

**CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
NEW DELHI**

Petition No. 286/AT/2021

Subject : Petition under Section 63 of the Electricity Act, 2003 for adoption of tariff for 8800 MW Solar Power Plants connected to Inter-State Transmission System (ISTS) linked with setting up of 2200 MW Solar Manufacturing Plant, selected through Competitive Bidding Process as per the Guidelines dated 3.8.2017 of the Central Government as amended from time to time and interpreted and modified by the Central Government vide subsequent communications.

Date of Hearing : 13.1.2022

Coram : Shri P. K. Pujari, Chairperson
Shri I. S. Jha, Member
Shri P. K. Singh, Member

Petitioner : Solar Energy Corporation of India Limited (SECI)

Respondents : Azure Power India Private Limited and 9 Ors.

Parties Present : Shri M. G. Ramachandran, Sr. Advocate, SECI
Ms. Tanya Sareen, Advocate, SECI
Ms. Poorva Saigal, Advocate, SECI
Ms. Neha Singh, SECI
Shri Atulya Kumar Naik, SECI
Shri Shibasish Das, SECI
Shri Mudit Jain, SECI
Ms. Akriti Gandotra, Azure Power
Shri Gaurang Sethi, Azure Power
Ms. Anusha Nagarajan, Advocate, TANGEDCO
Shri Manoj Kumar Das, GRIDCO
Shri Mahfooz Alam, GRIDCO

Record of Proceedings

Case was called out for virtual hearing.

2. The learned senior counsel for the Petitioner submitted that present Petition has been filed seeking adoption of tariff for 8800 MW solar power plants linked with setting up of a 2200 MW solar manufacturing plant selected through competitive bidding process as per the 'Guidelines for Tariff Based Competitive Bidding Process for Procurement of Power from Grid Connected Solar Power Project' issued by Ministry of Power, Government of India on 3.8.2017 (in short 'the Guidelines') along with subsequent amendments thereto and interpreted and modified by the Government vide subsequent communications.

3. The learned senior counsel further submitted that pursuant to aforesaid bidding process, the solar power plants for total capacity of 12,000 MW have been selected. However, so far, the Power Purchase Agreements ('PPAs') and Power

Supply Agreements ('PSAs') have been executed for 8800 MW and accordingly, the Petitioner is seeking adoption of tariff to the extent of 8800 MW only. The learned senior counsel submitted that tariff discovered pursuant to the bid process was Rs. 2.92/kWh, which was later reduced by the successful bidders to Rs. 2.54/kWh and Rs. 2.42/kWh. The power to be generated from the aforesaid projects have been tied up with TANGEDCO, GRIDCO, Chhattisgarh State Power Distribution Company Limited and the distribution companies of Andhra Pradesh and all the concerned State Commissions except Chhattisgarh State Electricity Regulatory Commission have approved the procurement of such power under the PSAs. The Petitioner has placed on record all relevant documents including conformity certificate. The learned senior counsel further submitted that SECI has, however, prayed for exemption from filing hard copies of RfS documents and signed PPAs and PSA on account of voluminous record.

4. After hearing the learned senior counsel for the Petitioner, the Commission ordered as under:

- (a) Admit. Issue notice to the Respondents;
- (b) The Petitioner to serve copy of the Petition on the Respondents immediately, if not already served and the Respondents to file their reply, if any, by 24.1.2022 after serving copy of the same to the Petitioner, who may file their rejoinder, if any, by 31.1.2022;
- (c) The Petitioner to file a comparative statement by 25.1.2022 indicating the steps and process followed by the Petitioner in the bidding/tender, mapping the same to the corresponding enabling provisions of the Guidelines as amended from time to time and interpretation/clarifications issued by the Central Government; and
- (d) Parties to comply with the above directions within the specified timelines and no extension of time shall be granted.

5. The Petition shall be listed for hearing in due course for which separate notice will be issued.

By order of the Commission

**Sd/-
(T.D. Pant)
Joint Chief (Law)**