

**ODISHA ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION  
PLOT NO.4, CHUNOKOLI, SHAILASHREE VIHAR,  
BHUBANESWAR – 751021**

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**ORDER**

**No. OERC-Engg. 02/2022/468**

**Dated:05.05.2022**

The Commission had issued an order on 19.08.2016 on Net Metering / Bi-directional Metering and their connectivity with respect to Rooftop Solar PV Projects which was subsequently amended up to 17.01.2018. Now, several issues such as group net metering, virtual net metering etc. have been brought before the Commission by various stakeholders which necessitates for further amendment of the said Order. In the meantime, the Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission has come up with Group Net metering and Virtual Net Metering Guidelines in 2019. Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Government of India vide its letter dated 30.01.2022 has also requested all State Electricity Regulatory Commissions/ Joint Electricity Regulatory Commissions to consider issuing similar guidelines facilitating Group Net Metering and Virtual Net Metering for promotion of Renewable Energy. Moreover, this Commission has been receiving proposals from some consumers in Odisha for inclusion of provision of Group metering that will bring further investment in the renewable energy sector. In addition to the above, Ministry of Power, Government of India vide its Notification dated 28.06.2021 has made amendment to the Electricity (Rights of Consumers) Rules, 2020 and has capped the maximum Net Metering capacity of a Prosumer upto five hundred kilowatt or upto the sanctioned load, whichever is lower. After considering the notification of Ministry of Power and advisory of Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Government of India, as well as suggestions from various stakeholders, the Commission hereby makes the following amendments to the previous Order which will be known as Net Metering/Bi-Directional Metering/Gross Metering/Group Net Metering/Virtual Net Metering and their connectivity with respect to Solar PV Projects 2016 (as amended upto 05.05.2022).

**Amendment to the Order on Net Metering/Bi-Directional Metering & their Connectivity with respect to Solar PV Projects 2016 (as amended upto 17.01.2018)**

Clause 1 (vi)(c) of the “Preamble” shall be replaced as under:

*Net metering to a Prosumer shall be allowed for loads upto five hundred kilowatt (500 kW) or upto the sanctioned load, whichever is lower as long as it is within the limit of 75% of transformer capacity.*

After Clause 2 (c) the following shall be inserted, namely:-

- (d) “Net-metering” means a mechanism whereby solar energy exported to the Grid from Grid Interactive Solar Photovoltaic system of a Prosumer is deducted from energy imported from the Grid in units (kWh) to arrive at the net imported or exported

*energy and the net energy import or export is billed or credited or carried-over by the distribution licensee by using a single bidirectional energy meter for net-metering at the point of supply.*

- (e) *“Gross-Metering” means a mechanism whereby the total solar energy generated from Grid Interactive Solar Photovoltaic system of a Prosumer and the total energy consumed by the Prosumer are accounted separately through appropriate metering arrangements and for the billing purpose, the total energy consumed by the Prosumer is accounted at the applicable retail tariff and total solar power generated is accounted for at a tariff determined by the Commission.*
- (f) *“Group Net Metering” means a mechanism whereby surplus energy generated/ injected from a Renewable Energy System or Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) charged through Renewable Energy System is exported to the grid through Net Meter and the exported energy is adjusted in more than one electricity service connection(s) of the same consumer located within the same distribution licensee’s area of supply;*
- (g) *“Virtual Net Metering” means a mechanism whereby entire energy generated/ injected from a Renewable Energy System or Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) charged through Renewable Energy System is exported to the grid from renewable energy meter/ gross meter and the energy exported is adjusted in more than one electricity service connection(s) of participating consumers located within the same distribution licensee’s area of supply;*

Existing Clause 2 (e) of the “Definitions” shall be replaced as under:

- (i) *“Prosumer” means a Consumer of electricity in the area of supply of the Distribution Licensee, who uses a self-owned or third party-owned Solar Power System installed at the Consumer’s premises, to offset part or all of the Consumer’s electricity requirements and can also inject electricity into the Grid using same point of supply.*

The existing Clause 2 (d) and Clause 2 (f) shall be read as Clause 2 (h) and Clause 2 (j) respectively.

The following shall be inserted after existing Clause 14.

**15. Applicability of virtual net metering and group net metering framework**

- (a) *Virtual Net Metering Framework shall be applicable for consumers under “Domestic” and “Specified Public Purpose” category as per OERC Distribution (Conditions of Supply) Code, 2019 as amended from time to time, and also for the offices of Government/ local authorities.*
- (b) *The capacity of the Renewable Energy System under Group Net Metering or Virtual Net Metering framework to be installed by any Renewable Energy Generator shall not be less than 5 kW and more than 500 kW.*

The existing Clause 15 and Clause 16 shall be read as Clause 16 and Clause 17 respectively.

The above amendment shall come into force prospectively from the date of its Notification.

This amendment Order is issued with the approval of the Commission.

**Sd/-  
SECRETARY**