



Approval of Power Usage Agreement executed on 23.11.2022 by and between WBSEDCL and NHPC for purchase of 100 MW Solar Power from NHPC Solar PV Station at Kadri, Andhra Pradesh in terms of clause (iv) of regulation 3.4 of the West Bengal Electricity Regulatory Commission (Cogeneration and Generation of Electricity from Renewable Sources of Energy) Regulations, 2013, as amended.



observes that WBSEDCL has proposed to purchase 166.554 MU of Solar Power at an estimated CUF of 19% (minimum) of the contracted capacity of 100 MW. On analysis, it is observed that WBSEDCL is lagging far behind the target set by the Commission. Thus, this PSA will help WBSEDCL to improve its RE portfolio.

#### 5.0 Price of power purchase:

5.1 The Commission observes that the Usage Charges of Rs. 2.45 per kWh is well below the average power purchase cost of Rs. 3.79 per kWh and thus, stand-alone economic as compared to the purchase from coal based thermal power stations as approved by the Commission in the Tariff Order dated 30.03.2023 of WBSEDCL. Thus, the Commission finds that the tariff for purchase of 100 MW Solar Power from NHPC will be beneficial for the end consumers.

5.2 The Commission noted that as per the Order No. 302/4/2017 – GRID SOLAR dated 10.05.2021 by MNRE, the power produced by the Government Producers (herein NHPC) be used for self-use or use by Government/ Government entities, either directly or through DISCOMS (herein WBSEDCL) on payment of mutually agreed usage charges of not more than Rs. 2.45 per kWh. This charge shall be exclusive of any other third-party charges like wheeling and transmission charges and losses, point of connection charges and losses, cross subsidy surcharge, SLDC/ RLDC Charges, etc., as may be applicable. The Commission further noted from the letter dated 22.04.2022 of NHPC Limited that WBSEDCL can sell this solar power to Government/ Government entities with the tariff applicable for such consumer categories as determined by this Commission.

5.3 It is also noted that, NHPC Limited has been selected as developer of the solar project through competitive bidding process. NHPC Limited being a Central Government owned / controlled generating station (ISGS), tariff of NHPC discovered through competitive bidding needs to be adopted by the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission.

5.3 In view of the above, the Commission concludes the following:

- (i) The solar power will help WBSEDCL to improve its Renewable Energy Portfolio.





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- (ii) The proposed rate of Rs. 2.45/ kwh is found reasonable and economic. However, the price being discovered following the competitive bidding guidelines issued by the Government of India is subject to adoption by CERC.

**Order:**

- 6.0 The Commission after considering the above facts and in order to promote procurement of renewable energy by WBSEDCL to fulfil their obligation and further keeping in mind clause (e) of sub-section (1) of section 86 of the Act, approves the Power Usage Agreement dated 23.11.2022 executed by and between WBSEDCL and NHPC for purchase of 100 MW Solar Power by WBSEDCL from NHPC for a period of 25 (twenty-five) years for meeting the RPO compliance. The tariff is however subject to adoption of the tariff by the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission in terms of section 63 of the Electricity Act, 2003.
- 7.0 The Commission also directs WBSEDCL to comply with the provisions of applicable law regarding scheduling as per the provisions of intra-state ABT, State Grid Code, etc.
- 8.0 The petition is thus disposed of.
- 9.0 A copy of the order shall be posted in the website of the Commission.
- 10.0 WBSEDCL shall download the copy of the order from the website of the Commission and act on it. Certified copy of the order, if applied for, be given to the parties on completion of formalities laid down in the West Bengal Electricity Regulatory Commission (Conduct of Business) Regulations, 2013, as amended and on submission of necessary fees.

Sd/-  
(PULAK KUMAR TEWARI)  
MEMBER

Sd/  
(MALLELA VENKATESWARA RAO)  
CHAIRPERSON

**Dated: 12.06.2023**

Sd/-  
**SECRETARY**