

BEFORE THE HIMACHAL PRADESH ELECTRICITY REGULATORY
COMMISSION, SHIMLA

Petition No. 138 of 2010

The Himachal Pradesh Power Corporation Ltd
having its registered office at Himfed Bhawan
below old MLA Quarters, Bye pass road,
Tutikandi, Shimla- 1710005 (H.P.)

...Petitioner

V/s

The Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board Ltd Co.
Vidyut Bhawan, Shimla-4.

...Respondents

INTERIM ORDER

The Himachal Pradesh Power Corporation Ltd, a Government Company having its registered office at HIMFED Bhawan, below MLA Quarters, Bye pass road, Tutikundi, Shimla (hereinafter referred as “the petitioner Company”) being a generating company, has moved this petition seeking determination of tariff on levelised basis for duration of 25 years for development of Small Solar Power Plants (PV) connected to the distribution network in the State of Himachal Pradesh, under sections 62 (1) (a) and section 86 of the Electricity Act, 2003.

2. The petitioner company intends to establish 2 to 4 MW p Small Solar Plants connected to the distribution network (below 33 kV) in the State of Himachal Pradesh, for which one site has been identified at village Berra-Dol, Teh. Naina Devi ji for 2 MWp project and in relation to another 2 MWp Project the process of site identification is going on and the petitioner company is desirous to participate in the Rooftop and Small Solar Generation Programme (in short RPSSGP).

3. Under the RPSSGP Scheme the project proponents are to be selected as per the G.O.I., Ministry of New and Renewable Energy. (MNRE) Guidelines dated 16.6.2010 for development of Solar Power Projects to be connected to distribution network at voltage below 33 kV and the projects are to be designed for completion before 31st March, 2013. The local distribution

Utility, in whose area the plant is to be located, would have to sign a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with the project proponent at a tariff as may be determined by the State Electricity Regulatory Commission.

4. As per the G.O.I Scheme under Jawahar Lal Nehru National Solar Mission, Generation Based Incentive (GBI) will be payable to the distribution Utility for the power purchased from the Solar Power Projects selected under the MNRE Guidelines for a period of 25 years from the date of commissioning of the project.

5. The petitioner company intends to sell the entire electricity, generated from its proposed Solar Power Projects, to the distribution licensee in the State from the date of commissioning of the Solar Power Project at a tariff to be determined by the Himachal Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission. For this purpose the petitioner company is also willing to sign the Power Purchase Agreement (PPA). Also, consequent to the notification of HPERC (Renewable Purchase Obligation and its Compliance) Regulations, 2010 it has become mandatory for the distribution licensee to procure minimum fixed quantum of Solar Power from 2010-11 onwards.

6. According to the RPSSGP guidelines the registration of the projects upto 90 MW capacity with the Programme Administrator (i.e IREDA) is to commence on July 15,2010 and projects are to be short listed on the principle of 'first-cum-first-served' basis. All applications fulfilling following four conditions, shall are eligible for registration:-

- (a) Issuance of relevant tariff Order from concerned SERC;
- (b) MOU with the Distribution Utility.
- (c) Pre-registration certificate from State Competent Authority;
and
- (d) Commitment guarantee of requisite amount;

7. From the above it is evident that the determination of tariff is the pre-condition for registration of the project proponents under the scheme. The determination of tariff is the time consuming process. Since the short-listing is to be done on first-cum-first served basis, it is necessary for the petitioner company to get registration done by tomorrow i.e. 15th July, 2010 to take benefit of RPSSGP Scheme. Keeping in view the said time constraints, it has

become necessary to take immediate steps and provide an interim tariff for the Solar Power Projects in this State.

8. The Central Electricity Regulatory Commission in accordance with the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions for Tariff determination from Renewable Energy Sources) Regulations, 2009, issued order dated 26.4.2010 determining generic levelised tariff for Solar Power Project. The levelised tariff for a period of 25 years has been determined after due process of prior publication and stakeholder's participation and has been fixed at Rs. 17.91/unit.

9. The Commission, after considering the special circumstances of this case, adopts the levelised tariff of Rs. 17.91 per unit for Solar Power Plants as determined by the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission. This interim tariff shall, unless amended or revoked, continue to be in force till the disposal of this petition or till the tariff for PV Solar Power Plants in the State is determined by this Commission, whichever is later. The adjustment shall be done after the final determination of the tariff within such period and subject to such conditions as may be laid down by the Commission.

10. The copy of the petition, if not supplied, and the copy of this order be supplied to the respondent Board to enable it to file its response within six weeks time.

Dated. 14th July, 2010
Shimla.

(Yogesh Khanna)
Chairman