



POWER SECTOR

NEWSLETTER | WEEK 16 | APR 24



POWER PURCHASE

» POWERGRID WINS CONTRACTS TO EVACUATE 18 GW OF RENEWABLE ENERGY

- > POWERGRID secures contracts to establish three ISTS projects to evacuate 18 GW of power from REZs in Rajasthan and Gujarat.
- > Letters of intent received by POWERGRID on April 16, 2024.
- > RECPDCL floated project tenders on November 6 and November 16, 2023.
- > Projects involve transmission systems for Rajasthan REZ Phase IV and potential REZ in Khavda, Gujarat.
- > Scheduled commercial operation date set for 24 months from the date of letters of intent.
- > Projects include the establishment of new substations, transmission lines, and augmentation works
- > Investment of 3.67 billion (~\$44.05 million) announced by POWERGRID for infrastructure expansion involving two transmission projects.
- > Infrastructure projects scheduled to be commissioned in 2025.



POWER PURCHASE



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RENEWABLES



MAHINDRA SUSTEN TO DEVELOP 150 MW OPEN ACCESS RENEWABLE POWER PROJECT



RECPDCL INVITES BIDS FOR 223 MW ISTS-CONNECTED SOLAR PROJECTS



Policy and Regulatory



MNRE SEEKS FEEDBACK ON GUIDELINES FOR PM-SURYA GHAR ROOFTOP SOLAR PROGRAM



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- > The Ministry of Power authorized POWERGRID Bhadla Transmission to set up overhead transmission lines to evacuate 8.1 GW of power from the solar energy zone in Rajasthan.
- > Projects to be implemented on a build, own, operate, and transfer (BOOT) basis.
- > Developers are required to ensure compliance with specifications detailed in the transmission service agreement.
- > Projects aimed at enhancing power evacuation infrastructure from renewable energy zones.





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RENEWABLES

» MAHINDRA SUSTEN TO DEVELOP 150 MW OPEN ACCESS RENEWABLE POWER PROJECT

- > Mahindra Susten, in partnership with the Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan Board, to develop a 150 MW hybrid renewable power project.
- > Investment of 12 billion (~\$143.8 million) earmarked for the project.
- > Project includes ~101 MW wind and ~52 MW solar capacity, with over 80% locally manufactured components.
- > Scheduled for commissioning within the next two years.
- > Clean energy generated to supply commercial and industrial customers in Maharashtra.
- > Project expected to produce 460 million kWh of energy and offset nearly 420,000 tons of CO2 emissions.
- > Mahindra Auto and Farm businesses to secure contracted capacity of 41.2 MW wind and 25.9 MW solar within the project.
- > Estimated to avert 184,000 tons of CO2 emissions annually for Mahindra Group's businesses.
- > Project aims to increase Mahindra Group's renewable energy share from 34% in FY23 to over 60% by FY26
- > Mahindra sets goal to become a 100% renewable energy company by 2030.
- > Anish Shah, CEO and MD of Mahindra Group, emphasizes project's contribution to sustainability and business growth.
- > In January, Mahindra Group and Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan Board established Sustainable Energy Infra Trust to advance India's renewable energy sector, with 1.54 GW of operational assets.





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RENEWABLES

» RECPDCL INVITES BIDS FOR 223 MW ISTS-CONNECTED SOLAR PROJECTS

- > RECPDCL issues tender for 223 MW ISTS-connected solar power projects across India.
- > Projects to support flexibility in generating and scheduling thermal or hydropower stations through bundling with renewable energy and storage.
- > Bid submission deadline set for May 13, 2024, with bid opening on May 16.
- > Tender fee, including GST, amounts to ₹29,500 (~\$353).
- > Bidders required to submit bid processing fee ranging from ₹500,000 to ₹1.5 million.
- > Earnest money deposit of ₹900,000/MW per project mandatory for bidders.
- > Successful bidders must provide performance bank guarantee of ₹1.75 million/MW.
- > Single bid submission allowed for a capacity of 50 MW to 223 MW.



- > Project capacity can be set up at a single location or divided into blocks of 5 MW or higher.
- > Minimum voltage requirement for interconnection at ISTS is 220 kV.
- > Bidders' eligibility criteria include minimum net worth, annual turnover, internal resource generation capability, and in-principle sanction letter from lending institutions.
- > Modules used must be listed in the latest Approved List of Models and Manufacturers by MNRE.



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POLICY AND REGULATORY

» MNRE SEEKS FEEDBACK ON GUIDELINES FOR PM-SURYA GHAR ROOFTOP SOLAR PROGRAM

- > MNRE seeks feedback on draft guidelines for PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana, focusing on residential rooftop solar.
- > Program aims to install rooftop solar in ten million households, costing ₹752.01 billion (~\$8.9 billion).
- > Previous Phase II of rooftop solar program to be merged with new program.
- > Financial outlay includes nine sub-components; to be implemented via National Portal.
- > Central financial assistance (CFA) breakdown provided based on tender capacity and sector.
- > Program operational until March 31, 2027, with funds sourced from previous rooftop solar program.
- > Eligibility criteria outlined for households seeking additional subsidies for increased rooftop solar capacity.
- > Rooftop solar installation eligible for CFA only once; relocation excludes eligibility.
- > No CFA extended to non-residential sectors like government, commercial, and industrial.
- > Vendors must register on National Portal, submit bank guarantee based on registration type.
- > Bank guarantee requirements adjusted based on installed capacity.





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POLICY AND REGULATORY

- > Vendors can manage projects, respond to expressions of interest, and showcase offerings on the portal.
- > Implementing agencies authorized to conduct inspections of installations.
- > Technical specifications detailed for rooftop solar systems.
- > Vendors accountable for system deficiencies and quality issues.
- > CFA eligibility tied to use of domestic modules meeting specified criteria.
- > MNRE to maintain approved list of modules and inverters eligible for CFA.
- > OEMs of enlisted inverters must share generation data via API integration.
- > Repair/maintenance services provided free for five years from commissioning.
- > Consumers can undertake installations in CAPEX mode, seeking CFA on National Portal.
- > Non-performing PV panels replaced free during warranty period.



- > Grievance mechanism established through National Portal.
- > Grievances directed to State Implementation Agency for resolution.
- > Beneficiaries receive warranties from OEMs on system components.
- > Both beneficiaries and vendors can escalate grievances via two-tier matrix.