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REGULATION ON NEW CONNECTIONS IN THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

CONTENT

PART I: GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

1.1Scope

This Rule has the scope to regulate the relations between the Distribution System Operator (DSO) and Distribution System Users, which apply for a new connection or to modify the existing one in the Distribution System, define the procedures, terms and tariffs for performing this service by the Distribution System Operator and also to unify the quality of works, standards and technical characteristics of the new connections in the power distribution grid.

1.2 Authority

This regulation is based on:

a. Law No.43/2015 "On Power Sector"
b. "Electricity Distribution Code"
c. "Metodology for Calculating the Electricity Distribution Tariff"

1.3 Definitions

Applicant is the interested party that has applied or is in the process of applying for a new connection, for a modification or capacity increase to the existing connection in the DSO grid.

Application for Connection is the request by the **Applicant** for a new connection, modification of the existing connection, including the capacity increase of the old connection in the DSO grid.

Application Tariff (payment) is the payment executed by the applicant on the time when he applies for a connection, which covers the acceptability study for the connection in the Distribution grid and preparing the documentation for drafting the Connection Agreement.

Application Form for Connections are the templates for each type of connection according to the voltage level.

Capacity of Connection shall mean the full power capacity in MVA provided for new connections or for capacity increase of existing connections.

Connection Date is the date on which the Assets **for Connection are** or are considered to be fully connected in the DSO grid and that DSO itself is capable to ensure the Capacity for the Connection.

Connection Offers is a connection offer in the DSO grid which is provided according to the deadlines determined in this Regulation.

Party responsible for the connection may be the applicant or/and DSO that undertakes the responsibility for the design, auction, construction, testing and energization of a connection process.

A Connection Assets are the assets that include movable property (equipments) and immovable property (buildings).

Supervision Tariff and Testing Tariff is the tariffs for controlling and assessing the technical project, supervising the construction and testing the connections which are paid by the **Applicant**.

The System User or User is the connected in the Distribution System being a directly connected consumer, Generator.

New Connection is a supply connection in MV,LV, a transformer cabin, equipment's connected in the Distribution grid in the connection point/node, determined in kVA or MVA in the nominal voltage level.

Connection Point is the physical connection point of a User with the Distribution grid.

Delivery Point is the environment where are installed the switching equipment of main lines in Medium Voltage

Metering Point is the physical point where the connection point is installed and where the metering system fulfills all technical and accuracy conditions according

to the Metering Code. The physical metering point is determined by the agreements between the Parties.

Metering Environment is the physical place where it is realized the electricity metering.

Customer Environment is the physical environment where are set the entire electricity transformation equipment that serve to the customer for electricity supply in his object.

1.4 Guarantee of the connection in the Distribution Grid

DSO shall guarantee the connection in the distribution grid for all the interested parties in conformity with Law No.43/2015 "On Power Sector" and the criteria defined in this Regulation.

1.5 Persons eligible to apply

The application for a New Connection in the Distribution System can be made by:

a) Any natural or legal person applying for a New Connection in the Electricity Distribution System (Applicant) pursuant to the obligations determined in the agreement between the user and DSO.
b) Existing Users of Electricity Distribution System applying for a new connection or modification of their existing connections in the Distribution System. (User)
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.

1.6 Application for New Connection

The application for a new connection shall be submitted at DSO offices requiring:

a) Connection of buildings (housing or business premises) with the electricity grid of the Distribution System;
b) Increase of existing connection capacity;
c) Application for a temporary connection;

d) Connection in the Distribution System of the generating plant.

1.7 Criteria for the assessment of new connection or the modification of the existing connection

DSO to access an application for new connection or the modification of the existing connection shall implement the requirements of:

1. Law on guaranteeing safety of electrical equipment and installations;
2. Technical rules defined in the respective Council of Ministers decisions;
3. The terms and rules defined in the Distribution Code and Metering Code;

as well as the following criteria:

a. location of the building for which the connection is demanded to be completed with the coordinates of its surface contour;
b. distance from the building to the connection point;
c. DSO distribution grid
d. electricity supply safety
e. Short circuit current levels, technical parameters, standard session, each and every material quality standard according to the European norms determined by the Distribution Operator;

b. technical characteristics according to the norms determined by the Distribution Operator;

c. cable sessions and the currents of short connections for the switching devices, defined by the Distribution Operator (DSO);

d. the losses level for transforming equipment's for electricity supply of its object so that they may respond to distribution grid developments even for the future as well as the communication architecture of the digital equipment with the Distribution System Operator (DSO) determined by the Distribution Operator (DSO).

e. controlling the equipment's from third laboratory, accredited according to EU standards

f. all technical safety norms in conformity with ISOO 18001 standard and the laws, secondary legislations and regulations in force.

IP, short connection current, activation of the protection time
f. All other applications for connection at the same point of the DSO Distribution Grid.

New connections or modification of the existing connection shall not cause any negative effect on existing customers or users, and shall not be affected by any negative effect of the existing customers or users. At the same time, it shall not cause any negative effect on the DSO distribution grid, but shall respect ISO 18001 standard.

The DSO shall define the terms and method for the realization of new connection and the technical parameters of the equipment serving for the connection of new customers in the Distribution System in conformity with:

- harmonized Albanian standards (article 34 of Law No.43/2015 "On Power Sector")
- European standards
- DSO company standards

- technical rules and the law for guaranteeing the work security of electrical equipment's and installations.

1.8 Permission for building access

The Users or Applicants, applying for a new connection, are obliged to guarantee to DSO the right to access their buildings, establishing the necessary facilities so that the latter can assess all the requirements and conditions for the new connection.

1.9 Technical requirements for a new connection

All works for realizing the new connection to the DSO distribution network shall be carried out by the Applicant based on the bilateral agreement with the Distribution Operator (DSO). The Applicant shall respect:

a. each and every material quality standard according to the european norms determined by the Distribution Operator;

b. technical characteristics according to the norms determined by the Distribution Operator;

c. cable sessions and the currents of short connections for the switching devices, defined by the Distribution Operator (DSO);

d. the losses level for transforming equipment's for electricity supply of its object so that they may respond to distribution grid developments even for the future as well as the communication architecture of the digital equipment with the Distribution System Operator (DSO) determined by the Distribution Operator (DSO).

e. controlling the equipment's from third laboratory, accredited according to EU standards

f. all technical safety norms in conformity with ISOO 18001 standard and the laws, secondary legislations and regulations in force.

All construction works, electricity supply lines and the main equipments of electricity cabins (inlet/outlet switchgears, transformers switchgears, capacity transformers, low voltage distribution panels, MV/LV metering panels, connecting cables with medium and low voltage grid, etc.) shall be:

a. carried out by the Applicant according to the provisions given in the connection point study by DSO. The projects shall be performed by licensed engineers according to the criteria in Annex 1;

b. are selected based on the standards and requests determined by Distribution Operator (DSO) and in conformity with a bilateral agreement, to be enable their control by third party laborators, accredited by EU.

c. are installed in conformity with the technical requirements and conditions of DSO

d. are tested by the Applicant in conformity with all protocols and legal obligations in force and in conformity with the technical standards which are part of the new Connection Agreement.

e. supervised and tested by DSO.

1.10 Responsibility of Distribution System Operator (DSO)

The Distribution System Operator (DSO) is responsiblee for:

a) Drafting the technical conditions for the new connection and the technical specifications of all equipment's needed for the realization of the new connection.

b) Preparing the respective costs for any opportunity of realizing the new connection if the applicant wants it as an economic operator, for preparing the new connection accomplished by him.

c) Pursuant to article 27 of the law no. 43/2015 "On Power Sector" DSO in any case, determines the criteria and technical conditions that must be fulfilled for the connection with the grid, despite the applicant's selection of licensed operators by the competent bodies, which shall perform connection works.

1.11 Responsibility for internal electrical installations of the applicant's building.

a) The User or Applicant, willing to be supplied with electricity by the new connection to be realized, is responsible for the installation of:

   - all short circuit protection equipment;
   - protection equipment's from the connection with the ground
   - protection equipment's from over-voltages (atmospheric, the switching and protection ones from the rupture of the neutral conductor).

b) The User or Applicant shall realize the grounding system of the building and other customers supplied by such new connection, in conformity with the technical conditions and norms in force.

c) The User or Applicant shall guarantee that all electrical installations in the entire building that shall be supplied with electricity are performed, inspected and tested by a company issued with license for the design and installation of electricity equipment, in conformity with the rules and technical conditions in force.

d) For any Applicant or User shall be given the order of granting voltage, if the internal installations do not have the protections specified in this paragraph.

e) The User or Applicant shall undertake to deliver from any responsibility the Distribution System Operator, for any obligation regarding any kind of damages in the distribution grid, caused by the internal electricity installations in the object required to be connected with electricity

1.12 Communication method

As communication form shall be the one with official letters accompanied with the respective protocol number. Throughout the various steps of the procedure, may be accepted even the email communication between the parties for the purpose of exchanging only the notifications for completing some concrete steps, as specified in this Regulation.

1.13 Application method

The application for new connection shall be according to the Standard Form of Application and shall be performed:

1) For 0-20 kW installed capacity, at Customer Service Office of DSO company, at the applicant's residence.

2) For 21 - 50 kW installed capacity:

- For LV connections - at Customer Service Office of DSO company, at the applicant's residence.

- For MV - at Customer Services Office of DSO company, at the building location area.

3) For installed capacity of more than 50 kW - at Customer Services Center of DSO, at the building location area.

The details about the location of the Customer Service offices, information on the standard form that shall be used to apply for the new Connection, as well as the full documentation regarding the technical requirements and conditions that shall be fulfilled for the design and installation of the new Connection, for every Region, may be found on the relevant DSO website.

1.14 Request for electricity supply from two independent plant

1. DSO shall assess the application for a new Connection with electricity of the building from two independent electricity plant, in conformity with the Utilization Rules and Distribution System Operation pursuant to the Distribution Code.

2. The respective tariffs for these cases shall be submitted on Part IV of these Rules.

PART II: REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION FOR NEW CONNECTION APPLICATION.

For New Connections in LV

2.1 Installed capacity 0-20 kW

The Applicant shall submit the following documentation:

1. Application for electricity supply
2. Identity documentation (photocopy of the ID or passport)
3. Ownership certification of the building by the property registration documents, such as: purchase contract, donation act, or property division estate act, lease contract or relevant documentation for objects in legalization process.
4. Photocopy of the registration Certificate (for non-households)
5. The building plan view in 1:1000 scale (two copies), (where are specified the coordinates of the building's subphase contour).
6. Installation declaration and the grounding protocol, issued by an electric engineer equipped with a license.
7. Any other documentation, the submission of which shall be obligatory from the update of the legal and by-legal acts approved with Council of Ministers Decision or with ERE Board Decision.

2.2 Installed capacity 20-50 kW

The Applicant shall submit the following documentation:

1. Application for electricity supply
2. Identity documentation (photocopy of the ID or passport)
3. Ownership certification of the building by the property registration documents, such as: purchase contract, donation act, or property division estate act, lease contract or relevant documentation for objects in legalization process.
4. Photocopy of the registration Certificate (for non- households)
5. The electricity project of the building approved by the competent bodies according to the legislation in force.
6. Design of all the equipment's in the building
7. Electrical engineer license, that has done the electrical project of the building.

8. Planview of building in a 1:1000 scale (2 copies) (where are specified the coordinates of the building's track).
9. Installation declaration and the grounding protocol, issued by an electric engineer equipped with a license.
10. Detailed engineering report regarding the project and calculating the data, performed by an electrical engineer equipped with a license.
11. Any other documentation, the submission of which shall be obligatory from the update of the legal and by-legal acts approved with Council of Ministers Decision or with ERE Board Decision.

2.3 Installed capacity 50 -100 kW

The Applicant shall submit the following documentation:

1. Application for electricity supply
2. Identity documentation (photocopy of the ID or passport)
3. Ownership certification of the building by the property registration documents, such as: purchase contract, donation act, or property division estate act, lease contract or relevant documentation for objects in legalizations process.
4. Photocopy of the registration Certificate (for non-households)
5. The electricity project of the building approved by the competent bodies according to the legislation in force.
6. Design of all the equipment's in the building
7. Electrical engineer license, that has done the electrical project of the building.
8. Planview of building in a 1:1000 scale (2 copies) (where are specified the coordinates of the building's track).
9. Installation declaration and the grounding protocol, issued by an electric engineer equipped with a license.
10. Detailed engineering report regarding the project and calculating the data, performed by an electrical engineer equipped with a license.
11. Construction permit of the building
12. Electrical load graph
13. Analytical report of cosØ assessment

14. Any other documentation, the submission of which shall be obligatory from the update of the legal and by-legal acts approved with Council of Ministers Decision or with ERE Board Decision.

For New Connections in MV

The Applicant shall submit the following documentation:

1. Application for electricity supply
2. Identity documentation (photocopy of the ID or passport)
3. Ownership certification of the building by the property registration documents, such as: purchase contract, donation act, or property division estate act,
4. Photocopy of the registration Certificate (for non-households)
5. The electricity project of the building approved by the competent bodies according to the legislation in force.
6. Design of all the equipments in the building
7. Electrical engineer license, that has done the electrical project of the building.
8. Planview of building in a 1:1000 scale (2 copies) (where are specified the coordinates of the building's track).
9. Installation declaration and the grounding protocol, issued by an electric engineer equiped with a license.
10. Detailed engineering report regarding the project and calculating the data, performed by an electrical engineer equipped with a license.
11. Construction permit of the building
12. Electrical load graph

13. Analytical report of cosØ assessment
14. Any other documentation, the submission of which shall be obligatory from the update of the legal and by-legal acts approved with Council of Ministers Decision or with ERE Board Decision.

PART III: APPLICATION PROCEDURE FOR A NEW CONNECTION.

3.1 Procedures and Deadlines for a new connection or modification of an existing connection in low voltage

3.1.1 Procedures and Deadlines for a new connection or modification of an existing connection at 0 - 20 kW installed capacity in low voltage.

a. The Applicant makes the application and submits the documentation required to the Customers Service Office of DSO.

   i. the term for the realization of a new connection in such cases is the following:

   ii. not more than 20 business days, for installed capacity up to 10 kW;

   iii. not more than 20 business days for installed capacity of 10-20 kW.

b. DSO shall inspect the building requiring the electricity connection and approve the point and method of connection to the grid.

c. It shall calculate the costs for the new connection.

d. After the Applicant has paid the new connection tariff, DSO carries out all the procedures until the supply of the building with electricity.

e. Voltage connection and electricity supply shall be realized on the same time with the installation of the metering equipment.

f. DSO registers the new connection or the modification made for the applicant/customer or user in its customer system and shall prepare the respective supply card, within 3 business days after the voltage connection. The System Operator shall make available to the Applicant all the necessary information for the new connection or modification of the performed modification.

g. The electricity meter verification shall be done by the independent subject, authorized for electricity meter verification, according to provisions of law no. 43/2015 "On power sector". The test report of the electricity meter verification shall be submitted by the independent entity to the customer and the DSO.

h. All information of the new connection is stored by the Distribution System Operator (DSO) in electronic and documented way.

3.1.2 Procedures and Deadlines for New connection or modification of an existing connection at 21-50 kW installed capacity in Low Voltage

a) In case the installed capacity for a new Connection or modification of an existing connection is 21-50 kW at low voltage, the applicable procedures and terms are those defined in section 3.1.1 (points a-d).
b) The energization and electricity supply shall be realized from DSO according to the energization order.
c) In case during the energization of the building are encountered problems with the equipment, realizing the connection, the Applicant is obliged that with his own expenses to repair the damaged or non-functional part, until the full scheme functions normally as well as to pay for the caused damages.
d) Distribution System Operator (DSO) registers the User or the Applicant in its customers system and prepares his/her supply card within 2 working days after granting the voltage. The system operator makes available to the applicant, the necessary information for the new connection or modification of the performed connection and the supplier monthly shall make the reconcillation with the Distribution Operator.
e) Electricity meter verification shall be performed by an independent entity authorized for this purpose according to provisions of Law no. 43/2015 "On power sector". The test report of the electricity meter verification shall be submitted by the independent entitiy to the customer and the Distribution System Operator (DSO).
f) All the information about the new connection is stored by the Distribution System Operator in electronic and documented way.

3.1.3 Procedures and Deadlines for New connection or the modification of an existing connection at 50-100 kW installed capacity in Low Voltage.

a) The User or Applicant shall submit the building's electric project that will be supplied with electricity. Such project shall comply with the legislation into force; it shall reflect all the constructive details and the way of realizing the internal installations, accompanied with the respective technical report to indicate all electrical loads and their position inside the building. The project shall respect the technical standards of the new connection that are part of these Rules. Such project shall be designed and calculated by a licensed engineer or a company licensed for electrical designs.

b) Distribution System Operator assessment period for the User's or Applicant's application and the submission for approval and signature of the draft for "New Connection Agreement" shall not exceed 20 working days from the date the application is submitted.

c) Distribution System Operator (DSO) shall carry out a preliminary verification of the documents submitted by the User or Applicant and, if the application is not complete, the Distribution System Operator shall notify the User or Applicant in written form within 5 working days, from the date the application is submitted for assessment.

d) DSO shall inspect the building applying for electricity connection and, depending on the conditions of the electrical grid in that area, shall prepare the connection way for the building to the grid. Distribution System Operator (DSO) shall prepare the proposal and the new connection agreement and send them to the Applicant for approval according to the terms of point 3.1.3/b

e) The proposal for the new connection, prepared by the Distribution System Operator, may be accepted by the applicant not later than five (5) working days from the date the DSO has made its proposal available to the applicant.

f) If the applicant accepts the proposal, then he shall pay the respective liabilities within 5 working days from the notification of

proposal, otherwise the proposal becomes invalid and the applicant shall apply again for a new connection.

g) It shall calculate the costs of new connection.

h) When the Applicant has paid the connection tariff and other liabilities, and after the inspection within 3 working day by DSO company is prepared the order for the implementation of the new connection. The electricity metering system shall be installed within 5 working days from the date of issuing the metering installation report for low voltage and 10 working days for medium voltage. The energization and electricity supply shall be realized by the Distribution System Operator by implementing the energization order.

i) The electricity meter verification shall be performed by an independent entity, authorized for electricity meter verification according to the provisions of law no.43/2015 "On power sector". The test report of the electricity meter verification shall be submitted from an independent entity to the customer and to the Distribution System Operator (DSO).

j) The new connection equipment is ensured, installed and tested by the Applicant.

k) In case during the energisationof the building are encountered problems with the equipment, realizing the connection, installed by the Applicant then he is obliged that with his own expenses to repair the damaged or non-functional part, until the full scheme functions normally.

l) Distribution System Operator (DSO) registers the applicant/user in its customers system and prepares his supply card within 2 working days after the energization.

If in the Proposal and the New Connection Agreement it is provided the power connection in **medium voltage** and the Applicant agrees with the proposal:

a) The Applicant shall submit to the Distribution System Operator (DSO) the signed acceptance form Proposal and the New Connection Agreement.

b) Distribution System Operator (DSO) shall implement all procedures provided in this regulation.

c) Within 2 working days from the payment, the Distribution System Operator shall draft the administrative order to begin the project in accordance with the technical standards and conditions, submitted in the Connection Agreement.

d) After submitting the detailed building project, the Distribution System Operator (DSO) shall analyze it, and if the project is in conformity with the technical standards, the DSO, within 2 working days, shall approve the project and inform the Applicant to make the full payment of the new connection tariff. If the Applicant does not pay the tariff within 5 working days from approval and after he is notified by DSO on the way of medium voltage connection in the distribution grid, then the application and the new connection agreement are considered invalid, and the applicant shall reapply for a new connection.

e) Once the Applicant has paid the new tariff, DSO shall apply all the procedures to begin the works by the Applicant.

f) With the beginning of the works the Applicant shall notify DSO, so that the last one mentioned takes the required measures for beginning the Supervision process which is carried out by DSO.

g) In case the electricity cabin, as a real estate, is built by the Applicant inside the building area which is to be supplied with electricity, the Distribution System Operator (DSO) shall give its approval whether the adapted environment for electricity cabin meet the technical standards and is accessible by them.

h) Upon the termination of the works, Distribution System Operator (DSO) shall take measures to make the final inspection and if the works are carried out in compliance with the technical standards, the Distribution System Operator (DSO), within 2 working days, shall accept and permit the installation of the metering system under the work order. In case during the control are found technical defects, the applicant is obliged to complete or repair the defects.

i) Upon termination of installations and after accepting the electricity cabin, the Distribution System Operator, within 1 working day, shall prepare the report of installing the electricity metering system (meters, collective boxes, etc.), which shall be installed within 5 working days from the date of the metering report.

j) The electricity meter verification shall be realized by the independent subject authorized for this purpose according to the provisions of law no. 43/2015 "On power sector". The verification report of the electricity meter shall be delivered by independent subject to the customer and to the Distribution System Operator (DSO).

k) After the installation of the metering system, Distribution System Operator (DSO) DSO shall prepare the order the energization of the equipment. The testing and energization of the equipment's shall be

performed within 3 working days and it is carried out by the respective structures of DSO company.

l) In case during the energization of the building are encountered, problems with the equipment of the connection, then the applicant is obliged to repair the damaged or non-functional parts with its own expenses, until the complete scheme functions normally.

m) Distribution System Operator (DSO) registers the applicant / customer or the user in its customers system and prepares the respective supply card, within 5 working days from the energization. The System Operator shall make available to the applicant /customer all the information required for the new connection or the performed modification.

n) The time limit for installing the new connection is 60 working days, divided according to the following steps:

- Not more than 25 working days for the application procedure to the Distribution System Operator (DSO), the review of application by DSO, the identification of the connection point, preparation of design and calculation of the expenses.
- Not more than 30 working days to obtain the relevant permits and realizing all construction works by the Applicant.
- Not more than 5 working days for the installation of the metering system.

3.1.4 Procedures and Deadlines for new connection or the modification of an existing connection in Medium Voltage

a) The User or Applicant shall submit the electricity project of the building to be supplied with electricity. Such design shall be in conformity with the legislation into force; it shall reflect all the constructive details and the method of internal installations realization, accompanied by the respective technical report to show all electrical loads and their position inside the building. The project shall respect the technical standards of the new connection that are part of this regulation. Such project shall be designed and calculated by an engineer or a company licensed for electricity designs.

b) Distribution System Operator (DSO) shall carry out the preliminary verification of the documents submitted by the User or Applicant

and, if the Application is not complete, shall notify the User or Applicant in writing within 5 working days, from the date the application is submitted for assessment.

c) Distribution System Operator shall inspect the building demanding electricity connection and, depending on the conditions of the electrical grid in that area, shall draft the feasibility study, shall prepare the Proposal and the new Connection Agreement and send them to the Applicant for approval according to the terms.

d) The proposal for new connection, prepared by Distribution System Operator (DSO), can be accepted by the Applicant not later than five (5) working days from the date the Distribution System Operator (DSO) has made the proposal available to the applicant.

e) If the applicant accepts the proposal, then he shall submit the offer acceptance form, sign the agreement and pay the respective liabilities within 5 working days from the notification of the made proposal, otherwise the proposal becomes invalid and the Applicant shall reapply for a new connection.

f) After the applicant has paid the new connection tariff, Distribution System Operator (DSO) shall apply all the procedures for the beginning of the works. The works shall be carried out by the operator licensed from the competent authorities, chosen by the applicant for the realization of the new connection.

g) With the beginning of the works the Applicant shall notify the Distribution System Operator (DSO) so that this one takes the measures to start the supervision process which is performed by DSO.

h) In case the electricity cabin, as a real estate, is built by the Applicant inside the building area which is to be supplied with electricity, the Distribution System Operator (DSO) shall give its approval whether the adopted environment for electricity cabin meet the technical standards and is accessible by them.

i) The new connection equipment's are provided, installed and tested by the Applicant with his own expenses.

j) Upon the termination of the works, Distribution System Operator (DSO) shall take measures to make the final inspection and if the works are carried out in compliance with the technical standards, the Distribution System Operator (DSO), within 3 working days, shall make the acceptance. If during the control are found technical defects, the applicant is obliged to complete or repair the defects.

k) Upon termination of installations and after accepting the electricity cabin, the Distribution System Operator (DSO), within 1 working day, shall prepare the report of installing the electricity metering system (meters, collective boxes, etc.), which shall be installed within 5 working days in LV and 10 working days in MV from the date of the metering report.

l) The electricity meter verification shall be realized by the independent subject authorized for this purpose according to the provisions of law no. 43/2015 "On power sector". The verification report of the electricity meter shall be delivered by independent subject to the customer and to the Distribution System Operator (DSO).

m) After the installation of the metering system, Distribution System Operator, DSO shall prepare the order for the energization of the equipment's. The testing and energization of the equipment's shall be performed within 1 working day and it is carried out by the respective structures of DSO company.

n) In case during the energization of the building are encountered, problems with the equipment of the connection, then the Applicant is obliged to repair the damaged or non-functional parts with its own expenses, until the complete scheme functions normally.

o) Distribution System Operator (DSO) registers the applicant / customer or the user in its customers system and prepares the respective supply card, within 5 working days from the energization. The System Operator shall make available to the applicant /customer all the information required for the new connection or the performed modification.

p) The time limit for installing the new connection is 60 working days, divided according to the following steps:

- Not more than 25 working days for the application procedure to the Distribution System Operator (DSO), the review of application by DSO, the identification of the connection point, preparation of design and calculation of the expenses.
- Not more than 30 working days to obtain the relevant permits and realizing all construction works by the Applicant.
- Not more than 5 working days for the installation of the metering system.

3.2 New electricity generation plant

The application for a new connection of new generation plant to the **Medium Voltage** grid shall be at the DSO Customer Care Office in Tirana.

1- The DSO assessment period performed by the applicant and the submission for signing the "New Connection Agreement" shall not exceed 20 business days from the date the application is submitted.

2- The Applicant shall submit the electricity project of the generation Resource and of the transmission line to the connection point with DSO. Such project shall be in conformity with the legislation into force and reflect all the technical specifications and the main parameters of equipment, together with its principal scheme.

3- The applicant shall execute the electricity connection project of the generation resource to the Distribution Network after signing the new Connection Agreement.

4- DSO shall preliminary carry out the verification of the documents submitted by the applicant and, if the application is not complete, DSO notifies the Applicant in the written form within 5 working days, from the date the application is submitted for assessment.

5- DSO shall inspect the building demanding the connection and depending on the conditions of the electricity grid in the area, shall prepare the connection method to the grid.

6- If the Applicant agrees with offer submitted by DSO for the connected with its distribution system, the Applicant shall sign the offer acceptance form within 10 calendar days. In the contrary the proposal becomes invalid and the application for a new connection shall be repeated.

7- If the Applicant accepts the offer, he shall submit the offer acceptance form at DSO company.

8- Distribution System Operator (DSO) after the accepting the offer, connects a bilateral agreement with the applicant. Then, the applicant shall draft the connection point project. After the approval, DSO company shall notify the applicant asking to execute the full payment of the new connection tariff. If the Applicant does not execute the payment of the tariff within 10 calendar days from the moment the connection method to the distribution grid is approved, the application and the new connection agreement are considered invalid and the interested person has to reapply for a new connection.

9- Once the Applicant has paid the new connection tariff, DSO shall promptly issue the permission to begin the works.

10- All the works for the connection point (handing over and metering the environment) shall be carried out by DSO.

11- All works for the customer's environment to the connection point and the electricity supply line to the generating resource shall be carried out by the applicant, choosing the entity to carry out the installation of equipment and the new connection components.

The installation of equipment to the substations connected with the entry line switchgears, their design and installation are made by DSO.

12- After the termination of works and installations, Distribution System Operator (DSO), within 2 working days, is obliged to inspect and take over the works and installations under a specific report. In case there are encountered defects they shall be repaired by DSO.

13- The Applicant collaborates with the electricity purchaser to make the installation of the electrical metering system to the connection point with the distribution system, in compliance with the requirements of the Metering Code.

14- After the installation of the metering system, DSO shall prepare the order for the energization of the equipment's. The testing and energization of the equipment is made within 2 working days and it is carried out by the DSO respective structures.

15- In case during the energization of the building, are encountered problems with the equipment realizing the connection, DSO is obliged to repair, with its own expenses, the damaged or non-functional parts, until the complete scheme functions normally

16- If the customer utilizes the substations area to install his own equipment, both inside or outside the building, he shall pay a rent tariff under an agreement between

the parties, according to the provisions of the Civil Code.

3.3 Procedure for displacement of Distribution System Operator (DSO) assets

a) For various needs of the entity, may be required the movemend or sub stitution of different DSO assets (overhead power line, cable lines, utility piles, electricity cabins, etc).
b) The realization of such movements or substitutions is made only upon prior approval of DSO, in conformity with the Procedures and Terms defined in points 3.1.1, 3.1.2, 3.1.3, 3.1.4 of this Regulation.
c) If DSO approves the movement, then it shall be made under the technical st andards of the company by the Applicant and all the expenses for realizing the substitution of the assets shall bear to the Applicant under the invoice approved by DSO.
d) The new connection equipment are provided, installed and tested by the Applicant with his own expenses, under the legislation into force.

e) DSO asset movement tariff is drafted by DSO according to the methodology approved by ERE.

3.4 Grid connection method for electricity plant

a) Power plant shall be connected to the distribution grid after DSO has carried out the study for the connection and the effects caused to that part of the grid by the presence of new plant for electricity generation.
b) It is preferred that the connection of new plants to be in transforming Sub/Stations and if such method of connection is not possible then they should be connected as additional part of the existing 6-10-20-35 kV grid incurring additional costs related to the connection.
c) All the additional expenses relating to the connection, reinforcement of existing parts for the distribution network to make the connection, possible additions in 6, 10, 25, 35 kV medium voltage parts and at high voltage in the Substation (when their connection is demanded) shall bear to the Applicant.
d) The deadline for realizing the connection of generation plants in the DSO distribution system shall not exceed two years from the approval of the connection point and, if such deadline is exceeded, the applicant has to reapply for a connection point covering all the expenses for any possible change to the DSO distribution system.

3.5 Required documentation for generation plant connection

1. Application for the connection to the distribution grid (Application form).
2. Photocopy of identity document (ID card).

4. General plan view of building.
5. Map indicating the location of building in site in an adequate scale.
6. Longitudinal profile of the electricity line and all other technical details related thereof.
7. Full design of the node how shall be connected with the new building to the distribution grid.
8. Copy of enctrical engineer license that carried out the project.
9. Copy of previous contract (file) that the Applicant may have.
10. Concession contract for the construction of the generation plant.
10. Type of generation plant and its nominal parameters, including X" (d).
11. Maximum active and reactive generating capacity.
12. Principal internal scheme of the generation plant with all technical details.
13. Type of synchronic generator and its parameters.
14. Main parameters of the power transformer.

3.6 Designing the transformer cabin and the connection method

a) For the approved connection point, the Applicant shall design the construction and electrical project for the transformer cabin (if provided in the Distribution System Operator (DSO) offer and its construction method to the distribution grid. The electrical project shall be designed in compliance with the legislation into force.

b) The works for the new connection in the DSO ownership premises shall be carried out by DSO itself with the equipments determined by the Distribution Operator with the expenses of the applicant. All other

works shall be carried out by the Applicant pursuant to applicable legislation, respecting all the material quality standards and technical standards according to the norms. In this way, shall eliminate all deficiencies observed during the time in the electricity distribution grid, for the current or prospective management.

b) The project shall cover all the requirements specified below:

1. The plan and location of the transformer cabin, as an integral part of the construction project in general.
2. Detailed construction project of transformer (includ ing all cross-sections of the building cabin).
3. Layout of all equipment inside the transformer point.
4. The plan of installing the electricity cables, inside and outside the cabin and cross-sectional of the cable conduits.
5. Principal electricity scheme of the electricity cabin, reflecting all nominal parameters of elect rical equipments and all other details about its completion in general.
6. The cabin grounding system and all the details regarding its realisation, inside and outside the electricity cabin.
7. Design of overhead lines, cable lines (at MV-LV) power and the line profile in a scale 1:1000.

c) Design and selection of equipments shall be in conformity with the type and technical specifications already known by the Distribution System Operator (DSO) after approval of the offer by the Applicant.

e) The design of cabins shall be according to the following types:

1. TYPE 1 cabin: wall structure for the supply of residential and service buildings (one room)

This type of cabin is designed to be constructed in the applicant property border with doors accessible from outside of the building, close to the street. Such cabin shall have adequate space for the installation of all cabin equipment.

2. TYPE 2 cabin: wall structure cabin for electricity supply of industrial or commercial buildings (two rooms).

This type of cabin shall be constructed in applicant's property border with doors accessible from the outside and in proximity of the street and having two rooms available for DSO assets. In one room, shall be installed the capacity transformer, while in the other room shall be installed the commuting equipment's together with the metering panel. In the electricity metering room shall be installed two doors, where one is accessible from the outside and managed by DSO and the other is accessible from the inside and managed by the applicant.

3. TYPE 3 cabin: wall structure cabin for electricity supply of industrial and commercial buildings (three rooms)

This type of cabin shall be installed in the applicant's property border with doors accessible from the outside and in proximity of the street. Such cabin shall have two rooms available for the DSO assets and one room available for the Applicant's assets. In one room, shall be installed the commuting equipment, while in the other room shall be installed the electricity meter. The commuting equipment room shall have a door accessible from the outside and managed by DSO. In the electricity meter room, shall be installed two doors, where one is accessible from the outside and managed by DSO and the other is accessible from the inside and managed by
the Applicant. The third room, where shall be installed the transforming and commuting equipment's, shall have an inside door and accessible only by the applicant.

4.TYPE 4 cabin: Service pillar for the supply of different buildings (residential group of buildings, commercial or industrial ones etc.)

This type of cabin is used for transformer capacity up to 250 kVA and shall be installed outside of the contour of the encircled area with a distance no more than 3 ml from the property border and with medium voltage supply line going through public areas easy to check.

3.7 Validity of submitted documentation

a) All documents shall be in original or certified copies and they shall be archived by Distribution System Operator (DSO).

b) If from the preliminary assessment of the above mentioned data, the submitted document is considered incomplete, the Distribution System Operator (DSO) has the right to require additional data from the applicant.

PART IV: NEW CONNECTION TARIFFS

4.1 Tariff principles

a) The tariffs for the connection to the electricity distribution grid are defined in conformity with the following principles:

1) non-discrimination

2) transparency regarding the use of electricity distribution grid and its integral parts;

3) development of distribution grid to ensure the same level of quality for electricity supply;

b) The tariffs for the New Connections are the same for the entire territory of the Albanian Republic;

c) The main principle for the obligation of realizing a New Connection is: the natural or legal person, requiring modifications in the distribution grid shall cover all costs related to the modifications of distribution grid for realizing the new connection.

4.2 Works / services to be paid by the applicant

1. The Applicant shall cover the costs related to the services carried out by Distribution System Operator (DSO) and included in the tariff as follows:

   - Acceptance and processing of application;
   - Planning the development of the distribution grid to enable the connection of the new building (feasibility study);
   - Determination of connection point to the Distribution System;
   - Control and approval of the planning submitted by the Applicant;
   - Supply and installation of equipment, included in the new connection, that shall be realized by the entity authorized under the legislation into force, the testing of all equipment included in the new connection.
   - Supervision, monitoring and testing the construction and installations works;
   - Installation of metering equipment's;
   - 50 ml (coaxial or capacity cable, depending on the case) cable for the installation of meter in the Customers provided with a separate box electrical meter etc.
   - Connection with the Distribution System Operator (DSO) distribution grid.
   - The seal of the separate boxes, the seal for the metering current and voltage transformers.

2. The works/ services that are to be carried out and borne by the Applicant are:

- Design for realizing the new connection;

- Performing all construction and electrical works (electricity cabins, cable conduits, transformers, commuting equipment's, etc.);

- 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);

- Opening the cable conduits for realizing 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.

- Testing the realized connection.

- Required permits for the work cycle

4.3 Payment method

a. The Applicant shall pay the new connection tariff, which covers the expenses defined above.
b. The Applicant shall cover the expenses of all works and additional equipment's necessary for the new connection.
c. The Distribution System Operator (DSO) shall implement full payment in advance for all new connections or modifications of the existing connections.
d. With the completion of works, if Distribution System Operator (DSO) shall be the licensed operator chosen by the Applicant to make the new connection or modification of an existing one, DSO shall prepare a detailed invoice for the costs, quantities and prices of works and materials used for the new connection or modification of an existing connection, in which, in any case, the applicable prices shall not be

higher than the market value of the same product, at the moment the works for the connection are carried out. In case of differences between the costs invoice and the real costs of the works, the parties, when required, shall pay the difference or reimburse the other party.

e. The T3 Tariff, for the required capacity paid by the applicant, shall not exceed 300% of the income per capita. Covering the other part of the tariff, exceeding the amount specified herein, is subject to regulation by ERE.

4.4 Tariff structure for the new connection

a) The new connection tariff or for the modification of an existing connection (Connection Tariffs), will be calculated considering the principles determined in this regulation.
b) The connection tariffs will depend on the applicant requests, availability of the distribution network at the connection point, reserve capacity (if any) at the connection points as well as on other characteristics related to the realization of the connection including the required capacity and the voltage level.
c) The connection tariffs consist of **T1, T2, T3 and T4** tariffs**.**

T1 – The study and assessing the approval design tariff

T2– Distance tariff

T3–Capacity tariff (ALL/kw demanded capacity)

T4–Services tariff for realizing the new connection and metering

T2 TABLE TARIFF ACCORDING TO THE DISTANCE for LV connection

Distance tariff in LV		**Fixed tariff value**	**Added value for every 100 m**
a	Within 200 m	2000	-
b			

	For every added 100 m		1000

T2 TARIFF TABLE ACCORDING TO THE DISTANCE for MV connection

Distance tariff in MV		**Fixed tariff value**	**Added value for every 1 km**
a	Within 1 km	4500	-
b	For every added 1km		4500

T4 Tariff – Service tariff for realizing the new connection and the metering shall be composed from these components:

1. Tariff for updating the grid
2. Tariff for administrative expenses
3. Tariff for initial verification/testing of single phase or three phase meters, referring to the provisions of article 77 Law No. 43/2015 "*On Power Sector*"

4.5 Other conditions for the connection in the distribution grid

a) 0,4kV low voltage grid

Minimum installed capacity to realize the electricity connection in 0,4 kV Low Voltage shall be up to 5kWfor single phase grid and over 5kW for 3 phase grid.

b) 6,10kV voltage grid

The 6, 10 kV voltage grids are in the transfer process to a 20 kV voltage level. In this transition stage the new connections to 6, 10 kV medium voltage grid when the electricity cabin is provided to be constructed through a switching fuse unit in medium voltage. The applicant himself

shall be responsible for changing the equipment's and for carrying out the works if in the future this distribution grid near the connected building shall be replaced with 20 kV grid.

c) 20 kV voltage grid

The connection of the electricity cabin with the 20-kV distribution grid voltage shall be realized by MV panels according to Entry-Exit panels and Transformer Panel structure.

d) 6,10,20 kV service pillars

Service pillars shall be mainly used in rural areas but they may be built even in urban areas depending on the analysis and Distribution System Operator (DSO) decision.

They will be prepared according to the switch – fuse and surge scheme and the capacity of the power transformer shall be 50-250 kVA.

e) R35kV voltage grid

Acceptance and the new connections realization in the 35 kV voltage grid shall be in compliance with the development strategy and internal rules of the Distribution System Operator. They shall be done according to the switch – fuse and surge scheme and the minimum capacity of the transformer to accept the assessment of the application for this voltage grid shall be 800 kVA.

f) Reinforcement of 6, 10,20 kV transformer cabins in the ownership of Distribution System Operator (DSO)

The Distribution System Operator (DSO) carries out an analysis and the assessment of the transformer units that are located close to the new building that requires new connection or added capacity. DSO shall assess any case and depending on the situation of the network, existing cabin, real possibilities for reserve capacity transformers, development perspective in that area; DSO may decide to do by itself the reinforcement of the existing cabin and the applicant shall be connected to the low voltage network and pay the respective tariffs.

4.6. 4.6. Tariffs for low voltage connection

This tariff is applied for cases when the request of the applicant for connection to 0.4 kV voltage is approved.

a) Household customers

T1=1000 ALL

T2= according to the distance table

T3=2,000ALL /kW (to the demanded capacity)

T4=Service tariff for realizing the new connection and the metering

b) Non-household customers

T1=5000 ALL

T2= according to the distance table

T3=2.500 ALL /kW (to the demanded capacity)

T4=Service tariff for realizing the new connection and the metering

4.7 Tariffs for medium voltage connection

a) This tariff is applied for the cases when the request of the applicant for connection in medium 6, 10 and 20kV voltage is approved (the applicant shall build an electricity cabin)

T1=23000 ALL

T2=according to distance table

T3=1.700 ALL / kW (to the demanded capacity)
T4 = Service tariff for realizing the new connection and the metering

For the customers in residential or service buildings, in T4 tariff shall not be included the tariff for grid update.

4.8 Tariffs for 35 kV medium voltage connection

This tariff is applicable for the cases when the applicant's request for connection to the 35kV medium voltage

T1=23000 ALL

T2= according to the distance table

T3=2,000 ALL /kW (to the demanded capacity)

T4 = Services tariff for realizing the new connection and the metering

4.9 Tariffs for additional capacity, connection modification or transferring

a) Household Customers

T1= 0 ALL
T2= according to the distance table

T3=2,000 ALL/kW (to the demanded additional capacity)
T4 = services tariff for realizing the new connection and the metering

b) Non-household customers connected in low voltage

T1= 0 ALL
T2=according to the distance table

T3=2.500 ALL/kW (to the demanded

additional capacity)

T4 = Services tariff for realizing the new connection and the metering

c) Non-household customers in medium voltage

T1= 0 ALL
T2=according to the distance table
T3=1700 ALL /kW (to the demanded additional capacity) T4 = Services tariff for realizing the new connection and the metering

d) Non-household customers in 35kV voltage

T1= 0 ALL
T2=according to the distance table
T3=1700 ALL /kW (to the demanded additional capacity) T4 = Services tariff for realizing the new connection and the metering

4.10 Tariffs for Sub/station connection.

The new connection to the distribution grid busbars for the Sub-stations may be performed by assessing the existing situation of the Sub-station and the possibility for the connection to it.

a). If the Distribution System Operator (DSO) owns a switch gear panel in the distribution plant the applicant has the obligation to pay not only the expenses for changing the equipment (current transformer, cable head, etc) as well as the additional tariffs:

Tariff for using existing panels	150'000 ALL
Connection modification tariff	50'000 ALL

b). If the Distribution System Operator (DSO) does not have a switch gear panel in the distribution plant then the applicant shall ensure and install the switch gear panel in the building and is obliged to pay:

The connection modification tariff 50'000ALL

c). If the Distribution System Operator (DSO) will install a switch gear panel in the building in order to have the required connection the applicant has to pay:

Tariff for using the new switch gear panel	1'000'000 ALL
Connection modification tariff	50'000ALL

d). For all the above-mentioned cases the electricity metering and invoicing shall be done through a metering panel placed in the Sub/station according to the conditions determined in the Metering Code. Distribution System Operator (DSO) is responsible for ensuring and installing the respective metering system.

4.11 Tariffs for connection cases from electricity plant

In compliance with section 1.14 Distribution System Operator (DSO) shall apply an additional tariff when it is requested and approved the new connection from two independent power sources.

For these cases, the User or the Applicant shall pay the respective tariff for each connection according to this Regulation. The procedure and conditions shall be the same as in the case when the connection shall be realized by a single supply source.

4.12 Tariffs for connection of electricity generation plant

In the case when in the Distribution System shall be connected to the electricity distribution resources the connection tariff shall be composed by the following components:

T1=10000 ALL

T2=100000 ALL

T3=0

T4=Tariff for the initial testing of the electricity meter

If the connection to the electricity sources shall be in the busbars of the

sub/stations distribution grid in the ownership of the Distribution System Operator (DSO) the the additional tariffs shall be applied as defined in point 4.11.

4.13 Controlling the maximum demand for capacity

i. Distribution system Operator shall check the application for maximum electricity supply made by any Customer connected at low voltage, using an Automatic loader.

ii. Distribution System Operator shall check the maximum application made by any Customer connected at medium voltage selecting the adequate coefficient of the Current Transformer Transformation.

iii. Distribution System Operator shall check the maximum / minimum voltage levels and also the generator's disconnection from the maximum voltage protection.

4.14 Electricity metering system

i. Distribution System Operator (DSO) is liable to provide and install the metering system at LV, MV (a separate metering box with single-phase and 3-phase meter, LV and MV metering panel with meters and current transformers, collective metering box completed with meters, and current transformer).

ii. For the individual customers with installed capacity ≥ 200 kVA, the metering system shall be realized through the installation of the metering switch at MV for 6 and 10 kV voltage levels.

iii. For the individual customers with installed capacity ≥ 400 kVA, the metering system shall be realized through the installation of the metering switch at MV for 20 and 35 kV voltage levels.

iv. In the case of new generation plants, the requirements for all elements of the metering system shall meet the technical standards of the purchaser (DSO). The applicant is obliged to cooperate with the purchaser in the selection and installation process of the metering system, in compliance with the technical specifications of the purchaser. The metering system installed without the approval of the purchaser, DSO, is not considered regular and is not sealed

by it. The schematic submission for all the cases is according to the metering catalogue (Annex 2)

4.15 MAINTENANCE

The connections are operated by the grid operators, which are responsible for their maintenance. The cost for the control and maintenances provided in the Utilization and Technical Ensurance Regulation is paid by the user, according to the agreement agreed between the parties:

PART V: OWNERSHIP FOR NEW CONNECTION

5.1 Ownership limits

i. The connection lines at Low Voltage, as connection assets, shall be at the ownership of Distribution System Operator (DSO).

ii. Regarding the Users or Applicants asking for a connection point at Medium Voltage, the ownership limits are established, in any case, under a special agreement between the parties.

iii. The property of the new connection assets, added to the existing grid, is under the possession of the user, until the full depreciation of the assets, or upon termination of the authorization given under the connection agreement between the parties. Upon the full depreciation of the connection assets, their ownership passes to the grid operator. The connections are operated by the grid operators which are responsible for their maintenance. The cost of maintenance is paid by the User, according to the provisions made at point 4.15 of this Regulation.

5.2 Ownership rights on immovable property

i. Distribution System Operator may purchase has the usufructuary right free of charge over the immovable property destined as electricity cabin, according to the provisions made in the legislation in force.

ii. The usufructuary shall be established with a notary agreement between the parties, shall be registered at the immovable property registers and realized in conformity with the provisions of the Civil Code as amended.

iii. The change of the immovable property owner shall not violate the usufructuary right of the Distribution System Operator company.

PART VI: FINAL PROVISIONS

6.1 Immovable assets acquired "free of charge" by the Distribution System Operator (DSO) under these Rules shall not be included in the Regulated Asset Basis for the calculation of the tariffs.

6.2 These Rules are subject of review, with ERE Board decision according to the Regulation for ERE Organization, Operation and Procedures.

6.3 This regulation enters immediately into force after the publication in the Official Gazette.