

Ref: JGEPL/CERC/BD/2025-26/01

Date: 03-04-2025

To,
The Secretary Central Electricity Regulatory Commission,
6th - 8th Floor, World Trade Centre, Tower B,
Nouroji Nagar, New Delhi – 110029

Subject: Comment/Suggestions on “Draft Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Connectivity and General Network Access to the inter-State Transmission System) (Fourth Amendment) Regulations, 2025”.

Ref No: CERC’s Public Notice having reference no. L-1/261/2021/CERC dated 3rd March 2025.

Dear Sir,

We, Juniper Green Energy Private Limited (part of AT Capital Group), take this opportunity to introduce ourselves as an independent renewable energy power producer and operator of solar, wind and hybrid power projects with significant experience in conceptualizing, building, and developing renewable energy assets.

Juniper Green Energy group, headquartered at Delhi NCR, commenced operations in October 2018. The business has experienced rapid growth, and it presently has an operational portfolio of about 1.1 GW with an under-construction capacity of more than 4 GW and further development pipeline of over 5 GW capacity of solar, wind and hybrid projects. Juniper Green Energy Group is part of the AT Capital Group which has built and owned “Orange Renewable”, a 1GW renewable energy platform in the past.

With reference to CERC’s Public Notice under reference no. 1 above, we hereby submit our comment/suggestions regarding ‘Draft Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Connectivity and General Network Access to the inter-State Transmission System) (Fourth Amendment) Regulations, 2025’, enclosed at Annexure A.

This is for your kind consideration.

Thanking You,
For Juniper Green Energy Private Limited


Authorized Signatory
Enclosure: Annexure A

Pavan Gupta



Juniper Green Energy Private Limited

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website: <http://junipergreenenergy.com>; Email: info@junipergreenenergy.com

Annexure A

S. No	Draft Clause as per 4th Amendment	Proposed Clause (Suggestion in Red)	Rationale
1	<p>5.2 a The additional generation capacity under Regulation 5.2 of these regulations shall be subject to the following conditions:</p> <p>(a) Connectivity Bank Guarantee Conn-BG1 and Conn-BG3 under Regulation 8 of these regulations shall be furnished by the existing grantee for such additional generation capacity;</p> <p>(c) In case additional capacity for which approval is sought under Regulation 5.2 of these regulations is REGS (with or without ESS) or ESS (except PSP), the scheduled date of commercial operation for such additional capacity shall not be later than 18 months from date of approval by the Nodal Agency;</p>	<p>5.2 a The additional generation capacity under Regulation 5.2 of these regulations shall be subject to the following conditions:</p> <p>(a) Connectivity Bank Guarantee Conn-BG1 and Conn-BG3 under Regulation 8 of these regulations shall be furnished by the existing grantee (REGS or RPPD) for such additional generation capacity;</p> <p>(c) In case additional capacity for which approval is sought under Regulation 5.2 of these regulations is REGS (with or without ESS) or ESS (except PSP) or RPPD, the scheduled date of commercial operation for such additional capacity shall be as under:</p> <p>(i) in case connectivity/GNA has already become effective as on the date of application for additional capacity: no later than 24 months from date of approval by the Nodal Agency;</p> <p>(ii) in case connectivity/GNA is yet to become effective as on the date of application for additional capacity: no later than 24 months from date of start date of connectivity granted to existing grantee.</p>	<p>Regulations 5.2 provides for addition of generation capacity within the connectivity quantum granted to the generating station or RPPD.</p> <p>It is suggested that the requirement of submission of additional Conn-BG3 may be done away, since no additional transmission system is being created or required for accommodating additional generation capacity.</p> <p>Further, in order to bring clarity, this should also be applicable for the RPPD as well.</p> <p>(c) The SCOD of the additional generation linked with the date of approval by the Nodal Agency is not feasible, since the date of approval is not known at the time of submission of application and a minimum of 24 months is required from the start date of connectivity or effectiveness of GNA, whichever is later.</p>



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	<p>(d) The applicant shall furnish documents required under Regulation 5.8.(xi) of these Regulations, as applicable, for such additional capacity, and shall also be subject to other Regulations including Regulation 11A, 11B, 24, 24.6 of these Regulations.</p>	<p>(d) the applicant shall furnish documents required under Regulation 5.8.(xi) of these Regulations, as applicable, for such additional capacity, and shall also be subject to other Regulations including Regulation 11A, 11B, 24, 24.6 of these Regulations.</p>	<p>(d) Given that the additional generation capacity is added within the principle generation connectivity quantum, there is no clarity in terms of right to access the grid during the solar hours (for eg. from 6:00 to 9:30 hrs and from 15:30 to 18:00 hrs, even when there is a margin in the connectivity of the principle generation capacity. Assuming solar hours from 6:00 to 18:00 hrs). Accordingly, we believe that there should not be equitable compliances applicable on the new capacity having restricted access during the non-solar hours vis-à-vis principle generation capacity having the full access during the solar hours.</p>
	<p>(e) The entity which has already made an application or has been granted approval by the Nodal Agency under Regulation 5.2 of these Regulations prior to the date of effectiveness of these amendments, shall furnish the scheduled date of commercial operation for such additional capacity, within a period of two weeks from effectiveness of these regulations:</p> <p>Provided that, in case such additional generation capacity is REGS (with or without ESS) or ESS (other than PSP), the scheduled date of commercial operation for such additional capacity shall not be later than 18</p>	<p>(e) The entity which has already made an application or has been granted approval by the Nodal Agency under Regulation 5.2 of these Regulations prior to the date of effectiveness of these amendments, shall furnish the scheduled date of commercial operation for such additional capacity, within a period of two weeks three months from effectiveness of these regulations:</p> <p>Provided that, in case such additional generation capacity is REGS (with or without ESS) or ESS (other than PSP), the scheduled date of commercial operation for such additional capacity shall be as below: later than</p>	<p>(e) Given that the declaration of SCOD requires decision making from Board, accordingly two weeks timeline seems unreasonable. We request Commission to kindly consider providing atleast three months of time for furnishing of SCOD. Further, timeline for commissioning of new capacity should be provided 24 months from the start date of connectivity.</p>

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	<p>months from the date of effectiveness of these amendments or date of approval by the Nodal Agency, whichever is later.</p> <p>Provided also that such additional generation capacity shall also comply with Clauses (a) to (d) of this Regulation, within a period of one month from the date of effectiveness of this Regulation, failing which approval for such additional generation capacity shall be revoked.</p>	<p>18 months from the date of effectiveness of these amendments or date of approval by the Nodal Agency, whichever is later.</p> <p>(i) in case principle connectivity/GNA has already become effective as on the date of application for additional capacity: no later than 24 months from date of approval by the Nodal Agency;</p> <p>(ii) in case connectivity/GNA is yet to become effective as on the date of application for additional capacity: no later than 24 months from date of start date of connectivity granted to existing grantee.</p> <p>Provided also that such additional generation capacity shall also comply with Clauses (a) to (d) of this Regulation, within a period of one month six months from the date of effectiveness of this Regulation, failing which approval for such additional generation capacity shall be revoked.</p>	
2	5.8 (d) The Renewable Power Park Developer shall furnish the scheduled date of commercial operation of the generating station under the Park prior to grant of final connectivity.	5.8 (d) The Renewable Power Park Developer shall furnish the scheduled date of commercial operation of the generating station under the Park prior within 6 months from grant of final connectivity.	A RPPD develops a park with the objective of offering the infrastructure and connectivity to prospective REGS for developing a RE project within the park. At the time of development of the park and securing the connectivity, the REGS is not finalised. It will be challenging for a RPPD to furnish the SCOD of the generating station in the Park, that too prior to the grant of

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			final connectivity. Accordingly we request that Commission may consider atleast six months post final grant of connectivity for furnishing the SCOD of the generating station in the Park.
3	<p>5.11 (b) The In principle or final grant of Connectivity intimated to an REGS (with or without ESS) based on solar source or an RHGS with a combination of solar source with another source including ESS (including cases where GNA is effective) shall be converted as an entity with restricted access (corresponding to non-solar capacity during non-solar hours) within a period of one week after the expiry of three months from date of effectiveness of this Regulation:</p> <p>Provided that while converting to restricted access, the Nodal Agency shall consider the application which such an entity may make for additional capacity under this Regulation 5.2 or Regulation 5.11(a) of these regulations, within a period of three months from effectiveness of this Regulation:</p>	<p>5.11 (b) The In principle or final grant of Connectivity intimated to an REGS (with or without ESS) based on solar source or an RHGS with a combination of solar source with another source including ESS (including cases where GNA is effective) shall be converted as an entity with restricted access (corresponding to non-solar capacity during non-solar hours) within a period of one week after the expiry of three months from date of effectiveness of this Regulation:</p> <p>Provided that while converting to restricted access, the Nodal Agency shall consider the application which such an entity may make for additional capacity under this Regulation 5.2 or Regulation 5.11(a) of these regulations, within a period of three months from effectiveness of this Regulation the date of conversion of an entity with restricted access corresponding to the non-solar capacity during non-solar hours.</p>	<p>Given that principle REGS will get to know about their restricted access to the grid within a week after the expiry of three months from the effectiveness of the GNA regulations. Accordingly, the new applicant shall be provided atleast three months from the date of conversion of an entity with restricted access.</p>
4	<p>11A</p> <p>(6) Any changes in shareholding pattern of the Connectivity grantee upto CoD of the project shall be subject to the following:</p> <p>(a) The promoters of the Connectivity grantee shall not cede control (where control shall mean the</p>	<p>11A</p> <p>(6) Any changes in shareholding pattern of the Connectivity grantee upto CoD of the project shall be subject to the following:</p> <p>(a) The promoters of the Connectivity grantee shall not cede control (where control shall mean the</p>	<p>Change in shareholding pattern should be permitted for Connectivity grantee which is listed on stock exchanges. Such an entity shall not require prior approval of the nodal agency. This is in line with the RfS issued by REIAs.</p>

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	<p>ownership, directly or indirectly, of more than 50% of the voting shares of such Company or right to appoint majority Directors) of the Company.</p> <p>(b) In case the Connectivity grantee has multiple promoters (but none of the shareholders have more than 50% of voting rights and paid-up share capital), the shareholding pattern shall be maintained and cannot be changed upto COD of the project.</p> <p>(c) Any change in shareholding pattern other than covered in sub-clauses (a) and (b) shall require prior approval of the nodal agency and shall be filed for information of commission within 45 days of such approval. Nodal Agency may allow such application considering the practical requirement for change in shareholding.</p> <p>(d) In case any change in control or shareholding pattern of the Connectivity grantee is carried out in contravention to sub-clauses (a) to (c) of this Clause, the Connectivity shall be revoked, Bank Guarantee submitted under sub- clause (c) of Clause (vii) or sub-clause (c) of Clause (xi) of Regulation 5.8 of these regulations shall be encashed, and Conn-BG1, Conn-BG2 and Conn- BG3 shall be treated in terms of Regulation 24.2 or Regulation 24.3 of these regulations, as applicable.</p>	<p>ownership, directly or indirectly, of more than 50% of the voting shares of such Company or right to appoint majority Directors) of the Company.</p> <p>(b) In case the Connectivity grantee has multiple promoters (but none of the shareholders have more than 50% of voting rights and paid-up share capital), the shareholding pattern shall be maintained and cannot be changed upto COD of the project. This condition shall not be applicable for connectivity grantee which is a listed entity.</p> <p>(c) Any change in shareholding pattern of non-listed entities, other than covered in sub-clauses (a) and (b) shall require prior approval of the nodal agency and shall be filed for information of commission within 45 days of such approval. Nodal Agency may allow such application considering the practical requirement for change in shareholding.</p> <p>(d) In case any change in control or shareholding pattern of the Connectivity grantee is carried out in contravention to sub-clauses (a) to (c) of this Clause, the same may be dealt on case-to-case basis. the Connectivity shall be revoked, Bank Guarantee submitted under sub- clause (c) of Clause (vii) or sub-clause (c) of Clause (xi) of Regulation 5.8 of these regulations shall be encashed, and Conn-BG1, Conn-BG2 and Conn-BG3 shall be treated in terms of Regulation 24.2 or Regulation 24.3 of these regulations, as applicable.</p>	<p>(d)Revocation of connectivity will create a negative sentiment for investors in Renewable sector and will create a deterrent position for investors. However, in case of contravention, the subclause a to c may be reviewed on case-to-case basis after providing opportunity to the connectivity grantee for</p>

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5	<p>24.6 (1)</p> <p>(d) Connectivity granted to a Renewable Power Park developer shall be revoked for the corresponding capacity, if the Connectivity and corresponding GNA has been made effective in terms of Clause (a) of Regulation 22.4 of these regulations and generating station(s) within the Power Park fails to achieve COD on or before,</p> <p>(i) scheduled date of commercial operation of the generation project as per LOA or PPA as extended or delayed commissioning permitted by the Renewable Energy Implementing Agency or the distribution licensee or the authorized agency on behalf of distribution licensee, as the case may be.</p> <p>(ii) six months after the scheduled date of commercial operation for generating station(s) being set up without LOA or PPA.</p>	<p>24.6 (1)</p> <p>(d) Connectivity granted to a Renewable Power Park developer shall be revoked for the corresponding capacity, if the Connectivity and corresponding GNA has been made effective in terms of Clause (a) of Regulation 22.4 of these regulations and Renewable Power Park Developer has not engaged with generating station(s) to come up within the park and the generating station(s) within the Power Park fails to achieve COD on or before,</p> <p>(i) scheduled date of commercial operation of the generation project as per LOA or PPA as extended or delayed commissioning permitted by the Renewable Energy Implementing Agency or the distribution licensee or the authorized agency on behalf of distribution licensee, as the case may be.</p> <p>(ii) six months after the scheduled date of commercial operation for generating station(s) being set up without LOA or PPA.</p>	<p>It is suggested that connectivity granted to a RPPD may be revoked six months after the start date of connectivity if RPPD fails to engage with generating station(s) to come up within its park. In the event, RPPD engages with generating station(s) to come up within its park, information of such engagement shall be intimated to the Nodal Agency along with the SCOD(s) of the stations and revocation of connectivity be governed as per the SCOD(s) of the generating station(s).</p>



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