

**BEFORE THE GUJARAT ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
AT GANDHINAGAR**

PETITION NO. 2475 OF 2025

In the matter of:

Petition under Section 181 read with Section 86 of Electricity Act, 2003 read with Regulations 18, 19 and 20 of GERC (Net Metering Rooftop Solar PV Grid Interactive Systems) Regulations, 2016 and other applicable provisions for exemption from the requirement of entering into agreement for net metering for residential consumers installing rooftop solar PV Plants under PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana.

Petitioner No. 1 : Uttar Gujarat Vij Company Limited
Represented by : Ld. Adv. Ms. Ranjitha Ramchandran
along with Mr. K.M. Baleva

Petitioner No. 2 : Madhya Gujarat Vij Company Limited
Represented by : Nobody was present.

Petitioner No. 3 : Paschim Gujarat Vij Company Limited
Represented by : Ld. Adv. Ms. Ranjitha Ramchandran
along with Mr. S.N. Parmar

Petitioner No. 4 : Dakshin Gujarat Vij Company Limited
Represented by : Nobody was present.

V/s.

RespondentNo. 1 : Torrent Power Limited, Ahmedabad
Represented by : Mr. Vikas Kumar Singh

RespondentNo. 2 : Torrent Power Limited, Surat
Represented by : Mr. Vikas Kumar Singh

RespondentNo. 3 : Torrent Power Limited, Dahej
Represented by : Mr. Vikas Kumar Singh

RespondentNo. 4 : Torrent Power Limited, Dholera
Represented by : Mr. Vikas Kumar Singh

RespondentNo. 5 : AspenPark Infra Vadodara Private Limited
Represented by : Nobody was present.

RespondentNo. 6 : Deendayal Port Authority
Represented by : Nobody was present.

RespondentNo. 7 : GIFT Power Company Limited
Represented by : Nobody was present.

RespondentNo. 8 : Jubilant Infrastructure Limited
Represented by : Nobody was present.

RespondentNo. 9 : MPSEZ Utilities Limited
Represented by : Nobody was present.

RespondentNo. 10 : Torrent Power Limited, MBSIR
Represented by : Mr. Vikas Kumar Singh

Objector : Mr. Jayram C. Marathe
Represented by : Nobody was present.

CORAM:
Shri Mehul M Gandhi, Member
Shri S.R. Pandey, Member

Date: 29/09/2025

DAILY ORDER

1. The matter was kept for hearing on 19.09.2025.
2. Ld. Adv. Ms. Ranjitha Ramchandran appearing on behalf of the Petitioners submitted that the present Petition has been filed under Section 181 read with Section 86 of Electricity Act, 2003 read with Regulations 18, 19 and 20 of GERC (Net Metering Rooftop Solar PV Grid Interactive Systems) Regulations, 2016 and other applicable provisions, seeking exemption from the requirement of entering into agreement for net metering for residential consumers installing rooftop solar PV Plants under PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana.
 - 2.1. She submitted that the present petition is filed for requesting the Commission to exercise its power to relax or remove difficulties related to the requirement of entering into Interconnection / Net metering Agreement for the Distribution Licensee with residential consumers, setting up Rooftop Solar PV Projects under PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana. She alternatively suggested that the Commission may initiate proceedings for amendment of the GERC (Net Metering Rooftop Solar PV Grid Interactive Systems) Regulations, 2016 to exempt residential consumers, setting up Rooftop Solar PV Projects under PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana from entering into an Interconnection / Net metering Agreement for the Distribution Licensee.
3. Mr. Vikas Kumar Singh appearing on behalf of Respondent TPL, submitted that pending the present petition, TPL is in receipt of a letter dated 06.08.2025 from GUVNL conveying a circular of Energy & Petrochemicals Department (EPD), Government of Gujarat, wherein it is stated that if a consumer's sanctioned load exceeds 6 kW but they

install a new RTS system of up to 6 kW, they will still benefit of waiver of Rs. 2,950/-. However, there is no clarity as to whether the said circular is applicable to private entity or not, and if the same is applicable, the mode of recovery of the charges may be waived.

- 3.1. He further submitted that the interconnection agreement consists of key techno-commercial provisions including details of legal ownership, need for compliances by consumer to various safety Rules and Regulations, metering, billing, and mechanism for handling defaults. The interconnection agreement forms the legal documentation and contains conditions for commercial settlement of net-metered injection/drawl thereby playing crucial role during disputes. The court of law while deciding disputes also stipulates the production of original agreements, and other physical legal documents. Accordingly, he requested the Commission to continue the requirement of interconnection agreement for all net-metering cases.
4. Ld. Adv. Ms. Ranjitha Ramchandran appearing on behalf of the Petitioners submitted that the Petitioners have not received the copy of the submission made by TPL. She requested the Commission to direct TPL to make available copy of reply filed by them in the present matter, to enable them to file a reply, for which she sought a week's time.
- 4.1. She submitted that in the present Petition, the Petitioners have requested for exemption from signing of the agreement. Regarding waiver of charges, she submitted that the EPD, GoG, has duly waived the same considering subsidy.

5. Heard. We note that the present Petition has been filed by the Petitioners under Section 181 read with Section 86 of Electricity Act, 2003 read with Regulations 18, 19 and 20 of GERC (Net Metering Rooftop Solar PV Grid Interactive Systems) Regulations, 2016 and other applicable provisions, seeking exemption from the requirement of entering into agreement for net metering for residential consumers installing rooftop solar PV Plants under PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana.
- 5.1. We note that in compliance to the direction given by the Commission vide Daily Order dated 02.08.2025, the Petitioners have issued Public Notices in two Gujarati newspapers - Sandesh and Divya Bhaskar, and one English Newspaper - Indian Express on 09.08.2025, inviting comments / suggestions / clarifications from the stakeholders and also filed compliance affidavit in this regard vide its affidavit dated 11.08.2025.
- 5.2. We note that in response to the Public Notice, one Objector viz. Mr. Jayram C. Marathe, filed his objections / suggestion in the present matter. We also note that the Petitioner has filed its reply to the submission made by the Objector.
- 5.3. We also note that when the matter was called out, nobody appeared on behalf of the Objector and the Respondent Nos. 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9. Moreover, no written communication about their inability to remain present was received by the Commission despite notice.
- 5.4. We note the submission of the Ld. Counsel appearing for the Petitioners that the Petitioners have not received the copy of submissions made by

the Respondent TPL and accordingly, requested the Commission to grant a week's time to enable them to file the reply, if any, in the present Petition. Hence, we direct the Respondent TPL to provide a copy of its reply to the Petitioners, within a week's time from the date of this Order. The Petitioners would be at liberty to file their rejoinder, if any, within a week's time after receipt of reply from the Respondent TPL.

6. We note that the Petitioners and the Respondents have made their submissions and completed arguments in the present matter. Accordingly, the Petitioners and the Respondents are directed to file their written submissions in the present Petition. The matter is now reserved for Order.
7. Order accordingly.

Sd/-
[S. R. Pandey]
Member

Sd/-
[Mehul M. Gandhi]
Member

Place: Gandhinagar
Date: 29/09/2025