CARBON NEUTRAL COMMERCIAL SECTOR (CNCS) RENEWABLE ENERGY (RE) SCHEME

INFORMATION LEAFLET

INTRODUCTION

The strategy to increase the shares of renewable energy in the national electricity generation mix is under implementation, with several solar photovoltaic projects in the categories Small-Scale Distributed Generation (SSDG), Medium-Scale Distributed Generation (MSDG) and Utility-Scale being developed.

Within the revisited strategy, in line with Government's reset objectives to accelerate renewable energy development to reach the target of 60% by 2035, a revamped version of the MSDG Scheme has been conceptualized to formulate this new Scheme.

The new Scheme named **'CARBON NEUTRAL COMMERCIAL SECTOR (CNCS) RENEWABLE ENERGY (RE) SCHEME'** will be offered on a pilot basis to major electricity Consumers in the Commercial Sector. The launching of the CNCS RE Scheme was officialized by Government at its Cabinet Meeting of 23 January 2026.

For the current phase of the CNCS RE Scheme, the CEB will consider applications for renewable energy (RE) projects **(solar only)** from **Customers in the Commercial Category registered under the Tariff Codes 225 and 225A**.

A total cumulative capacity of **seventy (70) megawatts (MW)** has been earmarked for the present phase of the Scheme in Mauritius. For Rodrigues, the allocation of capacity will be based on the outcomes of the operationalisation of the *Rodrigues Ile Verte study*.

Each solar PV facility to be developed under the Scheme can be sized to produce up to 150 percent of the total annual electricity (kWh) requirement of the eligible Customer(s). **In any case, under the CNCS RE Scheme, the maximum capacity of a project should not exceed 4MW per site.** The solar facilities shall be equipped with battery energy storage to meet at least the Customers' electricity demand during peak hours.

Interconnection of each RE project to the CEB grid shall strictly be made in accordance with the applicable legislations, codes and CEB's requirements which will be communicated during discussion(s) with each project developer.

Under this Scheme, the **eligible CEB Customers can form and legally elect a cooperative entity to represent their interests in the setting up of one or more joint solar photovoltaic (PV) facilities.** Participation in the Scheme is voluntary.

The testing and commissioning of the grid connection of solar PV projects will be conducted on a rolling-over principle. The testing and commissioning for grid connections will proceed in sequential order based on the readiness state of compliant renewable energy installations, and subject to the allocated capacity limit allocated for the Scheme.

The CNCS RE SCHEME has been officially launched on 27 January 2026 through a press conference by the Minister of Energy and Public Utilities.

In the following sections, important information on the CNCS RE Scheme is given. Eligible Customers in the CEB Commercial Category and the public are advised to **read carefully** the information provided in the Information Leaflet.

MAIN GOALS OF THE CNCS RE SCHEME

The CNCS RE Scheme is in line with Government strategy to decarbonise the Energy Sector, especially to extend support to the Commercial Sector in its quest towards carbon neutrality.

The Scheme can contribute to speed up actions to meet the national target of 60% shares of RE in the electricity mix by 2035.

The Scheme offers the opportunity to eligible Commercial Customers to engage in clean, renewable electricity production through the formation of cooperative entities, who shall be sole legally responsible entities for the commercial operation of the RE facilities. In addition, the eligible Commercial Customers will be able to engage in electrical load management and contribute to national demand-side management initiatives.

Through this Scheme, CEB confirms its support to eligible Commercial Customers in the setting up of solar PV projects with the common objective of ensuring sustainable development of the national Power System.

WHAT IS THE CNCS RE SCHEME?

The CNCS RE Scheme provides CEB Commercial Customers - in the first instance, those whose Electricity Contract Accounts have been registered in the Tariff Codes 225 and 225A - an option to invest in renewable energy power generation (solar source only) to produce electricity mainly for their own consumption.

Amongst others, the Scheme aims to provide the eligible Customers an alternative to mitigate the impact of future electricity tariff increases.

Under the present phase of the Scheme, **CEB plans to integrate a total cumulative capacity of 70 MW of solar PV installations (SSDG, MSDG and Utility-Scale[1]) with battery energy storage systems into the Mauritian grid. The battery energy storage systems should be able to meet at least the Customers' electricity demand during peak periods.**

Each proposed hybrid solar PV facility, under this Scheme, will be subject to either a Network Impact Assessment (NIA) or a Network Survey (NS)**,** whichever would be warranted, to determine the final capacity of the facility. **Thereafter, the qualified Customer or the cooperative entity representing the interests of group of qualified Customers shall implement all the recommendations of the NIA or NS prior/during the setting up the facility.**

KEY FEATURES OF THE CNCS RE SCHEME

The key features of the CNCS RE Scheme are as follows: -

[1] SSDG is Small-Scale Distributed Generation of capacity not exceeding 50 kW; MSDG is Medium-Scale Distributed Generation of capacity ranging from 50 kW to 2 MW; and Utility-Scale Power Generation facilities of capacity above 2 MW.

1. Each eligible CEB Customer engaging in the Scheme will be considered as a Prosumer, irrespective of the ownership and siting of the solar PV facility, which can be located on-the-site or off-the-site.

2. The Scheme offers both, Net-Metering and Gross-Metering options for managing and billing the energy production and exported from the solar PV facilities. **The Customer (future Prosumer) will be free to choose between the two options.** Under the Net-metering option, the unbundled time-of-use tariffs defined in the table below will be applied. **It is expected that the proposed time-of-use tariffs will replace the existing Tariffs 225 and 225A and mandatorily applied in 2027.**

3. The typical structure and rates of the unbundled Time-of-Use tariffs, which will be filed to the Utility Regulatory Authority (URA) for approval and publication, applicable on a monthly basis to each electricity Contract Account, presently registered in the Tariff Codes 225 or 225A**,** linked to the solar PV facility**,** shall be as shown in the table below.

Current Tariff Code	**Time-of-Use Running Charge Rates (Rs/kWh)**			**Other Charges (T-SO-SB) Rate (Rs/kWh)**	**Time-of-Use Demand Charge Rates (Rs/kVA)**			**Contribution Solidarité Tarifaire (CST) Rs per kWh**
	Day	**Evening**	**Night**		**Day**	**Evening**	**Night**	
ToU-225	7.46	11.06	7.14	2.61	217	651	217	0.49
ToU-225A	9.45	14.00	9.05	2.61	217	651	217	2.70
***T** – Transmission Licensee, **SO** – System Operator Licensee and **SB** – Single Buyer Licensee*								
The **Minimum Charge, Security Deposits** and **Meter Rentals** shall be as per General Notice No. 1804 of 2022 and shall be billed as per existing billing practice.								

- Until further notice, the Running Charge (energy import) rates for the different times of the day shall have the differentials whereby the evening (peak) rate shall be 48.2% higher than the day rate and the night rate shall be 35.4% below the evening (peak) rate.
- The **Other Charges** shall be calculated based on the quantity of energy offset; hence, the monthly amount of the Other Charges shall be the product of the total energy offset and the applicable rate, which is presently fixed at Rs 2.61 per kWh. Likewise, the monthly **Contribution Solidarité Tarifaire (CST)** shall be the product of the total energy offset and the applicable rates which presently are as provided in the table above.
- For the purpose of calculating the monthly bill, the total monthly electricity (kWh) consumption of the Prosumer shall be calculated by the formula below: -

  C = P + I – E

  Where, **C** is the total monthly electricity (kWh) consumption;
  P is the total energy (kWh) production by the solar PV facility;
  I is the total energy (kWh) imported from CEB; and
  E is the total energy (kWh) exported to CEB.
- The structure / rates of the above-referred unbundled Time-of-Use (ToU) tariffs shall be subject to future revision, as and when necessary.

4. Customers (future Prosumers) will be allowed to install onsite or offsite solar PV systems to generate up to 150 percent of their annual energy requirements. The annual electricity

requirements shall be calculated based on the latest available monthly electricity consumption recorded in each Electricity Contract Account that will be linked to the solar PV facility.

5. As an additional incentive, excess energy generated will be purchased at the rate of Rs 4.20 per kWh.

6. The solar PV facility, developed under the Scheme, should be equipped with mandatory BESS (onsite or offsite) for offsetting at least the Prosumer's electricity demand during peak periods. The BESS shall also enable participation in Load/Demand-side Management.

SIZING OF THE RE FACILITY

Under this Scheme, an eligible Customer will be allowed to install a solar PV facility to meet its total annual electricity requirements plus an additional 50% (excess) for net-export to the grid.

The final capacity (size) of each facility shall be determined after the network impact assessment (NIA) or network survey (NS) that will be carried out by CEB and the declared electrical load of the active electricity contract account(s) linked to the intended solar PV system is effectively updated in the CEB Information System. Upon the completion of NIA and/or NS, the eligible Customer will have to implement all the recommendations made by the CEB within given deadline(s). In any case, the maximum capacity of a facility should not exceed four megawatts (4 MW) per site.

Subject to the terms and conditions of the Scheme, each eligible Customer should determine the capacity of its solar PV facility based on its expected annual electricity (kWh) demand, calculated on the basis of the latest recorded monthly electricity consumption**.**

METERING REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE CNCS RE SCHEME

Irrespective of the metering method (Gross-metering or Net-metering), required metering equipment will be installed to measure and monitor the energy production and exported by the hybrid solar PV facilities.

For metering purposes, all solar PV projects to be developed under this Scheme shall be equipped with production and import-export meters. The meters will be provided by the CEB. The latter will keep total administrative and technical control of the meters and their associated metering equipment. All related costs for metering shall be borne by the Customers (Prosumers).

The location to fix the meters and metering equipment within the electrical setup of each solar PV facility will be determined by the CEB.

On a case-to-case basis, special consideration will be given to ensure the optimal solution for the metering of the solar PV facility purposely to ensure best commercial practices and billing requirements.

KEY TERMS & CONDITIONS OF THE CNCS RE SCHEME

The key terms and conditions of the CNCS RE Scheme are: -

1. To apply for the Scheme, an eligible Customer should fill in and submit the prescribed Application Form together with full details of the intended solar PV project.

2. Each eligible CEB Customer engaging in the Scheme will be considered as a Prosumer, irrespective of the ownership of the solar PV facility.

3. The Prosumers can opt for either Net-Metering or Gross-Metering for billing and managing energy production and exported from the solar PV facilities.

4. Under the Net-metering option, the unbundled time-of-use tariffs defined in the table below will be applied. **It is expected that the proposed time-of-use tariffs will replace the existing Tariff 225 and Tariff 225A and their application will become mandatory in 2027**.

Present Tariff Code	**Time-of-Use Running Charge Rates (Rs/kWh)**			**Other Charges (T-SO-SB) Rate (Rs/kWh)**	**Time-of-Use Demand Charge Rates (Rs/kVA)**			**Contribution Solidarité Tarifaire (CST) Rs per kWh**
	Day	**Evening**	**Night**		**Day**	**Evening**	**Night**	
ToU-225	7.46	11.06	7.14	2.61	217	651	217	0.49
ToU-225A	9.45	14.00	9.05	2.61	217	651	217	2.70
***T** – Transmission Licensee, **SO** – System Operator Licensee and **SB** – Single Buyer Licensee*								
The **Minimum Charge, Security Deposits** and **Meter Rentals** shall be as per General Notice No. 1804 of 2022 and shall be billed as per existing billing practice.								

- The typical structure and rates of the unbundled Time-of-Use tariffs, which will be filed to the Utility Regulatory Authority (URA) for approval and publication, that will be applied on a monthly basis to each electricity Contract Account, presently registered in the Tariff Codes 225 or 225A**,** linked to the solar PV facility**,** shall be as shown in the table above.

- The structure / rates of the above-referred unbundled Time-of-Use (ToU) tariffs shall be subject to future revision, as and when necessary.

- The **Other Charges** shall be calculated based on the quantity of energy offset; hence, the monthly amount of the Other Charges shall be the product of the total energy offset and the applicable rate, which is presently fixed at Rs 2.61 per kWh. Likewise, the monthly **Contribution Solidarité Tarifaire (CST)** shall be the product of the total energy offset and the applicable rates which presently are as shown in the table above.

5. Customers (future Prosumers) will be allowed to install onsite or offsite solar PV systems to generate up to 150 percent of their annual energy requirements. The annual electricity requirements shall be calculated based on the latest available monthly electricity consumption recorded in each Electricity Contract Account that will be linked to the solar PV facility.

6. As an additional incentive, excess energy generated will be purchased at the rate of Rs 4.20 per kWh.

7. The solar PV facility, developed under the Scheme, should be equipped with mandatory BESS (onsite or offsite) for offsetting at least the Prosumer(s) electricity demand during peak hours (periods). The BESS shall also support participation in Load/Demand-side Management.

8. Upon the submission of the duly filled Application Form, the Customer pays the applicable non-refundable processing fee (click to view the applicable processing fee) to enable processing the application. Payment of the processing fee does not guarantee registration into the Scheme.

9. The electrical load of the Customer's relevant electricity contract account(s) is effectively declared to CEB. If required, CEB will perform a site survey to ascertain the accuracy of the declared load. For this purpose, the Customer would authorize and provide CEB's personnel necessary permission and access to carry out the detailed load survey.

10. As would be warranted, the declared or assessed electrical load, linked to an electricity contract account, will be updated in the CEB's information system for billing purposes.

11. Consideration will be given to eligible Commercial Customers willing to transfer their applications to this Scheme subject to payment of a new processing fee.

12. A Letter of Commitment (LOC), as proof of the solar PV project implementation, shall be provided two weeks after the issue of the Letter of Intent (LoI).

13. Each solar PV facility will be identified by a unique electricity contract account number assigned by the CEB.

14. The cooperative entity, legally elected for the commercial operation of the facility, shall provide the percentage shares in which the produced renewable energy should be shared among the qualified Electricity Contract Accounts listed in the Connection Agreement or Interconnection Agreement. A qualified electricity contract account cannot be assigned to more than one solar PV facility.

15. For solar PV facility of capacity up to 2 MW, except for unforeseen and uncontrollable events, the Customer (or designated project developer – the cooperative entity) shall complete the construction of the facility within a period of 12 months as from the date of the signing of the Connection Agreement (CA).

16. For solar PV facility of capacity above 2 MW, except for unforeseen and uncontrollable events, the Customer (or designated project developer – the cooperative entity) shall complete the construction of the facility within a period of 17 months as from the date of the signing of the Interconnection Agreement (IA).

17. The solar PV facility shall at all times comply with all requirements of the relevant applicable Grid Code (download the Grid Codes) including its subsequent amendments.

    Note: For electrical safety and power quality reasons, the Customer is strongly advised to seek the support of a qualified person in the field of renewable energy technology prior to filling and submitting the application.

18. The Prosumer (or its designated project developer – the cooperative entity) shall provide CEB with web-link access, free of charge, for the downloading of the power production/output of the facility.

19. Where necessary, as and when required, the Prosumer (or its designated project developer – the cooperative entity) shall give full free access to CEB for downloading data series directly from the inverter and/or energy management system of the facility. For the on-site and/or off-site data downloading, the Prosumer (or its designated project developer – the cooperative entity) shall provide CEB a free copy of the required operating software and application(s).

20. Following a notice from CEB, the Prosumer (or its designated project developer – the cooperative entity) shall give full and free access to CEB personnel and/or its associate(s) to the facility.

21. The Customer (or its designated project developer – the cooperative entity) shall pay all relevant charges and costs, including the connection fee, for the setting up of the facility.

22. Until properly remedied, a solar PV facility not complying with the applicable Grid Code and not satisfying all terms and conditions of the Scheme and other regulatory requirements, will not be considered for the grid interconnection and/or will be disconnected from the grid.

23. The Customer (or its designated project developer – the cooperative entity) shall obtain all necessary applicable authorizations, licenses, permits, etc. prior to the commissioning of the facility by the CEB.

24. Where applicable, the total monthly electricity (kWh) consumption of the concerned Prosumer (or designated project developer – the cooperative entity) shall be calculated by the formula below.

C = P + I – E

Where, **C** is the total monthly electricity (kWh) consumption;
P is the total energy (kWh) production by the solar PV facility;
I is the total energy (kWh) imported from CEB; and
E is the total energy (kWh) exported to CEB.

Note: Where an electricity contract account linked to the solar PV facility is in a third party name, prior to the signing of the Agreement (CA or IA), the concerned Customer (or designated project developer – the cooperative entity) shall obtain the written acceptance of the third party for the above formula and for reclassifying the electricity contract account in the specific CEB Customer Category for the purpose of billing and invoicing of the monthly electricity consumption of the account.

25. Further to the Network Impact Assessment (NIA) or Network Survey (NS), whichever would be warranted, the Prosumer and any of its associates would have no objection to the addition of other necessary terms and/or conditions for the grid connection/interconnection of the facility.

26. As notified by CEB, the Customer (or its designated project developer – the cooperative entity) shall implement all recommendations of the NIA or NS, whichever would be applicable, within given time.

27. For each facility, the Customer (or its designated project developer – the cooperative entity) should submit the Certificate of Compliance confirming compliance to the applicable Grid Code, CEB's NIA's or NS's recommendations and terms & conditions of the Scheme. The Certificate of Compliance shall be certified by an independent qualified technical officer for facility of capacity not involving installation of HT switchgear or an independent registered engineer for facility involving installation of HT switchgear, whichever would be applicable, after the latter has performed all technical and non-technical verifications.

28. The Customer (or its designated project developer – the cooperative entity) shall sign the legally binding CA for facility up to 2 MW and relevant IA for facility of capacity above 2 MW as per given deadlines.

29. By applying for the Scheme, the Customer and its representatives unreservedly authorize CEB or its associates, suppliers, contractors, etc. to share the information provided therein. In addition, the Customer (or its designated project developer – the cooperative entity) would have no objection that any of the mentioned parties contacting it for administrative or non-administrative matters in respect of the setting up of the solar PV project (facility).

30. Solar PV installations that could not be commissioned during the current phase will be automatically rolled into the subsequent phase(s) of that scheme. The opening of new phase(s) will depend on the grid's absorption capacity.

31. Other terms and conditions shall be provided in the relevant Agreement (CA or IA). The key features of the Scheme are inherent part of the Agreement. Not complying to the Agreement would entail automatic rejection of the solar PV project under this Scheme.

APPLYING FOR THE CNCS RE SCHEME AND SIGNING OF THE AGREEMENT

The application and signing of the relevant Agreement procedure for the CNCS RE Scheme is explained in this section.

- Eligible Customers willing to participate in the CNCS RE Scheme should **submit the duly filled-in relevant Application Form** together with all required documents for proposed solar PV projects as from **23 February 2026**. The relevant Application form (click to download the Application Form) is available for download from the CEB website http://ceb.mu .

- After a project has been accepted under the Scheme, the CEB will issue a Letter of Intent (LoI) to the concerned eligible and qualified Customer (or its designated project developer – the cooperative entity). The **LoI will remain valid for a period of two months**, within which the Customer (or its designated project developer – the cooperative entity) shall submit to the CEB the duly filled-in signed Agreement (CA or IA), whichever would be applicable. The model IA and standard CA will be available for download on the CEB website shortly.

- As from the date of the signing of the relevant Agreement, except for unforeseen and uncontrollable events that should effectively justified, the Customer (or its designated project developer – the cooperative entity) shall start the commercial operation of the facility **within a period of 17 months for project above 2 MW** and **within a period of 12 months for project of up to 2 MW**; failure to meet these key dates, relevant provisions of the applicable Agreement shall be exercised.

ELIGIBILITY TO APPLY FOR THE CNCS RE SCHEME

The **present phase** of the CNCS RE Scheme is opened only for CEB Commercial Customers registered under the **Tariff Codes 225 and 225A**.

Application of a Customer, who is in litigation with the CEB, will be kept into abeyance until the litigation is effectively settled. Application from an eligible Customer holding an Agreement under another RE Scheme with the same electricity Contract Account Number will not be considered.

WHERE TO SUBMIT THE APPLICATION?

The duly filled-in **Application Form** together with all required documents should be submitted in a CEB Customer Services Center (CSC). Contact details and addresses of CEB CSCs are available on the CEB website https://ceb.mu

Note:

- **The CEB will accept application as from 23 February 2026**. Application received prior to that date will not be considered.
- The applicable processing fee (click to view the applicable processing fee) is payable upon submission of the application.
- Processing of the application will start only after payment of the applicable processing fee.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE CNCS RE SCHEME

Interested eligible CEB Customers, wishing to benefit from the CNCS RE Scheme, can obtain additional information on the Scheme: -

- On CEB's website http://ceb.mu . This is highly recommended to save time and effort.
- By sending an email to querycncsrescheme@ceb.mu , or
- By contacting CEB Corporate Planning and Research Department or MSDG Unit on telephone numbers 404-2000 and 601-1100 respectively.

BENEFITS OF THE CNCS RE SCHEME

Amongst others, the benefits of the Scheme are as follows: -

- Subject to the compulsory Network Impact Assessment (NIA) or Network Survey (NS), whichever would be warranted, interested eligible Customers (Prosumers) will participate in the production of clean electricity.
- The Customer can opt to join and form part of a cooperative entity, who will be responsible for developing and operating a joint hybrid solar PV facility. This ownership model could be a more efficient and viable investment with potential benefit derived from economies-of-scale in financing, procurement, operation, etc.
- Prosumers can opt for Gross-metering or Net-metering options for offsetting/billing their monthly electricity consumption. Under the Net-metering option, the Prosumers can take advantage of the unbundled time-of-use tariffs which will hedge against future electricity tariff increases. **The time-of-use tariffs are expected to replace the existing Tariff 225 and Tariff 225A and they shall be mandatorily applied as from 2027.**
- Prosumers will participate in load/demand-side management which will contribute to abate high-cost electricity generation during peak hours and thereby, reduce their electricity payments under the time-of-use tariffs application.
- Excess energy exported will be purchased at Rs 4.20 per kWh; this will enable reducing further the Customer electricity bill payment to CEB.
- By engaging in this Scheme, the Prosumers will promote the use of renewable energy; hence, upholding national and international commitment for sustainable energy development. At the same time, they will improve the carbon footprint of their respective business activities, by extension enhancing the appeal of their products or services.
- The Prosumers will have the opportunity to contribute to energy supply security and protection of the environment, while participating in the strengthening and supporting the inclusive development of the national Power System.

IMPORTANT ADVICE

- Pursuant to the prevailing Electricity Act and ensuing regulations, every person (individual or entity) willing to set up and operate an electricity generation facility is legally required to register with the Utility Regulatory Authority (URA) and thereof apply for a relevant electricity generation licence. For more information on this legal obligation, contact the URA. Information in this regard is available at https://uramauritius.mu/ .

- Given the technicalities and financial implications in setting up renewable energy projects, due care should be exerted when soliciting third party's support. Contracting the services of an experienced consultant in the field is strongly recommended.

- The intended solar PV facility must be fully compliant with the applicable Grid Code. To design properly the facility, seek support from knowledgeable qualified people who shall be able to prepare not only the technical part but equally the financial assessment of the investment; keep regular contacts and work closely with the CEB.

- To avoid delays in the implementation of the project, ensure that all documentation together with the application form are submitted to the CEB; ensure that the submission is made as instructed.

- Securing a Connection Agreement (CA) or Interconnection Agreement (IA), whichever is relevant, for the grid interconnection of the intended solar PV project (facility) is mandatory. Make sure that it has been agreed and signed prior to investing and setting up the facility. **It is strongly advised that payment(s) for equipment of the facility be initiated only after all agreements, licenses and permits, as applicable, have been properly secured.**

- Whenever needed, seek the support services of the CEB, who will provide useful guidance.

- The facility is an investment that shall provide benefits. Therefore, it is necessary to ensure its security all through its life. This will enable maximizing the return on the investment. In addition, carrying out regular maintenance of the facility, with the support of a technically qualified person or the supplier of the equipment, will also contribute to maximizing gain.

- Ensure full compliance, at all times, with the applicable Grid Code and its amendments and the Agreement (CA or IA).

- Modification of the setup of the facility, without prior CEB's authorization, will result in an automatic disconnection of the facility from CEB network and the suspension of the Agreement (CA or IA) and thereof all CEB's therein obligations.