

SOLAR ENERGY CORPORATION OF INDIA LIMITED, NEW DELHI						
Ref No. SECI/C&P/EOI/17/0002/24-25/Clarification-01						Date: 08-11-2024
Clarification-01 to the Call for Proposals (CfP) for Setting up of Green Hydrogen Hubs in India under National Green Hydrogen Mission (Ref No. SECI/C&P/EOI/17/0002/24-25 dated 20.08.2024 )						
S. No.	Documents	Clause No.	Existing Clause	Proposed Modifications	Rationale/Remarks	SECT's response
1	CfP	5.1	Following facilities/services are broadly envisaged to be covered in the Green Hydrogen Hubs being set up under this CfP, and the support under the Scheme will be provided for development of these services/facilities only (not for any component of individual projects)	Following facilities/services are broadly envisaged to be covered in the Green Hydrogen Hubs being set up under this CfP, and the support under the Scheme will be provided for development of these services/facilities which can service both green hydrogen and other consumers (not for any component of individual projects)	Usually, large green hydrogen production facilities will be located in close proximity to other process industries. It is prudent to pool the requirements of all the consumers (green hydrogen and others) to achieve economies of scale for common infrastructure like desalination plant (towards supply of water), transmission line/sub-station (for drawal of RE power) etc.  As long as the common infrastructure is able to serve one or more hydrogen production plants with an aggregate capacity of more than 100 ktpa , such infrastructure should qualify under this scheme even if it serves other consumers along with green hydrogen plants.	Tender conditions remain unchanged.
2	CfP	8.1	The EA will be required to execute works as per the approved Scope of Work given under the Letter of Award. The EA shall complete the Project, in all aspects, before 31st March 2026, which shall be Scheduled Commissioning Date (SCD) of the Project.	The EA will be required to execute works as per the approved Scope of Work given under the Letter of Award. The EA shall complete the Project, in all aspects, within 30 months from the issue of Letter of Award (LoA) which shall be Scheduled Commissioning Date (SCD) of the Project.	Some of the large common infrastructure like desalination plants, transmission lines, substations, dedicated jetty, storage tanks etc require substantial time in the range of 24-30 months to execute and commission. Providing realistic timelines would enable EA's to plan their project accordingly and comply as per the scheme's SCD	This provision flows from the Scheme Guideline for Green hydrogen Hub, hence any change in this timeline will be governed by any subsequent change/amendment/corrigendum issued by MNRE in the scheme guideline.
3	CfP	13.1	At the stage of Financial Closure, the EA shall report 100% tie-up of Financing Arrangements for the Project. In this regard, the EA shall submit a certificate/ necessary documents from all financing agencies regarding the tie-up of 100% of the funds indicated for the Project, including arrangements of funds in the form of Equity/investment in the Project. The EA shall also submit details of all planned/ proposed equipment that are required for construction and commissioning of Green Hydrogen Hub, viz.- manufacturer, model number, datasheet, along with necessary purchase order/agreements for the Project.	At the stage of Financial Closure, the EA shall report 100% tie-up of Financing Arrangements for the Project. In this regard, the EA shall submit a redacted version of certificate/ necessary documents from all financing agencies regarding the tie-up of 100% of the funds indicated for the Project, including arrangements of funds in the form of Equity/investment in the Project.	As the intent is to check the financial closure of the project, redacted version of documents from financing agencies (without commercially sensitive information) can be shared.  It might not always be possible to share details of equipments at the time of financial closure as some of the equipment orders might not have been finalized. Also, the commercially sensitive data regarding finalized equipment may have to be redacted for sharing any available information.	Tender conditions remain unchanged.  At the time of financial closure, the EA is required to submit details of <b>all planned/ proposed equipment, as per the DPR originally submitted by the bidder at the time of bid submission</b> , that are required for construction and commissioning of Green Hydrogen Hub, viz.- manufacturer, model number, datasheet, along with necessary purchase order/agreements for the Project.
4	CfP	25.5 and 25.6	25.5 An Applicant which has been selected as a Successful Applicant based on this CfP can also execute the Project through a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) i.e. (a) existing subsidiary Company of the Successful Applicant, or (b) a Project Company incorporated as a subsidiary Company of the Successful Applicant, for setting up the Project, and in each case, having at least 51% shareholding in the SPV which has to be registered under the Indian Companies Act, 2013, before the disbursement of 1st tranche of the CFA.  25.6. For avoidance of doubt, it is clarified that the fully owned subsidiary Company as mentioned in Clauses 25.3 and 25.5 above should be an immediate subsidiary of the Applicant, without any intermediaries involved. The following illustrations are provided to clarify the same:	25.5 An Applicant which has been selected as a Successful Applicant based on this CfP can also execute the Project through a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) i.e. (a) existing subsidiary Company of the Successful Applicant,having at least 51% shareholding in the SPV either directly or indirectly which has to be registered under the Indian Companies Act, 2013 or (b) a Group Company of the Successful Applicant, for setting up the Project, and in each case, before the disbursement of 1st tranche of the CFA.  25.6. For avoidance of doubt, it is clarified that the fully owned subsidiary Company as mentioned in Clauses 25.3 and 25.5 above should be an subsidiary of the Applicant, with or without any intermediaries involved.	The setting up the SPV should not be only limited to subsidiary company and it should be expanded to include Group Company also. Furthermore, the subsidiary company shall not be limited to only immediate subsidiary.	Tender conditions remain unchanged.
5	CfP	26.1 (iii) (1a)/ Annexure A (16a)	Green Hydrogen Production approved/ agreement signed or under process/MoU	Green Hydrogen or it's derivatives Production approved/ agreement signed or under process/MoU	Most of the large commercial scale projects are targeting production of hydrogen derivatives like Green Ammonia, Green Methanol and would have agreements mentioning the derivatives only. This is due to the fact that Green Hydrogen is an intermediary in the production process of these derivatives.	The capacity to be considered for scoring shall be for Green Hydrogen production only. Any quantum of Green Hydrogen derivatives proposed to be produced in the hub shall be converted to the equivalent Green Hydrogen for scoring purpose.
6	CfP	26.1 (iii) (2a)/ Annexure A (16d)	Presence of multiple end-use industries and current H2 demand in the region and projections for next 5 years	Presence of multiple end-use industries and current H2 or H2 derivatives demand in the region and projections for next 5 years	Most of the large commercial scale consumers use hydrogen derivatives instead of Green Hydrogen directly.	The capacity to be considered for scoring shall be for Green Hydrogen production only. Any quantum of Green Hydrogen derivatives proposed to be produced in the hub shall be converted to the equivalent Green Hydrogen for scoring purpose.
7	CfP	29(xi)	"EQUITY" shall mean Net Worth as defined in Companies Act, 2013.	"EQUITY" shall have the meaning prescribed under Section 43(b)(i) of the Companies Act, 2013.	The definition of Equity may be relooked.	Tender conditions remain unchanged.
8	CfP	New request	N.A		There is no provision for sub-contracting. We request to include a provision for sub-contracting of work.	Sub-contracting is beyond the scope of this CfP.
9	CfP	25.1	v. Autonomous Bodies	i. Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) ii. State-PSUs iii. Private Sector Companies iv. State-Owned Corporations/Organizations v. Autonomous Bodies (including state nodal agencies for green hydrogen) vi. JV/Partnerships/Consortiums of above stated agencies	Given the emerging nature of the green hydrogen market, state nodal agencies must exert greater effort to attract private players who can meet regional needs. As a result, state nodal agencies will need to take on a more significant role.  State Govt./ State nodal agencies must anchor the project by identifying suitable infrastructure, aligning with broader state initiatives and efforts.	Tender conditions remain unchanged.

10	CfP	25	New addition of clause as 25.8	If the lead applicant is a government institution and a nodal agency of MNRE, the lead applicant should be exempt from any minimum shareholding limit both before and after being selected as the successful applicant.	Nodal agencies require additional time to identify a suitable private partner who can meet the regional requirements, a process that will be conducted through tendering.  State Govt./ State nodal agencies must anchor the project by identifying suitable infrastructure, aligning with broader state initiatives and efforts.	Tender conditions remain unchanged.
11	CfP	25	New addition of clause as 25.9	If the lead applicant is a government institution and a nodal agency of MNRE, the addition of one or more consortium members should be allowed after being selected as the successful applicant, allowing for changes in the shareholding pattern.	We may need to induct a private player through the tender process to meet specific project requirements.  State Govt./ State nodal agencies must anchor the project by identifying suitable infrastructure, aligning with broader state initiatives and efforts.	Tender conditions remain unchanged.
12	CfP	26.1. (iii) I.c.	Land availability		the term "land" refers specifically to the land intended for use for the project proposed under this CfP. Please confirm.	The land refers to the land area which is intended to be used for establishment of proposed hydrogen hub.
13	CfP	26.1 S.No 1(a)	Project proposals will be evaluated in accordance with the detailed criteria mentioned below: a. Green Hydrogen Production approved/ agreement signed or under process/MoU - Documents required 1. Approved Green Hydrogen projects 2. Signed agreement for Green Hydrogen production plants 3. List of under- process agreements with potential investors	Request to Add the documents below 1. List of MoUs with Potential off-takers 2. The board resolution in the case the Hub owner and Developer are the same entity.		It is to clarify that in case the hub owner and green hydrogen producer are same entity, the board resolution and other supporting documents, as required, and the same is covered under the category:- Signed agreement for green hydrogen production.
14	CfP	26.1 (iii) S.No 2(c)	Copy of Signed agreements	Copy of Signed agreements MoUs Exclusive agreements		MoUs and exclusive agreements have been considered as part of signed agreement, however, non-binding MoUs will not be considered for evaluation purpose.
15	CfP	26.1 (iii) S.No 1(c)	Natural Resource availability Documents to support the claim for potential sourcing of RE, water availability and allocation of land.	Natural Resource availability Documents to support the claim for potential sourcing of RE, water availability, allocation of land and DPR.		Third party supporting documents are to be submitted as an annexure to the DPR.
16	CfP	26.1 (iii) S.No 3(c)	Debt tied up with the financial institutions out of the total debt required for the project. Copy of agreements / letter for the corresponding percentage of funding tied up with financial institutions as per the project cost stated in DPR.	1. Copy of agreements/letters for the corresponding percentage of funding tied up with financial institutions as per the project cost stated in DPR. 2. Letters from Bankers		Tender conditions remain unchanged. The tender condition are self explanatory and include letters from bankers as a supporting document.
17	CfP	2.1	This Call for Proposals (CfP) intends to develop supporting infrastructure required for setting up of Green Hydrogen Hubs.	It is requested that the hubs should be allowed to be used for setting up of Green Ammonia projects as well.	The process of production of green ammonia and green hydrogen are partly common. Further, the supporting infrastructure required to be provided in the hub can be used for production of either of the two products. Thus, in order to enable full utilization of the infrastructure of the hub, the hubs should be allowed to be used for setting up of Green Ammonia projects as well.	The hydrogen hub is intended for production of Green Hydrogen and its derivatives
18	CfP	Section 2 Para 5.1 (xi)	Energy Storage to manage Renewable Energy's Intermittency	Energy Storage to manage Renewable Energy's Intermittency or RTC Renewable Power	Round the Clock Renewable power from the Grid shall also be a permitted option.	The tender provides a broad scope of work which includes the facilities such as energy storage to manage Renewable Energy's intermittency. However, the actual scope of work as indicated by the EA in the DPR, and as accepted by the Project Appraisal Committee, will be the final scope of work against which, the EA's performance will be evaluated for ascertaining "Project completion"
19	CfP	Section 2 Para 7	--	--	Clarification: On the reading of 7.1 to 7.3, the CFA may be for 2 projects or more. Please clarify	Any savings in the CFA being awarded under this CfP will be dealt as per directions of MNRE.
20	CfP	10.2	2 (i) Acquisition of 100% Land 2 (ii) Financial Closure	2 (i) Achievement of Financial Closure 2 (ii) Upon Effective Date	See earlier comments in Para 8.1	Tender conditions remain unchanged.
21	CfP	14	--	--	Whether documents for (c) to (g) are required for 49% Equity Holders also. As per Section 4, Para 25.6, the 51% Shareholder is reckoned as Bidder and hence this clarification.	Yes, the signed documents are required from the all the members of JV/Consortium.
22	CfP	26.1.iii.1.a	Green Hydrogen Production approved/ agreement signed or under process/MoU	Request to remove this requirement from the scoring criteria or alternatively make this a pre-disbursement condition for a particular tranche of the Central Financial Assistance	As is seen in case of solar power projects, the development of solar power parks and solar power projects is bifurcated and the award of projects for development of solar power parks is not decided based on already tied up agreements with solar power developers. Similarly, tie-ups with green hydrogen producers should not be made part of the criteria for selection in this CfP. Further, the commercials of the agreements with the green hydrogen producers shall depend on the award of the assistance under the current CfP. The green hydrogen hub developer would be accordingly marketing the hub post the result of the current CfP. Thus, it is too early for the green hydrogen hub developer to enter into firm agreements with green hydrogen producers looking to set up their units in the hub	Tender conditions remain unchanged.

23	CfP	26.1.iii.2.c	Firm off-take agreements signed (in MT of H2 or H2 derivatives)	Request to remove this requirement from the scoring criteria or alternatively make this a pre-disbursement condition for a particular tranche of the Central Financial Assistance	These agreements would be signed by the entities who would be setting up the Green Hydrogen production units in the Green Hydrogen Hub. Thus, the timing and nature of these agreements would be determined by the preference and requirements of the owners of the Green Hydrogen production units. Thus, requirement of these should not form part of the selection criteria under this CfP.  Further, it is noted that the Green Hydrogen production units would be operational at a later date than the date of completion of construction of the green hydrogen hub. Thus, it is very early to have such agreements in place from the perspective of the green hydrogen hub. Further, it is noted that the possibility of entering into such agreements is already partly covered by the requirements in 26.1.iii.2.a	Tender conditions remain unchanged.
24	CfP	26.1.iii.3.c	Debt tied up with the financial institutions out of total debt required for the project - Copy of agreements/ letter for corresponding percentage of funding tied up with financial institutions as per the project cost stated in DPR	It is clarified that in-principle sanction letters/ approval letters from the lenders should be allowed as compliance of the condition	The funds towards construction/ upgradation of the infrastructure required for the hub are expected to be incurred in the next 18 months after all the equity contribution has been spent by the developer of the hub. Thus, it is too early to have requirement of final sanctions/ agreements for tie-up of the required debt for the hub. It is noted that financial closure is already a future milestone for payment of the financial assistance under the CfP.	The in-principle sanction letters/approval letters are allowed to be submitted as part of compliance of this condition
25	CfP	26.1	Under Criteria for Scoring - there are only two ranges for production agreements signed with the highest mark of 15 which is for a capacity >1,50,000 MT	Is there is a possibility to have more ranges in the scoring system – may be 1,00,000 to 2,00,000 MT, 2,00,000 to 3,00,000 MT, 2,00,000 to 3,00,000 MT?	The initial production range proposed seems to be low for a GH2 cluster	Tender conditions remain unchanged.
26	CfP	5.1	List of infrastructure facilities for which support will be provided	Do the infrastructure facilities have to operate on Green Power?	Considering the hub to be a green hydrogen hub	The infrastructure supplying energy to the green hydrogen (and its derivatives) production facilities should enable such green hydrogen being produced to be certified as "Green Hydrogen" under the applicable Rules/Orders issued by MNRE.
27	CfP	6	Central Financial Assistance (CFA) of Rs. 100 Crores for each hydrogen hub	Will the scheme provide Rs. 100 Crores entirely or there may be a proportionate or part allocation?		The applicants are free to quote for any amount of fund upto a maximum of Rs. 100 crores as incentive under this CfP.
28	CfP	6	Central Financial Assistance (CFA) of Rs. 100 Crores for each hydrogen hub	Is there any upper limit or lower limit of cost to be spend on the development of core infrastructure in the Green Hydrogen Hub?		No, there is no limit of cost to be incurred for development of Hydrogen Hub
29	CfP	26.1	The CfP and mission document mentions production capacity in terms of Green Hydrogen. However, the production companies are mention it in terms of Green Ammonia production.	What is the conversion factor considered between Green Hydrogen and Green Ammonia?	For better clarity	The equivalence factors for Green Hydrogen derivatives has been notified/will be notified by MNRE.
30	CfP	26.1	Criteria for Scoring - Point No. 2, under 2.c, it is mentioned to submit copy of off-take agreements.	Can any other document be submitted in lieu of the off-take agreements as such agreements are confidential in nature? Otherwise, is it possible to have an extended timeline for furnishing the copies of off-take agreements/documents?	Considering Green Hydrogen to be a nascent industry, off-take agreements are yet to be executed by any producer. The same may take some extra time beyond October 07, 2024 (bid submission date) to be executed. In addition, the off-take agreements are also confidential in nature.	Tender conditions remain unchanged.
31	CfP	26.1	Criteria for Scoring - Point No. 1	How does the scheme differentiate between the signed agreement for Green Hydrogen production plants? Does it have to be binding? Are there any parameters for such evaluation?	There are various types of agreements - intent agreement, ceremonial MoU, binding MoU, lease agreements. Clarity is required on which kind of agreements will be considered.	Non binding MoUs/agreements shall not be considered for evaluation purpose.
32	CfP	26.1	Criteria for Scoring - Point No. 3	What document shall be produced in case the project is entirely self-funded/equity based?	Need clarity on the documentation in such a scenario	Board Resolution and supporting financial documents are required to be submitted as part of this requirement
33	CfP			Can a parameter be included for incentivising hubs that are facilitating skilling of workforce for the Green Hydrogen Hubs?		Tender conditions remain unchanged.
34	CfP	5.1	Development of services/facilities for the Green Hydrogen Hub	Can existing/ongoing infrastructure works be considered under the services/facilities for the Green Hydrogen Hub?	Tata Steel Special Economic Zone Limited (TSSEZL) is developing Gopalpur Industrial Park over 2,970 Acres comprising of SEZ and DTA lands. Out of 2,970 Acres, ~500 Acres is proposed to be developed as a Green Hydrogen Hub with atleast 5 different green hydrogen producers. TSSEZL is currently developing common infrastructure for the facilitation of these industries.	Yes, existing infrastructure available at the proposed project site can be considered as a part of hydrogen hub, subject to condition that it has unutilized capacity (existing or under planning) corresponding to size/capacity of proposed hydrogen hub. The assessment of Evaluation committee/ Project Appraisal Committee shall be considered final and binding on the applicant.
35	CfP	26.1	Point 3 (c) in the table - Financial Assistance - Debt tied up with financial institutions out of total debt	Most marks are being awarded for a debt tie up of > 80% and least marks are for debt tie up < 40%. Is there a discrepancy in the marking scheme? In case not, please help with the clarification for better understanding.	In our understanding, equity investment should be given higher priority than debt tie up. The marking scheme in 3 (c) is in contradiction to 3 (b).	Tender conditions remain unchanged.
36	CfP	26.1	Point 1 (c) in the table - Natural Resource Availability - Marks being given for percentage of land under possession	Can the land cost be considered under the overall project cost as part of the DPR?	Since land is the first requirement of developing the Green Hydrogen Hub	The cost of land to be considered in the project cost will depend upon the cost incurred by the applicant for acquiring the land.
37	CfP	5.1	Development of services/facilities for the Green Hydrogen Hub	Can the infrastructure being developed for the Green Hydrogen Hub be used by other industries? Or does it have to be specifically used by the Green Hydrogen players?	Considering presence of the other players in the Industrial Park, the facilities being developed may be common in nature which are required by all industries - like a desalination plant, common effluent treatment plant, common roads, drainage networks etc. Example - If TSSEZL is setting up a desalination plant, can it supply water to other industries along with the green hydrogen players?	In this case, the capacity of common facilities should be clearly earmarked for the use of Green Hydrogen hub and for the other industries. EA must ensure that use of any common facility by other industries in the hub should not affect the usage of such facility by the Green Hydrogen Hub.
38	CfP				What if, Green H2 players fail to set up their facility within the committed timelines while the Executing Agency sets up the facilities as committed in the DPR. The situation may lead to complete idling of the asset. In such a case would MNRE ask for a refund of the CFA along with interest or pursue any similar course of action?	As long as the green hydrogen hub is "commissioned" as defined in the CfP, within the SCD, there won't be any impact on the CFA being granted under the CfP.
39	CfP				What if, only part of the committed Green H2 capacity come up within the hub? In this case would MNRE allow Executing Agency to service other players from the under-utilized capacity? Would MNRE recover its proportionate funds ?	As long as the green hydrogen hub is "commissioned" as defined in the CfP, within the SCD, there won't be any impact on the CFA being granted under the CfP.

