

**Comments on Draft CERC (Transmission Planning and other Matters) Regulations, 2017**

S. No.	Regulation	Existing Text of Regulation	Proposed Text of Regulation	Rationale
1.	2. Scope of Regulations	2.2 These Regulations shall be applicable to CEA, CTU, Inter State Transmission Licensees, SEB/STUs, SLDC, RLDCs, NLDC, RPCs, NPC, DICs and other utilities involved in the transmission planning process.	2.2 These Regulations shall be applicable to CEA, CTU, Inter State Transmission Licensees, SEB/STUs, SLDC, RLDCs, NLDC, RPCs, NPC, DICs, <b>Transmission Licensees</b> and other utilities involved in the transmission planning process.	<p>The Preamble of the Regulation mentions the need of Planning process to be carried out in consultation with concerned Agencies and stakeholders in a transparent manner. Similarly Regulation 4.1.(d) also enlists that the objective of the Regulation is to provide for transparency in the Planning Process</p> <p>One of the major stakeholders in the regime enunciated under the EA, 2003 are the current/ prospective Transmission Licensee's who shall be bringing in the Capital that will be required executing the Planned Transmission System. Including them in various Committee's/Sub Committee's will achieve twin objective of transmission planning process to be consultative and transparent.</p>
2	3. Definitions	3.2 Central Study Committee: A standing Committee constituted by CEA comprising of members from CEA in the lead role, CTU, Member Secretary of State Power Committees, NLDC, RPC's as its members and shall be responsible for compiling data and studies received from Regional Study committees and conduct studies at National level for discussion in Standing Committee. Till such a time a State Power Committee is	3.2 Central Study Committee: A standing Committee constituted by CEA comprising of members from CEA in the lead role, CTU, Member Secretary of State Power Committees, NLDC, RPC's, <b>Holding Companies, of Transmission Licensee's, having in aggregate operational transmission capacity of more than 5000 circuit kilometer in India</b> as its members and shall be responsible for compiling data and studies received from Regional Study committees and conduct studies at National level for	<p>As mentioned above.</p> <p>Further in order to right size the Committee, the provision to include only Holding Companies, of Transmission Licensee's, having in aggregate operational transmission capacity of sizeable capacity (e.g., more than 5000 circuit kilometer) in India.</p>

		formed, STU's shall be a member of the Committee.	discussion in Standing Committee. Till such a time a State Power Committee is formed, STU's shall be a member of the Committee.	
3	3. Definitions	3.4 Regional Study Committee: A standing Committee constituted under RPC comprising of members from CEA, STU's in the region, RLDC, SLDCs, DISCOMs in the region, RPC, as its members and CTU as coordinator. One of the STUs on rotational basis shall take the lead role among STUs and represent in the Central Study Committee and shall be responsible for collecting data (as defined in Detailed Procedure) and conducting studies at regional level for recommendation to Central Study Committee	3.4 Regional Study Committee: A standing Committee constituted under RPC comprising of members from CEA, STU's in the region, RLDC, SLDCs, DISCOMs in the region, RPC, <b>Holding Companies, of Transmission Licensee's, having in aggregate operational transmission capacity of more than 5000 circuit kilometer in India</b> as its members and CTU as coordinator. One of the STUs on rotational basis shall take the lead role among STUs and represent in the Central Study Committee and shall be responsible for collecting data (as defined in Detailed Procedure) and conducting studies at regional level for recommendation to Central study Committee	As mentioned above.
4	3. Definitions	3.5 State Power Committee: means a committee established by resolution by the State Government for a specified state for facilitating the integrated operation of the power systems in the state.	<del>3.5 State Power Committee: means a committee established by resolution by the State Government for a specified state for facilitating the integrated operation of the power systems in the state.</del>	To be deleted  CERC does not have the Legal Jurisdiction to order State Governments to form State Power Committee under Electricity Act, 2003.  In order to achieve the objective of formation of State Power Committee, definition of State Power Committee needs to be included in EA, 2003. Modification of EA, 2003 may be requested by CERC by issuing Statutory Advice to Central

				Government by exercising its powers under section 79 (2) of EA, 2003.
5	12. Role of Generators	12 (1) Generating station connected/likely to be connected to ISTS or intra-state transmission system at 132 kV and above shall be responsible for providing technical data as per the format specified by Central and Regional Study Committees. At the Planning Stage, the Generators seeking connectivity shall submit the requisite details including injection LTA/GNA granted by CTU for consideration in simulation studies	12 (1) Generating station connected/likely to be connected to ISTS or intra-state transmission system <del>at 132 kV and above</del> shall be responsible for providing technical data as per the format specified by Central and Regional Study Committees. At the Planning Stage, the Generators seeking connectivity shall submit the requisite details including injection LTA/GNA granted by CTU for consideration in simulation studies	<p>Significant amount of Renewable Generation is planned in India. National Solar Mission envisages 100 GW solar capacity by FY 2022. Not all Generating stations may be connected at voltage level of 132 KV and above.</p> <p>Generating station irrespective of connectivity to ISTS/InSTS at any voltage level will affect Transmission Planning.</p> <p>Further by making it mandatory to share technical data for all generators, sanity check of data available with CEA in the form of Central Repository of Generators can be done by comparing it with the data available with Central and Regional Study Committees.</p>
6	14. Role of the Standing Committee for Power System Planning (SCPSP)	The SCPSP constituted by CEA firms up and reviews the transmission plans based on the proposals received from CTU, STUs, constraints in the system and growth in the Power System	The SCPSP constituted by CEA firms up and reviews the transmission plans based on the proposals received from <del>CTU, STUs</del> <b>Central Study Committee, Regional Study Committee, State Study Committee</b> , constraints in the system and growth in the Power System	<p>Since the objective of these Regulations transmission planning is to be carried out in a coordinated manner taking into consideration the inputs of all stakeholders and planning agencies. It is proposed that Central Study Committee/Regional Study Committee and State study committee be entrusted the role of recommending transmission proposals to SCPSP.</p> <p>Further since CTU and STU are part of the said Committee's, hence CTU and STU's viewpoints would already be taken into consideration in the proposal of Committee's</p>

7	17. Central Repository of Generators	(a) Central Repository of Generators shall be created in CEA where generation project developer proposing to set up a new generation plant must register itself.	(a) Central Repository of Generators shall be created in CEA where generation project developer proposing to set up a new generation plant must register itself. <b>All Developers who have operational generation plants and generation plans under various stages of construction also must register themselves in the Central Repository of Generators</b>	Existing generation stations will also affect future transmission planning based on whether the existing planned network meets the adequacy, reliability criteria etc or not.
8	18 Transparency in the planning process		<b>18.1.(f) Data related to Central Repository of Generators and GNA shall be put up on the website of CEA and shall be accessible to all.</b>	Regulation to be inserted in interest of transparency.
9	19 Broad Principles of Transmission Planning	19.1.(k) Any other criteria considered necessary by CEA for efficient planning of the ISTS	19.1.(k) Any other criteria considered necessary by CEA for efficient planning of the ISTS. In particular and without prejudice to the generality of the same the other criteria's include inter-alia: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transmission System should be planned in such a manner that that the transmission projects to be awarded through TBCB/Nomination route are a whole associated system with downstream system and upstream system already in operation in case of system strengthening schemes.</li> </ul>	In the past a whole associated system has been broken into parts and awarded resulting into upstream and downstream network being awarded to different developers. The same has led to co-ordination issues as many a times it has happened that the project is ready for commissioning, however the same cannot achieve commissioning of account of lack of downstream network/up steam network being available  Hence it is proposed that the Transmission system to be awarded should be a whole associated system with downstream and upstream networks already in operation if it's a system strengthening scheme. If it's a scheme for power evacuation then the downstream system should be in operation

### **Additional Points**

- CERC is requested to take up the following matter by issuing Statutory Advice under section 79 (2) of EA, 2003 to Central Government
  - To segregate CTU function from Powergrid or restrict CTU/STU from engaging in transmission business or as it entails conflict of interest. The same can be done by notifying other Government Companies who are not transmission licensees to take the role of CTU/STU as per Sec 38 and 39 of EA, 2003. Further section 38 and 39 of EA, 2003 to be modified to include that CTU and STU shall not engage in Transmission Business either through its Subsidiaries or its Affiliates.
  - To ensure All Future Transmission Projects irrespective of being part of ISTS/InSTS network are awarded through TBCB route in interest of transparency and competition. The same can be done by modifying National Tariff Policy 2016
  
- In view of increased penetration of renewable energy generation, there is an all pervasive opinion that Electricity Storage System (ESS)/Electricity Storage Facility will be required. Assets for Electricity Storage and the Content - Energy may be treated separately. The ownership of Assets like ESS may lie with the Transmission Entity. Cost of such Assets may be recovered through Fixed Service Charge based on Availability. In line with the said view Planning & Development of Electricity Storage System/Electricity storage facility should be taken care along with the Transmission Planning i.e. Present Regulations.