



पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस विनियामक बोर्ड  
Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board

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17<sup>th</sup> June 2025

**Public Notice**

Subject: **Guidelines for Remuneration for Auditors, Professional Charges for TPIA, QCBS- Based Tendering for selection of TPIAs etc.**

The PNRB has reviewed the third-party audit system currently in place. Several measures have been taken to strengthen the same. Towards streamlining the compensation paid to auditors and improving the quality of audits, it has been decided to change the methodology of determining the remuneration of auditors / professional charges for TPIAs, introduce QCBS-based tendering for selection of TPIAs etc. for audits carried out as per PNRB Technical Regulations. Accordingly, guidelines for the above were formulated and sent to all empanelled Third-party Inspection Agencies (TPIAs) and major entities on 17.03.2025 for seeking their views/ comments. PNRB has received comments from 18 entities and 10 TPIAs. The comments received were discussed with various TPIAs and Entities in meeting held on 20.05.2025. Comments received from Entities and TPIAs along with minutes of the meeting are attached as **Annexure-A & B**.

After careful consideration of the above, PNRB has finalised the guidelines (Attached as **Annexure-C**) and same shall be implemented w.e.f **01.08.2025**. Compliance of these shall be ensured by all entities and TPIAs for all audits undertaken from **01.08.2025**.

**Secretary**

**Subject: Guidelines for remuneration, professional charges, and selection of TPIA etc. for various T4S/ IMS/ERDMP Audits.**

Currently more than 95000 installations/facilities come under the regulatory framework of PNGRB. Compliance to Technical and Safety Regulations of these installations is being ensured through TPIA empanelled by PNGRB.

To improve the quality of audits, it has been decided to fix minimum remuneration for auditors and professional charges for TPIAs for audits carried out for entities under various scope sectors as per PNGRB Technical Regulations. It has been decided that entities should award the job of Audit to PNGRB empanelled TPIA based on Quality and Cost-based selection criteria (QCBS).

**A. Fixed Cost**

i. **Remuneration for Auditors:**

<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Designation</b>	<b>Minimum Remuneration Per day of site visit audit (INR)</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Lead Auditor</b>	<b>10,000</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Associate Auditors</b>	<b>8,000</b>

ii. **Professional charges for TPIAs:**

<b>Sr no</b>	<b>Sectors</b>	<b>Minimum Professional charges per day for site visit audit (INR)</b>	
		<b>T4S Audit</b>	<b>ERDMP or IMS Audit/Certification</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Refinery/GPU/LNG Terminal</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>17,000</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>CGD/NGPL/PPPL/LPG/POL</b>	<b>12,000</b>	<b>14,000</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>RO/Road Transport</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>12,000</b>

*Note-1: Values of above-mentioned Fixed Charges shall be valid for FY 2025-26 & FY 2026-27 and may be reviewed after two years.*

**B. Variable Cost:**

Cost with respect to Travel, Boarding, Lodging, Local Conveyance etc. may be decided between Entities and TPIA.

## **C. Selection/Tendering Process**

### **Quality improvement thru QCBS:**

Entities shall award the job of T4S/IMS/ERDMP Audits to PNGRB empanelled TPIAs based on Quality and Cost based selection (QCBS) criteria instead of purely based on lowest financial quote basis. QCBS should comprise technical criteria as well as financial criteria as decided by respective entities and minimum weightage for technical criteria should be 70% of the total weightage/evaluation Criteria.

*Note-2: Technical criteria for QCBS shall be decided by the entities as per their requirements, considering risks & hazards etc. associated with their Installation/Facility/Network. Due weightage should be accorded for selection/engagement of well experienced and quality Auditors by the TPIAs, over and above the minimum qualification/experience prescribed by PNGRB.*

### **Illustration:**

D. Entity may consider QCBS i.e. technical criteria as illustrated below:

- A. Auditors who have minimum 25/20/15 years' experience in Oil and Gas sector.*
- B. Auditors who have experience of conducting minimum 15/10/5 no. of audits for scope sectors.*
- C. TPIA turnover, experience, international exposure etc.*
- D. TPIA should have minimum experience of conducting 25/20/15 audits in last three years.*

### **E. General directions:**

- i. Entities and TPIAs to ensure Audit Man-days matrix for carrying out T4S/IMS/ERDMP audits based upon capacity / size of Installation/Facility/Network as circulated by PNGRB on 3rd Dec 2024.
- ii. Entities and TPIAs to ensure Minimum Lead Auditor Designation criteria for Audit Team for all scope sector under which audits are carried, as circulated by PNGRB on 3rd Dec 2024.
- iii. Prior approval shall be obtained for all site visit audits by TPIAs as per existing system.
- iv. All payments for audits should be made through a Bank transaction or digital mode. Details of all payments made by the TPIAs to auditors and Entities to TPIAs shall be submitted by TPIAs to PNGRB on quarterly basis.