



REPUBLIKA E SHQIPËRIË

**ENERGY REGULATOR AUTHORITY**

**BOARD**

**DECISION**

**No. 43, Dated 29.03.2024**

**ON**

**OPENING THE PROCEDURE TO REVIEW THE REQUEST OF DSO COMPANY ON SOME ADDITIONS AND AMENDMENTS IN THE “REGULATION ON NEW CONNECTIONS IN THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM” APPROVED WITH ERE BOARD DECISION NO. 166, DATED 10.10.2016, AS AMENDED**

Based on article 7, point 1, article 16, point 3 and article 27, point 3 of Law no. 43/2015 “*On Power Sector*”, as amended; articles 26, 19 letter “f” and article 5, point 23 of the *Regulation for ERE Organization, Operation and Procedures*, approved with Energy Regulator Authority (ERE) Board decision no. 96, dated 17.06.2016, as well as article 6.2 of the *Regulation on New Connections in the Distribution System*, as amended, approved with ERE Board decision no. 166, dated 10.10.2016; ERE Board on their meeting dated 29.03.2024, after reviewing the report Protocol no. 197/5 dated 27.03.2024 prepared by the Technical Directorates “*On reviewing the request of DSO company on some additions and amendments in the “Regulation on New Connections in the Distribution System” approved with ERE Board decision no. 166, dated 10.10.2016, as amended*”,

**Observed that:**

- With official letter Protocol no. 646/1, dated 30.01.2024, protocolled at ERE with Protocol no. 197/1, dated 30.01.2024, DSO company submitted the request on some additions and amendments in the “Regulation on New Connections in the Distribution System” approved with ERE Board decision no.166, dated 10.10.2016, as amended with decision no. 177, dated 08.11.2016, decision no.234, dated 20.12.2019 and decision no. 133, dated 06.06.2022.
- DSO company proposes these changes, aiming to facilitate the company's procedures to guarantee compliance with regulatory standards, to adapt and standardize regulatory practices in a simpler way but at the same time to maximize the provision of services to customers at a time as short as possible.
- This regulation addresses the relations between DSO company and the Users of the Distribution System, who request to make a new connection or modify their existing connections in the Distribution System, to determine the procedures, deadlines and tariffs for

the performance of this service by the Distribution System Operator as well as to achieve a unification of the quality of works, standards and technical characteristics of new connections in the electricity distribution network.

- Based on Law no. 43/2015, "On Power Sector", as amended, article 27, point 3 provides that: *ERE shall approve the new connections rules and procedures, proposed by the licensee where it is included the methodology of calculating the costs and the standard connection agreement, that are transparent and efficient to ensure the non-discriminatory connection of every user to the transmission and distribution system. These rules and procedures specify the mutual rights and obligations of the respective system operator and the party requesting the connection, in particular the conditions for the connection, deadlines, metering points, ownership limits between the system and the system user.*
- Assessing that the purpose of DSO company in following up these proposals for amendments in the regulation on new connections, is related to increasing the efficiency in the provision of this service by the network operator, reducing costs and increasing transparency towards customers, it is evaluated that, in principle, the procedure for review and consultation of these proposals shall be opened.
- In order to guarantee from ERE on the above, it is evaluated necessary that together with the proposal for the opening of the procedure for the review of these proposals, to impose the obligation for DSO company to submit at ERE within a 30-day deadline, the necessary clarifications regarding the proposals related to the amendments provided for in points 1.3 "Definitions"; Paragraph 1.5; Paragraph 1.12 Part II, "Paragraph 2.1; item 5 "and Point 3.5.3.

For all of the above mentioned, ERE Board

#### **Decided:**

1. To open the procedure to review the request of DSO company, on some additions and amendments in the "Regulation on New Connections in the Distribution System" approved with ERE Board decision no. 166, dated 10.10.2016, as amended", as follows:

1.1. Wherever in the regulations and annexes where the term "OSHEE" company is used, it shall be changed to "DSO" company

#### **Paragraph 1.3 "Definitions"**

- 1.2. To remove the definition "Application payment (payment) is the payment that shall be executed by the applicant on the time when applying for connection and following...".

Definition: "Supervision Tariff and Testing Tariff are tariffs for controlling and assessing the technical project, supervising the construction, testing and validation of the connections which are paid by the applicant"

#### **is amended and shall become**

- 1.3. The initial Verification and Testing tariff of the metter are the tariffs for the grid update, operational expenses and initial testing of the electricity meters".

#### **1.4. The definition shall be added:**

Temporary connection is the electricity connection that is opened only for seasonal entities for defined periods according to the request of the applicant.

#### **1.5 Paragraph 1.5 Persons eligible to apply**

**Letter "c"** Distribution System Operator (DSO) shall not approve any application for a New connection, if the User or Applicant has not fulfilled all the technical conditions and standards as an obligation for implementing the codes and regulation in force or when he is a debtor and has not executed the previous liabilities to the DSO.

#### **The paragraph shall be added:**

..To the Distribution System Operator and the Supplier. In the event when the building has an existing contract shall not be applied for a new connection but only for the modification of the existing connection (if there is an ownership document).

#### **1.6 Paragraph 1.6 Application for New Connection**

Letter "dh" is added : Self-producers

#### **1.7 Paragraph 1.11 Responsibility for internal electrical installations of the applicant's building in letters "b", "c" and "e" shall add the sentence "by self declaration or any other document."**

#### **1.8 Paragraph 1.12 "Communication method" the sentence "The application may be performed online through the application on the official website of the applicant" shall be added even through online application**

This is for reasons of digitalization, transparency of the process, as well as convenience for applicants.

#### **1.9 Part II, "Required documentation for new connection application", Paragraph 2.1 "Installed power 0-20 kW.**

point 4 "Photocopy of the registration certificate" point 5 "the building plan view" and point 6 "Installation declaration and the grounding protocol" shall be removed and shall be replaced by "Self-declaration by the applicant", (attached to this format document).

#### **1.10 Point 4 shall also be removed in paragraph 2.2 "Installed power 20-50 kW" and 2.3 "Installed power 50 - 100 kW" and "On new connections in Medium Voltage".**

#### **1.11 Registration Certificate shall be removed from applications for all powers.**

#### **1.12 Paragraph "On new connections in MV", shall be numbered 2.4.**

In this paragraph **point 5** "The electricity project of the building approved by the competent bodies according to the legislation in force" is added: "... Even the electricity project of the cabin and the connection".

#### **1.13 Part III, "Application procedures for a new connection", Paragraph 3.1.1 "Procedures and Deadlines for a new connection or modification of an existing connection in low voltage for installed power 0-20 kw", letter a, shall be joined points i and ii in paragraph**

i and change "no more than 20 working days"

**1.14** Point "c" "Calculates the costs for the new connection " is added "The advance payment shall be liquidated from the applicant within 7 working days from receiving the notification. On the contrary the application is refused and shall be re-applied."

**1.15 Paragraph 3.5 "Required documentation for generation plant connection" is amended and divides into:**

• **Point 3.5.1 "Hydro generation plants**

1. Request for distribution grid connection (Application form).
2. Photocopy of the identification document (ID card)
3. General plan view of building.
4. Map indicating the location of building in site in an adequate scale.
5. Longitudinal profile of the electricity line and all other technical details related thereof.
6. Full design of the node how shall be connected with the new building to the distribution grid.
7. Draft copy of electrical engineer license that carried out the design .
8. Electricity contract for personal needs.
9. Concession contract (or the approval from the Ministry) for the construction of the generation plant.
10. Maximum generated load active and reactive.
11. Principal internal scheme of the generation plant with all technical details.
12. Type of synchronic generator and its parameters.
13. Main parameters of the power transformer.

• **Point 3.5.2 "Photovoltaic generation plants"**

1. Request for distribution grid connection (Application form).
2. Photocopy of the identification card (ID).
3. Generation plan view of the building
4. Map indicating the location of building in site in an adequate scale.
5. Longitudinal profile of the electricity line and all other technical details related thereof
6. Full design of the node how shall be connected with the new building to the distribution grid.
7. Copy of the electrical engineer license that carried out the design.
8. Electricity contract for personal needs.
9. Concession contract (or the approval from the Ministry) for the construction of the generation plant
10. Maximum generated power.
11. Principal internal scheme of the generation plant with all technical details.

12. Main parameters of the power transformer
13. Instructions and technical schedules of the PV system products, such as: pannels, inverters, cables etc.;

- **Point 3.5.3 "Aeolian generation plants"**

1. Request for distribution grid connection (Application form).
2. Photocopy of the identification card (ID card).
3. Generation plan view of the building.
4. Map indicating the location of building in site in an adequate scale
5. Longitudinal profile of the electricity line and all other technical details related thereof.
6. Full design of the node how shall be connected with the new building to the distribution grid.
7. Copy of the electrical engineer license that caried out the design.
8. Electricity contract for personal needs.
9. Concession contract (or the approval from the Ministry) for the construction of the generation plant.
10. Maximum generated power.
11. Principal internal scheme of the generation plant with all technical details.
12. Main parameters of the power transformer.

**1.16** Point 3.5.4 "Self-producers" is added with the respective documentation listed as follows on three subcategories according to the power, as follows:

- **0-10kWp**

1. Request.
2. Declaration for its average consumption during a year according to the history of the recent two years or in case of the no history, the report of the energy control issued from the certified audit accompanys with the respective verification and the proposal for installed capacity.
3. Proposal regarding the model of the meter with both directions, the net metering scheme and the technical characteristics according to the DSO standards.
4. Technical report.
5. Original copy of the approval certificate of the system, signed by licensed designers of electricity generation plants renewable from solar (cat. 10c) and licensed applicants for the construction of energy generation plants (cat. NP-IOA), accompanied with the confirmation of the selfproducers of the PV system
6. The instructions and the technical scheme of PV system products, such as; the pannels, inverters, cables, etc.
7. License of the designing engineer, that shall have IOC point at the designing license and NPIO for implementation license.

8. ID card
9. Number of the existing contract of the customer (without debt) with same power of the self generation plant.
10. Ownership document of the building where shall be constructed the photovoltaic plant.

• **11-50kWp**

1. Request
2. Declaration of average consumption during the year according to the history of the two recent years, or in case of no history, the energy audit report issued from the certified audit, accompanies with the respective certification and the proposal for installed capacity.
3. Approved design from natural and legal persons licensed for the connection to the PV plant with the distribution network, according to the Distribution Code approved by ERE.
4. Proposal on the meter model in both directions, the net metering scheme and the technical characteristics according to DSO standards.
5. Technical report.
6. Original copy of the approval certificate of the system, signed by licensed designers of electricity generation plants renewable from solar (cat. 10c) and licensed applicants for the construction of energy generation plants (cat. NP-IOA), accompanied with the confirmation of the selfproducers of the PV system.
7. The instructions and the technical scheme of PV system products, such as; the pannels, inverters, cables, etc.
8. The data on the main inverter and the main characteristics of the generation meter set according to it.
9. License of the designing engineer, that shall have IOC point at the designing license and NPIO for implementation license.
10. ID card.
11. Number of the existing contract of the customer (without debt) with same power of the self generation plant.
12. Ownership document of the building where shall be constructed the photovoltaic plant.

• **51-500kWp**

1. Request.
2. Declaration of average consumption during the year according to the history of the two recent years, or in case of no history, the energy audit report issued from the certified audit, accompanies with the respective certification and the proposal for installed capacity.
3. Approved design from natural and legal persons licensed for the connection to the PV plant with the distribution network, according to the Distribution Code approved by ERE.

4. Proposal on the meter model in both directions, the net metering scheme and the technical characteristics according to DSO standards
5. Technical report.
6. Original copy of the approval certificate of the system, signed by licensed designers of electricity generation plants renewable from solar (cat. 10c) and licensed applicants for the construction of energy generation plants (cat. NP-IOA), accompanied with the confirmation of the selfproducers of the PV system.
7. The instructions and the technical schedules of the PV system products, such as the pannels, inverters and cables, etc.
8. The data on the main inverter and the production meter characteristics set according to it.
9. The license of the design engineer, that shall have the license for IOC point for design and the license NPIO for implementation.
10. Permission from the municipality for the "Works that shall be performed with prior declaration for construction" Council of Minister Decision no. 408, of date 13.05.2015 "On the approval of the regulation for teritorial development" as amended.
11. ID card
12. Number of existing contract of the customer (without debt).
13. Ownership document of the building where shall be constructed the photovoltaic plant.

**1.17 Part IV:** New connection tariffs, Paragraph 4,2, point 2 “Works / services to be paid by the applicant”

**the paragraph shall be removed:**

Costs for the part of cable more than 50 ml, whose value is defined in reference with the average price of such cable in the Distribution System Operator books

(for Customers provided with electricity meter in an separate box);

**1.18 Paragraph** “Opening the cable conduits for realising the electrical nodes with the existing distribution grid, electricity materials that realize the connection to the existing grid (terminals, switchgear, etc.), and the rehabilitation (temporary or permanent) of the ground, including the road systems”

**shall be amended and becomes**

“The part of the cable with more than 50 ml, the opening of the cable channels for the realization of the joint nodles with the existing distribution grid, t h e electricity materialis that realize the connection with the existing grid (terminals, switchgears, etc), as well as the (temporary and permanent) rehabilitation of the terrain, including the road systems.”

**1.19** DSO company in addition to the proposals, has also attached the self-declaration form for household and non-household applicants, which shall be part of the annexes of the aforementioned regulation.

2. DSO company shall submit at ERE, not later than 30 days from the entry into force of this decision, the necessary clarifications to argue the legal cause for the proposal of each amendment or addition.
3. Customer Protection, Performance and Standards Directory shall inform DSO company and the interested parties about ERE Board decision.

This decision enters immediately into force.

Any party involved in this procedure may request from ERE, - within 7 calendar days from the date of the decision, to review the board decision if it has provided new evidence that could lead the board to obtain a decision different from the previous one or for material errors ascertained. This decision can be appealed in the Administrative Court of Tirana, within 30 calendar days from the day of publication in the Official Gazette.

This decision shall be published on the Official Gazette.

**CHAIRPERSON IN DUTY**

**Erjola SADUSHI**