1) of Regulation 2, i.e., the central Government or the State Governments authorized implementing agency can transfer the Connectivity and LTA granted to them as they have been permitted to take LAT on behalf of the Renewable Power Developers. Accordingly, following new Regulation has been proposed to be after Regulation 8 of the Principal Regulations:

“8A. Transfer of Connectivity and LTA

A person shall not transfer, assign or pledge its connectivity or LTA and the associated rights and obligations to any other person.

Provided that the above provision shall not be applicable to applicants defined under Regulation 2(1)(b)(i)(g).

Provided further that 100% subsidiary companies shall be allowed to utilize the connectivity granted to the parent company and vice versa.”

4. The applicants eligible for grant of long-term access (LTA) or medium-term open access (MTOA) to ISTS file applications to the Nodal Agency for grant of open access and the Nodal Agency grants LTA or MTOA to the said applicants in line with the Connectivity Regulations. Accordingly, the word “awarding” in the Clause (1) of the Regulation 9 of the Principal Regulations has been proposed to be replaced with “granting”.

5. Amendment in Regulation 12 (Application for long term access)

- 5.1. Regulation 12 deals with the processing of applications for long term access. The gestation period of renewable generating station is very less in comparison to the transmission system and the criteria of minimum 10% award of EPC contract by renewable energy generator to start implementation of transmission project may leave very less time for implementation of transmission system required for evacuation of renewable power. 10% EPC will be done by the successful bidder. Hence, it has been proposed that implementation of transmission system associated with renewable generation may be taken up by the CTU in consultation with CEA and MNRE even if EPC contract for 10% has not been placed. CTU shall quarterly monitor the progress of renewable energy generators and in case of adverse progress, CTU may review implementation of transmission system.
- 5.2. Accordingly, in the 3rd proviso to Clause (1) of the Regulation 12 of the Principal Regulations, the words “except in cases involving Renewable Energy generating Station(s)” has been proposed to be added after the words “Provided also that”.
- 5.3. A new clause has been proposed to be added after clause (1) of Regulation 12 to facilitate grant of long term access to the new category of applicants for long term access As under:

“(1A) Notwithstanding anything contained in Clause 2A of Regulation 8, Stage-II Connectivity shall not be a pre-requisite for applying for LTA for applicants under Regulation 2(1)(b)(i)(e) and 2(1)(b)(i)(g).”

6. Amendment in Regulation 13 of the Principal Regulations:

- 6.1. The nodal agency for grant of Connectivity, long term access and medium term open access is the CTU and hence, the CTU can approach the Commission any time in case it faces any difficulty in implementation of the provisions of these Regulations. Accordingly, the first proviso to Clause (1) of the Regulation 13 has been deleted.
- 6.2. The Commission vide notification dated 23.7.2018 issued the CERC ((Planning, Coordination and Development of Economic and Efficient Inter-State Transmission System by Central Transmission Utility and other related matters) Regulations, 2018. The objectives of the said Regulations are as under:

“2. Objectives of the Regulations - The objectives of this Regulation are to:
(1) lay down the broad principles, procedures and processes to be followed for planning and development of an efficient, co-ordinated, reliable and economical system of inter-State transmission system (ISTS) for smooth flow of electricity from generating stations to the load centres;
(2) ensure wider participation of stakeholders in the planning process and specify the procedures for stakeholder’s consultation and participation;
(3) specify procedures to bring about transparency in the planning process; and
(4) demarcate the roles and responsibilities of various organisations in line with the Act for meeting above objectives;”

- 6.3. Hence, the matters related to transmission planning, coordination/consultation with stakeholders shall be dealt with under the aforesaid Regulations. Accordingly, the Clause (3) of the Regulation 13 of the Principal Regulations has been proposed to be deleted.
7. The Regulation 15 and 21 of the Principal Regulations have been proposed to be amended as per the draft Regulations for the purpose of clarity without changing the intent of these Regulations..
8. The Commission vide order dated 29.4.2011 inter alia approved the Billing, Collection and Disbursement Procedure under Central Electricity Regulatory

Commission (Sharing of Transmission Charges and Losses), Regulations, 2010 which govern the matters related to payment of inter-State transmission charges and losses. Further, vide notification dated 18.5.2015, the Commission issued the CERC (Fees and Charges of Regional Load Despatch Centres and other related matters) Regulations, 2015 which is applicable for determination of fees and charges to be collected by RLDCs from generating companies, DISCOMs, ISTS Licensees, buyers, sellers and ISTS trading licensees. In view of the aforesaid, the Regulation 29 of the Principal Regulations, which provides for payment of transmission charges and fees and charges for the Regional Load Dispatch Centre, has been proposed to be deleted.