

To, Shri Sanoj Kumar Jha Secretary Central Electricity Regulatory Commission 3rd & 4th Floor, Chanderlok Building, 36, Janpath, New Delhi-110001

Subject: - WIPPA Comments/Suggestions on Draft CERC (Deviation Settlement Mechanism and Related Matters) Regulations, 2021.

Respected Sir,

We wish to introduce Wind Independent Power Producers Association (WIPPA), a national level registered body having association of more than 30 Independent Power Producers (IPPs) of capacity around 12,000 MW with asset base of more than Rs. 60,000 Crores and a healthy pipeline in wind energy sector in India through policy advocacy and presenting independent views / suggestions / comments / analysis to various stakeholders at various forums to provide fillip to the sector.

This is with reference to the Draft Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) Deviation Settlement Mechanism and Related Matters, Regulations, 2021 dated 7th September 2021 published on website of Hon'ble Central Electricity Regulatory Commission for inviting comments.

Our observation on the Draft Regulation is mentioned in **Annexure-I** enclosed herewith.

Thanking you

Yours Faithfully,

For Wind Independent Power Producers Association

Mahesh Vipradas

Secretary



ANEXURE-I WIPPA's comments/Suggestions on Draft (Deviation Settlement Mechanism and Related Matters) Regulations, 2021.

Sr.	Proposed Clause	Comments/Suggestions/Suggested Clause	Rationale/Remark
No.			
	7. Normal Rate of Charges for Deviations (1) The normal rate of charges for deviation for a time block shall be equal to the Weighted Average Ancillary Service Charge (in paise/kWh) computed based on the total quantum of Ancillary Services deployed and the total charges payable to the Ancillary Service Providers for all the Regions for that time block: Provided that for a period of one year from the date of effect of these regulations or such further period as may be notified by the Commission, the normal rate of charges for deviation for a time block shall be equal to the highest of [the weighted average ACP of the Day Ahead Market segments of all the Power Exchanges; or the weighted average ACP of the Real Time Market segments of all the Power Exchanges; or the Weighted Average Ancillary Service Charge of all the regions] for that time block: Provided further that in case of non-availability of ACP for any time block on a given day, ACP for	7. Normal Rate of Charges for Deviations (1) The normal rate of charges for deviation for a time block shall be equal to the Weighted Average Ancillary Service Charge (in paise/kWh) computed based on the total quantum of Ancillary Services deployed and the total charges payable to the Ancillary Service Providers for all the Regions for that time block: Provided that for WS generators, the normal rate of charges for deviation shall be their PPA tariff. Provided that for a period of one year from the date of effect of these regulations or such further period as may be notified by the Commission, the normal rate of charges for deviation for a time block shall be equal to the highest of [the weighted average ACP of the Day Ahead Market segments of all the Power Exchanges; or the weighted average ACP of the Real Time Market segments of all the Power Exchanges; or the Weighted Average Ancillary Service Charge of all the regions] for that time block:	Rationale/Remark The proposed regulation suggests Normal Rate of Charges for Deviation linked to weighted average cost of Ancillary Service Charge. As observed in POSOCOs monthly report on Ancillary Services for August 2021, the ancillary service charge for the participating thermal generating stations varied from Rs. 2.04/kwhr (Sasan) to Rs. 14/kwhr (NTPC Anta LF). The all India weighted average ancillary service charges (payable to Gencos) for August 2021 was Rs. 8.63/kwhr 10% of the Ancillary Service Charge, that is required to be paid as deviation penalty by WS generators, would potentially vary from Rs. 0.20/kwhr to Rs. 1.40/kwhr and have a weighted average rate of Rs. 0.86/kwhr for August 2021. Penalty of such high value, which cannot be predicted or controlled by WS generators would make operating the project unviable as the competively bid tariffs are very low in the Rs. 2/kwhr to Rs. 2.80/kwhr range. Hence it is suggested that WS generators are penalized at the PPA rate only.
	•	Average Ancillary Service Charge of all the	PPA rate only.



Sr. No.				Comments/Suggestion	ns/Suggested Clause	Rationale/Remark
2)	8. Charges for Deviation (1) Charges for deviation in a time block by a seller shall be payable by such seller as under: Charges for deviation payable to Deviation and Ancillary Service Pool Account			shall be payable by suc (A) By a WS seller who	ion in a time block by a seller th seller as under ere WS project is commissioned ion date is on or after date of	The draft regulations propose the following treatment to deviation from schedule of wind and solar generators: i. Deviation by way of over injection shall have to pay no over injection charge ii. Deviation by way of under injection shall be penalized at 10% of Normal Rate of Charges and generators pay back total
	Seller	Deviation by way of over	Deviation by way of under	where pr	r Injection by WS Generators ojects are commissioned after on of these regulations	shortfall in energy against its schedule at the contract rate at which it has been paid on schedule
	For WS seller	injection (i) Ze 10% I WS s %); (ii) @ the no of ch deviati beyone Deviat seller Provid such s		Over injection by Wind/Solar Generators 12% >12-20% >20-28% (ii) For Un Generator	Applicable rate 100% deviated units to be received at PPA tariff 100% deviated units to be received at PPA tariff + 10% penalty at PPA tariff 100% deviated units to be received at PPA tariff + 20% penalty at PPA tariff 100% deviated units to be received at PPA tariff 100% deviated units to be received at PPA tariff + 30% penalty at PPA tariff mder Injection by WS ors where projects are ioned after notification of	The proposed draft regulation deviates from the earlier deviation settlement mechanism regulation for solar and wind generators in the following ways: i. The error band has been reduced from 15% to 10% ii. The vector sign of error band for deviation penalty is negative (-) only iii. For any under injection or negative deviation, shortfall in energy against schedule has to be paid back at contract rate iv. Over injection does not require payment of any deviation error penalty v. For over injection the RE generator shall not receive any money corresponding to its contract price The proposed regulation does away with the principle of treating over injection (or positive Error) and under injection (or negative Error) on equal footing for reasons not mentioned in the



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1,00	contract rate at which it has	12% tariff	to be paid at PPA Statement of Reasons. It appears that the regulations are biased against over injection and
	been paid based on schedule, or (b) in the		to be paid at PPA presupposes the availability of excellent weather data to preclude any over-injection error by the wind/solar generator. We enlist reasons below to
	absence of a contract rate at	>20-28% 100% units tariff + 20%	demonstrate that this bias against over injection at PPA tariff
	the rate of the Area Clearing Price of the Day		to be paid at PPA instability:
	Ahead Market for the respective time	Provided that Charges for deviation a WS Where WS project is commiss	
	block.	date of notification of these regulation regulation 5 (V) of the Central Electrommission (Deviation Settlement related matters) (Second Amendm 2015 (B) By a seller other than WS seller	Centration from Wind and Solar is weather dependent and never fully controllable as weather cannot be 100% accurately predicted. Even with robust forecasting tools, the forecast would be only near to injection but never equal to injection due to Errors that may be on positive (over injection) or
		way of over of	over injection and under injection respectively.
			propability of positive/negative Error as equally i
		generating station or a generating station station deviation station deviation deviation generating station deviation deviation generating station deviation generating station deviation generating station generating gene	Infra Ltd (SGIL) (SECI 1 – 300 MW; SECI 2-250 MW; SECI 2-250 MW; SECI 3-250 MW) won under SECI wind tenders presents the following picture on positive/negative Error calculated over the period April 2020 to March 2021 (FY 2021): Wind Site % Positive % Negative
			eviation beyond Error (Over- Error (Under-



Sr.	Proposed Clause	Comments/Su	Comments/Suggestions/Suggested Clause			Rationale/Remark		
No.		municipal solid waste	general seller (in %)	2% Deviation- general seller (in %).	SECI 1-	injection from Schedule) 42%	injection from Schedule)	
		For a general seller being an RoR generating station	Zero	(i) @ normal rate of charges for deviation up to 12% Deviation-general seller (in %). (ii) @ 110% of the normal rate of charges for	positive and and 59% resp wind problem	40% 40% 41% bserved from the negative Error avectively. Sites that show a proclivity	60% 60% 59% e above table, the erage around 41% thave sudden low y towards negative	
		For a	Zero	deviation beyond 12% Deviation- general seller (in %). (i) Zero up to 20%	Error and vice negative Error either is equall A proposed de injection Error	r is unpredictable ly likely. eviation regulation	nood of positive or e, site specific and that removes over enalty, essentially error likelihood.	
		general seller being a generating station based on municipal solid waste		Deviation-general seller (in %). (ii)@ normal rate of charges for deviation beyond 20% Deviation-general seller (in %). limit.	Error in acce Since the 201 was introduce earlier around more than 90% have recorded range for the a from 85% in	regulations to b ptable deviation 5 Deviation Med ed, the Error leve 60% Error in ±15% rad an improved E above mentioned to 2019 to 90% in 2	hanism Regulation el improved from % range to present ange. Sites of SGIL arror in the ±15% three wind projects 021. This shows a	
					framework wi	thin the country p	ng and scheduling ost the 2015 DSM ter predictions and	



Sr. P	Proposed Clause	Comments/Suggestions/Suggested Clause	Rationale/Ren	nark	Abde
No.	Toposea Clause	Commence, Suggestions, Suggested Clause			
			improved grid	management, de	ors have helped in espite the persisting teather forecasting.
			Error within the time blocks (a Increasing the band to around 10% Error, to revising it to 1	nis band to only all things being same to 12% via 175%. It is suggethe Commission 12%, as that wo quickly adopt to	rould now reduce the 60% to 65% of the same as on date). would increase this tested that instead of n should consider ould help solar/wind this change without
				-	charges would be te projects unviable
			injection is not proposed and vexisting projections in generators is a conducted a sir impact on the full FY 202 observed that shall be from	t paid at all is a would have a verects. The curnpact on the about 0.5% to 1% mulation of the paforementioned 21 (April 2020 the potential im	very severe change ry serious impact on rrent 2015 DSM top line of wind per annum. SGIL proposed regulations three wind sites for to March 2021) and apact on its top-line The impact can be able: -
			Wind Site	% Impact on Top line Existing Regulation	% Impact on Top line Proposed Regulation



Sr. No.	Proposed Clause	Comments/Suggestions/Suggested Clause	Rationale/Ren	nark		tholics
110.			SECI 1- 300 MW	0.50%	5%	
			SECI 2 -250 MW	0.30%	6%	
			SECI 3- 250 MW	0.30%	7%	
			Total (Average)	0.40%	6%	
			businesses un investor's weal the nations RE may appreciat regulations has grid disciple mechanism. Tusuriously per mechanism alle and compensate the loss with unreasonable imposed which generators extra	that the old share that the old share to many through a received a lize RE grows for compliant by general gain. By commercial the shall make the emely difficults.		erode erest in hission DSM ty and hercial een to extant erators setting his an being r/wind
			higher levels injecting	of over-sch	lations would a eduling and u	ınder-
			equal likelihoo	od of both p	regulation recognositive and ne	gative
			tariff for over i	njection to ge	npensation at co	same
			under injection	. As a result, t	ariff by generate the nation's force red to bring more	casting



Proposed Clause	Comments/Suggestions/Suggested Clause	Rationale/Remark
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		90% of deviation Errors within the ±15% range, created an ecosystem of world class forecasters, improved absorption of RE power in grid and penalized solar/wind generators reasonably for deviations. The said gains shall be frittered away if the proposed regulations are allowed.
		The proposed regulations don't recognize over injection Error for compensation to generators at contract price. It rather penalizes solar/wind generators for over injecting by disallowing tariff compensation. Therefore, the solar/wind generators in order to avoid revenue losses would be compelled to give higher schedules (higher than forecast) and higher available capacity so that Errors are in the negative side and low as far as possible defeating the whole purpose of DSM. Further, the painstakingly developed forecasting market shall be deterred from investing in better weather forecasting technology, as generators (to avoid over injection) would always schedule more energy than that forecasted, thereby removing any incentive or higher performance bonuses being given now by generators to forecasters for accuracy. It will spell the death knell to quality forecasting in the country. Further, as more
		negative Errors would come due to over scheduling and that quality forecasting would take a back seat, the range of negative Error would be very high thereby threatening grid safety/security and
		creating challenges for the grid operator to absorb RE power. Consequently, it will not be surprising to see more curtailment in RE power across the country, which already many renewable generators are struggling with.
	Proposed Clause	Proposed Clause Comments/Suggestions/Suggested Clause



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			Hence it is suggested that the proposed regulations may please be modified as follows: 1) The proposed regulation may be applied prospectively i.e., for projects which would be commissioned or where bid submission date is after notification of these regulations and for projects commissioned or where bid submission date is prior to the date of notification of these regulations the provisions of pervious regulations. 2) Error band to be reduced to ±12% range 3) Compensation at contract price to and from generators for over injection and under injection respectively be retained as
3)	10. Schedule of Payment of charges for deviation The payment of charges for deviation shall have a high priority and the concerned regional entity shall pay the due amounts within 7 (seven) days of the issue of statement of charges for deviation by the Regional Power Committee, failing which late payment surcharge @0.04% shall be payable for each day of delay.	The payment of charges for deviation shall have a high priority and the concerned regional entity shall pay the due amounts within 12 (twelve) days of the issue of statement of charges for deviation by the Regional Power Committee, failing which late payment surcharge @0.04% shall be payable for each day of delay. Further, 2 days of grace period shall also be provided for making the payment for 5 instances in a year.	Existing time period allowed for the payment of deviation charges is 12 days. Generators cashflow depends on payment from Discoms. As the Hon'ble Commission is aware of the fact that Discoms payment have been consistently delayed putting pressure on working capital of the sellers. In fact, for many generators such working capital limit has already exhausted. Proposed reduction in payment period from 12 days to 7 days would put undue pressure on generators who are already facing cashflow issues due to delayed payments from Discoms. Further, even if there is no such cashflow issue from Discoms, 7 days seems to be very less, and delays might happen undesirably due to external factors. We request the Hon'ble Commission to retain the period of 12 days for payment. We



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110.			further, request to additionally allow 2 days of grace period for at least 5 instances of delayed payment.
4)	7. Normal Rate of Charges for Deviations (1) The normal rate of charges for deviation for a time block shall be equal to the Weighted Average Ancillary Service Charge (in paise/kWh) computed based on the total quantum of Ancillary Services deployed and the total charges payable to the Ancillary Service Providers for all the Regions for that time block: Provided that for a period of one year from the date of effect of these regulations or such further period as may	7. Normal Rate of Charges for Deviations (1) The normal rate of charges for deviation for a time block shall be equal to the Weighted Average Ancillary Service Charge (in paise/kWh) computed based on the total quantum of Ancillary Services deployed and the total charges payable to the Ancillary Service Providers for all the Regions for that time block: Provided that for a period of one year from the date of effect of these regulations or such further period as may	In the proposed draft, deviation charge is linked with spot price in DAM/RTM/Ancillary market, this may cause ambiguity on applicable charges for a particular time block. To optimally manage the operations, sellers as well as the buyers needs to be aware the charges/penalties applicable for deviation. To avoid such ambiguity, the deviation charges may be published by a competent authority (POSOCO/RLDC) prior to the start of respective
	be notified by the Commission, the normal rate of charges for deviation for a time block shall be equal to the highest of the weighted average ACP of the Day Ahead Market segments of all the Power Exchanges; or the weighted average ACP of the Real Time Market segments of all the Power Exchanges; or the Weighted Average Ancillary Service Charge of all the regions] for that time block:	be notified by the Commission, the normal rate of charges for deviation for a time block shall be equal to the highest of [the weighted average ACP of the Day Ahead Market segments of all the Power Exchanges; or the weighted average ACP of the Real Time Market segments of all the Power Exchanges; or the Weighted Average Ancillary Service Charge of all the regions] for that time block:	time block.
	Provided further that in case of non-availability of ACP for any time block on a given day, ACP for the corresponding time block of the last available day shall be considered:	Provided further that in case of non-availability of ACP for any time block on a given day, ACP for the corresponding time block of the last available day shall be considered:	
	(2) The normal rate of charges for deviation shall be rounded off to the nearest two decimal places.	 (2) The normal rate of charges for deviation shall be rounded off to the nearest two decimal places. (3) The normal rate of charges for each time block determined as per above methodology shall be published on website of RLDCs at least 1 (one) time block prior to the respective time block. 	



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5)	8. Charges for Deviation			8. Charges for	Deviation		For a thermal generator having schedule under
	(1) Charges for deviation in a time block by a caller			(1) (1)		11 11 11	LTOA/MTOA/STOA, even in case of unit trip can
	(1) Charges for deviation in a time block by a seller				ne block by a seller	revise the schedule only from 7 th /8 th time block (As	
	shall be payable by such seller as under:			e by such seller as u		per clause 6.5.18 of IEGC Regulations 6th	
	Entity	Entity Charges for deviation payable to		Entity		riation payable to	Amendment, 2019).
	Deviation and Ancillary Service Pool Account				Ancillary Service		
				Pool Account		As per the proposed DSM Regulations, even in	
	Seller	Deviation by	Deviation by	Seller	Deviation by	Deviation by	case of unit trip, the generator would have to pay
		way of over	way of under		way of over	way of under	penalties for under injection for at least 6-time
		injection	injection		injection	injection	blocks. Such event of unit trip is entirety
	For a	(i) Zero up to	(i) @ normal	For a		(i) @ normal rate	uncontrollable for any generator, and current
	general	2% Deviation-	rate of charges	general	2% Deviation-	of charges for	regulations does not have any provisions for early
	seller other	general seller	for deviation up	seller other	general seller	deviation up to	revision in schedule. In such scenario, although
	than an RoR	(in %);	to 2%	than an RoR	(in %);	2% Deviation-	generator is willing to revise the schedule, however
	generating	(ii) @ 10% of	Deviation-	generating	(ii) @ 10% of	general seller (in	it is forced to deviate from the schedule and
	station or a	the normal rate	general seller	station or a	the normal rate	%);	additionally pay penalty on the same.
	generating	of charges for	(in %);	generating	of charges for	(ii) @ 10% of	January 1 and 1 an
	station	deviation	(ii) @ 110% of	station	deviation	the normal rate	For commercial implication let's understand it with
	based on	beyond 2%	the normal rate	based on	beyond 2%	of charges for	an illustration. Suppose the contracted VC for a
	municipal	Deviation-	of charges for	municipal	Deviation-	deviation	plant under LT/MT PPA is Rs. 2.2/kWh and the
	solid waste	general seller	deviation	solid waste	general seller	beyond 2%	normal charge rate for a particular time-block is Rs.
		(in %)	beyond 2%		(in %)	•	8.0/kWh. In case of under-injection, the generator
		,	Deviation-			Provided that	would get revenue of Rs. 2.2/kWh for the
			general seller			such seller shall	scheduled quantum but as per the proposed draft it
			(in %).			pay back to the	would have to pay the DSM charge of Rs. 8.8/kWh
		l	, ,			Deviation and	(110% of normal rate of charge). This results in
						Ancillary	effective penalty of Rs. 6.6 /kWh (8.8 – 2.2).
						Service Pool	However, if the same plant is tied up in spot market
						Account for the	which will be closed to Normal rate of charge i.e.
						total shortfall in	Rs.8.0/kWh, it would have to pay penalty of only
						energy against	Rs. 0.8/kWh (8.8 – 8.0).
						its schedule in	Ks. 0.6/KWII (6.6 – 6.0).
						any time block	Such discrimination based on the contract type is
						due to under	unjustified, in view of the same, it is proposed that
						injection,	the deviation charges should be capped at the
						(a) at the	
						contract rate at	contract rate at which it has been paid based on schedule. Or in absence of a contract rate such
							schedule. Or in absence of a contract rate such
						which it has	



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		been paid based	deviation charges may be considered at rate of ACP
		on schedule,	of the DAM for the respective time block.
		or (b) in the	
		absence of a	
		the rate of the	
		Area Clearing	
		Price of the Day	
		Ahead Market	
		for the	
		respective time	
		block.	
6)	Miscellaneous	The implementation of these regulations should be	
		specified prospectively and not retrospectively . All	
		existing projects whether commissioned or not,	implementation/already bid cannot come under the
		including those under implementation/already bid,	•
		should be kept out of the scope of the new DSM	financially unviable.
		regulations.	