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Korea's Power Grid Impact Assessments

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On 16 November 2026, the Ministry of Climate, Energy and Environment (MCEE) enacted and enforced the *Regulations on the Operation of the Power Grid Impact Assessment System* (the "Regulations").

Key Takeaways

Commencement of Full Operation. MCEE began operating a pilot Power Grid Impact Assessment system from 2024. The system assesses projects using 10MW or more electricity at the planning stage and evaluates their impact on the grid to better prepare for risks to supply stability. The Regulations conclude the pilot and begin full operation.

Assessment and Scoring. Power Grid Impact Assessments apply to all regions nationwide and evaluate projects in two categories: the technical assessment (55 points), and the non-technical assessment (45 points). In principle, projects need 70 points or higher to pass. For distributed energy specialized areas, only technical items are evaluated, with a passing score of 28 points. Any project that fails to meet the power supply margin or the appropriate voltage standards automatically fails the assessment regardless of score.

Specific Penalties for Data Centre Projects. Data centres located in the Seoul Metropolitan Area need 75 points or higher to pass the assessment, and a new 5-point deduction has also been established for locating in a region with high electricity utilization density.

Submission and Examination Procedures. The procedure is as follows: (i) the project operator applies for the technical review with KEPCO and pays the fee, (ii) KEPCO replies with the review results within 90 days, (iii) the project operator submits the Power Grid Impact Assessment report to MCEE, (iv) MCEE requests a review from an expert within 7 days, (v) the expert returns the review results within 40 days, and (vi) following deliberation by the Electric Policy Council, the project operator receives a Written Notification of Deliberation Results (the "Notification"). Only projects that pass the assessment are allowed to connect to the power grid.

Validity and Invalidation Risks. The Notification cannot be assigned or transferred to a third party, and is valid for 1 year. Plans stated in the Notification constitute statutory mandates, and the Notification may become invalid if the project violates its implementation obligations, deviates from the Notification, or fails to match the electricity use application

submitted to KEPCO.

Transitional Measures. If a project had not yet received a Notification by the Regulations' effective date, the Regulations' evaluation and passing scores apply, even if an assessment report was submitted before that date. For Notifications and technical review results that were already issued before the Regulations took effect, their validity period is calculated from the Regulations' effective date.

If you have any questions or need help with the above, please feel free to contact us. Our dedicated Project & Energy Group is recognised as a top-ranking team in various international publications such as Chambers & Partners. It is the only Korean law firm that provides a one-stop service that can assist project and energy clients with regulatory advice, project finance, construction and operation and M&A.

[Korean version] 전력계통영향평가 제도 운영에 관한 규정 제정·시행

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