

**CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION  
NEW DELHI**

**Petition No.243/AT/2025**

Subject : Petition under Section 63 of the Electricity Act, 2003 for the adoption of the tariff of Solar PV Power Projects (Tranche xviii) connected to the inter-state transmission system (ISTS) and selected through competitive bidding process as per the Guidelines dated 28.7.2023.

Petitioner : Solar Energy Corporation of India Limited (SECI)

Respondents : ReNew Solar Power Private Limited & Others.

Date of Hearing : **25.3.2025**

Coram : Shri Jishnu Barua, Chairperson  
Shri Ramesh Babu V., Member  
Shri Harish Dudani, Member  
Shri Ravinder Singh Dhillon, Member

Parties Present : Ms. Anushree Bardhan, Advocate, SECI  
Ms. Ritika Singh, Advocate, SECI  
Shri Gopal Jain, Sr. Advocate, ASHL  
Shri Basava Prabhu Patil, Sr. Advocate, RSPPL  
Mr. Aniket Prasoon, Advocate, ASHL & RSPPL  
Ms. Pratiksha Chaturvedi, Advocate, ASHL & RSPPL  
Mr. Vinit Kumar, Advocate, ASHL & RSPPL  
Mr. Shubham Singh, Advocate, ASHL & RSPPL

**Record of Proceedings**

At the outset the learned counsel for the Petitioner submitted that vide Record of Proceedings for the hearing dated 13.3.2025, the Commission had granted a week's time to file an affidavit addressing certain queries, including the calculation of per-unit ISTS charges and in this regard, the Petitioner has sought certain data from the NLDC, which is still awaited. Learned counsel, accordingly, requested an extension of two weeks to file the compliance affidavit. She also added that the Petitioner has *inter alia* also requested NLDC to provide the month-wise data of generation from various sources, including thermal, renewable, hydro, hydrogen, and nuclear, which is also yet to be received. She, accordingly, urged the Commission to issue an appropriate direction to NLDC, if deemed fit, to provide such data expeditiously. She also pointed out that the Record of Proceedings dated 13.3.2025 inadvertently records that the Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) have been signed, whereas the PPAs are yet to be executed, and PSAs have been executed.

2. Learned senior counsel for Respondent No. 2 submitted that, in compliance with the Record of Proceedings for the hearing dated 13.3.2025, the Respondent has also filed its reply on the reasonability of the tariff discovered in the bid process.

Learned senior counsel submitted that as per the present Tranche XVIII tender, the Scheduled Commencement of Supply Date (SCSD) for the Projects is 30.6.2025, and it is, therefore, not comparable with the other regular solar tenders, wherein SCSD of the projects typically remains 24 months from the effective date of the PPA. Learned senior counsel also submitted that in the present tender, only the bidders who have been granted connectivity at existing S/s with a Start Date of connectivity on or before 30.6.2025 were allowed to participate, and thus, the Projects awarded thereunder are the Projects that have been set up as Merchant Projects without any firm PPA. The learned senior counsel also added that in the reply, the Respondent has also drawn a comparison between other SECI tenders and the present tender on a few key parameters to establish the reasonableness of the tariff under the present tender, which may be considered by the Commission.

3. Learned senior counsel for Respondent No. 1 also reiterated that the tariff under the present tender, which stipulated the SCSD for the Projects as 30.6.2025 (approx. 6 months), cannot be compared with the tariff discovered under the generic solar tenders, which typically provides 24 months for the implementation of the Projects and tariff in the present case is, essentially, the price of a 'finished product'. The learned senior counsel also submitted that in the present case, there shall be no liability of ISTS charges on the distribution licensees. Also, if the commencement of supply is delayed beyond 30.6.2025 for any reason whatsoever, the tender provides that the liability of applicable transmission/ISTS charges up to the CTUIL-STU periphery of the distribution licensee shall be borne by the developers. Learned senior counsel further emphasised that the applicability of the ISTS charges (being in the range of 65-70 Paise/kWh) is also a crucial factor in considering the reasonability of the tariff under the present tender. The learned senior counsel also pointed out that the Himachal Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission has already approved the procurement of 600 MW power by HPSEBL, and the Power Supply Agreement (PSA) to this extent has also been executed.

4. Considering the submissions made by the learned senior counsel and learned counsel for the parties, the Commission directed as under:

- (a) NLDC to provide the requisite data to the Petitioner at the earliest and, in any case, within a week from the date of the issuance of this RoP.
- (b) Whether there is a waiver or not, the generator is not required to pay inter-state transmission charges as per the GNA/Sharing regulations of CERC. As such, the argument - that applicability of ISTS charges (being in the range of 65-70 Paise/kWh) is a crucial factor in considering the reasonability of the tariff under the present tender – is not clear. The Petitioner to submit justification within a week.
- (c) The Petitioner to file its compliance affidavit, in terms of Record of Proceedings for the hearing dated 13.3.2025, within a week thereafter.

5. The Respondent, HPSEBL, was directed to confirm on an affidavit within a week whether HPSEBL had raised any objection regarding higher tariff before the HPERC, if no, reason thereof.

6. The matter will be listed for the hearing on **8.4.2025**.

**By order of the Commission**  
**Sd/-**  
**(T.D. Pant)**  
**Joint Chief (Law)**