



Response to Pre-Bid queries for EPC II

(RfP No. MPUVN-GCRT/25 MWp/2019-20/2642, dated: 24-01-2020)

S No.	Queries	Response
1.	Would the modules in this tender be restricted to PV modules from manufacturers indicated in the ALMM list or they can be any indigenous / DCR modules?	<p>For this tender, the bidder is not restricted to the domestic modules only. However, the contractors would have to adhere to the MNRE notifications regarding ALMM.</p> <p>The modules would strictly adhere to the prevailing technical specifications & testing requirements fixed by MNRE.</p>
2.	Will the bidder have to submit the design and drawing of systems for projects to meet the technical eligibility criteria?	<p>Not required.</p> <p>Clause 3.4.2 c) in the modified RfP would be read as: All the projects shown to meet Technical eligibility criteria should have been commissioned prior to Technical Bid opening date. The list of Projects commissioned prior to Technical Bid opening date along with a copy of the Completion / Commissioning certificate and work order / contract / agreement from the Client / Owner / SNA shall be submitted.</p> <p>The Contractor shall be required to produce detailed system design and drawing supported with requisite test reports of the system components. However, before commencement of work, if any change in the makes & capacities of components is requested by the Contractor, the same may be allowed with</p>



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		prior approval and with the condition that the proposed make & capacities of the component should be in accordance with requisite technical standards of MNRE / RFP Document, and should be supported with required test reports.
3.	Will Unaudited Financials for the FY 2019-20 be considered for calculation of turnover requirement as it is not possible to get the accounts audited due to the lockdown.	Unaudited Financials for any year would not be considered for the calculation of average turnover and net worth requirement. Refer clause 3.4.3 j)
4.	Kindly allow submission of FDR Lienmark to MPUVNL for startups instead of BG (Bank Guarantee) as was allowed in other tenders too. Getting a BG for a smaller amount is pretty costly and time consuming too.	Submission of Performance Guarantee (CPBG and OPBG) through FDR Lienmark shall be allowed for startups only. In such cases hard copy submission of the same within the defined time period is mandatory.
5.	Some bidders have requested that the value of BG against the mobilization advance of 20% be reduced from 22% to 18.42% (including other reductions on account of GST) for an advance of 20%.	Provisions of the modified RfP uploaded as Annexure II to the 'Minutes of Meeting' prevails. As per the prudent industrial practice, the mobilization advance should be interest bearing in nature, so as to enable recovery of not only the principal amount but also the interest portion. Therefore the BG amount is more than the advance amount, that is 22% accordingly.
6.	Would Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning for *Solarisation* of Solar water pump with *Net Metering* for the State Government of 2.5 MW be eligible to be counted as experience in this tender?	SPV rooftop, SPV ground mounted and SPV for water pumping systems, all would be considered for meeting the technical eligibility requirement for this tender. However, for a category, the bidder should show at least one SPV project (rooftop, round-mounted, water pumping, etc.) with O&M experience.



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7.	Please clarify on the CUF whether the Bidder has to show this at the end of first year or need to maintain it for 5 Years of O&M period?	CUF on commissioning: 15% CUF during operational period shall be maintained as per clause 3.17.5
8.	"Kindly revise CUF calculation as below:(CUF = Cumulative Project output in kWh / (installed Project capacity in kW(AC) x 24 x 365));"	The suggestion has been accepted. The calculation for CUF given in point 11 on page 9 of the modified RfP would now be read as: (CUF = Cumulative Project output in kWh / (installed Project capacity in kW kW(AC) x 24 x no. of days in the year)); (no. of days shall be 366 for leap years and 365 for others)
9.	Please explain the time duration and applicability of warranty for system components?	The entire system would have to be warranted by the contractor for at least 5 years from the date of Commissioning. Any workmanship, including but not limited to additional civil or electrical work, will be covered under contractor's defect liability. The period for the same shall match the duration of O&M period. All the active warranties at the end of the O&M period, shall be transferred to the beneficiary.
10.	We request MPUVNL to provide at least 21 days to submit the C-PBG from the date of receipt of Letter of Intent.	Suggestion accepted. Any occurrence of '10 days' in the context of submission of C-PBG from the date of issue of Letter of Intent, in clauses or their sub-clauses or any referenced clauses in 3.14, 3.15, 5.10 shall be read as '15 days'.



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11.	Kindly provide Revised Table 1 with changed Financial Eligibility Requirement.	The modified table is attached as Annexure II for reference.
12.	The responsibility of insurance after installation & handover of the system should be of the user(s).	Provisions of the modified RfP uploaded as Annexure II to the 'Minutes of Meeting' prevails. Responsibility of insurance of entire system for the duration of O&M period of 5 years is with the Contractor.
13.	Please share site details like, Total Load for site, Battery Voltage Rating, Placing: Indoor/Outdoor, Inverter Datasheet to check compatibility, etc.	Site location and estimated system size information would be provided with the Work Order.
14.	Is the CPBG validity linked with project completion? What is the duration for OPBG validity?	<p>Yes. The C-PBG validity is linked with the project completion date.</p> <p>Clause 3.14.3 would now be read as: Submitted C-PBGs shall be valid till six (6) months from the scheduled date of project completion as mentioned in the Work Order with a further claim period of six (6) months or required to be extended as deemed necessary in case of delay in completion.</p> <p>Clause 3.14.7, second sentence onwards, would now be read as: ... The OPBG should be issued with a validity of five (05) years and additional claim period of at least 6 months from the date of successful commissioning of the project. In case OPBG is being submitted to the Nodal Agency before the commissioning of the project, as per clause 7.2, then</p>



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		<p>the validity should be from the scheduled commissioning date as per the work order and would be required to be extended as deemed necessary in case of delay in commissioning. The Contractor shall furnish O-PBG within 7 days from the date of Commissioning.</p>
15.	Will Digital Signature Certificates (DSC) signs be counted for self-attesting the online documents?	Yes. All the bid documents will have to be digitally signed individually and then combined into 2 pdfs as given in the RfP.
16.	If delay occurs from the Beneficiary's End Then, it should not be considered as the delay for penalizing or LD.	Since these conditions are beyond the control of the contractor, they may apply for extension with suitable justification as per clause 3.16.2
17.	Considering the current situation of COVID-19, what would happen if the sites and locations are not approachable for Solar activities?	For such situation, conditions of force majeure as per clause 3.27 would be applicable.
18.	How would one get the documents notarized / stamped amid the lockdown?	As mentioned in the pre-bid meeting, it is possible to get e-stamps for the legal documents and the same can be used at this stage. If notarization is not possible, then the bidder should upload the e-stamped document on the online portal without notarization. The selected successful bidders before the acceptance of LICA, shall collect the legal documents that remain un-notarized after the bid evaluation process from MPUVN, to get them notarized and submit them back to MPUVN.
19.	The presentation in the pre-bid mentioned 30MW, should it not be 15MW?	As per provision 3.28.1, two times of the category estimated capacity is binding to the Contractors. The higher capacity 30 MW was shown considering the future opportunities that will be



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		allocated to the bidders.
20.	Please allow MSME with UAM number to avail exemption of bid security under this tender.	MPUVN has decided that no such exemption on payment of Bid Security shall be allowed to any MSME. Any reference to the same in the RfP shall be ignored. The exemption of bid security is allowed for Start-Ups only.
21.	For Startups that have experience with 10 KW projects, 10% reservation for category F1 and F2 should also be provided.	Capacity allocation for Startup shall remain fixed at, up to 10% of each category A2, B, D1, D2, E1 and E2 only.
22.	DPIIT registration of startup is not valid for sole proprietary firms but tender has eligibility for proprietary firms, so can you please make it friendly for startups with condition other than DPIIT registration	No deviation.
23.	In case of startups "Format for Certificate of Relationship in case of Affiliate (if applicable)" and "Consortium Agreement (if applicable)" required?	<p>A startup may submit "Format for Certificate of Relationship in case of Affiliate" if they wish to derive strength from their affiliate when compared with other startups for the allocation of work.</p> <p>Clause 5.8 c) shall be read as: The reserved quantity of work will be equally allocated to all such startups, if available, in respective categories. In cases where works are required to be allocated among multiple startups, it will be allotted in decreasing order of their total technical experiences (in kW). In case the technical experience is same for two or more startups, work will be allocated in the increasing decreasing order of their turnover (a startup may refer its affiliate and share format 9 with the turnover)</p>



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		<p>details of the affiliate)</p> <p>A group of startups may submit a “Consortium Agreement” if they want to participate as a JV/Consortium.</p>
24.	<p>Bidders have asked to consider the following for startups:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tender fee waive off 2. Provision for startups should be added 3. No bank guarantee for startups 4. EMD should be waived off 5. SNA should help in the marketing of the solar system. 6. 80 % of sanctioned required MW plants should be allocated to the startup company those which have been registered in MP and 20% for external companies out of MP State. 7. Those startup companies whose directors are highly experienced in any power plant, should be given priority during the award of tenders. 8. There should be no technical experience requirement for startups 9. Is the number of startups that will be considered for work allocation only three? 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No deviation 2. Provision for startup exists in the modified RfP. Exemptions for MP based startups are being provided. 3. PBG is required, however, Bid Security is waived off for Start-ups. 4. EMD and Bid Security are the same. Please refer to the modified RfP. 5. Nodal Agency is doing marketing and aggregation of the projects 6. No deviation 7. No deviation 8. Eligibility of an MP based startup is not linked with technical experience. Technical experience shall be used only for deciding the sequence in which work has to be allocated when multiple startups are contesting for the reservation in a category. 9. There is no limit on the number of startups in a reserved category.



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25.	<p>Bidder has requested to postpone the submission of this new RfP till pending payments for MNRE CFA are released. This view is in coherence to enable the already committed and dedicated EPCs to participate in this RFP and avoid severe financial situation of insolvency.</p>	<p>As far as the pending payments against MNRE CFA are concerned, the bidders can consolidate and submit a statement on the exact amount that is due, at the time of bid submission. The supporting documents should be attached in the pdf made for envelope - 1 along with the revised Bid Security amount as per clause 3.13.2. The amount will be verified by MPUVN during the evaluation of the bid. At the time of bid submission, the bidder would be allowed to consider upto 50% of that verified 'pending payment' to be adjusted against Bid Security for this RfP. However, the remaining value of the Bid Security has to be submitted as per clause 3.13.2 by the participant in order to fulfill the overall requirement of Bid Security. A bidder should ensure that the amount of Bid Security requested as adjustment against the pending payments as mentioned above does not exceeds the estimated pending payment.</p> <p>It might happen that a bidder has overestimated their pending payments, and the sum of revised Bid Security amount and the 50% of the verified pending payment doesn't meet the required bid security amount needed for all the categories opted by the bidder. For such cases, MPUVN would seek the confirmation for the categories in which the bidder wants to participate. Moreover, in a situation where the bidder gets selected, then any additional remaining amount of the 50% the pending value will be considered deposited against the submission of revised C-PBG.</p> <p>The extent of the pending amount locked in either as revised</p>



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		Bid Security or revised CPBG would not be considered as outstanding payment during the validity of that instrument. If the instrument duration expires, the bidder would become eligible for that requisite outstanding payment.
26.	Bidder says in Section 2.2, Table 1, Mentioned Capacity is in kW (not Getting Exact Requirement), need Unit Confirmation And also On Clarity if this Size is AC Or DC Capacity Of Project .Bidders need clarity on requirement of capacities for various categories that whether it is AC or DC capacity?	All mentioned required capacities in the RfP are AC capacities
27.	Bidders asking for a different technology for Energy Storage. They have requested for addition of AGMVRLA / Tubular Gel as an alternative Storage Technology in the battery specification?	No changes in technology allowed. Clause 20 of modified RfP (Annexure II is modified RfP) will prevail.
28.	Bidders requested to allow them for drilling the roof, they will ensure waterproofing at the drilled area or If drilling is not allowed, then request to allow us to do chipping till mother slab for holding structure column with RCC slab.	Drilling/Chipping should be avoided. The panels should be mounted on structure having provision of counterweight or any other alternate means.
29.	Bidders presume the type of roof as flat RCC and Load of Structure on terrace will be calculated for the overall plan area of structure after fixing modules.	Roof can be of any type. If the roof strength is not sufficient to cater the load of module, module mounting structure and it requires major improvement in strengthening of the roof structure thereby increasing the cost of project and making the project unviable. in such case a detailed site survey report containing structural analysis of the premise has to be



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		submitted by the developer. Nodal Agency will do a joint survey and suggest further course of action
30.	The rated output power of any supplied solar module have tolerance of +/- 3% . Whether positive & negative tolerance both will be allowed? Kindly clarify.	As we can see in most recent Govt. tenders, only positive tolerance is allowed. So here also, only positive tolerance will be allowed.
31.	Clause 14 says "Hot dip galvanized MS/ Pre-galvanized/ Anodized Aluminium or superior material (after approval from MNRE) mounting structures may be used for mounting the modules/ panels/arrays". Please confirm regarding approval or its as per MNRE standard?	It should be as per MNRE standards and best industry practices
32.	"Bidders propose the following type of fasteners: For fixing Module to structural members -Stainless steel (SS-304) shall be used (based on module installation manual).	For fixing Modules to structural members; use of SS-304 fasteners will be allowed.
33.	Bidders says can we Install Single Phase Inverter or combinations of single-phase inverter for three phase solar rooftop system where grid voltage is unstable due to which export of power is stopped which leads to loss of energy as well as lower CUF of that system.	It can be installed as per site requirement and as per best industry practices.



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	E.g. for a 10 KW 3ph solar system, we'll use two 5KW single-phase inverters.	
34.	Bidders need clarification on Data Acquisition/Project Monitoring System requirement: In some clause it is mentioned that Data Acquisition System shall be provided for each of the solar PV Project whereas Provision for Internet monitoring and download of data shall be necessarily incorporated for projects 5 kW and above.	The bidder should have a data-logger for each project site and if the site is greater than 10 kW then it should have the capability to be linked through the internet with the Central Monitoring Center (CMC) of the Nodal Agency. Internet monitoring is there for projects 10 kW and above as per the revised RfP. Please refer clause 3.17.4 c) and 23.9 of Section VI
35.	"Provision for Internet monitoring and download of data shall be necessarily incorporated for projects 5 kW and above": who will bear the cost (initial/ & rental 5 years) of sim/dongle?	Contractor shall bear the cost of sim/dongle for data logging. Refer modified RfP i.e. Annexure II at clause 3.17.4
36.	"Bidder understands that only the inverter/PCU can be monitored remotely through a remote monitoring system. All the meters including net meters shall not be monitored remotely. Please confirm that bidder's understanding is correct."	Generation meter and net meter should have a provision of remote monitoring. Kindly refer Madhya Pradesh Policy for Decentralized Renewable Energy System,2016.
37.	Bidders need clarity about the communication protocol to be considered for interfacing of data with Nodal agency server and portal for future use."	In the future when Centralized Monitoring Center (CMC) of the Nodal Agency will be developed, it will be the responsibility of the contractor to provide support in establishing technical handshake between the RMS system and the CMC, while ensuring uninterrupted connectivity at the same time.



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		<p>The Contractor shall ensure that the data from RMS/data logger should be accessible to Centralized Monitoring Center of Nodal Agency.</p> <p>All types of communication protocol will be as per relevant latest IEC standard i.e. IEC 104 which works on TCP/IP based communication. Here the primary data information should be directly sent to MPUVN, secondary data can also be sent to EPC contractor server as per his requirement.</p>
38.	<p>Since the reverse current protection shall be ensured as part of PCU/inverter by the manufacturer, separate Blocking diodes are not required, In case reverse current protection is not present in PCU, diodes shall be provided, Kindly accept.</p>	<p>No changes. Refer Clause 15 of the modified RfP.</p>
39.	<p>Bidders says that nowadays all on-grid Inverters/PCU comes with inbuilt DC fuses & Surge Protections along with DC Disconnect switch, all inverters are Multiple MPPT inverters where we directly connect the DC Power from Solar Panels. Hence No separate DC Junction box is required.</p>	<p>DCDB junction is required however if any better arrangement is available as its substitution then the same may be considered</p>
40.	<p>Bidders understood for retrofitting, Solar power cable suitable feeder or bus bar is available or providing suitable feeder in customer scope, please accept.</p> <p>Also kindly allow the bidder to avoid SPD from AC Distribution panel Board (DPB) if SPD available inbuilt in AC side of inverter to protect from surge, kindly accept."</p>	<p>Any additional work which is so required to interface the solar system with grid shall be treated as additional work as per clause 2.5 of modified RfP.</p> <p>SPD is required in ACDB as per Clause 17 of modified RfP.</p>



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41.	Bidders requested to allow maximum DC voltage drop up to 2% and maximum AC voltage drop 3%.	It is modified as: "Maximum DC voltage drop as 2% and maximum AC voltage drop as 2%" It will be updated in the RfP.
42.	Bidders say, maintaining CUF of 15% for each year for Projects with capacity <= 10 kWp for Grid-connected systems and of any capacity for off-grid systems should be excluded. This is too difficult to reach this CUF value in such types of minor capacities as the losses are higher in these minor projects in comparison to major projects.	No deviation is allowed.
43.	Bidders say "Kindly confirm the type of cleaning required for each roof. (Manual cleaning or using any piping network). Kindly confirm whether Bidders need to consider tanks for each roof.	Bidders can choose the type of cleaning as being used in SPV Rooftop systems across India for government tenders and it must follow the best industry norms and practice according the site condition.