

ORDER OF THE

WEST BENGAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

IN CASE NO. OA-534/25-26

APPROVAL OF THE EXEMPTION SOUGHT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PROCEDURE OF GRID INTERACTIVE ROOFTOP SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEM UNDER NET-METERING / NET-BILLING/ GROSS-METERING ARRANGEMENT (WBSEDCL PROCEDURE-C (2025)).

DATE: 11.11.2025



Facts in brief

- 1.0 The West Bengal State Electricity Distribution Company (in short WBSEDC) has submitted an application on 24.09.2025 for approval of detailed procedure of Grid Interactive Rooftop Solar Photovoltaic System under Net-metering / Net-billing / Gross-metering arrangement named as WBSEDCL PROCEDURE C (2025), in terms of regulation 6.1 of the West Bengal Electricity Regulatory Commission (Grid Interactive Rooftop Solar Photovoltaic System for Prosumers) Regulations 2025 (hereinafter refereed as 'GIRSPV Regulations'). The petition was admitted on 15.10.2025 and registered as Case No. OA 534/25-26. Subsequently, WBSEDCL submitted a supplementary petition on 03.11.2025 with a modified PROCEDURE C (2025) in replacement of the procedure submitted under Annexure-I of the original petition dated 24.09.2025. The supplementary petition was admitted on 04.11.2025.
- 2.0 WBSEDCL in its application and through subsequent supplementary petition has prayed for approval of the detailed procedure along with relaxation / exemption / modification on the following major matters in order to remove difficulty:
- 2.1. It is proposed that, the installed capacity of Solar PV system may be relaxed in respect of Government Funded projects / schemes, where the provision of the scheme requires installation of solar capacity higher than the 'contract demand'. WBSEDCL in its procedure through supplementary petition has proposed that, such installations may be allowed subject to technical feasibility and payment of any required distribution system upgradation cost. WBSEDCL also proposed for exemption of application fees for Government funded schemes / projects.
- 2.2. It is proposed that in case of any change of supply voltage of the prosumer under net-billing or gross-metering arrangement due to any reason, the feed in tariff of the said voltage level in that financial year when the initial agreement was executed, will be applicable.
- 2.3. Regarding the provision of switchover from one category to another permitted under regulation 5(10) of the GIRSPV Regulations, WBSEDCL proposed the followings:
 - (i) Feed-in tariff once agreed by the prosumers in any previous agreement will be valid for the entire useful life of the solar PV system irrespective of number of switching over from one category to another.



- (ii) In line with the second proviso of regulation 5(10), at the time of switching over from Net-billing / Gross-metering arrangement to Net-metering / Gross-metering arrangement, as the case may be, any unsettled amount shall be refunded through energy bill(s) after switchover.
- 2.4. WBSEDCL proposed that for alteration of sanctioned load / contract demand, if required at the time of switchover from one category to another, prosumer shall apply separately for such change in sanctioned load /contract demand as per the provisions of relevant Regulations/ Procedure and switchover shall be allowed after effecting alteration of sanctioned load / contract demand.
- 2.5. Regarding switchover of existing prosumers, WBSEDCL proposed that, eligibility will be determined as per the GIRSPV Regulations. However, the feed-in tariff as mentioned in the initial agreement will continue. It is also submitted that the generic tariff of existing prosumers under net-billing shall be considered as feed-in tariff under GIRSPV Regulations.
- 2.6. Regarding periodicity of testing and fitness certificate as under third proviso of the regulation 8(5) of the GIRSPV Regulations, WBSEDCL proposed the followings:
 - (i) Prosumers shall have to furnish certificate of fitness from authorised agencies of WBSEDCL, whose details will be available on the website of WBSEDCL with following periodicity:
 - Every two years for PV output above 170 kW (200 kVA)
 - Every three years for PV output upto 170 kW (200 KVA)
 - (ii) If installation remains out of operation for more than six months consumers have to furnish fitness certificate afresh from the authorised agencies of WBSEDCL along with clearance from office of the Chief Electrical Inspector of West Bengal or self-certification as per format (below notified voltage) in accordance with CEA Safety regulations.
- 2.7. It is proposed that, if a prosumer fails to generate Solar generation within one year from the date of agreement or discontinue the solar generation for more than one year for any reason whatsoever, then the agreement shall be automatically cancelled.
- 2.8. It is proposed that, in case of defective/ defunct meter or in case of inaccessibility to meters, assessment of drawal energy including energy export (for net-metering) shall



be computed based on the provisions of the Electricity Supply Code. Assessment of solar generation shall be on the basis of average generation and other parameters of the preceding month or during any previous period.

2.9. WBSEDCL also prayed for two months' time to modify software and to implement the PROCEDURE – C (2025).

Observations of the Commission:

- 3.0 In terms of regulation 6(1) of the GIRSPV Regulations, each distribution licensee has to prepare a 'detailed procedure' or update their existing 'detailed procedure' in connection with net-metering / net-billing / gross-metering to align with the GIRSPV Regulations and upload the same in its website / online portal. There is no regulatory requirement of approval of the detailed procedure by the Commission.
- 4.0 WBSEDCL in its petition has expressed certain difficulties and express proposals for implementation of the provisions of the GIRSPV Regulations as well as certain exemptions for implementation of Government projects/ Schemes as mentioned under paragraph 2.1. The Commission observes that, for implementation of government schemes if any network augmentation / strengthening is required that will be recovered from the said project / scheme.
- 5.0 WBSEDCL in its petition has included other proposals regarding switchover from one category to another or switchover of existing prosumers and periodicity of testing, etc. which are found align with the provisions and spirit of the GIRSPV Regulations. It may also be noted that during switchover from one category to another, the initial agreement shall be modified to that extent, as applicable.
- 6.0 WBSEDCL has sought two months' time for software modification and implementation of PROCEDURE C (2025), from the date of approval of the Commission. The Commission notes that, the petition was submitted on 24th September 2025 and two months from that date is 24th November 2025. However, considering the Puja Holidays during these periods the Commission directs to implement the PROCEDURE C (2025) within one month from the issuance of this order.



Order:

- 7.0 In view of the above, the Commission considering the provisions of regulation 21(1) of the GIRSPV Regulations 2025, approves the exemption as mentioned under paragraph 4.0 for implementation of Government projects/ Schemes under WBSEDCL PROCEDURE C (2025). WBSEDCL is also directed to carry out necessary software modifications and implement the same with online facilities of net-metering / net-billing / Gross-metering within one month from the date of issuance of this order.
- 8.0 The petition is disposed of.
- 9.0 A copy of the order shall be posted in the website of the Commission.
- 10.0 WBSEDCL shall download the copy of the order from the website of the Commission and act on it. Certified copy of the order, if applied for, be given to the parties on completion of formalities laid down in the West Bengal Electricity Regulatory Commission (Conduct of Business) Regulations, 2013, as amended and on submission of necessary fees.

Sd/-

(DR. MALLELA VENKATESWARA RAO) CHAIRPERSON

Dated: 11.11.2025

Sd/-

DEPUTY DIRECTOR, WBERC