TAMIL NADU C&I GREEN ENERGY OPEN ACCESS

Comprehensive Guide - Table of Contents

Regulatory landscape, banking, DSM exposure, grid & execution considerations | May 2026

The full guide runs to 20 pages across 17 sections, with multiple data tables, worked rupee examples and two action checklists. The three-page executive excerpt follows.

EXECUTIVE EXCERPT

Tamil Nadu C&I Green Energy Open Access - What Matters and Why

Tamil Nadu is wind- and solar-rich, with HT industrial retail around Rs 7.50/unit, so C&I savings are large - but the TNERC Green Energy Open Access Regulations, 2025 (Notification No. TNERC/GEOA/25-1/2025, effective 1 October 2025) are among the most utility-protective in India. The savings now hinge on structure and sizing, not the headline PPA tariff.

The features that re-price the deal

- **Third-party banking BANNED.** third-party open access has zero banking and must run on real-time 15-minute matching - any in-block surplus is lost.
- **Captive banking taxed.** 8% in-kind for captive/group-captive (14% for legacy wind), monthly, with no carry-forward.
- **Cheap lapse buy-back.** unutilised banked energy is bought back at only 75% of the generic RE / bid tariff.
- **C-slot lock-out.** daytime solar cannot be drawn in the peak C-slots (06:00-09:00 and 18:00-21:00).
- **Heavy surcharge stack.** CSS ~Rs 1.99/unit (industry), wheeling ~Rs 1.04/unit at HT, and ~10% in-kind losses.

The demand-charge trap, in numbers

- Billing demand is the higher of recorded maximum demand or 90% of contract demand.
- Contract demand 1,000 kVA x Rs 560/kVA = Rs 5.6 lakh base fixed charge.
- A single 15-minute RE trip to 1,200 kVA bills the 200 kVA excess at twice the normal rate (+Rs 2.24 lakh).
- Three breaches in a rolling year force a permanent contract-demand upgrade.

Standby and the dangerous hour

When generation falls short, the deficit is drawn from TANGEDCO at the full HT retail slot rate plus a ~10% standby premium (~Rs 8.25/unit), versus a PPA unit at ~Rs 3.20 - and a no-schedule deviation is settled at 125-150% of the DSM cap rate (about Rs 7,500-9,000 for one 15-minute block on a 10 MW plant).

The mitigation playbook

- **Under-contracting baseload:** size the renewable plant against the absolute minimum daytime base-load (~40-50% of peak), so almost all generated units are consumed in-block - the safest sizing error.
- **Hybridisation:** co-locate wind and solar so each technology fills the other's valleys, flattening the 15-minute injection curve.
- **Behind-the-meter storage (BESS):** a battery captures surplus and discharges into the costly evening peak, sidestepping banking and standby penalties.

Don't leave money on the table - Tamil Nadu-specific levers

- group-captive exempts CSS and the additional surcharge - a saving of the order of Rs 1.50 to Rs 2.50 per unit;
- wind commissioned on or before 31 March 2018 may keep the 12-month banking cycle (at a 14% in-kind charge);
- rooftop net metering and open access can run in parallel through the dual-track route.

What the full guide contains

The complete 20-page guide covers all 17 sections in the Table of Contents: the full regulatory timeline; banking and surplus economics; the complete DSM and forecasting regime with worked penalty tables; PPA risk-allocation clauses; CfD versus physical hybrid structures; permitting steps and timelines; the rooftop-plus-open-access dual track; distinctive Tamil Nadu clauses; issues-and-mitigation tables for clients, developers and investors; two action checklists; and a comprehensive effective-tariff build-up template.

Indicative figures are stated as at May 2026 and must be verified against the latest operative State Commission / CERC order before reliance. Informational only - not legal, tax or financial advice.

> **The full report (20 pages) can be made available on request. Please contact RK Mundoli: rk.terrastrom@gmail.com.**