RERC

Rajasthan Electricity Regulatory Commission

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No. RERC/Secy./Dir (Tech. -I)/D 1828 Dated: 4/03/2023

ORDER

Sub: In the matter of the Green Procurement Policy of the Commission

The Green Procurement Policy of the Commission is hereby issued.

This bears the approval of the Commission.

(Himanshu Khurana)
Secretary

Rajasthan Electricity Regulatory Commission

Green Procurement Policy

Objective:

The aim of a green building design is to minimize the use of non-renewable resources and instead encourage on the usage of renewable resources, maximize on utilization efficiency, reuse, and recycling of these resources. A green building focuses on minimal energy to power itself; uses efficient equipment to meet its lighting, air conditioning, and other needs; maximizes the use of renewable sources of energy; prioritizes efficient waste and water management practices; and provides comfortable and hygienic indoor working conditions.

The approach of Green Building incorporates Green Procurement and it also encourages use of eco-friendly refrigerants and Halons in the building, thereby minimizing negative impact on the ozone layer.

Scope:

This policy shall impact all purchases and procurement for the Commission and shall apply to all supply chain partners.

Green Procurement:

Green Procurement is an integral part of the Sustainability policy. Green Procurement incorporates human health and environmental concerns into the search for high quality efficient products and services at competitive prices.

Environmental sustainability as one of its top priorities and by green procurement it is possible to contribute to environmental protection and enhancing people performance and services while ensuring business growth for its supply chain. It

also helps reduce operational cost in the form of resource efficiency and reduced wastage.

Commission seeks to reduce the environment impacts of our procurement process and also encourage our suppliers to adopt sustainable supply chain practices.

The following considerations shall include into the procurement decisions:

1. Encouraging suppliers to deliver products/services with minimal negative impact on environment and adopt safe practices in the cycle from production to delivery.
2. Prefer products that are eco-friendly, energy efficient and less polluting.
3. Prefer products that have energy star ratings (4-5 star rated) or green certifications.
4. Disposing goods to authorized agencies/recyclers in environmentally friendly manner.
5. Using products that are water efficient and reduce water usage.
6. Procure less toxic products and chemicals to reduce health effects.
7. Utilizing clean technology and/or clean fuels.
8. Monitoring, evaluating sustainability performance and identifying improvement opportunities.
9. Reducing environmental footprints by means of material, energy & water conservation.

10. Encouraging logistics optimization, local buying and using Circular economy principles for waste management using 4 R (Reduce, Recover, Recycle & Reuse)

11. Promoting a safe and healthy workplace for the employees.

12. Promoting sustainability awareness and green work culture among associates to reduce emissions.

13. Enhancing sustainability within their own supply chain.

14. Procuring recycled/part-recycled products to optimize resource consumption.

15. Procuring energy-efficient equipment by defining specifications in tender & contracts.

16. Sustainable retrofitting during any renovation/retrofitting/ expansion to meet minimum requirement of local material, material with recycle content and use of salvaged material. Green sealed products shall be used at the time of renovation/retrofitting.

17. Use of eco-friendly housekeeping chemicals.

18. Organic fertilizers for landscape requirement must be use.

Low Global Warming potential refrigerants-based AC's and Use of DC Fan instead of AC Fan:

Some refrigerants used in heating, ventilating, air conditioning, and refrigeration (HVAC & R) systems cause significant damage to Earth's protective ozone layer

if they are released into the atmosphere. Further, it contributes to greenhouse gas emissions, causing global climate change.

The policy for Green building avoids use of refrigerants and ozone depleting gases which has negative impact to the environment.

The refrigerants used in the buildings Heating, Ventilation & Air-conditioning (HVAC) equipment should be CFC (Chloro Fluoro Carbon)-free and fire suppression systems used in the building also should be free from Halons or any other ozone depleting substances.

CFC can destroy stratospheric ozone molecules which shields the earth against incoming ultraviolet radiation. Ultraviolet radiation can cause harmful effects on human beings, such as skin cancer and cataract.

Therefore, zero use of chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) refrigerants in Heating, Ventilation & Air-conditioning (HVAC) equipment and Unitary Air-Conditioners installed in the building(s).

Energy consumption of a ceiling fan may not seem to be much compared to the AC compressor, but running it for long hours can add up to a significant energy consumption.

DC (direct current) fan gives the benefit of being energy efficient, maintains high volume air-movement and silent operation.

The DC power is managed effectively which brings down the motor operating temperature. This results in a much cooler motor than a standard AC fan.

The following considerations shall include in future procurements of air-conditioners and fans:

Install HVAC equipment/ unitary air-conditioners which does not use CFC/HCFC based refrigerant.

While selecting the refrigerants, one can consider factors like life of the refrigerant, Ozonedepleting potential (ODP) and Global warming potential (GWP). Ideally, refrigerantschosen should have shorter lifetimes, lower ODP and GWP values. If there are any refrigerants present containing HCFC at RERC, the same would be phased out in due course.

The DC Fan should be procured in future instead of AC Fan.

Halon free fire fighting systems:

Halons are halogenated hydrocarbons used as a fire extinguishing media. Halons (Halogenated hydrocarbons) exhibit exceptional firefighting and explosion prevention/suppressioncharacteristics have been found to possess high ozone depleting potential.

The following considerations shall include in future procurements of fire fighting systems:

The fire suppression systems used should be free from Halons or other ozone depleting substances.

Efforts shall be made to prevent careless discharge or leakingof the gas from the existing building equipment.

Date: 29/2/24

By order

29/2/24

Secretary, RERC