

To,

**The Secretary
Central Electricity Regulatory Commission
World Trade Centre, 6th, 7th and 8th floor,
Tower -B, Nauroji Nagar, New. Delhi-110029**

Sub:- Comments from Serentica Renewables India 1 Private Limited on CERC (Connectivity and General Network Access to the inter-state Transmission System (Third Amendment) Regulations, 2024.

Dear Sir,

This is with reference to the above subject where Hon'ble Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) has invited comments and suggestions on Connectivity and General Network Access to the inter-state Transmission System (Third Amendment) Regulations, 2024. Our comments on the same has been annexed as Annexure-1.

We request the Hon'ble CERC to take our views on record.

Thanking You

Yours Sincerely,



**Kunal Lalit Kaistha,
Head Regulatory Affairs,
Serentica Renewables India Private Limited,
Gurugram, 122008, Haryana**

Serentica Renewables India Private Limited comments on draft of GNA 3rd Amendment

S. No	Draft Language	Proposed Amended Language (Changes in Red)	Remarks or Rationale
01	<p>35.1. A proviso shall be added under Regulation 26.2 of the Principal Regulations as under:</p> <p>“Provided that the entity covered under clause (ii) of Regulation 26.1(a) may seek T-GNA maximum up to 30% of the GNA granted.”</p>	<p>“35.1 Provided that the entity covered under clause (ii) of Regulation 26.1(a) may seek T-GNA maximum up to 30% of the GNA granted.</p> <p>Provided that till such time the GNA granted is operationalised, the entity may take any amount of T-GNA</p> <p>Provided further that where the entity has captive generating plant within its premises, would be allowed to take T-GNA of any amount irrespective of quantum of GNA granted in case of shutdown of captive generation plant.”</p>	<p>Bulk Consumers are allowed under section 26.1(a) of the GNA regulations to take T-GNA. However, any restriction of 30% would adversely impact their open access drawl when GNA is not operationalised. No restriction on quantum of T-GNA should apply till GNA is not operationalised. Further, many Bulk Consumers have captive generating plants within their premise. They take GNA only for open access capacity to optimise energy procurement cost or meet green energy need. In case their captive thermal plant ends up in forced outage it would be required to schedule substantial power through T-GNA (higher than 30% of GNA) to avoid factory closure. <i>E.g. Say an Aluminium manufacturing plant connected to ISTS has a load of 1500 MW. This load is met by 2x500 MW of inhouse captive generating plant and remaining 500 MW through open access. Under open access, the Aluminium plant has taken 300 MW of GNare to consume green energy and 200 MW GNA. Suppose one unit of the 2x500 MW captive generating plant ends in forced outage, in that case there will be shortfall of 500 MW power. This 500 MW would be required to be purchased from open market to avoid production shutdown. As only 30% T-GNA is allowed, the plant will not be in a position to take more than 150 MW power, thereby impacting production</i></p> <p>Hence, the amendments suggested.</p>

02	<p>14.1.A new Regulation 9.3 shall be inserted below Regulation 9.2 of the Principal Regulations as under:</p> <p>“9.3 The Applicants who have been issued an in-principle grant of Connectivity or final grant of Connectivity to ISTS, for the generation projects based on particular renewable energy source(s) (with or without ESS) may, for the same connectivity quantum, change to another renewable energy source(s) (with or without ESS) or ESS in part or full, by making an application to the Nodal Agency for approval for such change within 18 months from the in-principle grant of Connectivity. The Nodal Agency may carry out system studies, as required, and approve or reject the change in energy source within 30 days of application by the Applicant. On approval of such change of renewable source(s), the entity shall submit the technical data for changed renewable energy source(s), and CTU shall incorporate the necessary change in connectivity agreement, if already signed.”</p>	<p>“9.3 The Applicants who have been issued an in-principle grant of Connectivity or final grant of Connectivity to ISTS, for the generation projects based on particular renewable energy source(s) (with or without ESS) may, for the same connectivity quantum, change to another renewable energy source(s) (with or without ESS) or ESS in part or full or may change location of their land, by making an application to the Nodal Agency for approval for such change within 18 months from the in-principle grant of Connectivity. The Nodal Agency may carry out system studies, as required, and approve or reject the change in energy source within 30 days of application by the Applicant. On approval of such change of renewable source(s), the entity shall submit the technical data for changed renewable energy source(s), and CTU shall incorporate the necessary change in connectivity agreement, if already signed.”</p>	<p>View in CTUIL is that change in fuel or land is only possible to a connectivity grantee post final connectivity grant and execution of connectivity agreement. While the present amendment allows fuel mix change on in-principle connectivity grant, but change in land is not permitted. We request Hon’ble Commission may clarify change in land also possible basis in principle grant and accordingly change made.</p>
03	<p>Proposed modification in Clause 15.3</p> <p>“15.3 Any entity which acquires or holds 51% or more shareholding of the Company or its subsidiary owning the REGS, may, after COD of full capacity or such split part in terms of Regulation 15.2 of these regulations, apply to the Nodal Agency for transfer of Connectivity for the full capacity or the spilt capacity, as the case may be. The Nodal Agency shall issue a</p>	<p>Request to kindly revert to original clause of Principle Regulation including the transfer of Connectivity to affiliate companies (subsidiary to subsidiary with common parent company) which has been excluded from the modified provision. While Affiliate is not defined in company law, subsidiary to subsidiary transfer of connectivity should be allowed as they have common parent. Proposed amendment to clause 15.3 is as follows</p>	<p>(a) While Clause 15.1 enables the utilisation of connectivity among parent and subsidiary companies, and existing Clause 15.3 permits the transfer among subsidiaries as well as affiliates, it would be appropriate to include transfer of connectivity amongst subsidiaries having common parent company. Right now, post COD a subsidiary holding connectivity may transfer it</p>

	<p>revised grant of Connectivity on submission of applicable Conn-BG2 and Conn-BG3 by such entity. The original grantee may substitute its Conn-BG2 and Conn-BG3 with revised Conn-BG2 and Conn-BG3, to be intimated by CTU. On the issue of a revised grant of Connectivity, such entity shall enter into a fresh Connectivity Agreement and be responsible for compliance with all applicable regulations.”</p>	<p>“15.3 Any entity, which acquires or holds 51% or more shareholding of the company or its subsidiary or such entity is associated by being subsidiary to common parent company whose subsidiary is, owning the REGS or part thereof, in terms of Regulation 15.2, may after COD of such split part, apply to the Nodal Agency for transfer of Connectivity for the full capacity or the spilt capacity, as the case may be. The Nodal Agency shall issue revised grant of Connectivity on submission of applicable Conn-BG2 and Conn-BG3 by such entity. The original grantee may substitute its Conn-BG2 and Conn-BG3 with revised Conn-BG2 and Conn-BG3, to be intimated by CTU. On issue of revised grant of Connectivity, such person shall enter into a fresh Connectivity Agreement and be responsible for compliance with all applicable regulations”</p>	<p>to Parent Company which in turn can transfer it to its other subsidiary. Such transfer, though theoretically possible, is not allowed by CTUIL till CERC explicitly allows it. The suggested amendment provides for transfer of connectivity amongst subsidiaries having common parent so that the ambiguity with CTUIL is clarified.</p> <p>(b) Transfer amongst subsidiaries is aligned to the spirit of section 15 of GNA regulations which principally allowed connectivity transfer amongst affiliates. While affiliate is not defined in company law, the transfer amongst subsidiaries with common parent is suggested. this would help in better utilisation of connectivity and align with market requirement, especially when bids under FDRE regime require multiple injection points to meet 90% availability requirement.</p>
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