

COAL INDIA LIMITED

(A Government of India Enterprise)

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (REOI)

Complete EPC Package (Including Land & Connectivity) for
ISTS-Connected Solar PV Projects with BESS – Aggregate 150 MW

EOI Document No.: CIL/RE/EOI/SOLAR-150MW/2025, Date: 04/09/2025

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Issued by: Solar Department, Coal India Limited
Coal Bhawan, Premise No-04 MAR, Plot No-AF-III, Action Area-1A,
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1. Introduction

Coal India Limited (CIL), a 'Maharatna' PSU under the Ministry of Coal, Government of India, with headquarters at Kolkata, intends to develop a 150 MW of ISTS-connected Solar PV capacity with co-located Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS).

CIL plans to participate as Solar Power Developer (SPD) under SECI's RfS for 1200 MW ISTS-connected Solar PV Projects with 600 MW/3600 MWh ESS (SECI-ISTS-XXI) [RfS No. SECI/C&P/IPP/11/0006/25-26 dated 19.06.2025] and similar upcoming tenders, and accordingly proposes to float an EPC tender on a strict back-to-back basis with the applicable SECI RfS/PPA terms.

This Expression of Interest (EOI) seeks inputs from reputed EPC entities capable of delivering complete EPC including land acquisition/arrangement and grid connectivity up to the ISTS Delivery Point, to enable CIL to finalize a robust EPC NIT aligned to SECI's latest bidding framework.

2. Objective & Project Context

CIL's objective is to identify capable EPC partners **having credible land banks** and demonstrated execution capabilities to support CIL's proposed bids and subsequent project implementation on a back-to-back basis with SECI's RfS terms. The EPC scope will be packaged in **suitable lots/locations aggregating to ~ 150 MW, subject to land/CTU readiness and SECI/Buying Entity requirements.**

- Technology: Crystalline/Thin-film PV with co-located BESS; technology-agnostic within SECI/PPA compliance.
- Interconnection: ISTS connection at minimum 220 kV and compliance with CERC/CEA grid codes; CTU connectivity per GNA/Connectivity Regulations (latest).
- Minimum ESS sizing: ≥ 0.5 MW / 3 MWh for each 1 MW project capacity, aligned to SECI ISTS-XXI.
- Peak supply obligation design basis: capability to deliver 3 MWh per MW during Peak Hours (6:00 PM–9:00 AM) as per Buying Entity's schedule.
- Declared CUF & operating band to be ensured by design and O&M strategy, in line with SECI RfS.

3. Scope of EPC & Key Design Basis (Back-to-Back with SECI ISTS-XXI)

- Complete EPC on turnkey basis including detailed engineering, supply, civil works, installation, testing, commissioning and performance proving for Solar PV plant, co-located BESS, plant-level SCADA/WAMS/EMS, cyber-security, metering & protection

systems, pooling substation, and transmission line up to ISTS Interconnection/Delivery Point including bay arrangements where applicable.

- Land: The EPC must have minimum contiguous/aggregated land capacity already under their control – which is sufficient for at least 150 MW solar development (inclusive of BESS, Pooling Sub-Station and other infrastructure), with documentary evidence. (refer Annexure-3).
- Connectivity: Identification and securing of CTU/ISTS connectivity (application support and documentation) including selection of appropriate CTUIL substation(s) with adequate margin and scheduled commissioning in line with SECI timelines (refer Annexure-4).
- BESS: Supply, installation and integration of BESS sized to meet SECI ISTS-XXI obligations (≥ 0.5 MW/3 MWh per 1 MW solar capacity), including PCS, BMS, containerization, HVAC, fire detection & suppression, safety and compliance with applicable standards.
- Performance & Guarantees: Design to meet SECI's CUF bands, peak-hour discharge obligations, forecasting & scheduling, and penalties/liquidated damages back-to-back with PPA obligations.
- Compliance: Adherence to CEA grid connectivity standards, Indian Electricity Grid Code 2023 (and amendments), metering codes, communication & RLDC interfaces, forecasting/scheduling and deviation settlement regulations.
- Quality & Procurement: ALMM compliance for PV modules (as applicable at the time of supply, ALMM-I and ALMM-II), OEM warranties, spares strategy; compliance to prevailing GST regime on solar/BESS/evacuation equipment. *EPC bidders shall note that as per the 56th GST Council (Sept 2025), GST on renewable energy devices and their parts (including solar PV modules, inverters, BESS components, etc.) and other related items/ works has been modified. All estimates must be prepared considering the revised GST.* Any future change in GST rates shall be to the account of the EPC contractor.
- O&M: Comprehensive O&M (PV + BESS + substation + transmission up to Delivery Point) with availability and performance KPIs, remote monitoring, cybersecurity posture, and statutory compliances for the O&M term to be specified in the NIT.

4. Information Required from Applicants (EPCs)

Applicants shall furnish the following information in the enclosed formats. Additional sheets may be attached wherever space is insufficient.

1. Covering Letter (as per format) confirming interest and acceptance of back-to-back EPC contracting with SECI RfS/PPA obligations.
2. Annexure-1: General Information of the Applicant (legal status, incorporation, registered office, key contacts).
3. Annexure-2: Undertaking (no debarment/blacklisting; anti-corruption/anti-fraud).

4. Annexure-3: Land Bank Details – minimum contiguous/aggregated land capacity already under control sufficient for at least 150 MW solar development (inclusive of BESS, Pooling Sub-Station and other infrastructure), with documentary evidence.
5. Annexure-4: CTU/Connectivity Details – proposed ISTS substation(s), voltage level (≥ 220 kV), margin/augmentation plan status, expected commissioning, distance from site, and readiness plan.
6. Annexure-5: Financial Information – turnover & net worth for last three audited financial years.
7. Annexure-6: Cost Estimate & Break-up – EPC price build-up including PV, BESS, pooling substation, transmission to ISTS, metering, SCADA/communications, spares, O&M, taxes & duties (including GST), insurance, IDC and contingencies; assumptions to be clearly stated. – Applicants must explicitly show cost build-up considering applicable GST on renewable energy devices and parts and other related items/ works (post 56th GST Council recommendation, Sept 2025).
8. Annexure-7: Compliance to SECI ISTS-XXI RfS – confirmation of design for ESS sizing, peak-hour discharge capability, CUF band compliance, metering & scheduling, and other key conditions.
9. Annexure-8: Suggestions/Inputs on Draft EPC NIT – risk allocation, packaging, interfaces, acceptance tests, LDs and warranties aligned with back-to-back PPA.
10. Annexure-9: ALMM Compliance Plan for PV Modules (including model/OEM strategy and timelines).
11. Annexure-10: Project Schedule & Key Milestones – land readiness, CTU application, engineering, procurement, logistics, construction, commissioning; critical path and schedule risk mitigations.
12. Annexure-11: Statement of Assumptions, if any.

5. Instructions to Applicants

- EOI download & submission shall be through CIL's e-Tender Portal (<https://coalindiatenders.nic.in>).
- Language: English. All pages to be duly signed by authorized signatory with valid DSC.
- CIL may verify any information submitted and request clarifications. Costs of response preparation shall be borne by Applicants.
- This EOI is only for information gathering to finalize EPC NIT; it does not constitute a solicitation or offer and does not entail any financial commitment from CIL. Applicants are specifically advised to account for the revised GST rate on renewable energy devices and other related items/ works (as per 56th GST Council, Sept 2025) in their submissions.
- Applicants are advised to study SECI RfS terms (ISTS-XXI) to ensure back-to-back readiness in design, price, schedule and risk allocation.

6. Schedule

Event	Date/Time
AS PER PORTAL	

7. Right to Accept or Reject

CIL reserves the right to accept or reject any or all EOIs, or annul the process at any time without assigning any reason and without any liability.

8. Address for Communication

General Manager (E&M)/Solar, Solar Department, Coal India Limited

Coal Bhawan, Premise No-04 MAR, Plot No-AF-III, Action Area-1A, Newtown, Rajarhat, Kolkata – 700156

Email: gmsolar.cil@coalindia.in

9. Definitions & Abbreviations

- ALMM – Approved List of Models & Manufacturers (MNRE).
- BESS – Battery Energy Storage System.
- BOS – Balance of System.
- CEA – Central Electricity Authority.
- CERC – Central Electricity Regulatory Commission.
- CTU/CTUIL – Central Transmission Utility of India Limited.
- CUF – Capacity Utilization Factor.
- DISCOM – Distribution Company.
- ESS – Energy Storage System.
- GNA – General Network Access.
- ISTS – Inter-State Transmission System.
- MNRE – Ministry of New & Renewable Energy.
- PPA – Power Purchase Agreement.
- RLDC – Regional Load Despatch Centre.
- SECI – Solar Energy Corporation of India Limited.
- SPD – Solar Power Developer.

Annexures – Formats

Covering Letter (On Applicant's Letterhead)

Date: ____ / ____ / 2025

To

General Manager (E&M)/Solar

Coal India Limited, Coal Bhawan, Newtown, Kolkata – 700156

Subject: EOI for “Complete EPC Package (Incl. Land & Connectivity) of ISTS-Connected Solar PV Projects with co-located BESS (Aggregate 150 MW)”

Dear Sir,

We hereby submit our Expression of Interest and confirm our acceptance to participate in a back-to-back EPC contracting framework aligned with SECI's current RfS/PPA terms for ISTS-connected Solar PV Projects with ESS. We confirm that we possess/arrange land bank and CTU connectivity as per details enclosed.

Authorized Signatory: _____ Name/Designation: _____ Seal

Annexure-1: General Information of the Applicant

Legal Name	CIN	Registered Address	Year of Incorporation	Authorized Signatory (Name/Title)	Contact (Email/Mobile)

Annexure-2: Undertaking

We hereby undertake that we are not debarred/blacklisted by any Govt./PSU; have not employed any dismissed public servant; and no Director/Partner has been convicted for offences involving corruption or moral turpitude in the last five years. We accept anti-corruption/anti-fraud requirements and confirm authenticity of information provided herein.

(Signature & Seal)

Annexure-3: Land Bank Details (Minimum readiness for ≥150 MW Solar Development - inclusive of BESS, Pooling Sub-Station and other infrastructure)

State	District/Tehsil	Village/Plot IDs	Total Area (acres)	Contiguity (Yes/No)	Ownership/Lease Status	Title/Lease Docs	Land Use Conversion Status	ROW & Access	Distance to Proposed ISTS SS (km)	Applicable clearance

Annexure-4: CTU/Connectivity Details (ISTS Interconnection ≥220 kV)

CTUIL Substation Name	Voltage Level	Bay Availability/ Margin	Scheduled Commissioning of SS	Evidence /Source (CTUIL/ CEA plan)	Distance from Site (km)	Planned Interconnection Scheme	GNA/Connectivity Application Timeline

Annexure-5: Financial Information of the Applicant

FY	Turnover (INR Cr.)	Net Worth (INR Cr.)	Auditor/CA Certificate Ref.

Annexure-6: Cost Estimate & Break-up (with BESS & Taxes) – Applicants must explicitly show cost build-up considering applicable GST on renewable energy devices and parts and other related items/ works (post 56th GST Council recommendation, Sept 2025).

Cost Head	Description/Assumptions	Qty/Rating	Unit Cost (INR)	Amount (INR Lakhs)

Illustrative heads (expand as required): PV modules (ALMM I and II-compliant), mounting structures, inverters/PCUs, DC/AC cabling, civil/roads/drainage, SCADA/EMS/WAMS, metering & protections, pooling substation, transmission up to ISTS Delivery Point (incl.

bays), BESS (cells, PCS, BMS, containers, HVAC, fire safety), spares, insurance, IDC, O&M (years), taxes & duties incl. GST, contingency. NOTE: GST applicable on renewable energy devices and their parts and other related items/ works shall be taken as per revised GST Council decision (Sept 2025).

Annexure-7: Compliance to SECI ISTS-XXI RfS (Key Conditions)

Item	Requirement	Compliance (Yes/No)	Remarks/Design Notes

Key items to confirm include: BESS sizing ≥ 0.5 MW/3 MWh per MW; ability to supply 3 MWh/MW during Peak Hours; CUF commitment within declared band; metering at Delivery Point; ISTS interconnection ≥ 220 kV; forecasting & scheduling readiness; RLDC interfaces; penalties/liquidated damages pass-through readiness.

(No deviation from SECI's RfS tender tem will be accepted)

Annexure-8: Suggestions/Inputs on Draft EPC NIT

Annexure-9: ALMM Compliance Plan (ALMM-I, ALMM-II)

Proposed Module OEM	Model/Make	ALMM Listing Ref. (ALMM-I and ALMM-II)	Supply Timeline

Annexure-10: Project Schedule & Milestones

Milestone (Activities)	Target Date	Dependencies	Remarks

Typical milestones: Land readiness; CTU connectivity application; Basic & detailed engineering; Long-lead procurement; Logistics to site; Foundations & structures; Electrical works & substation; BESS installation & safety systems; Pre-commissioning & trial run; COD/SCSD compliance.

Annexure-11: Statement of Assumptions (if any)

Reference	Assumption	Impact (Cost/Schedule)	Justification

Note: This EOI is issued solely for information gathering to finalize EPC tender documents.
Final EPC NIT/Contract conditions shall prevail over this EOI.