

ORDER

OF THE

WEST BENGAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

IN CASE NO. OA-541/25-26

PRIOR APPROVAL FOR LONG TERM PURCHASE OF 600 MW WIND-SOLAR HYBRID ("WSH") POWER FROM GRID CONNECTED WSH PROJECT ON BUILD OWN OPERATE BASIS UNDER TARIFF BASED COMPETITIVE BIDDING.

DATE: 17.12.2025



Facts in brief:

- 1.0 CESC Limited (CESC) vide their letter dated 01.12.2025 has submitted an application for prior approval for long-term purchase of 600 MW Wind-Solar Hybrid ("WSH") Power from grid connected WSH Project on Build Own Operate (BOO) basis under tariff based competitive bidding (TBCB) in terms of Section 63 of the Electricity Act, 2003 and regulation 4 of the West Bengal Electricity Regulatory Commission (Modalities of Tariff Determination) Regulations, 2023 and other applicable Regulations. The petition of CESC Limited has been admitted on 03.12.2025 & marked as OA-541/25-26.
- 2.0 In the instant petition, CESC inter-alia has submitted the following:
 - a. CESC is obligated to procure a considerable portion of renewable energy to fulfill its Renewable Purchase Obligation (RPO) target specified in the West Bengal Electricity Regulatory Commission (Cogeneration and Generation of Electricity from Renewable Energy Sources) Regulations, 2013 as amended and subsequent order dated 30.10.2023 of the Commission in case no. SM-37/23-24.
 - b. In exercise of the powers conferred by clauses (n) and (x) of section 14 of the Energy Conservation Act, 2001, the Ministry of Power ("MoP") has specified the minimum share of consumption of renewable energy ("RCO") by distribution licensees vide notification (S.O. 4421 (E)) dated 27.09.2025.
 - CESC has submitted that the energy from renewable sources is still insufficient to meet RPO target.
 - d. CESC has also submitted that there is a wide variation in their system, with peak demand reaching 2728 MW and the lowest demand remaining around 500 MW.
 - e. Further, CESC has shown that, at present, their net availability of power from conventional sources is 1345 MW & that from Renewable Energy Sources is 271 MW during solar hours and 23 MW during non-solar hours.
 - CESC has stated that the success rate of availability of power from short term power market is very poor during peak period and the price of such power also remains high. Such success rate of getting power was 37% over last 3 years from



- 2023-24 to 2025-26 during the period from April to June during 8 PM to 12 PM. Prices on the power exchange frequently touch the ceiling price of Rs 10 per Kwh as set by the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC).
- f. CESC has also stated that they have conducted competitive bidding for procurement of solar & wind power on short term basis, but there was no participation in the bidding process for the years 2024-25, 2025-26, 2026-27 & 2027-28.
- g. Expecting an increase of gap / shortfall of power in future & to meet the RPO target, CESC has planned to undertake a fresh TBCB process for long-term procurement of 600 MW WSH Power from grid connected WSH Project on BOO basis.
- h. The Request for Selection (RfS) and Draft Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) has been prepared on the basis of the Competitive Bidding Guidelines issued by the Ministry of Power No. 27/03/2023-RCM dated 21.08.2023, read with amendments dated 17.11.2023, 02.02.2024 and 12.02.2025.
- No deviation has been considered from the Competitive Bidding Guidelines of Ministry of Power.
- j. Salient Features of the proposed 600 MW Wind-Solar Hybrid Power procurement: are as follows -

Quantum of Power	Annual Capacity Utilization Factor (CUF):	Wind: Solar Ratio	Delivery point	Scheduled Commencement of Supply Date (SCSD)	Expiry Date	Tariff
600 MW Wind-Solar Hybrid power	50 Percent	2: 1	The point at voltage of 220 KV or above of ISTS substation where the power under PPA will be delivered	20 months from the Effective Date of the PPA	25 years from the SCSD	Fixed tariff for entire term of the PPA



Point of Determination

3.0 Regulation 4 of the West Bengal Electricity Regulatory Commission (Modalities of Tariff Determination) Regulations, 2023 *inter-alia* specifies that Tariff of all power procurement not covered under Regulation 3 of the said Regulations shall be discovered through competitive bidding route, with prior approval of the Commission for the requirement of such capacity to be bid in pursuance of Section 86(1)(b) of the Electricity Act, 2003.

Observations of the Commission:

- 4.0 The Commission has observed that this procurement of 600 MW Wind-Solar Hybrid Power will help CESC to meet gap / shortage of power during the day peak as well as RPO target.
- 5.0 This procurement of power will also reduce dependency of CESC Limited on the costlier market power during peak periods.

Order:

- 6.0 The Commission after considering the facts submitted by CESC Limited and further keeping in view clause (e) of sub-section (1) of section 86 of the Electricity Act, 2003, hereby accords prior approval for long-term power procurement of 600 MW WSH Power from grid connected WSH Project on BOO basis under competitive bidding in terms of Regulation 4 of the West Bengal Electricity Regulatory Commission (Modalities of Tariff Determination) Regulations, 2023.
- 7.0 The Commission further directs CESC Limited to determine the tariff through transparent process of bidding in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Central Government under Section 63 of the Act.
- In case of any deviation from TBCB Guidelines, CESC Limited shall obtain prior approval of the Commission in terms of Regulation 4 of the West Bengal Electricity Regulatory Commission (Modalities of Tariff Determination) Regulations, 2023.



- 9.0 CESC Limited shall seek approval from the Commission of the PPA entered with the Successful Bidder in terms of the provisions of the West Bengal Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions of Tariff) Regulations, 2011 as amended.
- 10.0 The petition is, thus disposed of.
- 11.0 A copy of the order shall be posted on the website of the Commission.
- 12.0 CESC Limited shall download the copy of the order from the website of the Commission. Certified copy of the order, if applied for, be given on completion of formalities laid down in the West Bengal Electricity Regulatory Commission (Conduct of Business) Regulations, 2013, as amended and on submission of necessary fees.

Sd/-

(DR. MALLELA VENKATESWARA RAO) CHAIRPERSON

Dated: 17.12.2025

Sd/-DEPUTY DIRECTOR, WBERC