

SOLAR ENERGY CORPORATION OF INDIA LIMITED

New Delhi

Ref No. SECI/C&P/IPP/13/0020/25-26/Clarifications-01

Date: 27.04.2026

RfS for Supply of 1000 MW of Round-the-Clock Thermal Mimic (RTC-TM) Power from ISTS-connected Renewable Energy (RE) Power Projects in India (SECI-RTC-TM-V) : Clarifications to the queries on the RfS (RfS No. SECI/C&P/IPP/13/0020/25-26 dated 10.03.2026)

S. No.	Documents	Clause No.	Existing Clause	Proposed Modifications	Rationale/Remarks	SECI's response
1	RfS	Clause 8.1(c)	The Buying Entity shall choose any 6 hours on a daily basis as Peak Hours, intimated day-ahead.	Allow Peak Hours to be declared on a monthly basis instead of daily basis.	Monthly declaration improves predictability, enables optimal storage design, and reduces tariff risk.	Clause has been suitably modified. Kindly refer amendments-01.
2	RfS	Clause 8.1(j)	The RPD can source up to 5% RE power (in energy terms) on annual basis from green market sources/bilateral agreements.	Increase permissible green market sourcing from 5% to 15% on annual energy basis.	Higher flexibility will reduce overbuilding, mitigate operational risk, and help moderate tariffs while preserving RTC nature.	Tender conditions remain unchanged.
3	RfS	Clause 8.1 (c)	Peak Hours are to be declared by the Buying Entity on a day-ahead basis	It is requested that Peak Hours be fixed in advance (e.g., on a monthly or pre-defined basis for the contract period) instead of being declared on a day-ahead basis.	Day-ahead variability in Peak Hour declaration introduces uncertainty in battery sizing, dispatch planning, and operational optimisation, potentially leading to conservative design and higher tariffs.	Tender conditions remain unchanged.
4	RfS	34.3	A Bidder quoting for 'X' MW Contracted Capacity shall be required to submit credentials either of the following:.....The Bidder will be required to submit the commissioning certificate issued by the Competent Authority, along with copy of the latest invoice for energy payment supported with REA/ SEA/ JMR/ Obligation report issued by Power Exchange, along with their bid as part of the bid submission.	Bidder should be allowed to showcase projects under execution or from Divested projects.	We have successfully executed projects totaling 1.5 GW and subsequently exited from them, and therefore do not currently hold any commissioned projects. The purpose of applying technical criteria is to ensure that bidders possess the capability to deliver projects. As we continue to retain the same management team with proven expertise in project execution, we respectfully request SECI to allow qualification based on under-construction projects (we have under construction projects of around 3.5 GW) or those from which we have exited.	Clause has been suitably modified. Kindly refer amendments-02.
5	RfS	16.1	EMD amount = Rs. [9,54,000 * S + 13,32,000 * W + 2,35,450 * E]	Bidder requests the EMD amount to be INR 10 Lakhs per MW of Bid Capacity (Contracted Capacity) with maximum Cap of INR 35 Crores.	Lesser EMD amount can bring wider participation. Also, the installed capacity due to the requirement of tender can be very high compared to Contracted Capacity resulting in higher EMD Amounts.	Tender conditions remain unchanged.
6	RfS	17.1	PBG amount = Rs. [23,85,000* S + 33,30,000* W + 5,88,625 * E]	Bidder requests the PBG amount to be INR 30 Lakhs per MW of Contracted Capacity	The Installed Capacity during PPA Signing may be subject to change and there can be downward revision in Installed Capacity. Hence we request the PBG Amount to be based on Contracted capacity.	Tender conditions remain unchanged.
7	RfS	10	The above shall be treated as delays beyond the control of the RPD and SCSD for such Projects shall be revised as the date as on 60 days subsequent to the readiness of the Delivery Point and power evacuation infrastructure and/or Start Date of Connectivity.	The above shall be treated as delays beyond the control of the RPD and SCSD for such Projects shall be revised as the date as on 120 days subsequent to the readiness of the Delivery Point and power evacuation infrastructure and/or Start Date of Connectivity.	A relief window of 60 days post ISTS readiness is inadequate for an RTC-TM project which requires sequential commissioning of multiple RE components and ESS, synchronization testing, BESS performance testing, and integration testing for the complete RTC configuration. A minimum of 120 days is necessary to complete all pre-commissioning activities, obtain trial run certificates, CEIG/CEA approvals, and NOC from SECI.	Tender conditions remain unchanged.
8	RfS	40.2	The Bidders who fall within the range of (and including) the lowest tariff (L1 tariff) + 2% of the L1 tariff—hereinafter referred to as "the range"— will be declared as Successful Bidders.	The Bidders who fall within the range of (and including) the lowest tariff (L1 tariff) + 5% of the L1 tariff—hereinafter referred to as "the range"— will be declared as Successful Bidders.	A wider bucket of L1+5% will ensure greater participation and competitive allocation, particularly for an RTC-TM configuration which involves higher project complexity, ESS costs, and multi-technology integration compared to standalone solar or wind projects. This will also help ensure the full tendered capacity of 1000 MW is subscribed.	Tender conditions remain unchanged.
9	PPA	10.2 (Monthly Bills)	RPD may raise Monthly bill based on the provisional REA published at RPC of the Buying Entity, the final adjustments in bill, if any, may be done on the basis of the final REA along with Debit/Credit Note.	RPD may raise Monthly bill based on the provisional REA published at RPC of the RPD for energy recorded at the Delivery Point/Interconnection Point, the final adjustments in bill, if any, may be done on the basis of the final REA along with Debit/Credit Note.	Using provisional REA published at RPC of the Buying Entity could lead to a dispute on the energy data to be used. If energy data at the State Periphery is considered, then billing would be less than the actual amount to be billed to the extent of losses in the ISTS network, as Tariff shall be at the Delivery Point (charges & losses up to Delivery Point to be borne by RPD, thereafter by the Buying Entity), which is the Interconnection Point to the ISTS Substation.	Tender conditions remain unchanged.
10	RfS	11.2	In case of multiple Project components, and if one or more such component (wind, solar PV or any other RE source) is/are ready for injection of power into the grid, but the remaining component(s) is/are unable to commence supply of power, the RPD will be allowed to commence power supply from such component which is ready, outside the ambit of PPA, with first right of refusal for such power being vested with the Buying Entity. In case Buying Entity/SECI decides to buy such discrete component's power outside the PPA, such power shall be purchased @ 50% of the PPA Tariff.	In case of multiple Project components, and if one or more such component (wind, solar PV or any other RE source) is/are ready for injection of power into the grid, but the remaining component(s) is/are unable to commence supply of power, the RPD will be allowed to commence power supply from such component which is ready, outside the ambit of PPA, and sell such power at its own cost and risk, with first right of refusal for such power being vested with the Buying Entity. In case Buying Entity/SECI decides to buy such discrete component's power outside the PPA, such power shall be purchased @ 100% of the PPA Tariff.	Since the Bidder is penalized for delayed commissioning, in the event of early commissioning of one or more RE components, it should be allowed to sell such power in the market with no compulsion to offer it at 50% of PPA Tariff. The reduced tariff of 50% is punitive for the RPD when the RPD is already bearing the penalty for delayed commissioning of the remaining components.	Tender conditions remain unchanged.
11	RfS	34.3	A Bidder quoting for 'X' MW Contracted Capacity shall be required to submit credentials either of the following: i. The Bidder should have successfully commissioned a single RE Project, as defined under the Guidelines, of Contracted Capacity not less than '4X/5' MW in last seven years as on last date of bid submission.		Please provide clarity on the required minimum promoter holding in the commissioned project	Clause has been suitably modified. Kindly refer amendments-02.
12	RfS	1.8	Bidders who have already commissioned Renewable Energy (RE) Projects/storage projects or are in process of constructing such projects and have untied capacity may also participate under this RfS	In case of existing or under-construction RE projects gets selected in this tender then such bidders/ developers should ensure that any non-compliant RE plant equipment, if identified, is replaced or aligned with ALMM(Wind) / ALMM(Solar) requirements prior to supply of power under the PPA.	Permitting participation of bidders with already commissioned or under-construction renewable energy (RE) or storage projects having untied capacity to participate under this RfS without adherence to Approved List of Models and Manufacturers (ALMM) (Wind) and ALMM (Solar) requirements would be contrary to underlying FDRE bidding guidelines and essentially would create a non-level playing field amongst the bidders. Therefore, need to align such existing RE plants participation with ALMM requirements is essential to ensure level playing field as well as compliance with Government of India (MNRE) mandates, promote the use of approved and quality-certified equipment, and support domestic manufacturing.	Tender conditions remain unchanged.

					This approach ensures that while developers can leverage existing capacities, the overall project remains compliant, reliable, and aligned with national policy objectives.	
13	RfS	4.2 (iii)	Energy Storage Systems (ESS) shall mandatorily constitute part of the Project. It is clarified that ESS charged using a source other than RE power would not qualify as RE power. For avoidance of any doubt, it is hereby clarified that ESS may be owned by the RPD or may be tied-up separately with a third party by the RPD, for supply of power. The ESS technology can be changed by the RPD at any time during the Term of the PPA. Any change in the ESS component during the term of the PPA shall be at the risk and cost of the RPD and under intimation to SECI.		In this high time-blockwise CUF based tender construct, storage component in the overall RE+storage project is inevitably going to be high. Hence, the overall capital cost of the storage component might be even higher than the total cost of RE component in the overall RE + Storage project cost. In the existing tender structure, SPD can have its own ESS or a third party tie-up. However, considering the significant capex share of storage in the overall RE+ Storage project cost as well as to ensure higher participation of bidders in the tender to discover competitive tariff in the tender, ESS developers should also be allowed to participate as lead bidder in the tender with back-to-back tie-up with RE developers for RE supply & charging of contracted storage capacity. There are storage developers who possess the technical & financial eligibility to participate in this tender, however restriction on allowing only RE developer to bid while tying with storage developer restricts their participation and competitiveness of the bid.	Tender conditions remain unchanged.
14	RfS	4.2(iii)	iii. Energy Storage Systems (ESS) shall mandatorily constitute part of the Project. It is clarified that ESS charged using a source other than RE power would not qualify as RE power. For avoidance of any doubt, it is hereby clarified that ESS may be owned by the RPD or may be tied-up separately with a third party by the RPD, for supply of power. The ESS technology can be changed by the RPD at any time during the Term of the PPA. Any change in the ESS component during the term of the PPA shall be at the risk and cost of the RPD and under intimation to SECI.		It may please be clarified if procurement for GDAM market for charging of the BESS is permitted?	Kindly refer Clause 4.4.9 of the draft PPA.
15	RfS	8.1 a	Demand Fulfilment Ratio: The procurement shall be in power (MW) terms. The RPD shall supply RE power in Round-the-Clock manner by maintaining the following Demand Fulfilment Ratios (DFR): (i) a minimum DFR of 90% in each time-block during the Peak Hours; (ii) a minimum DFR of 80% in each time-block during the off-Peak Hours; provided that the RPD may designate, by prior written notice to the Buying Entity latest by 31st May of that year, any two calendar months between (and including) July and September, during which the minimum DFR requirement in each time-block during the off-Peak Hours shall stand relaxed to 70%, such designation being limited to complete calendar months only; (iii) a minimum DFR of 90% on annual basis.	Demand Fulfilment Ratio: The procurement shall be in power (MW) terms. The RPD shall supply RE power in Round-the-Clock manner by maintaining the following Demand Fulfilment Ratios (DFR): (i) a minimum DFR of 90% in each time-block during the Peak Hours; (ii) a minimum DFR of 70% in each time-block during the off-Peak Hours; provided that the RPD may designate, by prior written notice to the Buying Entity, any three calendar months in a year, during which the minimum DFR requirement in each time-block during the off-Peak Hours shall stand relaxed to 70%. (iii) a minimum DFR of 80% on annual basis.	These stringent DFR requirements, coupled with the inherently uncertain nature of renewable energy generation, expose developers to substantial penalties. Therefore, the DFR requirements should be suitably relaxed. It is important to note that the current CUF for thermal plants is significantly below the proposed 90% DFR. Since the tender follows a thermal-mimic structure, it is reasonable to request relaxation of this clause to ensure practicality and fairness. Additionally, the demographic and demand profiles of each state vary considerably. Hence, relaxation in off-peak DFR requirements should not be restricted to specific months but should instead allow flexibility across regions and conditions.	Clause has been suitably modified. Kindly refer amendments-01.
16	RfS	9.2 a	Phase-I SCSD: The Energy Storage System (ESS) component proposed to be installed as part of the Project, along with the corresponding co-located RE generating component shall commence supply of power within 18 months from the Effective Date of the PPA. Phase-II SCSD: (ii) The remaining RE generating component of the Project shall commence supply of power within 24 months from the Effective Date of the PPA.	Since BESS can be co-located with both solar and wind. We suggest amendment that BESS collocated with solar shall commence supply within 18 months under Clause (i). Separately wind component of the project shall commence supply within 24 months from Effective date of PPA	Wind projects will take longer than Solar projects to construct. Therefore, for wind projects 24 months to be considered.	Clause has been suitably modified. Kindly refer amendments-02.
17	RfS	Clause 8.1(c)	The Buying Entity shall choose any 6 hours on a daily basis as Peak Hours, intimated day-ahead.	Allow Peak Hours to be declared on a monthly basis instead of daily basis.	Monthly declaration improves predictability, enables optimal storage design, and reduces tariff risk.	Tender conditions remain unchanged.
18	RfS	Clause 16.1	Based on the cumulative Installed Capacity committed by the Bidder as part of its response to RfS, Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) shall be submitted	It is requested to kindly consider linking certain charges and financial obligations under the RfS (including, but not limited to, EMD, transmission-related charges, and other capacity-linked levies) to the contracted capacity instead of the installed capacity.	Given that RTC projects require significant over-installation of renewable generation and storage capacity to reliably meet the contracted Round-the-Clock supply obligations, levying charges on installed capacity results in a disproportionate cost burden that is not reflective of the actual power contracted or supplied to the Buying Entity.	Tender conditions remain unchanged.
19	RfS		Capping of Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	Considering that EMD/PBG requirements are linked to the installed capacity, and that RTC projects under this RfS necessitate significantly higher installed capacity relative to the contracted capacity, the associated capital investment is substantial. Consequently, the cumulative EMD requirement becomes disproportionately high, thereby creating a financial burden and limiting developer participation. To address this, we request that the EMD may be capped at Rs. 35 Crore per bidder, irrespective of bid capacity. We understand that similar provisions have been adopted in bids issued by other REIAs such as SJVN and NHPC. This approach will encourage broader participation, enhance competition, and reduce entry barriers without compromising bidder seriousness.		Tender conditions remain unchanged.

Note: All the queries received from various prospective bidders have been scrutinized and have been tried to be answered comprehensively. In case of any query not published here and is not covered under the Amendments issued to the RfS, it shall be construed in such cases, tender conditions shall prevail.