

For Immediate release

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Dr. Rahul Walawalkar appointed to CERC's Central Advisory Committee

- Dr Rahul Walawalkar, President, IESA appointed as one of the members of the Central Advisory Committee by Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC)
- IESA's aim is to make India a global hub for research, manufacturing, and adoption of advanced energy storage and e-mobility technologies by 2022.

Pune, India: The Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC), the power sector regulator in India has appointed Dr. Rahul Walawalkar, President, India Energy Storage Alliance (IESA), India's leading alliance on energy storage & e-mobility to be a part of the Central Advisory Committee (CAC).

As a part of the CAC, Dr. Walawalkar will advise the Commission on major questions of policy, matters relating to quality, continuity, and extent of service provided by licensees, protection of consumer interest, and overall standards of performance by utilities.

Dr. Rahul Walawalkar, President, India Energy Storage Alliance (IESA) opinions, India Energy Storage Alliance (IESA) is honored to be a part of Central Advisory Committee of Central Electricity Regulatory Commission. IESA has been closely working with CERC for the past few years and has given recommendations in the past to bring necessary amendments in the present regulatory framework to include storage as part of these regulations. We are happy to see such developments in IEGC grid code regulations, connectivity regulations, etc. However, there are proven, and immediate steps needed to be taken up in terms of opening opportunity for storage as part of ancillary services, behind-the-meter applications, grid security needs, etc."

Through the latest appointment, Dr. Walawalkar hopes IESA will be able to add value in shaping the Indian regulatory structure involving energy storage, e-mobility, and charging infrastructure and put reliable power sector needs in front of the commission successfully.

As part of the new role, IESA will support CERC with key policy and regulatory aspects as given below:

1. Give suggestions towards necessary amendments in the current CERC regulations and guidelines and including suitable clauses related to **storage and EV** part of Indian regulations.
2. Lend necessary support in calculating/arriving tariff parameters for **storage projects** (Independent Grid Asset Standalone Project/ RE Hybrid Project)
3. Detailed work on CERC regulations wherein **storage** clauses can be defined/included.
4. Necessary provisions in creating a market for **storage** as part of ancillary services which has been long pending and needs immediate action. Suitable changes in current regulations. Lend support in evaluating the techno-commercial viability of flexible operation of a **thermal generation fleet** against the investments in energy storage solutions to deliver similar services.
5. Advocacy towards the need for setting up **energy storage targets** in India. Previous experience in India has shown that government target setting, and economic liberalization can lead to rapid growth in a market, as was the case with the uptake of RLED and mobile telephone technology.
6. Separate tariff for **renewable energy with storage assets** as these hybrid assets could also be used to provide a firm and dispatchable renewable power and serve the peak load demand.

(Unfortunately, a few announcements of such hybrid projects have not resulted in any deployment).

7. Evaluate the use of energy storage for deferring upgrade of transmission assets to reduce **renewable generation curtailment or meeting load growth**.
8. Formulate a regulatory framework to **monetize the value of firming/smoothing** of solar power, ramp rate control, peak shifting, demand response, etc.
9. Suitable amendments to encourage **RE+ storage** supported EV charging stations. Special Tariff category for such units/projects.

In exercise of the powers conferred on it by Section 80 of the Electricity Act, 2003 (36 of 2003), and in supersession of the Central Advisory Committee constituted vide Notification No.:5/6/2016-Reg.Aff./CAC (20)/CERC dated 23rd March, 2016, the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) establishes the Central Advisory Committee (CAC).

About India Energy Storage Alliance (IESA):

India Energy Storage Alliance (IESA) is a premiere industry alliance focused on advancing energy storage and e-mobility in India. The alliance was founded in 2012 by Customized Energy Solutions (CES). IESA's aim is to make India a global hub for research, manufacturing and adoption of advanced energy storage and e-mobility technologies by 2022. In the last nine years, IESA's member circle has grown from 5 to 100+ members and covers verticals from Energy Storage & EV Manufacturers, Charging Infrastructure, Research institutes & universities, Renewable Energy companies, and Power electronics companies.

IESA website: www.indiaesa.info

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