

No.G.12015/3/09 – JERC
JOINT ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
FOR MANIPUR AND MIZORAM
AIZAWL:MIZORAM

Present: Mr. R.K.Kishore Singh, Chairperson

In the matter of

The Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for Manipur and Mizoram (Metering for Grid Connected Renewable Energy) Regulations, 2016.

STATEMENT OF REASONS

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. 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. 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. The Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for Manipur and Mizoram, recognized the need for a net metering and gross metering based regulations for renewable energy projects, to address the regulatory domain for implementation of grid connected metering based renewable energy projects;

2. The Commission in compliance with the Act published Public notice dated 08.08.2016 of the draft Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for Manipur and Mizoram (Metering for Grid Connected Renewable Energy) Regulations, 2016 and

invited comments/suggestions/objections from the stakeholders. In response, Manipur Renewable Energy Development Agency (MANIREDA) has submitted their request for paying net energy credits to the promoter of grid connected solar rooftop system at the feed in tariff(FIT) without mentioning any reasons in support of their proposal.

3. The suggestion received from the above stakeholder has been examined and analysed. All most all the Commissions, in their regulations, considered the energy credits which remain unadjusted at the end of the settlement period as unwanted / inadvertent injunction and make no payment for it. But this Commission is of the opinion that such consideration shall not encourage net metering rooftop solar installation. However, if the DISCOM is compelled to buy the net energy credit under net metering at per unit cost of solar generation, its revenue from sale of energy at the existing retail tariff will not meet the equivalent expenditure for purchase of solar energy which will result in heavy burden on the DISCOM. DISCOM retail tariff cannot be immediately hiked to meet per unit cost of rooftop solar generation considering all classes of consumers. In the mean time, it is necessary to encourage net metering rooftop solar energy generation. Therefore, the DISCOM shall make payment for the energy credit, if any, to the consumer concerned at the end of the settlement period at the rate of power purchase cost from outside the state during the initial stages in order to encourage net metering rooftop solar generation.

4. Grid connected gross metering RE plant installation is also allowed. As this gross metering installation can be utilized by the consumer/third party owner who developed the gross metering RE plant for earning profit from sale of energy generated from his/her RE plant to the DISCOM or open access consumer, the Commission shall determine gross metering RE feed-in-tariff (FIT) from time to time as per the prevailing Regulations concerned.

Dated Aizawl
The 15th September,2016

Sd/-R.K.KISHORE SINGH
Chairperson