

Procedure for Application for connectivity of Renewable Energy Generating System with BEST's Network

Maharashtra Electricity Regulation Commission (MERC) has notified MERC (Grid Interactive Rooftop Renewable Energy Generating System) Regulations, 2019 on 30th December 2019 and Maharashtra Electricity Regulatory Commission (Grid Interactive Rooftop Renewable Energy Generating Systems) (First Amendment) Regulations, 2023 dated 16th November 2023 which allows individual consumers to install Rooftop Renewable Energy Generating System at their premises and reduce their electricity consumption. Renewable Energy Generating System shall be limited to 5 MW or Contract Demand/Sanction Load of consumer, whichever is lower.

Following is the procedure for the same:

- a. A consumer intending to set up a Renewable Energy Generating System or who has already installed such a System may submit the online Application Form available on the BEST's website and submit all technical details of the System and pay the fee online.
- b. BEST shall register the Application and acknowledge its receipt within three working days; or intimate the Applicant within that period of any deficiency or incompleteness.
- c. BEST shall conduct a technical feasibility study within 15 working days from the registration of the Application, considering the following aspects:
 - i) AC Voltage level at which connectivity is sought;
 - ii) Sanctioned Load / Contract Demand of the Applicant;
 - iii) Rated Output AC Voltage of the proposed Renewable Energy Generating System;
 - iv) Available cumulative capacity of relevant Distribution Transformer.
- d. Before rejecting any application for setting up a Renewable Energy Generating System at a particular Distribution Transformer, BEST shall serve the Applicant with a notice to rectify, within 15 days or such longer period as may be necessary, the deficiencies.
- e. If found technically feasible, BEST shall, within 7 working days of the completion of the feasibility study, convey its approval for installing the Renewable Energy Generating System. The approval shall indicate the maximum permissible capacity of the System, and shall be valid for a period of 6 months from the date of approval, or such extended period as may be agreed to by BEST.
- f. The Applicant shall, within the period of validity of such approval, submit the work completion report, along with relevant details (such as technical specifications, test reports received from manufacturer / system provider, etc.), with a request to BEST for the testing and commissioning of the Renewable Energy Generating System.
- g. BEST shall complete the testing and commissioning of the System within 10 working days

from receipt of such request, and shall install the Net Metering equipment, if applicable, and synchronise the Renewable Energy Generating System within 10 working days thereafter.

- h. The Eligible Consumer and BEST shall enter into a Net Metering Connection Agreement or the Net Billing Connection Agreement, as the case may be, in the prescribed format after the Renewable Energy Generating System is installed but before it is synchronized with the distribution network.