



ASSAM ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

ORDER SHEET

FILE NO. AERC 811/2021

PETITION NO: 14/2021

CORAM: HON'BLE SHRI K.S. KRISHNA, CHAIRPERSON
HON'BLE SHRI S.N. KALITA, MEMBER
HON'BLE SMTI B. BORTHAKUR, MEMBER

In the matter of

Petition for approval of pre-fixed levelized tariff for procurement of power by APDCL under Component –A of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyaan (PM – KUSUM) Scheme

AND

In the matter of

Assam Power Distribution Company Limited (APDCL)

----- Petitioner

ORDER
29.12.2021

1. APDCL on 16.12.2021, filed a petition before the Commission seeking approval of ceiling tariff for procurement of power for 50 MWp cumulative capacities of decentralized grid connected solar power projects to be set up against Component-A of PM –KUSUM (Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyaan) Scheme.
2. The summary of the petition filed by APDCL is given below.
 - i. The petitioner, Assam Power Distribution Company Limited (APDCL) will be the implementing agency for Component –A of PM-KUSUM Scheme in Assam
 - ii. Assam Power Distribution Company Limited (APDCL) will notify sub-station wise surplus capacity which can be fed from such solar power plants to the Grid. The renewable power generated will be purchased by DISCOMs at a pre-fixed tariff approved by Hon'ble Commission and enter into PPA for 25 years from the Commercial Operation Date (COD) of the project. The total energy purchased from these solar power plants will be accounted for fulfillment of RPO of the petitioner
 - iii. APDCL shall conduct tendering process and invite applications from interested beneficiaries for setting up of the solar power plants as per prescribed guidelines. In case, the aggregate capacity offered by Applicants is more than notified capacity for a particular sub-station, bidding route will be followed to select Renewable Power Generator and, in such cases, the pre-fixed levelized tariff will be the ceiling tariff for reverse bidding. Selection of the bidders will be based on the lowest tariff offered in the ascending order as quoted by the bidders in the closed bid or e-reverse auction as the case may be
 - iv. It was agreed that as per guidelines AEDA will coordinate with the State Government, APDCL as well as farmers for implementation of the scheme
 - v. AEDA as and where necessary will coordinate and assist the farmers in successful implementation of the project in coordination with APDCL authorities
 - vi. APDCL will submit the tariff petition to the Hon'ble AERC for determination of the pre-fixed levelized tariff under Component –A of PM-KUSUM scheme.
 - vii. The operational guidelines dated 22/07/2019 inter-alia provides for the implementation and commissioning of the project within a specified timeline as provided in the PM-KUSUM scheme itself, which stipulates that “*the projects under Component – A should be commissioned with in a period of nine (09) months from the date of issue of Letter of Award by implementing agency*”.

- viii. Under Component –A of the scheme APDCL will be eligible to get performance-based incentive (PBI) at Rs. 0.40 per unit for the power purchased or Rs. 6.60 lakh/MW of capacity installed, whichever is lower, for a period of five years from the COD.
- ix. APDCL requested before the Commission to kindly grant approval for procurement of power from the decentralized solar power plants under Component-A of PM-KUSUM scheme of MNRE @ Rs 3.23/unit (Without slit) and @ Rs 3.30/unit (slit).

Analysis and Decision of the Commission

3. The Commission admitted the petition as No. 14/2021.
4. The Commission has examined in detail, the petition filed by APDCL, as per the provisions of the Electricity Act, 2003, AERC Regulations, and other details presented before the Commission.
5. The Commission examined APDCLs proposal to purchase the energy generated at the pre-fixed levelized tariff @ Rs 3.23/unit (Without slit) and @ Rs 3.30/unit (slit) from the decentralized Solar/RE plants under Component-A of the PM-KUSUM scheme. The Commission noted the justification of APDCL.
6. The Commission, after examining the petition filed by APDCL as per the provisions of the Electricity Act, 2003, AERC (Terms and Conditions for Tariff Determination from Renewable Energy Sources), Regulations 2017, and other details presented before the Commission, hereby orders the following.
- i. Approve the ceiling tariff for bidding to procure power from decentralized solar power plants having cumulative capacity of 50Mwp to be set up under Component-A of PM-KUSUM scheme of MNRE, Government of India @ Rs 3.23/unit (Without slit) and @ Rs 3.30/unit (slit).

Accordingly, the petition no. 14/2021 is disposed off.

Sd/-
(B. Borthakur)
Member, AERC

Sd/-
(S. N. Kalita)
Member, AERC

Sd/-
(K. S. Krishna)
Chairperson, AERC