Ref: KREDL/COVID-19/2020/1967

To
All Deputy Commissioners and Superintends of Police,
All Districts of Karnataka.

Respected Sir,

Sub : Essential operation of power generation utilities and permission of material movement needed during the nation-wide lockdown for COVID-19 outbreak-Reg.

Ref : 1. GoM order no. DMU/2020/CR.92/DisM-1 dated 25.03.2020,
     Notification - COVID-19-Epidemic Diseases Act 1897—
     Revised Lockdown Orders
2. D.O. Letter No 283/18/2020-GRID-SOLAR
     dated 26th March 2020
3. Karnataka Government Order No.HFW 54 CGM 2020 dated
     23.03.2020 issued by the Chief Secretary to the Government,
     GoK and Addendum No.HFW 54 CGM 2020 dated
     23.03.2020
    30.03.2020
5. Ministry of Home Affairs, GoI, Order No. 40-3/2020-DM (I) (A)
    Dated 14.04.2020
6. Ministry of Power, GoI, Letter No. 11/14/2020-Th-II dated
    15.04.2020

Inviting reference to the above subject, and in continuation to our letter referred at (4) above, it was requested to extend support for uninterrupted operations of power generating stations in the state.

Further it was submitted that Karnataka Renewable Development Energy Limited (KREDL) is the nodal agency for implementation of Renewable Energy Projects in the State of Karnataka. Renewable Energy Generating Stations (REGS) include Solar Power Plants, Wind Power Plants, Small Hydro Power Plants, Biomass/Biogas/Bagasse based Cogeneration Power Plants, etc. These "REGS" generate Electricity and supply the same to grid even in situations when conventional power plants may be running at optimal levels due to logistic constraints w.r.t supply of fuels like coal, natural gas, diesel, etc. and operation of "REGSs" is critical for maintaining power supply across the country. Most of the Wind projects are located at remote locations in Chitradurga, Koppal, Gadag and Vijayapur districts. Solar projects are spread across the state.
Generation of electricity is coming under essential service for the state and excluded as per the clause no 2-c & 6-n of above referred Revised Lockdown Orders dated 25th March, 2020 and also exempted as per the G.O issued by Government of Karnataka in the reference cited ref (3) Point (h) and (s). In order to provide uninterrupted operations of "REGS", the following support is requested from your office;

a. Permission for "REGS" staff, associated workforce and vehicles to move around and movement of material and field engineers at "REGS" sites, substations, transmission lines and towers, etc. with minimum manpower.

b. Allowing minimum staff, required to work for the "REGS" and offices for ensuring uninterrupted renewable power generation.

c. Waiver from section 144, Nationwide Lockdown, Curfew, or any other limitation on number of people to gather in locations like "REGS" sites, substations, transmission lines and towers, etc. and other related locations where it may be required for operation and maintenance activities of renewable power generation and associated equipment.


e. Allow round the clock permission to mobilize field staff to be able to reach and access electrical installations of "REGS".

However, it is noted that in some locations, the above facility is not extended to the Independent Power Producers in Karnataka. Hence, in the background of orders referred at (5) and (6) above, it is once again reiterated to kindly extend support mentioned at (a) to (e) to all the Renewable Energy Power Producers during this lock down period and oblige.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

(Dr. H.B. Budeppa)
Managing Director

Copy Submitted for kind information to:

1. The Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Government of Karnataka,
   Energy Department, Vikas Soudha, Bengaluru,
2. Managing Directors of KPTCL, PCKL & All ESCOMs.

Copy to:

1. Chief Electrical Inspector, Electrical Inspectorate, Government of Karnataka, Bengaluru
2. RE Project Developers.