

PUNJAB STATE ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

SITE NO. 3, BLOCK B, SECTOR 18-A MADHYA MARG, CHANDIGARH

Petition No. 34 of 2024**Date of Hearing: 18.09.2024****Date of Order: 19.09.2024**

Petition under Section 86(1)(b) and 86(1)(e) of the Electricity Act, 2003, as read with Punjab State Electricity Regulatory Commission (Power Purchase and Procurement Process of Licensees) Regulations, 2012 for the approval of the procurement of 900 MW wind Solar Hybrid power by Punjab State Power Corporation Limited (PSPCL) from the Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) under the ISTS Hybrid Tranche VII Scheme.

And

In the matter of: Punjab State Power Corporation Limited, The Mall, Patiala-147001
...Petitioner

Versus

1. Solar Energy Corporation of India Limited 6th Floor, Plate-B, NBCC Office Block Tower-2, East Kidwai Nagar New Delhi-110023.
2. NTPC Renewable Energy Ltd, having its registered office at NTPC Bhawan, Scope, Complex-7, Institutional Area, Lodhi Road, South Delhi, India- 110003.
3. Juniper Green Beta Private Ltd, having its registered office at F-9, First Floor, Manish Plaza-1, Plot No. 7 MLU, Sector -10, Dwarka New Delhi-110075.
4. Green Infra Renewable Projects Ltd, having its registered office at Building 7A, Level-5, DLF Cyber City, Gurugram- 122002, Haryana, India.

....Respondents

Commission: Sh. Viswajeet Khanna, Chairperson
Sh. Paramjeet Singh, Member

Petitioner: Ms. Poorva Saigal, Advocate (through VC)
Ms. Pallavi Saigal, Advocate (through VC)
Ms. Harmohan Kaur, CE/ARR&TR
Sh. Harjeet Singh, ASE/TR-5
Sh. Hardeep Singh, Sr.Xen/Biomass

SECI: Sh. Rahul Rajan, Advocate (through VC)

NTPC: Sh. Rajiv Kumar, DGM

Juniper Green Energy Pvt Ltd: Sh. Subrahmanyam Gorthi, Authorized Representative

Green Infra Renewable Projects Ltd: Sh. Akshat Jain, Advocate (through VC)

ORDER

The petition was taken up for hearing on admission. Vide order dated 22.07.2024, the Hybrid Power Developers(HPD), NTPC Renewable Energy Ltd, Juniper Green Energy Pvt. Ltd and Green Infra Renewable Projects Ltd were impleaded as respondents in the Petition. Ld. Counsel for SECI stated that they have already filed their reply. The Ld. Counsel appearing for the other respondents have requested for time to file their replies in this Petition. The same may be filed by the respondents within two weeks with a copy to the petitioner (through hard & soft copy).

Vide order dated 22.07.2024, PSPCL was directed to submit the information as mentioned in the order. PSPCL has submitted its reply vide memo no. 6345 dated 23.08.2024. On a perusal of the information submitted by PSPCL, the Commission observes that:-

- i. As per the Petitioner's own calculations, the proposed tariff of hybrid power is higher by 15 paise/kWh (Rs. 3.19 - Rs.3.04) in comparison to when sourced separately from the solar and wind developers. In fact, this difference increases to 26 paisa/kWh, considering the solar wind ratio projected in the petition and the solar power cost of Rs. 2.53/kWh submitted in Petition No. 35 of 2024 in place of Rs. 2.69/kWh considered by PSPCL.
- ii. Considering the in-house experience in previous similar bids, expertise and resources available with PSPCL and their ability to seek a direct bid from developers, the huge financial liability of Rs. 391 to 522 Crore being incurred in the form of commission/trading margin to be paid during the entire tenure of the proposed PSA to SECI seems to be an avoidable expenditure.

PSPCL shall submit detailed reply in this regard within two weeks (through hard & soft copy).

The petition shall be taken up for hearing on admission on 16.10.2024 at 11.30 AM.

Sd/-
(Paramjeet Singh)
Member

Sd/-
(Viswajeet Khanna)
Chairperson

Chandigarh
Dated: **19.09.2024**