

Circular

Sub: COVID-19 lockdown - Government Directives/Orders/Memoranda for Wind Energy

Dear Member,

The Ministry of New & Renewable Energy has released two Office Memoranda, both dated 1st April 2020:

1. Invoicing for Renewable Energy Supplied (Annexure 'A'):

- a. Where billing is done through Regional Energy Account / State Energy Account, invoices may be sent by e-mail.
- b. Where billing is done through Joint Meter Reading
 - i. Where JMR is available, invoices may be sent by e-mail.
 - ii. Where JMR cannot be signed on account of lockdown, photograph/downloaded meter data may be accepted. Alternatively, DISCOMs can choose to pay on the basis of the invoice for the same month of the previous year, if it is lower. For newly commissioned projects, DISCOMs may choose to pay on the basis of the invoice of the previous month, if it is lower.
- c. WEGs will be required to submit hard copies of invoices within 15 working days from the date the lockdown is lifted for necessary adjustment, if any, from the subsequent bill

2. Payment to WEGs during the moratorium provided to DISCOMs by the Ministry of Power (Annexure 'B'):

- a. Citing the captioned moratorium some DISCOMs have termed the prevailing situation a *Force Majeure* condition and have been resorting to either part or full curtailment of RE power.
- b. MNRE has clarified that RE has been accorded 'must run' status and that this status of 'must run' remains unchanged during the period of lockdown.
- c. MNRE has further clarified that notwithstanding the moratorium, payments to RE generators are to be made on a regular basis as was prevalent before the lockdown.

In respect of Tamil Nadu:

1. TNERC has clarified that until a new order is issued, the validity of Order No.6 of 2018 dt.13.4.2018 shall continue. (Annexure 'C').
2. The Government of Tamil Nadu has issued guidelines regarding issue of passes for essential services. Power generation, including renewable power generation is an essential service. In this connection, RE companies are required to submit a letter to the relevant District Collector / District Revenue Officer / Revenue Divisional Officer / Sub Collector / Tahsildar Officer confirming that it is an essential service. Following this, the authority concerned will issue the requisite pass. (Annexures 'D' and 'E')

Yours sincerely
For Indian Wind Power Association

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