

**GUJARAT ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
GANDHINAGAR**

Explanatory Note for Draft Gujarat Electricity Regulatory Commission (Licensee's Power to Recover Expenditure incurred in providing Supply and other Miscellaneous Charges) (Fourth Amendment) Regulations, 2024

The Gujarat Electricity Regulatory Commission in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 181 (2) (u) read with Sections 45 and 46 of the Electricity Act, 2003 (Act 36 of 2003), and all powers enabling it in that behalf, has notified the GERC (Licensee's Power to Recover Expenditure incurred in providing Supply and other Miscellaneous Charges) Regulations, 2005 (Notification No. 9 of 2005) vide notification dated 31.05.2005.

- Various consumers organisations have requested to enhance the threshold limit for Low Tension (LT) connection from 100 kVA/kW to 150 kVA/kW. The said proposals / requests were sent to ESCRP.
- Subsequently, there were communications from Ministry of Power, Government of India regarding facilitating Discoms to undertake reforms linked with release of new connection under Wase of Doing Business and Ease of Living initiative.
 - In its letter, MoP has stated that the Electricity (Rights of Consumer) Rules, 2020 promulgated by the Government of India extensively covers provisions to facilitate release of new electricity connection. Rule 13 of the extant Rules states that for electrified areas up to 150 kW or such higher load as the Commission may specify the connection charges for new connection shall be fixed on the basis of the load, category of connection sought and average cost of connection of the distribution licensee so as to avoid site inspection and estimation of demand charges for each and every case individually. The demand charges, in such cases, may be paid at the time of application for new connection.
 - It is stated that to facilitate ease of doing business, DISCOMs have been advised to provide connection through LT supply for up to 150 kW of load.
- Considering all these, ESCRP in Minutes of Meeting (MoM) of its 26th Meeting recommended to amend the Clause 3.2 of the Supply Code, 2015 by giving option to LT consumers to increase the threshold limit of their LT connection from 100 kVA/kW to 150 kVA/kW
- The Commission deliberated on the proposed amendments and now intends to amend the GERC (Electricity Supply Code and Related Matters) Regulations, 2015.
- Accordingly, necessary amendment is required in GERC (Licensee's Power to Recover Expenditure incurred in providing Supply and other Miscellaneous Charges) Regulations, 2005 to give the effect of amendment in GERC (Electricity Supply Code and Related Matters) Regulations, 2015.