

procurement, construction, commissioning, operation and maintenance of the Project, and to provide Transmission Service as per the terms of the RFP Project Documents.

The TSP shall ensure transfer of all project assets along with substation land, right of way and clearances to CTU or its successors or an agency as decided by the Central Government after 35 years from COD of project at zero cost and free from any encumbrance and liability. The transfer shall be completed within 90 days after 35 years from COD of project failing which CTU shall be entitled to take over the project assets Suo moto.

1.6 Brief Scope of Work

1.6.1 Scope of Transmission Service Provider

The TSP's scope of work for the Project shall comprise, but not necessarily be limited to the following:

- 1.6.1.1 Establishment, operation and maintenance of the Project on build, own, operate and transfer basis and completion of all the activities for the Project, including survey, detailed project report formulation, arranging finance, project management, necessary Consents, Clearances and Permits (way leave, environment & forest, civil aviation, railway/ road/ river/ canal/ power crossing/ PTCC, etc.), land compensation, design, engineering, equipment, material, construction, erection, testing & commissioning. Further, the actual location of substations, switching stations or HVDC terminal or inverter stations in the scope of TSP shall not be beyond 1 Km radius of the location proposed by the BPC in the survey report.
- 1.6.1.2 The TSP shall ensure that design, construction and testing of all equipment, facilities, components and systems of the Project shall be in accordance with Transmission Service Agreement and applicable Rules/ Regulations, Orders and Guidelines issued by the Central Government.
- 1.6.1.3 The TSP shall ensure timely completion of entire scope of Project in all respects and its operation and maintenance, as shall be specified in the RFP documents.
- 1.6.1.4 The TSP shall seek Transmission License from the Commission, as per the provisions of the Electricity Act and regulations made thereunder.
- 1.6.1.5 The TSP shall seek approval under Section 164 of Electricity Act, from CEA after acquisition of **SPV [which is under incorporation]**. The approval shall be granted by CEA generally within 30 days but in no case later than 45 days from the date of receipt of application (complete in all aspects).

1.6.2 Scope of Bid Process Coordinator (BPC)

BPC's scope of work is briefly outlined hereunder:

- 1.6.2.1 The BPC has initiated development of the Project and shall be responsible for the tasks

in this regard as specified hereunder:

1. Provide to the Bidders a Survey Report for the Project at least forty five (45) days prior to the Bid Deadline. The Survey Report shall include the suggested route with approximate route length, type of terrain likely to be encountered and its likely implication in terms of Right of Way (ROW), statutory clearances, location of substations or converter stations and land area to be acquired for the substation or converter station.
2. To obtain approval for laying of overhead transmission lines under Section 68 of Electricity Act, from the Government at least twenty (20) days prior to Bid Deadline.
3. To initiate acquisition of land for location specific substations, switching stations or HVDC terminal or inverter stations, if required.
4. To initiate process of seeking forest clearance, if required
5. The BPC shall intimate to the Bidders, the Acquisition Price payable by the Selected Bidder to the PFC Consulting Limited for the acquisition of one hundred percent (100%) of the equity shareholding of SPV [which is under incorporation], along with all its related assets and liabilities at least twenty (20) days prior to the Bid Deadline.
6. The BPC shall ensure issuance of all finalized RFP Project Documents, at least fifteen (15) days prior to the Bid Deadline.

Provided that for any delay in meeting the above obligations of the BPC within the specified time period above, the Bid Deadline as per Clause 2.7.1 shall be extended on a day for day basis.

- 1.6.2.2 The details and documents as may be obtained by the BPC/ project specific SPV in relation to the Project shall be handed over to the TSP on an as-is-where-is basis, so that it may take further actions to obtain Consents, Clearances and Permits.
- 1.7 All costs (including direct and indirect) incurred by the BPC/ project specific SPV in connection with the activities concerning the Project shall be recovered from the TSP, which shall be included in the Acquisition Price.
- 1.8 The Project is required to be completed progressively in accordance with the schedule prescribed in this RFP.
- 1.9 A company under the Companies Act, 2013 by the name **SPV [which is under incorporation]** has been incorporated to initiate the activities for execution of the Project. The said company shall be acquired by the successful Bidder as per terms and conditions as may be prescribed in RFP.
- 1.10 The Ministry of Power and the appropriate state government(s) shall provide their support to the TSP, on best endeavor basis, in enabling the TSP to develop the Project.
- 1.11 All Bidders are required to submit their Bid in accordance with the instructions set forth in this RFP.

- 1.12 Once the Successful Bidder is selected, the details and documents as may be obtained by the BPC/ project specific SPV in relation to the Project, shall be handed over to the Successful Bidder on as is where basis, so that it may take further actions to obtain all necessary Consents, Clearances and Permits and the TSP shall not be entitled for any extensions in the Scheduled COD of the Project except as provided for in the TSA.
- 1.13 The assets of the Project shall be made available on a commercial basis as per the terms and conditions of the Transmission Service Agreement and Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Sharing of Inter-State Transmission Charges and Losses) Regulations as amended from time to time.

SECTION - 2

INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR BIDDERS

SECTION – 2

2. INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR BIDDERS

2.1 Qualification Requirements

- 2.1.1 The Bidder should be a company duly incorporated under the relevant laws (Bidding Company) or a Consortium of companies (Bidding Consortium) with one of the companies acting as the Lead Member of the Bidding Consortium. The Bidder shall be selected on meeting the Qualification Requirements specified in Section 2 of this RFP, as demonstrated by the Bidder's Technical Bid and the lowest Quoted Transmission Charges discovered from Final Offers quoted during the e-reverse bidding. A Bidding Consortium can participate in the bidding process for the Project if any Member of the Consortium has purchased the RFP document for such Project. Bidder who agree and undertake to procure the products associated with the Transmission System as per provisions of Public Procurement (Preference to Make in India) orders issued by Ministry of Power vide orders No. 11/5/2018 - Coord. dated 28.07.2020 for transmission sector, as amended from time to time read with Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) orders in this regard, shall be eligible hereunder. Further, it is clarified that Procuring Entity as defined in orders shall deemed to have included Selected Bidder and/ or TSP.

Besides, Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance vide Order (Public Procurement No. 1) bearing File No. 6/18/2019-PPD dated 23.07.2020, Order (Public Procurement No. 2) bearing File No. 6/18/2019-PPD dated 23.07.2020 and Order (Public Procurement No. 3) bearing File No. 6/18/2019-PPD, dated 24.07.2020, as amended from time to time, have issued directions regarding public procurement from a bidder of a country, which shares land border with India are also applicable.

2.1.2 Technical requirement to be met by the Bidding Company or Lead Member of Bidding Consortium

The Bidder must fulfill any one of the following technical requirements:

- (i) Experience of development of projects in the Infrastructure Sector in the last five (5) years with aggregate capital expenditure of not less than **Rs. 1,480 Crore** or equivalent USD (calculated as per provisions in Clause 3.4.1). However, the capital expenditure of each project shall not be less than **Rs. 296 Crore** or equivalent USD (calculated as per provisions in Clause 3.4.1).

For this purpose, capital expenditure incurred on projects that have been commissioned/ completed at least seven (7) days prior to Bid Deadline shall be considered. The capital expenditure discussed above shall be as capitalized and reflected in the audited books of accounts of the Technically Evaluated Entity. In case a clearly identifiable part of a project has been put into commercial operation, the capital expenditure on such part of the project shall be considered. The Technically Evaluated Entity must have either executed such projects itself or must have held directly or indirectly at least twenty six percent (26%) of the shareholding in the company that has executed the project(s) from the date of financial closure of the project(s) till the time of

commissioning/completion of such project(s).

OR

- (ii) Experience in construction of project in infrastructure sector: The Technically Evaluated Entity should have received aggregate payments not less than **Rs. 1,480 Crore** or equivalent USD (calculated as per provisions in Clause 3.4.1) from its client(s) for construction works fully completed during the last 5(five) financial years. However, the payment received from each project shall not be less than **Rs. 296 Crore** or equivalent USD (calculated as per provisions in Clause 3.4.1).

For this purpose, payments received on projects that have been commissioned/ completed at least seven (7) days prior to Bid Deadline shall be considered. Further only the payments (gross) actually received, during such 5 (five) financial years shall qualify for purposes of computing the technical capacity. For the avoidance of doubt, construction works shall not include cost of land, supply of goods or equipment except when such goods or equipment form part of a turn-key construction contract/ EPC contract for the project. Further, in cases where different individual contracts are signed between same entities for the same project, the cumulative payments received under such individual contracts shall be considered for meeting the qualification requirement.

The Technically Evaluated Entity may be the Bidding Company or the Lead Member of a Consortium or an Affiliate or Parent of such Bidding Company or the Lead Member, as the case may be.

Bidders shall furnish documentary evidence duly certified by authorized signatory of the Bidder who has been issued Power of Attorney in support of their technical capability as defined in Clause 2.1.2 of this RFP.

2.1.3 Financial requirement to be met by the Bidding Company/Bidding Consortium

2.1.3.1 The Bidder must fulfill following financial requirements:

A. Network:

Network should be not less than **Rs. 592 Crore** or equivalent USD (calculated as per provisions in Clause 3.4.1) computed as the Network based on unconsolidated audited annual accounts (refer to Note below) of any of the last three (3) financial years as provided in Clause 2.2.3, immediately preceding the Bid Deadline. Also, the Network of any of the last three (3) financial years should not be negative.

Note: Audited consolidated annual accounts of the Bidder may be used for the purpose of financial criteria provided the Bidder has at least 26% equity in each company whose accounts are merged in the audited consolidated accounts and provided further that the financial capability of such companies (of which accounts are being merged in the consolidated accounts) shall not be considered again for the purpose of evaluation of the Technical Bid. Bidders shall furnish prescribed Annexure 7(A) duly certified by authorized signatory of the Bidder who has been issued Power of Attorney and the

Statutory Auditor and separate computation sheet for Networth duly certified by Statutory Auditor in support of their financial capability as defined in Clause 2.1.3 of this RFP.

2.1.3.2 The Networth shall be computed in the following manner by the Bidder:

A. Networth

=	Equity share capital
Add:	Reserves
Subtract:	Revaluation Reserves
Subtract:	Intangible Assets
Subtract:	Miscellaneous expenditures to the extent not written off and carry forward losses

2.1.3.3 If the Technical Bid is submitted by a Bidding Consortium the financial requirement shall be met individually and collectively by all the Members in the Bidding Consortium. The financial requirement to be met by each Member of the Bidding Consortium shall be computed in proportion to the equity commitment made by each of them for investment in the Project.

2.1.4 The Bidder may seek qualification on the basis of technical and financial capability of its Parent and/ or its Affiliate(s) for the purpose of meeting the Qualification Requirements. However, in the case of the Bidder being a Consortium, the Lead Member has to meet the technical requirement on its own or by seeking the technical capability of its Parent and/or its Affiliate(s). Authorization for use of such technical or financial capability shall have to be provided from its Parent and/or Affiliate(s) as per Annexure 9. The technical and financial capability of a particular company/ particular project, including its Parents and/or Affiliates, shall not be used directly or indirectly by more than one Bidder/ Member of a Bidding Consortium/ Bidding Company. However, development and construction experience of a particular project may be used by more than one company.

The determination of the relationship of Parent or Affiliate with the Bidding Company or with the Member of the Bidding Consortium, including the Lead Member, shall be on the date at the most seven (7) days prior to the last date of submission of the Bid. Documentary evidence to establish such relationship shall be furnished by the Bidder along with the Technical Bid.

If the Technically Evaluated Entity and/or Financially Evaluated Entity is an entity other than the Bidding Company or a Member in a Bidding Consortium, the Bidding Company or Member relying on such Technically Evaluated Entity and/or Financially Evaluated Entity will have to submit a legally binding undertaking supported by a board resolution from the Technically Evaluated Entity and/or Financially Evaluated Entity or its Ultimate Parent Company, that all the equity investment obligations of the Bidding Company or the Member of the Consortium shall be deemed to be equity investment obligations of the Technically Evaluated Entity and/or Financially Evaluated Entity or its Ultimate Parent Company, and in the event of any default the same shall be met by such evaluated entity or by or the Ultimate Parent Company. The Bidding Company or the Consortium Member shall have to provide information and documents relating to its relationship with such Technically Evaluated Entity and/or Financially Evaluated Entity

including details about the equity shareholding between them as per Annexure 7(C).

- 2.1.5 A Bidder shall submit only one Bid in the same bidding process, either individually as Bidding Company or as a Member of a Bidding Consortium (including the Lead Member). It is further clarified that any of the Parent/ Affiliate/Ultimate Parent of the Bidder/ Member in a Bidding Consortium shall not separately participate directly or indirectly in the same bidding process. Further, if any Bidder is having a Conflict of Interest with other Bidders participating in the same bidding process, the Bids of all such Bidders shall be rejected.
- 2.1.6 Notwithstanding anything stated above, BPC reserves the right to verify the authenticity of the documents submitted for meeting the Qualification Requirements and request for any additional information and documents. BPC reserves the right at its sole discretion to contact the Bidder's bank and project references and verify the Bidder's information and documents for the purpose of bid evaluation.
- 2.1.7 The Qualified Bidder(s) will be required to continue to maintain compliance with the Qualification Requirements throughout the bidding process and till execution of the Transmission Service Agreement. Where the Technically Evaluated Entity and/or the Financially Evaluated Entity is not the Bidding Company or a Member in a Bidding Consortium, as the case may be, the Bidding Company or Member shall continue to be an Affiliate of the Technically Evaluated Entity and/or Financially Evaluated Entity till the execution of the Transmission Service Agreement. Failure to comply with the aforesaid provisions shall make the Bid liable for rejection at any stage.
- 2.1.8 The Selected Bidder will be required to continue to maintain compliance with the Qualification Requirements till the COD of the Project. Where the Technically Evaluated Entity and/or the Financially Evaluated Entity is not the Bidding Company or a Member in a Bidding Consortium, as the case may be, the Bidding Company or Member shall continue to be an Affiliate of the Technically Evaluated Entity and/or Financially Evaluated Entity till the COD of the Project. Failure to comply with the aforesaid provisions shall be dealt as per provisions of Transmission Service Agreement.
- 2.1.9 On the Bid Deadline, for the Bidder to be eligible to participate in the bidding process:
- a. the Bidder & any of its Affiliate including any Consortium Member & any of its Affiliate, their directors or key personnel should not have been barred or included in the blacklist by any government agency or authority in India, the government of the jurisdiction of the Bidder or Members where they are incorporated or the jurisdiction of their principal place of business, any international financial institution such as the World Bank Group, Asian Development Bank, African Development Bank, Inter-American Development Bank, Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank etc or the United Nations or any of its agencies; or
 - b. the Bidder & any of its Affiliate including any Consortium Member & any of its Affiliate or their directors should not have been convicted of any offence in India or abroad.

In case any investigation is pending against the Bidder, including any Consortium Member or Affiliate, or CEO or any of the directors/ manager/key managerial personnel

of the Bidder /Consortium /Member or their Affiliates, full details of such investigation including the name of the investigating agency, the charge/offence for which the investigation has been launched, name and designation of persons against whom the investigation has been launched and other relevant information should be disclosed while submitting the Bid.

The Bidders shall confirm the above through a notarized affidavit as per Annexure 22.

2.2 Submission of Bid by the Bidder

2.2.1 The information and documents in Technical Bid will be submitted by the Bidder as per the formats specified in Section – 4 (Formats for RFP) of this document

2.2.2 Strict adherence to the formats wherever specified, is required. Wherever, information has been sought in specified formats, the Bidder shall refrain from referring to brochures/ pamphlets. Non-adherence to formats and/ or submission of incomplete information may be a ground for declaring the Technical Bid as non-responsive. Each format has to be duly signed and stamped by the authorized signatory of Bidder.

2.2.3 The Technical Bid shall contain unconsolidated/consolidated audited annual accounts (consisting of unabridged Balance Sheet, Profit and Loss Account, profit appropriation account, Auditors Report, etc.), as the case may be, of Bidding Company or each Member in Consortium including Lead Member or the Financially Evaluated Entity for the last three (3) financial years immediately preceding the last date for submission of Bid for the purpose of calculation of Networth.

In case the annual accounts for the financial year immediately preceding the Bid Deadline is not audited, the Bidder shall give declaration in this regard duly certified by its statutory auditor. In such a case, the Bidder shall provide the audited annual accounts for the three (3) financial years preceding the financial year as above for which the annual accounts have not been audited.

2.2.4 Bid submitted by a Bidding Consortium:

2.2.4.1 The Technical Bid shall contain a legally enforceable Consortium Agreement entered amongst the Members in the Bidding Consortium, designating one of the Members to be the Lead Member (as per Annexure 6). There shall be only one Lead Member which shall continue to hold twenty six percent (26%) equity in the TSP and cannot be changed upto one (1) year from the Commercial Operation Date (COD) of the Project. Each Member in Bidding Consortium shall duly sign the Consortium Agreement making it liable for raising the required funds for its respective equity investment commitment as specified in the Consortium Agreement. In absence of Consortium Agreement, the Technical Bid will not be considered for evaluation and will be rejected.

Provided that the Lead Member of the Bidding Consortium will be required to be liable to the extent of 100% of the total proposed commitment of equity investment of the Bidding Consortium i.e. for both its own equity contribution as well as the equity contribution of other Members.

Provided further that the Consortium Agreement shall not be amended without the explicit approval of the BPC.

The Lead Member of the Consortium will be the single point of contact for the purposes of the bid process before the date of signing of Share Purchase Agreement. Settlement of any dispute amongst the Consortium Members shall not be the responsibility of the BPC and/or the CTU and the BPC and/or the CTU shall not bear any liability whatsoever on this account.

2.2.4.2 The Lead Member should designate at the most two persons to represent the Consortium in its dealings with the BPC. The person(s) designated by the Lead Member should be authorized through a Power of Attorney (as per Annexure 3) to perform all tasks including, but not limited to providing information, responding to enquiries, signing of Technical Bid on behalf of the Consortium, etc. The Bidding Consortium shall provide board resolutions from their respective Boards for committing their respective portion of equity requirement for the Project. Additionally, the Lead member shall provide a Board resolution committing to make good any shortfall in the equity for the project, in case of any member not meeting its equity commitment.

2.2.4.3 The Technical Bid should also contain signed Letter of Consent (as per Annexure 2) from each Member in Consortium confirming that the entire Technical and Financial Bids has been reviewed and each element of the Technical and Financial Bids is agreed to by them including investment commitment for the Project.

In addition, the Technical Bid should also contain Board Resolution from each Member of the Consortium other than the Lead Member in favour of their respective authorized representatives for executing the POA, Consortium Agreement and signing of the requisite formats.

2.2.5 Bid submitted by a Bidding Company

2.2.5.1 The Bidding Company should designate at the most two persons to represent the Bidding Company in its dealings with BPC. The person(s) should be authorized to perform all tasks including, but not limited to providing information, responding to enquiries, signing of Technical and Financial Bids etc. The Bidding Company should submit, along with Technical Bid, a Power of Attorney (as per Annexure 3), authorizing the signatory of the Technical and Financial Bids. The Bidding Company shall submit the board resolution committing 100% of equity requirement for the Project, in the Technical Bid.

2.3 **Clarifications & Pre-Bid Meeting**

2.3.1 The Bidders may seek clarifications or suggest amendments to the RFP by sending an email to the BPC at the email id indicated in Clause 2.14 within the date and time mentioned in Clause 2.7.2. For any such clarifications or amendments, the Bidders should adhere to the format as per Annexure – 19.

2.3.2 Only those Bidders or their authorized representatives, who have purchased the RFP documents, are invited to attend the pre-bid meeting(s), which will take place on date as specified in Clause 2.7.2, or any such other date as notified by the BPC. The time and address of this would be intimated later.

2.3.3 The purpose of the pre-bid meeting will be to clarify any issues regarding the RFP,

including in particular, issues raised in writing by the Bidders as per the provisions of Clause 2.3.1.

- 2.3.4 Non-attendance at the pre-bid meeting will not be a cause for disqualification of a Bidder.
- 2.3.5 The BPC is not under any obligation to entertain / respond to suggestions made or to incorporate modifications sought for.
- 2.3.6 In case Bidders need any further clarifications not involving any amendments in respect of final RFP, they should ensure that request for such clarification is submitted through e-mail to the BPC at least ten (10) days prior to the Bid Deadline as mentioned in Clause 2.7.1. The BPC may issue clarifications only, as per its sole discretion, which is considered reasonable by it. Any such clarification issued shall be sent to all the Bidders to whom the RFP has been issued. Clarifications sought after this date shall not be considered in any manner and shall be deemed not to have been received. There shall be no extension in Bid Deadline on account of clarifications sought as per this clause 2.3.6.

2.4 Amendment of RFP

- 2.4.1. At any time before the timeline mentioned in Clause 2.7.1, the BPC may, for any reason, whether at its own initiative or in response to clarifications requested by any Bidder modify or amend the RFP, including the timelines specified in Clause 2.7.2 by issuance of addendum/modification/errata and/or revised document. Such document shall be notified in writing through a letter or fax or e-mail to all the entities to whom the RFP has been issued and shall be binding on them. In order to ensure that Bidders have reasonable time to take the modification into account in preparing their Bid, or for any other reasons, BPC may at its discretion, extend the due date for submission of Bid. Late receipt of any addendum/modification/errata and/or revised document will not relieve the Bidder from being bound by that modification.
- 2.4.2. All modifications shall become part of the terms and conditions of this RFP. No interpretation, revision or communication regarding this RFP is valid, unless made in writing.
- 2.4.3. The amendment to the RFP shall be notified to all the Bidders through the electronic bidding platform and shall be binding on them.

2.5 The Bidding Process

The entire bidding process shall be conducted on electronic bidding platform created by MSTC Limited. The Bid shall comprise of the Technical Bid and the Financial Bid. The Bidders shall submit the Technical Bid & Financial Bid through the electronic bidding platform. In addition to the online submission, the Bidder with lowest Final Offer will be required to submit original hard copies of Annexure 3, Annexure 4 (if applicable), Annexure 6 (if applicable) and Annexure 14 before issuance of Lol. There shall be no physical submission of the Financial Bid.

Evaluation of Technical Bid will be carried out considering the information and documents furnished by the Bidders as required under this RFP. This step would involve responsiveness check, technical and financial evaluation of the details/

documents furnished by the Bidding Company / Bidding Consortium in support of meeting the Qualification Requirements. Bidders meeting the Qualification Requirements, subject to evaluation as specified in Clause 3.2 to 3.4 shall be declared as “Qualified Bidders” and eligible for opening of Initial Offer. The BPC shall also upload the list of all Qualified Bidders and Non-Qualified Bidders on the bidding portal along with the reasons for non-qualification. Also, the Financial Bids of Qualified Bidders shall be opened after at least 24 hours from the date of declaration of the Technically Qualified Bidders.

The Financial Bid will comprise of two rounds. In the first round the Initial Offer (submitted online along with the Technical Bids) of the responsive bids would be opened and Quoted Transmission Charges of Initial Offer shall be ranked on the basis of ascending order for determination of the Qualified Bidders as provided in Section-III of RFP. The Qualified Bidders, in the first fifty per cent of the ranking (with any fraction rounded off to higher integer) or four Qualified Bidders, whichever is higher, shall qualify for participating in the electronic reverse auction stage and submit their Final Offer.

Provided however, in case only one Bidder remains after the evaluation of Technical Bid as per Clause 3.2, 3.3 and Clause 3.4, the Initial Offer of such Bidder shall not be opened and the matter shall be referred to the Government.

Provided that in the event the number of qualified Technical Bids is between two and four, then each of the qualified Bidder shall be considered as “Qualified Bidders”.

Provided that in the event of identical Quoted Transmission Charges discovered from the Initial Offer having been submitted by one or more Bidders, all such Bidders shall be assigned the same rank for the purposes of determination of Qualified Bidders. In such cases, all the Qualified Bidders who share the same rank till 50% of the rank (with any fraction rounded off to higher integer) determined above, shall qualify to participate in the electronic e-reverse auction stage. In case 50% of the ranks (with any fraction rounded off to higher integer) is having less than 4 (four) Bidders and the rank of the fourth (4th) Bidder is shared by more than one (1) Bidder, then all such Bidders who share the rank of the fourth (4th) Bidder shall qualify to participate in the electronic reverse auction.

The applicable ceiling for electronic reverse bidding shall be the lowest Quoted Transmission Charges discovered from the Initial Offer received from the Qualified Bidders. The Qualified Bidders shall be permitted to place their Final Offer on the electronic bidding platform, which is lower than zero point two five (0.25) % of the prevailing lowest Quoted Transmission Charges.

The initial period for conducting the e-reverse bidding should be 2 hours which will be extended by 30 minutes from the last received bid time, if the bid is received during the last 30 minutes of the scheduled or extended bid time. Subsequently, it will be extended again by 30 minutes from the latest received bid time.

The technical details with respect to access to such electronic platform are provided in Annexure-A (Technical Details with respect to electronic reverse auction).

In case of any technical clarification regarding access to the electronic reverse auction

platform or conduct of the auction process, the Bidders may contact MSTC directly at the address provided in Annexure-A.

2.5.1 Bid Formats

The Bids in response to this RFP will be submitted online through the electronic bidding platform by the Bidders in the manner provided in Clause 2.9. The Bids shall comprise of the following:

2.5.2 Technical Bid comprising of:

1. Covering Letter (as per prescribed format enclosed as **Annexure 1**);
2. Letter of Consent from Consortium Members in **Annexure 2**;
3. Power of attorney issued by the Bidding Company or the Lead Member of the Consortium, as the case may be, in favour of the person signing the Bid, in the format attached hereto as **Annexure 3**.

Additionally, in case of a Bidding Consortium, the power of attorney in favour of the Lead Member issued by the other Members of the Consortium shall be provided in as per format attached hereto as **Annexure 4**. Further, the Lead Member shall furnish Board resolution(s) from each Member of the Consortium other than the Lead Member in favour of their respective authorized representatives for executing the POA and signing of the requisite formats.

Provided that in the event the Bidding Company or the Lead Member of the Consortium or any Member of the Bidding Consortium, as the case may be, is a foreign entity, it may issue Board resolutions in place of power of attorney for the purpose of fulfilling these requirements.

4. Bidder's composition and ownership structure in **Annexure 5**
5. Format for Authorization submitted in Non-Judicial stamp paper duly notarized as per **Annexure 5** from the Bidding Company / each Member of the Consortium authorizing the BPC to seek reference from their respective bankers & others.
6. In case of Bidding Consortium, the Consortium Agreement shall be provided in as per format attached hereto as **Annexure 6**
7. Format of Qualification Requirement (**Annexures 7A, 7B, 7C and 7D**)
8. Bidders Undertakings and details of equity investment in Project (as per prescribed formats 1 and 2 of **Annexure 8**);
9. Authorization from Parent / Affiliate of Bidding Company / Member of Bidding Consortium whose technical / financial capability has been used by the Bidding Company / Member of Bidding Consortium (**Annexure 9**).
10. Undertaking from the Technically / Financially Evaluated Entity(ies) **OR** Undertaking from the Ultimate Parent Company, for total equity investment commitment, in the prescribed format in **Annexure – 10**, to meet any shortfall in

the equity investment by the Selected Bidder in the **SPV [which is under incorporation]**.

Note: The effective Equity holding of the Selected Bidder in the **SPV [which is under incorporation]**, as specified in Clause 2.5.8.1 shall be computed as per the provisions of Clause 2.5.8.3 of this RFP.

Provided further, in case the Bidding Company or Member of a Consortium, (as the case may be) holds at least twenty six percent (26%) equity in such Technically/ Financially Evaluated Entities, whose credentials have been considered for the purpose of meeting the Qualification Requirements as per the RFP, no such Undertaking shall be required from the Technically / Financially Evaluated Entities.

11. Board resolutions, as per prescribed formats enclosed as Annexure – 11, duly certified by the Company Secretary or any Whole-time Director / Manager (supported by a specific Board Resolution), as applicable to the Bidder and mentioned hereunder,
 - (a) Board resolution from the Bidding Company (and any investing Affiliate / Parent Company / Ultimate Parent Company) committing one hundred percent (100%) in aggregate of the equity requirement for the Project - Format-1 of **Annexure 11**;
 - (b) Board resolutions from each of the Consortium Member of the Bidding Consortium (and any investing Affiliate / Parent Company / Ultimate Parent Company) together committing to one hundred percent (100%) in aggregate of equity requirement for the Project, in case Bidder is a Bidding Consortium - Format-1 of **Annexure 11**;
 - (c) In either of the cases as in (a) or (b) above as applicable, Board resolutions as per Format 2 of **Annexure 11** for total equity investment commitment from the Technically / Financially Evaluated Entity(ies) whose technical / financial credentials had been considered for the purpose of meeting Qualification Requirements as per the RFP

OR

Board resolutions as per Format 2 of **Annexure 11** from the Parent Company or the Ultimate Parent Company for total equity investment commitment.

Provided that such Board resolutions, as specified in (a) or (b) or (c) above, in case of a foreign entity, shall be supported by an unqualified opinion issued by an independent legal counsel practicing in the relevant country, stating that the Board resolutions are in compliance with the applicable laws of the respective jurisdictions of the issuing company and the authorizations granted therein are true and valid.

For clarity sake, illustrations identifying which Board Resolution shall be applicable in typical cases are provided in **Annexure 11A**.

12. Format for Illustration of Affiliates at the most seven (7) days prior to Bid Deadline, duly certified by Company Secretary and supported by documentary evidence (**Annexure 12**).

Certified copy of the Register of Members / Demat Account Statement, Share Certificate, Annual Return filed with ROC etc. submitted as documentary evidence along with **Annexure 12**.

13. Disclosure as per **Annexure 13** regarding participation of any related companies in this bidding process.
14. Bid Bond, as per the prescribed format at **Annexure 14** or Bid Security Declaration as per prescribed format at **Annexure 14A** (as applicable);
15. Checklist for Technical Bid submission requirements as per **Annexure 16**.
16. Last three (3) financial years' unconsolidated / consolidated audited annual accounts / statements, as the case may be, of the Financially Evaluated Entity / Technical Evaluated Entity
17. Unconsolidated audited annual accounts of both the TEE and the Bidding Company/Lead member, as applicable, for the financial years in which financial closure was achieved and the financial year in which the said project was completed / commissioned.
18. Copy of the Memorandum and Articles of Association and certificate of incorporation or other organizational document (as applicable), including their amendments, certified by the Company Secretary of Bidding Company or each Member in case of a Consortium including Lead Member.
19. For each project listed in Annexure 7(D), certified true copy of the certificates of final acceptance and / or certificates of good operating performance duly issued by owners or clients for the project, duly signed by authorized signatory.

In addition to the online submission of above formats through the electronic platform, the Bidder with lowest Final Offer will be required to submit original hard copies of Annexure 3, Annexure 4 (if applicable), Annexure 6 (if applicable) and Annexure 14 before issuance of LoI. In case, there is a discrepancy between the online submission and physical documents, the bid would be outrightly rejected and the bidder shall be construed to have engaged in the fraudulent practice as defined in Clause 2.19.3 with consequences as mentioned in Clause 2.19.2.

2.5.3 Financial Bid (as per prescribed format at Annexure-21)

Financial Bid shall comprise of: (i) the Initial Offer; and (ii) the Final Offer. The Initial Offer is required to be submitted along with the Technical Bid. It is hereby clarified that the Financial Bid will comprise of two rounds. In the first round the Initial Offer of the responsive bids would be opened and Quoted Transmission Charges of Initial Offer shall be ranked on the basis of ascending order for determination of the Qualified Bidders as provided in Section-III of RFP.

In accordance with clause 2.5 of this RFP, the qualified Bidders shall be eligible to participate in the electronic reverse auction and submit their Final Offer.

The applicable ceiling for electronic reverse bidding shall be the lowest Quoted Transmission Charges discovered from the Initial Offer received from the Qualified Bidders. The Qualified Bidders shall be permitted to place their Final Offer on the electronic bidding platform, which is lower than zero point two five (0.25) % of the prevailing lowest Quoted Transmission Charges.

The initial period for conducting the e-reverse bidding should be 2 hours which will be extended by 30 minutes from the last received bid time, if the bid is received during the last 30 minutes of the scheduled or extended bid time. Subsequently, it will be extended again by 30 minutes from the latest received bid time.

The Bidders shall inter-alia take into account the following while preparing and submitting the Initial Offer and Final Offer of Financial Bid:-

- a. The Bidders shall quote single annual Quoted Transmission Charges for a period of 35 years commencing from the Scheduled COD of the Project.
- b. The Quoted Transmission Charges as per the format at Annexure-21 shall be inclusive of all charges and no exclusions shall be allowed. The Bidders shall take into account all costs including capital and operating, statutory taxes, duties, levies. Availability of the inputs necessary for operation and maintenance of the Project should be ensured by the TSP at the Project site and all costs involved in procuring the inputs (including statutory taxes, duties, levies thereof) at the Project site must be included in the Quoted Transmission Charges.
- c. Annexure 21 duly digitally signed by authorized signatory.

2.5.4 Wherever information has been sought in specified formats, the Bidders shall fill in the details as per the prescribed formats and shall refrain from referring to any other document for providing any information required in the prescribed format.

2.5.5 Transmission Charges

2.5.5.1. The Transmission Charges shall be specified in the Transmission Service Agreement and shall be payable to the TSP in Indian Rupees only. The Bidders shall quote single Transmission Charges as per the format at Annexure – 21.

2.5.5.2. The Transmission Charges of the Selected Bidder shall be inserted in Schedule 5 of the Transmission Service Agreement.

2.5.6 Bidders may note that:

- a) All the information and documents in Bid shall be submitted in English language only.
- b) Bidders shall mention the name, designation, telephone number, fax number, email address of the authorized signatory and complete address of the Bidder in the covering letter.

- c) All pages of the Bid submitted shall be initialed and stamped by the authorized signatory on behalf of the Bidder.
- d) A Bidder shall submit only one Bid in the same bidding process, either individually as Bidding Company or as a Member of a Bidding Consortium.
- e) The technical and financial capability of a particular company / particular project (Parent and/ or Affiliate) shall not be used directly or indirectly by more than one Bidder/ Member of a Bidding Consortium including Lead Member / Bidding Company.
- f) This Request for Proposal (RFP) document is not transferable. The RFP document and the information contained therein is for the use only by the Bidder to whom it is issued. It may not be copied or distributed by the recipient to third parties (other than in confidence to the recipient's professional advisors). In the event that the recipient does not continue with its involvement in the Project, this RFP document must be kept confidential.
- g) Though adequate care has been taken while preparing this RFP document, the Bidder shall satisfy himself that the document is complete in all respects. Intimation of any discrepancy shall be given to the BPC immediately. If no intimation is received from any Bidder within ten (10) days from the date of issue of RFP document, it shall be considered that the RFP document is complete in all respects and has been received by the Bidder.
- h) Bids submitted by the Bidder and opened on scheduled date and time as stipulated in this RFP shall become the property of the BPC and BPC shall have no obligation to return the same to the Bidder.
- i) If any Bidder conceals any material information or makes a wrong statement or misrepresents facts or makes a misleading statement in its Bid, in any manner whatsoever, the BPC reserves the right to reject such Bid or cancel the Letter of Intent, if issued. If such event is discovered after the Effective Date, consequences specified in Transmission Service Agreement shall apply.
- j) If for any reason the Bid of the Bidder with the lowest Quoted Transmission Charges is not selected or Letter of Intent issued to such Selected Bidder is cancelled or such Bidder withdraws its Bids, the BPC may :-
 - i. Invite all the remaining Bidders to revalidate or extend their respective Bid Security, as necessary, and match the Bid of the Bidder with the lowest Quoted Transmission Charges (the "second round of bidding") with following cases:
 - If in the second round of bidding, only one Bidder matches the Bid of the Bidder with lowest Quoted Transmission Charges, it shall be the Selected Bidder.
 - If two or more Bidders match the Bid of the Bidder with the lowest Quoted Transmission Charges in the second round of bidding, then the Bidder whose Quoted Transmission Charges was lower as compared to other Bidder(s) in the first round of bidding shall be the Selected Bidder. For example, if the

third and fifth lowest Bidders in the first round of bidding offer to match the Bid of the Bidder with lowest Quoted Transmission Charges in the second round of bidding, the said third lowest Bidder shall be the Successful Bidder.

- In the event that no Bidder offers to match the Bid of the Bidder with the lowest Quoted Transmission Charges in the second round of bidding, the BPC may, in its discretion, invite fresh Bids (the “third round of bidding”) from all Bidders except the Bidder which quoted the lowest Quoted Transmission Charges in the first round of bidding. In case the Bidders are invited for the third round of bidding to revalidate or extend their Bid Security, as necessary, and offer fresh Bids, they shall be eligible for submission of fresh Bids provided, however, that in such third round of bidding only such Bids shall be eligible for consideration which are lower than the Quoted Transmission Charges of the second lowest Bidder in the first round of bidding; or;
- ii. Annul the bid process; or
- iii. Take any such measure as may be deemed fit in the sole discretion of the BPC¹
- k) The BPC may, at its sole discretion, ask for additional information / document and/or seek clarifications from a Bidder after the Bid Deadline, inter alia, for the purposes of removal of inconsistencies or infirmities in its Bid. However, no change in the substance of the Quoted Transmission Charges shall be sought or permitted by the BPC.
- l) Non submission and/or submission of incomplete data/ information required under the provisions of RFP shall not be construed as waiver on the part of BPC of the obligation of the Bidder to furnish the said data / information unless the waiver is in writing.
- m) Bidders shall familiarize itself with the procedures and time frames required to obtain all Consents, Clearances and Permits.
- n) All Bidders are required to ensure compliance with the standards and codes mentioned in Clause 1.6.1.2.
- o) BPC reserves the right to reject all Bids and/or annul the process of tariff based competitive bidding for selection of Bidder as TSP to execute the Project without assigning any reason. BPC shall not bear any liability, whatsoever, in this regard.
- p) Foreign companies submitting the Bid are required to follow the applicable law in their country for execution of POA, Consortium Agreement and affixation of Common Seal (wherever required) and in such cases, their Bid should be supported by an unqualified opinion issued by an independent legal counsel practicing in the relevant country, stating that execution of such POA, Consortium Agreement and the authorizations granted therein are true and valid. Foreign companies executing POA outside India shall necessarily pay the adequate stamp charges in India as per the provisions of Stamp Act.

¹ BPC shall record reasons for the same.

2.5.7 Bidders to inform themselves fully

- 2.5.7.1. The Bidders shall make independent enquiry and satisfy themselves with respect to all the required information, inputs, conditions and circumstances and factors that may have any effect on his Bid. Once the Bidders have submitted their Bids, the Bidders shall be deemed to have inspected and examined the site conditions (including but not limited to its surroundings, its geological condition and the adequacy of transport facilities to the site), the laws and regulations in force in India, the transportation facilities available in India, the grid conditions, the adequacy and conditions of roads, bridges, railway sidings, ports, etc. for unloading and/or transporting heavy pieces of material and has based its design, equipment size and fixed its price taking into account all such relevant conditions and also the risks, contingencies and other circumstances which may influence or affect the transmission of power. Accordingly, each Bidder acknowledges that, on being selected as Successful Bidder and on acquisition of one hundred percent (100%) of the equity shares of the **SPV [which is under incorporation]**, the TSP shall not be relieved from any of its obligations under the RFP Project Documents nor shall the TSP be entitled to any extension in Scheduled COD mentioned in this RFP or financial compensation for any reason whatsoever.
- 2.5.7.2. In their own interest, the Bidders are requested to familiarize themselves with all relevant laws of India, including without limitation, the Electricity Act 2003, the Income Tax Act 1961, the Companies Act, 1956 / Companies Act, 2013 (as the case may be), Environment Protection Act 1986 and Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, the Customs Act, the Foreign Exchange Management Act, Land Acquisition Act, 1894, the Indian Telegraph Act 1885, Labour & Employment Laws of India, [Insurance Act] the regulations/standards framed by the Commissions and CEA, all other related acts, laws, rules and regulations prevalent in India, as amended from time to time.

In addition to the above, the Bidders are required to familiarize themselves with all relevant technical codes and standards, including but not limited to the Grid Code / State Grid Code, Central Electricity Authority (Installation and Operations of Meters) Regulations, 2006, Central Electricity Authority (Technical Standards for Connectivity to the Grid) Regulations, 2007, Central Electricity Regulatory Commission Grant of Connectivity, Long-term Access and Medium - Term Open Access in Inter-State Transmission and related matters) Regulations, 2009, Central Electricity Authority (Technical Standards for construction of Electrical Plants and Electric Lines) Regulation, 2010, Central Electricity Authority (Technical Standards for Communication System in Power System Operation) Regulations, 2020, Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Sharing of Inter-State Transmission Charges and Losses) Regulations, 2020 and other relevant Rules/ Regulations/ Guidelines issued by the Central Government, the CERC and the CEA and amendments thereof.

The BPC shall not entertain any request for clarifications from the Bidders regarding the above laws / acts / rules / regulations / standards. Non-awareness of the same shall not be a reason for the Bidder to request for extension in Bid Deadline. The Bidders undertake and agree that, before submission of their Bid, all such factors as generally brought out above, have been fully investigated and considered while submitting their Bids.

- 2.5.7.3. The Survey Report has been prepared in good faith, and on best endeavor basis. Neither BPC & Nodal Agency nor their employees or advisors/consultants make any

representation or warranty, express or implied, or accept any responsibility or liability, whatsoever, in respect of any statements or omissions made in the Survey Report, or the accuracy, completeness or reliability of information contained therein, and shall incur no liability under any law, statute, rules or regulations as to the accuracy, reliability or completeness of such Survey Report, even if any loss or damage is caused to the Bidders by any act or omission on their part.

- 2.5.7.4. Bidders shall make best efforts and carry out its own due diligence upon survey report provided by BPC and shall consider all possible techno-commercial factors before submission of Bid. Bidders may also visit the route of the Transmission Lines associated with the Project and the surrounding areas and obtain / verify all information which they deem fit and necessary for the preparation of their Bid. Bidders may also carry out required surveys and field investigation for submission of their Bid. Bidders may also opt for any other route and is not bound to follow the route suggested in survey report provided by BPC.
- 2.5.7.5. Failure to investigate, examine and to inspect site or subsurface conditions fully shall not be grounds for a Bidder to alter its Bid after the Bid Deadline nor shall it relieve a Bidder from any responsibility for appropriately eliminating the difficulty or costs of successfully completing the Project.
- 2.5.7.6. The Selected Bidder shall obtain all necessary Consents, Clearances and Permits as required. The Bidders shall familiarize itself with the procedures and time frame required to obtain such Consents, Clearances and Permits.
- 2.5.7.7. The technical requirements of integrated grid operation are specified in the Indian Electricity Grid Code (IEGC). The Bidders should particularly acquaint themselves with the requirements of connection conditions, operating code for regional grids, scheduling and dispatch instructions/codes, etc. The Bidders are also advised to fully familiarize themselves with the real time grid conditions in the country. Information regarding grid parameters such as voltage and frequency is available on the websites of Regional / State Load Despatch Centres.

2.5.8 Minimum Equity holding/Equity Lock-in

- 2.5.8.1. (a) The aggregate equity share holding of the Selected Bidder, in the issued and paid up equity share capital of **SPV [which is under incorporation]** shall not be less than Fifty one percent (51%) up to a period of (1) one year after COD of the Project;
- (b) In case the Selected Bidder is a Bidding Consortium, then any Member (other than the Lead Member) of such Bidding Consortium shall be allowed to divest its equity as long as the other remaining Members (which shall always include the Lead Member) hold the minimum equity specified in (a) above.
- (c) If equity is held by the Affiliates, Parent Company or Ultimate Parent Company, then subject to the second proviso of this Clause 2.5.8.1 (c), such Affiliate, Parent Company or Ultimate Parent Company shall be permitted to transfer its shareholding in **SPV [which is under incorporation]** to another Affiliate or to the Parent Company / Ultimate Parent Company. If any such shareholding entity, qualifying as an Affiliate / Parent Company / Ultimate Parent Company, is likely to cease to meet the criteria to qualify as an Affiliate / Parent Company / Ultimate Parent Company, the shares held by