



BEFORE THE NIGERIAN ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

ORDER ON TIMELINES TO FACILITATE DISTRIBUTION GRID CONNECTION

ORDER NO. NERC/172

**Preamble:**

The Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC) is an independent Regulatory Agency established by the Electric Power Sector Reform (EPSR) Act 2005.

The EPSR Act provides the legal and regulatory framework for the Nigerian Electricity supply Industry (NESI) in Nigeria. Section 81(a) of the Act states that the Commission shall develop in consultation with licensees and other interested parties *"standards of overall performance in connection with the provision of electricity supply services and in connection with the promotion of the efficient use of electricity by consumers"*

**Background:**

Pursuant to the provisions of section 81 (a) above, the Commission developed the Regulation on Connection and Disconnection Procedure for Electricity Service, 2007.

The Regulation needs to stipulate specific procedures and timelines for new customers that intend to connect to any existing distribution company's Network (i.e. within 50 meters to the grid connection point). These procedures and timelines will represent standards for customers desiring dedicated supply through the installation of dedicated transformers and associated accessories with rating above 50KVA, within their premises.

These standards were determined taking into account inputs from electricity distribution licensees to enhance efficiency in connecting new customers.

**Steps and timelines for Connection to the Distribution Grid:**

Steps	Procedures	Timelines
1	<b>Procedure 1</b> Submit application and payment (if applicable) to utility company, undertake site visits and develop cost estimate.	<b>Time: 7 days</b> In line with the Commission's <i>Methodology for the determination of Connection Charges for Electricity Supply Regulations 2012</i>
2	<b>Procedure 2</b> Purchase and install Connection equipment by customer's licensed contractor.	<b>Time: 5 Days</b> The customer is to conclude all approved work in readiness for connection before inviting the distribution company for

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		inspection and connection to the grid. ALL funds provided by Customers to the distribution licensees shall be in accordance with NERC's Regulation on investment in Electricity Networks in Nigeria 2015
	<b>Procedure 3</b> Obtain Right-of-Way permit from relevant State Ministry, Development or Agency.	The process relates to green field projects (i.e. distances beyond 50 meters from grid connection point) and should be concluded by the distribution company proactively before receiving application for connection.
	<b>Procedure 4</b> Make arrangement and undertake test and inspection of installation facilities and issuance of clearance certificate through distribution licensees.  The inspection should be carried out by a joint team of engineers from distribution licensees and NEMSA certified contractor.	<b>Time:</b> 13 days
	<b>Procedure 5</b> Undertake meter installation by Distribution.	<b>Time:</b> 5 days

**THEREFORE**, upon due consideration of the foregoing, and pursuant to the powers conferred on the Commission under section 76 of the EPSR Act; **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** as follows:

With effect from the **1<sup>st</sup> day of June 2017**, these benchmarks serve as timelines and all distribution licensees shall strictly adhere to this Order in connecting customers to their existing distribution network (i.e. within 50 meters to the nearest grid connection point).

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that all electricity distribution companies comply forthwith.

Signed this 12<sup>th</sup> day of May 2017

Sanusi Garba  
Vice Chairman

Dafe Akpeneye  
Commissioner  
Legal, Licensing & Enforcement