



SOLAR POWER DEVELOPERS ASSOCIATION

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SPDA/PG/2021/300

April 09, 2021

To,

Shri Aniruddha Kumar

Additional Secretary

Ministry of New & Renewable Energy

Block 14, CGO Complex

New Delhi

Subject: Request for clarification in the recent SECI tender regarding the applicability of the ALMM list.

Ref: 1. RfS No. SECI/C&P/SPD/RfS/ RJ-IV /032021 dated 04.03.2021

2. MNRE Office Memorandum vide F. No. 28315412018- GRID Solar – Part (I) dated 10.03.2021

Dear Sir,

Greetings from Solar Power Developers Association.

At the outset, we would like to congratulate the Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) for tendering significant solar capacity in the unprecedented Covid period and extending support to the industry during this period. It is a commendable achievement given that the current pandemic situation has severely impacted investor sentiments and the development work of under-construction projects. The industry believes that the steps taken by SECI to tender new projects in the time of crisis are a positive and encouraging step for ensuring long-term energy security in the country.

MNRE, via its notification at Ref No. (2) above to promote quality installations, has published the ALMM list with the approved vendor lists for solar cells and modules that shall be used for bids conducted 30 days after publication of such list. As per the OM above, the nomenclature for the approved list for modules has been given as List 1 and those for cells as List 2. The operative portion of the OM is as below:

"3. Considering the recommendations of a Committee constituted to review the implementation of ALMM order and inspections reports submitted by NISE, Hon'ble Minister for Power & NRE has approved the ALMM list for Solar PV Modules, i.e., List I - List of Models and Manufacturers the Solar PV Modules. as on 10.03.2021. The ALMM list for Solar PV Modules is enclosed at Annexure - I."

We want to draw your attention to RfS vide Reference No.1 issued by SECI on -04.03.2021. We want to draw your attention to the clause relating to technical eligibility criteria in the RfS:

"B TECHNICAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

B.3.....Further, the cells and modules used in the Project shall be sourced only from the models and manufacturers included in the "Approved List of Models and Manufacturers" as published by MNRE and updated as on the date of commissioning of the Project."



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It may be noted that SECI's interpretation of the above OM is that the modules that are part of List I as of the date of the bid submission shall be eligible to be used by developers. This was pointed during some discussions that happened between SECI and our member recently. It has created a state of confusion and panic in the industry.

We feel that developers selected under the bid must be free to use modules with ALMM certificate and ALMM list as published/updated as on the project's commissioning date should be considered. A similar practice is already followed for the RLMM list in the wind.

We look forward to a favourable response from your good offices on the request mentioned above. We would also be happy to provide any additional information that may be required in this regard.

We hope you will consider our request favourably.

Thanking you.

Yours Sincerely

Praveen Golash

Joint Secretary - SPDA