



SOLAR POWER DEVELOPERS ASSOCIATION
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SPDA/PG/2021/316

May 07 , 2021

To,

Shri Jitendra Nath Swain, IAS
Chairman & Managing Director
Solar Energy Corporation of India
East Kidwai Nagar, New Delhi.

Subject: Request for acceptance of raising soft copies for invoices of energy bills amidst the ongoing crisis due to the second wave of COVID-19 pandemic in India.

Dear Sir,

Greetings from Solar Power Developers Association.

As you know, India is grappling with the ongoing crisis of the second wave of COVID-19 pandemic, which has been spreading exponentially, with lockdown resuming in most of the States. The ground situation is grim, and the physical movement of people and goods in cities, towns, or villages has been restricted again. We are again witnessing the return of work from home and virtual online meetings.

In this light, to break the chain of the virus spread and take appropriate measures in controlling the rising exponential cases, there is a need for social distancing and limited movement. Until the situation is under control, we must follow strict safety measures as per the Government advisories.

Due to the present circumstances, Power Sector is undergoing similar challenges to the one we witnessed during the first wave of COVID-19. Almost all routine operations throughout the country had been severely impacted. Lockdowns have been announced in few states like UP (since 29th April), Haryana and Maharashtra etc. Therefore, we want to draw your kind attention that for operational solar projects, providing physical copies of invoices with Joint Meter Reading (JMR), under the present circumstances, is getting increasingly difficult with exposure risk to personnel of utility and solar power developer.

To safeguard the financial position of the projects and the solar industry at large, we request SECI to allow submission of invoices of energy bills as a soft copy that is self-certified by developers (as the signature of all concerned authorities would not be feasible). It will ensure that the revenue stream for the said projects does not get hampered.



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Furthermore, it is also suggested in the case of projects which are operational for more than three months, the last monthly invoice with JMR that had been submitted can be considered for energy bill payment till such time that the ongoing COVID-19 crisis continues. Once the situation is normalized, any figures can be reconciled.

For projects commissioned recently (for less than three months), we request your office to raise the invoices of energy bills as soft copies.

Request:

On behalf of the Solar Industry, we request you to kindly consider our suggestions favourably and issue necessary instructions to safeguard the developers' financial health, which is already in distress due to other prolonging factors due to the ongoing pandemic crisis.

We look forward to your support in this matter.

Thanking you.

Yours Sincerely

Praveen Golash

Joint Secretary, SPDA