





"Tariff and Others Terms for Supply of Electricity from Renewable Energy Sources and non-fossil fuel based Cogenerating Stations" (First Amendment) Regulations, 2024. [Draft]

The UERC notified amendments on **"Tariff and Others Terms for Supply of Electricity from Renewable Energy Sources and non-fossil fuel based Co-generating Stations"** (First Amendment) Regulations, 2024". The key highlights of this draft is mentioned below:

Objective: The draft amendment regulation aims to issue revised targets of Renewable Purchase Obligation (RPO) to the distribution licensee, open access consumers and captive users. A new category **"Distributed RPO"**, the distributed RPO is limited to power generated from renewable energy power plants with installed capacity less than 10 MW including solar installation (net metering, virtual metering, group net metering, behind the meter and any other configuration) the compliance will be measured in kWh/kW/day. It also addresses the time frame for Technical Feasibility Study and successful commissioning of grid interactive Rooftop and small solar PV plants installed under net metering.

The document can be accessed here

1. State Specific CUF for RPO compliance: In proposed amendment to Principal Regulations Clause 10 (1) (c) proviso 2 "*Provided further that in case the obligated entity is unable to provide generation data against distributed renewable energy installations, the reported capacity shall be transformed into distributed renewable energy generation in terms of energy by a multiplier of 3.5 units per/kW/day."*

The multiplier factor of 3.5 units considered according to the MoP¹ notification must be tailored to the resources available in the state of Uttarakhand. For example the solar irradiance varies according to geography and seasons. During period of low intensity radiation, there will be no incentive for solar power producer to provide actual energy production data as 'deemed' generation calculated using the multiplication factor would result in higher amount of solar energy generated. This would result in ghost RPO met by such entities.

It is suggested to provide a monthly multiplier factor based on benchmarked capacity utilisation factor (CUF) of solar plants located in the state. This can later be revisited based on more reliable data collected from the projects located across the state. Such a benchmark can be defined for different regions across the state. Continued non-reporting of data can be further penalised by applying a factor of 0.9 - 0.8 over and above benchmarked CUF for the applicable month(s) for non-reporting of data for more than 3 months in a span of 5 years. This would incentive the generators to report actual electricity generation data.

¹ <u>https://powermin.gov.in/sites/default/files/Notification_Regarding_Renewable_Purchase_Obligation_RPO.pdf</u>







2. Obligation to purchase Wind RPO: Clause (10) of the proposed amendment is aligned with MoP order dated 20 October 2023¹. The Commission must take into consideration the topography of the state i.e. hilly terrain covered with forest and glaciers. Installation of new any wind power plant may not be economically viable. Furthermore, purchasing electricity generated from wind power plant from any other RE-rich state is expensive as the discom will have to bear the cost of transmission loss for energy imported from other states. While Renewable Energy Certificate's (REC) would also enable the obligated entities to meet their RPO, additional flexibility may be provided for the obligated entities to fulfil their RPO from other sources which are in abundance in the state.