



UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
MINISTRY OF ENERGY
ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES
REGULATORY AUTHORITY
(EWURA)



***THE ELECTRICITY SUB-SECTOR REGULATORY INFORMATION
BOOKLET***

(Fourth Edition, October 2025)

FOREWORD

The Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (EWURA) has published this information booklet to provide the necessary information on regulatory procedures for investing in the electricity sector in Mainland Tanzania. The booklet provides updated information and links to specific important details about the registration of power projects with a capacity of less than 1MW, licensing of projects exceeding 1MW, licensing of electrical installation personnel, approval for the initiation of procurement of large power projects exceeding 10MW, approval of power purchase agreements, and tariff settings. Detailed information can be obtained through <https://www.ewura.go.tz/electricity-home/>

The information provided in this updated booklet is aimed at easing the process of obtaining information required by prospective local and foreign investors who are interested in investing in the electricity sub-sector in Mainland Tanzania.

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

DNO:	Distribution Network Operator
EIA:	Environmental Impact Assessment
EWURA:	Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority
GoT:	Government of Tanzania
LPP:	Large Power Project
LOIS:	Licensing and Order Information System
MoE:	Ministry of Energy
MoU:	Memorandum of Understanding
MW:	Megawatt
PPA:	Power Purchase Agreement
PPP:	Public-Private Partnership
RR:	Revenue Requirement
SPD:	Small Power Distributors
SPP:	Small Power Project
SPPA:	Standardized Power Purchase Agreement
SPPT:	Standardized Power Purchase Tariff
TANESCO:	Tanzania Electricity Supply Company
TEDAP:	Tanzania Energy Development and Access Project
TIN:	Taxpayer Identification Number
VSPP:	Very Small Power Project
WGSPD:	Working Group on Small Power Project Development

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (EWURA) has broad objectives, including protecting stakeholders' interests and ensuring service providers' financial viability is sustained. In achieving these objectives, among others, EWURA issues licences, formulates and enforces quality codes and standards, reviews and determines rates and charges, approves Power Purchase Agreements, ensures security of supply, and promotes energy efficiency, effective competition, and economic efficiency.

EWURA is mandated to carry out both technical and economic regulation of the electricity sub-sector as provided for in the EWURA Act, Cap. 414 and the Electricity Act, Cap 131. Promotion of the least cost investment and security of supply for the benefit of consumers is among the functions of EWURA as stipulated in Section 6 of the Electricity Act, Cap 131. Section 5 of the Electricity Act provides for the powers of the Authority regarding regulation of the electricity sub-sector, among which are to award licences to entities undertaking or seeking to undertake a licensed activity, approve and enforce tariffs and fees charged by licensees, approve licensees' terms and conditions of electricity supply, and approve initiation of procurement of new electricity supply installations. Section 8 of the Electricity Act provides for activities that require licensing, and section 23 of the same Act provides for EWURA's mandates on tariff settings. Furthermore, section 25 of the Electricity Act provides for the mandatory requirement of EWURA's approval of power purchase agreements.

In implementing its functions, EWURA prepared this booklet to provide handy information to investors in the electricity sub-sector that will enable the prospective investors to spend less time inquiring about the necessary information required for compliance with the legal and regulatory requirements for investments in power projects.

The booklet summarises the necessary procedures to be followed by the prospective power project investors to enable them to obtain the necessary approvals required in accordance with applicable legislation. The booklet covers issues of procedures for initiation of procurement of power projects, licensing of electricity activities and electrical installations personnel, exemptions from licensing requirements, approvals of Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs), tariffs, and charges.

2.0 REGISTRATION OF POWER PROJECTS

Pursuant to Section 18 of the Electricity Act, generation and distribution activities for projects below 1MW in the rural areas are exempted from obtaining licences. However, Rule 37 (1) of the Electricity (Development of Small Power Projects) Rules, 2020 requires mandatory registration of generation and distribution projects below 1 MW before commencing commercial operations. Furthermore, Rule 37 (3) of the same Rules mandates the Authority to issue a provisional registration of a generation and distribution project below 1MW at any stage before commissioning of the project without submission of an environmental clearance, provided that the applicant submits to the Authority proof of initiation of the process to acquire the environmental clearance. Application for registration is done online through the Licensing and Order Information System (LOIS), which is accessible through <https://lois.ewura.go.tz/ewura/> as described in Chapter 5. Furthermore, the application should be supported by the following documents and information:

- (a) name and address of the applicant;
- (b) entity registration documents;
- (c) description of the geographic area;
- (d) description of the generation and distribution infrastructures;
- (e) initial size of the generating facility;
- (f) description of the generating technology that will be used;
- (g) environmental clearance;
- (h) Letter of support from the Ministry responsible for electricity matters
- (i) proof of land use rights; and
- (j) Commissioning Report.

3.0 LICENSING OF ELECTRICITY ACTIVITIES

3.1 Licence

One may opt to apply for a provisional licence, which is a licence issued to allow a developer to conduct preparatory activities such as carrying out assessments, studies, and other activities necessary for carrying out electricity activities. Application for a Provisional licence is done online through LOIS, which is accessible through <https://lois.ewura.go.tz/ewura/> as described in chapter 5. Furthermore, the application should be supported by the following documents and information:

- (a) Memorandum and Articles of Association;
- (b) Certificate of Incorporation;
- (c) Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN);
- (d) Letter of support for the initiative from the Ministry responsible for electricity matters
- (e) Proof of land rights or proof of the land acquisition process;
- (f) Water Right if applicable (applicable for hydro generation project);
- (g) Environmental impact assessment certificate or an initiation of the process to acquire the certificate;
- (h) Power Purchase Agreement or Memorandum of Understanding or Letter of Intent from TANESCO (applicable for sale of electricity to off-taker, not needed for own use generation);
- (i) Support document of the project from the local government;
- (j) Right of Way (applicable for distribution project);
- (k) Pre-Feasibility Study/project write-up;
- (l) Proof of financial capability;
- (m) Description of the distribution network, including customer base/Supply Agreement, number of transformers and capacities, interconnection point, and point of supply (applicable for distribution project);
- (n) Generation type and capacity/description of the generation plant (applicable for generation project);
- (o) Construction schedule;
- (p) Sketch map of the proposed service area (applicable for distribution project); and
- (q) Site layout (applicable for generation project).

3.2 Provisional Licence

One may opt to apply for a provisional licence, which is a licence issued to allow a developer to conduct preparatory activities such as carrying out assessments, studies, and other activities necessary for carrying out electricity activities. Application for a Provisional licence is done online through LOIS, which is accessible through <https://lois.ewura.go.tz/ewura/> as described in chapter 5. Furthermore, the application should be supported by the following documents and information:

- (a) Memorandum and Articles of Association;
- (b) Certificate of Incorporation;
- (c) Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN);
- (d) Letter of support for the initiative from the Ministry responsible for electricity matters
- (e) Proof of land rights or proof of the land acquisition process;
- (f) Water Right if applicable (applicable for hydro generation project);
- (g) Environmental impact assessment certificate or an initiation of the process to acquire the certificate;
- (h) Power Purchase Agreement or Memorandum of Understanding or Letter of Intent from TANESCO (applicable for sale of electricity to off-taker, not needed for own use generation);
- (i) Support document of the project from the local government;
- (j) Right of Way (applicable for distribution project);
- (k) Pre-Feasibility Study/project write-up;
- (l) Proof of financial capability;
- (m) Description of the distribution network, including customer base/Supply Agreement, number of transformers and capacities, interconnection point, and point of supply (applicable for distribution project);
- (n) Generation type and capacity/description of the generation plant (applicable for generation project);
- (o) Construction schedule;
- (p) Sketch map of the proposed service area (applicable for distribution project); and
- (q) Site layout (applicable for generation project).

4.0 LICENSING OF ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION PERSONNEL



An Electrical installation activity.


Pursuant to Section 8(1) (h) of the Electricity Act and Rule 4(1) of the Electricity (Electrical Installation Services) Rules, 2025, any person carrying out electrical installation activities requires a licence. Application for Electrical Installation licence is done online through LOIS, which is accessible through <https://lois.ewura.go.tz/ewura/> as described in chapter 5. Furthermore, the application should be supported by education and experience in electrical installation work. If a person has obtained a Degree/Diploma from abroad, the certificates must be certified by the Tanzania Commission of Universities (TCU). For vocational training, the certificates must be certified by the Vocational Education Training Authority (VETA).

The following are the licensing class categories and the scope of activity for each class of electrical installation licence:

- (a) Class A, which is issued to carry out electrical installation works at all voltage levels except works permitted under Class S1, S2, and S3.
- (b) Class B, which is issued to carry out electrical installation works of medium voltage level up to 33,000 Volts except works permitted under Class S1, S2, and S3.
- (c) Class C, which is issued to carry out all electrical installation works not exceeding 400 Volts except works permitted under Class "S1, S2, and S3".
- (d) Class D, which is issued to carry out all electrical installation works not exceeding 220 Volts except works permitted under Class "S1, S2, and S3".
- (e) Class "S1" issued to conduct specialised electrical installation works at all voltage levels;
- (f) Class "S2" issued to conduct specialised electrical installation works up to 33000 Volts;
- (g) Class "S3" issued to conduct specialised electrical installation works up to 1000 Volts;

Further qualification information to apply for an electrical installation licence can be obtained from "The Electricity (Electrical Installation Services) Rules, 2025," which are accessible through <https://www.ewura.go.tz/electricity-regulatory-tools/>.

5.0 APPLICATION GUIDELINES FOR ELECTRICITY LICENSING AND REGISTRATION ACTIVITIES



LOIS
License And Order Information System

 Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority
ISO 9001:2015 Certified

Username

Password

SIGN IN

[Kusajili Malalamiko/Register Complaint](#) [Jisajiri/Register](#)
[Umesahau nywila/Forgot password](#)

LOIS interface

The list below is guidelines for the application of electricity licence and registration activities through the Licensing and Ordering Information System (LOIS):

- Open the Authority's website www.ewura.go.tz.
- Click either on the right-hand side of the page, written License and Order Information System (LOIS), or click "online services" and select LOIS.
- Click "register", enter
- The system will open a page that requires you to fill in information.
- The system will send an automatic password to the registered email/phone number.
- Log in with the registered email and password received automatically.
- Choose the Electricity licence to be applied.
- Select your preference among the following: Electrical Installation Licence, Electricity Generation Licence, Electricity Transmission Licence, Electricity Distribution Licence, etc.
- Fill the application form with all required details.
- Declare that all filled-in information is true.
- Click submit, and an automatic control number to pay the application fee will be submitted to your email. Also, you can see the invoice with the control number in the LOIS system

by clicking on the invoice, and you can see the payment receipt in the same place. For the electrical installation licence, you will pay a non-refundable application fee soon after obtaining the control number. The fees are TZS: 130,000/- for licence classes A, B, S1, S2, and TZS: 50,000 for classes C, D, and S3. The duplicate fee is a flat rate of TZS: 20,000 for all class categories.

- (l) The applicant will be required to pay the application fee with the relevant control number received through mobile money or a bank.
- (m) After completion of the payment, EWURA will commence the evaluation process.
- (n) Applicant may access the status of the application through LOIS by logging in with the registered email and password and then clicking View Report. Therefore, you are advised to keep the username and password safe.
- (o) Applicant may upgrade, renew, or access licence news through LOIS by logging in with their registered email and password. Therefore, you are advised to keep the password safe.

6.0 INITIATION OF PROCUREMENT OF NEW ELECTRICITY SUPPLY INSTALLATIONS ABOVE 10MW

Pursuant to Section 5(d) of the Electricity Act and Rule 4(1) of the Electricity (Procurement of Power Projects and Approval of Power Purchase Agreements) Rules, 2019, purchasing licensees must seek EWURA's approval to initiate procurement of new power projects by lodging a written application that contains:

- (a) A summary of the project, including the proposed capacity, site location, generation technology, and the predicted project risks;
- (b) A summary of the project rationale, explaining the need for the project, the benefits expected from the project, how the project will meet projected demand, and how the project fits with the most recent publicly available version of the Power System Master Plan;
- (c) Government Notice Number specifying such a project to be undertaken under a PPP arrangement as required by Regulation 4 of the Public Private Partnership Regulations, 2011 for a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Project;
- (d) Evidence of the technical and financial capability of the project developer to successfully undertake the project for an unsolicited proposal;
- (e) All relevant project information that has been prepared before the date of application, including any feasibility studies, environmental and social impact assessments, and site appraisals; and
- (f) A summary of the procurement process that will be followed, including:
 - i. indicative timeline for the procurement process;
 - ii. key staff on negotiation team; and
 - iii. Any agreement signed between the project developer and the Government of Tanzania in support of this project, including memoranda of understanding, letters of support, and Government guarantees.

However, Rule 2(3) of the Electricity (Procurement of Power Projects and Approval of Power Purchase Agreements) Rules, 2019, requires that the initiation of procurement of power projects does not apply to:

- (a) the procurement of electricity transmission or distribution infrastructure, unless directly related to the purchase of power;
- (b) procurement and approval of power purchase agreements related to small power projects;
- (c) procurement of generation projects that are wholly owned and operated by a purchasing licensee;
- (d) sale of electricity to eligible customers; or
- (e) electricity purchase and sale in markets determined by the Authority to be competitive

7.0 APPROVAL OF POWER PURCHASE AGREEMENTS (PPA)

Pursuant to Section 25 of the Electricity Act and the provisions of the Electricity (Procurement of Power Projects and Approval of Power Purchase Agreements) Rules, 2019, all power purchase agreements shall have approval of EWURA. However, this does not apply to the electricity sold directly to eligible customers and the Standardised Power Purchase Agreements, including tariffs for small power projects up to 10MW, which are being governed by the Electricity (Development of Small Power Projects) Rules, 2020.



Small Power Project Plant in Tanzania.

7.1 Standardized Power Purchase Agreement (SPPA) for Small Power Projects (SPP)

Pursuant to sections 23(1) and 25 of the Electricity Act, EWURA approved the use of Standardized Power Purchase Agreement (SPPA) and Standardized Power Purchase Tariffs (SPPT) for interconnecting and selling power to the Main grid and Mini grids in Mainland Tanzania for SPPs. Pursuant to the Electricity (Development of Small Power Projects) Rules, 2020, an SPP developer needs to conclude an SPPA not later than ninety days (90) after a Distribution Network Operator (DNO) has delivered a detailed statement of interconnection costs to the SPP developer. The term of an SPPA shall be for a period of up to twenty (20) operating years after reaching Commercial Operation Date.

7.2 Power Purchase Agreements (PPA) for Large Power Projects (LPP)

Pursuant to Section 25 of the Electricity Act, EWURA approved the use of the Model Power Purchase Agreement for projects of a size larger than 10MW for seven (7) power generation resources, which are hydro, oil, solar, wind, natural gas, geothermal, and coal. The purpose of using Model Power Purchase Agreements is to provide guidance to parties when negotiating for an electricity tariff, shorten the negotiation period, and speed up the approval process. The specific Model Power Purchase Agreements for the seven power generation resources mentioned above can be accessed through <https://www.ewura.go.tz/power-purchase-agreements/>

Furthermore, in line with section 25 of the Electricity Act, any purchasing licensee who intends to conclude a Power Purchase Agreement with any other party shall be required to lodge an application to the Authority, which shall contain the following:

- (a) the initiated Power Purchase Agreement, together with any project agreements;
- (b) details of the procurement process used to procure a new source of supply, supporting evidence of the procurement process, and competitive procurements, a report explaining how bids are evaluated, and justifying the selection of the successful bidder;
- (c) the names of a person or firm, both domestic and international, paid a commission, gratuity, or a fee of not less than fifty thousand shillings in relation to the procurement or execution of the agreement in the form provided in the First Schedule;
- (d) a summary of key terms of the agreement, and a filled-in risk allocation table in the form provided in the Second Schedule; and
- (e) details disclosing the project owners, including beneficial ownership of companies and trusts, and any relationship that owners have with Ministers, officials, and staff of the purchasing licensee, Ministry, or the Authority

8.0 APPROVAL OF TARRIFS

Pursuant to section 23 of the Electricity Act and section 17 of the EWURA Act, Cap. 414, EWURA is mandated to review rates and charges either when the applicant lodges the application or when EWURA finds it necessary to do so.

8.1 Projects of capacities up to 10 MW

Pursuant to the Electricity (Development of Small Power Projects) Rules, 2020 and the Electricity (Standardized Small Power Projects Tariff) Order 2019, EWURA has the mandate to set tariffs for small power projects as follows:

- (a) For parties with SPPAs, the determination of tariff shall be based on technology costs and feed-in tariff as published by EWURA from time to time.
- (b) For the mini grid that sells electricity directly to customers, the tariff will be based on the investment cost structure and return on investment.
- (c) Any SPP or SPD that sells electricity to retail customers, shall charge a tariff that, at a maximum, shall be limited to the sum of operating costs, depreciation on capital, whether supplied by the SPP or SPD or others, debt payments, reserves to deal with emergency repairs and replacements, taxes, plus a reasonable return on capital provided by the SPP or SPD that reflects the risks faced by the SPP or SPD.

8.2 Projects with capacities exceeding 10 MW

The Authority has the mandate to approve the power purchase price of power projects above 10 MW resulting from PPA negotiations between the purchasing licensee and the developer.

8.3 Retail Tariffs

Pursuant to Section 45 of the Electricity Act and the provisions of the Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (Electricity and Natural Gas) Tariff Application and Rate Setting) Rules, 2021, licensees are required to submit their tariff proposals to EWURA for determination. The application for tariff application must contain:

- (a) the ownership structure of the applicant and the other entities in which the regulated supplier has an ownership interest;
- (b) the requested regulatory action and the rationale for such action;
- (c) a summary table of current and proposed average customer bills by customer class, as well as other charges;
- (d) the existing annual revenues of the regulated supplier and the projected revenues if the rate or charge were adopted as proposed;
- (e) options other than a tariff change considered by the regulated supplier and why each option was not selected;
- (f) implementation status of key performance indicators, covering technical, operational, and financial indicators of the regulated supplier for the previous year, the current year, and for the subsequent three years, assuming the proposed rate or charge is adopted; and
- (g) information about the annual subsidies and grants received over the past three financial years before the application date, as well as a forecast of the same during the rate or charge period.

Once EWURA approves the tariff, the same is published in the Government *Gazette* to be in use for a period of three years. Furthermore, EWURA may review tariffs before the period of three years, where it discovers that major changes have occurred in the electricity supply industry or when any other needs arise.

Further information can be obtained from the Tariff Application Guidelines and the Electricity (Tariff Setting) Rules that can be accessed through the EWURA website (www.ewura.go.tz).

8.4 Net Metering Tariff

EWURA has developed the Electricity (Net-Metering) Rules, 2018, to provide a mechanism to promote the development of small-scale renewable energy systems in residential and commercial facilities for integration with the distribution network operator's electricity infrastructure. The Rules provide a platform for private sector investments in renewable energy technologies. Investments in renewable energy technologies contribute to the reduction of environmental pollution and ensure the reliability of power supply to Distribution Network Operators (DNOs) customers. Net-metering does not involve monetary purchase of energy; instead, it involves the exchange of energy between the customer and DNO.

Net-metering customers and DNOs shall execute a standard interconnection agreement before connecting the Net-Metering facility. The Interconnection agreement can be obtained as scheduled in the Electricity (Net-Metering) Rules, 2018, which is available on the EWURA website (www.ewura.go.tz).