

## HIMACHAL PRADESH ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION, SHIMLA

WHEREAS the Himachal Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission has published in the Himachal Pradesh Government Gazette on different dates the following, namely:-

(Rooftop Solar PV Grid Interactive Systems based on Net Metering) Regulations, 2015  
(Notification No.: HPERC– H (1)-11/2015, Dated: 31.07.2015)

A. (Rooftop Solar PV Grid Interactive Systems based on Net Metering) Regulations, 2015,  
(First Amendment), 2018  
(Notification No.: HPERC-H(1)-11/2015, Dated: 06.11.2018)

- Inserted/ Replaced matter is shown as [ ]<sup>A</sup> at appropriate place; wordings inserted/ replaced shown within square brackets;
- In both of above cases; -<sup>A</sup> ; superscript A implies that change is caused by Amendment '1'

### NOTIFICATION

Shimla, the 31st July, 2015

**No. HPERC– H (1)-11/2015:-** WHEREAS the National Electricity Policy notified by the Central Government mandates promotion of renewable technology on sustainable basis. Among the various renewable sources, the solar power offers clean, climate-friendly, abundant and inexhaustible energy resource;

AND WHEREAS there is a huge potential of Small Hydro power in the State of Himachal Pradesh and considerable progress has been achieved towards exploitation of such potential in the State. At the same time, the Himachal Pradesh, being a hilly State, has generally clear sky and average solar radiation level, favours commercial as well as domestic application of solar power. The Central Government has estimated 34 GW solar power potential in State out of 749 GW, estimated in the country;

AND WHEREAS the Central Government, having recognised the importance of solar power technology at national level, unveiled a plan to produce 20 GW of solar power by the year 2022 and further revised the target to 100 GW out of which substantial exploitation is planned through rooftop Solar PV projects;

AND WHEREAS there is a large potential available for generating power using unutilized space on rooftops and wastelands around buildings, installation of rooftop Solar PV projects by the consumers would enhance grid stability and reduce distribution losses and also result in saving in electricity bills of the consumer and sale of surplus power to the distribution licensee through net metering;

AND WHEREAS the Himachal Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission, recognized the need for a net metering based regulations, for rooftop Solar PV projects, to address the regulatory domain for implementation of grid connected net metering based rooftop Solar projects;

NOW, THEREFORE, in exercise of the powers conferred by section 181, read with sections 61, 66, and 86(1) (e) of the Electricity Act, 2003 (36 of 2003), and all other powers, enabling it in this behalf, the Himachal Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission after previous publication, makes the following Regulations:-

## REGULATIONS

1. **Short title and commencement.**- (1) These regulations may be called the Himachal Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission (Rooftop Solar PV Grid Interactive Systems based on Net Metering) Regulations, 2015.  
(2) These regulations shall come into force from the date of their publication in the Rajpatra, Himachal Pradesh.
2. **Definitions.** - In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires;
  - (1) **“accuracy class index”** means the index as specified in the Schedule to the Central Electricity Authority (Installation and Operation of Meters) Regulations, 2006;
  - (2) **“Act”** means the Electricity Act, 2003 (36 of 2003);
  - (3) **“agreement”** means the agreement entered into for connecting rooftop Solar PV system to the distribution system;
  - (4) **“applicable tariff”** means the tariff applicable for supply of electricity by the licensee to the consumer in accordance with relevant Schedule of tariff as per tariff order of the Commission;
  - (5) **“billing period”** means the period for which regular electricity bills as specified by the Commission, are prepared by the licensee for different categories of consumers and “billing month” means includes the consecutive period of 30 days or so forming part of billing period;
  - (6) **“Commission”** means the Himachal Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission;
  - (7) **“distribution licensee”** or **“licensee”** means a person granted a license under Section 14 of the Act, authorizing him to operate and maintain a distribution system for supplying electricity to the consumers in his area of supply;
  - (8) **“Electricity Supply Code”** means the Electricity Supply Code, specified under section 50 of the Act;
  - (9) **“eligible consumer”** means such a consumer getting supply of electricity from distribution licensee in its area of supply, who uses or intends to use a rooftop Solar PV system installed in his premises to offset part or all of the consumer's own electrical requirements as per the provisions of these regulations;
  - (10) **“financial year”** or **“year”** means the period beginning from the first of April in an English calendar year and ending with the thirty-first of the March of the next year;
  - (11) **“Form”** means the Form appended in these regulations ;
  - (12) **“interconnection”** means the interface of solar power generation facility system with the network of the distribution licensee;
  - (13) **“invoice”** means either a periodic bill / supplementary bill or a periodic invoice/ supplementary invoice raised by the distribution licensee;
  - (14) **“kWp”** means kilo Watt peak;

- (15) “**net meter**” means the meter, along with allied metering equipments, to be installed and maintained by the licensee at the cost of the consumer, for reading the net import or export of electrical energy by the consumer from/ to the distribution system and the corresponding demand or injection;
- (16) “**net metering**” means an arrangement under which rooftop solar system installed at eligible consumer’s premises, delivers surplus electricity, if any, to the distribution licensee after off-setting the electricity supplied by distribution licensee during the applicable billing period;
- (17) “**Obligated Entity**” means the entity mandated under clause (e) of sub-section (1) of section 86 of the Act to fulfill the renewable purchase obligation and under Himachal Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission (Renewable Power Purchase Obligation and its Compliance) Regulations, 2010;
- <sup>A</sup>1(18) ~~“**premises**” means rooftops or/and elevated areas on the land, building or infrastructure or part or combination thereof in respect of which a separate meter or metering arrangements have been made by the licensee for supply of electricity;~~
- (18) “**premises**” means rooftops and/or open areas on the land, building or infrastructure or part or combination thereof in respect of which a separate meter or metering arrangements have been made by the licensee for supply of electricity”.<sup>1A</sup>
- (19) “**Renewable Energy Certificate (REC)**” means the certificate issued in accordance with the procedures approved by the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission, pursuant to Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions for recognition and issuance of Renewable Energy Certificate for Renewable Energy Generation) Regulations, 2010;
- (20) “**Rooftop Solar system**” means the grid interactive solar photo voltaic power system, installed on the rooftop of consumer premises that uses sunlight for direct conversion into electricity through photo voltaic technology;
- (21) “**Settlement Period**” means a maximum period of 12 consecutive billing months, comprised in the billing periods, falling between 16<sup>th</sup> March of a financial year and 14<sup>th</sup> April of the next financial year, in which the solar PV system remains operative under the net-metering arrangement.
- (22) “**Solar Meter**” means a unidirectional energy meter, for recording the electricity generation, installed at the point at which electricity generated by Solar Photo Voltaic (SPV) system, is delivered to the main panel of the eligible consumer;
- (23) all other words and expressions used in these regulations although not specifically defined herein, but defined in the Act, shall have the meaning assigned to them in the Act; the other words and expressions used herein but not specifically defined in these regulations or in the Act but defined under any law passed by the Parliament or any other regulations issued by the Commission, applicable to the electricity industry in the State, shall have the meaning assigned to them in such law/regulation.

**3. Scope and application.-** (1) These regulations shall apply to the distribution licensee and the eligible consumers of the distribution licensee.

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<sup>1</sup> Omitted and inserted clause (18) of Regulation 2, vide First amendment (A), 2018

(2) These regulations do not preclude the right of State authorities to undertake rooftop solar projects of any capacities through alternative mechanisms.

4. **General Principles.**- Subject to the limits and other terms and conditions specified in these regulations, the eligible consumers of the distribution licensee shall be entitled to install rooftop solar PV system and use the power so generated at their premises. The surplus power can be injected into the grid system.

5. **Capacity of Rooftop Solar PV Systems.** - (1) All eligible consumers of electricity in the area of supply of the distribution licensee can participate in the rooftop solar net metering arrangement, in accordance with the provisions of these regulations.

<sup>2</sup>(2) ~~The maximum peak capacity of the rooftop solar system to be installed by any individual consumer covered under two parts tariff shall not exceed 80 % of the sanctioned contract demand and such maximum limit in case of an individual consumer, covered under single part tariff shall be 30% of the sanctioned connected load:~~

~~Provided that the capacity of rooftop solar PV system to be installed by an eligible consumer shall not exceed the following limits:-~~

Sr. No.	Voltage at which consumer getting supply	Maximum Capacity of rooftop solar PV system
1	LT(1 $\phi$ )	5 kWp
2	LT(3 $\phi$ )	15 kWp
3	HT/EHT	1 MWP

~~Provided further that the cumulative capacity to be allowed in the area, fed from a distribution transformer or any other transformer from which power is fed to the eligible consumer, shall not exceed 30%, or any other percentage as may be fixed by the Commission, of the rated capacity of such transformer(s):~~

~~Provided further that in case of multiple applications from the consumers covered by a transformer for participation in the scheme, the connectivity with the grid interactive rooftop solar PV system shall be allowed on first come first serve basis.~~

(2) *The maximum peak capacity of the rooftop solar system to be installed by any individual consumer covered under two part tariff shall not exceed 80 % of the sanctioned contract demand and such maximum limit in case of individual consumers, covered under single part tariff, shall be as follows, namely;-*

Sr. No.	<b>For consumers having sanctioned connected load.</b>	<b>Maximum peak capacity of Solar PV Project</b>
1.	5 kW or less.	100% of sanctioned connected load.
2.	Exceeding 5kW but not exceeding 10 kW.	70% of sanctioned connected load or 5 kW; whichever is higher.
3.	Exceeding 10 kW.	50% of sanctioned connected load or 7 kW; whichever is higher:

<sup>2</sup> Omitted and inserted sub-Regulation (2) of Regulation 5, vide First amendment (A), 2018

Provided that, save as provided in the table-1 appearing in this sub-regulation, the capacity of rooftop solar PV system to be installed by an eligible consumer shall not normally exceed the limits given in Table-2 :-

Sr. No.	Voltage at which consumer(s) gets supply	Maximum peak capacity of rooftop Solar PV System
1.	LT(1 $\phi$ )	7 kWp
2.	LT(3 $\phi$ )	20 kWp
3.	11 kV or higher voltage level	1 MWP

Provided further that the officer(s) not below the rank of Superintending Engineer to be designated by the distribution licensee may, on request of the eligible consumer, allow, after considering all technical aspects such as the adequacy of the system and impact on the system parameters etc., installation of the rooftop solar PV system of capacity upto sanctioned connected load upto 50 kWp in cases where the consumer is getting supply through a dedicated feeder at 3 phase LT voltage:

Provided further that the maximum peak capacity of the Rooftop Solar PV Grid Interactive System so worked out shall be rounded to next integral value:

Provided further that the distribution licensee shall maintain the redundancy of 30% in its distribution system and in cases where any equipment of the distribution system is loaded or is likely to be loaded beyond 70% of the rated capacity as a result of the installation of such systems, the licensee shall, save as provided in Himachal Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission (Recovery of Expenditure for Supply of Electricity) Regulations, 2012, take immediate action to augment the system/equipment by making suitable provisions in CAPEX plan.<sup>2</sup><sup>A</sup>

**6. Capacity of transformer.** - The distribution licensee shall provide information on its website regarding capacity available in different transformer(s) for feeding the eligible consumer at different locations for connecting Rooftop Solar PV System under net metering arrangement within 3 (three) months from the date of commencement of these regulations, and shall update the same within one month of the subsequent financial year under intimation to the Commission.

**7. Procedure for making application and registration.** - (1) The eligible consumer may make the application, delivered by post or by hand or through any electronic mode such as online submission and e-mail etc., as per Form-1, to the local office of <sup>A</sup>~~the distribution licensee to connect~~ <sup>3</sup><sup>A</sup> the rooftop solar system to the distribution system of the distribution licensee. The distribution licensee shall make available format of the Form-1 on its website and also at its local offices.

(2) The distribution licensee shall acknowledge the application as <sup>A</sup><sup>4</sup>per the timelines given in the Table-3 of sub-regulation (9) of this regulation and take all necessary actions as [per the timelines given in the Table-3 of sub-regulation (9) of this regulation <sup>4</sup><sup>A</sup> including sending appropriate communications to the applicant:

<sup>3</sup> Omitted and inserted text in sub-regulation (1) of Regulation 7, vide First amendment (A), 2018

<sup>4</sup> For the words and figure "application" and before the words "and take all necessary actions", the words " as per the timelines given in the Table-3 of sub-regulation (9) of this regulation" substituted in sub-Regulation (2) of Regulation 7, vide First amendment (A), 2018

Provided that where an application is received through electronic mode, the acknowledgment and other communication shall be served through such electronic mode also and its hard copy shall be sent to the applicant by post or by hand delivery.

- (3) After checking the feasibility, the distribution licensee shall, except for the cases covered under sub regulation (4), issue letter of approval to the applicant <sup>A<sup>5</sup></sup>~~within 30 days~~ *as per the timelines given in the Table-3*<sup>A</sup> of receipt of application. The consumer shall execute the agreement with the licensee as per Form-2 <sup>A<sup>6</sup></sup>~~within 30 days~~ *as per the timelines given in the Table-2* <sup>A<sup>6</sup></sup> from the date of issuance of letter of approval. The eligible consumer shall thereafter set up rooftop solar system plant and submit the work completion report along with Single Line Diagram of the synchronizing and protection arrangement issued by the plant supplier/Engineering Procurement Construction (EPC) contractor as per relevant standards and specifications <sup>A<sup>7</sup></sup>~~within 240 days~~ *as per the timelines given in the Table-3* <sup>A<sup>7</sup></sup>:

Provided that the distribution licensee may modify the Net Metering Connection Agreement Form-2 or add such conditions to it, as it may find necessary;

Provided further that the distribution licensee may, on receipt of request from the eligible consumer, grant extension for a maximum period of 3 (three) months if it is satisfied with the progress made by eligible consumer towards installation of rooftop solar system;

Provided further that the approval accorded to the eligible consumer shall automatically lapse if he does not execute the agreement with the licensee within the period of 30 days as specified under sub-regulation (3) or rooftop solar system is not commissioned within the be dealt at par with other applications received by it in the time frame in which such fresh application is received. permitted period. In such cases, the eligible consumer may apply afresh for obtaining approval of the distribution licensee which shall be dealt at par with other applications received by it in the time frame in which such fresh application is received.

- (4) Before any application for setting up rooftop solar plant in the area, covered under particular distribution transformer is rejected by the distribution licensee due to any reason, the consumer shall be served with a 15 days notice to attend to the observations and remove the deficiencies. In case the approval cannot be granted due to non-availability of capacity, then the application of the consumer may be considered after availability of the capacity, if the consumer opts so.
- (5) The distribution licensee on the receipt of completion report and test result etc. from the applicant and after site verification to satisfy itself about the fulfillment of requirements for commissioning of rooftop solar system, shall install at the cost of eligible consumer and jointly seal the bidirectional energy meter (net meter) <sup>A<sup>8</sup></sup>~~within 10 days~~ *as per the timelines given in the Table-3* <sup>A<sup>8</sup></sup> and plant will be treated as commissioned for net –metering commercial

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<sup>5</sup> For the words and figure “within 30 days” occurring for the first time, the words and figure “as per the timelines given in the Table-3” substituted in sub-regulation (3) of Regulation 7, vide First amendment (A), 2018

<sup>6</sup> For words and figure “within 30 days” occurring for the second time, the words and figure “ as per the timelines given in the Table- 2” substituted in sub-regulation (3) of Regulation 7, vide First amendment (A), 2018

<sup>7</sup> For the words and figure “within 240 days”, the words and figure “as per the timelines given in the Table-3” substituted in sub-regulation (3) of Regulation 7, vide First amendment (A), 2018

<sup>8</sup> For the words and figure “within 10 days”, the words and figure “as per the timelines given in the Table-3” shall be substituted in sub-regulation (5) of Regulation 7, vide First amendment (A), 2018

operations from the date of installation and first reading of such meter. <sup>A</sup><sup>9</sup> *[If the distribution licensee has no stock of meters, the consumer will, upon intimation by the distribution licensee, purchase the same.]*<sup>A</sup>

(6) The eligible consumer intending to avail financial assistance may get his grid interactive rooftop solar PV project registered with Himachal Pradesh Energy Development Agency (HIMURJA), being a State Nodal Agency, in online mode or otherwise and HIMURJA shall acknowledge the same <sup>A</sup><sup>10</sup> ~~within one week~~ *as per the timelines given in the Table-4* <sup>A</sup><sup>9</sup> from the date of receipt of such request <sup>A</sup><sup>11</sup> *and thereafter, if considered eligible, shall record in principle approval and also take further action to grant subsidy, as per the timelines given in the Table-4* <sup>A</sup><sup>11</sup>

(7) The distribution licensee shall delegate power to local offices, at par with power delegated for load sanction and release of connection, <sup>A</sup><sup>12</sup> ~~for purposes of procedure of these regulations~~ *to avoid procedural delay in smooth implementation of these regulations.* <sup>A</sup><sup>12</sup>

(8) The Commission may, if it finds it expedient to do so, revise, by order, the procedure contained in these regulations.

<sup>A</sup><sup>13</sup> (9) *The distribution licensee, the eligible consumers, State Nodal Agency and the Chief Electrical Inspector or any competent authority shall adhere to the time lines for various activities pertaining to them as given in the following Tables-3 and 4, namely*

Table -3

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Timeline (Maximum Working Days)</b>
<i>Submission of application.</i>	<i>the consumer</i>	<i>Zero date</i>
<i>Acknowledgment of application by the distribution Licensee</i>	<i>the distribution Licensee</i>	<i>02</i>
<i>Site Verification/Technical Feasibility &amp; Issuance of Letter of Approval (LOA)/Termination*</i>	<i>the distribution licensee</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>Execution of Net Metering Agreement after issuance of Letter of Approval (LOA).</i>	<i>the distribution licensee and consumer</i>	<i>15-20</i>
<i>Intimation to the distribution licensee about expected date of installation of Solar PV System.</i>	<i>the consumer</i>	<i>30 days prior to the expected date of installation.</i>

<sup>9</sup> Text added at the end of the sub-regulation (5) of Regulation 7, vide First amendment (A), 2018

<sup>10</sup> For the words “ within one week” the words and figure “as per the timelines given in the Table-4” substituted in sub-regulation (6) of Regulation 7, vide First amendment (A), 2018

<sup>11</sup> Text added at the end of the sub-regulation (6) of Regulation 7, vide First amendment (A), 2018

<sup>12</sup> For words “ for purposes of procedure of these regulations”, the words “ to avoid procedural delay in smooth implementation of these regulations” substituted in sub-regulation (7) of Regulation 7, vide First amendment (A), 2018

<sup>13</sup> Inserted new sub-regulation (9), Table-3 and Table-4 at the end of the Regulation 7, vide First amendment (A), 2018

<i>Intimation to consumer, after receipt of intimation from consumer about expected date of readiness to procure meter if not available in stocks of the distribution licensee.</i>	<i>the distribution licensee</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Installation of Rooftop Solar System including solar meter and submission of Work Completion Report/ Certificate including installation of Solar Meter.</i>	<i>the consumer</i>	<i>90-180 days from issuance of Letter of Approval.</i>
<i>Inspection by the Chief Electrical Inspector, or any other competent authority and intimating deficiencies, if any.</i>	<i>the Chief Electrical Inspector or any other competent authority.</i>	<i>15-20</i>
<i>Removal of deficiencies, if any.</i>	<i>the consumer</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>Issuance of Safety Certificate (informing the distribution licensee) after inspection and removal of deficiencies if any.</i>	<i>the Chief Electrical Inspector or any other competent authority.</i>	<i>5-10</i>
<i>Intimation to the distribution licensee, after receipt of Safety Certificate to Install Meter.</i>	<i>the consumer</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Inspection by the distribution licensee and intimation of deficiencies, if any.</i>	<i>the distribution licensee</i>	<i>15-20</i>
<i>Removal of deficiencies, if any.</i>	<i>the consumer</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>Permission to synchronise the Solar Rooftop PV System unit with the Grid.</i>	<i>the distribution licensee</i>	<i>5-7 days after removal of deficiencies.</i>
<i>Synchronizing the system with the Grid and commissioning of the same after receipt of permission from the distribution licensee and sealing of meters by the distribution licensee.</i>	<i>the distribution licensee and consumer</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Billing Process after receipt of Safety Certificate from the Chief Electrical Inspector or any other competent authority.</i>	<i>the distribution licensee</i>	<i>after first synchronization with Grid</i>

*\*Note:- In case of any deficiency, the distribution licensee to communicate the same to Consumer and provide an opportunity to rectify the same within a period of 15 days and in such cases, this timeline shall be got extended correspondingly.*

**Table-4**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Timeline (Maximum Working Days)</b>
<i>Submission of Application for registration and for subsidy after obtaining Letter of Approval (LOA) from the distribution</i>	<i>the consumer</i>	<i>Zero date for Subsidy Process.</i>



<i>licensee.</i>		
<i>Acknowledgment of Subsidy Application by the State Nodal Agency.</i>	<i>the State Nodal Agency</i>	<i>02</i>
<i>In-Principle Approval for Subsidy.</i>	<i>the State Nodal Agency</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Inspection for release of subsidy on receipt of request from the consumer &amp; intimation to be sent to the consumer regarding deficiencies, if any.</i>	<i>the State Nodal Agency*</i>	<i>7-10 days after commissioning of Solar Rooftop PV System.</i>
<i>Release of Subsidy.</i>	<i>the State Nodal Agency</i>	<i>5-10 days after removal of deficiencies, if any.</i>

*\*Note:-Joint Inspection by the State Nodal Agency, for achieving the relevant milestones under Table-3 and Table-4, Chief Electrical Inspector or any other competent authority and distribution licensee can reduce the timelines substantially. <sup>13</sup>A*

**8. Interconnectivity, Standards and Safety.** - (1) The distribution licensee and the eligible consumer shall ensure that-

- (i) the interconnection of the rooftop solar system with the consumer installations and the distribution system of the licensee conforms to the specifications, standards and provisions as provided in the Central Electricity Authority (Technical Standards for Connectivity of the Distributed Generation Resources) Regulations, 2013;
- (ii) the relevant provisions of the Central Electricity Authority (Measures relating to Safety and Electricity Supply), Regulations, 2010 are adhered to.

(2) The eligible consumer may install rooftop solar system with or without battery backup:

Provided that suitable protection shall be provided to automatically prevent the power flow from the battery/Decentralized Generation (DG) including rooftop solar system into the grid in the absence of grid supply. Manual isolation switch shall also be provided.

- (3) The eligible consumer shall be responsible for safe operation, maintenance and rectification of any defect of the rooftop solar system upto the point of net meter.
- (4) The distribution licensee shall have the right to disconnect the rooftop solar system at any time in the event of possible threat/damage, from such rooftop solar system to its distribution system, to prevent an accident or damage. Subject to sub-regulation (3), the distribution licensee may call upon the eligible consumer to rectify the defect(s) within a reasonable time.

**9. Metering arrangement.**- <sup>A</sup>[~~14~~(1) The eligible consumer shall, for recording the electricity generation, install and maintain the Solar Meter at his cost and a ;

*(1) The eligible consumer shall, for recording the electricity generation install and maintain main Solar Meter of 0.2s class accuracy with facility for recording meter reading using Meter Reading Instrument (MRI) or Wireless equipment. Check meter shall be mandatory for Rooftop Solar PV System having capacity of more than 20 kW. For installation of capacity of less than or equal to 20 kW, the solar check meter would be optional. The cost of such meter(s) shall be borne by the eligible consumer. <sup>14</sup>A*

<sup>14</sup> Omitted and inserted sub-regulation (1) of Regulation 9, vide first amendment (A), 2018

- (2) Net meter capable of measuring the net flows shall be installed and maintained, at the cost of eligible consumer, by the distribution licensee and the meter shall be compliant to the system of recording meter reading through Meter Reading Instrument (MRI) or through wireless:

Provided that if bills are prepared on the basis of MRI downloads or if meter reading is taken on the basis of remote meter reading and the consumer wants to have a record of the reading taken, he shall be so provided by the licensee.

- (3) The meters installed as per sub-regulation (1) and (2) shall be jointly inspected and sealed on behalf of both the parties.
- (4) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-regulation (3), ~~the meter reading taken by the distribution licensee~~ <sup>A<sup>15</sup></sup> *the meter readings of the Net Meter as well as the Solar Meter (main as well as check meter where installed) taken by the distribution licensee* <sup>15]A</sup> shall form the basis of commercial settlement.
- (5) All the meters shall adhere to the standards as specified in Central Electricity Authority (Installation and Operation of Meters) Regulations, 2006 as amended from time to time.
- (6) All the meters to be installed for net metering shall be of the same or of better Accuracy Class Index than the existing meter installed for measuring the supply of the power to the consumer.
- (7) The net meter to be installed for the eligible consumer shall be compliant to the requirements as per the applicable tariff including those relating to Time of Day (ToD) tariff and in case of consumer availing open access, shall also have the requisite features of special energy meters.

**10. Energy Accounting and Settlement.-** (1) The accounting of electricity generated, consumed and injected by the Rooftop Solar system under these regulations shall become effective from the date on which the said system is treated as commissioned as per sub regulation (5) of regulation 7 of these regulations.

- (2) Billing shall be done on the basis of the net flows recorded by the Net Meter over the billing period subject to provisions contained in the sub-regulation (8).
- (3) In the event, the eligible consumer exports energy, on net basis, to the distribution system during a billing period, the energy so exported on net basis, shall be carried forward in shape of electricity credit to the immediately next billing period, forming part of the settlement period.
- (4) In the event, the eligible consumer imports energy, on net basis and after adjusting the electricity credits if any, carried forward from the immediately preceding the billing period, from the distribution system during a billing period, the distribution licensee shall recover energy charges for such chargeable energy so drawn (i.e. chargeable net energy) at the applicable rates of energy charges as per sub-regulation (9).
- (5) The distribution licensee shall make payment to the eligible consumer, by way of adjustment in the electricity bills, for the electricity credits, if any, remaining unadjusted at the end of the settlement period, at the rates mentioned in sub-regulation (9).
- (6) There shall be no carry forward of any electricity credit, pertaining to a settlement period beyond that settlement period.

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<sup>15</sup> For the words “meter reading taken by the distribution licensee”, the words “the meter readings of the Net Meter as well as the Solar Meter (main as well as check meter where installed) taken by the distribution licensee” substituted in sub-regulation (4) of Regulation 9, vide first amendment (A), 2018

- (7) The distribution licensee shall reflect in the bill the energy units exported or imported, by the consumer as well as the electricity credits brought/ carried forward or adjusted as the case may be, during the billing period and the amount payable by the eligible consumer for each component of tariff (i.e. Energy Charges and Demand Charges etc.).
- (8) In case the eligible consumer is under the ambit of time of day tariff, as determined by the Commission from time to time, the net flows of electricity over the billing period shall be recorded separately for the respective times of day and the energy accounting shall be carried out separately for each Time of the Day (ToD) and the net flows during any time period, including the electricity credit if any, shall not be adjusted against the flows or the electricity credit, pertaining to any other time of the day even at the stage of settling the unadjusted electricity credits as per sub-regulation (5).

Provided that in case of consumer availing open access, the energy accounting shall also be done in accordance with open access regulations on the basis of flows and deviation for the respective time blocks in which open access is availed and the same shall be duly accounted for while raising bills.

- (9) For the energy to be billed or settled as per the provisions under sub-regulation 4, 5 and 8, the distribution licensee shall raise bills or carry out necessary adjustment, as the case may be, in the following manner and at the following rates:-

**(i) Energy Charges:-**

- (a) The quantum of energy for which the energy charges are to be recovered by the distribution licensee for a billing period as per sub-regulation (4) shall be billed to the consumer at the rate(s) of energy charges, applicable as per the applicable tariff:

Provided that where different rates of energy charges are applicable for different times of the day (normal, peak and night hours etc.) as per the applicable tariff, the energy accounting shall be done separately for each time of day as per sub-regulation (8) and energy charges shall be recovered at respective rates for respective quantum of chargeable net energy.

- ~~(b) For the quantum of energy to be settled for any time of the day at the end of the settlement period in accordance with sub-regulation 5 and 8, the distribution licensee shall pay, by way of adjustment of amount in future electricity bills, at a fixed rate of Rs. 5.00 per kWh of the energy to be settled in case of consumer covered under single part tariff and at a fixed rate Rs. 4.50 per kVAh in case of consumer covered under two parts tariff:~~

~~Provided that the if the amount of subsidy or grant or both, available to eligible consumer from Government agencies exceeds 50% of the capital cost of the rooftop solar PV system, the aforesaid rates of Rs. 5.00 per kWh and Rs. 4.50 per kVAh, as applicable, shall be reduced by 50%;~~

~~Provided further that the Commission may, by order, revise the aforesaid rates of Rs. 5.00 per kWh and Rs. 4.50 per kVAh, as and when it finds it expedient to do so;~~

~~Provided further that in the event of revision of such rates as per the second proviso to this sub-regulation, such revised rates shall be applicable only for such cases in which letter of approval is yet to be issued in accordance with the provisions contained in the regulation 7.~~

<sup>A</sup>16 (b) *The distribution licensee shall settle the quantum of energy to be settled for any time of the day at the end of the settlement period in accordance with sub-regulation (5) and (8), in the following manner, namely;-*

*(i) in cases where the Letter of Approval is issued as per the sub-regulation (3) of Regulation 7, also duly taking into account the 3<sup>rd</sup> proviso to the same, on or before 15.11.2018, the amount payable to the consumers for such energy shall be worked out at a fixed rate of Rs. 5.00 per kWh of the energy to be settled in case of consumers covered under single part tariff and at a fixed rate Rs. 4.50 per kVAh in case of consumers covered under two parts tariff:*

*Provided that if the amount of subsidy or grant or both, available to eligible consumer under the relevant scheme(s) of the Government(s) (State or Centre) or their agencies, exceeds 50% of the normative capital cost of the rooftop solar PV system, the aforesaid rates of Rs. 5.00 per kWh and Rs. 4.50 per kVAh, as applicable, shall be reduced by 50% and such eligible consumer shall, for such purposes, be deemed to have availed the total (maximum) subsidy or grant, or both, as available under such scheme(s) irrespective of the amount actually availed by him;*

*(ii) in cases where the Letter of Approval is issued as per the sub-regulation (3) of Regulation 7, also duly taking into account the 3<sup>rd</sup> proviso to the same, after 15.11.2018*

*(a) in case of the domestic supply consumers, the amount payable to the consumers for such energy shall be worked out at the rate(s) determined by the Commission from time to time by considering the subsidy available to such consumers (in percentage) under the relevant scheme(s) of Government(s) (State or Centre) or their agency(ies), appropriate financial and technical parameters along with other terms and conditions; and*

*(b) in case of consumers, other than domestic supply consumers, the distribution licensee shall settle such energy at the end of the settlement period at zero rate i.e. without any payment for the same. <sup>16</sup>A*

**(ii) Demand Charges:-**

The licensee shall recover the demand charges, including the additional demand charges for peak load hours and the contract demand violation charges, from the consumer as per the provisions of applicable tariff:

Provided that actual net demand of power, drawn from the distribution system, during any demand period (time block of 30 months or any other time block as per the tariff order) shall be considered as the actual demand of the consumer in that demand period;

Provided further that average demand for any time of day block of the billing period shall also be worked out on the basis of the net import, if any, of energy by the eligible consumer during the billing period (but without adjustment of electricity credits) from the distribution system in respect of respective times of the day over the billing period.

**(iii) Other charges:-**

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<sup>16</sup> Omitted and inserted sub-clause (b) of clause (i) of sub-regulation (9) of Regulation 10, vide First amendment (A), 2018

~~Any other charges as per the applicable tariff shall be charged to the consumer at par with other consumers of similar category who are not generating any Roof Top Solar PV power under this scheme.~~

<sup>A</sup><sup>17</sup> (a) *Any other charges as per the applicable tariff shall be charged to the consumer at par with other consumers of similar category who are not generating any Rooftop Solar PV power under this scheme.*

(b) *In cases where the consumer is getting supply at a voltage lower than the standard supply voltage specified in the Supply Code, the Low Voltage Supply Surcharge (LVSS) shall be charged as per the rate(s) approved in the tariff orders issued by the Commission from time to time on the sum total of the solar generation and the total consumption of the consumer in each billing month.* <sup>17</sup><sup>A</sup>

- (iv) The licensee shall not be required to pay any charges to the eligible consumer for any deemed generation in case non-evacuation of power due to non-availability of grid or any such reason.
  - (v) In case the applicable tariff provides for billing on kVAh basis, the net import or export of energy and electricity credits etc. shall also be accounted in kVAh.
  - (vi) The distribution licensee shall, in addition to applicable tariff, also be eligible to raise invoice for any other charges as allowed by the Commission.
- (10) The distribution licensee shall also take the readings of solar meter for recording total solar power generated by Solar PV system of consumer for its Renewable Power Purchase Obligation (RPPO). <sup>A</sup><sup>18</sup> *The words, and also for computing the energy consumption of the consumer.* <sup>18</sup><sup>A</sup>
- (11) All the rules, regulations and conditions, applicable to the consumers of the distribution licensee for the applicable category, shall also be applicable to the eligible consumer.

#### **11. Exemption from wheeling, banking and cross subsidy surcharge.-**

Subject to any other provisions in these regulations, the Rooftop Solar PV system under net metering arrangement shall be exempted from wheeling, banking and cross subsidy surcharge for a period of Five (5) years, unless extended thereafter.

#### **12. Renewable Power Purchase Obligation.-** The quantum of electricity generated by the eligible consumer under these regulations shall qualify towards compliance of Renewable Power Purchase Obligation (RPPO) of the distribution licensee:

Provided that where the eligible consumer is himself an obligated entity, only the quantum of electricity generated by him over and above his Renewable Power Purchase Obligation during a quarter, shall qualify towards compliance of Renewable Power Purchase Obligation of the distribution licensee for that quarter.

#### **13. Participation under Renewable Energy Certificate Mechanism. –**

- (1) Nothing contained in these regulations shall apply to a Solar PV generator, intending to sell power under Renewable Energy Certificate mechanism and he shall be free to sell power under such mechanism, as per the provisions of the Central Electricity Regulatory

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<sup>17</sup> Omitted and inserted clause (iii) of sub-regulation (9) of Regulation 10, vide First amendment (A), 2018

<sup>18</sup> Inserted text at the end of the sub-regulation (10) of Regulation 10, vide First amendment (A), 2018

Commission (Terms and Conditions for recognition and issuance of Renewable Energy Certificate for Renewable Energy Generation) Regulations, 2010.

(2) The eligibility for Renewable Energy Certificate and issue of such certificate for Renewable Energy shall be as per the eligibility criteria specified under the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions for recognition and issuance of Renewable Energy Certificate for Renewable Energy Generation) Regulations, 2010.

14. **Penalty or Compensation.**- In case of failure of net metering system, the provisions of penalty or compensation shall be applicable as per the provisions of the Himachal Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission (Distribution Performance Standards) Regulations, 2010.
15. **Applicability of Other Provisions.** - The provision of HP Electricity Supply Code, HP Electricity Distribution Code, HP Grid Code and tariff orders issued by the Commission from time to time, shall be applicable, in respect of the matters, not specifically dealt in these regulations.
16. **Powers to remove difficulties.**- If any difficulty arises in giving effect to any of the provisions of these regulations, the Commission may, by a general or special order, make such provisions not being inconsistent with the provisions of these regulations or the Act, as may appear to be necessary or expedient for the purpose of removing the difficulties.
17. **Powers to give directions.** - The Commission may from time to time issue such directions/guidelines/orders as considered appropriate for the smooth implementation of these Regulations.
18. **Powers to relax.**- The Commission may by general or special order, for reasons to be recorded in writing, may relax any of the provisions of these regulations on its own motion or on an application made before it by an interested person.
19. **Powers to amend.**- Subject to the provisions of Electricity Act, 2003, the Commission may, from time to time, add, vary, alter, suspend, modify, amend or repeal any provisions of these regulations.

By order of the Commission

Sd/-

Secretary