

Central Electricity Regulatory Commission

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PRESS RELEASE

CERC To Issue Revised Electricity Grid Code

Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) has released the draft revised Indian Electricity Grid Code (IEGC) for public comments upto 15th July, 2005. The Grid Code has been revised in the light of the various provisions of the Electricity Act 2003 and the operational experience gained since February, 2000 when the Grid Code was first implemented by CERC for Inter-State transmission.

2. A new chapter on **Inter-Regional Energy Exchanges** has been added in the revised version with a view to enhancing grid security and energy balancing among the five electrical regions in the country. With the improvement in frequency regime after implementation of Availability Based Tariff (ABT) in all regions of the country, it has become possible to introduce free governor mode of operation of generating units, which automatically corrects the frequency fluctuations.

3. The Revised Grid Code has set out following time table for implementation of **Free Governor Mode of Operation** of various generating units.

- All thermal generating units of installed capacity 200 MW and above and reservoir based hydro units of installed capacity 50 MW and above in Southern, Eastern, Northern and Western Regions: w.e.f. **01.10.2005**.
- All thermal and reservoir based hydro generating units of installed capacity 10 MW and above in North Eastern Region: w.e.f. **01.10.2005**.
- All other thermal and hydro generating units: w.e.f. **01.04.2006**.

Any exemption from the above may be granted only by CERC for which the concerned constituent/ agency shall file a petition in advance. The Gas turbine/Combined Cycle Power Plants and Nuclear Power Stations shall remain exempted till the Commission reviews the situation.

4. In order to improve voltages, the revised Grid Code **proposes to levy reactive energy charges on power flows on all inter-state transmission lines.**

5. Reorganization of the State Electricity Boards (SEBs) would lead to formation of a large number of independent entities (generating companies, transmission licensees and distribution licensees) in each State, and consequently a very large number of such intra-State entities in each region. The Grid Code provides that **the operation of all entities with in the state would be coordinated by the concerned State Load Despatch Centre (SLDC)**, who in turn would coordinate with Regional Load Despatch Centre (RLDC) on real time basis.

6. As a logical extension of the above approach and to ensure clear chain of accountability, each State as a whole shall be treated as an entity in the regional grid for the purpose of ;

- Allocations from Inter-State Generating Station (ISGS)
- Daily scheduling and despatch
- Accounting of unscheduled interchange (UI)
- Accounting of reactive energy

7. **Continuing Activities:**

The Grid Code covers whole gamut of activities ranging from transmission planning to day to day scheduling. The various provisions related to planning of inter-state transmission, connection conditions, system security aspects, outage planning for generation and transmission, emergency procedures for grid restoration etc. have been retained.

8. **Guiding Principles for SERCs:**

As per the Electricity Act 2003, every State Electricity Regulatory Commission is required to issue a State Grid Code consistent with the Grid Code specified by the CERC. As such, CERC has taken a lead in revising the Grid Code so that it can serve as a guiding principle for the SERCs.

Sd/-
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Secretary, CERC