

Advisory for submission of applications under GNA Regulations

[Rev-5 dated: 23.01.2024]

IMPORTANT

Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Connectivity and General Network Access to the inter-State Transmission System) Regulations, 2022 (hereinafter called as 'GNA Regulations') was notified on 07.06.2022 and Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Connectivity and General Network Access to the Inter-State Transmission System) (First Amendment) Regulations, 2023 was notified on 01.04.2023. In addition to GNA Regulations, applicants are requested to go through the "Detailed Procedure for Connectivity and GNA" and "Detailed Procedure for Regulation 21 and Formats" along with advisories available on CTU website and ensure that the applications are in conformity to the GNA Regulations, 2022 and the Detailed Procedure thereof. Regulations / Detailed Procedures are available at the following link:

[Click here](#)

1. General Instructions w.r.t. filing of Applications:

- 1.1. Timely submission of Connectivity/GNA applications:** CTUIL is making all efforts to grant the Connectivity/GNA on margins available in existing/under construction ISTS to the extent possible. The details of margins in existing/under construction stations are available on CTU website and are being updated on monthly basis. CTUIL also takes advance actions for planning of new ISTS for identified potential RE zones and getting the same approved from concerned authorities. However, considering the timelines for bidding & implementation of new ISTS, it is desirable that applicants may apply for Connectivity/GNA **preferably 30 months in advance** from the Start Date of Connectivity/GNA in new ISTS to avoid any mismatch between commissioning of RE project and associated ISTS required for evacuation/drawl of power.
- 1.2. Formats:** The formats of Affidavit, Agreement, CONN-BGs, and NoC are available under "Formats & Agreements" on CTU website. It shall be noted that application might get submitted in absence of the requisite mandatory document but shall not be treated as a complete application. Such applications shall be reverted and application priority shall be based on submission of the complete application along with mandatory documents.
- 1.3. Affidavit:** Affidavit is required to be submitted by applicants strictly as per the format available under "Formats & Agreements" on CTU website on non-judicial Stamp Paper of Rs. 10/-. Affidavits with affixed revenue stamps / special adhesive stamps in place of non-judicial stamp paper shall not be accepted. Each application should be supported by an individual affidavit and scanned copy of affidavit of one application should not be used with any other application except for the revised application filed against the reverted application. Affidavit shall be complete i.r.o all the formalities such as physical signatures, attestation from Notary, placement of company seal, name of signatory etc.
- 1.4. Board Resolution:** Board Resolution shall authorize the signatory of application/Affidavit to carry out all activities related to Connectivity and GNA under GNA Regulations, 2022.
- 1.5. Digital Signatures:** Application shall have a legally valid digital signature certificate (Class 3 – SHA2 – Signing Component) mapped with the name of applicant company as per Interoperability guidelines of Controller of Certifying Authorities (CCA) of India.
- 1.6. Requirement of Unique Registration Number (URN) for Connectivity with the Grid:** CEA vide its Order dated 09.11.2020 (Ref. No.: CEA-PL-15-13(11)/1/2020-PSLF) has directed that all power generating units of the country having installed capacity of 0.5 MW or above are required to register themselves on CEA e-GEN portal, <http://egen.cea.gov.in>. URN need to be entered in the connectivity application form and copy of Registration Certificate to be uploaded with the

application. Applicants are requested to register each unit separately on the CEA website. Further, applicant shall make sure that the name of the applicant and the Installed Capacity mentioned in the Connectivity application form shall commensurate with the CEA Certificate. In case of difference in name, the application shall be reverted and in case of difference in installed capacity, the installed capacity as declared in the application form shall be considered.

- 1.7. The applicants shall ensure that the Affidavit & the online Format of applications are signed by the same authorized signatory.
- 1.8. **Authorization Certificate for RPPD:** In case of Renewable Power Park Developer applying for Connectivity, authorisation by the Central Government or the State Government, as applicable, to undertake infrastructural activities including arrangement for Connectivity on behalf of solar power generators or wind power generators needs to be submitted with the application as stipulated under Regulation 5.8(vii) of the GNA Regulations 2022.
- 1.9. **Default in payment of Outstanding Transmission charges or opening of LC under CERC Sharing Regulations:** In accordance with directions of Hon'ble Commission in Order dated 08.03.2018 in Petition No. 229/RC/2015 and also in light of Regulation 21(c) of the CERC (Sharing of Inter-State Transmission Charges and Losses) Regulations, 2020; in case a Generator or DIC has failed to make payment of outstanding transmission charges or to open LC, it shall be debarred from applying for Connectivity/GNA till it makes payment of transmission charges and/or opens LC as required. If an application is made by such a defaulting party, the same shall be liable for rejection.

2. Payment of Application fee & GST

All the Connectivity/GNA applications to CTU are now being received through NSW Portal only. Accordingly, the application fee as prescribed in **Regulation 3.2 /3.3** of the CERC GNA Regulations, 2022 plus GST at the rate of 18% on the application fee is to be paid online through NSW portal at the time of submission of the application.

Please note that the GST and PAN No. of Central Transmission Utility of India Limited are as below:

- GST No. 06AAJCC2026N1ZM
- PAN No. AAJCC2026N

3. Application for Connectivity

- 3.1. A generating station already connected to or intending to connect to the intra-state transmission system for part of installed capacity and seeking connectivity to ISTS for balance quantum (installed capacity-intra state connectivity quantum), shall furnish the copy of the application already made to STU or Intimation of Grant issued by STU to establish the quantum of Connectivity granted/sought to Intra-State transmission system.
- 3.2. An applicant shall not be eligible for connectivity to both Intra-State Transmission System and Inter-State Transmission System for the same capacity.
- 3.3. REGS (excluding Hydro), ESS (excluding pumped storage) and RPPDs submitting the application are required to submit following documents with the online application in compliance with Regulation 5.8 of the GNA Regulations 2022:

3.3.1. For LOA/PPA route, applicant shall upload following documents under respective tab on NSW portal:

3.3.1.1. Letter of Award (LOA) issued by or Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) entered into with, a Renewable Energy Implementing Agency or a distribution licensee or an authorized agency on behalf of distribution licensee consequent to tariff based competitive bidding **(Mandatory)**

3.3.1.2. In case of Applicant being multi-located REGS, Certification of the details of locations and capacity at each location by the Renewable Energy Implementing Agency or the distribution licensee, as applicable **(Mandatory)**.

3.3.2. For Land route, applicant shall upload following documents under respective tab on NSW portal:

3.3.2.1. Registered Title Deed as a proof of Ownership or Registered Lease Deed or registered documents in support of Land Use Rights for 50% of the total land required for the project for which Connectivity is sought **(Mandatory)**. Applicant shall ensure that the land documents to be submitted with the application of Connectivity under the GNA Regulations, 2022 should meet the following requirements:

- i. Title Deed as a proof of Ownership
- ii. Lease Deed as a proof of Lease rights
- iii. Land use rights documents titled as **“Land Use Right Agreement”** (Model “Land Use Rights Agreement” available on CTU website under the Open Access -> Formats & Agreements -> For Fresh Applications)

3.3.2.2. Regarding the land documents, the following may be noted:

- i. No other type of land documents including Sub-lease Deed, Leave and License Agreement, Agreement to Lease, Agreement to Sale, Power of Attorney, MoU etc shall be acceptable.
- ii. The land agreement bearing the signature of same person on behalf of both first and second party can be accepted only if the said person is having valid Power of Attorney or due authorisation for entering into the said agreement.
- iii. All land documents should be duly registered (as stipulated under Section 17 of the Indian Registration Act, 1908) with the appropriate authority of the respective state and should bear the unique Registration Number & the date of registration.
- iv. All land documents should bear clear and existing vesting of land rights including the rights to use and possess the land in favour of applicant at the time of application. Date of possession of the land should be clearly mentioned in the land documents. Further, the land rights should correspond with the life of the project.
- v. No land documents shall have a reference for future date towards possession of land, effective date of agreement/ Sale deed etc. and all rights shall be enforceable as on the date of application.
- vi. Minimum land requirement for different type of RE projects: Applicant shall submit the land documents considering the per MW land area requirement for different type of RE Projects as below: ***[As decided in the meeting held on 23.08.2023 (Minutes communicated vide CEA letter Ref. No. CEA/PLG/RT&I/15/11/2023 dated 24.08.2023)]***
 - a) The minimum land requirement for solar standalone projects/power parks shall be 3 Acre/MW.

- b) The minimum land requirement for wind standalone project/ power parks shall be 0.25 Acre/MW. However, for wind projects, land parcels shall be suitable for development of Wind power project and contiguous land shall not be accepted. **To substantiate the same, applicants are required to provide capacity of the individual turbines considered for the project for calculation of the land requirement and placement of wind turbine generators (WTGs) on the land parcels indicating the inter-WTG distance in accordance with MNRE Guidelines.**
- c) Above benchmark levels are inclusive of Balance of Plant (BOP) requirements.
- d) The benchmark levels given above are permanent land requirement for useful life of the project.
- e) The benchmark levels for Hybrid projects would be calculated as arithmetic sum of land requirement for each RE type.

3.3.2.3. An Undertaking towards submission of Land Documents as per **FORMAT-UD-LAND (Mandatory)**

3.3.2.4. 'Title Report' in the applicant's favour executed by a registered advocate holding inter alia clear and present vesting of land rights (ownership or lease rights or land use rights) as per **FORMAT-TITLE-REPORT (Mandatory)**.

3.3.2.5. Copy of Land Conversion Certificate (in case land conversion is required) or copy of relevant Law/ Regulation/ Rule/ Policy etc (in case land conversion is not required) shall also be attached for the land on which development of REGS/RPPD is proposed and land documents have been submitted. In case, the conversion of Land Use is required for the purpose for setting up a RE power park/project, but the same is not submitted for certain land parcel(s), such land parcel(s) shall not be considered by CTU while processing the application. **[Based on the discussions held with RE developers and their Associations on 15.09.2023, it has been decided that this requirement shall be on hold till further notice.]**

3.3.3. For Land BG route, the following documents under respective tab on NSWS portal shall be uploaded:

3.3.3.1. Bank Guarantee of Rs. 10 lakh/ MW in lieu of ownership or lease rights or land use rights of land for 50% of the land required for the capacity for which Connectivity is sought in line with Regulation 5.8 (vii) (c) and 5.8 (xi) (c) of GNA regulations as per format **FORMAT-LAND-BG (Mandatory)** made available under "Formats & Agreements" on CTU website. **The validity of Land BG must not be less than One Year from the last date of the month in which application has been received.**

3.3.3.2. Bank Guarantee is to be submitted strictly as per the above referred format. Deviation / modification in any form by omission, addition or modification of any text, sentence or any part is not acceptable & application is liable for rejection. Stamp Paper for Bank Guarantee should be of appropriate value (in accordance with Stamp Act) and purchased in the Name of Issuing Bank only. Detailed specifications / Procedure for issuance of Bank guarantee(s) may be referred under the **"Advisory for submission of Bank Guarantees under GNA Regulations"**.

4. Application for GNA

4.1. The drawee/injecting entity connected to intra-State transmission system shall submit NOC from concerned STU in FORMAT-GNA-INTRA-NOC to establish the availability of transmission

capacity in the Intra-State Transmission System. The quantum of power, Start Date of GNA and the End Date of GNA need to be explicitly mentioned in the NOC (**Mandatory**).

4.2. The application for use of GNA granted to an entity under Clauses (i) to (v) of Regulation 17.1 by another entity granted GNA under Clauses (i) to (v) of Regulation 17.1, shall be supported with No Objection Certificate (NoC) from concerned STU as per FORMAT-GNA-TRANS-NOC as indicated below:

Transferee Applicant	STU-2	Drawee in STU-1	Drawee in STU-2	DL/BC/TL in ISTS
STU-1	No NoC	No NoC	NoC reqd. from STU-2	No NoC
Drawee in STU-1	No NoC	NoC reqd. from STU-1	NoC reqd. from STU-2	No NoC
DL/BC/TL in ISTS	No NoC	NoC reqd. from STU-1	NoC reqd. from STU-2	No NoC

*DL: Distribution Licensee
BC: Bulk Consumer
TL: Transmission Licensee*

Note: Applicants are advised to ensure that specific Start & End dates are mentioned in NoC.

5. Documents regarding land change by RE Developers:

CERC vide its *Suo-moto* order dated 22.09.2023 in Petition No. 11/SM/2023 has directed that change in the location of the land parcel(s) (based on which Connectivity has been granted) without any change in the point of Connectivity with ISTS and the start date of Connectivity shall be allowed.

Accordingly, any connectivity grantee seeking to act under the aforesaid CERC's order shall be required to submit a formal request along with documents of new land parcels admeasuring 50% of the total land required for the capacity for which Connectivity is sought. The Connectivity grantee has to submit all the documents afresh in compliance with Para 3.3.2 above.

Any discrepancy in land documents pertaining to the new land parcel shall be communicated to grantee within 15 days of the receipt of such request, and the connectivity grantee shall promptly rectify the deficiency(ies), if any, within the next 15 days failing which the request for change in land parcel(s) shall be considered as unconditionally withdrawn by the applicant.

In cases, where the Connectivity Grantee raising a request under the aforesaid directions of the Commission is sharing the dedicated transmission lines and the terminal bay(s) with other Connectivity Grantee(s), then its request must be accompanied with a document clearly documenting a no-objection from the other Connectivity Grantee(s) for the requested change in land parcel(s). Further, the Connectivity Grantee in its request letter shall also hold the Central Transmission Utility and its officials indemnified from and against any and all actions, claims, proceedings, suits and judgements, damages and losses, all costs, charges and expenses relating thereto including those arising out of any false representation or breach or failure by Applicant to comply with any Regulatory or contractual obligations.

6. Documents to be submitted in satisfaction of conditions subsequent by the Connectivity Grantee (under Regulation 11A of the GNA Regulations, 2022)

6.1. Land documents for Connectivity granted through Land BG Route:

Applicants who are granted connectivity through Land BG Route are required to submit the land documents for 50% of the land required for the capacity for which Connectivity is sought in line with Para 3.3.2 above (along with the stipulated FORMATS) within 180 days of issuance of final grant of connectivity.

6.2 Auditor Certificate:

Connectivity Grantee which is REGS (other than Hydro generating station), ESS (excluding PSP) or Renewable power park developer shall submit Auditor's certificate, certifying the release of at least 10% of the project cost including the land acquisition cost through equity within a period of 12 months from the date of issuance of final grant of connectivity. Connectivity Grantee shall also submit undertaking as per **FORMAT-UD-AUDIT**.

6.3 Financial Closure:

Connectivity Grantee which is REGS (other than Hydro generating station), ESS (excluding PSP) or Renewable power park developer, shall have to achieve the financial closure for the capacity of such Connectivity,

- (a) within a period of 12 months from the date of issuance of final grant of connectivity, if the start date of Connectivity is within 2 years from date of issuance of final grant of connectivity or
- (b) a period equivalent to 50% time period between issue of final grant of Connectivity and start date of Connectivity, if the start date of Connectivity is more than 2 years from date of issuance of final grant of connectivity.

Connectivity Grantee shall also submit undertaking as per **FORMAT-UD-FC** alongwith the documents in support of Financial Closure.

Any discrepancy in documents shall be communicated to grantee within 15 days of receipt of documents. The connectivity grantee shall promptly rectify the deficiency(ies), if any within next 15 days failing which connectivity shall be revoked and treatment of Bank Guarantees shall be as per Regulation 11B of GNA Regulation.

7. Helpdesk:

To resolve any application related query, a help desk has been created. The applicants may contact:

Sh Amandeep Kala (Chief Manager): 0124 -282 2166 / 91- 9599683564

Sh Sandeep Behera (Manager): 0124 -282 3154 / 91- 7042396729

In case, if required, the Applicants may also approach the Chief Operating Officer, CTUIL at 0124 -282 2212.