ORDER NO: NERC/2026/121

BEFORE THE NIGERIAN ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION ORDER ON THE OPERATIONALISATION OF "TRANCHE C" OF THE PRESIDENTIAL METERING INITIATIVE UNDER THE FRAMEWORK OF METER ACQUISITION FUND

Title

1. This regulatory instrument may be cited as the ***Order on the Operationalisation of "Tranche C" of the Meter Acquisition Fund***.

Commencement

2. This Order shall take effect from 2 November 2026 and shall remain in force until amended or revoked by a subsequent order issued by the Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission ("NERC" or the "Commission").

Background

3. The Commission introduced the Meter Asset Provider ("MAP") Regulations 2018 and subsequently, the Meter Asset Provider and National Mass Metering Regulations ("MAP&NMMR") in 2021 to address metering challenges in the Nigerian Electricity Supply Industry ("NESI").

4. These Regulations introduced multiple options for metering end-use customers and have driven substantial improvement, with the national metering gap reduced to about five million customers.

5. A key constraint identified is the inability of Distribution Companies ("DisCos") to secure financing, through debt or additional equity, for the acquisition and deployment of end-use meters and other critical capital investments.

6. To mitigate this challenge, the Commission developed and approved the Meter Acquisition Fund ("MAF" or the "Fund"). The MAF was designed to offset the impact of DisCos' limited creditworthiness on metering deployment

across NESI. The Fund establishes a credible revenue stream from market collections.

7. The Fund is managed by a Fund Manager ("FM") under terms and conditions negotiated by the DisCos and approved by the Commission. The deployment of funds under the MAF scheme is intended to accelerate meter roll-out and close the existing metering gap, reduce commercial and collection losses for DisCos, enhance service quality, and improve customer satisfaction.

8. In furtherance of the MAF programme, the Commission approved the utilisation of the sum of NGN21,000,000,000 (Twenty-One Billion Naira) under Tranche A and the sum of NGN28,000,000,000 (Twenty-Eight Billion Naira) under Tranche B. The approved amounts were drawn from accrued funds apportioned pro rata based on each DisCo's contributions and applied to closing the metering gap for customers classified under Tariff Bands A and B, respectively.

9. The Commission has approved the sum of NGN30,000,000,000 (Thirty Billion Naira) for MAF Tranche C. The funds shall be allocated among the DisCos in proportion to their respective contributions to the Fund. The funds are intended to meter all remaining unmetered Band A customers and accelerate the closure of the metering gap for customers currently classified under Tariff Band B. The approved allocations are set out in Schedule 1 to this Order.

10. Meters procured under Tranche C shall be allocated among the relevant states in each distribution licensee's franchise area using the energy offtake ratios prescribed in the Commission's Order on the Delineation of Assets and Liabilities of Distribution Licensees, Order No. NERC/2025/028, and the applicable distribution-licensee-specific delineation Orders, as amended, superseded or replaced from time to time.

11. All meters procured and installed under the MAF framework shall be provided to customers at no cost.

Objective

12. This Order seeks to -

    a. Establish a clear, transparent framework for implementing Tranche C of the MAF scheme.

    b. Define the eligibility requirements and obligations of DisCos, their relevant successor distribution entities and MAPs for accessing and utilising funds under Tranche C.

c. Specify monitoring, reporting and evaluation requirements to ensure accountability, efficiency and transparency in deploying MAF-funded meters.

d. Set operational guidelines and conditions for participating entities to protect the integrity of the MAF scheme.

e. Ensure the equitable deployment of meters among states within successor DisCos' franchise areas.

Eligibility Criteria

13. Distribution Companies and their relevant subsidiary distribution entities shall –

a. Provide an Application Programming Interface ("API") that integrates with the Fund Manager's IT platform and enables access to real-time data and confirmation of the activation of every meter installed under the MAF scheme.

b. Complete accurate Know-Your-Customer ("KYC") documentation.

c. Confirm that every customer location for a MAF meter is ready for metering.

14. Each Local Meter Manufacturer or Assembler ("LMMA") shall –

a. Hold a valid Meter Service Provider ("MSP") Certificate issued by the Commission under the manufacturer category.

b. File details of the proposed meter installers, each of whom shall hold valid NERC MSP certification.

15. Each Meter Asset Provider shall –

a. Provide evidence of a Memorandum of Understanding ("MoU") with a LMMA demonstrating compliance with the minimum local-content threshold under the Commission's extant regulations. Upon securing a meter order, the eligible MAP shall file supporting evidence of compliance with that threshold.

b. Hold a valid MAP Permit issued by the Commission.

c. File details of the proposed meter installers, each of whom shall hold valid NERC MSP certification.

THE COMMISSION HEREBY ORDERS AS FOLLOWS –

A. DisCos shall utilise the sum of NGN30,000,000,000 (Thirty Billion Naira) of the MAF scheme for Tranche C, apportioned according to their respective contributions as at the July 2026 market settlement and detailed in Schedule 1, for the procurement and installation of meters for unmetered Band 'A' and 'B' customers within their franchise areas.

B. The total approved meter quantity determined by the DisCos after the procurement shall be allocated among states within each DisCo's franchise area using the energy offtake ratios prescribed in the Commission's Orders on the Delineation of Assets and Liabilities for each Distribution Licensee (Order No. NERC/2025/070 - NERC/2025/080), as reflected in Schedule 2.

C. The Commission shall adopt the median national MAP online bid price from the September 2026 bid cycle as the maximum price for every meter category. Tranche C bids shall be evaluated based on meter-stock availability and technical assessment.

D. DisCos shall within 10 (ten) days from the effective date of this Order conduct a transparent procurement process for the selection and execution of a contract with LMMAs/MAPs with verified and ready-for-deployment meter stock for the metering of end-use customer meters under the MAF Tranche C.

E. DisCos shall, no later than 15 (fifteen) days from the date of this Order, file with the Commission the selected LMMAs/MAPs and details of the meter inventory, including meter types, brand names, serial numbers and meter locations to obtain a "No Objection" from the Commission.

F. Selected LMMA/MAP shall, within 7 (seven) days of the Commission's No-Objection approval of the procurement process, deliver 100% of the contracted meter volume to the DisCo's warehouse, which shall be verified by the Commission. Where the selected LMMA/MAP fails to deliver the contracted meter quantities within the 7-day timeframe, supply of the outstanding meter quantities shall be offered to another LMMA/MAP on a first-come, first-served basis. Each delivery shall be certified by a Store Receipt Voucher ("SRV") issued by the DisCo.

G. Upon delivery of the contracted meter stock, the DisCo shall, on behalf of the LMMA/MAP, submit a request to the Fund Manager for the payment of 70% of the contract sum, accompanied by the SRV.

H. Selected LMMA/MAP shall, before accessing the 70% payment, provide the Fund Manager with a Performance Bond for meter installation, issued by a licensed commercial bank in Nigeria. The Performance Bond shall be equivalent to 5% of the total contract value and shall remain valid for a minimum period of 365 (three hundred and sixty-five) days from the date of issuance.

I. The Fund Manager shall pay the remaining 30% of the contract sum upon the verified installation of the entire contracted quantity, subject to the approved Tranche C Fund Manager's Operational Process Manual.

J. DisCos shall provide all resources and complete all network clearances required for LMMP/MAPs to install meters in accordance with their installation plans.

K. DisCos shall deploy meters end to end on a feeder-by-feeder basis to ensure complete coverage of selected feeders, and only to unmetered Band A and Band B customers identified in each DisCo's submitted list.

L. Each meter installed under the MAF Scheme shall bear a sticker prominently displaying the name of the relevant DisCo, the applicable MAF Tranche, and the words "NOT FOR SALE" in bold white lettering against a red background.

M. Where a DisCo elects to relocate an existing customer's connection point to a pole or high wall to ensure revenue protection, such DisCo shall bear the relocation cost.

N. LMMAs/MAPs shall obtain all permits and clearances, including NEMSA certification seals, required to complete Tranche C meter deployment within the Commission's prescribed installation period.

O. Where the non-installation of meters is directly attributable to DisCo's failure to provide the required network clearance or failure to furnish accurate KYC information to the LMMP/MAP within the stipulated installation period, such DisCo shall be liable to a penalty which shall be equivalent to the total cost of the uninstalled meters. The penalty shall remain a lien on the DisCo's approved Administrative Operating Expenditure ("Admin OpEx") until the default is remedied.

P. All contracts for the supply and installation of meters shall be filed with the Commission.

Q. All parties under the MAF scheme shall exhibit the highest degree of public trust and ethical standards and shall not engage in any conduct that may constitute unfair practice or conflict of interest.

R. DisCos and LMMAs/MAPs shall ensure full compliance with the FM's Operational Process Manual for Tranche C.

S. The installation of meters shall be completed by 31 May 2027.

T. Parties shall file the following reports to the Commission –

Reporting Party	Type of Report	Frequency	Receiving Party
FM	a. Fund Performance Report	Quarterly	NERC
	b. Risk Management Report	One-Off	
DisCo	a. Meter Deployment Plan	One-Off	NERC/FM
	b. Meter Deployment Report	Monthly	
LMMAs/MAPs	Meter Installation Report	Weekly	DisCo/FM/ NERC

U. DisCos shall file audited reports under the Uniform System of Accounting, clearly reporting the performance of the MAF metering programme.

V. This Order is issued without prejudice to the applicable provisions of the MAP&NMMR and any other regulations of the Commission not specifically referenced herein.

Dated this 2nd day of November 2026.

Musiliu Oseni PhD
Chairman

Dafe C. Akpeneye
Commissioner
Legal, Licencing & Compliance

SCHEDULE 1

MAF IMPLEMENTATION – Tranche C Disbursement Allocation		
	DisCo Name	Tranche C Allocation NGN
1	Abuja Electricity Distribution Company (AEDC)	5,325,583,511.77
2	Benin Electricity Distribution Company (BEDC)	2,080,395,511.04
3	Eko Electricity Distribution Company (EKEDC)	4,386,918,579.65
4	Enugu Electricity Distribution Company (EEDC)	2,438,192,037.95
5	Ibadan Electricity Distribution Company (IBEDC)	3,171,675,182.50
6	Ikeja Electricity Distribution Company (IE)	6,853,147,741.65
7	Jos Electricity Distribution Company (JEDC)	856,745,276.75
8	Kaduna Electricity Distribution Company (KAEDC)	1,531,283,432.48
9	Kano Electricity Distribution Company (KEDCO)	1,863,418,167.44
10	Port Harcourt Electricity Distribution Company (PHEDC)	1,370,660,806.74
11	Yola Electricity Distribution Company (YEDC)	121,979,752.03
	Total	30,000,000,000.00

SCHEDULE 2
DISCOS PROPORTIONS OF ENERGY TAKE-OFF BY OPERATIONAL AREA

Abuja DisCo	
FCT	71.2%
Kogi	7.1%
Nasarawa	6.2%
Niger	15.5%
Total	**100.0%**

Eko DisCo	
Agbara	2.4%
Excel	97.6%
Total	**100.0%**

Ibadan DisCo	
Ekiti	0.1%
Kogi	0.2%
Kwara	12.7%
Niger	3.7%
Ogun	37.6%
Osun	17.6%
Oyo	28.1%
Total	**100.0%**

Jos DisCo	
Bauchi	17.4%
Benue	29.0%
Gombe	20.0%
Plateau	33.6%
Total	**100.0%**

Kano DisCo	
Jigawa	7.7%
Kano	72.2%
Katsina	20.2%
Total	**100.0%**

Yola DisCo	
Adamawa	35.7%
Borno	28.0%
Taraba	16.6%
Yobe	19.8%
Total	**100.0%**

Benin DisCo	
Delta	39.5%
Edo	44.4%
Ekiti	5.4%
Ondo	10.7%
Total	**100.0%**

Enugu DisCo	
Abia	5.4%
Anambra	41.2%
Ebonyi	6.2%
Enugu	30.3%
Imo	16.9%
Total	**100.0%**

Ikeja DisCo	
Lagos	91.3%
Ogun	8.7%
Total	**100.0%**

Kaduna DisCo	
Kaduna	66.9%
Kebbi	12.6%
Sokoto	13.0%
Zamfara	7.6%
Total	**100.0%**

PH DisCo	
Akwa Ibom	15.9%
Bayelsa	4.1%
Cross Rivers	12.4%
Rivers	67.7%
Total	**100.0%**