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Government of Uttarakhand

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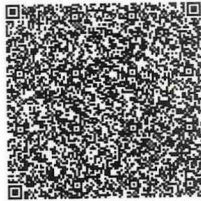
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Purchased by : INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY ROORKEE
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Second Party : INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY ROORKEE
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MOU

THIS Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been entered into by FORUM OF REGULATORS (represented by Secretary, Forum of Regulators and having its secretariat



[Handwritten Signature]

Statutory Alert:

1. The authenticity of this Stamp certificate should be verified at 'www.shcilestamp.com' or using e-Stamp Mobile App of Stock Holding. Any discrepancy in the details on this Certificate and as available on the website / Mobile App renders it invalid.
2. The onus of checking the legitimacy is on the users of the certificate.
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office at *Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC), 8th Floor, World Trade Centre, Nauroji Nagar, New Delhi* (hereinafter referred to as "FOR" which expression shall, unless repugnant to the context, be deemed to mean and include its successors and permitted assigns), of the First Party.

AND

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY ROORKEE, established under the Institute of Technology Act, 1961, enacted by the Parliament of Republic of India, having its office at Roorkee, Uttarakhand – 247667 hereinafter referred to as "IITR" which expression shall, unless repugnant to the context, be deemed to mean and include its successors and permitted assigns), of the Second Party.

WHEREAS: -

The functions of the **Forum of Regulators (FOR)** include, among others; Harmonization of regulation in power sector; Laying of standards of performance of licensees as required under the Act; Sharing of information among the members of the Forum on various issues of common interest and also of common approach; Undertaking research work in-house or through outsourcing on issues relevant to power sector regulation; Evolving measures for protection of interest of consumers and promotion of efficiency, economy and competition in power sector; Data collection and analysis; Subsidy accounting; Monitoring of renewable purchase compliance and such other functions as the Central Government may assign to it, from time to time.

The **Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee**, an institute providing Graduate, Post Graduate and Ph. D. degrees in the Technical Discipline/ Sciences, collaborates with Government, organisations, foundations and industries, both national and international and having expertise in the area of scientific and technological education and research, and the application of scientific knowledge and technology to human advancement and social development including renewable energy such as hydro, solar, biomass, hydrogen and pumped storage projects etc. and providing technical support in different areas of power integration and regulation. IITR has multidisciplinary faculty and professors with relevant experience in electricity regulation to undertake research and academic activity.

IIT Roorkee Greater Noida Centre (GNEC) is an extension centre located at Greater Noida. GNEC campus is equipped with labs, classrooms, conferencing facility and IT labs. This provides an enabling environment for students, researchers, and participant to acquire, share, enhance and promote knowledge-based ecosystem.

FOR wishes to engage with IITR to set up a “Centre of Excellence for Regulatory Affairs” (hereinafter referred as “Centre”) within the premises of IITR, at Greater Noida and Roorkee campuses, so as to undertake regulatory and policy research; consulting services; capacity building (national and international), set up discussion forums and knowledge management as per general framework given in the Annexures.

Any other programs/activities identified later would be detailed out in the due course.

AND THEREFORE, the parties agree to the following terms and conditions: -

1. Functionality of Centre

The Centre would establish a team of Human Resources to coordinate the day-to-day functioning, dedicated for Centre activity. A faculty expert in Energy regulation and policy from Department of Hydro and Renewable Energy nominated by Director IITR will be the Coordinator/Head of the Centre and would be responsible for all the required communications with FOR with respect to this MoU.

Senior or junior research and/or administrative staff may be recruited based on focus/priorities and shall be contingent upon the corpus created out of the seed fund (based on contribution from Regulatory Bodies).

The Centre shall be governed by a Governing Body to approve annual plan, review, assess the activities and progress as per the applicable Institute rules.

2. Governing Body of the Centre

(A) Composition

- a) Director of IITR - Chairman;
- b) 1 (One) Serving Representative from ERC – Member to be nominated by Chairperson, FOR;

- c) 1 (One) Representative from FOR Secretariat (Central Electricity Regulatory Commission) - Member;
- d) 2 (Two) faculties with relevant experience from IITR - Member;
- e) 2 (Two) distinguished scholars drawn from leading centres in institutions known for their excellence in regulatory research/practice from within India and/or from outside India, in consultation with FOR Secretariat at CERC - Member;
- f) One retired Regulator to be nominated by Chairperson, FOR
- g) Coordinator / Head of the centre - Member Secretary.

(B) Function

The Governing Body shall evolve a procedure for Conduct of proceedings of the centre as per the applicable Institute rules.

The Governing Body shall consider and approve the Centre's Annual plan of activities, budget and expansion in other regulatory areas. Proceedings will be reported to the FOR and IITR.

3. The objectives and functions of the Centre are as follows:

- a) Academic and Policy Research (Refer Annexure A)
- b) Advisory Services (Refer Annexure B)
- c) Capacity Building (Refer Annexure C)
- d) Knowledge Management (Refer Annexure D)
- e) Postgraduate Degree Programs (Refer Annexure E)

4. The functions of the Centre include the following:

- a) Understanding the current regulatory framework and the ecosystem, including the functions of the Central and State Electricity Regulators, public and private entities involved in activities of planning, generation, transmission, distribution, Retailing, Trading, Energy Exchanges, PPAs, Licensing, SOPs, tariff, and other aspects of the power sector, and research ecosystem in the academic institutions.
- b) Identifying gaps and regulatory challenges in the current energy sector and conducting studies such as co-optimisation of generation and transmission costs energy transition roadmap in India, Discom viability, market studies on

- renewable and other emerging technologies in the electricity sector, cost trends etc and publication of the same.
- c) Create new knowledge and information base (by way of an online web portal with access to all ERCs) necessary to meet the current needs and future regulatory challenges of the sector for supporting the growth of power sector and hold regular knowledge sessions with ERCs.
 - d) Exposure to Ph.D., master's and undergraduate students in regulatory affairs. Enhancing career prospects of students through placement in utility and regulatory affairs and in private consulting companies engaged in providing regulatory and policy advisory services
 - e) Independent and collaborative research, undertake projects and studies on specific issues, organize seminars and conferences, and publish relevant material. The same to be made available to all ERCs along with models and data used in such reports.
 - f) Support organizations in developing sound business strategies for competing in a complex and challenging regulatory environment.
 - g) Collaborate with other reputed institutes
 - h) Offering Master Degree in Energy Planning and Regulations.
 - i) Training, skill development and capacity development activities for creating a pool of specialized workforce and existing manpower of the regulators, utilities, financial institutions, industry, and Governments
 - j) Developing a network of experts in the area of planning and regulations in the infrastructure sector.
5. The MoU will remain in force for an initial term of five years from the date of signing and may be extended upon mutual written agreement. Either party may terminate the MoU by providing a six-month written notice. Any funds or commitments outstanding will be settled equitably during this period.
6. The Center shall be provided with a seed money of Rs. 5 Crore one time by FOR. The Centre will undertake financial audit as per policy of IITR For this support, the Centre will undertake research study without any fee on subject(s) of relevance to

the ERCs as decided by FOR / Chairperson, FOR and submit at least one report annually and conduct training course(s) where 25-30 seats will be offered per year to the nominees of FOR without any fee. If need be, the program will be conducted in 2 batches. However, such participants shall bear their travel expenses

7. In addition to the above, there will be optional annual contribution of Rs 2.0 Lakh each from interested Regulatory Commissions, whose 2 staff members shall be given free of cost training at the Center. However, such participants shall bear their travel expenses.
8. Members of FOR may approach the Centre for any need based research or capacity building program on mutually agreed cost basis.
9. The Centre shall also carry out sponsored studies/ capacity building programs subject to not adversely affecting the work and studies for FOR members. For this purpose, funding shall be arranged from the beneficiaries of the deliverables.
10. The Center will also offer fees-based research and masters and Ph.D. programs. Discounted fees for pursuing masters and PhD programs for nominees of ERCs may be offered.
11. To enhance diversity of participants and also in order to lower the costs in various programs/activities, the Centre may also engage additional participants including those representing sector utilities, investors, lenders, other stakeholders, development institutions, academicians, students, consultants etc. for any of the activities / programs. Such participants would directly pay the Centre, a fee as decided by the Centre, and which will be solely utilised by the Centre. The Centre will become self-sustaining within 5 years
12. The Centre would ensure necessary budgetary and administrative approvals as required for a smooth conduct of the above programs/activities.
13. For Academic and Policy research, consultancy services and knowledge management programs, IITR and FOR would have rights on the design, content, presentation, audio and video recordings and outputs of the programs/activities in all formats and forms of creation, storage, recording, display, delivery, sharing, publication, distribution, archival and retrieval. The copyright of the reports/papers

- shall rest with the respective authors or as detailed in such publications based on data used. All ERCs will have seamless access to the input data used in policy-making, research, consultancy services, and knowledge management programs.
14. **Information/Cyber/Digital Security:** All digital information will be protected against unauthorized access, breaches, and cyber threats and implement robust cybersecurity measures, security audits, data encryption, access controls, and compliance with national and international cybersecurity standards.
 15. **Research Ethics:** The Centre will adhere to ethical standards to ensure integrity, transparency, and accountability in research practices and outline the ethical standards to be followed in all research activities including adherence to ethical guidelines for data collection and analysis, ensuring informed consent, maintaining confidentiality, avoiding conflicts of interest, etc.)
 16. For Capacity building programs, IITR will provide a 'Certificate of Participation' to each participant as per the criteria decided from time to time. The certificates would bear name and/or logos of IITR and FOR. All costs associated with travel of the visiting personnel would be borne by the respective Members of FOR.
 17. With the consent of FOR secretariat, relevant information about the Centre, FOR and IITR and their respective logos may be used on brochures, advertisements, banners, websites/web pages, Apps, newsletters, discussion notes, working papers, program material (hard and/or soft copies), online content, certificates and other means for information dissemination about the programs.
 18. Prevalent taxes, duties, levies etc would be applicable on the amounts paid to the Centre, IITR from time to time.
 19. In case of cancellation of a Program/Activity, the Centre at IITR would not be liable for any costs or liabilities associated with the same. Cost arising out of such cancellations and other committed expenses would be borne by FOR to the extent of programs requested by FOR Members.
 20. **Dispute Resolution Mechanism:** The Centre will lay clear procedures for resolving disputes or disagreements, including methods such as mediation or arbitration

21. Degree programmes shall be as per the rules and regulations of IIT Roorkee in vogue.

22. This document constitutes the entire understanding and agreement of the Parties. No amendment, change, or modification of this agreement shall be valid unless put in writing and signed by the Parties hereto.

Both the Parties hereto have signed this MoU on the date above written.

Signed and Delivered

For and on behalf of Forum of Regulators



[Signature]
21/5/2025
Name: Shri Harpreet Singh Pruthi
Designation: Secretary
Address: Forum of Regulators,
Central Electricity Regulatory Commission
New Delhi

Witness

[Signature]
21/5/2025
Name: Dr Sushanta Chatterjee
Designation: Chief (Regulatory Affairs)
Address: Forum of Regulators
Central Electricity Regulatory Commission
New Delhi

Date: May 21, 2025

Signed and Delivered

For and on behalf of Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee

[Signature]
21/5/2025
Name: Prof Kamal Kishore Pant
Designation: Director
Address: IIT Roorkee,
Roorkee, Uttarakhand



Witness

[Signature]
Name: Prof Naveen K Navani
Designation: Dean (Academic Affairs)
Address: IIT Roorkee,
Roorkee, Uttarakhand

Date: May 21, 2025

Annexure A

Academic and Regulatory Research:

- i. To identify and address regulatory challenges by tapping the combined knowledge of all regulators, forums / associations, consultants, industry stakeholders, government, and government agencies.
- ii. To carry out research that aids the regulators in effective regulation making.
- iii. To undertake, promote and provide facilities for pursuing core, empirical, applied, and multidisciplinary research work in collaboration with other research bodies, industry and educational institutions.
- iv. To institute, and grant assistantships, and other forms of financial assistance for facilitating research work.

Annexure B

Advisory Services:

- i. To respond to emerging needs of the power sector stakeholders and provide them with necessary resources and expertise to operate effectively.
- ii. To provide inputs in formulation of policies and regulations at both macro and micro levels.

Annexure C

Capacity building:

- i. To establish itself as a centre of international standard for the purpose of imparting, disseminating, and promoting knowledge related to regulatory aspects from different functional and sector perspectives.
- ii. To organise and sponsor training programmes, study courses, lectures, meetings, workshops, seminars, conferences, and symposia in India and abroad.
- iii. To engage in capacity building among the regulators and other stakeholders based on research inputs.

Annexure D

Knowledge Management:

- i. Act as a specialised vehicle for developing a useful and broad knowledge base with relevance for policy making process, in general, and regulatory policymaking in particular.
- ii. Prepare and publish peer-reviewed research papers in journals, periodicals, magazines, books as well as in print and social media.
- iii. Create and maintain a world-class repository of knowledge and information with a state of art electronic database.
- iv. Network and collaborate with organisations of national and international repute, persons of eminence in the relevant field for generating collaborative research.
- v. Serve as a role model for other institutions in and outside India to enhance the quality of interaction in within regulators and between regulators and their stakeholders.

Annexure E

Postgraduate degree programs:

- i. A Master Degree program in Energy Planning and Regulations will be offered initially for working executives of Regulatory bodies, power utilities, developers, consulting firms and financial institutions.
- ii. In addition, this degree may be offered to full-time students at campus as well on self-financing basis as per Institute norms.
- iii. A doctoral degree program in Energy Planning and Regulations is also envisaged to be offered by the Centre.