



TYPES OF LICENCES AND EXEMPTIONS FOR THE ELECTRICITY SECTOR IN THE BAHAMAS

Statement of Results and Final Decision

ES 02/2018

Issue Date: May 1, 2018

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1. INTRODUCTION

The Utilities Regulation and Competition Authority (“URCA”) issues this Statement of Results and Final Decision on its “Consultation on: Types of Licences and Exemptions for The Electricity Sector in The Bahamas – ES 05/2017” document (“the Consultation Document”) in exercise of its powers under section 38(3)(c) of the Electricity Act, 2015 (“EA”).

URCA published the Consultation Document on 16 August 2017, and established 25 September 2017 as the closing date for the submission of responses. URCA did not receive comments from any industry stakeholders at the initial close date for responses and therefore extended the deadline to 31 October 2017 to ensure that its consultation process was as comprehensive and inclusive as possible.

The Consultation Document was specific to the types of Licences and exemption determinations URCA intends to issue for the ES. URCA did not pose any specific questions under this Consultation Document, but invited general submissions and comments to its draft standard Licences and exemption determinations for the ES. URCA particularly encouraged submissions and comments on the terms and conditions contained in the Consultation Document.

URCA understands the importance of an open and transparent consultation process and is therefore satisfied that it has complied with its statutory duty under the EA by affording all persons having interest in the subject matter of the Consultation Document a reasonable opportunity to make submissions. At the close of the extended deadline for responses, URCA received one written response which was from the Bahamas Power and Light Company Limited (BPL), and therefore thanks BPL for its comments and observations in response to the Consultation Document.

This Statement of Results and Final Decision now sets out URCA’s response to the submissions received during the consultation process and presents the final standard Licences URCA will issue for the ES at this time, namely the Public Electricity Supplier Licence (PESL), the Authorized Public Electricity Supplier Licence (APESL), and the Independent Power Producer Licence (IPPL). This Statement of Results and Final Decision also sets out in the Exemption Determination the criteria a person must meet in order to be exempt from obtaining a Licence under section 44 of the Electricity Act, 2015.

The remainder of this document is set out as follows:

- Section 2: Purpose of this Statement of Results and Final Decision
- Section 3: Stakeholder Comments and URCA’s Response
- Section 4: URCA’s Final Decision
 - Annex A: Public Electricity Supplier Licence (PESL)
 - Annex B: Authorized Public Electricity Supplier Licence (APESL)
 - Annex C: Independent Power Producer Licence (IPPL)
 - Annex D: Exemption Determination.

2. PURPOSE OF THIS STATEMENT OF RESULTS AND FINAL DECISION

The purpose of this Statement of Results and Final Decision is to:

- Present the written submissions received in response to the Consultation Document;
- Provide URCA's analysis of and comments on the submissions received in response to the Consultation Document;
- Set out URCA's reasons and reasoning for its decisions to the responses to the Consultation Document; and
- Publicise the standard ES Licences as well as the standard Exemption Determination.

3. STAKEHOLDER COMMENTS AND URCA'S RESPONSE

URCA initiated the consultation process with the publication of the Consultation Document, which provided members of the public and interested parties the formal means to make written submissions on the subject matter of the Consultation Document. URCA is now pleased to publish such responses to the Consultation Document, its analysis of and comments on the responses, and its Statement of Results and Final Decision in relation thereto.

URCA's high-level overview of the submissions by BPL, as the sole respondent, is that they were generally constructive, insightful, and useful. In [Table 0.1](#), URCA provides BPL's full comments and URCA's response to those comments.

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TABLE 0.1: STAKEHOLDER COMMENTS AND URCA’S RESPONSE

Page	Section & Title	BPL Comment	URCA’s Response
7 Para 1		Can URCA clarify its intent with respect to these licenses?	<p>Under the Electricity Act, URCA has the regulatory remit to establish a licensing regime for the electricity sector. In the consultation document, URCA set out the terms and conditions for the Public Electricity Supplier Licence (PESL), the Authorised Public Electricity Supplier Licence (APESL), and the Independent Power Producer Licence (IPPL). Below, URCA provides a short description of these Licences:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Public Electricity Supplier Licence (PESL): Under sections 23 and 46 of the Electricity Act, URCA may grant a Public Electricity Supplier Licence to BPL and GBPC. URCA issued this Licence because it is consistent with the Electricity Act and with the structure of the electricity sector in The Bahamas. This type of Licence is adequate for vertically integrated utilities that have the primary responsibility of supplying electricity to its service area, as is the case for BPL and GBPC. ▪ Authorised Public Electricity Supplier Licence (APESL): Under section 46.1. (a) of the Electricity Act, URCA may grant a Public Electricity Supplier Licence to a person that has been granted the approval by a PESL Licensee to construct and operate an electricity system, as well as to perform GTDS functions in a designated area. URCA finds this type of Licence is relevant for the electricity sector in the Bahamas and decided to issue the Authorised Public Electricity Supplier Licence, which allows the Licensee to perform GTDS functions through an already established Licensee.

Page	Section & Title	BPL Comment	URCA's Response
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Independent Power Producer Licence (IPPL): Under section 46(1)(b), URCA may grant an electricity generation Licence to independent power producers. URCA decided to issue this Licence because it is consistent with the Electricity Act and it is relevant for the sector. Having an IPPL is relevant because IPPs are generators that play an important role in planning, as they must be available as they are scheduled to be to ensure reliability of the system. For this reason, URCA has decided that IPPs are required to obtain an IPPL. <p>In addition to PESL, APESL and IPPL, URCA intends to develop a Large-Self Supply Licence and a Transmission and Distribution Licence. Below, URCA provides a short description of these Licences</p> <p>Large Self-Supply Licence: Under section 46.1 (d) of the Electricity Act, URCA may grant any other type of Licence URCA determines. A Large Self-Supply Licence is for self-suppliers that have systems over 100kW that generate electricity solely for their own use. Self-suppliers do not transmit electricity over multiple properties and do not sell electricity to others. They may or may not be connected to the grid.</p> <p>URCA considers a larger self-supply Licence is necessary because Self-Suppliers' energy consumption and demand might affect a Public Electricity Suppliers' and other Generation and Transmission and Distribution Licensee's, who share the cost of building and maintaining the generation needed to deliver reliable service, planning decisions. For this reason, URCA considers that large</p>

Page	Section & Title	BPL Comment	URCA's Response
			<p>customers who would like to self-generate should be required to apply for a Large Self-Supply Licence.</p> <p>Transmission and Distribution Licence:</p> <p>Under section 46.1.(c) of the Electricity Act, URCA may grant an electricity transmission and distribution Licence. This Licence does not allow the generation or supply of electricity, it could only be used to move electricity between a Licensee with permission to generate electricity to a Licensee with permission to supply electricity to the public. URCA finds this type of Licence is useful to allow for a larger, more integrated electricity system. This Licence would be useful when building an interconnection between two islands.</p>
8 Para 4	Types of Licenses (PESL)	Utilities other than BPL that will also be considered Public Electricity Suppliers, e.g. North Abaco Utilities, Walkers Cay, and Spanish Wells. Have these licenses been issued? Have these utilities applied for their licenses?	<p>Under the Electricity Act, URCA has the regulatory remit to establish a licensing regime for the electricity sector, including issuing and granting Licences for the generation, transmission, distribution, or supply of electricity.</p> <p>The Licences the interested party is enquiring about have not been issued because URCA has not finalized the licensing regime. Once the licensing regime is finalized, any person can apply for a specific Licence (PESL, APESL, IPP or other Licences URCA issues) if they fulfil the requirements established by the licensing regime. URCA will publish the decision made on licensing in its official website. URCA will also keep a register of the Licences and will publish the register in accordance with section 52 of the Electricity Act.</p>
9 Para 1, 2, 3	Authorized Public Supplier License (APESL)	Further to our previous BPL explanation that existing Franchises will apply directly to URCA.	Existing franchisees will have to apply to URCA for an Authorized Public Electricity Supplier Licence (APESL). In addition, per section 46 of the Electricity Act, applicants for the APESL must

Page	Section & Title	BPL Comment	URCA's Response
			have been granted approval in writing by a PESL (BPL or GBPC) to perform GTDS functions.
9 Para 1	Other Licenses	<p>BPL wishes to know more about what URCA intends with respect to T & D services.</p> <p>Technologies must meet PESL's technical requirements</p>	<p>Under section 46.1.(c) of the Electricity Act, URCA may grant an electricity transmission and distribution Licence. This Licence does not allow the generation or supply of electricity. For more information, please read comment on the first row of this table.</p> <p>URCA is sympathetic to the interested party's comment. URCA will draft Transmission and Distribution Licences as the need arises. These will set out technical requirements that the Transmission and Distribution Licensees will have to comply with. The public and interested parties will be consulted on the draft Licence for Transmission and Distribution.</p>
12 Para 2	Section 2 Background	<p>BPL notes that the second type of exemption is not enumerated under paragraph 7.</p> <p>BPL is concerned that exemption may be given for any grid-tied electricity generating equipment.</p>	<p>Pursuant to section 50 of the EA, URCA may, by determination, exempt a person or class of persons from requiring a Licence for the provision of electricity services specified in the exemption determination.</p>
12 Para 3	Section 2 Background	<p>This paragraph should explicitly exclude persons disconnected by PESLs and supplying structures where utility supply is available.</p> <p>Should be subject to applicable codes and standards.</p>	<p>URCA finds that the Section written in the Consultation Document was not clear and has therefore modified this Section. With those changes to the Document, BPL's comments no longer apply.</p>
12 Table	First Line Background	<p>Requirement for grid tie contradicts paragraph 2 above.</p>	<p>URCA finds that the Section written in the Consultation Document was not clear and has therefore modified this Section. With those changes to the Document, BPL's comments no longer apply.</p>

Page	Section & Title	BPL Comment	URCA's Response
12 Table	Comments – Background	Comments are unclear.	URCA finds that the Section written in the Consultation Document was not clear and has therefore modified this Section. With those changes to the Document, BPL's comments no longer apply.
22&65	4 - Definitions	'Electricity Supply System', 'IPP' and 'Licensee' are statutory terms defined under the Act. If there is a conflict between the definitions set forth in the License and the statutory terms defined under the Act, the definitions under the Act shall apply. Please clarify intention on use of terms in the License.	URCA is sympathetic to BPL's comments in relation to the terms 'Electricity Supply System' and 'IPP'. URCA will amend the Licence accordingly. Please note that condition 4.2.3 states, "where there is any conflict between the provisions of this Licence and the Electricity Act, 2015, the provisions of the Electricity Act 2015 shall prevail", which means that the definitions in the Electricity Act will prevail over the definitions used in the Licence. URCA does not envisage a conflict with the application of the term "Licensee" as defined in the Licence.
23&66		"Generating Facilities" - It is proposed that this definition be amended to include 'rented' after the word 'controlled' on second line, as BPL would also have rented equipment in some instances.	URCA accepts BPL's proposal and has amended the Licence accordingly.
27&70	Section 8 Change in Control	8.1 - "Named Licensee" and "Notified Licensee" are not defined terms in the definitions at the beginning of the License. Please define terms.	The term "Named Licensee" is defined under section 2 of the EA and will be so defined under the Licence. The term "Notified Licensee" is set out under section 47(2) of the EA and is to be applied and construed as such under the Licence.
28&71	Section 9 Assignment or transfer of Licence	9.1: BPL proposes deleting the words on second/third lines - "or transfer or dispose of any of its assets".	Without the benefit of full reasoning by BPL for such proposal, URCA is unable accede to the proposed deletion as it considers the assets necessary to provide the Licensed Business as being a core part of the Electricity Supply System. URCA however considers that a transfer or disposal of such assets in accordance with this Licence condition should be a qualified right subject to

Page	Section & Title	BPL Comment	URCA's Response
			the ordinary replacement of such assets necessary to provide the Licensed Business.
30	14 - Obligation to perform	14.1 - BPL proposes 'modern standards' be changed to 'standards agreed by URCA and the Licensee' to ensure clarity and benchmarks to be used; and 'reasonable rates' amended to "approved rates".	<p>URCA considers the requirement for an agreement between the Licensee and URCA to be restrictive. The standards established by URCA will be a regulatory measure that will be imposed after consultation with the Licensee.</p> <p>URCA agrees with BPL's proposal to amend 'reasonable rates' to 'approved rates'. The Licence has been amended the Licence accordingly.</p>
30	14	<p>14.3 - BPL proposes deleting the wording here and using language consistent with. 14.2 instead:</p> <p>"Subject to the provisions of this Licence and to the technical and economic constraints regarding access to the Electricity Supply System, the Licensee shall provide access to its transmission and/or distribution Electricity Supply System as appropriate, and interconnection access and service, on a non-discriminatory basis to facilities that it operates on approved requests by IPPs and, where appropriate, other approved transmission Licensees."</p>	URCA accepts BPL's proposal and has amended the Licence accordingly

Page	Section & Title	BPL Comment	URCA's Response
31		14.5 - clarity required as to what 'reasonably practicable steps to maintain' is intended; what standard/criteria will be used to determine this?	This Licence condition is not intended to be overly prescriptive. In the event there is an interruption in service warranting regulatory action, URCA will consider that the steps taken by the Licensee anent the proper and effective functioning of its Generating Facility should be that of a prudent utility practice. URCA will determine this on a case by case basis.
31	14 Obligation to Perform	BPL proposes deletion of this clause, as obligations to report contained under s.16.	URCA disagrees with this proposal as the obligations under condition 16 do not reference "unplanned interruptions" (condition 16 addresses reporting obligations and major outage reporting). In addition, this condition references "unplanned interruptions" cited throughout the condition 11.4.
31	15 - Step-in Rights of Minister	<p>This part of the Licence is related to s.34 of the Act.</p> <p>It is proposed all terms here under (a) to (g) be moved to the 'Definitions' Section.</p> <p>BPL proposes definition of "Forced Outage" based on IEEE definition standard to be:</p> <p>"A power outage that results from the failure of a system component, requiring that it may be taken out of service immediately, either automatically or by manual switching operations, or an outage caused by improper operation of equipment or human error. This type of power outage is not directly controllable and is usually unexpected.'</p> <p>12.2(b) and (f) - would refer to paragraph 12.3</p>	URCA accepts BPL's proposal and has amended the Licence accordingly

Page	Section & Title	BPL Comment	URCA's Response
32		<p>15.3(a) - Time period concerning 'prompt notice' should be clarified.</p> <p>15.3.b.i.c: BPL proposes amending to read: "an action or failure to act by the Minister, his designee, <u>or any Government of The Bahamas official or designee</u> in contravention. . ."</p>	<p>URCA is sympathetic to BPL's comment and considers that there may be practical challenges for the Minister to give "prompt" notice in every circumstance. As such, URCA has deleted the term "prompt" and amended the Licence accordingly.</p> <p>URCA does not accept BPL's proposal to include "or any Government of The Bahamas official or designee". URCA considers the scope of the persons referred to therein to is not restrictive.</p>
37	Reporting Obligation	<p>24: BPL proposes inserting a new Section 24.3 after 24.2 to state that:</p> <p>"URCA is to provide the Licensee with 45 days to respond to a notice for data requests to permit and encourage the Licensee to leverage existing data in cases where URCA makes a request for such data, information or reports, in order to provide the Licensee with the cost build up and justification for an increase in or addition of URCA costs that must be borne by the Licensee, and to permit the Licensee to pass through URCA fees and costs (but not penalties) borne by the Licensee."</p>	<p>Without the benefit of full reasoning by BPL, URCA is unable to accede to this proposed insertion.</p> <p>URCA however states that it considers the URCA fees to be a line item factored into BPL's operating costs. In addition, the public should note that the Licence states the information should be provided 'without undue delay'. This should allow for the time necessary for BPL to obtain the information requested.</p>
36	Payment of Fees and Contributions	<p>23.1(a) - the annual URCA fee Licence should take the place of the Business Licence fee.</p> <p>23.2 Annual Fees should be based on turnover, with the exclusion of fuel charge.</p>	<p>URCA does not have the regulatory power or statutory remit to accede to the replacement of the Business Licence fee with the URCA Licence fee. URCA considers that the two are dissimilar in nature and purpose to the extent that the URCA Licence fee is specific for the functioning of URCA in accordance with the Electricity Act, 2015 and set out (and explained) in URCA's Fee</p>

Page	Section & Title	BPL Comment	URCA's Response
			<p>Schedule, as published annually. The Business Licence fee is a tax imposed by the Government of The Bahamas on all businesses carrying on business in The Bahamas for public good and interest.</p> <p>URCA does not agree with BPL regarding the exclusion of fuel charges in the calculation of the annual fee. This is because section 54 of the Electricity Act states annual URCA fees should be based on the Licensee's relevant turnover (section 54.2(d)). Further, in the Definitions Section of the Act, relevant turnover means the gross receipt in money or money's worth of the Licensee. URCA believes gross receipts include fuel charges.</p>
36		23.3 - BPL's position above is repeated, i.e. the Annual Fees should be based on turnover, with the exclusion of fuel charge.	The annual fees are not based on turnover excluding fuel charge. This is because Section 54 of the Electricity act states annual URCA fees should be based on the Licensee's relevant turnover (section 54.2(d)). In the Definitions Section, relevant turnover means the gross receipt in money or money's worth of the Licensee. We believe gross receipts include fuel charges.
37	Reporting Obligations	<p>26.1 - 10 years should be changed to 5 years;</p> <p>24.2: BPL proposes to delete this sub-clause.</p>	<p>URCA does not accept BPL's proposal. URCA considers that requesting Licensees to include financial statements and the annual report with at least 10-year statistics is reasonable.</p> <p>URCA disagrees with BPL's proposal to delete condition 16.2 as it this is consistent with the statutory requirement under section 48(8)(a)(iv) of the EA. URCA particularly notes, however, that this condition is discretionary by the insertion of the word "may" and may not be obligatory. The condition has been amended to include that URCA may require the Licensee to maintain</p>

Page	Section & Title	BPL Comment	URCA's Response
		<p>24.5: Change 24 hours to 48 hours.</p> <p>Based on IEE definition of Major Outage (with modification) proposed as follows:</p> <p>"Major Outage - designates an outage that exceeds design limits of facilities and/or equipment that satisfies any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) extensive mechanical damage to facilities; (b) more than a specified percentage of customers out of service; and 	<p>separate regulatory accounts for regulatory reporting and tariff analysis.</p> <p>URCA does not accept BPL's proposal as it considered 24 hours is a reasonable timeframe for providing a major outage report</p> <p>URCA notes BPL's proposed definition (with modification to that by the IEEE). URCA particularly notes that there is also an alternative definition by the IEEE in this regard to wit: "15% of the customers for the duration of the storm". URCA has also considered the commentary by the IEEE in this regard which states that "utilities are looking for an approach that better defines when an anomaly has occurred on the system".</p> <p>In the circumstances, URCA will retain the condition in its present form and signal its intent to conduct future engagement with Licensees in the sector in relation thereto.</p>

Page	Section & Title	BPL Comment	URCA's Response
		(c) Service restoration longer than a specified time. Typical industry criteria would be 10% of customers out of service and 24 hours or more restoration time."	
38		24.6 - and 24.7 BPL's position is that having submitted the Business Plan for information purposes which was accepted by URCA, the requirement/compliance for the 5-year period has been met.	BPL should provide the updated information requested in Sections 24.6 and 24.7. URCA notes that neither of these Sections requires an updated Business Plan. URCA should not expect the Licensee to provide an updated Business Plan, in addition to the information requested in Sections 24.6 and 24.7.
38	Economic Purchasing of Goods and Services	25.2-delete "for consideration" at end of sub-clause.	URCA disagrees with the proposed deletion. URCA emphasizes that the submission of the Licensee's procedures for procurement to it for consideration is at URCA's discretion, which will be exercised in a manner that is reasonable and fair at all times and would not place any undue or onerous burden on the Licensee.
40	Information, Audit Inspection and Access Obligations	40 - BPL proposes adding a time period of 45 days from notice received by URCA in order to provide any requested information. 20.: insert additional provisos that: "URCA shall: 1) provide the Licensee with 45-day period to gather such Information; 2) not publish confidential information that will jeopardize the competitiveness and robustness of offers from and negotiations with	URCA disagrees with the proposed addition as the timeline for URCA's request for information must be determined on a case by case basis predicated on a reasonable time for such response by the Licensee depending on the scope of the requested information. In this regard URCA will adhere to Section 74 of EA at all times. URCA has sole discretion to treat with information in a confidential manner subject to section 75 of the EA.

Page	Section & Title	BPL Comment	URCA's Response
		counter parties, and 3) notify Licensee when and in what periodicals information or data is published. 20.2 - second line - delete words "as URCA may specify" and replace with "available to Licensee".	
42&83	Outsourcing	33/32--BPL proposes deletion of this clause.	URCA does not accept BPL's proposition. Deleting this clause could change the nature of the services directly provided by the Licensee.
43&84	Duties of Licensee	34.2/33.2 - mirrors 11.3 as noted above; the requirement to provide access and service ought to be on approved requests.	URCA accepts BPL's proposal and has amended the Licence accordingly.
43&84	Transmission and distribution standards	35.1/34.1 BPL proposes on third line move the words "Canadian Standards Association (CSA)" to the last line at end of the clause. Additionally, delete the words "the and other" which remain on same third line, so it reads: "the Standards issued by recognised international standards institutions such as..."	URCA accepts BPL's proposal and has amended the Licence accordingly.
44&84	26 - Technical Service Levels	36.1/35.1 - BPL proposes deleting the words "from time to time" at the end of the sub-cause. 36.2/35.2 BPL proposes adding to end of this sub-cause: "within 45 days of the approved financial period".	URCA accepts BPL's proposal and has amended the Licence accordingly. See URCA's comment in relation to condition 20 above.

Page	Section & Title	BPL Comment	URCA's Response
		36.3, 36.4 and 36.6 - BPL proposes deletion of these sub-clauses.	
		36.8: BPL proposes adding "URCA shall not publish confidential information that prejudices the Licensee's ability to enter into or maintain competitive agreements with counter-parties."	See URCA's comment in relation to condition 20 above as it pertains to confidentiality.
45&86	Development of and compliance with technical and operational codes	37.4/36.4: BPL proposes inserting proviso that: "URCA shall consult with Licensee to define any changes or additions to technical codes, and shall not unreasonably require such changes or additions unless the Licensee is in breach of a technical code or codes."	URCA disagrees with BPL's proposal to the extent that it does not follow that URCA would seek to change technical or operational codes because BPL was in breach of such codes. Further, the duty to consult, and the manner for consultation, is clearly stated in 27.3 and more particularly the EA.
46&86	Duties of Licensee	38.3/37.3 - Second line - BPL proposes deletion of words "or is qualified to enter" which would impose a duty on a Licensee to provide service without an agreement. Such a duty would also offend the existing Regulations of s.60 (5) - Application for Supply of Electricity, generally, and 5(c), in particular: "(c) Application for supply of electricity shall be made by the owner or occupant of the premises in respect of which the installation has been completed. Connection to provide a supply of electricity shall in all cases be subject to the acceptance by the Corporation of the installation	URCA disagrees with the proposed deletion but will amend the condition to ensure the non-discriminatory treatment of a party who may likely qualify to enter an agreement.

Page	Section & Title	BPL Comment	URCA's Response
		and to the completion of a Supply Agreement between the applicant and the Corporation. The Corporation may, at its discretion, require the applicant to pay a deposit not exceeding the estimated cost of one quarter's consumption as estimated by the Corporation, together with a sum to cover the proper care and maintenance of meters and other fixtures installed by the Corporation on the consumer's property, before connection providing electricity be made."	
46&87	39 - duty to secure long term electricity supply (heading needs to be checked)	39.4/38.4 - BPL proposes adding time factor that URCA shall provide a written decision within 10 days of notice, and URCA shall not unreasonably withhold its written consent.	URCA does not agree with BPL's proposal because it believes the conditions in the Licence are reasonable.
48&89	Preparation, review of and compliance with codes of practice	43/42: BPL proposes deletion of all clauses here and simply state that "the Licensee shall adhere to the applicable statute laws and the Customer Protection Plan filed with URCA".	URCA has amended the Licence to relate this Section to the Consumer Protection Section
50&91	Duties as electricity supply system operator	45.5/44.5 - BPL requires confirmation of the guidelines to be used.	The guidelines will be regulatory measures established by URCA. As such, URCA signals its intent to develop the referenced guidelines in consultation with Licensee.
51&92		45.7/44.7 BPL proposes deletion of the words "in consultation with URCA" on second line.	URCA does not accept BPL's proposal. Conditions 45.7 and 44.7 are consistent with URCA's regulatory authority under the EA.
51&92	Duties as Electricity Supply System operator	45.8/44.8 BPL feels that this would prevent us from purchasing power from other Licensees who are not IPPs	URCA is sympathetic to BPL's comment. URCA has amended this condition to include any Generation Licensee BPL should note that the condition 44.8 BPL does not exist.

Page	Section & Title	BPL Comment	URCA's Response
54&93	Renewable energy/ development and operations	49.1/48.1 - BPL proposes deletion of words "both at the wholesale and customer owned-on-site levels" from second line.	URCA accepts BPL's proposal and has amended the Licence accordingly
57	Part H-Transitional Condition	BPL proposes inserting a sentence at the end of this paragraph that says: "For the avoidance of doubt, if there is a conflict between the terms in the License and resulting actions that URCA would take under the License, versus the terms in the Act and resulting actions that URCA would take under the Act, the terms in the Act shall apply.	URCA does not accept BPL's proposal. URCA believes that the condition 4.2 in the draft Licence is sufficient and complies with the EA
22	Fuel Cost	Plus the adders, inclusive of storage, handling and transportation	URCA believes the cost of fuel includes the actual cost of fuel, lubricants, and additives. The Licence has been amended to reflect this position.
25	Service territory	BPL Certain islands of the commonwealth of the Bahamas exclusive of the island of Grand Bahama. GBPC - Throughout the island of Grand Bahama	URCA does not agree with BPL. URCA believes the definition of Service Territory is correct and follows the definition provided in the EA.
65	4 - Definitions	'Electricity Supply System', 'IPP' and 'Licensee' are statutory terms defined under the Act. If there is a conflict between the definitions set forth in the License and the statutory terms defined under the Act, the definitions under the Act shall apply. Please clarify intention on use of terms in the License.	URCA is sympathetic to BPL's comments in relation to the terms 'Electricity Supply System' and 'IPP'. URCA will amend the Licence accordingly. Please note that condition 4.2.3 states, "where there is any conflict between the provisions of this Licence and the Electricity Act, 2015, the provisions of the Electricity Act 2015 shall prevail", which means that the definitions in the Electricity Act will prevail over the definitions used in the Licence. URCA does not envisage a conflict with the application of the term "Licensee" as defined in the Licence.

Page	Section & Title	BPL Comment	URCA's Response
66		"Generating Facilities" - It is proposed that this definition be amended to include 'rented' after the word 'controlled' on second line, as BPL would also have rented equipment in some instances.	URCA accepts BPL's proposal and has amended the Licence accordingly.
	Fuel Cost	Plus the adders, inclusive of storage, handling and transportation	URCA believes the cost of fuel includes the actual cost of fuel, lubricants and additives. The Licence has been amended to reflect this position.
68	Service territory	BPL Certain islands of the commonwealth of the Bahamas exclusive of the island of Grand Bahama. GBPC - Throughout the island of Grand Bahama	URCA does not agree with BPL. URCA believes the definition of Service Territory is correct and follows the definition provided in the EA.
76	19 Insurance	19.3 "procure" should be changed to "ensure"	URCA accepts BPL's proposal and has amended the Licence accordingly.
35	20 Insurance	20.3 "procure" should be changed to "ensure"	URCA accepts BPL's proposal and has amended the Licence accordingly.
77	22 Payment of Fees	Process for the approval of Licensees by the approving authority and the applicable fees to be determined	The applicable fees are listed in Section 22 of the Licence. The process for paying the applicable fees will be determined and published by URCA.

4. URCA'S FINAL DECISION

Having regard to the Electricity Act, 2015, the main objectives of the National Energy and Electricity Sector Policy in The Bahamas; and

Having regard to the "Consultation on Types of Electricity Sector Licences and Exemption Determinations for the Electricity Sector in The Bahamas" (ES 05/2017) issued by the Utilities Regulation and Competition Authority on August 16, 2017, and the comments submitted in response by interested parties;

The Utilities Regulation and Competition Authority in exercise of its powers pursuant to section 38(3)(c) of the Electricity Act, 2015, and for the reasons set out in the foregoing Statement of Results and Final Decision, hereby determines that:

1. The Terms and Conditions for the Public Electricity Suppliers Licence (PESL) as contained in Annex A to this Final Decision are final and shall take effect from the date of publication thereof on the URCA website;
2. The Terms and Conditions for the Authorised Public Electricity Suppliers Licence (APESL) as contained in Annex B to this Final Decision are final and shall take effect from the date of publication thereof on the URCA website;
3. The Terms and Conditions for the Independent Power Producer Licence (IPPL) as contained in Annex C to this Final Decision are final and shall take effect from the date of publication thereof on the URCA website;
4. The criteria set out in the Exemption Determination as contained in Annex D to this Final Decision are final and any person who fulfils such criteria shall be exempt from obtaining a Licence under section 44 of the Electricity Act, 2015;
5. This Final Decision will be reviewed when conditions, as determined by URCA, warrant it;
6. This Final Decision is without prejudice to URCA's powers under the Electricity Act, 2015, the outcome of any ongoing or future consultation, regulatory or measures carried out by URCA pursuant to such powers;
7. This Final Decision shall come into effect from the date of its issuance by way of publication on the URCA website; and
8. Except in so far as the context otherwise requires, words or expressions herein shall have the meaning assigned to them under the Electricity Act, 2015.

For the Utilities Regulation and Competition Authority
Stephen Bereaux
Chief Executive Officer
_____ **April 2018**

Annex A : STANDARD PUBLIC ELECTRICITY LICENCE

NAME OF LICENSEE:

ADDRESS OF LICENSEE:

PUBLIC ELECTRICITY SUPPLIER LICENCE

Commencement Date: _____, 20_____

Licence Number: PESL – _____

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PART A

1. GRANT OF THE LICENCE

- 1.1 The Utilities Regulation and Competition Authority (URCA) having reviewed the relevant information for the purpose of granting this Licence and in exercise of its powers conferred by section 46(3) of the Electricity Act, 2015 **HEREBY GRANTS** to [Bahamas Power and Light Company Ltd./Grand Bahama Power Company Ltd.] (the Licensee) a Licence authorising the Licensee to generate, transmit, distribute and supply electricity for public and private purposes in the Service Territory subject to the conditions set out in this Licence.
- 1.2 This Licence shall be cited as the [NAME OF LICENSEE] Public Electricity Supplier Licence.
- 1.3 This Licence shall come into effect on the [DATE, 20__] (the Commencement Date) and shall continue in full force and effect until termination or expiry unless amended, revoked or terminated pursuant to the terms and conditions set out herein.
- 1.4 The Conditions of this Licence are subject to amendment or modification in accordance with their terms or in accordance with the Electricity Act, 2015.
- 1.5 This Licence shall be governed by and construed, enforced and performed in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas.

Executed and sealed for and on behalf of the Utilities Regulation and Competition Authority on the ____ day of [MONTH, 20__.]

Chief Executive Officer

2. ACCEPTANCE OF TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF LICENCE

2.1 We, _____, the named Licensee hereby accept the terms and conditions of this Licence on our behalf and on behalf of any Subsidiary Undertaking authorised in accordance with section 47 and jointly named above or endorsed below.

SIGNED this _____ day of _____ 20_____

Signature _____

[Name of Authorised Officer]

[Title of Authorised Officer]

3. ENDORSEMENT OF AUTHORISED SUBSIDIARIES

3.1 URCA grants this Licence jointly to the following Subsidiary Undertakings of the Licensee named in paragraph 1.1 that have been notified to URCA in accordance with section 47 of the EA: [Name and Description of Subsidiary Undertakings].

3.2 Notwithstanding the inclusion of its name on this Licence, such Subsidiary Undertaking shall cease to be licensed for the purposes of paragraph 1.1 in the following circumstances:

- (a) fourteen days after URCA receives notice in writing from the named Licensee or the relevant Subsidiary Undertaking excluding the Subsidiary Undertaking from the Licence; or
- (b) immediately subsequent to a determination by URCA excluding the Subsidiary Undertaking from the Licence.

PART B – GENERAL CONDITIONS

4. DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

4.1 In this Licence, except in so far as the context otherwise requires:

“Act” means the Electricity Act, 2015;

“Affiliate” or “affiliated company” includes, in relation to another company, a company that directly or indirectly controls, is control by, or is under common control with, such other company and is considered to be a member of the same group of companies;

“Authorised Supplier” means the holder of Public Electricity Supplier Licence other than BPL and GBPC;

“Assets” mean the material assets and facilities owned, operated, or leased by the Licensee, including real estate and resources of economic value that the Licensee owns or controls with the expectation of future benefit;

“Bahamas Electricity Corporation” or “Corporation” means the body corporate continued under section 8 of the Electricity Act, 2015.

“Bahamas Power and Light Company Ltd.” or “BPL” means the subsidiary company of the Corporation incorporated under the Companies Act pursuant to sections 11 and 12, and include any successor company;

“Capacity” means the electric power (measured in megawatts) supplied or available to be supplied from the Licensee’s Generating Facility to the Grid;

“Catastrophic Failure” means a sudden and unexpected failure of any part of the Electricity Supply System which renders the Electricity Supply System in whole or in part economically or technically unfit to operate;

“Commencement Date” means the prescribed date in the Licence for which the actions and conditions pertaining to the Licence become effective;

“Company” means [NAME OF LICENSEE];

“Companies Act” means the Companies Act, Chapter 308 and any amendments thereto;

“Consumer Protection Plan” has the meaning as specified in section 40 of the Act;

“Distribution Line” means any electric power line that delivers power to consumers;

“Distribution Electricity Supply System” means the network, including substations, distribution lines, transformers and other apparatus that receives electricity from the transmission Electricity Supply System and delivers it to customers;

“Electrical Inspector” or “Inspector” has the same meaning as defined in the Act;

“Electricity Supply System” means the network of electrical components used to generate, transmit, distribute and supply electric power;

"Fair Market Value" means the market value of the Licensee when evaluated as an ongoing business concern including this Licence and all lands, buildings, works, materials, plant and property of all kinds whatsoever suitable to or intended for the purposes of the undertaking and shall be determined in a manner that complies with the term Fair Market Value as defined by the American Society of Appraisers, that is the price, expressed in cash equivalents, at which the Shares would change hands between a hypothetical willing and able buyer and a hypothetical willing and able seller, acting at arm's length in an open unrestricted market when neither is under any compulsion to buy or sell and when both have reasonable knowledge of the relevant facts. Fair market value shall be the average value as determined by a panel of three (3) independent valuation experts, one to be selected by the Minister, one by the Licensee and one, who shall be Chairman of the panel, to be selected by the two other members. In the event that the nominees cannot agree on the selection, the Chairman shall at the written request of the parties, be appointed by URCA;

"Financial Year" means the twelve-month period at the end of which the Licensee's annual accounts are closed;

"Force Majeure" means an event or circumstance which prevents the Licensee from performing its obligations under this Licence, which event or circumstance is not within the reasonable control of, or the result of the negligence of, the Licensee, and which the Licensee is unable to overcome or avoid or cause to be avoided through the exercise of due diligence. Events of Force Majeure may include, but are not limited to, acts of God; fire including fire resulting from an earthquake; flood including flood caused by an earthquake; volcanic eruption; earthquake; hurricane; cyclone; tornado; windstorm; overflow of the sea caused by the elements listed above; war; riots; acts of terrorism; strikes; walkouts; lockouts and other labour disputes; requirements, actions or failure to act on the part of governmental authorities; adoption or change in any law, regulation, statute, rule or regulation imposed by governmental bodies, including, without limitation, a change in the interpretation thereof; or any lawful order by any court or administrative agency (so long as the Licensee has not applied for or assisted in the application for such court or governmental action);

"Forced Outage" means any partial or complete interruption of a portion of the Electricity supply system and/or any Generation Facility that is not the result of (i) a Scheduled Outage or (ii) an event or occurrence of Force Majeure;;

"Fuel Costs" means the actual cost of fuel, lubricants, and additives used by the Licensee in the generation of electricity;

"Generating Facility/Facilities" means any power plant(s) and associated equipment owned, controlled, or rented by the Licensee and used for the production of electricity pursuant to a Licence issued by URCA;

"Generation Licence" means a Licence granted under the Act authorising a Licensee to carry out the generation of electricity for supply to the Electricity Supply System;

"Generation Licensee" means the holder of a generation Licence granted by URCA under the Act;

"Generation Set" means any plant or apparatus used for the production of electricity;

"Government" means the Government of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas;

"Governmental Authority" means any (a) national, municipal, central or local government, department, central bank, court, council, commission, board, bureau, tribunal, agency or instrumentality of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas or (b) any subdivision, agent, commission, board or authority of any of the foregoing;

"Grid" means

- (a) any BPL power system, inclusive of transmission and distribution, wherever located in The Bahamas;
- (b) the power system, inclusive of transmission and distribution, of any public electricity supplier within The Bahamas other than BPL;

"Grid Code" means the technical specification for the connection and use of the Grid;

"GTDS" means generation, transmission, distribution and supply;

"Guaranteed Service Standards" means the minimum levels of service that the Licensee must meet for every customer;

"Independent Power Producer (IPP)" means a person who –

- (a) is approved by an approving authority or a public electricity supplier, and Licenced by URCA, to generate additional electrical energy to a grid;
- (b) generates additional energy to the grid pursuant to a negotiated power purchase and grid interconnection agreement entered into with the public electricity supplier or with both the public electricity supplier and the approving authority;

"Integrated Resource Plan" has the meaning specified in Condition 21;

"Licensed Business" means the utility business of the Licensee comprising its Generation, Transmission, Distribution and Supply business;

"Licensee" means [NAME OF COMPANY] and includes any entity exercising step-in rights on a named Licensee;

"Major Outage" means an outage that affects a significant customer base within the geographic area and lasts longer than two (2) hours or any island-wide blackout;

"Minister" means the Minister charged with responsibility for the administration of the Electricity Act, 2015 and the Electricity Rate Reduction Bond Act;

"Net Output" means the amount of electricity that is generated by Generating Facilities that is transmitted and distributed to the Grid;

"Overall Service Standards" are standards that must be achieved on average across quality and service, but do not apply to individual consumers;

"Person" includes

- (a) the Government or any public body;
- (b) a natural person, corporation, company, trust, partnership;
- (c) an unincorporated association or body;

"Port Area" means the Port Area as defined in Hawksbill;

"Power Purchase Agreement (PPA)" means a contract with an Independent Power Producer for the provision of either electrical energy only or electrical energy and capacity;

"Regulatory Accounts" means the reports on the financial and operating performance of the Licensee in such detail and format as designated by URCA;

"Related Party" shall have the meaning defined under the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS);

"Relevant Turnover" has the meaning specified in the Act;

"Renewable Energy Plan" has the meaning specified in Part V of the Act;

"Scheduled Outage" means a partial or complete interruption of the Electricity Supply System and/or any Generation Facility operation that has been planned and is for inspection, testing, preventative maintenance, corrective maintenance or improvement;

"Service Standards" means Guaranteed Service Standards, Overall Service Standards, Individual Service Standards and other standards in the Consumer Protection Plan;

"Step-in-Event" has the meaning specified in Condition 15;

"Service Territory" means, for the purpose of this Licence, within, into, from and through [in relation to BPL - the Commonwealth of The Bahamas save and except for in the Port Area of Grand Bahama].

[For GBPC – within, into, from and through the Port Area of Grand Bahama];

"Shares" means the issued and outstanding shares of the Licensee;

"Subsidiary" shall have the meaning specified in the Companies Act;

"Subsidiary Undertaking" shall the meaning specified under the Act;

"Transmission Line" means any electric power line that is used for the bulk transfer of electrical energy from generating facilities for delivery to the distribution electricity supply Electricity Supply System;

"Transmission Electricity Supply System" means the electrical power lines and associated apparatus that are used for the bulk transfer of electrical energy from generating facilities for delivery to the distribution Electricity Supply System;

"URCA Fees" mean the Fees prescribed by URCA pursuant to the Act.

4.2 For the purpose of interpreting the Conditions in this Licence:

4.2.1 except in so far as the context otherwise requires, words or expressions shall have the meaning assigned to them in:

- (a) the Licence, and otherwise;
- (b) the Electricity Act, 2015, and otherwise;
- (c) [the Electricity Rate Reduction Bond Act, 2015, and otherwise];
- (d) the URCA Act, and otherwise

(e) the UAT Act;

- 4.2.2 For ease of reference, terms defined in this Licence and in the Electricity Act have been capitalised;
- 4.2.3 Subject to Condition 4.2.1 above, where there is any conflict between the provisions of this Licence and the Electricity Act, 2015, the provisions of the Electricity Act, 2015 shall prevail;
- 4.2.4 References to Conditions, paragraphs, subparagraphs and appendices are to Conditions, paragraphs, subparagraphs of and to the appendices to the Licence, as modified from time to time in accordance with this Licence and the Electricity Act, 2015;
- 4.2.5 A Document will be incorporated into and form part of the Licence if it is referred to in this Licence and a reference to a Document is to a Document as modified from time to time;
- 4.2.6 Headings and titles used in this Licence are for reference only and shall not affect its interpretation or construction;
- 4.2.7 References to any law or statutory instrument include any modification re-enactment or legislative provisions substituted for the same;
- 4.2.8 Use of the word “include” or “including” is to be construed as being without limitation;
- 4.2.9 Expressions cognate with those referred to in this Licence shall be construed accordingly;
- 4.2.10 Words importing: (i) the singular only shall include the plural and vice versa; (ii) the whole shall be treated as including a reference to any part; and (iii) any gender shall include all other genders; and

5. ROLE AND DUTIES OF URCA

- 5.1 The Licensee shall be subject to the regulatory supervision of URCA. URCA shall perform its functions and carry out its duties pursuant to the URCA Act, the Act and any other relevant laws, this Licence and have regard to relevant Government policy.
- 5.2 In carrying out its functions URCA shall act proportionately and non-discriminately balancing the interests of consumers with those of the Licensee.

6. NATURE AND SCOPE OF LICENCE

- 6.1 This Licence authorizes and gives the Licensee the right to generate, transmit, distribute and supply electricity for sale to the public in the Service Territory and to operate, construct, reconstruct, modify or replace the generation, transmission, distribution and supply facilities for these purposes subject to the Licence conditions, the Act and any other relevant law for the time being in force.

- 6.2 The Licensee has the right to supply for sale electricity to third parties for public and private purposes in the Service Territory for which the Licensee is entitled to bill customers for the electricity supplied at the rates and charges approved in accordance with the Electricity Act, 2015.
- 6.3 This Licence authorizes and gives the Licensee the right to purchase electricity (capacity and energy) in bulk from Independent Power Producers and other Generation Licensees under Power Purchase Agreements for transmission, distribution, supply and sale in the Service Territory.

7. DURATION AND RENEWAL OF LICENCE

- 7.1 Subject to the provisions herein contained, the duration of this Licence shall be for a period not exceeding twenty-five (25) years from its Commencement Date.
- 7.2 The Licensee may at any time apply for an extension of the duration of this Licence having regard to any approved investment programme and/or the requirements of any PPA entered into by the Licensee with an IPP or Generation Licensee for a period which extends beyond the remaining life of the Licence.
- 7.3 This Licence shall be renewed by URCA in accordance with the procedure prescribed under section 45 of the Act.

8. CHANGE IN CONTROL

- 8.1 The Licensee shall obtain URCA's written approval of any change in control of the Named Licensee or any Subsidiary Undertaking prior to the change in control occurring.
- 8.2 Without limiting URCA's ability and duty to apply the merger control provisions in sections 57 to 62 of the Electricity Act, URCA may object to a change in control if in URCA's view the acquirer would not meet any of the criteria referred to in, or set by URCA pursuant to, section 45(2) of the Electricity Act.

9. ASSIGNMENT OR TRANSFER OF LICENCE

- 9.1 The Licensee shall not, without the prior written consent of URCA, transfer, sub-license, assign or grant any right, interest or entitlement in the Licence to any person or transfer or dispose of any of its assets that are necessary to provide the Licensed Business that the Licensee is obliged to provide under this Licence. Such consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.
- 9.2 URCA shall consent to an application for the assignment or transfer of the Licence where the URCA is satisfied that the proposed assignee or transferee satisfies the criteria set out under section 45(2) of the Act and any other criteria established by URCA pursuant to the electricity sector policy and objectives under the Act.
- 9.3 Should the Licensee wish to assign or transfer the Licence, it shall request, in writing, the consent of URCA and URCA shall reply in writing within sixty (60) calendar days of the receipt of such request informing of its decision on the application.

- 9.4 URCA shall publish its decision regarding a request to assign or transfer the Licence and its decision on its website and in the public media.
- 9.5 Where URCA refuses to give its consent it shall give reasons in writing for such refusal to the Licensee.
- 9.6 The Licensee may apply to URCA for a reconsideration of its decision not to assign or transfer its Licence and may appeal any decision made by URCA to the UAT following any such reconsideration in accordance with Condition 22 herein.

10. AMENDMENT, MODIFICATION AND REVOCATION OF LICENCE

- 10.1 URCA may revoke or modify this Licence in accordance with the procedures set out in section 49 of the Act.

11. COMMUNICATIONS AND NOTICES

- 11.1 Notices, orders and other documents under this Licence may be in writing or in print or in electronic format (permitting confirmation of receipt) and shall, if served on:
- (a) URCA be addressed to:
- the Chief Executive Officer; and
- (b) the Licensee, be addressed to:
- the Chief Executive Officer.
- 11.2 Any notice, order or document required or authorized to be served upon a body or person under this Licence may be served by the same being addressed to such body or person and being left at or transmitted by electronic mail or facsimile or by registered post to the address of such body or to the usual or last known place of abode of such person. If served by post it shall be deemed to have been served at the time when the containing letter would be delivered in the ordinary course of post and in proving such service it shall be sufficient to prove that such letter was properly addressed, registered and put into the post. If served by electronic mail or facsimile it shall be deemed to have been served when the electronic mail or facsimile shall have been transmitted by the sender.
- 11.3 Notwithstanding the above, the Licensee shall designate a person that will act as a primary contact with URCA on matters related to this Licence and shall notify URCA promptly should the contact details change.
- 11.4 URCA may designate the Director of Utilities and Energy as the primary contact on matters related to this Licence.

PART C – GENERAL OBLIGATIONS

12. OBLIGATIONS TO COMPLY WITH LAWS, REGULATION AND LICENCE CONDITIONS

- 12.1 The Licensee shall comply with the Act and any other Act of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas that has application to it in the discharge of its performance under this Licence.
- 12.2 The Licensee shall comply with regulatory and other measures including any directive, order, rule, decision or approval issued, made or granted by URCA in accordance with its duties and functions under the Act or this Licence.

13. BREACH OF OBLIGATION TO COMPLY WITH LAWS, REGULATIONS AND LICENCE CONDITIONS

- 13.1 Where URCA has reason to believe that the Licensee has failed to comply with any relevant law, regulation or condition of this Licence, URCA may exercise all such powers and duties as are afforded to or required of it under the Act or any other relevant law and may take all such action as is permitted to it thereunder against either the Licensee or its Subsidiary Undertaking.
- 13.2 The Licensee shall be liable for all the acts and omissions of each of its Subsidiary Undertakings in respect of its obligations under this Licence.
- 13.3 Without prejudice to the Licensee’s other obligations under this Licence, where its Subsidiary Undertaking has done something which would, if done by the Licensee:
 - (a) be prohibited or not authorised by any relevant law, regulation and condition of this Licence; or
 - (b) require the Licensee to take or refrain from taking a particular action under any relevant law, regulation and condition of this Licence and that no Licensee, including the Subsidiary Undertaking, has met that further requirement,

then, where URCA is not satisfied that the Licensee has taken all reasonable steps to prevent its Subsidiary Undertaking from acting in that manner, URCA may direct the Licensee to take such steps as URCA deems appropriate for the purpose of remedying the matter, including restraining the defaulting Subsidiary Undertaking from carrying on with such activities connected with the Licensed Business as URCA may determine.

14. OBLIGATION TO PERFORM

- 14.1 The Licensee shall provide an adequate, safe and efficient service based on modern standards, to the Service Territory at approved rates so as to meet the electricity demand and to contribute to national economic development.

- 14.2 Subject to the provisions of this Licence and directions of URCA, the Licensee shall ensure that the development of the Electricity Supply System is implemented based on agreed long-term planning procedures and methodologies and that investments are made consistent with such plans and in conformity with prudent utility practice so as to ensure adequacy and continuity of supply at the least economic cost while at the same time ensuring that the Licensee earns a reasonable return on its investment.
- 14.3 Subject to the provisions of this Licence and to the technical and economic constraints regarding access to the Electricity Supply System, the Licensee shall provide access to its transmission and/or distribution Electricity Supply System as appropriate, and interconnection access and service, on a non-discriminatory basis to facilities that it operates on approved requests by IPPs and, where appropriate, other approved transmission Licensees. Approval of requests should not be unreasonably withheld.
- 14.4 The Licensee shall, to the extent that it is technically feasible and economically reasonable employ modern and leading edge technological solutions to secure optimal efficiencies in its operations.
- 14.5 The Licensee shall take all reasonable steps to prevent and resolve unplanned interruptions to the provision of its Licensed Business.
- 14.6 The Licensee shall take all reasonably practicable steps to maintain, to the greatest extent possible, the proper and effective functioning of its Generating Facility and Licensed Business provided by it at all times.
- 14.7 The Licensee shall inform URCA about measures taken to resolve unplanned interruptions as required by URCA.

15. STEP-IN RIGHTS OF THE MINISTER

- 15.1 The relationship and role of the Minister to the Licensee and the performance under this Licence shall be provided for under the Act and as expressly provided for in this Licence.
- 15.2 For the purposes of this Condition, the following terms shall have the meaning ascribed to them:
- (a) *"Initial Period"* shall have the meaning specified in paragraph 3 of this Condition 15;
 - (b) *"Real Estate"* means all of the real property (including any interests in real property, material easements and related rights) owned or leased by the Licensee;
 - (c) *"Step-in Event"* shall have the meaning specified in paragraph 3 of this Condition 15; and
 - (d) *"Take-over Period"* means the period of time commencing on the date that the Minister or his designee enters any and/or all site(s) and begins to operate the Electricity Supply System and/or any Generation Facility and ending on the date the Licensee re-enters any and/or all site(s) and recommences operation of the Electricity Supply System and/or any Generation Facility.
- 15.3 Where the Licensee shall have ceased to operate all, or any substantial part of the Electricity Supply System and/or any Generation Facility for a period of forty-eight (48) consecutive hours (the Initial Period) without the prior written consent of URCA (a Step-in Event), then the Minister or his designee shall be entitled to enter any and/or all of the site(s) and operate the Electricity Supply System and/or any Generation Facility, provided however, that

- (a) the Minister shall give notice to the Licensee determining that the Initial Period has concluded, the said notice to be provided by means reasonably calculated to ensure actual notice to the Licensee; and
 - (b)(i) a Step-in Event shall not have occurred and the Minister or his designee shall not be entitled to enter any and/or all of the site(s) and operate the Electricity Supply System and/or any Generation Facility if the cessation of operation resulted from -
 - (a) an event of Force Majeure;
 - (b) a Forced Outage or a Scheduled Outage; or
 - (c) an action or failure to act by the Minister or his designee in contravention of any right or entitlement of the Licensee under this Licence; or
 - (ii) to the extent that the Licensee is proceeding with diligence and good faith to overcome or remedy such event and such event is overcome or remedied within forty-eight (48) hours immediately after the Initial Period.
- 15.4 Where the Minister or his designee enters any and/or all site(s) and operates the Electricity Supply System and/or any Generation Facility upon the occurrence of a Step-in Event, the Minister or his designee shall operate the Electricity Supply System and/or any Generation Facility in accordance with prudent utility practice, but in any event, at not less than the same standards that were used to operate the Electricity Supply System and/or any Generation Facility prior to the date of occurrence of the Step-in Event.
- 15.5 Upon the occurrence of a Step-in Event, the Minister or his designee shall be entitled to enter any and/or all of the site(s) and operate the Electricity Supply System and/or any Generation Facility until the Licensee demonstrates to the reasonable satisfaction of the Minister that it can resume proper operation of the Electricity Supply System in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Licence and that the Step-in Event will be overcome or remedied. The Licensee must demonstrate to the Minister that it can and will secure or otherwise acquire and utilise:
- (a) the requisite qualified personnel;
 - (b) sufficient financial resources; and
 - (c) any other resources identified to be needed in each case to resume proper operation of the Electricity Supply System and/or any Generation Facility in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Licence and to overcome or remedy the Step-in Event.
- 15.6 The Minister may designate any other qualified person as his designee for purposes of exercising any of the powers conferred by this Condition 15.
- 15.7 The Minister shall give up possession of the Licensee's Electricity Supply System and/or any generation facility as soon as practicable after URCA advises the minister the Licensee has demonstrated its capability to resume its functions under this Licence.

16. STEP-IN OBLIGATIONS FOR AUTHORISED SUPPLIERS [APPLICABLE TO BPL ONLY]

- 16.1 The Licensee has step-in obligations in accordance with section 34 of the Act.

- 16.2 Subject to directions from URCA, the Licensee shall perform, or through an agent approved by URCA, the functions of a Licensee authorised under this Licence where:
- (a) the Authorised Supplier ceases to, or fails to adequately, carry out its obligations to the public under the terms of the Authorised Supplier's Licence, or
 - (b) URCA revokes or suspends the Authorised Supplier's Licence.
- 16.3 For the purpose of exercising its powers under Condition 16.1, the Licensee may enter, take possession of, and operate the Authorised Supplier's Installations and Facilities used in carrying out the Authorised Supplier's licensed activities.
- 16.4 The Licensee may take action in court for recovery of costs and damages incurred by the failure of the Authorised Supplier to perform its obligations to the public in accordance with the terms of the Authorised Supplier's Licence.
- 16.5 The Licensee shall give up possession of the Authorised Supplier's Installations and Facilities as soon as practicable after URCA advises that the Authorised Supplier has demonstrated its capability to resume its functions.

17. FORCE MAJEURE

- 17.1 The Licensee shall give notice and details of Force Majeure events to URCA as soon as reasonably practicable. URCA may issue a notice excusing the Licensee from its performance obligations during the period of Force Majeure.

18. EARLY RETIREMENT OF ASSETS

- 18.1 The Licensee shall not retire Assets early that are used for the generation, transmission, distribution or supply of electricity without the prior written approval of URCA. Such approval shall not be unreasonably withheld.
- 18.2 Where such approval is granted, the Licensee shall only recover the net book value of the Assets irrespective of whether:
- (a) the Assets are on the License's books at the Commencement Date of this Licence or are additions to rate base during the term of this Licence; or
 - (b) the retirement results from an economic evaluation, change in government policy or regulatory action.
- 18.3 URCA, in consultation with the Licensee, shall specify the timeline and process for the recovery of Assets.

19. CATASTROPHIC FAILURE

- 19.1 In the event of Catastrophic Failure the Licensee may replace the failing installation or facility with written approval from URCA. Such approval shall not be unreasonably withheld.

20. INSURANCE

- 20.1 The Licensee shall obtain and maintain insurance on terms approved by URCA for:
- (a) physical damage to the Electricity Supply System;
 - (b) increase in Fuel Costs that result from unplanned fuel consumption due to Forced Outages; and
 - (c) third-party liabilities.
- 20.2 The Licensee must ensure that the insurance policy guarantees the insurer will notify URCA of lapses, cancellation, or changes to the policy 30 days prior to the changes taking effect.
- 20.3 URCA shall notify the Licensee of required modifications to the insurance policy and the Licensee should ensure that such modifications are made no later than 60 days from the notice date, or any date agreed with URCA.
- 20.4 The Licensee may have reduced obligations to maintain insurance policies, if the following alternatives are approved by URCA:
- (a) self-insurance, where the Licensee has the financial capacity to meet any liabilities to a third party; and
 - (b) special tariff factor, applied after a disaster and until Facilities affected are re-built and ready to operate.

21. INTEGRATED RESOURCE PLANNING

- 21.1 URCA may from time to time require the Licensee to submit an Integrated Resource Plan that sets out the following:
- (a) expected demand for the Electricity Supply System;
 - (b) proposed generation and energy efficiency resources that the Licensee will deploy to meet demand;
 - (c) load and resource balance covering the Licensee's load forecast, existing resources, and determination of the load and energy positions over a ten-year period; and
 - (d) proposed procurement process to provide these resources.
- 21.2 The Licensee's Integrated Resource Plan shall describe in detail the methodology used and conform to international best practice for Integrated Resource Plans.
- 21.3 URCA may require the Licensee to revise its Integrated Resource Plan from time to time but not more than once every three years.

22. APPEALS TO UAT

- 22.1 Appeals of regulatory or other measures taken by URCA in relation to this Licence shall be made to the Utilities Appeal Tribunal as provided for in the Act and the URCA Act.

23. PAYMENT OF FEES AND CONTRIBUTIONS

- 23.1 The Licensee shall pay to URCA the following fees and contributions as notified by URCA from time to time in accordance with the Act:

- (a) annual URCA Fee pursuant to section 54(2)(d) of the Act;
- (b) Licencing Processing Fee as determined by URCA pursuant to section 54(2)(b) of the Act
- (c) the Tribunal Fee payable pursuant to Schedule 3 of the Utilities Appeal Tribunal Act, 2009; and
- (d) any other applicable fees and charges.

- 23.2 For each Financial Year of the Licence, any annual fees payable by the Licensee under section 54(2)(d) of the Act shall be based upon the following accounts in relation to the Licensed Business or, where appropriate, business plan for the Licensee and each of the Subsidiary Undertaking (or, where these are consolidated, the Licensee's consolidated accounts showing the turnover and revenue for the Licensee and each of the Subsidiary Undertakings):

- (a) the last available audited accounts; or
- (b) where the audited accounts are not available or those accounts do not include any Relevant Turnover as defined in the Act, accounts certified by an accountant in possession of a practising certificate issued by The Bahamas Institute of Chartered Accountants; or
- (c) where the Licensee does not have any available accounts certified by an accountant in possession of a practising certificate issued by The Bahamas Institute of Chartered Accountants, the expected Relevant Turnover in the Licensee's business plan.

- 23.3 The annual fees calculated in accordance with Condition 23.2 herein shall be paid in advance on the first day of the Financial Year, with any adjustment due as a result of the audited accounts for that Financial Year becoming available being paid to URCA (or deducted from any other payment due to URCA) on the first day of the next Financial Year.

- 23.4 Without prejudice to Condition 13 herein, in the event of a default by the Licensee in the payment of any fees when due under this Licence:

- (a) the Licensee shall pay to URCA interest under section 54(5) of the Act; and
- (b) URCA may revoke this Licence in accordance with Condition 10 herein.

- 23.5 Interest on outstanding fees due to URCA under section 54 of the Act is not recoverable in tariffs to customers.

24. REPORTING OBLIGATIONS

- 24.1 The Licensee shall submit its audited financial statements, with certificate of the external auditors, for the Licensed Business and the accompanying annual report (which shall provide together with the current year at least ten years of operating and financial statistics) to URCA as required by URCA having regard to the Licensee's requirements for its annual report and audited financial statements.
- 24.2 URCA may require the Licensee to maintain separate Regulatory Accounts for regulatory reporting and tariff analysis.
- 24.3 The Licensee shall furnish to URCA without undue delay such information, documents and details related to the Licensed Business, as URCA may reasonably require in order for it to fulfil its functions and discharge its obligations under the Act.
- 24.4 The Licensee shall furnish to URCA without undue delay such information, documents and details related to the Licensed Business that have or is likely to have a significant impact its functions assigned to it by or under the Licence and the Act.
- 24.5 The Licensee shall provide a Major Outage report to URCA within 24 hours of a major outage detailing, to the extent possible, the: (i) cause of outage; (ii) geographic area affected by the outage; (iii) number of customers affected by the outage; (iv) steps taken to restore service to the affected area; and (v) time taken for restoration of service.
- 24.6 The Licensee shall provide such other specified and relevant reports to URCA as may be reasonably required from time to time.
- 24.7 The Licensee shall annually prepare and submit to URCA a five-year forecast of projected demand and generation requirements.
- 24.8 The Licensee shall, annually, provide URCA with its capital investment plan and updated five-year capital investment plan.
- 24.9 The Licensee shall, in accordance with good industry practice, maintain and keep all appropriate books, records and accounts in respect of the activities to which this Licence relates including but is not limited to System Average Interruption Duration (SAIDI), the System Average Interruption Frequency Index (SAIFI) and Customer Average Interruption Duration Index (CAIDI) and such other internationally accepted utility industry performance indicators as URCA may direct.

25. ECONOMIC PURCHASING OF GOODS AND SERVICES

- 25.1 The Licensee shall exercise prudence in the purchase or acquisition of goods and services having regard to the quantity, timing and nature of the goods or services required to enable it to discharge its obligations under this Licence.

- 25.2 The Licensee shall, if requested by URCA, submit its procedures for procurement to URCA for consideration.
- 25.3 Nothing in the foregoing shall preclude the Licensee from outsourcing for goods and services through or from a Related Party so long as the Licensee can demonstrate at all times that such procurement is on terms which would obtain if such goods and services were procured competitively.
- 25.4 The Licensee in discharging its responsibility to procure or manage the procurement of goods and services shall follow best commercial practices designed to ensure fairness, transparency and value for money.

26. ENGAGING IN OTHER BUSINESS

- 26.1 The Licensee may engage in other business activities and shall keep separate accounts for its different activities. The Licensee's profits and losses from such other business activities shall not be considered for the purpose of setting tariffs.
- 26.2 At URCA's approval, the Licensee may allow third parties to have access to and use its facilities on an arm's length basis where such access and use allow the Licensee to operate more efficiently.
- 26.3 The leasing or use of the Licensee's Assets is subject to prior written approval by URCA. Such approval shall not be unreasonably withheld.
- 26.4 The Licensee may charge a third party a fee for access and use of its Facilities. Such fee shall be determined on an arm's length commercial basis determined by the value of the access or use.

27. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

- 27.1 In the case of a Related Party, transactions shall be at arm's length and the Licensee shall apply the same tests for economic choice and financial probity as if the related party were an unrelated third party.

28. CONSUMER PROTECTION OBLIGATIONS

- 28.1 The Licensee shall implement a Consumer Protection Plan approved by URCA.
- 28.2 The Consumer Protection Plan shall include all of the requirements under section 40(2) of the Act and the Licensee shall from time to time revise its Consumer Protection Plan as required by URCA.
- 28.3 The Licensee shall in any event update its Consumer Protection Plan before each tariff review according to the timeline set by URCA.
- 28.4 Subject only to rights conferred under this Licence, the Licensee shall:
 - (a) comply with any regulatory and other measures including direction or order made by URCA which URCA determines is intended to prevent the abuse of its monopoly position in the provision of the Licensed Business to customers;

- (b) not take or omit to take any action or otherwise conduct itself in a manner which is intended to have, has or is likely to have the effect of restricting, distorting or preventing competition in the procurement of generation capacity where this has been determined as the appropriate recourse for adding capacity; and
- (c) comply with any direction issued by URCA for the purpose of preventing any practice or arrangement that has the object or effect of preventing, restricting or distorting such competition or behaviour which URCA determines to be an abuse of its monopoly position.

29. SERVICE STANDARDS

- 29.1 URCA shall set Service Standards based on the Licensee's approved Consumer Protection Plan. These standards shall include Guaranteed Service Standards, Overall Standards and/or other standards approved by URCA. These standards will be set considering the reasonable cost of meeting them, and any trade-offs with affordability.
- 29.2 The Licensee shall provide adequate, safe, and efficient service that meets the Service Standards set by URCA.
- 29.3 Where the Licensee breaches the Guaranteed Service Standards, the aggrieved consumer shall be entitled to a compensatory payment. URCA will set the amounts, and the amounts will be published by URCA and the Licensee on their websites.
- 29.4 The Licensee shall inform URCA of any breach of the Overall Service Standards, or of any performance below the agreed level and the steps taken as corrective measures. URCA may impose penalties if the Licensee's performance remains below the agreed levels, despite the implementation of corrective measures.
- 29.5 The Licensee shall collect data on its performance against the Service Standards. Information shall be compiled and submitted to URCA in the Annual and Quarterly reports required under this Licence.
- 29.6 Performance against Overall Service Standards shall be considered by URCA in its rate setting and consumer protection determinations.

30. INFORMATION, AUDIT, INSPECTION AND ACCESS OBLIGATIONS

- 30.1 URCA may require:
 - (a) an inspection and/or audit of any aspect of the business of the Licensee and the Licensee shall assist or shall procure assistance to URCA as it may reasonably require;
 - (b) the Licensee or any of its Subsidiary Undertakings to provide URCA with such information, documents, accounts, returns, estimates, reports or other information required by URCA in the manner and at the times specified by URCA. URCA may use this information for, but not limited to, purposes of compiling statistics and publishing periodical reviews of the Electricity Sector, and as required or permitted by the Act or other laws or legal process;
 - (c) the Licensee to notify URCA of the details of all Subsidiary Undertakings providing a Licensed Business under this Licence; and

- (d) the Licensee to permit a person authorised by URCA to carry out such inspection and/or audit;
- 30.2 The Licensee shall establish and maintain a register in accordance with section 27 of the Act and record therein:
 - (a) the names of all permit holders and the corresponding renewable energy generating resources and grid interconnection agreements, as well as specifications of the generating, including the following:
 - (i) unit name and number;
 - (ii) technology;
 - (i) capacity;
 - (ii) net output;
 - (iii) in-service date; and
 - (iv) estimated retirement date.
- 30.3 The Licensee shall maintain the data necessary to measure service and other electricity sector standards regulated by URCA and shall update this information annually or as required by URCA.
- 30.4 The Licensee shall at the request of URCA furnish URCA, at the Licensee's expense, with copies (in such format as URCA may specify) of any book, register, record or accounts as URCA may reasonably require.

31. GENERAL PERFORMANCE STANDARDS OBLIGATIONS

- 31.1 The Licensee shall report on its performance against all standards as reasonably required by URCA from time to time.
- 31.2 Having regard to any written representations received by URCA or upon its own motion, after giving the Licensee an opportunity to present its own perspective on the same, for reasons recorded in writing URCA may require the Licensee to revise Generation Performance, Transmission and Distribution, Electricity Supply (Retail), System Planning, Reliability, and Operating Standards and the Licensee shall comply with the directions of URCA.
- 31.3 Standards may be reviewed at any time, whether initiated by the Licensee or URCA.

32. USE OF APPROPRIATE STAFF

- 32.1 The Licensee shall, in connection with the conduct of its business of generating, transmitting, distributing and supplying electricity under the Licence, ensure that its employees are appropriately trained and qualified.

33. OUTSOURCING

- 33.1 The Licensee may utilize the services of third parties on an ongoing basis in the provision of Generation and/or Transmission and Distribution (including supply) services. Procurement of such outsourced services shall be subject to URCA approval if they represent core and ongoing Generation and/or Transmission and Distribution (including supply) functions.
- 33.2 An approval granted by URCA shall be based on the cost effectiveness of the outsourced services, benefits to the economy of The Bahamas overall, to consumers in general and the fitness and propriety of the relevant third parties and shall not be unreasonably withheld.

PART D – SPECIAL PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION

34. DUTIES OF THE LICENSEE

- 34.1 The Licensee shall develop and maintain an efficient, coordinated and economical Electricity Supply System of electricity transmission and distribution in the Service Territory.
- 34.2 Subject to the provisions of this Licence and to the technical and economic constraints regarding access to the Electricity Supply System, the Licensee shall provide access to its transmission and/or distribution Electricity Supply System as appropriate, and interconnection access and service, on a non-discriminatory basis to facilities that it operates on requests by IPPs, other Generation Licensees, and, where appropriate, other transmission Licensees.
- 34.3 Any dispute as to the terms and conditions on which such transactions take place may be determined by URCA.
- 34.4 The Licensee shall have no obligation to connect IPPs, or other Generation Licensees, until after the parties have agreed that the installation and commissioning have been completed to the satisfaction of both parties. Where there is disagreement either party may apply to URCA to determine the issue.

35. TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION STANDARDS

- 35.1 The Licensee shall design, build, operate and maintain the Electricity Supply System for the transmission and distribution of electricity in accordance with the latest revisions of the Standards issued by recognised international standards institutions such as the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), International Electro-technical Commission (IEC); the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE); the American National Standards Institute (ANSI); the Canadian Standards Association (CSA) and the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET).
- 35.2 The Licensee shall propose standards to URCA for its consideration.
- 35.3 When requested by URCA, the Licensee shall file with URCA a schedule of the applicable standards that relate to its transmission and distribution operations along with the references in soft copy.
- 35.4 URCA shall review, approve, modify or amend such standards as necessary.

36. TECHNICAL SERVICE LEVELS (TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION)

- 36.1 The Licensee shall design, build, operate and maintain the Electricity Supply System for the transmission and distribution of electricity so as to achieve service levels in line with applicable industry best practice for similar Electricity Supply Systems and such other benchmarks as URCA, after consultation with the Licensee, may direct.

- 36.2 Without limiting the requirements of Condition 36.1, when requested by URCA the Licensee shall submit to URCA a plan setting out its strategy for achieving the target service levels that will have been established in accordance with Condition 36.1.
- 36.3 URCA may direct the Licensee to update and resubmit the plans from time to time.
- 36.4 URCA may direct the Licensee as to matters to be included in the plans and may amend or replace such direction from time to time.
- 36.5 The service level targets and the plans submitted by the Licensee or any revisions thereof, once approved by URCA, shall form part of this Licence as a Condition.
- 36.6 The Licensee shall provide URCA with a written report on its achievements under the plans as requested by URCA.
- 36.7 The Licensee shall comply with any directions issued by URCA from time to time, regarding any other quality of service indicators and measurement methods for the transmission distribution and supply business and shall, as and when required by URCA, supply to URCA the results of its measurements of actual performance against any quality of service indicators and measurements so specified.
- 36.8 URCA may publish or require publication of such information as it considers appropriate.

37. DEVELOPMENT OF AND COMPLIANCE WITH TECHNICAL AND OPERATIONAL CODES

- 37.1 The Licensee shall, in consultation with any other Licensee liable to be materially affected thereby and such other persons as URCA shall consider appropriate, develop and implement, at the request of URCA, such technical and operational codes as URCA may, from time to time, direct.
- 37.2 The Licensee shall, in consultation with any other Licensee liable to be materially affected thereby and such other persons as URCA shall consider appropriate, periodically review (including at the request of URCA) such technical and operational codes as are developed and implemented by the Licensee pursuant to Condition 37.1.
- 37.3 Following the development of any technical and operational codes pursuant to this Condition 37 and the review of any such codes, the Licensee shall send to URCA:
- (a) a report on the outcome of any consultation and of the review as the case may be; and
 - (b) any proposed revisions to any such code from time to time as the Licensee (having regard to the outcome of any consultation or review) reasonably thinks necessary; and
 - (c) any written representations or objections from any Licensee arising during the consultation process and not withdrawn.
- 37.4 Having considered the information provided pursuant to Condition 37.3 and such other relevant information, URCA may direct the Licensee to change any technical and operational codes developed pursuant to Condition 37.1 and the Licensee shall comply with such directions.
- 37.5 The Licensee shall give or send a copy of all approved technical and operational codes (and any revisions thereto) developed and implemented by the Licensee pursuant to this Condition 37 to

URCA and at the same time the Licensee shall make this information available generally by way of publication on the Licensee's website.

- 37.6 The Licensee shall comply with the provisions of any approved technical and operational codes insofar as applicable to it.
- 37.7 URCA may, following consultation in relevant circumstances with any Licensee liable to be materially affected thereby and such other Licensees and other parties as URCA shall consider appropriate, issue directions relieving the Licensee of its obligation under Condition 37.6 in respect of such part or parts of any approved technical and operational codes to such extent as may be specified in those directions.

PART E – SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR SUPPLY

38. DUTIES OF THE LICENSEE

- 38.1 The Licensee shall design, build, operate, and maintain an efficient, coordinated, and economical systems for supplying electricity to its consumers, in the Service Territory.
- 38.2 The Licensee shall at all times during the term of this Licence or any extension thereof furnish and maintain a supply of electricity for public and private use in accordance with reasonable standards of safety and dependability as understood in the electricity supply business.
- 38.3 The Licensee has a duty to connect any person desiring to obtain electric service that enters or is qualified to enter into an agreement with the Licensee in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

39. DUTY TO SECURE LONG TERM ELECTRICITY SUPPLY SYSTEM SECURITY AND RELIABILITY

- 39.1 Subject to the provisions of this Licence and directions of URCA, the Licensee shall ensure that the development of the Electricity Supply System is implemented based on agreed long term planning procedures and methodologies and that investments are made consistent with such plans and in conformity with prudent utility practice so as to ensure adequacy and continuity of supply at the least economic cost at the same time ensuring that the Licensee earns a reasonable return on its investment.
- 39.2 The Licensee shall plan and operate its transmission and Distribution Electricity Supply System to ensure that subject to the availability of adequate power of appropriate quality, the Electricity Supply System is capable of providing consumers with a safe, reliable and efficient supply of electricity.
- 39.3 In developing the Electricity Supply System plans, URCA and the Licensee shall have regard to the Government's energy and electricity policies as the case may be.
- 39.4 The Licensee shall not, without the prior written consent of URCA, permanently close, retire or cease operating any Generation Set.

40. TECHNICAL SERVICE LEVELS (SUPPLY)

- 40.1 The Licensee shall submit to URCA a plan setting out its strategy for achieving the service levels in line with international best practice and such other benchmarks as URCA after consultation with the Licensee, may direct.
- 40.2 URCA may direct the Licensee to update and resubmit the plans from time to time.
- 40.3 URCA may direct the Licensee as to matters to be included in the plans and may amend or replace such direction from time to time.

- 40.4 The service level targets and the plans submitted by the Licensee or any revisions thereof, once approved by URCA, shall form part of this Licence as a Condition and the Licensee shall be deemed to be in breach of its Licence if the target levels are not achieved.
- 40.5 Upon request the Licensee shall provide URCA with a written report on its achievements under the plans, as set out in Condition 40.1.
- 40.6 The Licensee shall comply with any directions issued by URCA from time to time, regarding any other quality of service indicators and measurement methods for the supply business and shall, as and when required, supply to URCA the results of its measurements of actual performance against any quality of service indicators and measurements so specified.
- 40.7 URCA may publish or require publication of such information as it considers appropriate.

41. STANDARDS

- 41.1 Upon request, the Licensee shall file with URCA a schedule of the applicable standards that relate to its supply operations along with the references.

42. SECURITY AND SAFETY SUPPLY

- 42.1 The Licensee shall make arrangements to keep each of its customers informed of the postal and email address, website address and telephone number of an enquiry service established and operated for the purposes of receiving reports from any person about any matter or incident that:
- (a) causes danger or requires urgent attention, or is likely to cause danger or require urgent attention, in relation to the supply of electricity; or
 - (b) affects or is likely to affect the security, availability or quality of service of the Licensee's Electricity Supply System through which the relevant customer is supplied with electricity.
- 42.2 The enquiry service referred to at Condition 42.1 must be:
- (a) available to receive and process telephone reports and enquiries at all times on every day of each year; and
 - (b) operational on the Commencement Date of this Licence.
- 42.3 The Licensee may discharge the duty imposed by Condition 42.1 by providing the requisite information to each of its customers on the occasion of the customer first commencing to take a supply from the Licensee and thereafter:
- (a) either:
 - (i) where bills or statements in respect of charges for the supply of electricity are rendered to the customer, on a quarterly basis (it being sufficient that the information is included on or with any bill or statement); or
 - (ii) in any other case, on an annual basis; or

- (b) by publishing such information on its website and in such other manner as will, in the opinion of the Licensee, secure adequate publicity for it.

43. PREPARATION, REVIEW OF AND COMPLIANCE WITH CODES OF PRACTICE

- 43.1 Upon request by URCA the Licensee shall prepare codes of practice setting out the principles and procedures the Licensee will follow in respect of the requirements of the Act and the various matters that affect customers.
- 43.2 Notwithstanding Condition 43.1, the Licensee may issue codes of practice on its own volition.
- 43.3 The Licensee may review a code and the manner in which it has been operated with a view to determining whether any modification should be made to that code or to the manner of its operation, and shall do so on its own volition or whenever directed to by URCA.
- 43.4 Pursuant to the review undertaken under Condition 43.3 URCA may, after consultation with the Licensee, approve any amendments or modifications (including deletions) to a code. In addition URCA may issue directions to the Licensee to provide information to URCA or to notify URCA of matters affecting the Licensee's customers where such matters are relevant to the issues addressed by the codes.
- 43.5 The Licensee shall:
- (a) as soon as practicable following the preparation of a code or any revision made to it, send to URCA a copy of the code or such revision in the form approved by URCA;
 - (b) draw to the attention of its customers the existence of the codes and each substantive revision of each of them and how they may inspect or obtain a copy of the codes in their latest form;
 - (c) make a copy of the codes available for inspection by members of the public at each of the Licensees relevant premises during normal opening hours;
 - (d) give or send, at a reasonable charge, a copy of the codes (as from time to time revised) to any person who requests it.
- 43.6 Subject to Condition 43.8, the Licensee shall ensure that it complies with the terms of and the arrangements or procedures (as the case may be) as are contained in or described by each code to which this Condition applies or any revision to such codes approved by URCA
- 43.7 The Licensee shall provide URCA with all assistance reasonably necessary to enable URCA to monitor the implementation and operation of any code and this assistance shall include permitting URCA access to relevant documentation held by the Licensee.
- 43.8 URCA may (following consultation with the Licensee and such other parties as URCA deems necessary) issue directions relieving the Licensee of any of its obligations under this Condition 43 to such an extent as may be specified in those directions and subject to such terms and conditions as URCA thinks fit.
- 43.9 In this Condition "relevant premises" means any premises of or occupied by the Licensee or any associated company or related undertaking of the Licensee open to customers in the normal course of the Licensee's business.

44. JOINT USE OF POLES

- 44.1 The Licensee may enter into any arrangement or contract for the joint use of poles with other Licensees under the Act or any other relevant law so long as such use shall not contravene any other law or violate any safety code or, in the sole opinion of the Licensee, provide an unsafe working condition for the Licensee's employees. Such arrangements or contracts must be filed with URCA upon request.
- 44.2 The Licensee shall publish a code of practice for use by other Licensees and/or entities setting out the procedures that are in place for management of these joint-pole arrangements and the standards for use of its poles by these companies.
- 44.3 A copy of the code of practice, along with the scale of charges that may be in effect for the time being must be deposited with URCA as requested by URCA.
- 44.4 The prices which the other Licensees are charged by the Licensee for attachments to its poles shall be fair and reasonable.

PART F – SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR GENERATION

45. DUTIES AS ELECTRICITY SUPPLY SYSTEM OPERATOR

- 45.1 The Licensee shall dispatch sufficient generating capacity to meet Electricity Supply System requirements in a prudent manner taking into consideration various operating considerations, including but not limited to least-cost, planned and forced generator maintenance schedules and operating reserves (both on-peak and off-peak) and subject to the terms and conditions of any PPAs.
- 45.2 The Licensee shall, as far as is practicable and safe, dispatch available generation in such a manner that the energy produced and dispatched is at the least cost.
- 45.3 The Licensee may purchase some or all of its energy and/or capacity requirements from Independent Power Producers (IPPs) and other Generation Licensees pursuant to relevant PPAs.
- 45.4 The Licensee may purchase the electricity output from renewable or alternate energy sources on an energy only or capacity and energy basis as appropriate in accordance with the procedures agreed with or established by URCA and subject to relevant PPAs.
- 45.5 The Licensee shall ensure that adequate reserve generating capacity, both spinning and cold standby, is available at all times to meet the guidelines promulgated by URCA.
- 45.6 The Licensee may provide such reserve capacity itself or may contract some or all of it to any base-load Independent Power Producer and other Generation Licensees with whom a PPA has been signed.
- 45.7 In the event of a Catastrophic Failure the Licensee shall take such actions as may be prudent, in consultation with URCA, to secure adequate replacement capacity.
- 45.8 Except as authorized by URCA in connection with purchases of renewable energy from customer-owned generation for self-supply, the Licensee shall not purchase electricity from any person other than those having a license for generation issued by URCA. The Licensee may not purchase electricity from an IPP or another generation Licensee without a relevant PPA.
- 45.9 Subject to satisfactory inspection of the interconnection by the Inspector and by the Licensee, consumers who generate renewable energy for self-supply may sell energy to the Licensee, and the Licensee may purchase such renewable energy at rates to be proposed by the Licensee and approved by URCA.
- 45.10 The Licensee shall file with URCA, from time to time, its proposals that describe the basis on which, and the rates at which such consumers may sell energy to and purchase energy from the Licensee, which proposals will be subject to URCA's review and approval.
- 45.11 The Licensee shall establish and maintain a register of these consumers, which shall be filed with URCA and which must be updated as URCA may direct from time to time.

46. MERIT ORDER DISPATCH

- 46.1 The Licensee shall dispatch sufficient generating capacity to meet the Electricity Supply System requirements in a prudent manner having regard to various operating conditions including but

not limited to least cost, planned generator maintenance schedules and operating reserves. In this regard, the Licensee shall:

- (a) establish and operate a merit order Electricity Supply System, for Generation Sets that are subject to central dispatch; and
- (b) schedule and issue direct instructions for the dispatch in accordance with the merit order Electricity Supply System, as established, of all available Generation Sets which are required or are agreed to be subject to such scheduling and instructions.

46.2 The Licensee shall provide reports to URCA on its dispatch of generators, including a load duration curve for the peak day in the month, status of plant in service, capacity factor, fuel usage and efficiencies and any other information which URCA shall reasonably request.

47. GRID CODE

47.1 The Licensee must file its existing codes and standards that it will use with URCA within 120 calendar days of the grant of this Licence.

47.2 The Licensee shall have in force at all times and comply with a Grid Code approved by URCA that is consistent with internationally accepted technical standards and which is in accordance with prudent utility practice:

- (a) covering all material technical aspects relating to the operation of its Generation Facilities insofar as they affect the Electricity Supply System, the operation of electric lines and electric plant connected to that Electricity Supply System;
- (b) setting out the rules and procedures which govern the dispatch of generators and maintenance scheduling, taking into consideration various operating considerations, including but not limited to least cost, planned generator maintenance, operating reserves (both on-peak and off-peak), and subject to the terms and conditions of executed PPAs;
- (c) setting out the rules and procedures which provide for safe and secure operation of the Grid, including the conditions under which the Licensee must operate the Grid and under which generators will operate their licensed generating plant, under both normal and abnormal operating conditions; and
- (d) which is designed to ensure:
 - (i) the development, maintenance and operation of an efficient, coordinated and economical Electricity Supply System for the generation of electricity; and
 - (ii) the promotion of the security and efficiency of the Generation Facilities as a whole.

47.3 The Licensee shall, to the extent possible, ensure that other participants (such as IPPs and small-scale Generating Facilities) in the Electricity Supply System also comply with the Grid Code.

47.4 The Grid Code may allow for variations in standards between New Providence and the Family Islands, as well as among the Family Islands. Such differences will consider the distinct operating conditions, equipment, and economic conditions across the Islands of The Bahamas.

- 47.5 Any Grid Code in force at the Commencement Date shall be filed with URCA. Thereafter, the Licensee shall periodically on its own volition or on the request of the URCA, revise the Grid code. URCA will approve or request more information on any proposed revisions within 30 calendar days of the Licensee's application.
- 47.6 The Licensee shall keep URCA informed of the submissions to any review process and of any consequent proposals for revisions, which shall be subject to the review and comment by URCA.
- 47.7 URCA may, following consultation with the Licensee, issue orders suspending the Licensee's obligations to implement or comply with the Grid Code to such extent as may be specified in the directions. URCA will only issue such orders where non-compliance with the Grid Code would not unduly risk the reliability or safety of the Electricity Supply System.
- 47.8 In the event that such a suspension is granted, the Licensee shall take all necessary action to ensure compliance with obligations for which the suspension has been issued as soon thereafter as is practicable and shall immediately notify URCA when it is again in full compliance.
- 47.9 Every five years or less, as determined by URCA, the Licensee will comprehensively review the Grid Code and its implementation in consultation with other Electricity Suppliers or Person as URCA may require. Following such review, the Licensee must send to URCA:
- a) a report on the outcome of such review;
 - b) any proposed revisions to the Code as the Licensee (having regard to the outcome of such review) reasonably thinks fit for the achievement of the objectives of the Code and this Licence; and all written representations or objections received during such review.
- 47.10 URCA will have 90 calendar days from the date of filing to review to approve revisions or request more information.
- 47.11 If URCA requests more information, the Licensee will provide it within 30 calendar days.
- 47.12 URCA will issue a final decision within 30 calendar days of receiving any additional information, and will publish both its decision and the reasons for its decision on its website.
- 47.13 The Licensee must maintain the updated Code on its website, including any revisions as soon as they are approved by URCA.

48. ADDITION AND/OR REPLACEMENT OF GENERATION CAPACITY

- 48.1 The Licensee shall procure adequate generation supply, in terms of required energy, capacity and ancillary services to fully meet the needs of its consumers.

49. RENEWABLE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT AND OPERATIONS

- 49.1 The Licensee shall seek to increase the proportion of renewable energy in accordance with the EA and the Government's energy policies. The Licensee shall abide by section 26 of the EA when procuring utility scale renewable energy generation and section 27 when facilitating residential renewable energy generation.

- 49.2 The Licensee shall develop and implement a Standard Offer Contract (SOC), which shall be subject to approval by URCA and which shall reflect the objectives of Government's policy, to facilitate and encourage the development of residential and small commercial renewable energy generation.
- 49.3 In accordance with section 27 and 28 of the Act and any regulation established by URCA under the Act, the Licensee shall allow renewable Generating Resources to connect to the Grid.
- 49.4 The Licensee shall compensate owners of renewable Generating Resources connected to the Grid according to the feed-in tariff mechanism as set by URCA and revised from time to time in accordance with the process established by URCA.
- 49.5 The Licensee shall submit biannual report to URCA on the number of permits and agreements made with residential, commercial, and Government-owned renewable Generating Resources.
- 49.6 The Licensee shall record and keep updated a registry of approved grid-tied generating resources in accordance with section 27 of the Act and any regulation issued by URCA.

50. LONG TERM PLANNING PROCEDURES AND STANDARDS

- 50.1 The Licensee shall submit to URCA for approval any long-term planning procedures. Such procedures shall set out the methodology which will be used by the Licensee to prepare its expansion plans and shall conform to internationally accepted best industry practice.
- 50.2 The Licensee shall submit any expansion plans to URCA for approval and URCA, when satisfied that a plan represents the least economic costs for Electricity Supply System expansion consistent with internationally accepted best industry practice, shall consult with the Government on the plan and following which URCA shall:
 - (a) approve the plan; or
 - (b) refer the plan to the Licensee for further consideration.
- 50.3 Revisions to the long-term planning procedures may be done by the Licensee at URCA's request or on the Licensee's initiative, which shall be subject to URCA's approval, taking into account developments in internationally accepted best industry practice.

51. PURCHASE OF ELECTRICITY

- 51.1 The Licensee shall purchase electricity only from an Independent Power Producer (IPP), other Generation Licensees, or other types of Generating Facilities approved by URCA. Such IPP or Generation Licensees must be duly licensed by URCA and have a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA), approved by URCA, with the Licensee or the SOC approved by URCA with the Generating Facilities.
- 51.2 The Licensee is obligated to interconnect with an IPP, other Generation Licensee or other Generating Facilities with whom it has a PPA or a SOC unless the Licensee or Generating Facilities in agreement with URCA, and/or Certified Electrical Inspector determine that it is unsafe to do so.

PART G – PRICE CONTROLS MECHANISMS AND TARIFFS

52. TARIFF PRINCIPLES

52.1 URCA shall determine the Licensee’s rates for electric power pursuant to URCA’s powers under the Act as amended from time to time and on the principles set out therein.

53. TARIFF REVIEWS

53.1 URCA shall conduct a tariff review for the Licensee in accordance with the procedure set out under section 20 of the Act.

53.2 The Licensee shall comply with the processes and timelines established by URCA for tariff reviews.

54. SEPARATED ACCOUNTS

54.1 To assist in setting tariffs, the Licensee shall maintain separated accounts for generation, transmission, distribution and supply services.

54.2 If so determined by URCA, the Licensee shall within a specified period by URCA:

- (a) prepare and maintain accounting records in a form that enables the activities of any business unit specified by URCA to be separately identifiable; and
- (b) the accounts shall be maintained according to internationally comparable standards and prepared according to rules approved by URCA.

PART H

55. TRANSITIONAL CONDITION

- 55.1 On the Commencement Date, in order to enable a smooth transition to the full force and effect of this Licence, all rates, tariffs, codes and standards applicable to the Licensee existing and in force prior and up to the grant of this Licence which would normally have effect under the Act shall remain in effect and force until such time as they are logically and practically superseded by the actions taken by URCA under this Licence, the Act or any other relevant law.

Annex B : STANDARD AUTHORISED PUBLIC ELECTRICITY LICENCE (APESL)

NAME OF LICENSEE:

ADDRESS OF LICENSEE:

**AUTHORISED PUBLIC ELECTRICITY SUPPLIER
LICENCE**

Commencement Date: _____, 20____

Licence Number: APESL – _____

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PART A

1. GRANT OF THE LICENCE

- 1.1 The Utilities Regulation and Competition Authority (URCA):
 - (a) having reviewed the approval issued by [BPL or GBPC] in accordance with section 45(1) of the Electricity Act, 2015, and other relevant information for the purpose of granting this Licence;
 - (b) after consultation with [BPL or GBPC] in accordance with section 46(2) of the Electricity Act, 2015; and
 - (c) in exercise of its powers conferred by section 46(1) of the Electricity Act, 2015,

HEREBY GRANTS to [name, description and registered address of Authorised Supplier] and [name, description and registered address of any Subsidiary Undertaking] (hereinafter called the Licensee) an Authorised Public Electricity Supplier Licence authorising the Licensee.

[in the case of a GBPC approved authorised supplier] to operate an Electricity Supply System and generate, transmit, distribute and supply electricity for public and private purposes in the Port Area of Grand Bahama Island subject to the conditions set out in this Licence.

[in the case of a BPL approved authorised supplier] to operate an Electricity Supply System and generate, transmit, distribute and supply electricity for public and private purposes in the Family Island of (name of island) subject to the conditions set out in this Licence.

- 1.2 This Licence shall be cited as the [NAME OF LICENSEE] Authorised Public Electricity Supplier Licence.
- 1.3 This Licence shall come into effect on the [DATE, 20____] (the Commencement Date) and shall continue in full force and effect until termination or expiry unless amended, revoked or terminated pursuant to the terms and conditions set out herein.
- 1.4 The Conditions of this Licence are subject to amendment or modification in accordance with their terms or in accordance with the Electricity Act, 2015.
- 1.5 This Licence shall be governed by and construed, enforced and performed in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas.

Executed and sealed for and on behalf of the Utilities Regulation and Competition Authority on the ____day of [DATE, 20____]

Chief Executive Officer

2. ACCEPTANCE OF TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF LICENCE

2.1 We, _____, the named Licensee hereby accept the terms and conditions of this Licence on our behalf and on behalf of any Subsidiary Undertaking authorised in accordance with section 47 and jointly named above or endorsed below.

SIGNED this _____ day of _____ 20__

Signature _____

[Name of Authorised Officer]

[Title of Authorised Officer]

3. ENDORSEMENT OF AUTHORISED SUBSIDIARIES

3.1 URCA grants this Licence jointly to the following Subsidiary Undertakings of the Licensee named in paragraph 1.1 that have been notified to URCA in accordance with section 47 of the EA: [Name and Description of Subsidiary Undertakings].

3.2 Notwithstanding the inclusion of its name on this Licence, such Subsidiary Undertaking shall cease to be licensed for the purposes of paragraph 1.1 in the following circumstances:

- (a) fourteen days after URCA receives notice in writing from the Named Licensee or the relevant Subsidiary Undertaking excluding the Subsidiary Undertaking from the Licence; or
- (b) immediately subsequent to a determination by URCA excluding the Subsidiary Undertaking from the Licence.

PART B – GENERAL CONDITIONS

4. DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

4.1 In this Licence, except in so far as the context otherwise requires:

“Act” means the Electricity Act, 2015;

"Affiliate" or “affiliated company” includes, in relation to another company, a company that directly or indirectly controls, is control by, or is under common control with, such other company and is considered to be a member of the same group of companies;

“Approving Authority” means BPL or the Grand Bahama Port Authority, Limited as the context requires;

“Authorised Supplier” means the holder of Public Electricity Supplier Licence other than BPL and GBPC;

"Assets" mean the material assets and facilities owned, operated or leased by the Licensee, including real estate and resources of economic value that the Licensee owns or controls with the expectation of future benefit;

“BPL” means the subsidiary company of the Corporation incorporated under the Companies Act pursuant to sections 11 and 12, and include any successor company;

“Capacity” means the electric power (measured in megawatts) supplied or available to be supplied from the Licensee’s Generating Facility to the Grid;

“Catastrophic Failure” means a sudden and unexpected failure of any part of the Electricity Supply System which renders the Electricity Supply System in whole or in part economically or technically unfit to operate;

“Commencement Date” means the prescribed date in the Licence for which the actions and conditions pertaining to the Licence become effective;

“Company” means [NAME OF LICENSEE];

"Companies Act" means the Companies Act, Chapter 308 and any amendments thereto;

“Consumer Protection Plan” has the meaning as specified in Section 40 of the Act;

"Distribution Line” means any electric power line that delivers power to consumers;

"Distribution Electricity Supply System” means the network, including substations, distribution lines, transformers and other apparatus that receives electricity from the transmission Electricity Supply System and delivers it to customers;

“Electrical Inspector” or **“Inspector”** has the same meaning as defined in the Act;

"Electricity Supply System" means the network of electrical components used to generate, transmit, distribute and supply electric power;

"Fair Market Value" means the market value of the Licensee when evaluated as an ongoing business concern including this Licence and all lands, buildings, works, materials, plant and property of all kinds whatsoever suitable to or intended for the purposes of the undertaking and shall be determined in a manner that complies with the term Fair Market Value as defined by the American Society of Appraisers, that is the price, expressed in cash equivalents, at which the Shares would change hands between a hypothetical willing and able buyer and a hypothetical willing and able seller, acting at arm's length in an open unrestricted market when neither is under any compulsion to buy or sell and when both have reasonable knowledge of the relevant facts. Fair market value shall be the average value as determined by a panel of three (3) independent valuation experts, one to be selected by the Minister, one by the Licensee and one, who shall be Chairman of the panel, to be selected by the two other members. In the event that the nominees cannot agree on the selection, the Chairman shall at the written request of the parties, be appointed by URCA;

"Financial Year" means the twelve-month period at the end of which the Licensee's annual accounts are closed;

"Force Majeure" means an event or circumstance which prevents the Licensee from performing its obligations under this Licence, which event or circumstance is not within the reasonable control of, or the result of the negligence of, the Licensee, and which the Licensee is unable to overcome or avoid or cause to be avoided through the exercise of due diligence. Events of Force Majeure may include, but are not limited to, acts of God; fire including fire resulting from an earthquake; flood including flood caused by an earthquake; volcanic eruption; earthquake; hurricane; cyclone; tornado; windstorm; overflow of the sea caused by the elements listed above; war; riots; acts of terrorism; strikes; walkouts; lockouts and other labour disputes; requirements, actions or failure to act on the part of governmental authorities; adoption or change in any law, regulation, statute, rule or regulation imposed by governmental bodies, including, without limitation, a change in the interpretation thereof; or any lawful order by any court or administrative agency (so long as the Licensee has not applied for or assisted in the application for such court or governmental action);

"Force Outage" means any partial or complete interruption of a portion of the Electricity supply system and/or any Generation Facility that is not the result of (i) a Scheduled Outage or (ii) an event or occurrence of Force Majeure;

"Fuel Costs" means the actual cost of fuel, lubricants, and additives used by the Licensee in the generation of electricity;

"Generating Facility/Facilities" means any power plant(s) and associated equipment owned, controlled, or rented by the Licensee and used for the production of electricity pursuant to a Licence issued by URCA;

"Generation Licence" means a Licence granted under the Act authorising a Licensee to carry out the generation of electricity for supply to the Electricity Supply System;

"Generation Licensee" means the holder of a generation Licence granted by URCA under the Act;

"Generation Set" means any plant or apparatus used for the production of electricity;

"Government" means the Government of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas;

"Governmental Authority" means any (a) national, municipal, central or local government, department, central bank, court, council, commission, board, bureau, tribunal, agency or instrumentality of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas or (b) any subdivision, agent, commission, board or authority of any of the foregoing;

"Grid" means

- (c) any BPL power system, inclusive of transmission and distribution, wherever located in The Bahamas;
- (d) the power system, inclusive of transmission and distribution, of any public electricity supplier within The Bahamas other than BPL;

"Grid Code" means the technical specification for the connection and use of the Grid;

"GTDS" means generation, transmission, distribution and supply;

"Guaranteed Service Standards" means the minimum levels of service that the Licensee must meet for every customer;

"Independent Power Producer (IPP)" means a person who –

- (c) is approved by an approving authority or a public electricity supplier, and Licenced by URCA, to generate additional electrical energy to a grid;
- (d) generates additional energy to the grid pursuant to a negotiated power purchase and grid interconnection agreement entered into with the public electricity supplier or with both the public electricity supplier and the approving authority;

"Integrated Resource Plan" has the meaning specified in Condition 20;

"Licensed Business" means the utility business of the Licensee comprising its Generation, Transmission, Distribution and Supply business;

"Licensee" means [Name of Company] and includes any entity exercising step-in rights on a named Licensee;

"Major Outage" means an outage that affects a significant customer base within the geographic area and lasts longer than two (2) hours or any island-wide blackout;

"Minister" means the Minister charged with responsibility for the administration of the Electricity Act, 2015 and the Electricity Rate Reduction Bond Act;

"Net Output" means the amount of electricity that is generated by Generating Facilities that is transmitted and distributed to the Grid;

"Overall Service Standards" are standards that must be achieved on average across quality and service, but do not apply to individual consumers;

"Person" includes—

- (a) the Government or any public body,
- (b) a natural person, corporation, company, trust, partnership;
- (c) an unincorporated association or body;

"Power Purchase Agreement (PPA)" means a contract with an Independent Power Producer for the provision of either electrical energy only or electrical energy and capacity;

"Regulatory Accounts" means the reports on the financial and operating performance of the Licensee in such detail and format as designated by URCA;

"Related Party" shall have the meaning defined under the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS);

"Relevant Turnover" has the meaning specified in the Act;

"Renewable Energy Plan" has the meaning specified in Part V of the Act;

"Scheduled Outage" means a partial or complete interruption of the Electricity Supply System and/or any Generation Facility operation that has been planned and is for inspection, testing, preventative maintenance, corrective maintenance or improvement;

"Service Standards" means Guaranteed Service Standards, Overall Service Standards, Individual Service Standards and other standards in the Consumer Protection Plan;

"Step-in-Event" has the meaning specified in Condition 15;

"Service Territory" means, for the purpose of this Licence, the geographic region which the Licensee is obligated to provide electric service within, into, from and through [in relation to BPL - the Commonwealth of The Bahamas save and except for in the Port Area of Grand Bahama].

[For GBPC - within, into, from and through the Port Area of Grand Bahama]

"Shares" means the issued and outstanding shares of the Licensee.

"Subsidiary" shall have the meaning specified in the Companies Act.

"Subsidiary Undertaking" shall the meaning specified under the Act.

"Transmission Line" means any electric power line that is used for the bulk transfer of electrical energy from generating facilities for delivery to the distribution Electricity Supply System.

"Transmission Electricity Supply System" means the electrical power lines and associated apparatus that are used for the bulk transfer of electrical energy from generating facilities for delivery to the distribution Electricity Supply System.

"URCA Fees" mean the Fees prescribed by URCA pursuant to the Act.

4.2 For the purpose of interpreting the Conditions in this Licence:

4.2.1 except in so far as the context otherwise requires, words or expressions shall have the meaning assigned to them in:

- (a) the Licence, and otherwise;
- (b) the Electricity Act, 2015, and otherwise;
- (c) the URCA Act, and otherwise
- (d) the UAT Act;

4.2.2 for ease of reference, the terms defined in the Electricity Act and in this Licence have been capitalised;

4.2.3 subject to Condition 2.2.1 above, where there is any conflict between the provisions of this Licence and the Electricity Act, 2015, the provisions of the Electricity Act, 2015 shall prevail;

- 4.2.4 references to Conditions, paragraphs, subparagraphs and appendices are to Conditions, paragraphs, subparagraphs of and to the appendices to the Licence, as modified from time to time in accordance with this Licence and the Electricity Act, 2015;
- 4.2.5 a Document will be incorporated into and form part of the Licence if it is referred to in this Licence and a reference to a Document is to a Document as modified from time to time;
- 4.2.6 headings and titles used in this Licence are for reference only and shall not affect its interpretation or construction;
- 4.2.7 references to any law or statutory instrument include any modification re-enactment or legislative provisions substituted for the same;
- 4.2.8 use of the word “include” or “including” is to be construed as being without limitation;
- 4.2.9 expressions cognate with those referred to in this Licence shall be construed accordingly;
- 4.2.10 words importing: (i) the singular only shall include the plural and vice versa; (ii) the whole shall be treated as including a reference to any part; and (iii) any gender shall include all other genders; and

5. ROLE AND DUTIES OF URCA

- 5.1 The Licensee shall be subject to the regulatory supervision of URCA. URCA shall perform its functions and carry out its duties pursuant to the URCA Act, the Act and any other relevant laws, this Licence and have regard to relevant Government policy.
- 5.2 In carrying out its functions URCA shall act proportionately and non-discriminately balancing the interests of consumers with those of the Licensee.

6. NATURE AND SCOPE OF THE LICENCE

- 6.1 This Licence authorizes and gives the Licensee the right to generate, transmit, distribute and supply electricity for sale to the public in the Service Territory and to operate, construct, reconstruct, modify or replace the generation, transmission, distribution and supply facilities for these purposes subject to the Licence conditions, the Act and any other relevant law for the time being in force.
- 6.2 The Licensee has the right to supply for sale electricity to third parties for public and private purposes in the Service Territory for which the Licensee is entitled to bill consumers for the electricity supplied at the rates and charges approved in accordance with the Electricity Act, 2015.
- 6.3 This Licence authorizes and gives the Licensee the right to purchase electricity (capacity and energy) in bulk from Independent Power Producers and other Generation Licensees under Power Purchase Agreements for transmission, distribution, supply and sale in the Service Territory.

7. DURATION AND RENEWAL OF LICENCE

- 7.1 Subject to the provisions herein contained, the duration of this Licence shall be for a period not exceeding twenty-five (25) years from the Commencement Date.
- 7.2 The Licensee may at any time apply for an extension of the duration of this Licence having regard to any approved investment programme and/or the requirements of any PPA entered into by the Licensee with an IPP and other Generation Licensees for a period which extends beyond the remaining life of the Licence.
- 7.3 This Licence shall be renewed by URCA in accordance with the procedure prescribed under section 45 of the Act.

8. CHANGE IN CONTROL

- 8.1 The Licensee shall obtain URCA's written approval of any change in control of the Named Licensee or any Notified Licensee prior to the change in control occurring.
- 8.2 Without limiting URCA's ability and duty to apply the merger control provisions in sections 57 to 62 of the Electricity Act, URCA may object to a change in control if in URCA's view the acquirer would not meet any of the criteria referred to in, or set by URCA pursuant to, section 45(2) of the Electricity Act.

9. ASSIGNMENT OR TRANSFER OF LICENCE

- 9.1 The Licensee shall not, without the prior written consent of URCA, transfer, sub-license, assign or grant any right, interest or entitlement in the Licence to any person or transfer or dispose of any of its assets that are necessary to provide the Licensed Business that the Licensee is obliged to provide under this Licence. Such consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.
- 9.2 URCA shall consent to an application for the assignment or transfer of the Licence where the URCA is satisfied that the proposed assignee or transferee satisfies the criteria set out under section 45(2) of the Act and any other criteria established by URCA pursuant to the electricity sector policy and objectives under the Act.
- 9.3 Should the Licensee wish to assign or transfer the Licence, it shall request, in writing, the consent of URCA and URCA shall reply in writing within sixty (60) calendar days of the receipt of such request informing of its decision on the application.
- 9.4 URCA shall publish its decision regarding a request to assign or transfer the Licence and its decision on its website and in the public media.
- 9.5 Where URCA refuses to give its consent it shall give reasons in writing for such refusal to the Licensee.
- 9.6 The Licensee may apply to URCA for a reconsideration of its decision not to assign or transfer its Licence and may appeal any decision made by URCA to the UAT following any such reconsideration in accordance with Condition 14 herein.

10. AMENDMENT, MODIFICATION AND REVOCATION OF LICENCE

- 10.1 URCA may revoke or modify this Licence in accordance with the procedures set out in section 49 of the Act.

11. COMMUNICATIONS AND NOTICES

- 11.1 Notices, orders and other documents under this Licence may be in writing or in print or in electronic format (permitting confirmation of receipt) and shall, if served on:

(a) URCA be addressed to:

the Chief Executive Officer; and

(b) the Licensee, be addressed to:

the Chief Executive Officer.

- 11.2 Any notice, order or document required or authorized to be served upon a body or person under this Licence may be served by the same being addressed to such body or person and being left at or transmitted by electronic mail or facsimile or by registered post to the address of such body or to the usual or last known place of abode of such person. If served by post it shall be deemed to have been served at the time when the containing letter would be delivered in the ordinary course of post and in proving such service it shall be sufficient to prove that such letter was properly addressed, registered and put into the post. If served by electronic mail or facsimile it shall be deemed to have been served when the electronic mail or facsimile shall have been transmitted by the sender.

- 11.3 Notwithstanding the above, the Licensee shall designate a person that will act as a primary contact with URCA on matters related to this Licence and shall notify URCA promptly should the contact details change.

- 11.4 URCA may designate the Director of Utilities and Energy as the primary contact on matters related to this Licence.

PART C - GENERAL OBLIGATIONS

12. OBLIGATIONS TO COMPLY WITH LAWS, REGULATION AND LICENCE CONDITIONS

- 12.1 The Licensee shall comply with the Act and any other Act of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas that has application to it in the discharge of its performance under this Licence.
- 12.2 The Licensee shall comply with regulatory and other measures including any directive, order, rule, decision or approval issued, made or granted by URCA in accordance with its duties and functions under the Act or this Licence.

13. BREACH OF OBLIGATION TO COMPLY WITH LAWS, REGULATIONS AND LICENCE CONDITIONS

- 13.1 Where URCA has reason to believe that the Licensee has failed to comply with any relevant law, regulation or condition of this Licence, URCA may exercise all such powers and duties as are afforded to or required of it under the Act or any other relevant law and may take all such action as is permitted to it thereunder against either the Licensee or its Subsidiary Undertaking.
- 13.2 The Licensee shall be liable for all the acts and omissions of each of its Subsidiary Undertakings in respect of its obligations under this Licence.
- 13.3 Without prejudice to the Licensee's other obligations under this Licence, where its Subsidiary Undertaking has done something which would if done by the Licensee:
 - (a) be prohibited or not authorised by any relevant law, regulation and condition of this Licence; or
 - (b) require the Licensee to take or refrain from taking a particular action under any relevant law, regulation and condition of this Licence and that no Licensee, including the Subsidiary Undertaking, has met that further requirement,

then, where URCA is not satisfied that the Licensee has taken all reasonable steps to prevent its Subsidiary Undertaking from acting in that manner, URCA may direct the Licensee to take such steps as URCA deems appropriate for the purpose of remedying the matter, including restraining the defaulting Subsidiary Undertaking from carrying on with such activities connected with the Licensed Business as URCA may determine.

14. OBLIGATION TO PERFORM

- 14.1 The Licensee shall provide an adequate, safe and efficient service based on modern standards, to the Service Territory at approved rates so as to meet the electricity demand and to contribute to national economic development.

- 14.2 Subject to the provisions of this Licence and directions of URCA, the Licensee shall ensure that the development of the Electricity Supply System is implemented based on agreed long-term planning procedures and methodologies and that investments are made consistent with such plans and in conformity with prudent utility practice so as to ensure adequacy and continuity of supply at the least economic cost while at the same time ensuring that the Licensee earns a reasonable return on its investment.
- 14.3 Subject to the provisions of this Licence and to the technical and economic constraints regarding access to the Electricity Supply System, the Licensee shall provide access to its transmission and/or distribution Electricity Supply System as appropriate, and interconnection access and service, on a non-discriminatory basis to facilities that it operates on approved requests by IPPs and, where appropriate, other approved transmission Licensees
- 14.4 The Licensee shall, to the extent that it is technically feasible and economically reasonable employ modern and leading edge technological solutions to secure optimal efficiencies in its operations.
- 14.5 The Licensee shall take all reasonable steps to prevent and resolve unplanned interruptions to the provision of its Licensed Business.
- 14.6 The Licensee shall take all reasonably practicable steps to maintain, to the greatest extent possible, the proper and effective functioning of its Generating Facility and Licensed Business provided by it at all times.
- 14.7 The Licensee shall inform URCA about measures taken to resolve unplanned interruptions as required by URCA

15. STEP-IN EVENT

- 15.1 A Step-in Event occurs in the following circumstances:
 - (a) Where the Licensee ceases to operate all, or any substantial part of the Electricity Supply System and/or any Generation Facility for a period of forty-eight (48) consecutive hours (the Initial Period) without the prior written consent of URCA; or
 - (b) URCA revokes or suspends this Licence.
- 15.2 The following are not Step-in Events:
 - (a) Force Majeure; and
 - (b) A Scheduled Outage.
- 15.3 In the case of a Step-in Event, the Approving Authority shall assume of itself or through an agent the functions of the Licensee that are authorised under this Licence.
- 15.4 For the purpose of exercising its powers under Condition 15.3, the Approving Authority may enter, take possession of and operate the Licensee's Electricity Supply System and/or any Generation Facility used in the carrying out of the activities authorised under this Licence.

- 14.5 The Approving Authority may take action in court for recovery of costs and damages incurred by the failure of the Licensee to perform its obligations to the public in accordance with the terms of this Licence.
- 14.6 The Approving Authority shall give up possession of the Licensee's Electricity Supply System and/or any Generation Facility as soon as practicable after URCA advises that the Licensee has demonstrated its capability to resume its functions under this Licence.

16. FORCE MAJEURE

- 16.1 The Licensee shall give notice and details of Force Majeure events to URCA as soon as reasonably practicable. URCA may issue a notice excusing the Licensee from its performance obligations during the period of Force Majeure.

17. EARLY RETIREMENT OF ASSETS

- 17.1 The Licensee shall not retire Assets early that are used for the generation, transmission, distribution or supply of electricity without the prior written approval of URCA. Such approval shall not be unreasonably withheld.
- 17.2 Where such approval is granted, the Licensee shall only recover the net book value of the Assets irrespective of whether:
- (a) the Assets are on the Licensee's books at the Commencement Date of this Licence or are additions to rate base during the term of this Licence; or
 - (b) the retirement results from an economic evaluation, change in government policy or regulatory action.
- 17.3 URCA, in consultation with the Licensee, shall specify the timeline and process for the recovery of Assets.

18. CATASTROPHIC FAILURE

- 18.1 In the event of Catastrophic Failure the Licensee may replace the failing installation or facility with written approval from URCA. Such approval shall not be unreasonably withheld.

19. INSURANCE

- 19.1 The Licensee shall obtain and maintain insurance on terms approved by URCA for:
- (a) Physical damage to the Electricity Supply System;
 - (b) increase in Fuel Costs that result from unplanned fuel consumption due to Forced Outages; and
 - (c) third-party liabilities.

- 19.1 The Licensee must ensure that the insurance policy guarantees the insurer will notify URCA of lapses, cancellation, or changes to the policy 30 days prior to the changes taking effect.
- 19.2 URCA shall notify the Licensee of required modifications to the insurance policy and the Licensee should ensure that such modifications are made no later than 60 days from the notice date, or any date agreed with URCA.
- 19.3 The Licensee may have reduced obligations to maintain insurance policies, if the following alternatives are approved by URCA:
- (a) self-insurance, where the Licensee has the financial capacity to meet any liabilities to a third party; and
 - (b) special tariff factor, applied after a disaster and until Facilities affected are rebuilt and ready to operate.

20. INTEGRATED RESOURCE PLANNING

- 20.1 URCA may from time to time require the Licensee to submit an Integrated Resource Plan that sets out the following:
- (a) expected demand for the Electricity Supply System;
 - (b) proposed generation and energy efficiency resources that the Licensee will deploy to meet demand;
 - (c) load and resource balance covering the Licensee's load forecast, existing resources, and determination of the load and energy positions over a ten- year period; and
 - (d) proposed procurement process to provide these resources.
- 20.2 The Licensee's Integrated Resource Plan shall describe in detail the methodology used and conform to international best practice for Integrated Resource Plans.
- 20.3 URCA may require the Licensee to revise its Integrated Resource Plan from time to time but not more than once every three years.

21. APPEALS TO UAT

- 21.1 Appeals of regulatory or other measures taken by URCA in relation to this Licence shall be made to the Utilities Appeal Tribunal as provided for in the Act and the URCA Act.

22. PAYMENT OF FEES AND CONTRIBUTIONS

- 22.1 The Licensee shall pay to URCA the following fees and contributions as notified by URCA from time to time in accordance with the Act:
- (a) annual URCA Fee pursuant to section 54(2)(d) of the Act;

- (b) the Tribunal Fee payable pursuant to Schedule 3 of the Utilities Appeal Tribunal Act, 2009;
 - (c) Licencing Processing Fees as determined by URCA pursuant to section 54 (2)(b) of the Act, and;
 - (d) any other applicable fees and charges.
- 22.2 For each Financial Year of the Licence, any annual fees payable by the Licensee under section 54(2)(d) of the Act shall be based upon the following accounts in relation to the Licensed Business or, where appropriate, business plan for the Licensee and each of the Subsidiary Undertaking (or, where these are consolidated, the Licensee's consolidated accounts showing the turnover and revenue for the Licensee and each of the Subsidiary Undertakings):
 - (a) the last available audited accounts; or
 - (b) where the audited accounts are not available or those accounts do not include any Relevant Turnover as defined in the Act, accounts certified by an accountant in possession of a practising certificate issued by The Bahamas Institute of Chartered Accountants; or
 - (c) where the Licensee does not have any available accounts certified by an accountant in possession of a practising certificate issued by The Bahamas Institute of Chartered Accountants, the expected Relevant Turnover in the Licensee's business plan.
- 22.3 The annual fees calculated in accordance with Condition 22.2 herein shall be paid in advance on the first day of the Financial Year, with any adjustment due as a result of the audited accounts for that Financial Year becoming available being paid to URCA (or deducted from any other payment due to URCA) on the first day of the next Financial Year.
- 22.4 Without prejudice to Condition 13 herein, in the event of a default by the Licensee in the payment of any fees when due under this Licence:
 - (a) the Licensee shall pay to URCA interest under section 54(5) of the Act; and
 - (b) URCA may revoke this Licence in accordance with Condition 10 herein.
- 22.5.1 Interest on outstanding fees due to URCA under section 54 of the Act is not recoverable in tariffs to customers.

23. REPORTING OBLIGATIONS

- 23.1 The Licensee shall submit its audited financial statements, with certificate of the external auditors, for the Licensed Business and the accompanying annual report (which shall provide together with the current year at least ten years of operating and financial statistics) to URCA as required by URCA having regard to the Licensee's requirements for its annual report and audited financial statements.
- 23.2 URCA may require the Licensee to maintain separate Regulatory Accounts for regulatory reporting and tariff analysis.

- 23.3 The Licensee shall furnish to URCA without undue delay such information, documents and details related to the Licensed Business, as URCA may reasonably require in order for it to fulfil its functions and discharge its obligations under the Act.
- 23.4 The Licensee shall furnish to URCA without undue delay such information, documents and details related to the Licensed Business that have or is likely to have a significant impact its functions assigned to it by or under the Licence and the Act.
- 23.5 The Licensee shall provide a Major Outage Report to URCA within 24 hours of a major outage detailing, to the extent possible, the: (i) cause of outage; (ii) geographic area affected by the outage; (iii) number of customers affected by the outage; (iv) steps taken to restore service to the affected area; and (v) time taken for restoration of service. A Major Outage is defined as one that affects a significant geographic area and lasts longer than two (2) hours or any island-wide blackout.
- 23.6 The Licensee shall provide such other specified and relevant reports to URCA as may be reasonably required from time to time.
- 23.7 The Licensee shall annually prepare and submit to URCA a five-year forecast of projected demand and generation requirements.
- 23.8 The Licensee shall, annually, provide URCA with its capital investment plan and updated five-year capital investment plan.
- 23.9 The Licensee shall, in accordance with good industry practice, maintain and keep all appropriate books, records and accounts in respect of the activities to which this Licence relates including but is not limited to System Average Interruption Duration (SAIDI), the System Average Interruption Frequency Index (SAIFI) and Customer Average Interruption Duration Index (CAIDI) and such other internationally accepted utility industry performance indicators as URCA may direct.

24. ECONOMIC PURCHASING OF GOODS AND SERVICES

- 24.1 The Licensee shall exercise prudence in the purchase or acquisition of goods and services having regard to the quantity, timing and nature of the goods or services required to enable it to discharge its obligations under this Licence.
- 24.2 The Licensee shall, if requested by URCA, submit its procedures for procurement to URCA for consideration.
- 24.3 Nothing in the foregoing shall preclude the Licensee from outsourcing for goods and services through or from a Related Party so long as the Licensee can demonstrate at all times that such procurement is on terms which would obtain if such goods and services were procured competitively.
- 24.4 The Licensee in discharging its responsibility to procure or manage the procurement of goods and services shall follow best commercial practices designed to ensure fairness, transparency and value for money.

25. ENGAGING IN OTHER BUSINESS

- 25.1 The Licensee may engage in other business activities and shall keep separate accounts for its different activities. The Licensee's profits and losses from such other business activities shall not be considered for the purpose of setting tariffs.
- 25.2 At URCA's approval, the Licensee may allow third parties to have access to and use its facilities on an arm's length basis where such access and use allow the Licensee to operate more efficiently.
- 25.3 The leasing or use of the Licensee's Assets is subject to prior written approval by URCA. Such approval shall not be unreasonably withheld.
- 25.4 The Licensee may charge a third party a fee for access and use of its Facilities. Such fee shall be determined on an arm's length commercial basis determined by the value of the access or use.

26. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

- 26.1 In the case of a Related Party, transactions shall be at arm's length and the Licensee shall apply the same tests for economic choice and financial probity as if the related party were an unrelated third party.

27. CONSUMER PROTECTION OBLIGATIONS

- 27.1 The Licensee shall submit to URCA for approval a Consumer Protection Plan within three (3) months of the issuance of this Licence.
- 27.2 The Consumer Protection Plan shall include all of the requirements under section 40(2) of the Act and the Licensee shall from time to time revise its Consumer Protection Plan as required by URCA.
- 27.3 The Licensee shall in any event update its Consumer Protection Plan before each tariff review according to the timeline set by URCA.
- 27.4 Subject only to rights conferred under this Licence, the Licensee shall:
 - (a) comply with any regulatory and other measures including direction or order made by URCA which URCA determines is intended to prevent the abuse of its monopoly position in the provision of the Licensed Business to customers;
 - (b) not take or omit to take any action or otherwise conduct itself in a manner which is intended to have, has or is likely to have the effect of restricting, distorting or preventing competition in the procurement of generation capacity where this has been determined as the appropriate recourse for adding capacity; and
 - (c) comply with any direction issued by URCA for the purpose of preventing any practice or arrangement that has the object or effect of preventing, restricting or distorting such competition or behaviour which URCA determines to be an abuse of its monopoly position.

28. SERVICE STANDARDS

- 28.1 URCA shall set Service Standards based on the Licensee's approved Consumer Protection Plan. These standards shall include Guaranteed Service Standards, Overall Standards and/or other standards approved by URCA. These standards will be set considering the reasonable cost of meeting them, and any trade-offs with affordability.
- 28.2 The Licensee shall provide adequate, safe, and efficient service that meets the Service Standards set by URCA.
- 28.3 Where the Licensee breaches the Guaranteed Service Standards the aggrieved consumer shall be entitled to a compensatory payment. URCA will set the amounts, and the amounts will be published by URCA and the Licensee on their websites.
- 28.4 The Licensee shall inform URCA of any breach of the Overall Service Standards, or of any performance below the agreed level and the steps taken as corrective measures. URCA may impose penalties if the Licensee's performance remains below the agreed levels, despite the implementation of corrective measures.
- 28.5 The Licensee shall collect data on its performance against the Service Standards. Information shall be compiled and submitted to URCA in the Annual and Quarterly reports under this Licence.
- 28.6 Performance against Overall Service Standards shall be considered by URCA in its rate setting and consumer protection determinations.

29. INFORMATION, AUDIT, INSPECTION AND ACCESS OBLIGATIONS

- 29.1 URCA may require:
- (a) an inspection and/or audit of any aspect of the business of the Licensee and the Licensee shall assist or shall procure assistance to URCA as it may reasonably require;
 - (b) the Licensee or any of its Subsidiary Undertakings to provide URCA with such information, documents, accounts, returns, estimates, reports or other information required by URCA in the manner and at the times specified by URCA. URCA may use this information for, but not limited to, purposes of compiling statistics and publishing periodical reviews of the Electricity Sector, and as required or permitted by the Act or other laws or legal process;
 - (c) the Licensee to notify URCA of the details of all Subsidiary Undertakings providing a Licensed Business under this Licence; and
 - (d) the Licensee to permit a person authorised by URCA to carry out such inspection and/or audit;
- 29.2 The Licensee shall establish and maintain a register in accordance with section 27 of the Act and record therein:

- (a) the names of all permit holders and the corresponding renewable energy generating resources and grid interconnection agreements, as well as specifications of the generating, including the following:
 - (i) unit name and number;
 - (ii) technology;
 - (iii) capacity;
 - (iv) net output;
 - (v) in-service date; and
 - (vi) estimated retirement date.
- 29.3 The Licensee shall maintain the data necessary to measure service and other electricity sector standards regulated by URCA and shall update this information annually or as required by URCA.
- 29.4 The Licensee shall at the request of URCA furnish URCA, at the Licensee's expense, with copies (in such format as URCA may specify) of any book, register, record or accounts as URCA may reasonably require.

30. GENERAL PERFORMANCE STANDARDS OBLIGATIONS

- 30.1 The Licensee will report on its performance against all standards as reasonably required by URCA from time to time.
- 30.2 Having regard to any written representations received by URCA or upon its own motion, after giving the Licensee an opportunity to present its own perspective on the same, for reasons recorded in writing URCA may require the Licensee to revise Generation Performance, Transmission and Distribution, Electricity Supply (Retail), System Planning, Reliability, and Operating Standards and the Licensee shall comply with the directions of URCA.
- 30.3 Standards may be reviewed at any time, whether initiated by the Licensee or URCA.

31. USE OF APPROPRIATE STAFF

- 31.1 The Licensee shall, in connection with the conduct of its business of generating, transmitting, distributing and supplying electricity under the Licence, ensure that its employees are appropriately trained and qualified.

32. OUTSOURCING

- 32.1 The Licensee may utilize the services of third parties on an ongoing basis in the provision of Generation and/or Transmission and Distribution (including supply) services. Procurement of such outsourced services shall be subject to URCA approval if they represent core and ongoing Generation and/or Transmission and Distribution (including supply) functions.

32.2 An approval granted by URCA shall be based on the cost effectiveness of the outsourced services, benefits to the economy of The Bahamas overall, to consumers in general and the fitness and propriety of the relevant third parties and shall not be unreasonably withheld.

PART D – SPECIAL PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION

33. DUTIES OF THE LICENSEE

- 33.1 The Licensee shall develop and maintain an efficient, coordinated and economical Electricity Supply System of electricity transmission and distribution in the Service Territory.
- 33.2 Subject to the provisions of this Licence and to the technical and economic constraints regarding access to the Electricity Supply System, the Licensee shall provide access to its transmission and/or distribution Electricity Supply System as appropriate, and interconnection access and service, on a non-discriminatory basis to facilities that it operates on requests by IPPs, other Generation Licensees, and, where appropriate, other transmission Licensees.
- 33.3 Any dispute as to the terms and conditions on which such transactions take place may be determined by URCA.
- 33.4 The Licensee shall have no obligation to connect IPPs, or other Generation Licensees; until after the parties have agreed that the installation and commissioning have been completed to the satisfaction of both parties. Where there is disagreement either party may apply to URCA to determine the issue.

34. TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION STANDARDS

- 34.1 The Licensee shall design, build, operate and maintain the Electricity Supply System for the transmission and distribution of electricity in accordance with the latest revisions of the Standards issued by recognised international standards institutions such as the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), International Electro-technical Commission (IEC); the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE); the American National Standards Institute (ANSI); the Canadian Standards Association (CSA) and the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET).
- 34.2 The Licensee shall propose standards to URCA for its consideration.
- 34.3 When requested by URCA, the Licensee shall file with URCA a schedule of the applicable standards that relate to its transmission and distribution operations along with the references in soft copy.
- 34.4 URCA shall review, approve, modify or amend such standards as necessary.

35. TECHNICAL SERVICE LEVELS (TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION)

- 35.1 The Licensee shall design, build, operate and maintain the Electricity Supply System for the transmission and distribution of electricity so as to achieve service levels in line with applicable industry best practice for similar Electricity Supply Systems and such other benchmarks as URCA, after consultation with the Licensee, may direct from time to time.

- 35.2 Without limiting the requirements of Condition 35.1, when requested by URCA the Licensee shall submit to URCA a plan setting out its strategy for achieving the target service levels that will have been established in accordance with Condition 35.1.
- 35.3 URCA may direct the Licensee to update and resubmit the plans from time to time.
- 35.4 URCA may direct the Licensee as to matters to be included in the plans and may amend or replace such direction from time to time.
- 35.5 The service level targets and the plans submitted by the Licensee or any revisions thereof, once approved by URCA, shall form part of this Licence as a Condition.
- 35.6 The Licensee shall provide URCA with a written report on its achievements under the plans as requested by URCA.
- 35.7 The Licensee shall comply with any directions issued by URCA from time to time, regarding any other quality of service indicators and measurement methods for the transmission distribution and supply business and shall, as and when required by URCA, supply to URCA the results of its measurements of actual performance against any quality of service indicators and measurements so specified.
- 35.8 URCA may publish or require publication of such information as it considers appropriate.

36. DEVELOPMENT OF AND COMPLIANCE WITH TECHNICAL AND OPERATIONAL CODES

- 36.1 The Licensee shall, in consultation with any other Licensee liable to be materially affected thereby and such other persons as URCA shall consider appropriate, develop and implement, at the request of URCA, such technical and operational codes as URCA may, from time to time, direct.
- 36.2 The Licensee shall, in consultation with any other Licensee liable to be materially affected thereby and such other persons as URCA shall consider appropriate, periodically review (including at the request of URCA) such technical and operational codes as are developed and implemented by the Licensee pursuant to Condition 36.1.
- 36.3 Following the development of any technical and operational codes pursuant to this Condition 36 and the review of any such codes, the Licensee shall send to URCA:
 - (a) a report on the outcome of any consultation and of the review as the case may be; and
 - (b) any proposed revisions to any such code from time to time as the Licensee (having regard to the outcome of any consultation or review) reasonably thinks necessary; and
 - (c) any written representations or objections from any Licensee arising during the consultation process and not withdrawn.
- 36.4 Having considered the information provided pursuant to Condition 36.3 and such other relevant information, URCA may direct the Licensee to change any technical and operational codes developed pursuant to Condition 36.1 and the Licensee shall comply with such directions.

- 36.5 The Licensee shall give or send a copy of all approved technical and operational codes (and any revisions thereto) developed and implemented by the Licensee pursuant to this Condition 36 to URCA and at the same time the Licensee shall make this information available generally by way of publication on the Licensee's website.
- 36.6 The Licensee shall comply with the provisions of any approved technical and operational codes insofar as applicable to it.
- 36.7 URCA may, following consultation in relevant circumstances with any Licensee liable to be materially affected thereby and such other Licensees and other parties as URCA shall consider appropriate, issue directions relieving the Licensee of its obligation under Condition 36.6 in respect of such part or parts of any approved technical and operational codes to such extent as may be specified in those directions.

PART E – SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR SUPPLY

37. DUTIES OF THE LICENSEE

- 37.1 The Licensee shall design, build, operate and maintain an efficient coordinated and economical Electricity Supply System in the Service Territory.
- 37.2 The Licensee shall at all times during the term of this Licence or any extension thereof furnish and maintain a supply of electricity for public and private use in accordance with reasonable standards of safety and dependability as understood in the electricity supply business.
- 37.3 The Licensee has a duty to connect any person desiring to obtain electric service that enters or is qualified to enter into an agreement with the Licensee in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

38. DUTY TO SECURE LONG TERM ELECTRICITY SUPPLY SYSTEM SECURITY AND RELIABILITY

- 38.1 Subject to the provisions of this Licence and directions of URCA, the Licensee shall ensure that the development of the Electricity Supply System is implemented based on agreed long-term planning procedures and methodologies and that investments are made consistent with such plans and in conformity with prudent utility practice so as to ensure adequacy and continuity of supply at the least economic cost at the same time ensuring that the Licensee earns a reasonable return on its investment.
- 38.2 The Licensee shall plan and operate its transmission and distribution Electricity Supply System to ensure that subject to the availability of adequate power of appropriate quality, the Electricity Supply System is capable of providing consumers with a safe, reliable and efficient supply of electricity.
- 38.3 In developing the Electricity Supply System plans, URCA and the Licensee shall have regard to the Government's energy and electricity policies as the case may be.
- 38.4 The Licensee shall not, without the prior written consent of URCA, permanently close, retire or cease operating any Generation Set.

39. TECHNICAL SERVICE LEVELS (SUPPLY)

- 39.1 The Licensee shall submit to URCA a plan setting out its strategy for achieving the service levels in line with international best practice and such other benchmarks as URCA after consultation with the Licensee, may direct from time to time.
- 39.2 URCA may direct the Licensee to update and resubmit the plans from time to time.

- 39.3 URCA may direct the Licensee as to matters to be included in the plans and may amend or replace such direction from time to time.
- 39.4 The service level targets and the plans submitted by the Licensee or any revisions thereof, once approved by URCA, shall form part of this Licence as a Condition and the Licensee shall be deemed to be in breach of its Licence if the target levels are not achieved.
- 39.5 Upon request the Licensee shall provide URCA with a written report on its achievements under the plans, as set out in Condition 39.2.
- 39.6 The Licensee shall comply with any directions issued by URCA from time to time, regarding any other quality of service indicators and measurement methods for the supply business and shall, as and when required, supply to URCA the results of its measurements of actual performance against any quality of service indicators and measurements so specified.
- 39.7 URCA may publish or require publication of such information as it considers appropriate.

40. STANDARDS

- 40.1 Upon request, the Licensee shall file with URCA a schedule of the applicable standards that relate to its supply operations along with the references.

41. SECURITY AND SAFETY SUPPLY

- 41.1 The Licensee shall make arrangements to keep each of its customers informed of the postal and email address, website address and telephone number of an enquiry service established and operated for the purposes of receiving reports from any person about any matter or incident that:
- (a) causes danger or requires urgent attention, or is likely to cause danger or require urgent attention, in relation to the supply of electricity; or
 - (b) affects or is likely to affect the security, availability or quality of service of the Licensee's Electricity Supply System through which the relevant customer is supplied with electricity.
- 41.2 The enquiry service referred to at Condition 41.1 must be:
- (a) available to receive and process telephone reports and enquiries at all times on every day of each year; and
 - (b) operational on the Commencement Date of this Licence.
- 41.3 The Licensee may discharge the duty imposed by Condition 41.1 by providing the requisite information to each of its customers on the occasion of the customer first commencing to take a supply from the Licensee and thereafter:
- (a) either:
 - (i) where bills or statements in respect of charges for the supply of electricity are rendered to the customer, on a quarterly basis (it being sufficient that the information is included on or with any bill or statement); or

- (ii) in any other case, on an annual basis; or
- (b) by publishing such information on its web site and in such other manner as will, in the opinion of the Licensee, secure adequate publicity for it.

42. PREPARATION, REVIEW OF AND COMPLIANCE WITH CODES OF PRACTICE

- 42.1 Upon request by URCA the Licensee shall prepare codes of practice setting out the principles and procedures the Licensee will follow in respect of the requirements of the Act and the various matters that affect customers.
- 42.2 Notwithstanding Condition 42.1, the Licensee may issue codes of practice on its own volition.
- 42.3 The Licensee may review a code and the manner in which it has been operated with a view to determining whether any modification should be made to that code or to the manner of its operation, and shall do so on its own volition or whenever directed to by URCA.
- 42.4 Pursuant to the review undertaken under Condition 42.3, URCA may, after consultation with the Licensee, approve any amendments or modifications (including deletions) to a code. In addition URCA may issue directions to the Licensee to provide information to URCA or to notify URCA of matters affecting the Licensee's customers where such matters are relevant to the issues addressed by the codes.
- 42.5 The Licensee shall:
 - (a) as soon as practicable following the preparation of a code or any revision made to it, send to URCA a copy of the code or such revision in the form approved by URCA;
 - (b) draw to the attention of its customers the existence of the codes and each substantive revision of each of them and how they may inspect or obtain a copy of the codes in their latest form;
 - (c) make a copy of the codes available for inspection by members of the public at each of the Licensees relevant premises during normal opening hours;
 - (d) give or send, at a reasonable charge, a copy of the codes (as from time to time revised) to any person who requests it.
- 42.6 Subject to Condition 42.8, the Licensee shall ensure that it complies with the terms of and the arrangements or procedures (as the case may be) as are contained in or described by each code to which this Condition applies or any revision to such codes approved by URCA
- 42.7 The Licensee shall provide URCA with all assistance reasonably necessary to enable URCA to monitor the implementation and operation of any code and this assistance shall include permitting URCA access to relevant documentation held by the Licensee.
- 42.8 URCA may (following consultation with the Licensee and such other parties as URCA deems necessary) issue directions relieving the Licensee of any of its obligations under this Condition 42 to such an extent as may be specified in those directions and subject to such terms and conditions as URCA thinks fit.

- 42.9 In this Condition "relevant premises" means any premises of or occupied by the Licensee or any associated company or related undertaking of the Licensee open to customers in the normal course of the Licensee's business.

43. JOINT USE OF POLES

- 43.1 The Licensee may enter into any arrangement or contract for the joint use of poles with other Licensees under the Act or any other relevant law so long as such use shall not contravene any other law or violate any safety code or, in the sole opinion of the Licensee, provide an unsafe working condition for the Licensee's employees. Such arrangements or contracts must be filed with URCA upon request.
- 43.2 The Licensee shall publish a code of practice for use by other Licensees setting out the procedures that are in place for management of these joint-pole arrangements and the standards for use of its poles by these companies.
- 43.3 A copy of the code of practice, along with the scale of charges that may be in effect for the time being must be deposited with URCA as requested by URCA.
- 43.4 The prices which the other Licensees are charged by the Licensee for attachments to its poles shall be fair and reasonable.

PART F – SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR GENERATION

44. DUTIES AS ELECTRICITY SUPPLY SYSTEM OPERATOR

- 44.1 The Licensee shall dispatch sufficient generating capacity to meet Electricity Supply System requirements in a prudent manner taking into consideration various operating considerations, including but not limited to least-cost, planned and forced generator maintenance schedules and operating reserves (both on-peak and off-peak) and subject to the terms and conditions of any PPAs.
- 44.2 The Licensee shall as far as is practicable and safe dispatch available generation in such a manner that the energy produced and dispatched is at the least cost.
- 44.3 The Licensee may purchase some or all of its energy and/or capacity requirements from Independent Power Producers (IPPS) and other Generation Licensees pursuant to relevant PPAs.
- 44.4 The Licensee may purchase the electricity output from renewable or alternate energy sources on an energy only or capacity and energy basis as appropriate in accordance with the procedures agreed with or established by URCA and subject to relevant PPAs.
- 44.5 The Licensee shall ensure that adequate reserve generating capacity, both spinning and cold standby, is available at all times to meet the guidelines promulgated by URCA.
- 44.6 The Licensee may provide such reserve capacity itself or may contract some or all of it to any base-load Independent Power Producer with whom a PPA has been signed.
- 44.7 In the event of a Catastrophic Failure the Licensee shall take such actions as may be prudent, in consultation with URCA, to secure adequate replacement capacity.
- 44.8 Except as authorized by URCA in connection with purchases of renewable energy from customer-owned generation for self-supply, the Licensee shall not purchase electricity from any person other than an IPP, or other Generation Licensees, and may not purchase electricity from an IPP, or other Generation Licensees, except in accordance with the relevant PPA.
- 44.9 Subject to satisfactory inspection of the interconnection by the Inspector and by the Licensee, consumers who generate renewable energy for self-supply may sell energy to the Licensee, and the Licensee may purchase such renewable energy at rates to be proposed by the Licensee and approved by URCA.
- 44.10 The Licensee shall file with URCA, from time to time, its proposals that describe the basis on which, and the rates at which such consumers may sell energy to and purchase energy from the Licensee, which proposals will be subject to URCA's review and approval.
- 44.11 The Licensee shall establish and maintain a register of these consumers, which shall be filed with URCA and which must be updated as URCA may direct from time to time.

45. MERIT ORDER DISPATCH

- 45.1 The Licensee shall dispatch sufficient generating capacity to meet the Electricity Supply System requirements in a prudent manner having regard to various operating conditions including but

not limited to least cost, planned generator maintenance schedules and operating reserves. In this regard, the Licensee shall:

- (a) establish and operate a merit order Electricity Supply System, for Generation Sets that are subject to central dispatch; and
- (b) schedule and issue direct instructions for the dispatch in accordance with the merit order Electricity Supply System, as established, of all available Generation Sets which are required or are agreed to be subject to such scheduling and instructions.

45.2 The Licensee shall provide reports to URCA on its dispatch of Generators, including a load duration curve for the peak day in the month, status of plant in service, capacity factor, fuel usage and efficiencies and any other information which URCA shall reasonably request.

46. GRID CODE

45.3 The Licensee shall comply with the Grid Code established by the Approving Authority and approved by URCA. URCA may, on reasonable grounds and at the request of the Licensee, issue an order to relieve the Licensee of its obligation to comply with the Grid Code to the extent that it does not adversely affect the safety, reliability and quality of the service.

47. ADDITION AND/OR REPLACEMENT OF GENERATION CAPACITY

47.1 The Licensee shall procure adequate generation supply, in terms of required energy, capacity and ancillary services to fully meet the needs of its consumers.

48. RENEWABLE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT AND OPERATIONS

48.1 The Licensee shall seek to increase the proportion of renewable energy in accordance with the EA and the Government's energy policies. The Licensee shall abide by section 26 of the EA when procuring utility scale renewable energy generation and section 27 when facilitating residential renewable energy generation

48.2 The Licensee shall develop and implement a Standard Offer Contract (SOC), which shall be subject to approval by URCA and which shall reflect the objectives of Government's policy, to facilitate and encourage the development of renewable energy supply at the customer level.

48.3 In accordance with section 27 and 28 of the Act and any regulation established by URCA under the Act, the Licensee shall allow renewable Generating Resources to connect to the Grid.

48.4 The Licensee shall compensate owners of renewable Generating Resources connected to the Grid according to the feed-in tariff set by URCA and revised from time to time in accordance with the process established by URCA.

48.5 The Licensee shall submit biannual report to URCA on the number of permits and agreements made with residential, commercial and Government-owned renewable Generating Resources.

- 48.6 The Licensee shall record and keep updated a registry of approved grid-tied generating resources in accordance with section 27 of the Act and any regulation issued by URCA.

49. LONG TERM PLANNING PROCEDURES AND STANDARDS

- 49.1 The Licensee shall submit to URCA for approval any long-term planning procedures. Such procedures shall set out the methodology which will be used by the Licensee to prepare its expansion plans and shall conform to internationally accepted best industry practice.
- 49.2 The Licensee shall submit any expansion plans to URCA for approval and URCA, when satisfied that a plan represents the least economic costs for Electricity Supply System expansion consistent with internationally accepted best industry practice, shall consult with the Government on the plan and following which URCA shall:
- (c) approve the plan; or
 - (d) refer the plan to the Licensee for further consideration.
- 49.3 Revisions to the long-term planning procedures may be done by the Licensee at URCA's request or on the Licensee's initiative, which shall be subject to URCA's approval, taking into account developments in internationally accepted best industry practice.

50. PURCHASE OF ELECTRICITY

- 50.1 The Licensee shall only purchase electricity from an Independent Power Producer (IPP) or from other types of Generation Licensees approved by URCA. Such IPP or other Generation Licensees must be duly licensed by URCA and have a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) approved by URCA with the Licensee.
- 50.2 The Licensee is obligated to interconnect with an IPP or other Generation Licensee with whom it has a PPA unless the Licensee in agreement with URCA determines that it is unsafe to do so.

PART G – PRICE CONTROLS MECHANISMS AND TARIFFS

51. TARIFF PRINCIPLES

51.1 URCA shall determine the Licensee’s rates for electric power pursuant to URCA’s powers under the Act as amended from time to time and on the principles set out therein.

52. TARIFF REVIEWS

52.1 URCA shall conduct a tariff review for the Licensee in accordance with the procedure set out under section 20 of the Act.

52.2 The Licensee shall comply with the processes and timelines established by URCA for tariff reviews.

53. SEPARATED ACCOUNTS

53.1 To assist in setting tariffs, the Licensee shall maintain separated accounts for generation, transmission, distribution and supply services.

- 53.2 If so determined by URCA, the Licensee shall within a specified period by URCA:
- (a) prepare and maintain accounting records in a form that enables the activities of any business unit specified by URCA to be separately identifiable; and
 - (b) the accounts shall be maintained according to internationally comparable standards and prepared according to rules approved by URCA.

PART H

54. TRANSITIONAL CONDITION

- 54.1 On the Commencement Date, in order to enable a smooth transition to the full force and effect of this Licence, all rates, tariffs, codes and standards applicable to the Licensee existing and in force prior and up to the grant of this Licence which would normally have effect under the Act shall remain in effect and force until such time as they are logically and practically superseded by the actions taken by URCA under this Licence, the Act or any other relevant law.

Annex C : STANDARD INDEPENDENT POWER PRODUCERS LICENCE (IPPL)

NAME OF LICENSEE:

ADDRESS OF LICENSEE:

INDEPENDENT POWER PRODUCER LICENCE

Commencement Date: _____, 20_____

Licence Number: IPPL – _____

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PART A

1. GRANT OF THE LICENCE

- 1.1 The Utilities Regulation and Competition Authority (URCA):
 - (a) having reviewed the approval issued by [name of Relevant Public Electricity Supplier] in accordance with section 45(1) of the Electricity Act, 2015, and other relevant information for the purpose of granting this Licence;
 - (b) having also reviewed in accordance with section 26(6) of the Electricity Act the negotiated power purchase and grid interconnection agreement made with [name of Relevant Public Electricity Supplier];
 - (c) after consultation with [name of Relevant Public Electricity Supplier] in accordance with section 46(2) of the Electricity Act, 2015; and
 - (d) in exercise of its powers conferred by Section 46(1) of the Electricity Act, 2015,

HEREBY GRANTS to [name, description and registered address of Independent Power Producer] and [name, description, and registered address of any Subsidiary Undertaking] (hereinafter called the Licensee) an Independent Power Producer Licence authorising the Licensee to generate electricity to [state relevant Grid to which electricity is to be supplied] on the terms and conditions set out in this Licence.

- 1.2 This Licence shall be cited as the [NAME OF LICENSEE] Independent Power Producer Licence
- 1.3 This Licence shall come into effect on the [DATE, 20__] (the Commencement Date) and shall continue in full force and effect until termination or expiry unless amended, revoked or terminated pursuant to the terms and conditions set out herein.
- 1.4 The Conditions of this Licence are subject to amendment or modification in accordance with their terms or in accordance with the Electricity Act, 2015.
- 1.5 This Licence shall be governed by and construed, enforced and performed in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas.

Executed and sealed for and on behalf of the Utilities Regulation and Competition Authority on the ___day of [DATE, 20__]

Chief Executive Officer

2. ACCEPTANCE OF TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF LICENCE

2.1 We, _____, the named Licensee hereby accept the terms and conditions of this Licence.

SIGNED this _____ day of _____ 20_____

Signature _____

[Name of Authorised Officer]

[Title of Authorised Officer]

3. ENDORSEMENT OF AUTHORISED SUBSIDIARIES

3.1 URCA grants this Licence jointly to the following Subsidiary Undertakings of the Licensee named in paragraph 1.1 that have been notified to URCA in accordance with section 47 of the EA: [name and description of Subsidiary Undertakings].

3.2 Notwithstanding the inclusion of its name on this Licence, such Subsidiary Undertaking shall cease to be licensed for the purposes of paragraph 1.1 in the following circumstances:

- (a) fourteen days after URCA receives notice in writing from the named Licensee or the relevant Subsidiary Undertaking excluding the Subsidiary Undertaking from the Licence; or
- (b) immediately subsequent to a determination by URCA excluding the Subsidiary Undertaking from the Licence.

PART B – GENERAL CONDITIONS

4. DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

4.1 In this Licence, except in so far as the context otherwise requires:

“Act” means the Electricity Act, 2015;

“Affiliate” or **“affiliated company”** includes, in relation to another company, a company that directly or indirectly controls, is control by, or is under common control with, such other company and is considered to be a member of the same group of companies;

“Approving Authority” means BPL or the Grand Bahama Port Authority, Limited as the context requires;

“Authorised Generating Facilities” means the Licensee’s generating facilities as set out in the Appendix to this Licence;

“Authorised Supplier” means the holder of Public Electricity Supplier Licence other than BPL and GBPC;

“Capacity” means the electric power (measured in megawatts) supplied or available to be supplied from the Licensee’s Generating Facility to the Grid;

“Catastrophic Failure” means a sudden and unexpected failure of any part of the Electricity Supply System which renders the Electricity Supply System in whole or in part economically or technically unfit to operate;

“Commencement Date” means the prescribed date in the Licence for which the actions and conditions pertaining to the Licence become effective;

“Company” means [NAME OF LICENSEE];

“Companies Act” means the Companies Act, Chapter 308 and any amendments thereto;

“Financial Year” means the twelve-month period at the end of which the Licensee’s annual accounts are closed;

“Force Majeure” means an event or circumstance which prevents the Licensee from performing its obligations under this Licence, which event or circumstance is not within the reasonable control of, or the result of the negligence of, the Licensee, and which the Licensee is unable to overcome or avoid or cause to be avoided through the exercise of due diligence. Events of Force Majeure may include, but are not limited to, acts of God; fire including fire resulting from an earthquake; flood including flood caused by an earthquake; volcanic eruption; earthquake; hurricane; cyclone; tornado; windstorm; overflow of the sea caused by the elements listed above; war; riots; acts of terrorism; strikes; walkouts; lockouts and other labour disputes; requirements, actions or failure to act on the part of governmental authorities; adoption or change in any law, regulation, statute, rule or regulation imposed by governmental bodies, including, without limitation, a change in the interpretation thereof; or any lawful order by any court or

administrative agency (so long as the Licensee has not applied for or assisted in the application for such court or governmental action);

"Fuel Costs" means the actual cost of fuel, lubricants, and additives used by the Licensee in the generation of electricity;

"Generating Facility/Facilities" means any power plant(s) and associated equipment owned, controlled, or rented by the Licensee and used for the production of electricity pursuant to a Licence issued by URCA;

"Generation Licence" means a Licence granted under the Act authorising a Licensee to carry out the generation of electricity for supply to the Electricity Supply System;

"Generation Licensee" means the holder of a generation Licence granted by URCA under the Act;

"Generation Set" means any plant or apparatus used for the production of electricity;

"Government" means the Government of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas;

"Grid" means

- (a) any BPL power system, inclusive of transmission and distribution, wherever located in The Bahamas;
- (b) the power system, inclusive of transmission and distribution, of any public electricity supplier within The Bahamas other than BPL;

"Grid Code" means the technical specification for the connection and use of the Grid;

"Independent Power Producer (IPP)" means a person who –

- (a) is approved by an approving authority or a public electricity supplier, and Licenced by URCA, to generate additional electrical energy to a grid;
- (b) generates additional energy to the grid pursuant to a negotiated power purchase and grid interconnection agreement entered into with the public electricity supplier or with both the public electricity supplier and the approving authority;

"Licensed Business" means the utility business of the Licensee comprising its electricity generation business;

"Licensee" means [Name of Company] and includes any entity exercising step-in rights on a named Licensee;

"Person" includes

- (d) the Government or any public body;
- (e) a natural person, corporation, company, trust, partnership;
- (f) an unincorporated association or body;

"Power Purchase Agreement (PPA)" means a contract with an Independent Power Producer for the provision of either electrical energy only or electrical energy and capacity;

"Regulatory Accounts" means the reports on the financial and operating performance of the Licensee in such detail and format as designated by URCA;

“Relevant Public Electricity Supplier” means the Public Electricity Supplier mentioned in Condition 1.1;

“Step-in-Event” has the meaning specified in Condition 14;

“Subsidiary” shall have the meaning specified in the Companies Act.

“Subsidiary Undertaking” shall have the meaning specified under the Act.

4.2 For the purpose of interpreting the Conditions in this Licence:

4.2.1 except in so far as the context otherwise requires, words or expressions shall have the meaning assigned to them in:

- (a) the Licence, and otherwise;
- (b) the Electricity Act, 2015, and otherwise;
- (c) the URCA Act, and otherwise;
- (d) the UAT Act;

4.2.2 for ease of reference, terms defined in the Electricity Act and in this Licence have been capitalised;

4.2.3 subject to Condition 2.2.1 above, where there is any conflict between the provisions of this Licence and the Electricity Act, 2015, the provisions of the Electricity Act, 2015 shall prevail;

4.2.4 references to Conditions, paragraphs, subparagraphs and appendices are to Conditions, paragraphs, subparagraphs of and to the appendices to the Licence, as modified from time to time in accordance with this Licence and the Electricity Act, 2015;

4.2.5 a Document will be incorporated into and form part of the Licence if it is referred to in this Licence and a reference to a Document is to a Document as modified from time to time;

4.2.6 headings and titles used in this Licence are for reference only and shall not affect its interpretation or construction;

4.2.7 references to any law or statutory instrument include any modification re-enactment or legislative provisions substituted for the same;

4.2.8 use of the word “include” or “including” is to be construed as being without limitation;

4.2.9 expressions cognate with those referred to in this Licence shall be construed accordingly;

4.2.10 words importing: (i) the singular only shall include the plural and vice versa; (ii) the whole shall be treated as including a reference to any part; and (iii) any gender shall include all other genders; and

5. ROLE AND DUTIES OF URCA

5.1 The Licensee shall be subject to the regulatory supervision of URCA. URCA shall perform its functions and carry out its duties pursuant to the URCA Act, the Act and any other relevant laws, this Licence and have regard to relevant Government policy.

- 5.2 In carrying out its functions URCA shall act proportionately and non-discriminately balancing the interests of consumers with those of the Licensee.

6. NATURE AND SCOPE OF THE LICENCE

- 6.1 This Licence authorizes and gives the Licensee the right to generate electricity for sale to [relevant Grid to which electricity is to be supplied] subject to the Licence conditions, the Act and any other relevant law for the time being in force.

7. DURATION AND RENEWAL OF LICENCE

- 7.1 Subject to the provisions herein contained, the duration of this Licence shall be for a period not exceeding Fifteen (15) years from the Commencement Date.
- 7.2 The Licensee may at any time apply for an extension of the duration of this Licence having regard to any approved investment programme and/or the requirements of any PPA entered into by the Licensee for a period which extends beyond the remaining life of the Licence.
- 7.3 This Licence shall be renewed by URCA in accordance with the procedure prescribed under section 45 of the Act.

8. CHANGE IN CONTROL

- 8.1 The Licensee shall obtain URCA's written approval of any change in control of the Named Licensee or any Notified Licensee prior to the change in control occurring.
- 8.2 Without limiting URCA's ability and duty to apply the merger control provisions in sections 57 to 62 of the Electricity Act, URCA may object to a change in control if in URCA's view the acquirer would not meet any of the criteria referred to in, or set by URCA pursuant to, section 45(2) of the Electricity Act.

9. ASSIGNMENT OR TRANSFER OF LICENCE

- 9.1 The Licensee shall not, without the prior written consent of URCA, transfer, sub-license, assign or grant any right, interest or entitlement in the Licence to any person or transfer or dispose of any of its assets that are necessary to provide the Licensed Business that the Licensee is obliged to provide under this Licence. Such consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.
- 9.2 URCA shall consent to an application for the assignment or transfer of the Licence where URCA is satisfied that the proposed assignee or transferee satisfies the criteria set out under section 45(2) of the Act and any other criteria established by URCA pursuant to the electricity sector policy and objectives under the Act.

- 9.3 Should the Licensee wish to assign or transfer the Licence, it shall request, in writing, the consent of URCA and URCA shall reply in writing within sixty (60) calendar days of the receipt of such request informing of its decision on the application.
- 9.4 URCA shall publish its decision regarding a request to assign or transfer the Licence and its decision on its website and in the public media.
- 9.5 Where URCA refuses to give its consent it shall give reasons in writing for such refusal to the Licensee.
- 9.6 The Licensee may apply to URCA for a reconsideration of its decision not to assign or transfer its Licence and may appeal any decision made by URCA to the UAT following any such reconsideration in accordance with Condition 19 herein.

10. AMENDMENT, MODIFICATION AND REVOCATION OF LICENCE

- 10.1 URCA may revoke or modify this Licence in accordance with the procedures set out in Section 49 of the Act.

11. COMMUNICATION NOTICES

- 11.1.1 Notices, orders and other documents under this Licence may be in writing or in print or in electronic format (permitting confirmation of receipt) and shall, if served on:
- (a) URCA be addressed to:
 - the Chief Executive Officer; and
 - (b) the Licensee, be addressed to:
 - the Chief Executive Officer.
- 11.2 Any notice, order or document required or authorized to be served upon a body or person under this Licence may be served by the same being addressed to such body or person and being left at or transmitted by electronic mail or facsimile or by registered post to the address of such body or to the usual or last known place of abode of such person. If served by post it shall be deemed to have been served at the time when the containing letter would be delivered in the ordinary course of post and in proving such service it shall be sufficient to prove that such letter was properly addressed, registered and put into the post. If served by electronic mail or facsimile it shall be deemed to have been served when the electronic mail or facsimile shall have been transmitted by the sender.
- 11.3 Notwithstanding the above, the Licensee shall designate a person that will act as a primary contact with URCA on matters related to this Licence and shall notify URCA promptly should the contact details change.
- 11.4 URCA may designate the Director of Utilities and Energy as the primary contact on matters related to this Licence.

PART C - GENERAL OBLIGATION

12. OBLIGATIONS TO COMPLY WITH LAWS, REGULATION AND LICENCE CONDITIONS

- 12.1 The Licensee shall comply with the Act and any other Act of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas that has application to it in the discharge of its performance under this Licence.
- 12.2 The Licensee shall comply with regulatory and other measures including any directive, order, rule, decision or approval issued, made or granted by URCA in accordance with its duties and functions under the Act or this Licence.

13. BREACH OF OBLIGATION TO COMPLY WITH LAWS, REGULATIONS AND LICENCE CONDITIONS

- 13.1 Where URCA has reason to believe that the Licensee has failed to comply with any relevant law, regulation or condition of this Licence, URCA may exercise all such powers and duties as are afforded to or required of it under the Act or any other relevant law and may take all such action as is permitted to it thereunder against either the Licensee or its Subsidiary Undertaking.
- 13.2 The Licensee shall be liable for all the acts and omissions of each of its Subsidiary Undertakings in respect of its obligations under this Licence.
- 13.3 Without prejudice to the Licensee's other obligations under this Licence, where its Subsidiary Undertaking has done something which would if done by the Licensee:
- (a) be prohibited or not authorised by any relevant law, regulation and condition of this Licence; or
 - (b) require the Licensee to take or refrain from taking a particular action under any relevant law, regulation and condition of this Licence and that no Licensee, including the Licensee, has met that further requirement,

then, where URCA is not satisfied that the Licensee has taken all reasonable steps to prevent its Subsidiary Undertaking from acting in that manner, URCA may direct the Licensee to take such steps as URCA deems appropriate for the purpose of remedying the matter, including restraining the defaulting Subsidiary Undertaking from carrying on with such activities connected with the Licensed Business as URCA may determine.

14. STEP-IN EVENT

- 14.1 URCA's consent or approval is not required for the exercise by a Relevant Public Electricity Supplier of Step-in rights conferred in the Licensee's Power Purchase Agreement in circumstances specified in that agreement that result in the absence of Capacity or electricity that the Licensee is contracted to supply under the agreement.

15. FORCE MAJEURE

- 15.1 The Licensee shall give notice and details of Force Majeure events to URCA as soon as reasonably practicable. URCA may issue a notice excusing the Licensee from its performance obligations during the period of Force Majeure.

16. EARLY RETIREMENT OF ASSETS

- 16.1 The Licensee shall not retire its Authorised Generating Facilities without the prior written approval of URCA and the Relevant Public Electricity Supplier. Such approval shall not be unreasonably withheld.
- 16.2 Where such approval is granted, the Licensee shall only recover the net book value of the retired Assets irrespective of whether:
- (a) the Assets are on the Licensee's books at the Commencement Date of this Licence or are additions to rate base during the term of this Licence; or
 - (b) the early retirement results from an economic evaluation, change in government policy or regulatory action.
- 16.3 The said recovery shall take place in a manner determined and prescribed by URCA following approval of the Licensee's request to retire its Authorised Generating Facilities early.

17. CATASTROPHIC FAILURE

- 17.1 In the event of Catastrophic Failure the Licensee may replace the failing installation or facility with written approval from URCA. Such approval shall not be unreasonably withheld.

18. INSURANCE

- 18.1 The Licensee shall obtain and maintain insurance on terms approved by URCA for:
- (a) physical damage to the Electricity Supply System;
 - (b) increase in Fuel Costs that result from unplanned fuel consumption due to Forced Outages; and
 - (c) third-party liabilities.

- 18.2 The Licensee must ensure that the insurance policy guarantees the insurer will notify URCA of lapses, cancellation, or changes to the policy 30 days prior to the changes taking effect.
- 18.3 URCA shall notify the Licensee of required modifications to the insurance policy and the Licensee should procure that such modifications are made no later than 60 days from the notice date, or any date agreed with URCA.
- 18.4 The Licensee may have reduced obligations to maintain insurance policies, if the following alternatives are approved by URCA:
- (a) self-insurance, where the Licensee has the financial capacity to meet any liabilities to a third party; and
 - (b) special tariff factor, applied after a disaster and until Facilities affected are rebuilt and ready to operate.
- 18.5 The Licensee shall not pass and increase in Fuel Costs covered by insurance to the Public Electricity Supplier and its customers.

19. APPEALS TO UAT

- 19.1 Appeals of regulatory or other measures taken by URCA in relation to this Licence shall be made to the Utilities Appeal Tribunal as provided for in the Act and the URCA Act.

20. PAYMENT OF FEES AND CONTRIBUTIONS

- 20.1 The Licensee shall pay to URCA the following fees and contributions as notified by URCA from time to time in accordance with the Act:
- (a) annual URCA Fee pursuant to section 54(2)(d) of the Act;
 - (b) the Tribunal Fee payable pursuant to Schedule 3 of the Utilities Appeal Tribunal Act, 2009;
 - (c) Licencing Processing Fee as determined by URCA pursuant to section 54 (2)(b) of the Act, and;
 - (d) any other applicable fees and charges.
- 20.2 For each Financial Year of the Licence, any annual fees payable by the Licensee under section 54(2)(d) of the Act shall be based upon the following accounts in relation to the Licensed Business or, where appropriate, business plan for the Licensee and each of the Subsidiary Undertaking (or, where these are consolidated, the Licensee's consolidated accounts showing the turnover and revenue for the Licensee and each of the Subsidiary Undertakings):
- (a) the last available audited accounts; or
 - (b) where the audited accounts are not available or those accounts do not include any Relevant Turnover as defined in the Act, accounts certified by an accountant in possession of a practising certificate issued by The Bahamas Institute of Chartered Accountants; or.

- (c) where the Licensee does not have any available accounts certified by an accountant in possession of a practising certificate issued by The Bahamas Institute of Chartered Accountants, the expected Relevant Turnover in the Licensee's business plan.
- 20.3 The annual fees calculated in accordance with Condition 20.2 herein shall be paid in advance on the first day of the Financial Year, with any adjustment due as a result of the audited accounts for that Financial Year becoming available being paid to URCA (or deducted from any other payment due to URCA) on the first day of the next Financial Year.
- 20.4 Without prejudice to Condition 13 herein, in the event of a default by the Licensee in the payment of any fees when due under this Licence:
 - (a) the Licensee shall pay to URCA interest under section 54(5) of the Act; and
 - (b) URCA may revoke this Licence in accordance with Condition 10 herein.
- 20.5 Interest on outstanding fees due to URCA under section 54 of the Act is not recoverable in tariffs to customers.

21. REPORTS AND AUDITED STATEMENTS

- 21.1 The Licensee shall prepare audited financial accounts according to standards approved by URCA. The audited accounts must be incorporated written quarterly and annual reports and submitted to URCA within thirty (30) calendar days from the end of the Licensee's financial year or as reasonably requested by URCA.
- 21.2 The Licensee's quarterly and annual reports shall include, but limited to, the following:
 - (a) electricity produced (in MWh) by each Authorised Generating Facility;
 - (b) electricity supplied (in MWh) to the Grid;
 - (c) peak demand (in MWh) imposed by the Grid on the Licensee;
 - (d) the maximum available generating capacity (in MWh) of the Licensee's Authorised Generating Facilities at the time of peak demand on the Grid;
 - (e) spent lubricant (by volume metric units) disposed of or recycled; and
 - (f) safety and environmental incident reports.
- 21.3 Each month the Licensee shall provide to URCA a report of the amount of the fuel consumed by the Authorised Generating Facilities. For each type of fuel and lubricant consumed, the Licensee must detail the following:
 - (a) the volume purchased;
 - (b) the cost of purchases (in Bahamian Dollars- B\$);
 - (c) opening and closing stocks; and
 - (d) consumption of fuel and lubricant by the Authorised Generating Facilities.

22. ENGAGING IN OTHER BUSINESS

- 22.1 The Licensee may engage in other business activities and shall keep separate accounts for its different activities.
- 22.2 At URCA's approval, the Licensee may allow third parties to have access to and use its Authorised Generating Facilities.
- 22.3 The Licensee may charge a third party a fee for access and use of its Authorised Generating Facilities.

23. INFORMATION, AUDIT, INSPECTION AND ACCESS OBLIGATIONS

- 23.1 URCA may require:
 - (a) an inspection and/or audit of any aspect of the business of the Licensee and the Licensee shall assist or shall procure assistance to URCA as it may reasonably require;
 - (b) the Licensee or any of its Subsidiary Undertakings to provide URCA with such information, documents, accounts, returns, estimates, reports or other information required by URCA in the manner and at the times specified by URCA. URCA may use this information for, but not limited to, purposes of compiling statistics and publishing periodical reviews of the Electricity Sector, and as required or permitted by the Act or other laws or legal process;
 - (c) the Licensee to notify URCA of the details of all Subsidiary Undertakings providing a Licensed Business under this Licence; and
 - (d) the Licensee to permit a person authorised by URCA to carry out such inspection and/or audit;
- 23.2 The Licensee shall at the request of URCA furnish URCA, at the Licensee's expense, with copies (in such format as URCA may specify) of any book, register, record or accounts as URCA may reasonably require.

24. USE OF APPROPRIATE STAFF

- 24.1 The Licensee shall, in connection with the conduct of its business of generating, transmitting, distributing and supplying electricity under the Licence, ensure that its employees are appropriately trained and qualified.

25. OUTSOURCING

- 25.1 The Licensee may utilize the services of third parties on an ongoing basis in the provision of Generation and/or Transmission and Distribution (including supply) services. Procurement of such

outsourced services shall be subject to URCA approval if they represent core and ongoing Generation and/or Transmission and Distribution (including supply) functions.

- 25.2 An approval granted by URCA shall be based on the cost effectiveness of the outsourced services, benefits to the economy of The Bahamas overall, to consumers in general and the fitness and propriety of the relevant third parties and shall not be unreasonably withheld.

PART D – TRANSITIONAL CONDITION

26.1 On the Commencement Date, in order to enable a smooth transition to the full force and effect of this Licence, all codes and standards applicable to the Licensee existing and in force prior and up to the grant of this Licence which would normally have effect under the Act shall remain in effect and force until such time as they are logically and practically superseded by the actions taken by URCA under this Licence, the Act or any other relevant law.

Appendix

The Authorised Generating Facilities are as follows:

Unit Name and Number	Technology	Nameplate Capacity (MW)	Net Output Rating (MW)	In-Service Date (DD/MM/YY)	Estimated Retirement Date* (DD/MM/YY)

*Retirement date must be estimated based on the economic life of the unit as of the signing date of this Licence or must be equal to the term of the Licence, whichever is sooner.

Annex D : STANDARD ES EXEMPTION DETERMINATION

**ELECTRICITY *[GENERATION/TRANSMISSION/
DISTRIBUTION/ SUPPLY]* EXEMPTION**

Commencement Date: , 20

ES _____

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1. DEFINITIONS AND INTEPRETATION

1.1. In this Exemption, except in so far as the context otherwise requires:

“Electricity Act” means Electricity Act, 2015;

“Electricity Supply System” means the network of electrical components used to generate, transmit, distribute, and supply electric power;

“Exempted Activity” means any activity which has been exempted from the licensing requirement under section 44 of the Electricity Act;

“Grid” means—

- (a) any BPL power system, inclusive of transmission and distribution, wherever located in The Bahamas;
- (b) the power system, inclusive of transmission and distribution, of any public electricity supplier within The Bahamas other than BPL;

“Grid-tied” means any Electricity Supply System interconnected to a Licensee’s Electricity Supply System, inclusive of transmission and distribution wherever located within The Bahamas;

“kW” means kilowatt

“Off Grid” means any Electricity Supply System not connected to a Licensee’s Electricity Supply System;

1.2 For the purpose of interpreting the Conditions in this Exemption:

1.2.1 Except in so far as the context otherwise requires, words or expressions shall have the meaning assigned to them in:

- (a) the Exemption, and otherwise;
- (b) the Electricity Act, and otherwise;
- (c) the URCA Act, and otherwise
- (d) the UAT Act;

1.2.2 For ease of reference, terms in the Electricity Act and in this Exemption have been capitalised;

1.2.3 subject to Condition 1.2.1 above, where there is any conflict between the provisions of this Exemption and the Electricity Act, the provisions of the Electricity Act shall prevail;

1.2.3 References to Conditions, paragraphs, subparagraphs and appendices are to Conditions, paragraphs, subparagraphs of and to the appendices to this Exemption, as modified from time to time in accordance with this Exemption and the Electricity Act;

- 1.2.4 A Document will be incorporated into and form part of this Exemption if it is referred to in this Exemption and a reference to a Document is to a Document as modified from time to time;
- 1.2.5 Headings and titles used in this Exemption are for reference only and shall not affect its interpretation or construction;
- 1.2.6 References to any law or statutory instrument include any modification re-enactment or legislative provisions substituted for the same;
- 1.2.7 Use of the word “include” or “including” is to be construed as being without limitation;
- 1.2.8 Expressions cognate with those referred to in this Exemption shall be construed accordingly;
- 1.2.9 Words importing: (i) the singular only shall include the plural and vice versa; (ii) the whole shall be treated as including a reference to any part; and (iii) any gender shall include all other genders; and
- 1.2.10 Reference to persons shall include firms or companies.

2. EXEMPTION

- 2.1 Persons are exempt from the requirement of a Licence under section 44 of Electricity Act to the extent that they meet the criteria set out in Conditions 3 and 4 of this Exemption.
- 2.2 Nothing in this Exemption Determination shall relieve the exempted person from any legal requirement to obtain any additional consents, permissions, authorisations or Licences that are necessary for the generation, transmission, distribution and/or supply of electricity under the Electricity Act.

3. SMALL-SCALE ELECTRICITY GENERATION

- 3.1 Persons who do not at any time generate electricity from any electricity generating equipment or apparatus more than—
 - (a) 1000 kW; and
 - (b) Is off-grid.
- 3.2 Under section 50 of the EA, URCA may, by determination, exempt a person or class of persons who do not at any time generate electricity from any grid-tied electricity generating equipment or apparatus up to but not exceeding 500 kW.

4. TEMPORARY ELECTRICITY GENERATION

- 4.1 Persons who do not at any time generate more electricity from any Grid-tied electricity generating equipment or apparatus up to but not exceeding 500 Kw for a temporary period not exceeding six (6) consecutive months due to technical circumstances outside the reasonable control of the person generating that power.

5. LIMITATIONS

- 5.1 Without express written consent of URCA, the outputs of the Exempted Activities shall not:
 - (a) be supplied or distributed to any person other than the person undertaking the Exempted Activities;
 - (b) be supplied or distributed to any location or premises other than that upon which the Exempted Activities are undertaken; or
 - (c) under any circumstance, be supplied or distributed to any person in exchange for monetary or non-monetary consideration or compensation.

