

GUIDELINES FOR THE

Interconnection and Operation of Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

for Distribution Utilities and
Charge Point Operators



Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka

PREFACE

This document provides guidelines for Distribution Licensees (DLs) and Charge Point Operators (CPOs) on the interconnection, operation, and compliance monitoring of Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Centers in Sri Lanka. It is intended to ensure the safe, reliable, and non-discriminatory integration of EV charging facilities into the electricity distribution system. This guideline is aligned with applicable technical standards, exemptions issued by the Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka (PUCSL) to Charging Point Operators (CPOs), and established codes of practice. All Distribution Licensees shall comply with and implement this guideline in respect of EV charging center connections and operations.

As per the Sri Lanka Electricity Act 2024 (as amended), any person selling electricity for the purpose of charging electric-propelled vehicles is required to obtain a trading Licence or a Supply Exemption from the Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka (PUCSL). Accordingly, Charging Point Operators (CPOs) shall obtain the relevant licence or exemption before engaging in the sale of electricity for EV charging purposes.

Both Distribution Licensees and Charging Point Operators are regulated entities under the Commission. This guideline is issued to enhance regulatory clarity, improve compliance with the applicable legal and technical framework, and ensure coordinated and consistent implementation of EV charging infrastructure across the country.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

BS	British Standard
CPO	Charge Point Operator
DL	Distribution Licensee
EV	Electric Vehicle
EDL	Electricity Distribution Lanka Company (Pvt) Ltd
EVSE	Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment
EVCS	Electric Vehicle Charging Station
IEC	International Electrotechnical Commission
IESL	Institute of Engineers Sri Lanka
LECO	Lanka Electricity Company
OEM	Original Equipment Manufacturer

LIST OF DEFINITIONS

Term	Definition
Act	The Sri Lanka Electricity Act No. 36 of 2024 (as amended).
Agreement	The agreement for electricity supply to the Premises between the Tariff Customer (CPO) and the Distribution Licensee is entered into under and in terms of the Act and the Supply Services Code
CPO	A legal entity that constructs, owns, and operates electric vehicles charging stations (EVCS), obtains the necessary power supply from a distribution licensee and resells electricity to all types of electric vehicle owners at reasonable prices, operating under a distribution and supply exemption or trading license.
Commission	The Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka (PUCSL) was established under the Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka Act, No. 35 of 2002
Interconnection	Refer to the infrastructure required to connect an EVCS physically and electrically to the DL's distribution network.
Distribution Licensee	Holder of a license to distribute and supply electricity granted under SLEA.
Premises	A defined area in which the EVCS Facility is located, operated, and maintained.
Prudent Electrical Practices	Accepted international practices, standards, and engineering and operational considerations, including but not limited to OEM's recommendations and the exercise of reasonable skill, diligence, foresight, and prudence that would be exercised or generally followed in the operation and maintenance of facilities.
RTSPV System	Rooftop Solar Photovoltaic System

CHAPTER 1: GENERAL RULES, RIGHTS, AND OBLIGATIONS

1. Any person involved in reselling Electricity to Electric vehicles shall obtain a license or exemption issued by the Commission to operate as a CPO.
2. The exempted CPOs and their authorized contractors shall comply with all terms and conditions stipulated in the Trade license/Exemption Certificate issued by the Commission. These terms and conditions are subject to revision by the Commission from time to time, and it is the CPO's responsibility to ensure continued compliance with the applicable provisions.
3. The entire EVCS and equipment, including EVSE and other associated accessories such as inverters and protective circuits, shall be located within premises owned by the CPO or occupied under a valid lease, rental, or other legally enforceable agreement, and shall be owned by the CPO.
4. The CPO shall ascertain and comply with all applicable rules, regulations, codes, methodologies, and any standard that applies to the design, construction, installation, operation, and maintenance, and any other aspect of the EV Charging Station, and maintain Prudent Electrical Practices.
5. DLs are authorized to inform the Commission of any system found to be non-compliant with the prevailing regulations and Policy directives issued by the Ministry of Energy, rules, codes, and guidelines issued by the Commission.
6. The Charging Point Operator (CPO) shall bear sole responsibility for any loss, damage, or injury to persons or property (including the Electric vehicle) arising from the design, installation, operation, or maintenance of the EV charging station.
7. Any disconnection shall be done as per the **Guideline on Disconnection and Reconnection of Electricity Supply** issued by the Commission.
8. DLs shall provide equitable access to all authorized CPOs to the distribution network within the technical capability of the DL.
9. The use of electronic media throughout the approval and clearance process is highly encouraged.

10. DL has the authority to conduct inspections of exempted CPO to verify the technical and safety requirements of the interconnection as per the Guidelines on Entering into Premises issued by the Commission.

11. CPO shall comply with all applicable Environmental Laws in Sri Lanka.

CHAPTER 2: INTERCONNECTION PROCEDURES

1. The CPO shall apply for a separate electricity connection for the EV charging station from the DL as per the Guidelines on Connection and Supply of Electricity or **Guidelines for provision of Multiple Electricity Supplies for a Location** issued by the Commission. The DL shall verify that the applicant has ownership or legal control of the EV charging station. Where the CPO is not the property owner, the DL may obtain a written agreement between the CPO and the property owner at the time of application submission.
2. The DL shall obtain the trade license/exemption certificate issued by the Commission from the CPO to grant the interconnection facility.
3. The DL shall grant the Connection to the CPO as per the **Guideline on New Connection and Supply of Electricity** issued by the Commission.
4. The DL shall prepare and shall obtain the approval of the Commission for the following documents.
 - Application for the interconnection of the EV Charging Station.
 - Tariff Agreement on Interconnection of EV Charging Station.
5. CPO shall submit a declaration stating that the Charging Station has been designed and installed as per the Codes issued by the Commission and comply with all requirements stipulated in the codes and shall be supported by the Chartered Electrical Engineer who is responsible for the design.
6. Upon completion of the installation, the CPO shall submit all required documents to the DL in accordance with the requirements specified by the DL, with relevant test reports. Such testing shall be carried out by a competent Chartered Electrical Engineer listed by the IESL, in accordance with the applicable standards, codes, and guidelines issued by the Commission.

7. Upon payment of the grid interconnection charges, the CPO shall arrange and complete the commissioning and testing of the facility at its own cost. If required, commissioning during the interconnection may be witnessed by an authorized engineer/Officer of the DL and conducted at a mutually agreed date and time.
8. If a CPO requires the installation of an RTSPV system, the CPO must obtain a separate grid connection facility for the RTSPV system in line with the procedures set by the DL and in compliance with the relevant codes and guidelines issued by the Commission.

CHAPTER 3: OPERATION AND COMPLIANCE MONITORING

1. CPO shall maintain all operational equipment, records, and documentation in good condition, and shall provide full access to representatives of the Commission for inspections, testing, and verification as required.
2. The CPO shall submit the DL upon expiry of the existing license or exemption. The renewal request shall be submitted 3 months before the expiry of the existing exemption to the Commission. The DL shall ensure that the CPO maintains a valid license issued by the Commission at all times. The Distribution Licensee (DL) shall incorporate a clause addressing this requirement within the interconnection agreement with CPO.
3. The DL shall allow the CPO to obtain a separate connection for their EV charging station, including multiple connections at the same premises, in accordance with the **Guidelines for provision of Multiple Electricity Supplies for a Location**.
4. The CPO shall ensure that the separate connection obtained for the EV charging business is used exclusively for that purpose. Any misuse of the connection may result in the disconnection of the supply or the imposition of fines.
5. CPOs shall ensure proper functioning and maintenance of all protective devices, meters, interconnection equipment, and safety systems throughout the operational life of the EV charging station.
6. DLs shall, to the extent technically and economically feasible, implement and maintain real-time monitoring facilities for EV charging stations to monitor electricity supply parameters obtainable through metering infrastructure.

7. The DL shall promptly install the required meters and metering equipment. The initial cost incurred for providing the supply connection shall be charged as per the allowed charges approved by the Commission for the respective year.
8. The DL shall maintain the distribution network and the metering equipment to supply and accurately meter the electricity requirements of the CPO and to supply electricity, up to the capacities specified in the applicable supply agreement and the Interconnection Agreement.
9. The CPO shall provide the details of the E-Mobility Service Provider (EMSP) with whom they are engaged to DL. The CPO shall also ensure that the DL has access to real-time data of the EV Charging Station (EVCS) through the EMSP for monitoring purposes.
10. DL shall attend to requests made by the CPO for testing the accuracy of Utility meters or metering equipment in accordance with the **meter testing guidelines** issued by the Commission.
11. In the event of a defective meter or any other meter-related issue, the **Methodology for Estimation of Energy Supplied** issued by the Commission shall be applied for billing and settlement. CPO shall provide the necessary in-house meter log data to facilitate energy estimation with respect to the claim issue.
12. The DL may limit the operation, disconnect, or require disconnection of an EV charging facility from the distribution system under the following circumstances.
 - Emergencies or unsafe conditions: To address any immediate threat to personnel, equipment, or system reliability, with or without prior notice.
 - Routine maintenance, repairs, or modifications: To facilitate necessary work on the DL's distribution system, with reasonable notice to the CPO.
 - Non-compliance: Upon determination that the EV charging facility is not operating in accordance with the conditions stipulated in the Interconnection Agreement.
 - Termination of Agreement: Upon termination of the Interconnection Agreement between the DL and CPO.
 - Power quality violations: If the EV charging facility operates outside applicable technical settings, it adversely affects the power quality of the DL's distribution system.

13. The DL and CPO shall make reasonable efforts to resolve disputes through mutual discussions. Any unresolved disputes shall be referred to the Commission and will be resolved as per the provisions of SLEA 2024 and the applicable regulatory procedures of the Commission.
14. All internal circulars issued by the DL on EV Charging Stations shall align with this guideline and any relevant guidelines issued by the Commission. Any matter falling outside the scope of these guidelines shall be referred to the Commission for an agreed solution. DLs are encouraged to seek recommendations from the Commission for any internal circulars to minimize disputes.