



Legal Updates

TRAI issues
Telecommunication
(Broadcasting and
Cable) Services
Standards of
Quality of Service
and Consumer
Protection
(Addressable
Systems) (Second
Amendment)
Regulations, 2019

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India ("**TRAI**") has issued the Telecommunication (Broadcasting and Cable) Services Standards of Quality of Service and Consumer Protection (Addressable Systems) (Second Amendment) Regulations, 2019 on 09.10.2019 ("**QoS Second Amendment**") for ensuring ease in selection of channels and bouquets of their choice by subscribers, thus resulting in reduction of TV viewing charges for consumers by optimising their subscription.

In light of the issues raised regarding leakage / misuse of consumer information and privacy of data during the consultation process, TRAI, through the QoS Second Amendment, has mandated DPOs to allow consumers to access channels / bouquets available on their platforms and modify the same through TRAI's app/ portal by sharing APIs with TRAI, thus promoting ease in selection of channels and bouquets of their choice by consumers. TRAI is also in the process of finalising the API specifications which shall be communicated separately to the DPOs.

Ministry of Power ("MoP") vide Notification dated 01.10.2019, clarified the following:

- For Captive Power Plants ("CPPs") commissioned before 01.04.2016, Renewable Purchase Obligation ("RPO") should be at the level mandated by the Commission for 2015-16. For CPPs commissioned from 01.04.2016 onwards, the RPO should be at the level mandated by the Commission or MoP (whichever is higher) for the year of commissioning of CPP.
- In case of augmentation in capacity, RPO for augmented capacity shall be the RPO applicable for the year in which CPP has been augmented.
- In case, for meeting RPO obligation, CPP has surplus power than its consumption requirement, such a CPP may sell its surplus power to the DISCOMs under the prevailing arrangements or in the power exchange.

MoP issues Clarification on Orders related to Renewable Purchase Obligation GERC notifies
Consumer
Grievances
Redressal Forum
and Ombudsman
Regulations

The Gujarat Electricity Regulatory Commission ("GERC") has notified the Gujarat Electricity Regulatory Commission (Consumer Grievances Redressal Forum and Ombudsman) Regulations, 2019 ("Consumer Grievance Redressal Forum & Ombudsman Regulations") formulated for providing guidelines to the Distribution Licensees in the State for establishing Forum(s) for redressal of grievances of consumers, for appointing Ombudsman / Ombudsmen by the Commission, for making representation against non-redressal of grievances of consumers, for specifying time and manner of settlement of grievances by the Ombudsman / Ombudsmen and matters incidental and ancillary thereto.

Ministry of New and Renewable Energy ("MNRE") vide Circular dated 11.10.2019 issued 'Draft Guidelines for Tariff Based Competitive Bidding Process for Procurement of Power from Grid Connected Wind Solar Hybrid Projects'. MNRE had issued Wind-Solar Hybrid Policy on 14.05.2018 (along with its amendment on 11.10.2018) with the objective to provide a framework for promotion of large grid connected wind-solar PV hybrid system. Subsequently, a scheme for setting-up of 2500 MW wind solar hybrid power projects was sanctioned on 25.05.2018 for procurement of hybrid power at a tariff discovered through transparent process of bidding by Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI). Pursuant to the same, the current Guidelines have been prepared.

Suggestions / comments on the draft Guidelines are to be sent in latest by 31.10.2019.

GERC Order directing payment of Additional Surcharge Open Access consumers for the period of 1st October, 2019 to 31st March, 2020 GERC vide its Order dated 12.03.2014 has decided the applicability of Additional Surcharge on Open Access consumer. In compliance of the Commission's order dated 12.03.2014, GUVNL submitted data for the period of 1st October 2018 to 31st March 2019 for determination of Additional Surcharge for the period of 1st October 2019 to 31st March 2020. The said data was analysed and based on the formula depicted in the Commission's order dated 12.03.2014, the Commission worked out Additional Surcharge at Rs. 0.10/kWh, applicable for the period of 1st October, 2019 to 31st March, 2020, to the consumers of four State Owned DISCOMs i.e. DGVCL, MGVCL, PGVCL and UGVCL who avail power though Open Access from any source other than their respective DISCOM.

CERC approves
Methodology of
Settlement of
Account for
Bilateral Short
Term and Collective
Transaction for the
period of Grid
Disturbance

Central Electricity Regulatory Commission ("CERC") vide its order dated 09.10.2019 has approved the Methodology of settlement of accounts for bilateral short term and collective transactions, for the period of Grid Disturbance ("Methodology") under Regulation 6.5.17 of Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Indian Electricity Grid Code), Regulation 2010. The Methodology shall come into force from the date the IEGC Second Amendment comes into effect i.e. 17.02.2014.

UPERC invites Comments on Draft SOP Regulations Uttar Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission ("UPERC") has invited comments on the Draft UPERC (Standards of Performance) Regulations, 2019 ("Draft SOP Regulations"). The Draft SOP Regulations lay down the guidelines to maintain distribution system parameters within the permissible limits. These standards are intended to serve as guidelines to ensure that the distribution network performance meets a minimum standard which is essential for the consumers' installation to function properly.

The comments to the Draft SOP Regulations are to be submitted by 01.11.2019.

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