SOLAR
FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE

RAJASTHAN SOLAR ENERGY POLICY, 2014
RAJASTHAN SOLAR ENERGY POLICY, 2014
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Preamble

1. Energy Security is key to economic growth to any country and state. Fossil fuel such as coal, gas, oil, etc. for conventional power generation is fast depleting and will be exhausted in coming decades. The conventional generation is also the source of greenhouse gas emission attributing to global warming and has adverse impact on climate. Therefore, a global shift towards sustainable renewable energy generation is being witnessed.

2. India is blessed with abundant solar energy and if harnessed efficiently, the country is capable of producing trillion-kilowatts of electricity. Solar energy is extremely beneficial as it is non-polluting and its generation can be decentralized.

3. The State of Rajasthan receives maximum solar radiation intensity in India with very low average rainfall. It also has desert land available in abundance. Therefore, Rajasthan is likely to emerge as the global hub for solar power in the country.

4. Challenge of climate change and global warming continuously threaten the world community, and Rajasthan Government has also recognized the urgent need to tackle these challenges.

5. To tap the potential of the emerging revolution in solar energy and to leverage advantage from the Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission launched by Government of India, the State Government has decided to review the existing Rajasthan Solar Energy Policy, 2011.
2 Vision
Our vision is to reduce the dependence on conventional sources of energy by promoting the development of non-conventional energy sources and most importantly, solar power thereby enabling the State in attaining self-sufficiency in its energy needs. Our aim is to create an enabling environment for installation of 25000 MW of solar power through State or Private enterprises or through Public Private Partnerships or through individual efforts.

3 Title and enforcement
3.1 This Policy will be known as Rajasthan Solar Energy Policy, 2014.
3.2 The Policy will come into operation with effect from 8.10.2014 and will remain in force until superseded or modified by another Policy.
3.3 State Government may amend / modify / undertake review of this Policy including statutory fees / deposits and contribution towards Rajasthan Renewable Energy Development Fund as and when the need arises.

4 Definitions
4.1 Following expressions used in the Policy would have meanings assigned to them as defined hereunder:
1. “Act” means Electricity Act 2003, including amendments there to.
2. “ABT” means Availability Based Tariff.
3. “CEA” means Central Electricity Authority.
4. “CERC” means the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission.
5. “Central Agency” means National Load Dispatch Centre (NLDC) as designated by the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission vide order dated 29.1.2010 for the purposes of the REC Regulations.
6. “Collector” means Collector of a district as defined in the Rajasthan Land Revenue Act and includes every officer authorized to discharge the duties of Collector under the Act / Rules / executive orders of the Government of Rajasthan.
9. “Discom of Rajasthan” means a distribution licensee, such as Jaipur Discum, Jodhpur Discum and Ajmer Discum.
10. “District Level Committee” or “DLC” means the committee constituted by the State Government for a District from time to time under Clauses (b) of sub-rule (1) of rule 2 of the Rajasthan Stamps Rules, 2004.
11. “Force Majeure” means any event or circumstance which is beyond the reasonable direct or indirect control and without the fault or negligence of the Solar Power Producer or Developer and which results in Solar Power Producers’ / Developers’ inability, notwithstanding its reasonable best efforts, to perform its obligations in whole or in part and may include rebellion, mutiny, civil unrest, riot, strike, fire, explosion, flood, cyclone, lightning, earthquake, act of foreign enemy, war or other forces, theft, burglary, ionizing radiation or contamination, Government action, inaction or restrictions, accidents or an act of God or other similar causes.
12. “Generating Plant Sub-station / Pooling Sub-station” means Sub-station developed by the Solar Power Producer / Developer for interface with the receiving sub-station.
13. “Government” and “State” mean the Government of Rajasthan and the State of Rajasthan respectively.
15. “Inter-connection Point” shall mean a point at EHV substation of Transmission Licensee or HV substation of distribution licensee, as the case may be, where the electricity produced from the RE generating station is injected into the Rajasthan Grid.
17. “Licensee” includes a person deemed to be a licensee under Section 14 of the Act.
18. “Mega Solar Power Project” means Solar Power Projects of capacity 500 MW or more established by a single developer at single location with single or multiple metering arrangements but having common Pooling Sub-station.
21. “Nodal Agency” means Rajasthan Renewable Energy Corporation Limited (RREC) or any other agency designated by Government of Rajasthan for promotion of electricity generation from renewable energy sources.
22. “NVVN” means NTPC Vidyut Vapar Nigam wholly subsidiary company of NTPC.
23. “Person” means an individual or a firm / company registered under the Company’s Act 1956.
24. “PPA” means Power Purchase Agreement.
25. “Pooled Cost of Power Purchase” means the weighted average price at which the distribution licensee has purchased the electricity including the cost of self-generation, if any, in the previous year from all the energy suppliers excluding short-term power purchases and those based on renewable energy.
26. “Receiving Sub-station” means EHV / HV Sub-station developed by RVPN / Discom of Rajasthan for evacuation of power generated from Renewable Energy Sources.
29. “Renewable Energy Power Plants” means the power plants other than the conventional power plants generating grid quality electricity from Renewable Energy Sources.
30. “Renewable Energy Sources” means and includes non-conventional renewable generating sources such as solar including its integration with combined cycle, as approved by the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy, Government of India.
32 “RREC” means Rajasthan Renewable Energy Corporation Ltd.
33 “RVPN” means the Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Prasaran Nigam Limited.
34 “SECI” means the Solar Energy Corporation of India.
35 “SLEC” means State Level Empowered Committee constituted under the provisions of this Policy.
36 “RPO” means Renewable Purchase Obligation.
37 “SLSC” means State Level Screening Committee constituted under the provisions of this Policy.
38 “Solar Farm” means a single or a group of solar power projects established on the land of the Khatedar.
39 “Solar Park” means a group of solar power plants in the same location used for the generation of electric power.
40 “Solar Park Developer” means a person who develops and / or maintains solar parks and also creates and / or maintains common infrastructure facilities.
41 “Solar Power Producer” means a person that makes an investment for setting up of solar power project and generating electricity from solar energy.
42 “Solar Plant / Solar Power Plant” means a power plant or system utilizing solar energy through solar photo-voltaic or concentrated solar thermal devices including its integration into conventional fossil fuel for generating electricity.
43 “Solar PV Power Plant” means the Solar Photo Voltaic (SPV) Power Plant that uses sunlight for direct conversion into electricity through Photo Voltaic technology.
44 “Solar Thermal Power Plant” means the Solar Thermal Power Plant that uses sunlight through Concentrated Solar Power (CSP) technology based on either line focus or point focus principle for conversion into heat / steam which can be used for producing electricity.
45 “State Agency” means Rajasthan Renewable Energy Corporation Ltd. or any other agency designated by the Rajasthan Electricity Regulatory Commission for accreditation and recommending the Renewable Energy Project for registration with Central Agency in accordance with the procedure prescribed by it and under the provisions specified in the CERC REC Regulations.
46 “State Load Dispatch Centre” or “SLDC” means the centre established by the State Government for the purposes of exercising the powers and discharging the functions under Section 31 of the Electricity Act, 2003.
47 “Tariff” means the schedule of charges for generation, transmission, wheeling and supply of electricity together with terms and conditions for application thereof.
48 “WBA” means Wheeling and Banking Agreement.
4.2 The terms not defined above will have their usual meanings.

5 Objectives

a Developing a global hub of solar power of 25,000 MW capacity to meet energy requirements of Rajasthan and India.

b Contributing to long term energy security of Rajasthan as well as ecological security by reduction in carbon emissions.

c Providing a long term sustainable solution for meeting energy needs and considerably reducing dependence on depleting fossil fuel resources like coal, oil and gas.

d Generating direct and indirect employment opportunities in all activities related to the generation of solar power.

e Envisaging a solar centre of excellence that would work towards applied research and commercialization of nascent technologies to accelerate the march to grid parity.

6 RREC to act as Nodal Agency for Clearance of Projects

a Registration of projects.

b Approval of projects.

c Facilitating allotment of Government land.

d Facilitating water allocation for Solar Thermal Power Plants.

e Facilitating approval of power evacuation plan and allocation of bays etc.

f Facilitating execution of PPA / WBA with Discoms of Rajasthan / RVPN / NVVN (as may be applicable).

g Accreditation and recommending the solar power project for registration with Central Agency under REC mechanism.

RREC will nominate State Level Facilitator for all projects of capacity above 20 MW.
7 Grid Interactive Solar Power Projects

7.1 Setting up of Solar Power Plants sanctioned under guidelines of MNRE / National Solar Mission (NSM):
The State will promote setting up of Solar Power Plants sanctioned under the guidelines of MNRE / National Solar Mission (NSM).

7.2 Setting up of Solar Power Plants in Rajasthan for sale to DISCOMs of Rajasthan:
The State will promote setting up of solar power projects for sale to DISCOMs of Rajasthan on the tariff determined by RERC through competitive bidding process to the extent of Renewable Purchase Obligation (RPO) target fixed by RERC.

7.3 Utility Grid Power Projects for sale through RE (Solar) Certificate Mechanism:
The State will promote Solar Power Producers to set up Solar Power Plants of unlimited capacity for sale through RE (Solar) Certificate mechanism. The Solar Power Producers will be required to apply for accreditation to the State Agency and thereafter to Central Agency for registration and issuance of RE (Solar) certificate under REC mechanism as per orders / regulations of appropriate Commission issued in this regard. The Power generated from these power projects shall be purchased by DISCOMs of Rajasthan at Pooled Cost of Power Purchase as determined by the appropriate Commission from time to time. The Solar Power Producers will sell RE (Solar) Certificates as per the regulations/orders of appropriate Commission.

7.4 Utility Grid Power Projects for Captive use / sale to 3rd Party / States other than Rajasthan:
The State will promote development of Rooftop PV Solar Power Plants connected to LT under Net Metering Scheme as per guidelines of RERC. The State Government shall allow the Net metering mechanism for grid connected system to the consumer(s) of the DISCOMs installing such systems subject to technical consideration and execution of net-metering agreement between such consumers and DISCOMs. The DISCOMs will develop a suitable and comprehensive consumer friendly IT application in this regard.

9 Decentralized and Off-Grid Solar Applications

9.1 Setting up of Rooftop PV Solar Power Plants connected to LT Grid:
The State will promote development of Rooftop PV Solar Power Plants connected to LT under Net Metering Scheme as per guidelines issued by MNRE to meet various electrical and thermal energy requirements for domestic and commercial use.

9.2 The State will promote setting up of solar power plant for sale of power to individuals through its own distribution system.

9.3 The State will also promote setting up of local solar grid and stand-alone solar systems to provide electricity to remote villages / dhani.

9.4 The State will promote the use of SPV technology as power source for irrigation uses by installation of SPV Pumping Systems.
10 Development of Solar Parks in the State

10.1 Solar Parks by RREC:

RREC will act as a Nodal Agency for development of Solar Parks in Rajasthan. A special purpose vehicle (SPV) in the form of a subsidiary company of RREC has been established for development of infrastructure and management of Solar Park. RREC / SPV will formulate guidelines in respect of allotment of land and sharing of development cost by the solar power producers.

10.2 Development of Solar Parks by Private Sector Developers:

10.2.1 State will promote development of Solar Parks by Private Sector Developers. The Private Sector Solar Park Developer will submit the application to RREC for development of Solar Park along with processing fee @ Rs 5000 per Hectare + service tax subject to maximum of Rs 10 Lacs + service tax for each Solar Park. The plan of solar park will be approved by RREC within a period of 30 days of submission of application.

10.2.2 The Private Sector Solar Park Developer(s) will be allotted to purchase agricultural land from Khatedar for developing Solar Park(s) in excess of ceiling limit in accordance with the provisions of Rajasthan Imposition of Ceiling on Agriculture Holding Act, 1973.

10.2.3 Government land, if such land falls within the park or in its vicinity, may be allotted to Private Sector Solar Park Developer(s) for development of Solar Park(s).

10.2.4 The Private Sector Solar Park Developer(s) will be responsible for registration of the project of solar power producer within their park with RREC as per provisions of Rajasthan Solar Energy Policy, 2014”. These projects shall be governed by the provisions of Rajasthan Solar Energy Policy, 2014. All the facilities /concessions provided in the policy shall be provided to these Solar Power Producers.

10.2.5 The Private Sector Solar Park Developer(s) shall be allowed to create common infrastructure facilities for development of Solar Park(s) viz creation of power evacuation system, development of roads, etc.

10.3 Development of Solar Parks through Joint Venture Companies (JVCs):

The State will promote development of Solar Parks by investing up to 50% equity (including cost of land) in JVCs formed for development of Solar Parks of capacity 500 MW or more as per the guidelines issued by the Government.

11 Registration of Solar Power Project

11.1 The Solar Power Producer will submit the application to RREC in prescribed forms appended with the Policy at Annexure-I.

11.2 Each Solar Power Producer will deposit processing fee with RREC as under:

- For Project < = 10 MW capacity – Rs 50,000 per MW.
- For Projects > 10 MW and < = 50 MW capacity – Rs 5 lacs per project.
- For Projects > 50 MW and < = 100 MW capacity – Rs 10 lacs per project.
- For Projects > 100 MW capacity – Rs 30 lacs per project.

Processing Fee shall be non-refundable. The service tax and other charges as may be applicable shall also be payable in addition to the processing fee.

11.3 The Power Projects, which have been registered either under Policy-2004 or under Policy-2011, shall be deemed to have been registered under this Policy-2014 on the same registration number allotted earlier provided that such power projects apply for in-principle clearance within a period of 3 years from the date of coming into force of this Policy.

Projects for which in-principle clearance has not been applied within the aforementioned time frame will have to deposit Rs 5000/MW plus applicable service tax to get themselves registered again. The same provision will apply for the projects which are registered after coming into force of this Policy.

11.4 If there is any requirement of registration with NVVN / MNRE / IREDA for sanction of project under National Solar Mission guidelines, the Solar Power Producer will have to register his project with NVVN / MNRE / IREDA as per their guidelines in addition to registration of project with RREC as above.

11.5 For the projects under RE (Solar) certificate mechanism (clause 7.3), in addition to registration with RREC as above, the Solar Power Producers will have to deposit accreditation / registration fee plus applicable service tax with State Agency / Central Agency as per procedures laid down by the regulations/orders of the appropriate Commission.

11.6 Any “parent” subsidiary or “ultimate parent company” may distribute / transfer capacity in between them maximum four times for setting up of projects at the time of in-principle clearance against one application / registration.

11.7 No registration will be required for Rooftop PV solar power project connected to LT Grid under this Policy.

11.8 No prior registration with RREC will be required for participation in the bidding. Only successful bidders will be required to register as per the clause 11.1 and 11.2.

12 Allotment / Procurement of Land

12.1 Allotment of Government Land to Solar Park Developer:

Government land will be allotted to Solar Park Developer as per the provisions of Rajasthan Land Revenue (Allotment of land for setting up of Power Plant based on Renewable Energy Sources) Rules, 2007, as amended from time to time. Such Solar Park Developer will also be empowered to further sub-lease the land.

12.2 Allotment of Government Land for a Solar Power Project:

12.2.1 The allotment of land to Solar Power Projects will be done as per the provisions of Rajasthan Land Revenue (Allotment of Land for setting up of Power Plant based on Renewable Energy Sources) Rules, 2007, as amended from time to time.

12.2.2 RREC will recommend to the concerned District Collector for allotment of Government land only on submission of cash security deposit of Rs 5.00 lac per MW by demand draft / RTGS in favour of RREC, Jaipur. In case land is not allotted, security deposit will be refunded. After the allotment of Government land, security deposit will be refunded on the execution of lease deed.

12.2.3 Any recommendation made by RREC regarding reservation of Government land in favour of solar power producer before coming into operation of this Policy will stand withdrawn from the date of coming into force of this Policy.

12.2.4 Any recommendation made by RREC regarding allotment of Government land to solar power producer after deposit of Rs 1 lac / MW and in case where land has not yet been allotted, such solar power producer shall have to deposit additional security of Rs 4 lac / MW within a period of one month from coming into operation of this policy, otherwise the recommendation for allotment of government land shall stand withdrawn and the security deposit will be refunded.

12.2.5 There will be no requirement of depositing security under this clause if project is sanctioned under NSM or through competitive bidding process by RREC / Discom.

12.2.6 For setting up Solar Power Plant based on different technology, maximum land which can be allotted to the Solar Power Producer shall be as follows:

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<td>3.</td>
<td>SPV on ThinFilm / Amorphous Technology</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>Solar Thermal (CSP)-Parabolic Trough/Tower/ Other Technology with or without storage</td>
<td>a) Up to PLF of 21%: 3.5 Hect./MW b) For every 1% increase in PLF, 0.15 Hect./MW additional land will be allotted.</td>
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12.3 Solar Power Plant on Private Land:
The State will promote setting up of Solar Power Plant / Solar Farm on private land. Khatedar shall be permitted to set-up Solar Power Project on his holding or to sub-let his holding for setting up of such projects without the requirement of land conversion in accordance with the provisions of Rajasthan Tenancy Act 1955 and Rajasthan Land Revenue Act 1956. Solar Power Producers shall also be allowed to purchase private land from Khatedar for setting up of Solar Power Plant in excess of ceiling limit in accordance with the provisions of Ceiling Act, 1973.

13 Incentives / Facilities available to Solar Power Projects

13.1 Grant of incentives available to Industries:
Generation of electricity from Solar Power Plant shall be treated as eligible industry under the schemes administered by the Industries Department and incentives available to industrial units under Rajasthan Investment Promotional Scheme shall be available to the Solar Power Projects.

13.2 Availability of Water for Power Generation:
Water Resource Department will allocate required quantity of water from IGNP canal / the nearest available source for development of Solar Thermal Power Plants subject to the availability of water for power generation. Power Producer will intimate estimated water requirement to RREC along with source of water. After assessment / scrutiny, case of water requirement shall be forwarded to the Water Resource department. The modification(s) required, if any, in the existing canal system shall be done by the Water Resources Department at the cost of the Power Producer.

13.3 Clearance from Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board:
Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board with a view to encourage Solar Power plant in the state has notified solar power plant of all capacities under Green Category. The State Board will issue comprehensive consent to establish and consent to operate for one project. The State
14.2 State Level Empowered Committee (SLEC):

The State Level Empowered Committee (SLEC) consisting of the following will be constituted:

(I) Chief Secretary, GoR –Chairman.
(ii) Additional Chief Secretary (Infra), GoR.
(iii) Principal Secretary, Revenue, GoR.
(iv) Principal Secretary, Water Resources Department, GoR.
(v) CMD, Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Prasaran Nigam Ltd.
(vi) Principal Chief Conservator of Forest, Rajasthan.
(vii) District Collector of concerned District - Special Invitee.
(viii) Chairman, Rajasthan Renewable Energy Corporation Ltd.
(ix) MD, Rajasthan Renewable Energy Corporation Ltd.-Member Secretary.

14.3 For projects under Clause 7.2:

RREC may act as a nodal agency for carrying out the tariff based bidding process on behalf of Discoms of Rajasthan. The bid process will be conducted by RREC on the request of Discoms of Rajasthan. These projects will not require in-principle clearance from SLEC.

15.4 Timeline for in-principle clearance:

Solar Power Producer to whom Government land is allotted will have to apply for in-principle clearance of the project within three months from the date of allotment of Government land.

If Solar Power Producer fails to apply for in-principle clearance within the time prescribed, RREC will recommend for cancellation of allotment of Government land with the approval of SLEC.

16 Security Deposits

16.1 For projects under Clause 7.3 and 7.4:

After in principle clearance of the projects by the State Level Screening Committee for projects under Clause 7.3 and 7.4, the Solar Power Producers will be required to deposit security amount of Rs10 lac / MW in the form of bank guarantee within one month from the date of issue of in-principle clearance. In case Power Producer fails to deposit security money within stipulated time, then in-principle clearance shall be cancelled without any notice which can only be revalidated after deposit of security amount with interest @ 12% per annum from the date of in-principle clearance. The security amount deposited by the Solar Power Producers shall not be convertible or transferable and shall only be refunded to the Solar Power Producer on his written request after commissioning of the Project. In case Power Producer fails to commission the Power Plant within the time schedule including extension as per Clause 21, the security deposit shall be forfeited.

17 Approval of Power Projects

17.1 All in-principle cleared projects of capacity more than 10 MW under clause 7.3 & 7.4 will be submitted to the State Level Empowered Committee (SLEC) for final approval.

17.2 All in principle cleared projects of capacity upto 10 MW under clause 7.3 & 7.4 will be submitted to the State Level Screening Committee (SLSC) for final approval.

17.3 Solar Power Producer to whom Government land is allotted will have to apply for final approval of the project within three months from the date of in-principle clearance by SLSC. If Solar Power Producer fails to apply for final approval of the project within the time prescribed, RREC will recommend for the cancellation of allotment of Government land with the approval of SLEC.
18 Special Provision for approval of Mega Solar Power Projects

18.1 In order to expedite the process of approval of Mega Solar Power Projects of capacity of 500 MW or more, such project proposals along with detailed project reports will be placed by RREC directly before SLEC for its consideration.

18.2 Mega Solar Power Projects will also be eligible for benefits / concessions available under Rajasthan Investment Promotion Scheme.

18.3 SLEC will decide the schedule of commissioning of such Mega Solar Power Projects and will review its progress from time to time.

18.4 SLEC is also empowered to extend the schedule of commissioning of the project where there is a reasonable certainty of commissioning of the project. In such cases, extended completion schedule and penalties shall be decided by SLEC on case-to-case basis.

19 Power Purchase Agreement

The Power Purchase Agreement between the Solar Power Producer and Procurer of power will be executed in the following manner:

19.1 Solar Power Project sanctioned under clause 7.2:
For the projects sanctioned under clause 7.2 the Power Purchase Agreement / Power Sale Agreement will be executed as per the provisions of bid document.

19.2 Sale of Power through RE (Solar) certificate mechanism (Clause 7.3):
In case of solar power projects established for sale of power through REC mechanism, the Power Purchase Agreement will be signed between Solar Power Producers and the Discoms of Rajasthan as per the regulations/orders of appropriate commission issued from time to time in this regard.

19.3 Third party sale / captive use / sale to other States through Open Access (Clause 7.4):
(i) In case of third party sale / captive use to other state, the Power Purchase Agreement will be executed between the Power Producer and the procurer on mutually agreed rates. A separate agreement will be executed for Wheeling of power with Discoms of Rajasthan. The transmission agreement with RVPN will be executed separately, if the Solar Power Producer intends to use the system of RVPN.

(ii) In case of captive use, agreement will be executed for wheeling and banking of power with Discoms of Rajasthan. The transmission agreement with RVPN will be executed separately, if the Solar Power Producer intends to use the system of RVPN.

20 Rajasthan Renewable Energy Development Fund

In cases where solar power projects are set up for sale of solar power to parties other than Discoms of Rajasthan, the Solar Power Producer shall contribute towards Rajasthan Renewable Energy Development Fund, a sum of Rs 1 lac / MW every year for the entire life-cycle of the project from the time of commissioning.

21 Completion Time Schedule for the Projects

21.1 The completion time schedule for the Solar Power Plants under the Clause 7.2 will be governed by provisions of bid document and Power Purchase Agreement.

21.2 The time schedule for completion, for the Solar Power Plants, sanctioned under Clause 7.3 & 7.4 subject to force majeure conditions, will be as under:

22 Open Access for Third Party Sale

Open access will be granted to Solar Power Producer or beneficiary. They shall have to pay the applicable charges for open access and losses as approved by RERC / CERC from time to time.

23 Forecasting and Scheduling

The Solar energy generated will not be covered under scheduling procedure for Intra-State ABT. However, the actual solar energy injected in the grid during particular time block of 15 minutes shall be post-facts considered in drawl
schedule for sale of power to licensee / third party or for giving set-off against the consumption of recipient unit in case of captive use as per the relevant regulations of RERC. However, total available Solar Power Plant generating capacity shall be intimated to RVPN / Discoms of Rajasthan for next day.

24. Evacuation and Grid Interfacing

24.1 Evacuation of produced solar power shall be made through the transmission and distribution network being maintained by RVPN and Discoms respectively. For augmentation of Transmission / distribution system to evacuate the power from receiving Sub-station, RVPN / Discoms of Rajasthan shall develop / augment the necessary transmission / distribution network within mutually agreed timeframe.

24.2 Connectivity at EHV substation (400, 220 & 132 kV) and Distribution Substation (33/11 kV and LT) shall be decided / approved by RVPN and Discoms respectively in consultation with RREC. Minimum capacity and voltage level of solar power project getting connected to RVPN’s receiving GSS shall be 5 MW at 33 kV. In case solar power projects of capacity less than 5 MW seek inter-connection at RVPN’s receiving GSS, shall bear the cost of line bay instead of applicable grid connectivity charges.

24.3 Grid interfacing shall be governed by CEA (Technical Standards for Connectivity to Grid), Regulations 2013 and the RERC (Rajasthan Electricity Grid Code) Regulation, 2008 with latest amendment.

24.4 Metering arrangement shall be made as per Central Electricity Authority (Installation & Operation of Meters) Regulations, 2006, the grid code, the metering code and other relevant regulations issued by RERC / CERC in this regard.

24.5 Transmission line from generating plant Sub-station / Pooling Sub-station to Receiving Sub-station:

(i) Grid Connected Solar Power Plants commission -ed under clause 7.3, 7.4 and 8: The power evacuation transmission line from the Generating Plant Sub-station / Pooling Sub-station to RVPN / Discoms receiving Sub-station will be laid as per regulations / orders of appropriate commission

(ii) Grid connected Solar Power Plants commission -ed under clause 7.3, 7.4 and 8: The Power evacuation transmission line from the Generating Plant Sub-station / Pooling Sub-station to RVPN / Discoms receiving Sub-station will be laid as per regulations / orders of appropriate commission

24.6 The Solar Power Producer shall comply with the Grid Code including Load Dispatch and system operation code, metering code, protection code, safety code, etc. as applicable from time to time in the State.

25. Common Pooling Sub-Station

Solar Power Producers may construct Common Pooling Sub-Station to evacuate their generated solar power to RVPN / Discom substation through common transmission line with separate metering system at their Common Pooling Sub-Station and main metering system at RVPN / Discom Sub-Station.

26. Grid Connectivity

26.1 For creation of proper facility for receiving power, the solar power producer shall pay grid connectivity charges as finalized by RERC from time to time to Discoms of Rajasthan / RVPN as applicable.

26.2 In case line bay and grid connectivity has been made by RVPN at a particular System Voltage (say 33 kV) and Solar Power Producer at a later date wants to supply the power on higher voltage (say 132 kV), on feasibility the requisite modification, viz. addition of line bay on higher voltage, interconnection with main bus, etc. shall be done by RVPN as a deposit work on behalf of the Power Producer. In case power evacuation from any solar power plant is made through temporary arrangement due to incomplete approved evacuation system, no charges will be payable by Solar Power Producer for shifting to the approved evacuation system.

26.3 In case Power Producer first connects his feeder to Discom’s Sub-station and later on wants to connect his feeder to RVPN’s Sub-station, the additional line shall be constructed by Power Producer and the addition of line bay in RVPN substation shall be done by RVPN as deposit work on behalf of Power Producer.

26.4 For grid connectivity / construction of line to be arranged by RVPN / Discoms of Rajasthan, the Solar Power Producer shall submit time-frame for construction of their plant along with Bank Guarantee equivalent to the cost of bay and transmission / distribution line with an undertaking to use the system within prescribed period. In case there is any delay in utilization of system, a penalty @ 12% per annum for the period of delay on the amount of bank guarantee will be levied by RVPN / Discoms of Rajasthan. The Bank Guarantee shall be returned to the Solar Power Producer after commissioning of the project on depositing amount of penalty, if any on account of delay in the utilization of the system.

27. Reactive Power Charges

The drawl of reactive power shall be charged by RVPN as per the RERC orders, as amended from time to time.

28. Power to remove difficulties

The State Level Screening Committee will be authorized to issue clarification in respect of interpretation of the provisions of this policy as may appear necessary for removing the difficulty either on its own motion or on the written representation from the stakeholders.

The provisions of the Electricity Act-2003 and the applicable CERC / RERC Regulations / Orders as issued from time to time shall prevail for the purpose of implementation of this policy.
I. APPLICANT DETAILS

1. Name of the applicant / organization:

2. State whether the applicant / organization is a:
   a) Company registered under Indian Companies Act 1956; Enclose certified copy of the relevant documents such as MOA, AOA along with certificate of registration:
   b) Partnership Firm (Enclose certified copy of Partnership deed along with Firm’s registration):
   c) Any other entity (Enclose certified copy of the relevant documents such as registration etc.):

3. Address
   a) Office:
   b) Telephone No.:
   c) Fax No.:
   d) Email Address:

4. In case of any other entity, give details of partners / directors / owners:

5. Whether income tax assessee. If yes, please state the year up to which assessment made (copies of assessment for last three years to be enclosed):

6. If answer to 5 is No, state whether the promoter is an assessee:

7. Income tax permanent A/c. No.:

8. Give details of the turnover of the organization in last four years including part of the current running year (copies of the profit and loss account and Balance Sheet / Annual Report to be enclosed):

9. Do you propose to set up the plant in the name of existing company or SPV or propose some sister concern:

II. PROPOSED POWER PROJECT

1. Proposed Capacity (MW):
2. Power Plant proposed to be set up under

a) Under National Solar Mission (please specify the name of scheme under which the power plant proposed to be set up)

b) Sale of energy to Rajasthan Discoms

c) REC Mechanism:

d) Third party sale:

e) Captive Use:

f) Any other (please specify):

III TYPE OF PROPOSED POWER PROJECTS

a) Solar Photovoltaic Power Plant (SPV)

i) Name of Solar Technology Proposed:

ii) Battery Bank proposed: Yes/ No

b) SPV – Wind Hybrid:

c) Solar Thermal (CSP)

i) Name of Solar Technology Proposed:

ii) With storage / without storage:

iii) Requirement of Water (Cusec.):

IV FINANCIAL DETAILS:

I. Estimated cost of the project proposed:

II. Net-Worth of applicant

2. Details of the Certification of the Chartered Accountants:

a) CA’s Name and Address:

b) Registration No.:

3. Details of the application / processing fee remitted:

a) Amount Rs.:

b) Demand Draft / RTGS Details:

c) Date:

d) Banker’s Name and Address:

V. ANY OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION:

VI. DECLARATION:

(I) I / We certify that all information furnished is true to the best of my/our knowledge.

(ii) I / We agree that Govt. of Rajasthan is the final authority to allot us the project.

(iii) I / We shall not have any dispute with GoR / MNRE / NVVN / RREC / SECI for non-allotment of the project.

(iv) I / We agree to sign necessary agreement with Govt. of Rajasthan / RREC / RVPN / DISCOM / NVVN / MNRE / SECI for which I / We have been duly authorised.

(v) I / We agree to comply with the terms and conditions of Rajasthan Solar Energy Policy, 2014
VII. DOCUMENTS ENCLOSED (as applicable):

(i) A certified copy of the Memorandum & Article of Association of the company with inclusion of activity of generation of power from Renewable sources in its main object clause.

(ii) Certified copy of the registration certificate/certified copy of the partnership deed.

(iii) Certified copy of the Power of Attorney conferring powers on the person(s) who are competent to sign the application form/documents/execute the MOU/the agreement with GoR / REC / RVR / DISCOM / MNRE / NVVN / SECI / IREDA.

(iv) Copy of PAN

(v) Processing fee in the form of D.D. No. …………….. Dated ………… payable to RREC, payable at Jaipur for Rs…................... only / if RTGS, give RTGS details.

(vi) Copy of Annual Audited accounts for last three years and for the current running year un-dated, if available duly certified.

(vii) Certificate from the Chartered Account showing the “Net Worth” of the Company.

(viii) Documentary evidence of power purchase arrangements in case of sale to 3rd party through Open Access

Signature of the authorized Signatory of the Organization with Name, Designation & Seal

For currency other than USD, Project Developers shall convert such currency into USD as per the exchange rates certified by their banker prevailing on the relevant date and used for such conversion.

The Power Producer desirous to set up Solar Power Plant in the State of Rajasthan under RE (Solar) Certificate Mechanism & Captive use / sale to 3rd party / States other than Rajasthan through Open Access must fulfill the following minimum financial criteria.

Qualification Criteria for Solar PV / Thermal Projects

Net Worth

The “Net Worth” of the company should be equal to or greater than the value calculated at the rate of Rs 1 Crore or equivalent US$ per MW of the project capacity. The computation of Net Worth shall be based on unconsolidated audited / unaudited accounts of the company. For the purpose of the computation of net worth, the best year in the last four years including current running year shall be considered. The Company, would thus be required, to submit annual audited accounts for the last three financial years and for part of the current running year (Un-Audited), while indicating the year, which should be considered for evaluation, along with a certificate from the Chartered Accountant to demonstrate the fulfillment of the criteria.

For companies, which are newly incorporated, the Net Worth criteria should be met seven days prior to the date of submission of application by the Project Developer. To demonstrate fulfillment of the criteria, the Project Developer shall submit a certificate from a Chartered Accountant certifying the Net Worth on the date seven days prior to submission of application. Further, the Project Developer shall submit the un-audited financial statements of the company for the date on which the Certificate of Chartered Accountant has been obtained.

(Note: For the Qualification Requirements, if data is provided by the Project Developer in foreign currency, equivalent rupees of Net Worth will be calculated using bills selling exchange rates (card rate) USD/INR of State Bank of India prevailing on the date of closing of the accounts for the respective financial year as certified by the Project Developer’s banker.)

Net Worth calculation for an individual / partnership firm

Net-Worth = Proprietors / Partner’s Capital reflecting in the Audited Balance Sheet

Add: Free Reserves (Including the Credit balance of Reserve and Surplus appearing in the Balance Sheet)

Subtract: Intangible Assets

Subtract: Miscellaneous Expenditures to the extent not written off and carry forward losses.

For companies, which are newly incorporated, the Net Worth criteria should be met seven days prior to the date of submission of application by the Project Developer. To demonstrate fulfillment of the criteria, the Project Developer shall submit a certificate from a Chartered Accountant certifying the Net Worth on the date seven days prior to submission of application. Further, the Project Developer shall submit the un-audited financial statements of the company for the date on which the Certificate of Chartered Accountant has been obtained.

(Note: For the Qualification Requirements, if data is provided by the Project Developer in foreign currency, equivalent rupees of Net Worth will be calculated using bills selling exchange rates (card rate) USD/INR of State Bank of India prevailing on the date of closing of the accounts for the respective financial year as certified by the Project Developer’s banker.)
In case of a Consortium the financial requirement to be met by each Member of the Consortium shall be computed in proportion to the equity commitment made by each of them in the Project Company. Any consortium, if selected shall incorporate a Project Company with equity participation by the Members in line with consortium agreement before signing the PPA / WBA / Wheeling Agreement. The Project Developer may seek qualification on the basis of financial capability of its Parent Company and/or its Affiliate(s) for the purpose of meeting the Qualification Requirements. In case of the Project Developer being a Consortium, any Member may seek qualification on the basis of financial capability of its Parent Company and/or its Affiliate(s).

In case of land/any other asset, only the book value will be considered. The value of land/any other assets will not be re-valued for calculating net worth. Any reserve created due to this shall not be counted for calculating Net Worth.

Net Worth calculation for a company

\[
\text{Net Worth} = \text{Paid up Share capital which includes}
\]

1. Paid up Equity share capital and
2. Fully, compulsorily and mandatorily convertible Preference Shares
3. Fully, compulsorily and mandatorily convertible Debentures.

Add: Free Reserves (Including share premium provided it is realized in Cash or Cash equivalents.)

Subtract: Revaluation Reserves

Subtract: Intangible Assets

Subtract: Miscellaneous Expenditures to the extent not written off and carry forward losses.

For the purposes of meeting financial requirements only unconsolidated audited annual accounts shall be used. However, audited consolidated annual accounts of the Project Developer may be used for the purpose of financial requirements provided the Project Developer has at least twenty-six percent (26%) equity in each company whose accounts are merged in the audited consolidated account and provided further that the financial capability of such companies (of which accounts are being merged in the consolidated accounts) shall not be considered.
ALL THAT YOU WANT TO KNOW ABOUT
RAJASTHAN
SOLAR ENERGY
POLICY, 2014
General
Registration
Land
Timelines
Fee & Charges
Q Which is the Nodal Agency for development of solar energy in the State?

A Rajasthan Renewable Energy Corporation (RREC) is the nodal agency for the development of solar energy in the State.

Q What facilities does RREC provide to Solar Power developers / producers?

A RREC will act as nodal agency for clearance of solar projects. The Corporation will facilitate / assist solar power developers / producers with the following:
   a) Registration of projects
   b) Approval of projects
   c) Facilitating allotment of government land
   d) Facilitating water allocation for Solar Thermal Power Plants
   e) Facilitating approval of power evacuation plan, allocation of bays, etc.
   f) Facilitating execution of PPA / WBA with Discoms of Rajasthan / RVPN / NVVN (as may be applicable).
   g) Accreditation and recommending the solar power project for registration with Central Agency under REC mechanism.

RREC will also nominate a State Level Facilitator for all projects of capacity above 20 MW.
Q What are the schemes available for setting up a Solar Power Project?

A A solar power producer can set up solar power plant under the following schemes:
2. Solar Power Plants for sale to Discoms of Rajasthan
4. Solar Power Projects for Captive Use / Sale to 3rd Party within or outside the State

Q What is the Renewable Purchase Obligation (RPO) of solar power in Rajasthan?

A Rajasthan Electricity Regulatory Commission (RERC) has fixed RPO for Solar as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>RPO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014-15</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015-16</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016-17</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q What are the highlights and salient features of the Policy?

A The following are some of the salient features of the Policy:
- Easy processing and lower registration fee
- Availability of government land at DLC rates
- Provision for setting up solar power project on private land either through purchase of land or by executing lease with farmers
- Provision for farmers to set up solar farms / power plants
• Setting up of projects without going through tedious process of land conversion
• Promotion of development of solar parks
• Fast track approval of Mega Solar Power Projects by SLEC
• Final approvals of Solar Power Projects of capacity upto 10 MW by SLSC
• Adequate power evacuation system
• REC allowed to Solar Power Projects under the scheme of open access / captive use as per CERC regulations
• Banking of solar power as per RERC regulations
• Solar Power Projects are included in “Green category” and the Pollution Control Board will dispose consent application within 15 days
• Besides these, generation of electricity from a solar power plant shall be treated as an eligible industry under the schemes administered by the Industries Department and incentives available under Rajasthan Investment Promotion Scheme (RIPS) shall be available to the Solar Power Projects

Q  How will the State promote setting up of Solar Parks?

A  The State will promote setting up of Solar Parks. Development of the Solar Park may be done in the following modes:
1. Solar Park on Government land by RREC:
   RREC to sub-lease land to producers for solar projects.
2. Solar Park by Private Sector Developers:
   Solar Park on Private land and government land if such land falls within the park or in its vicinity may be allotted to the developers.
3. Development of Solar Parks through JVCs:
   State may invest equity up to 50% (including cost of land) in Solar Park of capacity 500 MW or more to be developed through JVC
Q What is the concept of Mega Solar Power Projects and how will the State promote setting up of these projects?

A Mega Solar Power Project means solar power project of 500 MW or more set up by a single developer at a single location with single or multiple metering arrangements but having common pooling Sub-station.

In order to expedite the process of approval of Mega Solar Power Projects, the project proposals along with detailed project reports will be placed by RREC directly before SLEC chaired by the Chief Secretary for its approval. Mega Solar Power Projects will also be eligible for benefits/concessions available under the Rajasthan Investment Promotion Scheme.

Q Is Renewable Energy Certificate (REC) to captive / open access projects allowed?

A Yes. REC is allowed as per the CERC Regulations.

Q Is Banking of power allowed for captive plants?

A Yes. Banking of power is allowed for captive plants as per RERC regulations.

Q Who is competent authority to finally approve small Solar Power Projects?

A Solar Power Projects of capacity up to 10 MW will be approved by SLSC chaired by Secretary Energy, Government of Rajasthan.
Q: What is the Policy of the State Government for setting up of Roof-top PV Projects?

A: The State will promote development of Roof Top PV Solar Power Plants connected to LT under Net-Metering Scheme as per guidelines of RERC. The State Government shall allow the Net-Metering mechanism for grid connected system to the consumer(s) of the Discoms installing such systems subject to technical consideration and execution of net-metering agreement between such consumers and Discoms. The Discoms will develop a suitable and comprehensive consumer-friendly IT application in this regard.

Q: What is the policy to promote decentralised and off-grid solar applications?

A: The State will promote and incentivize decentralized and off-grid solar applications, including hybrid system as per guidelines issued by MNRE to meet various electrical and thermal energy requirements for domestic and commercial use. The State will also promote setting up of local solar grid and stand-alone solar systems to provide electricity to remote villages / dhanis for which State Government has announced provisions of Rs 100 crore in the Budget 2014-15. The State will promote the use of SPV technology as power source for irrigation uses by installation of SPV pumping systems for which State Government has announced provisions of Rs 119 crore in the Budget 2014-15.
Q: What is the fee structure for registration of projects?

A: Processing Fee (Registration Fee) for projects is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S No</th>
<th>Project Capacity</th>
<th>Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>≤10 MW</td>
<td>Rs 50,000 per MW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>&gt; 10 MW; ≤ 50 MW</td>
<td>Rs 5 lakh per project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>&gt; 50 MW; ≤ 100 MW</td>
<td>Rs 10 lakh per project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>&gt; 100 MW</td>
<td>Rs 30 lakh per project</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q: Is registration with RREC required for participation in the bidding process of NSM / SECI / NVVN, etc.?

A: No. Prior registration is not required for participation in bidding process of NSM / SECI / NVVN / RREC / Discom.

Q: Is registration with RREC required for setting up a Roof-top Solar PV System?

A: No. Registration is not required with RREC.
Q Can an individual apply for project registration?
A Yes, an individual can apply for registration of a project.

Q What is the Net-Worth requirement for registration of a project?
A Net-Worth required for the registration of the project is Rs 1 crore / MW.

Q What is the process of registration of private Solar Park with RREC?
A A private sector Solar Park developer needs to submit the application to RREC along with a processing fee @ Rs 5000 per hectare (+ service tax) subject to maximum of Rs 10 lakh (+ service tax) for each Solar Park. The plan of Solar Park will be approved by RREC within a period of 30 days of submission of application.
Q Can government land be allotted for Solar Power Projects?


Q What is the maximum land that can be allotted for Solar Power Projects under different technologies?

A Maximum government land that can be allotted for solar power projects under different technology is as under:

1. Crystalline Technology: 2.5 Ha/MW
2. Crystalline Technology with tracker: 3.5 Ha/MW
3. Thin film / Amorphous Technology: 3.5 Ha/MW
4. Solar Thermal (CSP) Tower / Trough or other technology:
   a. Up to PLF of 21%: 3.5 Ha/MW
   b. For every 1% increase in PLF: 0.15 Ha/MW additional land will be allotted
Q  What will be the rate for allotment of Government land?
A  Government land will be allotted at the DLC rate.

Q  What is the security deposit for recommendation of government land?
A  Security deposit for recommendation for allotment of government land is Rs 5 lakh / MW which is refundable after execution of lease deed.

Q  For setting up a Solar Power Project on private agriculture land, does one need to get land-use conversion done?
A  No. Conversion of agriculture land for setting up Solar Power Project will not be required in accordance with the provisions of Rajasthan Tenancy Act 1955 and Rajasthan Land Revenue Act 1956.
Q: Can a Khatedar set up a Solar Power Projects on his land?
A: Yes, a Khatedar can set up a Solar Power Project on his holding or sub-let his holding for setting up of Solar Power Projects without the requirement of land conversion in accordance with the provisions of Rajasthan Tenancy Act 1955 and Rajasthan Land Revenue Act 1956.

Q: Is a Solar Power producer allowed to purchase private land in excess of the ceiling limit?
A: Yes, for setting up of a Solar Power plant, the producer is allowed to purchase private land from a Khatedar in excess of the ceiling limit in accordance with the provisions of Ceiling Act 1973.
**TIMELINES**

**Q** What is the timeline to issue CTO & CTE for setting up of Solar Power Projects by Rajasthan Pollution Control Board?

**A** The State Pollution Control Board will ensure expeditious disposal of consent applications within 15 days.

**Q** What is the timeline for submission of application for in-principle clearance for Solar Power Projects on government land?

**A** Solar power producer to whom government land is allotted will have to apply for in-principle clearance of the project within three months from the date of allotment of government land.

**Q** What is the timeline for submission of application for final approval of a project on government land?

**A** A solar power producer to whom government land is allotted will have to apply for final approval of the project within three months from the date of in-principle clearance by SLSC.
What are the timelines for commissioning of Solar Power Projects?

Following is the schedule of timelines for commissioning of projects under REC / open access / captive use:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Projects</th>
<th>Completion Time schedule</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>SPV:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>≤ 20 MW capacity</td>
<td>Within 15 months from the date of SLEC approval.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt; 20 MW and ≤ 50 MW capacity</td>
<td>Within 18 months from the date of SLEC approval.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt; 50 MW</td>
<td>Within 24 months from the date of SLEC approval.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CSP:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>≤ 25 MW capacity</td>
<td>Within 24 months from the date of SLEC approval.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt; 25 MW and ≤ 100 MW capacity</td>
<td>Within 36 months from the date of SLEC approval.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt; 100 MW and ≤ 200 MW capacity</td>
<td>Within 42 months from the date of SLEC approval.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt; 200 MW capacity</td>
<td>Within 48 months from the date of SLEC approval.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FEE & CHARGES

Q What is the provision for contribution to Rajasthan Renewable Energy Development Fund?

A Solar Power producers selling power to parties other than State Discoms will have to contribute Rs 1 lakh / MW every year to Rajasthan Renewable Energy Development Fund for the entire lifecycle of the project.

Q What are the transmission charges and losses for transmitting power through open access?

A The transmission charges and losses for transmitting power through open access will be as per RERC Regulations.

Q What is the security deposit for commissioning of a Project?

A Security Deposit for commissioning of a project is Rs 10 lakh / MW (BG).
Q What is the penalty provision if Solar Power Plant is not commissioned within the scheduled time?

A Penalty provision for delay in commissioning is as under:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Delay</th>
<th>Penalty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Up to 1 month</td>
<td>Rs 25,000 / MW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Up to 3 months</td>
<td>Rs 50,000 / MW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Up to 6 months</td>
<td>Rs 1,00,000 / MW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Up to 9 months</td>
<td>Rs 1,50,000 / MW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Up to 15 months</td>
<td>Rs 2,00,000 / MW</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SLEC may consider extension beyond 15 months where there is a reasonable certainty of commissioning of the project. In such cases, extended completion schedule & penalties shall be decided by SLEC on case-to-case basis.

Note: This document is just a general guide. Please refer to the Policy for specific details.