

Reply to Pre-Bid Queries of Component-A under PM KUSUM scheme tender dated 10.11.2021

Sr No	Clause No	Existing Clause	Proposed Modifications	MSEDCL's Response
1	1.1.6 of RFS	Agricultural land is also permitted under the scheme provided that solar plants are installed in stilt fashion (i.e. raised structure for installation of Solar panels) and with adequate spacing between panel rows for ensuring that farming activity is not affected.	Height of the structure- Height of the raised structure is not mentioned? What should be the standard height one should consider?	The clause 1.1.6 of RfS is self explanatory. However, bidders may consider the stilt height as per site specific conditions without affecting the farming activity.
2	1.2.3 of RFS	In case of import of energy during a month, the successful bidder shall be required to make payment to MSEDCL at prevailing HT Industrial Tariff rate as determined by MERC from time to time	1.2.3 In case of Import of energy..... When there is no net metering facility available, how one can import the energy?	Import of energy is the energy used for auxiliary/start-up. Hence, separate connection is to be taken for import energy.
3	Section 3: Bid Information and Instructions to Bidders/ 3.4 Project Scope/ Page 17 of 144	The successful bidder shall set up Solar PV Power Project(s) including the Distribution network up to the Delivery Point in line with Section 3.8, at its own cost (including but not limited to open access charges till the delivery point) and in accordance to the provisions of this RfS/EoI document.	What are open access charges applicable and its amount per unit in this scheme?	This clause is revised as under: " The successful bidder shall set up Solar PV Power Projects (s) including the Distribution network up to the delivery point in line with section 3.8, at its own cost and in accordance to the provisions of this RfS/EoI document.
4	3.6.11 8	Limited Liability Partnership (LLPs) are not eligible for participation.	we are a LLP company, can we participate in this tender?	The request is not accepted. The Bidder has to adhere with RFS/PPA provisions only.
5	Section 3: Bid Information and Instructions to Bidders 3.8 Connectivity with the Grid/ Page 21 of 144	The successful bidder shall not be entitled to deemed generation in case of any delay in grant of connectivity.	Needs further elaboration from MSEDCL	In case the connectivity is approved subject to installation/ augmentation of infrastructure and if solar project is ready to evacuate full capacity but installation/augmentation of infrastructure is not completed then deemed generation will not be applicable.
6	3.8.4 of RFS	The arrangement of connectivity can be made by the successful bidder through a dedicated line or sharing of a line. The dedicated line may be constructed by the successful bidder or through any other agency. The entire cost of transmission including cost of construction of line, maintenance, losses etc. from the project up to the delivery point will be borne by the successful bidder. The arrangement of connectivity can be made through sharing of a line, however sharing of line shall be at the discretion of the bidder provided there is a legally binding agreement between the bidder and the other parties sharing the same line for a period not less than 25 years and the bidder shall indemnify MSEDCL for any loss arising out of failure of such shared line.	3.8.4 About Sharing Transmission lines: Does sharing lines means we can use MSEDCL existing line till Substation? IF yes, what would be the formalities and wheeling charges for the same? Sharing of transmission line available, any circular if any?	It is clarified that sharing lines is the sharing of the line installed by successful bidders and not of MSEDCL line.

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7	3.13 of RFS	The declared CUF shall in no case be less than 15% over a year.	3.13 Capacity Utilization Factor Instead of CUF, PR (Performance Ratio) Should be considered.	The request is not accepted. The Bidder has to adhere with RFS/PPA provisions only.
8	3.13.1 of RFS. Criteria for generation	Grid availability/ grid non-availability	MSEDCL shall define grid availability & shall give a factor say 95% grid availability. It has importance in financial feasibility of the project.	
9	3.13.3 Excess Generation/ Page 24 of 144	MSEDCL, in any Contract Year shall not be obliged to purchase any additional energy from the RPG beyond the contract capacity in accordance with the terms of the PPA under Clause 4.3.1	In case of excess generation on contracted capacity same shall be incentivized by msedcl, if not it shall be purchased as the PPA rate.	
10	3.13.4 Repowering/ Page 24 of 144	Solar Power Generator shall be allowed for the repowering once for a maximum cumulative period of six (6) months during the entire PPA term of 25 years. Solar Power Generator shall not be in default for non-supply of power during this period of repowering. However, the MSEDCL will be obliged to buy power only within the range of CUF, specified in the PPA.	3.13.4 - You have mentioned that MSEDCL will be obliged to buy power only within the range of CUF, specified in the PPA. CUF window range is not mentioned, like 15% +/- 5% arrangement should be done.	Bidders are suggested to refer Clause No. 3.13.1 of RFS, where as it is mentioned that CUF shall in case be less than 15% over a year. Further, CUF range is not applicable for this tender. The Bidder has to adhere with RFS/PPA provisions only. This is as per MNRE guidelines and Standard Power Purchase Agreement for PM-KUSUM scheme.
11	3.13.4 Repowering/ Page 24 of 144	Solar Power Generator shall be allowed for the repowering once for a maximum cumulative period of six (6) months during the entire PPA term of 25 years.	Please define repowering	Repowering shall be referred as any definition/guidelines issued by MNRE for the solar power plants.
12	3.15. 3a of RFS	Delay up to Two (2) months from SCOD – MSEDCL will forfeit Performance Bank Guarantee on per day basis and proportionate to the balance Capacity not commissioned.	3.15.3a) Delay up to 2 months from SCOD- MSEDCL will forfeit performance bank Guarantee on per day basis and proportionate to the balance capacity not commissioned. Suppose I have 1 MW of Solar plant and my DC side is fully completed but there are some ROW issue or other issues related to transmission line, How much "Balanced Capacity" will be considered. "Balanced capacity" has lack of balance in DC and AC side. Kindly define it in Holistic manner.	The clause 3.15.3a of RFS is with respect to AC capacity.
13	General		3.1 Rs/unit- is fixed rate or it has escalation every year?	The tariff payable to Selected Bidder shall be fixed for 25 years as discovered through the e-bidding and e-reverse auction.
14	General		In case we have 33kV Feeder passing through our farm land, Can we connect it to the same line as a delivery point? Tender mentions 11/22kV connection?	No the plant cannot be connected to 33 Kv feeder. The request is not accepted. Delivery Point" shall mean the point(s) of connection(s) at which energy is delivered into the Grid System i.e. the Interconnection Point i.e. it shall be at 11 / 22 kV bus bar level of substation of MSEDCL.
15	General		We seek clarification on a point where it is mentioned maximum transmission line length allowed is 5 Km. But is there any provision in case the line length exceeds 5km such as 5.5km or 6km or say 6.5km?	The solar power project shall be installed within Five Km radius of the sub-station only.

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16			Definition of Deemed Generation is not given in the tender	Deemed Generation means the generation at the delivery point which cannot be evacuated due to reasons beyond the control of solar power generator.
17	General		MNRE compatible Tracking structure specifications allowed?	As per RfS, use of solar panel tracker is optional. And if bidders choose to use solar panel trackers then bidder has to adhere with RFS/PPA provisions only.
18	General		Is connection to 132kV Line possible?	No. The Interconnection point shall be at 11 / 22 kV bus bar level of substation of MSEDCL.
19	General		REC / RPO Benefit Available or Not?	No, This power is eligible and purchased for meeting the Solar RPO requirement of MSEDCL.
20	General		At The Tender BID time we show Land Location but Can We Change Land Location before PPA Time?	Land location can be changed upto Financial Closure but the substation can't be changed once bid is submitted.
21	General		Any Subsidy Eligible (i.e. MSME or any other) for Unit Generation (Manufacturing) ?	As per MNRE guidelines for Component-A of PM KUSUM scheme, there is no subsidy available to bidders.
22	General		In Solar Power Plant – Bi-Facial Module Use or Not? Please Clarify?	Bi-facial module can be used. However, Bidder shall ensure that only quality systems should be installed, prevailing MNRE/BIS specifications and quality control orders applicable for solar module, invertors, BoS and other equipments shall be followed. Some of the technical specifications are provided as Annexure-A in RfS and is under operation for at least one year.
23	General		Non –DCR Module Use or Not, Please Clarify?	Only DCR module shall be used.
24	General		Can We deposited Demand Draft against of PBG and EMD ? Please Clarify ? If Yes then which name will prepare for D.D?	No.Bank Guarantees are to be submitted against EMD and PBG. The clause 3.10 of RfS is self explanatory.
25	General		There may be possibilities in few of the farms, there is no electrical connection. To execute the work, we might required temporary connection of electricity, What would be time duration to get temporary connection?	Time duration will be as per applicable rules and regulations for temporary connections.
26	General		As Duration of PPA is 25 years, As per the tender Calendar year would be considered, so My question is Suppose After Getting LOA, say in the month of January, we are ready for interconnection. And in the same month of January we have completed all the prerequisite and Power plant start generating. Then My first year of Agreement period would be JAN to March- 1 Year , and so on 25 years will be considered or From the Day of interconnection it will be considered. ?	MSEDCL shall enter into Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with the Bidders selected based on this RfS/EoI for purchase of solar power for a period of 25 years from the Commercial Operation Date of the solar power projects based on the terms, conditions and provisions of the RfS.

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27	General		3.13.3 Excess Generation : You have given us the lower cut-off , like if Plant is producing below 15% CUF then penalty will be applicable, What are extra incentives if we are generating above given CUF? If not then there should not be any provision for penalty or incentive on higher Generation must be incentivized.	Bidder are suggested to refer Clause No. 4.3.1 of PPA, where it was mentioned that there shall be no penalty to SPG for shortfall in generation from minimum CUF.
28	General		Suppose EPC company are to be the part of more than one Consortium or SPV or Group of Farmer or Individual entity, then definitely there will be duplication of bidder entities. Will it be accepted or considered as multiple bids application.	The clause 3.5 of RfS i.e. "Eligibility of project capacity allocation" is self explanatory. <i>"3.5 Eligibility for Project capacity allocation: Following conditions shall be applicable to the Bidders for submission of bids against this RfS/EoI:</i> <i>1. A Bidder including its Parent, Affiliate or Ultimate Parent or any Group Company can only submit a single bid, subject to minimum bidding capacity as specified in Clause 3.2</i> <i>2. A Bidder including its Parent, Ultimate</i>
29	General		With Company B for XYZ location Note: My company Would not be the part of 2 companies for the same substation location. I am bidding for different location through different consortium, farm producing companies, Company, Individual. Then is it considered as valid entity or not.	
30	General		What if there is only one Bidder, will it be declared as winner or it will go for retendering.	The Clause No. 4.2 (B) (iii) is self explanatory. <i>"Note: In case of each category, on completion of Techno-commercial bid evaluation, if it is found that only one bidder is eligible, opening of the financial bid of the bidder will be at the discretion of MSEDCL. Thereafter MSEDCL will take appropriate action by taking necessary approval from MERC."</i>
31	General		Project activity timeline including LoA allotment, Grid connectivity approval, PPA, COD shall be defined	The RfS & PPA documents are self explanatory. The LOA shall be issued after MERC tariff adoption. PPA will be signed within 2 months from LOA after PBG submission. Grid connectivity approval shall be taken by developer within 6 months from LOA. COD is 12 months form LOA issued.
32	General		Can we sell or Transfer the entire project after Commissioning?	The definition of "Lead Member of the Bidding Consortium" or "Lead Member" clause is self-explanatory: <i>"Lead Member of the Bidding Consortium" or "Lead Member": There shall be only one Lead Member, having shareholding more than 51% in the Bidding Consortium, which cannot be changed till 1 year from the Commercial Operation Date (CoD) of the Project .</i>

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33	General		Whether any NGO Trust land is allowed for project development?	NO, NGO Trust land is not allowed for project development under KUSUM A scheme. The clause 3.5 of RfS i.e. "Eligibility of project capacity allocation" is self explanatory.
34	General		Which distance we need to consider from land to substation, Areal or line Distance?	The Solar Power Project will be preferably installed within five km radius of the sub-stations in order to avoid high cost of sub-transmission lines and to reduce transmission losses.
35	General		Any Financial / Banking Support from MNRE or Discom?	As per MNRE guidelines for KUSUM A scheme, there is no financial support to bidders.
36	General		GST has been Increases from 5 to 12 %, Is there any increase or effect on PPA Price?	Bidder shall submit the bid considering the impact of the increased GST rate on Solar Power Devices as per MoF Notification dated 30.09.2021
37	General		Unit generation will be calculated at Generation point or at Injection point?	Since Metering shall be done at delivery / interconnection point where the power is injected into the 33/11 kV Sub-station, energy generated at the generation end will not be considered for payment. Energy delivered at the MSEDCL sub-station i.e at the delivery/interconnection point will be considered for payment.
38	General		Is there any Extra benefit for excess Unit Generation ?	MSEDCL, in any Contract Year shall not be obliged to purchase any additional energy from the SPG beyond the contract capacity in accordance with the terms of the PPA under Clause 4.3.1.
39	General		Can new solar integrator participate as a in developer mode?	The clause 3.6 (II) of RfS document is self explanatory. "II. Developer Mode: 1. Bidder as defined in Section 2 is eligible to participate under this RfS/EoI. 2. The Bidding companies should be incorporated or registered in India under the Companies Act 1956 or Companies Act, 2013 or Co-operative Societies Act, 1912, as applicable"

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40	General		Which types of land is allowed Agri or non Agri land?	The solar power project under the scheme would be implemented primarily on Barren /uncultivable land. Agricultural land is also permitted under the scheme provided that solar plants are installed in stilt fashion (i.e. raised structure for installation of Solar panels) and with adequate spacing between panel rows for ensuring that farming activity is not affected.
41	General		What is tax holiday benefit? Or any GR regarding it can be shared	Bidders are requested to refer the Income tax act for understanding of tax holiday benefit.
42	General		Can we take PNGP & CMGP Loan scheme benefit?	The SPG shall be solely responsible and make arrangements for Land & associated infrastructure for development of the Project and for Connectivity with the 22/11 kV sub-station for confirming the evacuation of power by the Scheduled Commissioning date or COD, whichever is earlier, and all clearances related thereto. Opting for PNGP and CMGP loan scheme benefits is prerogative of successful bidder
43	General		Any Industry benefit for solar power producer?	As per GoM RE Policy,2020 solar plants lands are given deemed industrial status. For any other industrial benefits kindly refer the applicable /relevant Gol and GoM policies.
44	General		Can MSEDCL will help for transmission line routine?	The SPG shall be solely responsible and make arrangements for Land & associated infrastructure for development of the Project and for Connectivity with the 22/11 kV sub-station for confirming the evacuation of power by the Scheduled Commissioning date or COD, whichever is earlier, and all clearances related thereto
45	General		Is there any financial support available from IREDA or SECI for initial investment?	No

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46	General		As developer can you demand more than 2 MW?	For same substation maximum capacity eligible for bidding is 2 MW. In case bidders wishes to bid for more than one sub-stations then bid capacity can be less than or more than 2 MW. However, only one PPA will be executed with the successful bidder for more than one substations. (Note: The project capacity can't be more than 2 MW on a single substation)
47	General		As a developer can we do the consortium or J V agreement?	The clause 3.6 (II) (3) of RfS document is self explanatory. "II. Developer Mode: 3. Any consortium, if selected as successful bidder for the purpose of supply of power to MSEDCL, shall incorporate a Project company / Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) with equity participation by the Members in line with consortium agreement (to be submitted along with the response to RfS/EoI) before signing of PPA., i.e. the Project Company incorporated shall have the same shareholding pattern at the time of signing of PPA as given at the time of submission of response to RfS/EoI"
48	General		Is there any Deem generation benefit? Or surety for no power cut off from MSEDCL or any Compensation?	The clause No 4.9 of PPA document is self explanatory. "4.9 Generation compensation for Off-take constraints 4.9.1 Generation Compensation in offtake constraints due to Grid Unavailability: During the operation of the plant, there can be some periods where the Project can generate power but due to temporary transmission unavailability, the power is not evacuated, for reasons not attributable to the SPG. In such cases, subject to the submission of documentary evidences from the competent authority, the generation compensation shall be restricted to the following and there shall be no other claim, directly or indirectly against MSEDCL."

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49	General		Who will decide the land rent amount?	Land lease shall be a bipartite agreement between successful bidder and Land owner. Land lease rent shall be decided mutually by successful bidder and the land owner.
50	General		Open access project can allow in this scheme?	As per Clause 1.3.3 of the RfS, The Projects under construction, projects which are not yet commissioned and projects already commissioned but do not have any long-term PPA with any agency, and selling power on short-term or merchant plant basis shall be eligible.
51	General		If the project is delayed due to non availability of DCR panels, will the penalty imposed?	Yes. Erection & commissioning of solar project is in the scope of developers.
52	General		Is there expansion process available in the tender?	No
53	General		one farmer can do multiple agreement with multiple developer if lands are available?	Yes. one farmer can do multiple agreement with multiple developer if lands are available. Maximum capacity eligible for bidding on the same substation is 2 MW. In case for the same substation one farmer can do multiple agreements with multiple developer if lands are available. If the same farmer is having land at other substation then also he/she can do multiple agreements subject to maximum capacity of 2 MW for the respective substations.