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NOTIFICATION

Dated Dispur, the 24th February, 2025

No. PEL. 19/2025/13 : In order to promote renewable energy and its integration with grid, the State Government hereby notifies the following Assam Integrated Clean Energy Policy - 2025 for the State of Assam. This policy shall come into effect from the date of Notification and will remain in force till 31 March 2030 or till it is superseded by another Policy whichever is earlier. The Policy may be amended and modified during implementation and the Policy shall be applicable to the entire State.

ASSAM INTEGRATED CLEAN ENERGY POLICY- 2025

1. Preamble

1.1 Today, the world is amid a major transition to clean energy due to growing concerns of climate change and global warming. India, at the 26th session of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP 26) in November 2021, announced its target to achieve net zero by 2070. Government of India (GoI) has committed India's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) in alignment with the global efforts to mitigate climate change. The key NDCs targets include:

a) Achieve 50 percent cumulative electric power installed capacity from non-fossil fuel-based energy resources by 2030.

b) Reduce the total projected carbon emissions by2.5 – 3.0 billion tonnes from current level till 2030 by creation of additional carbon sink through incremental forest and tree cover.

c) Reduce the emission intensity of the GDP by 45% by 2030, from 2005level.

1.2 To achieve these objectives, GoI has set the target of adding around 500 GW RE capacity by 2030 and this will reduce the dependence on conventional sources of energy by promoting non-conventional energy sources. Further, GoI launched "National Green Hydrogen Mission" in 2023, that aims to boost the domestic production of Green Hydrogen to 5 MillionTonnes Per Annum (MTPA) by 2030, and to make India "an export hub" for this clean fuel. Green Hydrogen, produced using renewable energy, has the potential to play a key role in low-carbon and self-reliant economic pathways. Green Hydrogen can enable utilization of domestically abundant renewable energy resources across regions, seasons, and sectors, feeding multiple usage streams, either as fuel or as an industrial feedstock. It can directly replace fossil fuel derived feedstocks in petroleum refining, fertilizer production, steel manufacturing etc.

1.3 The Ministry of Power, Government of India in its order dated 22.07.2022 has prescribed the following trajectory for the period from FY 2022-23 to 2029-30 and Assam Electricity Regulatory Commission (AERC) has specified the Renewable Power Purchase Obligation (RPPO) targets and as detailed below.

Year	Ministry of Power, GoI RPO Trajectory				AERC
	Wind RPO	HPO	Other RPO	Total RPO	Total RPO
2024-25	2.46%	1.08%	26.37%	29.91%	As per AERC (Renewable Purchase Obligation and its Compliance) Regulations 2010, (Third Amendment), 2021 and its amendment from time to time.
2025-26	3.36%	1.48%	28.17%	33.01%	
2026-27	4.29%	1.80%	29.86%	35.95%	
2027-28	5.23%	2.15%	31.43%	38.81%	
2028-29	6.16%	2.51%	32.69%	41.36%	
2029-30	6.94%	2.82%	33.57%	43.33%	

1.4 Further, the state is blessed with solar, wind, and water resources that encourage RE adoption, with solar power potential of around 13.76 GW[1]and wind power potential of 246MW[2](at 120 m level) and 459MW[3](at 150 m level), estimated Pumped Storage Power (PSP) potential of 320MW, Biomass 322 MW and Small Hydro 202 MW capacity in the state)

[1]*As per NISE - State-wise Solar Energy Potential in India (niti.gov.in)*
[2] *As per NIWE - India's Wind Potential Atlas at 120m agl (niwe.res.in)*
[3] *As per NIWE - 150m-report.pdf (niwe.res.in*)

1.5 As Renewable Energy (RE) become cheaper generation source for electricity in India (especially solar and wind energy), efforts are being made to initiate gradual replacement of existing conventional power generation capacities with renewable power generation capacities. The key advantage of conventional power generation is high Plant Load Factor (PLF), firmness and flexibility in power supply. In order to have the same attractiveness, RE sources shall have these three attributes and this policy will promote such RE projects like solar-wind hybrid with energy storage or any other renewable energy with storage system which shall provide high PLF, firmness and flexibility in supply.

1.6 The recent demand for Round-the-Clock (RTC) supply, peak power supply, higher Capacity Utilization Factor (CUF), higher availability and bundling RE with thermal power for RTC supply gives an opportunity for Assam to encourage such RE projects in the State.

1.7 To keep pace with the emerging needs of the Renewable Energy Sector, the Government of Assam has decided to review the existing Assam Renewable Energy Policy 2022.Government of Assam (GoA) is focused on creation of green economy and thriving ecosystem for Integrated Clean Energy across the value chain, through a robust framework to attract investments, there by contributing to India's Renewable Energy growth and driving action in mitigating climate change. To achieve and lead the country's goals of net zero, Government of Assam has formulated "**Assam Integrated Clean Energy Policy, 2025**" for attracting clean energy investments.

2. Guiding Principles

2.1 The "Assam Integrated Clean Energy Policy, 2025" shall come into effect from the date of Notification and will remain in force till 31 March 2030 or till it is superseded by another Policy whichever is earlier.

2.2 The Government of Assam may amend / modify / review this policy as and when required.

2.4 Assam Power Distribution Company Limited (APDCL) or any other Department / Agency as notified by the Government of Assam shall act as a Nodal Agency under this Policy.

2.5 If any dispute arises related to any provision, the decision of the Government shall be final and binding.

3. Vision

a) To continue Assam State's position as a preferred investment destination in the RE sector and create an ecosystem for sustainable and green energy development in the State.

b) To establish Assam as a prominent player in green hydrogen / ammonia economy of India.

4. Policy Overview

4.1 Title of the Policy — This policy shall be known as the "Assam Integrated Clean Energy Policy, 2025" (hereafter "ICE policy").

4.2 Duration / Policy Operative Period — This policy shall come into effect from the date of Notification and will remain in force till 31 March 2030 or till it is superseded by another Policy whichever is earlier.

4.3 Scope of the Policy — The policy focuses on the following clean energy technologies:

i) Solar Power
ii) Wind Power
iii) Wind-Solar Hybrid Power
iv) Mini and Small Hydro

v) Pumped Storage Plants
vi) Battery Energy Storage Systems
vii) Biofuels / Biomass& Waste to Energy Projects
viii) Green Hydrogen and its derivatives/ Low Carbon Molecules Plants and associated units
ix) EV charging infrastructure
x) RE Manufacturing Projects including solar, wind, battery, Inverter and electrolyzer etc.

Clean Energy Projects and RE Manufacturing Projects that are commissioned in the State during the operative period shall be eligible for incentives declared under this policy.

4.4 Migration of Projects from Previous Policy

a) All Clean Energy Projects / RE projects allocated / sanctioned under previous policy(ies) shall be given liberty to migrate to the ICE policy. **Further, all Clean Energy Projects / RE projects commissioned during the period i.e., after expiry of the Assam Solar Energy Policy 2017 & prior to the notification of the Assam Renewable Energy Policy 2022 shall also be eligible to migrate to this ICE policy.** All charges, incentives, and milestones/ timelines including extensions to be adhered as per ICE policy. However, all such projects shall be eligible to migrate under ICE Policy subject to following conditions being met:

   i) Projects which have not shown any progress or not adhered to timelines/ conditions or not commissioned as per the timelines indicated in allocation letter/ Implementation agreement/Govt. orders (G.O.s) shall not be permitted to migrate.

   ii) Projects with allocated resources under construction within timelines indicated in sanction/allocation letter/ Implementation agreement/G.O.s will be allowed to migrate under ICE policy and such projects shall also adhere to the timelines stated in the respective sanction/allocation letter/implementation agreement/ G.O.s.

   iii) However, such migrated projects to ICE policy shall pay all the applicable charges, subject to adjustment of any charges that were paid in previous policy(ies), under the ICE policy **and shall comply with the prescribed timelines of ICE policy (project specific) to avail the incentives under ICE policy**.

b) All the projects allocated under previous policy that are unable to migrate because of non-adherence of timelines stated there in and also not commissioned /that have not completed as per the timelines including extension(s)/ conditions shall be treated as deemed cancelled and the allocated resources will be made available for fresh allocation under the ICE policy.

c) All the previous State policies coveringthe RE / clean energy projects mentioned under clause 4.3shall cease to exist after the notification of the ICE policy.

d) This Policy will be evaluated on a regular basis to assess its impact, and to ensure inclusion of any new RE market/guidelines from GoI/Govt. of Assam that may evolve during the Policy period.

4.5 Objective

a) To provide a framework for large scale promotion of Renewable Energy (RE), Pumped Storage Power (PSP), Green Hydrogen and its derivatives/ Low Carbon Molecules plants and associated units by optimum utilization of available resources and position Assam as a preferred destination for investments in Renewable Energy.

b) To facilitate the development of **11.7 GW** of additional RE projects with or without energy storage systems in the State, including up to **1.9 GW** of Rooftop solar PV projects.

c) To make Assam the preferred destination for **production and export** of Green Hydrogen / Green Ammonia and develop an ecosystem for production of Green Hydrogen for Refineries, Fertilizers and other Industries requiring Hydrogen as in input.

d) To attract investment in the RE sector and development of the State economy.

e) To tap RE potential in the State and use of available resources for development of RE projects for the purpose of meeting RE demand within the State and exporting power outside Assam.

f) To achieve the RPO target(s) as specified by the AERC from time to time.

g) To develop Renewable Energy Parks (including hybrid parks), Renewable Energy Manufacturing Parks in the state.

h) To promote the setting up of equipment manufacturing facilities for Green Hydrogen and its derivatives/ Low Carbon Molecules plants and associated units in the State.

i) To develop ecosystem for distributed generation through Solarization of feeders and pumps which can help deferment of transmission and distribution capacity addition and reduction in losses.

j) To promote energy storage projects in the State.

k) To create an energy storage market in the State to integrate more RE into the grid and offer grid support services such as peak reduction, curtailment management, contribution to reliability needs, transmission deferrals, intraday and seasonal variation management, and others.

l) To promote development of floating solar including hybridization of floating solar with existing hydro stations.

m) To promote generation of energy through biomass, and waste-to-energy.

n) To achieve higher EV penetration by enabling regulatory framework for creation of EV Charging Infrastructure in the state.

o) Encourage new initiatives, pilot projects and emerging energy technologies in the State.

p) Promote green tourism in the State by the use of green hydrogen -based mobility.

q) To promote clean energy skill development center and forge partnerships with universities to establish Assam as clean energy research and development hub.

4.6 Targets

a) The Policy aims to achieve a target of capacity addition 11,700MW Renewable Power Projects up to 2029-30 in the State and the details are enclosed asunder.

i) **Renewable Energy Target**:

Sl. No.	Particular	Capacity Addition (MW)

1	**Solar**	
1.1	Grid Connected Ground Mounted Solar Power Plant (Without storage / with storage / hybrid)	3000
1.2	Grid Connected Floating Solar Power Plant (Without storage / with storage / hybrid)	300
2	**Rooftop Solar Power Plant (SRTPVS)**	
2.1	SRTPVS at Residential Sector	600
2.2	SRTPVS at Government Buildings	300
2.3	SRTPVS at Industrial & Commercial Sector	1000
3	Wind	200
4	Pumped Storage Power (PSP)	2000
5	Small Hydro	100
6	Biomass Power Plant & Waste to Energy	100
7	Battery Energy Storage	1000
8	Solar Manufacturing (Across the value chain Mine/Polysilicon to Module)	3000
9	Off Grid Solar Applications	100
	Total	**11700**
10	Wind Turbine Manufacturing	No pre-set limit
11	Battery Manufacturing	2000 MWh
12	Biofuels	Ethanol – 1,500 KLPD Bio CNG/CBG – 10,000 TPD
13	EV Charging Infrastructure	2000 Nos.

ii) **Target for Green Hydrogen**:

- Producing **2000 kilo Tonnes per Annum (kTPA)** of green hydrogen by 2030.
- Commission **at least one green hydrogen valley** to cater to the demand from fertilizer plants and refineries within Assam.
- Develop at least **one Giga factory for electrolyzer manufacturing**. The state should also aim to export these domestically manufactured Electrolysers across the globe.
- To create **10,000** jobs per Annum for production of Green Hydrogen in the State.

b) The State DISCOM will purchase Renewable energy as per the Renewable Purchase Obligation (RPO) as determined by AERC.

c) State will endeavour to develop Renewable Power Projects for sale of power to parties other than DISCOM of Assam and for captive consumption, within and outside the State.

d) This policy also aims to promote Renewable Energy as under:

i) Promotion of small Decentralized Grid Connected Solar Power Projects at load centres.

ii) Promotion of Rooftop Solar Projects through Net Metering, Net billing, Gross Metering, Virtual Net Metering, Group Net metering mechanism or in any other manner as per the provisions of Electricity Act, 2003 and relevant Regulations/Orders issued by AERC/CERC/MNRE.

iii) Promotion of Off-Grid Solar applications like Solar Water Pumps, home lighting systems, solar street lighting systems etc.

iv) Promotion of Renewable Energy Projects for sale of power to Discom and Captive use/3rd Party Sale within and outside the State.

v) Promotion of Renewable Energy Projects with Storage Systems, Hydro Project, Pump Storage Plants and Battery Energy Storage Systems.

vi) Promotion of Electric Vehicles (EV) Charging Stations by Renewable Energy.

vii) Development of Solar Parks and RE manufacturing Park.

viii) Strengthening of Transmission and Distribution Network for Renewable Energy.

ix) Promotion of manufacturing industries of solar energy equipment and storage systems.

x) Promotion of floating/ canal top/reservoir top solar power projects.

xi) A minimum share of consumption will be met through green hydrogen by designated consumers in the State as per mandate prescribed in National Green Hydrogen Mission which shall be extended in phased manner.

4.7 Operational Guidelines

The Nodal Agency shall release subsequent detailed operational guidelines and clarifications on the current policy from time to time.

5. General Framework of the Policy

5.1 Legislative Framework for Policy

The legislative framework for this Policy includes the following provisions:

a. The Electricity Act, 2003 ensures that the Electricity Regulatory Commissions and the Governments to take necessary steps to promote Renewable Energy.

b. Section 61(h) of the Act provides that while specifying the terms and conditions of determination of tariff, State Regulatory Commissions shall be guided, inter-alia, by the promotion of cogeneration and generation of electricity from renewable sources of energy.

c. The National Electricity Policy (NEP) and Tariff Policy notified by the Central Government under the provisions of section 3(1) of the Act have also addressed the issues of untapped potential of energy from non-conventional and renewable energy sources; and

d. Section 86(1)(e) of the Act mandates State Electricity Regulatory Commissions (SERCs) to notify Renewable Purchase Obligations (RPOs), ensures RPO compliance and invoke penal provisions against defaulting entities.

Orders/Regulations or any other dispensation issued by the Assam Electricity Regulatory Commission (AERC) from time to time shall be applicable to the provisions of this Policy including the Acts passed by Government of India. In case of any discrepancy between the provisions of this Policy, Orders/Regulations issued by the AERC will prevail.

This policy supersedes the previous policy i.e., "Assam Renewable Energy Policy 2022", issued in 2022 vide No. PEL. 230/2021/138 dated 13th October 2022.

The incentives provided by the Central Government for Renewable Energy Power Projects shall be extended by the Nodal Agency to the Developer without any financial commitment by the State Government.

Any other facilities / Incentives as provided by the State Government

under various State Government Policies shall be available to the Developer without duplicity of benefits same component.

5.2 Applicability of Assam Integrated Clean Energy Policy, 2024

5.2.1 This Policy will be applicable to projects and programs relating to the focus markets as covered under provision 4.3 of this Policy.

5.2.2 Any individual or company or body corporate or association or society or body of individuals, whether incorporated or not shall be eligible for setting up RE projects, either for the purpose of captive use and/or for selling of electricity to the Distribution Licensee or Third Party including under the Renewable Energy Certificate (REC) mechanism subject to provisions of this Policy and in accordance with the Electricity Act 2003, as amended from time to time and with the relevant Central/State regulations and/or Standard Bidding Guidelines (SBGs) issued and amended from time to time.

5.3 Land Facilitation, Power Evacuation and Allotment

5.3.1 Nodal Agency will **compile and provide a list** of all the available land parcels/resources from revenue/other government departments and State TRANSCO will provide list of available substations (MW availability including upcoming/ planned sub-stations) for power evacuation. These lists shall be provided on a quarterly basis by Nodal Agency. Developer (s) to apply based on the available land parcels and substations.

5.3.2 To facilitate faster execution of projects, the Deputy Commissioner shall hand over advanced possession of land including pathways to Nodal Agency and the land shall be allotted on alienation basis to Nodal Agency at a rate decided by the Revenue & DM Department & Prevailing Industrial Policy of Government of Assam.

5.3.3 Developer (s) to apply for allotment of the land to the revenue / concerned government department and Nodal Agency to facilitate the transaction by liasoning between the government department and Developer.

5.3.4 Government/ Revenue/concerned department to allot the land to the Developer on alienation basis for lease up to a maximum 30 years (45 years in case of PSP, Mini and Small Hydro Projects and further extendable at a later stage), including the construction periodat a rate decided by the Revenue & DM Department & Prevailing Industrial Policy of Government of Assam.

5.3.5 Deemed Non-Agricultural status will be accorded for the land utilized for the development of any Clean Energy Projects and RE Manufacturing Projects. However, an application has to be submitted to the Revenue Department for one time land conversion.Power (Electricity) Department, Government of Assam shall provide reimbursement of 100% of charges spent by the developer in respect of the reclassification of land and payment of Stamp Duty for the land utilized for the development of any Clean Energy Projects and RE Manufacturing Projects.

5.3.6 In the case of forest areas, the Developer shall submit the application through the Nodal Agency to the forest department, to consider for allotment as per the guidelines / regulations laid down by the forest department from time to time.

5.3.7 The Barren Government lands reserved as per the Industrial Planning for Industrial use will be declared Green Hydrogen Generation Sites, a suitable percentage at least 30% of such lands shall be kept for setting up Green Hydrogen Plant or Revenue land and shall be allotted as per Land allotment rules of the respective agencies.

5.3.8 If the project is to be set up in private land, then the eligible Developer shall procure the land from the landholder on their own.

5.4 Resource Allocation

5.4.1 The objective of resource allocation is to ensure optimal utilization of available resources like land, water, natural resources (Wind, PSP potential sites), along with the available power evacuation including upcoming/ planned capacities with State TRANSCO.

5.4.2 Nodal Agency shall coordinate and facilitate resource allocation to the Developer. Nodal Agency will support the Developer in coordinating with State TRANSCO/ DISCOM to verify the project feasibility.

5.4.3 Resource allocation will be on first-cum-first serve basis however preferential land allocation shall be provided for RE Manufacturing / Green Hydrogen Projects (Solar, Wind, Battery, Inverter and electrolyzer). These projects have high employment potential and would benefit the state in generating employment opportunities.

5.4.4 Land allocation shall be provided on the basis of high value addition (INR/Acre) in the following order of priority as: Green Hydrogen and its derivatives/ Low Carbon Molecules plants and associated units, RE RTC with Storage, Hybrid Co-located Projects, PSP, Solar Parks, Stand-alone Solar Projects and Wind Projects.

5.4.5 In case of Pumped Storage Projects, Project Sites identified by the Nodal Agency or self-identified by Project developers, the projects shall be allotted on nomination basis to CPSU/State level PSUsor any other agencies on case-to-case basis and first-cum-first serve basis for others by paying applicable costs incurred by Nodal Agency. To clarify, self-identified projects by project developers will be allotted to the concerned developers. Nodal Agency will develop a portal for registration of projects by the developer.

5.4.6 The Developer shall submit Detailed Proposals to the Nodal Agency along with project details, technical & financial strengths, timelines for completion, etc. After detailed scrutiny of the project proposals, Nodal Agency shall allot the required resources to the Developer.

5.4.7 The Developer shall bear the entire cost of the project from investigation to commissioning and subsequent operation and maintenance.

5.4.8 In the case of resources allocated by Nodal such as Wind, Solar, Wind-Solar Hybrid, the state shall have the right of first refusal of up to 30% of the allotted project capacity and tariff

shall be determined by AERC under Section 62. Alternatively, Discoms shall procure through Tariff Based competitive bidding.

5.4.9 In the case of PSP (Other than Captive resources), the state shall have the right of first refusal of up to 20% of the allotted project capacity and tariff shall be determined by AERC under Section 62. Alternatively, Discoms shall procure through Tariff Based competitive bidding. The State shall exercise the right of first refusal within 180 days of project allotment.

5.5 Grid Connectivity and Power Evacuation Facility

5.5.1 Grid integration shall be in accordance with the Central Electricity Authority's (Technical Standards for Connectivity to the Grid) Regulations, 2019 and amendments thereto from time to time. Grid stability and safety are paramount and should be ensured due to the intermittent nature of renewable energy.

5.5.2 The power generated from Clean Energy Projects shall be injected at an appropriate voltage at the sub-station and/or interconnection point of the TRANSCO/ DISCOM. The Eligible Developer shall bear the entire cost of construction of power evacuation facilities from the project upto the interconnection point and/or up to TRANSCO/ DISCOM substation.

5.5.3 **Connection to the CTU network**: The Project developers shall follow the procedure laid down by the central agencies and State Government / Nodal Agency. All liabilities on account of connecting to the CTU shall be borne by the Developer.

5.5.4 **Connection to the CTU through STU network**: The application process for availing connectivity to STU shall be on similar lines as that of CTU and STU shall follow the same guidelines as connectivity can be granted before the project can get commissioned. Two options shall be provided for connecting to CTU network through STU:

a) **Option-1**: Project developer may connect to STU, by laying connecting line to the STU grid substation at his cost and transferring the line asset to STU prior to commissioning. Alternatively, the connecting line may be built by STU at the cost of the Developer if the Developer so chooses. Developers using the Intra-State Transmission network shall pay for Transmission charges and losses as prescribed by AERC in the Transmission Tariff Order.

b) **Option -2**: Project developer may bear the entire cost of existing or new external evacuation infrastructure including connecting line, grid substations and upstream network up to CTU. The construction of new network infrastructure shall be done under the supervision of STU and the assets shall be handed over to STU before commissioning. The new network augmentation required for this purpose shall be determined by STU or at the discretion of the Developer, the Developer may pay a normative capital cost of **INR 25 Lakh/MW** or actual cost, whichever is higher, to expedite the connectivity and take care of the existing cost of the network or augmentation requirements on normative basis. Developers opting for this option shall pay only the O&M charges (for the number of Bays) as decided by STU and the transmission charges shall be exempted for the entire life of the project. There shall be no exemption on energy

losses.

5.5.5 TRANSCO/ DISCOM will dispose of the proposals for the technical feasibility for evacuation within 14 days from the date of receipt of application. Any upstream system strengthening requirement shall be borne by TRANSCO/ DISCOM(s) on a priority basis.

5.5.6 The Govt. of Assam shall support forthe creation and strengthening of Transmission and Distribution network for evacuation of power from RE projects.

5.6 Fees and Charges

The fees and charges for all the projects under the policy areexempted except the Application fee &Performance Bank Guarantee (PBG).

5.6.1 The Performance Bank Guarantee shall be submitted by the Developer from the date of Resource allocation/ LOA and shall be kept with Nodal Agency until COD of the project. Additionally, the PBG shall be extended on a case-to-case basis upon confirmation by Nodal as per the project extensions granted from time to time.

5.6.2 The Performance Bank Guarantee shall be returned to the Project developer after commissioning of the project. In case part capacity is commissioned, the proportionate Performance Bank Guarantee may be returned.

5.7 Transmission & Distribution/Wheeling Charges

5.7.1 **100% exemption of Intrastate Transmission charges** for the scheduled capacity of generation during the entire life of the project or up to 20 years whichever is earlier. For energy storage projects, intrastate transmission charges shall be applicable only on generation and losses to be paid on both sides, i.e. drawl and injection. Any additional exemptions or special provisions shall be addressed in the relevant sections of the policy.

5.7.2 **Distribution/wheeling** charges shall be **waived** off if the injection and withdrawal of power are at the same voltage levels. However, if the injection and withdrawal of power are at different voltage levels, distribution/wheeling charges shall be levied at injection point as follows except for Green Hydrogen and its derivatives/ Low Carbon Molecules plants and associated units:

a) For LT Consumers, distribution/wheeling charges shall be paid on a per unit basis (INR/kWh), and

b) For HT Consumers, distribution/wheeling charges shall be paid as per the block wise (15 mins) charges for the applicable number of blocks for the scheduled capacity.

Any additional exemptions or special provisions shall be addressed in the relevant sections of the policy

The Distribution/wheeling charges shall be applicable during policy operative period. Any additional exemptions or special provisions shall be addressed in the relevant sections of the policy.

5.7.3 Wheeling charges will be determined by AERC from time to time.

5.8 Cross Subsidy Surcharge & Additional Surcharge

5.8.1 Cross-subsidy surcharge and additional surcharge shall not be applicable for consumption from Clean Energy Projects fulfilling the criteria of Captive generating plant as per Electricity Rules 2005 & amendments. The Clean Energy Projects not fulfilling the criteria of Captive generating plant shall be considered as third-party sale projects and Cross-subsidy surcharge and Additional surcharge shall be levied as determined by AERC from time to time for consumption from third party Clean Energy Projects.

5.8.2 In the case of RE Manufacturing Projects, covered under the policy, the cross-subsidy surcharge shall be exempted for a period of **10 years** in case of open access /third party procurement.

5.8.3 The Clean Energy Projects set up (i) for captive use within the premises of a Consumer & sale of power to 3rd party within the State under Open Access and (ii) set up for sale of power to 3rd party within the State shall be exempted on cross subsidy surcharge & additional surcharge for a period of 20 years or the project life whichever is earlier. Any additional exemptions or special provisions shall be addressed in the relevant sections of the policy.

5.9 Electricity Duty

5.9.1 100% exemption of Electricity Duty for the power consumed from RE plants (with or without storage) during policy operative period from the date of Commissioning (CoD) of the project. Any additional exemptions or special provisions shall be addressed in the relevant sections of the policy.

5.9.2 In case of RE Manufacturing Projects, the electricity duty shall be reimbursed for a period of 10 years irrespective of Discom/ Open Access/ captive/third party procurement. Any additional exemptions or special provisions shall be addressed in the relevant sections of the policy.

5.10 Open Access Facilities

5.10.1 The open access (OA) facilities will be governed asper the regulations to be framed / framed by AERC in accordance with the **Green Energy Open Access Rules 2022** notified by the Ministry of Power, Govt of India.

5.10.2 The eligibility of OA shall be governed by the regulations to be framed / framed by AERC in accordance with the Green Energy Open Access Rules 2022 notified by the Ministry of Power, Govt of India and its amendments from time to time.

5.10.3 OA approvals to be provided by SLDC and OA approvals shall be permissible only prior to 12 months before COD. In case of delay in COD, after OA approvals, such OA approvals shall be deemed cancelled, and the Project developer shall request for a new approval only after commissioning of the project.

5.10.4 In case of delay in projects commissioning, after receiving OA approval, the associated OA approval shall be deemed cancelled, and the Project developer shall request for a new approval only after commissioning of the project.

5.10.5 The charges to be levied for Green Energy Open Access (GEOA) consumers shall be as per the regulations to be framed / framed by AERC in accordance with the Green Energy Open

Access Rules 2022 notified by the Ministry of Power, Govt of India. The charges shall be limited to transmission charges, wheeling charges, cross subsidy charges, standby charges, banking charges, SLDC fees and charges, losses and processing fees and any others as determined by the commission. Transmission and Distribution / Wheeling charges shall be payable as per clause 5.7. Any additional exemptions or special provisions shall be addressed in the relevant sections of the policy**.**

5.11 Energy Banking, Settlement & Balancing

5.11.1 Energy accounting and banking for all Clean Energy Projects, shall be as per the regulations to be framed / framed by AERC in accordance with the Green Energy Open Access Rules 2022 notified by the Ministry of Power, Govt of India. Banking charges for residential SRPTVS shall be applicable as per AERC (Grid Interactive Solar PV System) Regulation 2019 and its amendments from time to time. Any additional exemptions or special provisions shall be addressed in the relevant section of the policy.

5.11.2 Energy Settlements and balancing of all the intra-state Green Energy Open Access of Generators/ Consumers shall be done as per Regulation to be framed / framed by AERC in accordance with the Green Energy Open Access Rules 2022.

5.11.3 Energy banking shall be on a monthly billing cycle basis. Each calendar month shall be treated as one billing cycle and the banked energy should be used in the same billing cycle. The unutilized energy, banking charges, maximum applicable banking, processing fee for open access, all the applicable charges to be levied for green energy open access and other provisions shall be as per GEOA Regulations to be framed / framed by AERC. Any additional exemptions or special provisions shall be addressed in the relevant section of the policy.

5.12 Non-Agricultural Status

Deemed Non-Agricultural status will be accorded for the land utilized for the development of any Clean Energy Projects and RE Manufacturing Projects. However, an application has to be submitted to the Revenue Department for one time land conversion. Power (Electricity) Department, The Government of Assam shall provide reimbursement of 100% of charges spent by the developer in respect of the reclassification of land and payment of Stamp Duty for the land utilized for the development of any Clean Energy Projects and RE Manufacturing Projects.

5.13 Statutory Clearances

a. Compressed Biogas (CBG) projects shall be considered under "White Category" in line withCentral Pollution Control Board (CPCB) guidelines, issued by Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC) dated November 12, 2024.

b. In the case of PSP, Mini & Small Hydro projects, the Nodal Agency shall facilitate faster issuance of Environmental Clearances (EC) & Forest Clearances (FC).

5.14 Renewable Energy Certificate (REC)

All projects developed during the operative period of this policy will be eligible for REC benefits subject to AERC (Renewable Power Purchase Obligation and its Compliance) Regulations, 2010 and its amendments from time to time.

5.15 Single Window

APDCL will develop a portal for facilitating single window clearance for

		Clearance	all projects under this policy or the existing Single Window Agency portal of Govt. of Assam i.e. EoDB portal may be utilized for this purpose. The services of this single window clearance portal will be made available to all the projects under this policy for obtaining time bound statutory clearances.
	5.16	**Must run Status**	Injection from Clean Energy Projects covered under the policy scope shall be considered to be deemed scheduled.

PROJECT BASED PROVISIONS AND INCENTIVES

6. Solar Power	**6.1**	**Rooftop PV Solar Power Systems (SRTPVS)**	6.1.1 The Government of Assam shall promote grid connected SRTPVS on public buildings, domestic buildings, commercial and industrial establishments, and others through net metering / net billing / Virtual net metering / Group net metering arrangements as per the AERC (The Grid Interactive Solar PV) Regulation, 2019 and its amendments / Tariff Orders / Guidelines / Orders issued from time to time.
			6.1.2 SRTPVS Projects will be promoted in the Government and domestic sectors under "PM- Surya Garh: Muft Bijili Yojana" or any other Scheme of the Government of India and Government of Assam. It is targeted to empower residential households to generate their own electricity by installing grid connected SRTPVS projects under this Policy. It is also targeted to cover all the owned buildings of State Government Departments, institutions, and organizationseither on CAPEX modeor RESCO mode. Any SRTPVS in Government/Corporations/Institutions shall be implemented through APDCL only.
			6.1.3 Rooftop consumers will be provided with subsidies / incentives as per the guidelines of MNRE / State Government.
			6.1.4 Start-ups will be promoted for installation of Rooftop Solar Systems.
			6.1.5 The minimum and maximum size of Grid Connected RTS Plant at Single location shall be 1 kWp and 1000 kWp respectively for all categories of consumer except for Tea coffee Rubber category of consumers of APDCL.
			6.1.6 The DISCOM will allow Solar Rooftop capacity addition up to 80% of the capacity of the distribution transformer of the area.
			6.1.7 The maximum size of Grid Connected SRTPVS Plant at Single location under Net metering / Net billing arrangement/ Virtual net metering / Group net metering shall be governed by AERC (Grid Interactive Solar PV Systems) Regulations 2019 and subsequent amendments thereto.
			6.1.8 Solar Rooftop Systems can also be set up under Gross Metering Scheme as per the guidelines prescribed by the State Government / Government of India. APDCL shall procure entire power generated from the Grid Connected RTS Plant under gross metering through tariff based competitive bidding route. Year wise levelized tariff for the Grid Connected SRTPVS shall be notified by AERC. Solar Rooftop Systems up to 1 MW capacity will be allowed under this Scheme. The relevant regulations on Grid Connected Rooftop Solar Power Plant

under Gross Metering including the processes such as metering arrangement, energy accounting, settlement, detailed guidelines and model power purchase agreement etc. shall be notified by AERC after the gazette notification of this policy.

6.1.9 **Policy Incentive forTea coffee Rubber category of consumer of APDCL.**

a) The maximum capacity of Grid Connected Rooftop Solar Power Plant at Single location for Tea coffee Rubber consumer shall be limited to 1000 kW at AC side.

b) The Energy banking shall be permitted on a yearly basis for all the consumers of Tea coffee Rubber category (Tariff Category HT VI Tea, Coffee and Rubbe).

6.2 Decentralized Grid Connected Solar Power Projects

Decentralized Grid Connected Solar Power Projects provide an opportunity to meet power requirement close to the load centres. Such generation will help the utilities to reduce their T & D losses and optimize the cost of transmission and distribution system.

6.2.1 The State will promote the setting up of decentralized solar power projects with a minimum capacity of 0.5 MW and maximum capacity of 5 MW in the premises and vicinity of 33 kV Grid Sub-Stations for sale of power to DISCOM. The sub-stations for which decentralized solar power projects are to be established will be selected by DISCOM. The tariff for these projects will be determined on basis of tariff based competitive bidding process or as per the guidelines of State Government / Government of India.

6.2.2 The state aims to increase the participation of farmers in the solar energy sector to augment their sources of income by production and sale of solar energy to DISCOM, in the following manner:

a) Farmers, on their own or through a developer, can set up decentralized power projects on their un-cultivable agriculture land.

b) The State will promote solarization of existing grid connected agriculture pumps as per on Regulations of AERC / Guidelines of Central / State Govt.

6.2.3 State Government will issue schemes / programs for promotion of decentralized solar generation in the State.

6.3 Off-Grid Solar Applications

The State will also promote setting up of stand-alone solar systems to provide electricity to households in remote Villages /Hamlets / educational institutions / health institutions / public areas etc.

6.4 Utility Grid Power Projects

6.4.1 **Solar Power Projects in Assam for sale of power to APDCL**: -

The State will promote setting up of the solar power projects for sale of power to APDCL on the tariff discovered through competitive bidding process to fulfil RPO target fixed by the AERC or any requirements beyond RPO target subject to the approval of the AERC.

6.4.2 **Solar Power Projects sanctioned under guidelines/schemes of MNRE**:

The State will promote the setting up of Solar Power Projects under the Guidelines / Schemes of MNRE or Solar Power Projects allocated through competitive bidding by / for other State Utilities / Entities.

6.4.3 **Solar Power Projects for captive use**: -

The State will promote the setting up of solar power projects for captive use within the State or 3rd party sale within and outside the State as below:

a) Solar Power Projects set upwithin premises of a consumer of Assam& sale of surplus power to APDCL. The surplus energy may be sold to APDCL @ 75% of the APPC rate.

b) Solar Power Projects setup within the premises of the consumer of APDCL & sale of power to 3rd party within the State under Open Access.

c) Solar Power Projects setup within the premises of the Consumer & sale of power to 3rd party outside the State under Open Access.

d) **The Maximum permissible capacity of individual Solar plant forcaptive use within the State will be limited to "Contract demand" of the consumer**. The Generating plant capacity for 3rd Party sale can be any capacity, however the consumer of the State will be allowed to take power from such plant up to the contract demand only.

A power plant shall qualify as a "Captive Generating Plant", under Section 9 read with Section 2(8) of the Act and Rule (3) of the Electricity Rules, 2005, as amended from time to time.

6.4.4 **Grid connected Solar Power Projects for Third Party Sale**: -

The State will promote the setting up of solar power projects for third party sale within / outside the State as under:

a) Solar Power Projects within the premises of consumer of APDCL

b) Solar Power Projects set up for the sale of power within the State through open access

c) Solar Power Projects set up for sale of power outside the State through open access/power exchange

6.4.5 The Projects set up under clause 6.4.3 & 6.4.4 will also be eligible for RE (Solar) Certificate as per Orders/Regulations of the appropriate Commission issued in this regard.

6.5 Floating Solar Projects

6.5.1 Floating solar on existing reservoirs/dams of hydro stations or any other water bodies including reservoirs and lakes shall be promoted under this policy. The State will allocate the water body on long term lease/rental basis for development of floating solar projects for sale of power to DISCOMs / Procurers or licensed intermediaries like SECI or Urban Local Bodies by utilization of the lake/reservoir water bodies, canal tops and canal bunds.

6.5.2 These floating Solar Projects can be developed with or without an energy storage system. All components of the Floating Solar PV plant shall be in accordance with technical specifications given in relevant IS/IEC Standards. The design and commissioning shall be as per the latest IS/IEC/BIS standards and the project shall not cause any environmental concerns to the water bodies.

6.6 Solar Park

The Solar Park is a concentrated zone for development of Solar power projects. It provides a well demarcated area with proper civil and power system infrastructure to a power producer, where the risk in projects is minimized, and the fast approval process is facilitated. The Solar Power Park Developer creates supporting infrastructure and facilities including power evacuation, water arrangements, internal roads and administrative facilities.

6.6.1 Development of Solar Parks by State entities: -

APDCL shall be the Solar Power Park Developer (SPPD) for the development of solar parks. APDCL to develop necessary infrastructure required for solar parks such as power evacuation systems, administrative building, infrastructure including road, water, drains, ducts etc. APDCL may recover applicable charges from solar Project developers i.e. Lease charges, infrastructure/ development charges, utilities charges, O&M charges for infrastructure, O&M of plant etc.

6.6.2 Development of Solar Parks by Private Developers: -

Government shall encourage dedicated private solar parks. APDCL shall act as the State Nodal Agency for allotment of revenue/government land. The Park developer to develop necessary infrastructure required for solar parks such as power evacuation system, administrative building, infrastructure including road, water, drains, ducts etc. The Park developer may recover applicable charges from solar Project developers i.e. Lease charges, infrastructure/ development charges, utilities charges, O&M charges for infrastructure, O&M of plant etc.

6.6.3 Development of RE Parks through Joint Venture Companies (JVCs): -

The State will promote the development of Solar Parks in Joint Venture mode with private developers by investing up to 50% equity or any other percentage of equity participation as decided by the state government. The cost of land allotted by the state government would be part of its equity participation in the Joint Venture Company.

The Applicant will submit proposal to APDCL for formation of Joint Venture Company with the State Government. APDCL after examining the same will submit the proposal to Power (Electricity) Department, which after concurrence of Finance Department will be given final approval.

6.6.4 APDCL may procure power from projects set up in the solar parks through a tariff based competitive bidding mechanism to meet their energy/RPO requirements.

6.7 Incentives from State

6.7.1 Incentives & applicable charges for all solar power

Government projects: -

To enable solar power capacity addition in the State, the following incentives shall be provided for eligible Developers for those projects setup during the operative period of this policy. In addition to the below incentives, the applicable fee &PBG for all types of solar projects shall be applicable as per clause 5.6 and 17.9. In addition to the charges mentioned in, the applicable charges and incentives are as below:

a) **Transmission and Distribution/Wheeling Charges**: Applicable T&D charges shall be as mentioned in clause 5.7 of the policy.

b) **Energy Banking, Settlement & Balancing**: Banking shall be applicable as per the Green Energy Open Access Regulations to be framed / framed by AERC in accordance with the Green Energy Open Access Rules 2022, notified by the Ministry of Power, Govt of India.

c) **Reactive Power Charges**: The reactive power charges shall be payable in compliance with the Indian Electricity Grid Code (IEGC). Reactive power charges for SRTPVS connected to 33kV shall be INR 0.25/kVARh up to 10% of net active energy generated at that level & INR 0.50/kVARh thereafter.

d) **Net metering / Net billing / Virtual net metering / Group net metering**: Net metering / net billing / Virtual net metering / Group net metering arrangements for SRTPVS will be governed by the AERC (The Grid Interactive Solar PV) Regulation, 2019 and its amendments / Tariff Orders / Guidelines / Orders issued from time to time.

e) **State Subsidy for SRTPVS under PM Surya Ghar scheme**: To promote large scale installation of SRTPVS in residential sectors under PM Surya Ghar scheme, in addition to Central Financial Assistance from Govt. of India, State Government will provide subsidy of Rs. 15,000 /- for 1 kW, Rs. 30,000 /- for 2 kW and Rs. 45,000 /- for 3 kW. This additional subsidy will provide 1 (one) Lakh households initially.

6.7.2 **Incentives & applicable charges for solar manufacturing**: -

APDCL or any other Department / Agency as notified by Government of Assam shall act as a Nodal Agency to facilitate for setting up of solar manufacturing industry in the State under this Policy.

a) **Land**: The Govt. of Assam / Nodal Agency shall facilitate procurement/ Acquisition of land on actual cost basis for the manufacturing plant. There shall be a preferential allotment of captive resources for the projects allocated **under Production Linked Incentives (PLI) scheme**. Priority allotment of revenue/ government land on long-term lease basis at the rate decided by the Revenue & DM Department & Prevailing Industrial Policy of Government of Assam.

b) **Provision for land conversion**: Deemed Non-Agricultural

status will be accorded for the land utilized for the development of Solar Manufacturing Projects. However, an application has to be submitted to the Revenue Department for one time land conversion. Power (Electricity) Department, Government of Assam shall provide reimbursement of 100% of charges spent by the developer in respect of the reclassification of land and payment of Stamp Duty for the land utilized for the development Solar Manufacturing Projects.

c) **Open Access Charges and Energy Banking**:Exemption of Open Access Charges including Transmission charges, Distribution/ Wheeling charges and Cross Subsidy Surcharge for 10 years. Energy Banking shall be as per Green Energy Open Access Regulations to be framed / framed by AERC in accordance with the Green Energy Open Access Rules 2022, notified by the Ministry of Power, Govt of India.

d) **SGST Reimbursement**: Govt. of Assam shall provide reimbursement of 100% net SGST on sale of products for a period of 7 years.

e) **Production linked incentive**: Production linked incentive (PLI) shall be provided as per the applicable MNRE guidelines.

f) Subsidy on Power Costs & Electricity Duty

i) For all the Solar Manufacturing projects qualified under PLI/Non-PLI subsidy on electricity tariff of INR 1.0/unit (kWh) for 10 years from COD shall be provided for the manufacturing plant.

ii) The Electricity Duty as applicable shall be reimbursed for a period of 10 years. Thereafter, the electricity duty shall be payable as applicable from time to time.

g) **Preferential banking capacity allotment**: RE manufacturing units having presence from Mine - Module (Vertically Integrated Solar PV value chain) and allocated Production Linked Incentive (PLI) under "National Programme under High Efficiency Solar PV Module" scheme issued by GoI shall be given priority for banking of energy/banking capacity allotment for a period of 25 years from the COD of the Captive generating plant.

h) **Connectivity**: Power connectivity to the manufacturing facility shall be provided at the doorstep. The manufacturing unit shall be exempt from payment of applicable development and supervisory charges for power connectivity to the unit.

7. Wind Power

7.1 Wind Resource Assessment (WRA) Programme

For utilization of wind as an energy source, Wind Resource Assessment (WRA) studies had been carried out by MNRE at various locations in the State. The MNRE has also permitted independent private participation for WRA. WRA studies were done in limited locations. With a view to further assessing wind resources potential, APDCL will also allow / undertake Wind Energy Resource Assessment studies by private developers for exploring additional locations.

7.2 Registration for establishment of wind monitoring station for wind resource assessment studies

7.2.1 For carrying out wind resource assessment studies, Developer shall select the location for establishing the wind monitoring station and shall register the application with APDCL in prescribed online format along with the required documents.

7.2.2 Fee, if any, to the National Institute of Wind Energy (NIWE) will be payable as applicable.

7.2.3 Non requirement of No Objection Certificate (NOC) from Gram Panchayat for allotment of land for establishment of wind monitoring station.

7.3 General Guidelines for Wind Resource Assessment Studies

7.3.1 The Developer shall follow the guidelines for wind resource assessment studies issued by the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy.

7.3.2 The Developer will bear all costs including the costs of installation of a wind monitoring station along with accessories and will also include its O&M expenses.

7.3.3 The Developer shall submit NIWE report to APDCL on completion of wind resource assessment studies.

7.3.4 The Developer shall not be entitled to claim any cost/charges, expenses and incidental charges incurred in connection with the studies for submission of NIWE report to APDCL.

7.3.5 Purchase and acquisition of private land, if any, shall be sole responsibility of the Developer.

7.3.6 The Developer shall take the necessary permissions of the Forest department, wherever required under the Forest Conservation Act before installation of wind monitoring station. The wind monitoring station would be installed by the Developer after completing various formalities with the Forest department. Compliances of various orders passed by Hon'ble Courts would also be ensured by the Developer.

7.4 Wind Projects for Sale of Energy within Assam

Selection of projects (excluding open access projects) shall be through a competitive bidding process, as per the requirement of APDCL to fulfil the RPO target fixed by the AERC or any requirements beyond RPO target subject to the approval of the AERC. The Project developer shall be allowed to develop the MW scale wind power projects through open access route under this Policy for sale of energy within the State subject to evacuation feasibility.

7.5 Wind Projects for Sale of Energy outside Assam

Selection of projects under this category shall be conducted through a competitive bidding process as conducted by intermediaries such as SECI, NTPC and others. The Project developer can also develop the MW scale projects under open access route and for sale of energy outside the Assam as per this Policy and with guidelines issued by appropriate authorities from time to time.

7.6 Incentives from State Government

7.6.1 Incentives & applicable charges for wind power projects: -

To enable wind power installation in the State, the following incentives shall be provided for Eligible Developers for setting-up projects during the operative period of this policy. In addition to the below-mentioned incentives, the PBG for all types of

wind projects shall be applicable as per clause 5.6**.** In addition to the charges mentioned in clause **17.9**, the applicable charges and incentives are as below: -

a) **Transmission and Distribution / Wheeling Charges**: Applicable Transmission & Distribution / Wheeling charges shall be as per clause 5.7 of the policy document.

b) **Energy Banking, Settlement & Balancing**: Banking shall be applicable as per the Green Energy Open Access Regulations to be framed / frame by AERC in accordance with the Green Energy Open Access Rules 2022, notified by the Ministry of Power, Govt of India.

c) **Reactive Power Charges**: The reactive power charges shall be payable in compliance with the Indian Electricity Grid Code (IEGC). Reactive power charges shall be INR 0.25/kVARh up to 10% of net active energy generated &INR 0.50/kVARh thereafter.

7.6.2 Incentives& applicable charges for wind turbine manufacturing facilities:

APDCL or any other Department / Agency as notified by Government of Assam shall act as a Nodal Agency to facilitate for setting up of wind turbine manufacturing industry in the State under this Policy.

a) **Land**: Govt. of Assam / Nodal Agency shall facilitate procurement / Acquisition of land on actual cost basis (Manufacturing plant). Priority allotment of revenue/ government land on long-term lease basis at the rate decided by the Revenue & DM Department & Prevailing Industrial Policy of Government of Assam.

b) **Provision for land conversion**: Deemed Non-Agricultural status will be accorded for the land utilized for development of Wind Manufacturing Projects. However, an application has to be submitted to the Revenue Department for one time land conversion. Power (Electricity) Department, Government of Assam shall provide reimbursement of 100% of charges spent by the developer in respect of the reclassification of land and payment of Stamp Duty for the land utilized for the development of wind turbine manufacturing facilities.

c) **Open Access Charges and Energy Banking**:Exemption of Open Access Charges including Transmission charges, Distribution/ Wheeling charges and Cross Subsidy Surcharge for 10 years. Energy Banking shall be as per Green Energy Open Access Regulations to be framed / framed by AERC in accordance with the Green Energy Open Access Rules 2022, notified by the Ministry of Power, Govt of India.

d) **SGST Reimbursement**: The Government of Assam shall provide reimbursement of 100% net SGST on sale of products for a period of7 years.

e) **Production linked incentive**: Production linked incentives

shall be payable as per applicable MNRE guidelines, if any.

f) **Subsidy on Power Costs/ Electricity Duty**: Subsidy on electricity tariff of INR 1.0/kWh for 10 years from COD of the manufacturing plant. The Electricity Duty as applicable shall be reimbursed for a period of 10 years. Thereafter, the electricity duty shall be payable as applicable from time to time.

g) **Connectivity**:Power connectivity to the manufacturing facility shall be provided at the doorstep. The manufacturing unit shall be exempt from payment of applicable development and supervisory charges for power connectivity to the unit.

8. Wind-Solar Hybrid Power

Solar and wind power are variable and unpredictable in nature, posing certain challenges on grid security and stability. Studies reveal that solar and wind resources are complimentary to each other and hybridization of these two technologies would help in minimizing the variability apart from optimally utilizing the infrastructure including land and transmission system.

8.1 Wind-Solar Hybrid Power Projects

Hybrid projects can be Wind-Solar projects with or without energy storage system. The rated capacity of one resource (wind or solar) shall be as per the National Wind-Solar Hybrid Policy 2018, vide notification No.238/78/2017-Wind, dated 14 May 2018, issued by the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy and its amendments or as per the guidelines issued by MNRE for Hybrid Projects. Other provisions as per the National Wind-Solar Hybrid Policy 2018 shall be applicable. The wind-solar hybrid projects shall be encouraged for third party use, captive usage, and sale within the state through competitive bidding process.

8.2 Incentives from State Government

8.2.1 Incentives& applicable charges for wind-solar hybrid power projects: -

To enable wind-solar hybrid power installation in the State, the following incentives shall be provided for Eligible Developers for setting-up projects during the operative period of this policy. In addition to the below mentioned incentives, the PBG for all types of wind-solar hybrid projects shall be applicable as per clause 5.6. In addition to the charges mentioned in clause **17.9**, the applicable charges and incentives are as below:

a) Transmission and Distribution/Wheeling Charges: Applicable Transmission & Distribution / Wheeling charges shall be as per clause 5.7 of the policy document.

b) Energy Banking, Settlement & Balancing: Banking shall be applicable as per the Green Energy Open Access Regulations to be framed/framed by AERC in accordance with the Green Energy Open Access Rules 2022, notified by the Ministry of Power, Govt of India.

c) Reactive Power Charges: The reactive power charges shall be payable in compliance with the Indian Electricity Grid Code (IEGC). Reactive power charges shall be INR 0.25/ kVARh up to 10% of net active energy generated &INR 0.50/ kVARh thereafter.

9. Renewable Economic

a) The Government of Assam will encourage large scale development of renewable economic zones which could accommodate solar, biomass, Green Hydrogen, wind and wind-solar hybrid plants along

Zones (REZs)

with storage given the abundant resource availability of solar in certain parts of Assam. **APDCL or any other Department / Agency as notified by Govt. of Assamshall act as a Nodal Agency for development of REZ** under this Policy. Nodal agency to develop the plug and play infrastructure for REZ which would subsequently be recovered from Project developers located in the parks by levying development and O&M charges. REZ hosting the projects should be focused on the consumption within the state, followed by export to other states.

b) REZ Developer to develop necessary infrastructure required for REZ such as power evacuation system, administrative building, infrastructure including road, water, drains, ducts etc. REZ Developer may recover applicable charges from Project developers i.e. Lease charges, infrastructure/ development charges, utilities charges, O&M charges for infrastructure, O&M of plant etc.

c) The REZ shall follow the contours of the policy and shall pay all the applicable fees and charges as per clause 17.9 upon allocation along with the applicable GEOA charges as the Green Energy Open Access Regulations to be framed / framed by AERC.

10. Green Hydrogen and its derivatives / Low Carbon Molecules

10.1 Eligibility of Developers for Green Hydrogen Projects

Developers, as defined below shall be covered under the provisions of this Policy:

a) Category 1: Develops Co-located Renewable Energy and Green hydrogen generation plant
b) Category 2: Develops Green Hydrogen Generation Plant and remotely located RE Plant.
c) Category 3: Develops Green Hydrogen Park/Hub/Cluster/Valley

10.2 Green Hydrogen Projects using renewable energy

10.2.1 Green Hydrogen and its derivatives/ Low Carbon Molecules can be generated through a Hydrogen Generation Plant by using Renewable Energy from a co-located Renewable Energy plant or from a remotely located Renewable Energy Plant.

10.2.2 The remotely located Renewable Energy plant can be set up by the Green Hydrogen and its derivatives/ Low Carbon Molecules generator themselves within the State or outside the State or can procure Renewable Energy from Third Party within the State or outside the State.

10.2.3 Green Hydrogen and its derivatives/ Low Carbon Molecules Generators will be allowed to obtain renewable energy through Open Access from existing/new RE Projects as per relevant AERC and CERC Regulations.

10.2.4 The State shall also promote Green Hydrogen Generation for power generation purposes. The power generation plant can supply assured power to the grid using green hydrogen as per the requirement of the grid.

The State will encourage the production of Green Hydrogen and its derivatives/ Low Carbon Molecules through the utilization of renewable energy **and/or biomass**. This can be achieved through any of the following methods as has been outlined in "National Green Hydrogen Policy" by Ministry of Power on Feb 2023 and by a blend of the following options, as long as the power source is certified by SLDC:

a) **Renewable Energy power from DISCOM at applicable Green Tariff**: Renewable energy-based power can be procured from APDCL, with the applicable Green Tariff charges as determined by AERC time to time and as per applicable regulations.

b) **Provision for Open Access**: The developer of Green Hydrogen and its derivatives/ Low Carbon Molecules plants and associated units, on receipt of application complete in all respects, shall be granted open access for drawing round the clock renewable power as per relevant AERC and CERC open access regulations.

c) **Captive Generation of RE-based electricity**: Renewable energy plants can be setup in conjunction with the Green Hydrogen and its derivatives/ Low Carbon Molecule plants and associated units, either as co-located or remote units and can be setup by the developer or third party.

d) **Procuring RE power from Power Exchanges**: Renewable energy produced from energy exchanges can be utilized for production of Green Hydrogen and its derivatives/ Low Carbon Molecules plants and associated units.

10.3 Development of Green Hydrogen Generation Park

The Green Hydrogen Generation Park is a concentrated zone/hub for development of Green Hydrogen Generation Plant with/without co-located renewable energy generation plant which provides developers, a well demarcated area with proper civil and power system infrastructure where the risk of projects is minimized, and a fast approval process is facilitated. The Green Hydrogen Park Developer creates supporting infrastructure and facilities including power evacuation, water arrangements, internal roads and administrative facilities.

i) **The State shall promote the development of Green Hydrogen Generation Parks by Developers**. The Park Developer will submit an application in the prescribed online format to Nodal Agency for the development of Green Hydrogen Generation Park. Registration of the park will be carried out by Nodal Agency within a period of 60 days from the submission of application, complete in all respects.

ii) The Park Developer(s) shall be obliged to create common infrastructure facilities for development of Green Hydrogen Generation Plants(s) viz creation of power evacuation system, development of roads, road lights, water supply systems etc.

iii) Allotment of Government land to Park Developer(s) for development of Green Hydrogen Generation Park will be considered on the recommendation of Nodal Agency.

iv) The Park Developer(s) shall be responsible for registration of Green Hydrogen Plants within their park with APDCL as per the provisions of this Policy.

v) The State will also develop a Green Hydrogen Valley/Cluster at a suitable location in State for facilitating all infrastructures for Generation of Green Hydrogen and its derivatives/ Low Carbon Molecules without any upper cap of individual developer.

10.4 Power Purchase Agreement (PPA), (WBA)

10.4.1 Power Purchase Agreement

a) The developer as defined in Clause 10.1 of this Policy will execute a Power Purchase Agreement with RE Developer/ Power Producer in case of purchase of RE power at mutually agreed terms and conditions.

b) The Green Hydrogen Generator may procure RE power from APDCL with the applicable Green Tariff charges as determined by AERC from time to time and as per applicable regulations.

c) The Green Hydrogen Generator may execute PPA with Discoms for sale of firm power to Discoms, in case hydrogen is being used to generate power and to supply infirm power, as per the requirement of Discoms. The Discoms will select the Green Hydrogen Generator

through a transparent mechanism including the competitive bidding process.

10.4.2 **Wheeling and Banking Agreement**:

Green Hydrogen Developer/Power Producer shall execute a Wheeling and Banking Agreement (WBA) with DISCOM(s). In case, the transmission system of AEGCL is also used then power producer will execute a separate Transmission Agreement with AEGCL

10.5 Research

The State shall promote and facilitate Research and Development (R&D) of technologies related to the generation of hydrogen, fuel cell technologies, and storage technologies. To facilitate industries with a robust ecosystem for Green Hydrogen manufacturing and to provide a cost-effective manufacturing environment, Research and Development (R&D) Centers with testing, skilling and incubation facilities shall be promoted,

10.6 Incentives/ facilities available to Green Hydrogen and its derivatives/ Low Carbon Molecules plants &associated units

10.6.1 **Exemption from Electricity Duty**:

100% exemption of Electricity Duty for the power consumed for production of Green Hydrogen and its derivatives/ Low Carbon Molecules from RE plants (with or without storage) during the entirelife of the project or up to 20 years whichever is lower from the date of Commissioning (CoD) of the project.

10.6.2 **Waiver of Intra-state transmission and wheeling charges**:

100% Interstate Transmission charges & wheeling charges shall be waived for the energy consumed by the developer of Green Hydrogen and its derivatives/ Low Carbon Molecules plants and associated units during the entire life of the projector up to 20 years whichever is lower.

10.6.3 **Wavier of additional surcharge and cross-subsidy charges**:

The additional surcharge and cross subsidy charges for captive power plant use for Green Hydrogen and its derivatives/ Low Carbon Molecules plants and associated units shall be applicable as per clause 5.8 of the policy documents.

10.6.4 **Wavier of additional surcharge and cross-subsidy charges for Open Access**.

The Clean Energy Projects set up for production ofgreenhydrogen and derivatives / low carbon molecules and associated units under open access within or outside the State shall be exempted on cross subsidy surcharge & additional surcharge during the entire life of the project or up to 20 years whichever is lower.

10.6.5 **Banking**:

The Green Hydrogen and its derivatives/ Low Carbon Molecules plants and associated unitscan bank the unconsumed renewable power up to 30 days, with State Distribution Company in accordance with applicable AERC regulations and other guidelines. The monthly banking charging at the time of approval of the project shall be fixed during the entire life of the project. In addition, 50% waiver on monthly banking charges for green hydrogen and derivatives / low carbon molecules and associated units shall be provided

for a period of 25 years.

10.6.6 **Grid Connectivity**:

Grid connectivity to Intra-state transmission system at the generation end and production end for RE plants established for production of Green Hydrogen and its derivatives/ Low Carbon Molecules shall be granted priority. AEGCL/APDCL will dispose of the proposals for the technical feasibility for evacuation within 30 days from the date of receipt of application. Any upstream system strengthening requirement shall be developed AEGCL/APDCL at the cost of the developer on priority basis.

10.6.7 **Renewable Purchase Obligation (RPO)**:

As per Green Hydrogen Policy notified by Ministry of Power, Govt. of India on 17th February 2022, Renewable Energy consumed for the production of Green Hydrogen/ Green Ammonia shall count towards RPO compliance of the consuming entity. Renewable energy consumed beyond the obligation of the producer shall count towards RPO (i.e., Hydro Purchase Obligation or Energy Storage Obligation) compliance of the APDCL.

10.6.8 Land allotment:

a) The Nodal Agency shall facilitateforthe allocation of Government land for development of both RE plants and Green Hydrogen and its derivatives/ Low Carbon Molecules plants and associated units on priority basis as per **clause no. 5.3** of this policy document.

b) Green Hydrogen and its derivatives/ Low Carbon Molecules producers shall be allowed to set up bunkers near Ports for storage of Green Hydrogen and its derivatives/ Low Carbon Molecules. The land for storage purposes shall be provided by respective port authorities at applicable charges.

10.6.9 **Land related Incentives and Waivers**:

a) Power (Electricity) Department, Government of Assam shall provide reimbursement of 100% of charges spent by the developer in respect of the reclassification of land and payment of Stamp Duty / any applicable transfer charges for the land used for Green Hydrogen & Derivatives/Low Carbon Molecules plants and their associated units during policy operative period.

b) Land for Green Hydrogen & Derivatives/Low Carbon Molecules plants and their associated units to be provided at a rate decided by the Revenue & DM Department & Prevailing Industrial Policy of Government of Assam.

10.6.10 **Capital Subsidy for Electrolyzer-based Green Molecules Projects**:

The Capital subsidy of 30% only on plant and equipment costs of Electrolyzer stack shall be paid to the Developer from the Government of Assam during policy operative period post commissioning of the plant. The subsidy shall be eligible only for plants with a minimum capacity of 2 kTPA of Green

Molecules Plant.

10.6.11 **Capital Subsidy for 2G Lignocellulosic biomass feedstock like Bamboo, Napier Grass based Green Hydrogen and it's derivatives/Low Carbon Molecules plantsand CBG Plants:**

The Capital subsidy of 25% on plant and equipment costs shall be paid to the Developer from the Government of Assam during policy operative period post commissioning of the plant. The subsidy shall be eligible only for plants with a minimum capacity of 10 TPD. The subsidy shall be provided for 200 plants.

10.6.12 **SGST Reimbursement**: The Government of Assam shall provide reimbursement of SGST on the Capital Investment to the Developer as under.

	Mega	Super Mega	Ultra Mega
Capital Investment	INR 200-500 Cr	INR 500-3,000 Cr	INR > 3,000 Cr
Annual Ceiling as % of Capex	25%	21%	19%
Overall Ceiling as a % of Capex limit up to the Period of Reimbursement	300%	300%	300%
Period of Reimbursement	20	20	20

10.6.13 **Pollution clearance**:

The Pollutionclearances for Green Hydrogen and its derivatives/ Low Carbon Molecules production plants and associated units will be facilitated through establishment of a single window clearance mechanism by concerned Department.

10.6.14 Availability of Water:

a) The Water Resource Department will allocate the required quantity of water @50% of prevailing water charges used for Industries from the nearest available source for the water requirement for Green Hydrogen and its derivatives/ Low Carbon Molecules plants and associated units subject to the availability of water.

b) The Developer will intimate estimated water requirements to Nodal Agency along with the proposed source of water. After assessment / scrutiny, the case of water requirement shall be forwarded to the concerned department. The modifications required, if any, in the existing water resource system will be done by the Concerned Department at the cost of the Developer

10.6.15 Other Incentives:

a) Any other incentives as provided by the Central Government for the production ofGreen Hydrogen and its derivatives/ Low Carbon Molecules shall be extended by the Nodal Agency to the Developer without any financial commitment by the State Government.

b) The facilities / Incentives as provided by the State Government under various State Government Policies shall be available to the Developer without duplicity of benefits same component.

c) The State Government will provide budgetary support to promote green transportation in Assam, particularly in public transport, the use of green hydrogen in fuel-cell electric vehicles under the Assam State Transport Corporation (ASTC).

d) Motor vehicles using green hydrogen as an alternate fuel will be exempted from payment of motor vehicle taxes for a period of 5 years.

e) Waiver of Development Cess, Green Energy Development Charges and contribution to any development fund, if applicable.

f) **Biomass Collection/Subsidy for setting up Green Hydrogen and its derivatives/ Low Carbon Molecules plants and associated units**: Capital subsidy of 20% for Co-operative agencies for biomass processing equipment shall be paid to the Developer over a period of five (5) years through Biomass Infrastructure Fund (BIF)and other applicable routes.

g) The State shall facilitate logistics for the upstream and downstream supply chain for Green Hydrogen and its derivatives/ Low Carbon Molecules plants and associated unit's projects including expansion of jetty's and vessel movement infrastructure in the inland waterways (if necessary) & associated policy support through appropriate subsidies for usage of jetty's, expanding road/rail infrastructure for efficient transport of feedstock/products etc.

10.7 Incentives for Electrolyzer Manufacturing facilities

The following incentives shall be provided for the Electrolyzer Manufacturing units for the production of Green Hydrogen and it's derivatives/Low Carbon Molecules set up during the policy operative period:

10.7.1 **Capital Subsidy for Electrolyzer Manufacturing facilities**: Capital subsidy of 25% on CAPEX for manufacturing of electrolyzer shall be paid from Government of Assam during policy operative period post commissioning of the plant. The minimum size of the plant shall be 250 MW of Electrolyzer production per annum and the subsidy shall be applicable only for first 10 plants or up to 3,000 MW capacity whichever is achieved first.

10.7.2 **Industrial water**: Industrial water shall be provided at the doorstep of the manufacturing facility and 25% exemption of the applicable industrial water charges for 5 years. Thereafter, the water charges shall be payable as per the applicable rates from time to time. Any other charges on power & other infrastructure shall be paid as applicable from time to time.

10.7.3 **Provision for land conversion**: Deemed Non-Agricultural status will be accorded for the land utilized for development of Electrolyzer Manufacturing projects. However, an application

has to be submitted to the Revenue Department for one time land conversion. The Power (Electricity) Department, Government of Assam shall provide reimbursement of 100% of charges spent by the developer in respect of the reclassification of land and payment of Stamp Duty for the land utilized for the development of Electrolyzer Manufacturing facilities.

10.7.4 **SGST Reimbursement**: Govt. of Assam shall provide reimbursement of 100% of net SGST paid, overall limited to 200% of the cost of Proton exchange membrane (PEM), provided that the SGST reimbursement shall be applicable only to the net tax paid towards the state component of GST, after the adjustment of an input tax credit against the output tax liability for a period of 7 years.

10.7.5 **Electricity Duty**: 100% reimbursement of Electricity Duty for a period of five (5) years from COD for manufacturing of Electrolyzer and thereafter shall be paid as applicable from time to time.

10.7.6 **Power subsidy**: Reimbursement of Power Tariff at INR 1/kWh for a period of five (5) years and thereafter shall be paid as applicable from time to time.

10.8 Incentives for Hydrogen Refueling Stations

10.8.1 **Capital Subsidy**:

Capital subsidy of 25% on Fixed Capital Investment (FCI) for hydrogen refueling plants for the first 10 units that shall be paid to the Developer over a period of five (5) years from commissioning of the plant and approval from Nodal Agency.

10.8.2 **SGST Reimbursement**:

The Government of Assam shall provide reimbursement of 100% net SGST for purchase of machinery for refueling stations for a period of 7 yearsfrom commissioning of the plant post approval from Nodal Agency.

11 Biofuels

India is one of the fastest growing economies in the world and achieving energy security remains critical for India's growth. India is currently world's third biggest oil consuming and importing nation and its energy security remain vulnerable until alternate fuels to substitute/supplement crude oil-based fuels are developed indigenously.

In order to cut India's dependence on the imports of fossil fuels and encourage production of sustainable and alternate fuels, Government of India (GoI) has notified **National Policy on Biofuels 2018** - **Ethanol Blended Petrol Programme**, **National Biodiesel Mission**, **Biodiesel Blending Programme** - to promote Biofuels in the Country and setup a target of 20% blending of ethanol in petrol by Ethanol Supply Year (ESY) 2025-26 and 5% blending of biodiesel in diesel/direct sale of biodiesel by 2030.

In addition, the Government of India has launched the SATAT (Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation) scheme to promote the production of **Bio-CNG/Compressed Biogas (CBG)**, targeting 15 MMT of Bio-CNG/CBG by 2023 from 5,000 plants across the country. "Biofuels should explicitly encompass the production of Compressed Biogas (CBG) utilizing a diverse range of feedstocks, including energy plantations, agriculture residues, industrial organic waste, and other organic streams." The government has also introduced the "**Waste to Energy**" program to support the development of projects that generate Biogas, Bio-CNG, Power, or producer/syngas from urban, industrial, and agricultural wastes or residues.

With initiatives like "**Clean Assam (CL-ASSAM)**" for waste management through public participation, provides significant scope and impetus for establishment of Biofuel plants (bioethanol, biodiesel, bio-

CNG/Compressed Biogas (CBG), etc.) in the State. Additionally, as one of the top crude oil producing states, Assam has immense potential for Biofuel production to meet blending targets with petrol or diesel.

In order to realize India's vision of increasing the use of biofuels in the energy and transportation sectors, the Government of Assam hereby notifies this policy to promote production and attract potential investors in industries manufacturing Biofuels such as ethanol, bio-CNG/Compressed Biogas (CBG), etc. in the State.

11.1 Incentives from the State Government (Incentives for producers of Biofuels)

The following incentives shall be provided for the Biofuels projects set up during the policy operative period: -

a) **Capital Subsidy for 1G Ethanol**:

i) The Capital subsidy for 1G ethanol plant shall be paid to the Developer from the Government of Assam as per Assam Ethanol Production Promotion, 2021 (as amended in 2022) and Investment Policy 2019 (as amended in 2023) during policy operative period without duplicity of benefits.

ii) The Capital subsidy of 20% on Farm Machinery for collection / supply feedstock including energy plantation to Biofuel plants, shall be paid to the developer during policy operative period.

b) **SGST Reimbursement for 1G and CBG Plants**: The Government of Assam shall provide reimbursement of 100% net SGST revenue to the Developer for sale of 1G and CBG in the State for a period of7 years from COD.

c) **Electricity Duty for 1G Ethanol and CBG Plants**: 100% reimbursement of Electricity Duty for power consumed for production of Biofuels for a period of ten (10) years from COD.

d) **Electricity Duty for 2G Ethanol**: The Electricity Duty shall be applicable as per clause no. 10.6.1 of the Policy documents.

e) **Power Subsidy**: Reimbursement of Power Tariff at INR 1/kWh for a period of ten (10) years and thereafter shall be paid as applicable from time to time for 1G & 2G Ethanol and CBG Plants.

f) **Land**: The State Government shall allot land for the Biofuel Projects (1G Ethanol & CBG Plants) including Energy Plantation to the developer at a rate decided the Revenue & DM Department & Prevailing Industrial Policy of Government of Assam.

g) **Provision for land conversion**: Deemed Non-Agricultural status will be accorded for the land utilized for development of biofuels projects. However, an application has to be submitted to the Revenue Department for one time land conversion. Power (Electricity) Department, Government of Assam shall provide reimbursement of 100% of charges spent by the developer in respect of the reclassification of land and payment of Stamp Duty for the development of biofuels projects.

h) **Single Window Clearance**: Nodal Agency will develop a portal for facilitating single window clearance for all projects under this policy. The services of this single window clearance portal will be made available to all the projects under this policy for obtaining time bound statutory clearances for establishing Biofuel plants.

i) **Feedstock Collection Centres**: This policy provides support to local bodies/farmers/concerned stakeholders for setting up of feedstock collection centres with feedstock storage facilities. The manufacturers shall be encouraged to procure the feedstock/raw materials from such feedstock collection centres.

j) **Other Incentives**: Any other incentives as provided by the Central Government for production of Biofuels shall be extended to the Developer without any financial commitment by the State Government.

The Ethanol manufacturing units can avail incentives under "Assam Ethanol Production Promotion, 2021 (as amended in 2022)" and Industrial and Investment Policy 2019 (as amended in 2023) and Assam Integrated Clean Energy Policy- 2025 without duplicity of benefits.

11.2 Waste to Energy projects& Waste Heat Recovery System (WHRS)

11.2.1 The State will promote the setting up of the Waste to Energy plantfor generation of power by utilizing MSW (Municipal Solid Waste, RDF (Refuse Drive Fuel), Industrial and Medical Waste& Waster Heat Recovery System (WHRS).

11.2.2 The urban /rural Local Bodies may allocate project through competitive biddings or through PPP mode. The winning bidder shall develop the project.

11.2.3 Power Producers may use such power for captive consumption or for sale to third party/licensees including Discoms.

11.2.4 The sale of electricity by Developer/Power Producer to Discom will be governed by the Power Purchase Agreement executed between the concerning Discom and the Power Producer. The price for sale of power generated from the Waste to Energy based project to the Discom and other charges/conditions shall be as specified by the AERC from time to time.

11.2.5 In the case of third-party sale or for captive use within the State, the Developer/Power Producer shall execute a Wheeling Agreement with Discom. However, the Transmission Agreement with AEGCL will be executed separately if the Developer/Power Producer intends to use the system of AEGCL for wheeling power.

11.2.6 The price of power to be sold by the Developer/Power Producer to consumers other than Discoms will be determined by the mutual understanding/agreement between the seller and the purchaser.

11.2.7 The Provisions of this Policy shall be guiding principle for Assam Electricity Regulatory Commission

11.3 Incentives from the State Government (Incentives for Waste to Energy projects& Waste Heat Recovery System)

To enable Waste to Energy Projects & Waste Heat Recovery System installation in the State, the following incentives shall be provided for Eligible Developers for setting-up projects during the operative period of this policy. In addition to the above-mentioned incentives, the applicable PBG for all types of Waste to Energy & WHRS shall be applicable as per clause 5.6. In addition to the charges mentioned in clause **17.9**, the applicable charges and incentives are as below:

a) **Transmission and Distribution / Wheeling Charges**: The Transmission & Distribution / Wheeling charges shall be applicable as per clause 5.7 of the policy document.

b) **Energy Banking, Settlement & Balancing**: Banking shall be applicable as per the Green Energy Open Access Regulations to be framed / framed by AERC in accordance with the Green Energy Open Access Rules 2022, notified by the Ministry of Power, Govt of India.

c) **Reactive Power Charges**: The reactive power charges shall be payable in compliance with the Indian Electricity Grid Code (IEGC). Reactive power charges shall be INR 0.25/ kVARh up to 10% of net active energy generated &INR 0.50/ kVARh thereafter.

d) **Land Allotment**: Developer will select eligible sites in proximity to the landfill sites or any other suitable land, in consultation with the Directorate of Local Bodies, Assam, Municipal Corporation, Municipalities etc. as case may be. The Land may be allotted as per the Revenue & DM Department & Prevailing Industrial Policy of Government of Assam.

e) **Grid Connectivity & Power Evacuation**: Grid connectivity & power evacuation shall be provided as per clause 5.5 of the policy.

f) No fee will be charged by the Pollution Control Board for issuing Consent to Establish (CTE) and Consent to Operate (CTO) for Waste to Energy Projects anywhere in the State. However, these projects will be set up as per the prevalent pollution control norms of the Government.

g) **Cross Subsidy Surcharge (CSS):**The additional surcharge and cross subsidy charges shall be applicable as mentioned in clause 5.8 of the policy.

h) **Other Incentives**: Any other incentivesasprovided by the Central Government shall be extended to the Developer without any financial commitment by the State Government.

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11.4 Biomass Based Power Plant

11.4.1 The State will promote the setting up of Biomass projects including Cogeneration. Power Producer may use such power for captive consumption or for sale to third party/ licensees including Discoms.

11.4.2 Discom may purchase power from Biomass projects to fulfill their Renewable Purchase Obligation (and beyond RPO as per their requirement and commercial viability. Discom shall execute Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with Developers/Power Producer.

11.4.3 The sale of electricity by Developer/Power Producer to Discoms will be governed by the Power Purchase Agreement executed between the Discom and the Power Producer. The price for sale of power generated from the Biomass Power Project to the Discom and other charges/conditions shall be as specified by the AERC from time to time.

11.4.4 In the case of third-party sale or for captive use within the State,

the Developer/Power Producer shall execute a Wheeling Agreement with Discom. However, the Transmission Agreement with AEGCL will be executed separately if the Developer/Power Producer intends to use the system of AEGCL for wheeling power.

11.4.5 The price of power to be sold by the Developer/Power Producer to consumers other than Discoms will be determined by the mutual understanding/agreement between the seller and the purchaser.

11.4.6 The Provisions of this Policy shall be guiding principle for Assam Electricity Regulatory Commission.

11.4.7 To promote the development of Energy Plantation on Government /Private land

a) **Govt Land**: The state government may allow the development of energy plantations on waste land, barren land, saline land, fallow land, ravine land and degraded forest land that are suitable for energy plantation through concerned department or its authorized subordinate Institute/Committee such as Gram Panchayat. Any other land such as pasture land may also be made available with the consent of the department concerned provided it will generate fodder for cattle.

b) **Private Land**: Power producers allowed to execute lease from private Khatedari land for the development of Energy Plantation

11.4.8 **Sale / Auction mechanism for weeds (such as Prosopis Juliflora, Lantana, Parthenium Energy Plant s grown on Govt. Land**: Unutilized, uncultivated Govt. land are prone for weeds. All departments concerned are advised to device a transparent sale auction mechanism on periodic basis.

11.4.9 The Policy to incentivize local bodies and farmers to establish Biomass feedstock collection centers with storage facilities.

11.5 Incentives from the State Government (Incentives for Biomass based power plant)

To enable Biomass based Projects installation in the State, the following incentives shall be provided for Eligible Developers for setting-up projects during the operative period of this policy. In addition to the below mentioned incentives, the applicable PBG for all types of biomass power plant shall be applicable as per clause 5.6. In addition to the charges mentioned in clause 17.9, the applicable charges and incentives are as below:

a) **Transmission and Distribution / Wheeling Charges**: The Transmission & Distribution / Wheeling charges shall be applicable as per clause 5.7 of the policy document.

b) **Energy Banking, Settlement & Balancing**: Banking shall be applicable as per the Green Energy Open Access Regulations to be framed/ framed by AERC in accordance with the Green Energy Open Access Rules 2022, notified by the Ministry of Power, Govt of India.

c) **Reactive Power Charges**: The reactive power charges shall be payable in compliance with the Indian Electricity Grid Code

(IEGC). Reactive power charges shall be INR 0.25/ kVARh up to 10% of net active energy generated &INR 0.50/ kVARh thereafter.

d) **Land Allotment**: The Government land shall be allotted to the Developer / Power Producer for setting up of Biomass based power plant. The Land may be allotted as per the rules of the Revenue & DM Department & Prevailing Industrial Policy of Government of Assam.

e) **Grid Connectivity & Power Evacuation**: Grid connectivity & power evacuation shall be provided as per clause 5.5 of the policy.

f) **Cross Subsidy Surcharge (CSS):** Cross Subsidy Surcharge shall be applicable as per clause no. 5.8 of the policy documents.

g) **Other Incentives**: Any other incentives provided by the Central Government shall be extended to the Developer without any financial commitment by the State Government.

12. Energy Storage

CEA in its Report titled "Optimal Generation Capacity Mix for 2029-30" projected the solar and wind generation capacities would be 140 GW and 280 GW respectively by 2029-30 and requirement of 10 GW PSP and 27 GW of BESS capacities. Identifying the importance of Energy Storage Systems, the Ministry of Power (MoP) has undertaken various initiatives to promote these technologies as highlighted below: -

a) Introduction of Energy Storage Obligations (ESO) for the DISCOMs to procure 4% of total RPO requirement through Energy Storage systems by FY 2030.

b) MOP vide notification dated. 29th January 2022"Clarification regarding usage of ESS in various applications across the entire value chain of power sector" highlighting that ESS can be utilized either on stand-alone basis or in complementary with power generation transmission, and distribution. ESS shall be accorded with status based on its application area i.e., generation, transmission, and distribution. Additionally, ESS Developers have the flexibility to Sell, lease, or rent storage space to any utility engaged in generation or transmission or distribution or to a load dispatch Centre. The owner of ESS may use part or all of the storage space to buy, store, and sell electricity at a later time.

c) MOP vide dated 9th June 2023, issued Guidelines for Tariff based Competitive bidding process for Procurement of Firm and Dispatchable Power from Grid connected Renewable Power Projects with Energy Storage Systems.

d) In August 2023, MOP has issued the National Framework for Promoting Energy Storage Systems.

e) The Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Ancillary Services) Regulations, 2022 enable ESS to provide Secondary Reserve Ancillary Service (SRAS) and Tertiary Reserve Ancillary Service (TRAS), under certain conditions. This development will generate a new source of income for Energy Storage System (ESS) service providers, incentivizing investments in the energy storage sector and driving growth.

12.1 Pumped Storage Power (PSP) Projects

In April 2023, the Ministry of Power introduced guidelines for pumped storage hydropower projects, acknowledging their crucial role in grid stability and meeting peak power demands. The guidelines offer recommendations for the PSP market, policies, and safe development practices. Key aspects include:

- Budgetary support for construction of roads and bridges by Hydro Power Project developers, including PSPs up to Rs 1.5 crore/MW for projects up to 200 MW and up to Rs 1 crore/MW for projects above 200 MW.

- Monetization of ancillary PSP services to meet critical electricity market requirements.
- Directions on offering tax incentives and land acquisition fee exemptions for off-river projects.
- Eliminating upfront premiums for project allocation.
- Identifying and safe development of abandoned mines as potential PSP sites.

To ensure timely clearances for Pumped Storage Projects, the Central Electricity Authority has issued Guidelines for Formulation of Detailed Project Reports for Pumped Storage Schemes in June 2023. In addition, since no tariff/financial evaluation is required to be done by CEA for PSP projects allotted through Tariff Based Competitive Bidding or as part of integrated Clean Energy Project or as Captive generating plant, CEA has reduced the timeline for concurrence of such projects to 50 days. For other PSPs, the timeline for concurrence has been reduced to 90 days.

On August 22, 2024, MOP has introduced draft guidelines for competitive bidding to procure storage capacity and stored energy from Pumped Storage Plants, aiming to establish a transparent, equitable, and standardized framework that distributes risk fairly among stakeholders.

Taking into consideration the RE capacity addition targets, HPO targets and the PSP potential within the State, the State Government to encourage, develop and promote PSP projects by Developers notified "Assam Renewable Energy Policy 2022".

As part of the Integrated Clean Energy Policy 2025, the Government of Assam is introducing a revised policy framework to drive the development of Pumped Storage Power (PSP) projects in the State of Assam.

12.1.1 Incentives from State Government

a) **Resource Allocation**: Resource allocation process shall be done as per clause 5.4 of the policy.

b) **Land allotment/ facilitation**: Concessional land allotment /facilitation shall be done as per clause 5.3 of the policy.

c) **Budgetary Support**: Ministry of Power guidelines dated 10.04.2023 extends its Budgetary Support in the form of reimbursement towards Cost of Enabling infrastructure such as all Roads and Bridges required to connect major components like Dam, Powerhouse, pressure shaft, etc. to the nearest State/National Highway. The Nodal Agency shall facilitate the Developer for getting "in principle" approval for the grant from Ministry of Power.

The pump Storage Plant is categorized as below:

	Mega	Super Mega	Ultra Mega
Capital Investment	Rs. 200-500 Cr.	Rs. 500 – 3000 Cr.	Rs. > 3000 Cr.

Pumped Storage Plant categorized as Mega or above as per the table above shall be extended the following incentives:

(i) **Based Capital Subsidy as follows**:

	Mega	**Super Mega**	**Ultra Mega**
Capital Investment	Rs. 200-500 Cr.	Rs. 500 – 3000 Cr.	Rs. > 3000 Cr.
Capital Subsidy	22%	25%	30%
Incentive Disbursal	Over 12 equal annual instalments	Over 15 equal annual instalments	Over 20 equal annual instalments
Annual Ceiling	Rs. 15 Cr.	Rs. 75 Cr.	Rs. 210 Cr.

(ii) **SGST Reimbursement on Capital Investment**: The Government of Assam shall provide reimbursement of SGST on the Capital Investment to the Developer as under:

	Mega	**Super Mega**	**Ultra Mega**
Capital Investment	Rs. 200-500 Cr.	Rs. 500 – 3000 Cr.	Rs. > 3000 Cr.
Annual Ceiling as % of CAPEX	25%	21%	19%
Overall Ceiling as a percentage of CAPEX limit up to the Period of Reimbursement	300%	300%	300%
Period of Reimbursement	20	20	20

d) **Grid Connectivity & Power Evacuation**: Grid connectivity & power evacuation shall be provided as per clause 5.5 of the policy.

e) **Waiver of Stamp Duty & registration fee**: In line with MOP guidelines dated 10.04,2023 to promote development of Pump Storage Projects, Stamp duty and registration fees shall be exempted for land to be acquired by off-the-river PSP projects. Any applicable charges in respect of transfer of land shall also be exempted.

f) **Water allocation & Charges**: In line with MOP guidelines dated 10.04,2023 to promote development of Pump Storage Power Projects, no water cess shall be levied. The Government of Assam shall facilitate water allocation on priority as per the Industrial Water Supply Policy / guidelines issued by the Water Resources Department. Water for one time filling and annual recoupment shall be charged as per applicable rates, as amended from time to time.

g) **Electricity Duty**: Electricity Duty is exempted for the period of 25 years.

h) **Cross Subsidy Surcharge (CSS):** Cross Subsidy Surcharge and additional surcharges shall bewaived for a period of 20 years.

i) **Free Royalty Power**: No imposition of the requirement of free power to home state (Assam).

j) **Market reforms**: AERC may devise appropriate rules in line with MOP"s Guidelines to promote development of Pump Storage

Power Projects dated 10.04.2023, to create market for ancillary services, thereby provide appropriate market signal for PSP generators. In the event of capacity contracted not being fully utilized by the contracting agency, the Developer would be free to transfer the usage of the capacity to other interested entities so that resources do not remain idle. The gains made shall be shared with the original beneficiary in the ratio of 50:50.

k) **Cost of Local Area development**: Exempted.

l) **Rehabilitation & Resettlement**: Developers shall mandatorily follow the provisions of Rehabilitation & Resettlement Policy of the Government of India at their own cost.

m) **Input Power**: If Developer sets up Captive generating plant for the purpose of meeting input power requirement for PSP, the Nodal Agency shall facilitate allotment of project as per this policy. Energy Banking facility will not be extended for such Captive generating plants.

n) **Transmission Charges**: The transmission charges shall be exempted during the entire life of the projector up to 20 years whichever is earlier.

o) **Distribution / Wheeling Charges**:The distribution / wheeling charges shall be exempted during the entire life of the projector up to 20 years whichever is earlier.

p) **Approvals & Clearances**: The Nodal Agency shall expedite the issuance of statutory clearance including Pollution Clearance, Environment Clearance and Forest Clearance for Pumped Storage Power (PSP) projects from concerned Ministry and authorities at both the central and state levels.

q) Water charges: As per charges specified by the water resources department.

12.2 Battery Energy Storage Systems

Ministry of Power vide resolution dated 10.03.2022 has issued detailed guidelines for procurement and utilization of BESS as part of generation, transmission, or distribution assets, or along with ancillary services aimed to create a comprehensive framework for the procurement, integration, and optimization of BESS in India's renewable energy sector, ensuring transparency, standardization, and risk-sharing to maximize grid efficiency, flexibility, and bankability.

Central government has taken the following key initiatives for the promotion of BESS:

- The Ministry of Power, vide note dated October 11, 2022, has included Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) in the list of eligible generators permitted to participate in the High Price Day-Ahead Market (HP-DAM) segment of the Energy Exchange. This would enable BESS Developers to take suitable advantage of the price differential between Peak and Off-Peak tariffs.

- To ensure financial sustainability and commercial success, National framework for promoting energy storage systems specified that Energy Storage System (ESS) Developers and intermediary agencies will be allowed to offer a variety of market-driven energy and power products, enabling them to tap into

diverse revenue streams and maximize their economic potential.

MOP vide its "guidelines for procurement and utilization of Battery Energy Storage Systems as part of generation, transmission, and distribution assets, along with ancillary services" dated 11.03.2022, has identified following business cases regarding utilization of BESS in supply of energy and grid maintenance:

a) **RE Supply with BESS** where BESS is included as part of the Clean Energy Project, utilized to meet Peak power and firm dispatchable RE requirements of Procurers.
b) **BESS with transmission infrastructure**: By maximizing transmission capacity and reducing congestion, it minimizes the need for new infrastructure, making the grid more efficient and cost-effective.
c) **Storage for ancillary services**: The system operator (RLDC/NLDC and SLDCs) may use BESS for frequency control and balancing services to manage the inherent uncertainty/variations in load and generation.
d) **Storage for Distribution**: BESS can help Discoms in managing Peak load and grid resilience, Portfolio management and flexible operations, support large-scale electric vehicle adoption, Extend asset life through optimal asset shifting
e) **Other options** such as Arbitrage operation, sell storage space for a particular duration by charging capacity charges, or utilize as merchant capacity.

The Government of Assam introduces the Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) policy as part of the ICE policy, aligning with the national framework. The Government of Assam to encourage BESS Developer who can provide "**Storage as Service**" can set up BESS projects in the state. The state intends to empower the BESS project with the following market models:

i) Cost Plus model (For procurement of Power/Services)
ii) Competitive bidding (For procurement of Power/Services)
iii) Storage as a Service (SAAS) - Sharing of profit/benefit between the parties (75:25 basis between Developer and Discom) for any applications/ use cases – Avoiding/ deferment of Capex, Avoidance of UI charges, demand response etc.

12.2.1 Incentives from State Government for BESS

a) **Transmission Charges**: The Transmission charges shall be applicable as per clause 5.7 of the policy.
b) **Distribution/Wheeling Charges**: For Charging & Discharge of BESS in the distribution license area, distribution/ wheeling charges shall be waived off for 12 years from COD and thereafter levied as Block wise charges (15 mins) for applicable no. of blocks. The distribution/ wheeling charges for sale of power from BESS through OA shall be payable as per clause 5.7.
c) **Electricity Duty**: Electricity duty is waived off for the lifetime of BESS projects
d) **Cross Subsidy Surcharge (CSS)**: The Cross Subsidy Surcharge (CSS) shall be applicable as per clause no. 5.8 of the policy document.
e) **SGST Reimbursement**: Government of Assam shall provide reimbursement of 100% net SGST revenue accrued to the state on the services provided by BESS for a period of7 years from COD.
f) **Storage as Service**: The State Transco and State Discom shall identify and notify the list of vacant land parcels at/near EHT substations, and Distribution sub-stations for setting up of BESS

by Developer. This would yield benefit to state utilities such as avoidance of (n-1) contingency at the planning stage, avoidance of overloading of the T&D lines or deferment of T&D capex. The savings shall be shared between the state entity and the Private Developer on 75:25 basis between Developer and Discom.

12.2.2 Incentives for Battery manufacturing units

a) **Land**: Government of Assam shall facilitate procurement/ Acquisition of land on actual cost basis. **APDCL or any other Department / Agency as notified by Government of Assam shall act as a Nodal Agency to facilitate for setting up of battery manufacturing industry in the State under this Policy**.

b) **Stamp Duty**: 100% stamp duty paid on purchase or lease of land, lease of land/shed/buildings, mortgages and hypothecations related to BESS manufacturing plant shall be reimbursed by Power (Electricity) Department, Government of Assam during policy operative period.

c) **Power subsidy**: Fixed power cost reimbursement INR1.00 per unit for a period of 5 years from COD of the battery manufacturing unit.

d) **Electricity Duty**: Electricity duty will be reimbursed for a period of 5 years.

e) **Cross Subsidy Surcharge**: Cross subsidy surcharge (CSS) is waived off for 10 years from COD.

f) **SGST Reimbursement**: 100% net SGST accrued to the state will be reimbursed for a period of 7 years.

13. Mini and Small Hydro

This Policy will promote generation of energy through mini and small-hydro projects in the State. Procurement of energy from mini and small-hydro projects shall be based on the tariff based competitive bidding process as per the requirement of DISCOM, subject to the approval of the AERC. Mini and Small-hydro projects allotted under open access category are permitted to use the power for captive/group captive or third-party sale within the State.

The Government of Assam will promote Mini and Small Hydro Projects as per the guidelines or prevailing schemes of Central Government including the MNRE's scheme on "Small Hydro Power Programme" and its amendments or any other forthcoming schemes/programs. The Project developer shall obtain various statutory clearances including but not limited to techno-economic clearances, Forest and Environmental (if necessary) clearances, clearance regarding water availability and others required for project development. Payment of royalty shall be as per the Orders of Irrigation/Water Resource Department, Govt. of Assam issued from time to time.

The policy shall be applicable for all projects self-identified by Project developers or for all projects where resources are allocated by the Govt. of Assam. Discom shall procure power from all these projects and such procured power is eligible for meeting HPO of Discom.

The power procured by Discom from such Mini and Small Hydro projects shall be eligible for meeting HPO.

13.1 Incentives from State Government

13.1.1 **Resource & Land Allocation**: Resource allocation process and details of concessional land allotment is mentioned in clause 5.3 &5.4 of the policy.

13.1.2 **Determination of Tariff**: Discoms shall procure either through competitive bidding route or Commission determined generic tariff without having any ceiling on CUF/ PLF.

13.1.3 **Transmission and Distribution / Wheeling Charges**:

Applicable T&D charges shall be paid as mentioned in clause 5.7 of the policy.

13.1.4 **Energy Banking, Settlement & Balancing**: Banking shall be applicable as per the Green Energy Open Access Regulations 2024 as detailed in the clause 5.11 of the policy.

14. Electric Mobility – EV Charging Infrastructure

The electric vehicle (EV) sector's fast-evolving landscape demands a flexible and adaptive policy framework, necessitating regular updates and revisions to keep pace with the latest developments and trends. Therefore, the Power (Electricity) Department, Government of Assam is revising the policy related to the Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure (EVCI) as part of the ICE policy, since this aspect of the EV mobility value chain is closely tied to the electricity sector. **The policy details for the remaining components of the EV value chain can be found in the policy document "Electric Vehicle Policy of Assam, 2021 and Guidelines for Setting up Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure in the State of Assam, 2023, notified byTransport Department, Govt. of Assam**". Further, if any agreement / MOU/ Executed / Letter of Award issued by the Concerned authority for development of EV Charging Infrastructure Projects in Assam prior to the notification of Assam Integrated Clean Energy Policy, 2025 shall be given liberty to migrate to this ICE policy as per clause no. 4.4 of the policy documents. Assam State Transport Corporation's (ASTC's) or any other department/agency as notified by the Government of Assam shall act as an Implementing Agency under this policy for promotion and development of Electric Vehicles Charging Infrastructure in Assam.

14.1 Incentives from State Government for Electric Vehicles Charging Infrastructure (EVCI) projects

a) **Land**: Nodal Agency shall invite tenders through competitive bidding for identification of **Charge Point Operators (CPO)** who shall install and operate EV charging stations at the sites notified by the SNA. Government/Public entity sites shall be offered at floor price of Rs. 1 per unit to private CPOs as per MOP guidelines 2024. SNA shall charge PMA charges for the same.

b) **Charging Infrastructure Connectivity and Tariff**: A separate EV tariff category with ToD tariff and Dynamic tariff mechanisms to CPOs. The maximum ceiling tariff (MCT) will be determined by AERC in line with guidelines issued by MoP. The Developer shall be empowered to operate Smart EV charging stations for Demand Response management. EV charging stations can avail input power from any Open Access/Green OA generator. Green OA shall be governed as per Green Energy Open Access Regulations to be framed /framed by AERC in accordance with the Green Energy Open Access Rules 2022, notified by the Ministry of Power, Govt of India.

c) **Mandates**: All new permits for commercial complexes, housing societies and residential townships with a built-up area 5,000 sq.mt and above will mandate charging stations. Public parking spaces will be mandated to have charging stations. Municipalities shall issue provisional permissions online immediately to setup charging / battery swapping stations. Any verification shall only be posting sanction of provisional permission. City codes will be modified for both public places and private buildings in order to make the infrastructural changes needed for charging infrastructure. Urban local bodies, Municipality rules/regulations will be modified to allow charging and stations to be set up within its limits as and when required.

d) The unutilized lands of various Govt. Departments located on the National Highways or other suitable locations shall be allotted to the Nodal Agency / Implementing Agency for developing Charging Stations in BOOT Model in PPP Mode for all types of Electric Vehicles including Private 4 wheelers and other commercial EVs.

e) **IT & Communication**: Nodal Agency shall develop an integrated

mobile application to enable EV users to identify existing EV Public charging stations, communicate to Central Management Systems (CMS) of charging equipment for effective coordination of Time of Day (ToD), Time of Use (ToU) tariffs and share sales data with Discoms. Cloud charging features will be encouraged to have all metering and transactions done digitally with payment apps, Near Field Communication (NFC) enabled devices, RFID tags, etc., while keeping it flexible and customer friendly.

f) **Electricity Duty**: 100% exemption of Electricity Duty for the power consumed by theElectric Vehicles Charging Infrastructure from RE plants (with or without storage) during policy operative period from the date of Commissioning (CoD) of the project.

g) **Quality and Standards**: Standards for charging equipment will also be created in close association with the central government departments and scientific bodies. The state will follow the charging specifications as per the guidelines issued by Department of Heavy Industries, GOI.

h) Any other incentives as provided by the Central Government for development of Electric Vehicles Charging Infrastructure shall be extended by the Nodal Agency to the Developer without any financial commitment by the State Government.

i) Theincentives provided by the State Government for development of Electric Vehicles Charging Infrastructure shall be extended to the Developer as per Electric Vehicle Policy of Assam, 2021 and Guidelines for Setting up Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure in the State of Assam, 2023, notified by Transport Department, Govt. of Assam.

15. Renewable Energy Manufacturing Zone (REMZ)

a) The Government of Assam will encourage large scale development of Renewable Energy Manufacturing zones (REMZ) which would accommodate RE Manufacturing Projects (solar, wind, battery, inverter and electrolyzer manufacturing). APDCL or any other Department / Agency as notified by Government of Assam shall act a Nodal Agency for REMZ. The Nodal Agency in coordination with other Government of Assam departments shall establish REMZ as a dedicated manufacturing hub. Nodal agency shall provide last mile connectivity for power, roads, water, etc. to each of the manufacturing units within the REMZ. Nodal Agency to develop the plug & play infrastructure for REMZ which would subsequently be recovered from Developers located in the REMZ by levying development charges.

b) REMZ Developer to develop necessary infrastructure required for REMZ such as power evacuation system, administrative building, infrastructure including road, water, drains, ducts etc. REMZ Developer may recover applicable charges from Project developers i.e. Lease charges, infrastructure/ development charges, utilities charges, O&M charges for infrastructure, O&M of plant etc.

c) The REMZ shall follow the contours of the policy and shall pay all the applicable fees and charges as per clause 5.6 and 17.9 upon allocation along with the applicable GEOA regulations to be notified / notified by AERC.

16. Promotion of New and Innovative RE (NIRE) Technologies

a) The Government of Assam designated Nodal Agency shall encourage and promote NIRE technologies in the state. NIRE technologies including storage technologies (other than PSP and BESS) etc.

b) Discoms shall procure the power from NIRE technologies at the tariff determined by AERC.

17 General

17.1 Project / SPV

a) The policy provides for Project / SPV transfers / name change of a

.	**terms pertaining to the policy**	**Transfer / Name Change**	project with approval from State Investment Promotion Board (SIPB) and Government of Assam. Such transfer shall be allowed for project/SPV transfer in part or full capacity to any other party(ies) before the commissioning of the project, along with the resources including land, connectivity and any other approval already in place, as applicable. Project/SPV transfer in part/full capacity shall be allowed for multiple times to 100% subsidiary (ies)/parent entity at any stage of the Project. Project developer shall seek name change of the Project/SPV for part/full capacity. The Project/SPV transfer shall be applicable for all the Clean Energy Projects covered under the policy. b) Applicable transfer fee/name change fee is exempted under this Policy.
		17.2 Waste disposal	a) Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change (MoEFCC), Government of India has notified the E- Waste (Management) Rules, 2022 on 2nd November 2022. These rules have been notified for environmentally sound management of e-waste generated from electrical and electronic equipment, including solar photo-voltaic (PV) modules or panels or cells. b) As per these rules, every manufacturer and producer of solar photo-voltaic modules or panels or cells has been mandated to obtain registration, maintain inventory of solar PV modules, store the waste generated from Solar PV modules/panels/cells up to the year 2034-35 as per the guidelines laid down under the rules, file annual returns, comply with Standard Operating Procedures, and process the waste other than solar PV modules as per the applicable waste management rules. c) Further, Recycling of solar photo-voltaic modules or panels or cells shall be mandated for recovery of material as laid down by the Central Pollution Control Board. All the Developers shall abide by the above rules, or any other regulations/rules notified by the Government of India or Government of Assam for disposal of waste generated from Clean Energy Projects. d) The Central Pollution Control Board has issued Battery Waste Management Rules, 2022 for environmentally sound battery waste management and conservation of natural resources. These rules mainly emphasize Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) wherein manufacturers /importers responsible for collection, recycling/ refurbishment waste batteries prohibiting landfill disposal and incineration. The rules have mandated annual targets for the manufacturers. e) The MoEFCC Biofuel Waste Management Guidelines, 2018, aim to ensure environmentally sound management of biofuel waste through segregation, storage, treatment, and disposal. The guidelines emphasize recycling and energy recovery from waste and encourage the use of composted biofuel waste as fertilizer. f) Similarly, The CPCB Biofuel Waste Management Rules, 2019, provide a regulatory framework for biofuel waste management, outlining responsibilities for manufacturers, producers, and disposers. The rules also specify standards for treatment and disposal facilities. g) Also, The National Biofuel Policy, 2018, promotes the

development and use of biofuels, focusing on sustainability, energy security, and environmental protection. The policy encourages research and development in biofuel waste management and conversion of waste to energy.

17.3 Project Timeline:

a) The time schedule for completion of Clean Energy Projects and RE Manufacturing Projects that utilize resources allocated by the Government of Assam, such projects shall be bound by the timelines as defined in the policy. However, if those projects are allocated through the bidding process without any resource allocation by the state, they will be governed by the bid document and Power Purchase Agreement.

b) In the case of land & resource allocation by the Nodal Agency, all the projects shall follow the prescribed timelines as detailed below or as decided by Nodal Agency to meet the project milestones. The milestones are divided into two phases of (A) Allotment & (B) Project Construction Schedule. The detailed project milestone timelines shall be applicable as per clause **17.10** (Clean Energy Projects) & clause **17.11** (RE Manufacturing Projects).

c) In the allotment phase, a project shall achieve 7 milestones within the combined prescribed timeline and the maximum extension timeline based on each type of project. A project shall achieve the milestones of payment of application fee, PBG, DPR approval, connectivity approval & agreement, land (sale/lease) and commercial agreement to achieve financial closure.

d) In the project construction schedule phase, a project shall achieve 4 milestones until the commissioning of the project. The milestones include achieving placement of equipment order, the start of construction, mid-term status and commissioning of the project.

Sl. No.	Project Milestones
A	**Allotment (SNA)/ LOA**
A1	Payment of applicable fee/ charges
A2	DPR approval in case of PSP
A3	Connectivity approval (STU) - i.e., 50% of land required for setting up project to be under applicant possession or duly paying BG amount
A4	Connectivity Agreement (copy to be submitted to Nodal Agency)
A5	Land (Sale or Lease)
A6	Commercial Agreement (PPA)
A7	Financial closure (Letter or in principle approval from banker/ Banker consortium to be submitted SNA).
B	**Project Construction Schedule**
B1	Placement of Equipment Order (Payment proof to be submitted)
B2	Construction start date (Intimation to be sent Nodal Agency)
B3	Construction status updated by Developer (Quarterly progress update to Nodal Agency)
B4	Scheduled COD of the Project

e) A maximum extension period of 12 months for PSP and 6 months for other projects shall be provided. The non-achievement of any of the pre-defined project milestone timelines including the maximum extension period in the allotment phase, the project shall be deemed cancelled along with the capacity allotment.

f) The timeline for completion of each project along with the maximum extension available under the policy.

Category of Project	Financial Closure (FC) from the allotment (T0)	Scheduled COD timeline	Maximum extension of timeline allowed before FC (Months)

	(Months)	from the allotment (T0) (Months)	
Solar	6	24	6
Wind	6	24	6
Solar – Wind Hybrid	6	24	6
Mini and Small Hydro	6	36	6
Pumped Hydro Storage	12	48	12
BESS	12	18	16
Biofuels	6	36	6
EVCI	NA	6	6
Solar Manufacturing	6	36	6
Wind Manufacturing	6	36	6
Battery Manufacturing	21	48	6
Electrolyzer Manufacturing	8	36	6

g) Project developers shall hand over the resources to the Nodal Agency within 14 days from intimation of deemed cancellation. Thereafter, the resources shall be made available for allocation to other Project developers.

h) In case the project under construction requires additional time beyond 6/12 months (permissible time extension), subject to verification by Nodal Agency, it shall be permitted by levying penalty of 0.25% of project cost per quarter (in parts thereof) for a period of maximum 6 months. Beyond the 6 months of delay, no incentives shall be available for the project.

i) If forest land diversion is required, the commissioning timeline will be extended by up to one year from the date of submission of the request with necessary documents, without any additional fees.

j) In case part capacity is commissioned within the overall allowed time period, the remaining capacity will be cancelled, and the Performance Bank Guarantee of un-commissioned capacity will be en- cashed /forfeited.

k) The government of Assam / Nodal Agency will cancel the project allotment and will encash / forfeit the Performance Bank Guarantee if the project is not commissioned as per the stipulated timelines.

l) The Project developer shall submit the quarterly progress reports to Nodal Agency on a regular basis.

17.4 Nodal Agency

Assam Power Distribution Company Limited (APDCL) or any other Department / Agency as notified by Govt. of Assam shall act as a Nodal Agency (NA) under this policy. The Nodal Agency shall be responsible for the following activities:

i) Registration of all projects and classification of the projects in the single window clearance provision through the Power (Electricity) Department portal, Government of Assam or the existing Single Window Agency portal of Govt. of Assam i.e. EoDB portal for associated approvals and clearances.
ii) Scrutiny of all issues / proposals and submission of the same to Power Department for further consideration.
iii) Verification and recommendation of proposals to Govt. of Assam.
iv) Nodal Agency shall be responsible for capacity allotment for up to

50 MW and to recommend capacity allotment beyond 50 MW to Government of Assam.

v) Facilitating allotment of Government land
vi) Facilitate in getting power evacuation and/or Open Access as per the regulation issued by AERC/CERC and amended from time to time.
vii) Facilitating execution of PPA / Wheeling and Banking Agreement (WBA) with APDCL.
viii) Coordination with all the relevant stakeholders for all statutory clearances/approvals applicable for all the Clean Energy Projects and RE Manufacturing Projects.
ix) Disbursement of incentives after duly verifying the claims and processing the incentives through the Project Monitoring Committee.
x) Impose penalties and/or de allocate projects in case of default of timelines/non-compliance/ non-performance by the Developers in accordance with the defined project milestone timelines.
xi) Coordination with MNRE/Various agencies under control of MNRE/Central Agency/Other Relevant Agency.

17.5 Policy Implementation

State Investment Promotion Committee (SIPC)and State Investment Promotion Board (SIPB) -

For creating an enabling structure to expedite decision making pertaining to investment promotion in the State, SIPC and SIPB have been constituted by the Government. Nodal Agency shall receive all the investment proposals pertaining to Clean Energy Projects and RE Manufacturing Projects. A detailed process of evaluation (technical and financial eligibility) will be undertaken by Nodal Agency to carry out an initial screening of all the proposals. Thereafter Nodal Agency shall recommend the proposals to the Power (Electricity) Department. The Power (Electricity) Department shall place the proposals before SIPC. After scrutiny of all investment proposals by SIPC, the same shall be forwarded to SIPB. The SIPB shall review the investment proposals and recommend the same to the Government of Assam. The final decision to approve any investment proposal will rest with the Government of Assam.

17.6 Project Monitoring Committee (PMC)

a) "High Level Committee" constituted with the following members will monitor the progress of implementation of the Clean Energy Projects and RE Manufacturing Projects cleared under the policy:

i) Chief Secretary, Govt. of Assam (Chairman).
ii) ACS/Principal Secretary/Secretary, Industries Department, Govt. of Assam.
iii) ACS/Principal Secretary/Secretary, Power (Electricity) Department, Govt. of Assam.
iv) ACS/Principal Secretary/ Secretary, Land Revenue Department, Govt. of Assam.
v) ACS/Principal Secretary/Secretary, Water Resources Department, Govt. of Assam.
vi) Chairman, Assam Power Distribution Company Limited
vii) Managing Director, Assam Power Distribution Company Limited (Member – Secretary)
viii) Managing Director, Assam Electricity Grid Corporation Limited
ix) Managing Director, Assam Power Generation Corporation Limited

b) The twin objectives of PMC will be to monitor projects & expedite approvals.

c) If any difficulty arises in giving effect to this policy, the High-Level Committee is authorized to issue clarification as well as interpretation to such provisions, as may appear to be necessary for removing the difficultly either on its own motion or after hearing those parties who have represented.

17.7 Project Management Unit

a) A Project Management Unit (PMU) shall be constituted under the supervision of Nodal Agency. The PMU will support Nodal Agency in monitoringofprojects, facilitating approvals & stakeholder management. The PMU shall consist of experts from diverse fields in Renewable Energy to support and advise the Nodal Agency in tracking and monitoring the progress of all the projects.

b) The Nodal Agency shall define various milestones from project award / allotment till commissioning for each technology separately. Strengthening and extension of Nodal Agency will be done by engaging dedicated manpower to create an enabling ecosystem for expeditious implementation of renewable energy projects in the State.

c) Once a project site is awarded / allocated, the Nodal Agency shall continuously monitor progress of development till it is commissioned. The Project developer shall be obliged to allow unhindered access to the project site and provide requisite information to the Nodal Agency/ any other entity nominated by the Nodal Agency for proper monitoring of the project progress.

17.8 Speed of Doing Business

17.8.1 Single Window Clearance shall be applicable for the projects as per the operating period specified in this policy. Single Window Clearance aims to create a single stop for facilitating necessary clearances required for commissioning of these projects.

17.8.2 The Nodal Agency shall be responsible for "single window clearance" for these projects. It shall create the online portal for filing and tracking of applications. It shall also allow payments to be made electronically to obtain timely approvals online. Under this system

a) The applicant shall register through the Single Window Clearance Provision on the available portal of Govt. of Assam

b) On registration, the applicant will be given a unique ID and password for future reference.

c) The application form along with prescribed attachments shall be submitted/ uploaded online, wherever feasible. Other attachments (wherever necessary) shall be sent to the concerned designated competent authority through courier and can be tracked online through a built-in system as per guidance available in the Single window clearance portal.

d) On receipt of application form, the system will automatically forward it to the competent authorities concerned.

e) All competent authorities will be provided online access to the Portal through a secure user id and password, to process the applications forwarded to them.

f) For additional attachments dispatched by courier to respective departments, the competent authority concerned shall enter the date of receipt in the system which will be the reference date specific to clearance / department.

17.9 Fees and Charges

For Project Capacity <= 100 MW Capacity								
S. No	**Fees and Charges**	**Solar**	**Wind**	**Hybrid**	**PSP**	**BESS**	**Mini and Small Hydro**	**Biofuels& Green Hydrogen (GH)**
A	**Registration Charges**							
A1	Application Fee (One time)	INR 5,000/MWp	INR 5,000/MW	Charges to be paid for installed capacity of Solar and Wind: INR 5,000/MW	Nil	Nil	INR 5,000/ application	Biofuels: 2G Ethanol – INR 25,000/KLPD CBG – INR 25,000/TPD GH: INR 25,000/KTPA
For Project Capacity > 100 MW and <= 500 MW Capacity								
S. No	**Fees and Charges**	**Solar**	**Wind**	**Hybrid**	**PSP**	**BESS**	**Mini and Small Hydro**	**Biofuels& Green Hydrogen (GH)**
B	**Registration Charges**							
B1	Application Fee (One time)	INR 5,000/MWp	INR 5,000/MW	Charges to be paid for installed capacity of Solar and Wind: INR 5,000/MW	Nil	Nil	INR 5,000/ application	Biofuels: 2G Ethanol – INR 25,000/KLPD CBG – INR 25,000/TPD GH: INR 25,000/KTPA
For Project Capacity > 500 MW and <= 1000 MW Capacity								
S. No	**Fees and Charges**	**Solar**	**Wind**	**Hybrid**	**PSP**	**BESS**	**Mini and Small Hydro**	**Biofuels& Green Hydrogen (GH)**
C	**Registration Charges**							
C1	Application Fee (One time)	INR 5,000/MWp	INR 5,000/MW	Charges to be paid for installed capacity of Solar and Wind: INR 5,000/MW	Nil	Nil	INR 5,000/ application	Biofuels: 2G Ethanol – INR 25,000/KLPD CBG – INR 25,000/TPD GH: INR 25,000/KTPA
2	Performance Bank Guarantee (in the form of Bank Guarantee)	INR 1,00,000/MWp	INR 1,00,000/MW	Charges shall be paid for each source, i.e., Solar, Wind. INR 1,00,000/MW	INR 1,00,000/MW subject to a maximum of INR 100 Crore.	As per tender	INR 1,00,000/MW	Biofuels: 2G Ethanol – INR 1,00,000/KLPD CBG – 1,00,000/TPD GH: INR 1,00,000/KTPA
3	Land Lease Charges (Rev/ Govt./ Patta land) (Annually)	As decided by the Revenue & DM Department & Prevailing Industrial Policy of Government of Assam						
4	Park Registration	Application Fee (One time): INR 5,000/MWp capacity plus GST subject to Maximum INR 5 Lakhs per park						

Fees and Charges for Biomass Based Power Plant & Waste to Energy Projects

S. No	Fees and Charges	Biomass based Power Plant	Waste to Energy Projects &Waste Heat Recovery System

			(WHRS)
1	Application Fee (One time)	INR 5,000/MWp	INR 5,000/MW
2	Performance Bank Guarantee (in the form of Bank Guarantee)	INR 1,00,000/MWp	INR 1,00,000/MW
3	Land Lease Charges (Rev/ Govt./ Patta land) (Annually)	As decided by the Revenue & DM Department & Prevailing Industrial Policy of Government of Assam	

17.10 Timelines of Clean Energy Projects

	Project Milestone	**Solar**	**Wind**	**Hybrid**	**Mini & Small Hydro**	**PSP**	**BESS**	**Biofuels, Biomass, Waste to Energy, WHRS& GH**	**EVCI**
A	**Allotment (SNA)/ LOA**	**TO**	**TO**	**TO**	**TO**	**TO**	**TO**	**TO**	**TO**
A1	Payment of applicable fee/ charges	3 months	3 months	3 months	3 months	3 months	NA	3 months	2 Week
A2	DPR approval in case of PSP	-	-	-	-	12 months	-	-	-
A3	Connectivity approval (STU) ▪ STU to follow ISTS process i.e., 50% of land required for setting up project to be under applicant possession or duly paying BG amount	2 months	2 months	2 months	2 months	2 months	1 month	-	NA
A4	Connectivity Agreement (copy to be submitted to Nodal Agency)	4 months	4 months	4 months	4 months	4 months	1 month	NA	As per Discom timelines
A5	Land (Sale deed or Lease)	6 months	6 months	6 months	4 months	12 months	3 months	6 months	3 weeks
A6	Commercial Agreement (PPA/PSA/BESPA)	6 months	6 months	6 months	6 months	12 months	1 months	6 months	NA
A7	Financial Closure (Letter or in principle approval from banker/ Banker consortium to be submitted Nodal Agency)	6 months	6 months	6 months	6 months	12 months	12 months	NA	NA
B	**Project Construction Schedule**								
B1	Placement of Equipment Order (Payment proof to be submitted)	8 months	8 months	8 months	8 months	15 months	12 months	8 months	1 month
B2	Construction start date (Intimation to be sent SNA)	10 months	10 months	10 months	10 months	17 months	12 months	10 months	-
B3	Periodic status update by Developer (Quarterly Progress)	12 months and every quarter thereafter				24 months and every quarter thereafter	15 months and 18months	12 months and every quarter thereafter	3 months
B4	Scheduled COD of the Project	24 months	24 months	24 months	36 months	48 months	18 months	36 months	6 months

17.11 Timelines of RE Manufacturing Projects

	Project Milestone	**Solar Mfg.**	**Wind Mfg.**	**Battery Mfg.**	**Electrolyzer Mfg.**
A	**Allotment (SNA)/ LOA**	**TO**	**TO**	**TO**	**TO**
A1	Sample DPR/ DPR approval	2 months	2 months	6 months	2 months
A2	Project approvals (Utilities & Industries)	4 months	4 months	9 months	4 months
A3	Land (Sale or Lease)	5 months	5 months	12 months	6 months
A4	Commercial Agreement	6 months	6 months	15 months	8 months
A5	Financial closure (Letter or in principle approval from banker/ Banker consortium to be submitted NA)	6 months	6 months	21 months	8 months
B	**Project Construction Schedule**				
B1	Placement of Equipment Order (Payment proof to be submitted)	8 months	8 months	24 months	10 months
B2	Construction start date (Intimation to be sent NA)	10 months	10 months	30 months	12 months
B3	Raw material Sourcing	30 months	30 months	30 months	16 months
B4	Scheduled COD of the Project (Commercial	36 months	36 months	48 months	36 months

	Operations of the plant)				

18. Definitions& Abbreviations

In this Policy, unless the context otherwise requires, -

1. ***1G*** means first generation.
2. ***2G* means** second generation.
3. 3G means third generation.
4. BIF means Biomass Infrastructure Fund
5. ***Advanced Biofuels***:

   a) Produced from lignocelluloses feedstock's (i.e., agricultural and forestry residues, e.g., rice & wheat straw/corn cobs & Stover/ bagasse, woody biomass), non-food energy crops (i.e., grass, algae), animal dung or industrial waste and residue streams, or any combination of above feedstock.

   b) Fuels such as Second Generation (2G) Ethanol, non-edible tree borne oils, short gestation non-edible oil rich crops; green diesel from renewable sources and Industrial waste, bio fuels produced from synthesis (syn) gas, drop-in fuels from renewable sources and industrial waste, algae based 3G bio fuels, halophytes-based bio-fuels, bio-CNG, bio-methanol derived from black liquor and paper pulp, Di Methyl Ether (DME) derived from bio-methanol, bio-hydrogen, drop-in-fuels from MSW resource/feedstock material

6. ***AERC*** means Assam Electricity Regulatory Commission.
7. ***"APDCL"*** means Assam Power Distribution Company Limited.
8. ***"AEGCL"*** means Assam Electricity Grid Corporation Limited.
9. ***Ancillary Service or "AS"*** in relation to power system operation, means the service necessary to support the grid operation in maintaining power quality, reliability and security of the grid and includes Primary Reserve Ancillary Service, Secondary Reserve Ancillary Service, Tertiary Reserve Ancillary Service, active power support for load following, reactive power support, black start, and such other services as defined in the Indian Grid Code/ Assam Grid Code.

10. ***Banking means*** a facility through which the unutilized portion of energy (underutilization by the consumer or excess generation over and above the schedule by the generator) from any of the Green Energy Sources during a billing month is kept in a separate account and such energy accrued shall be treated in accordance with the conditions laid down in the Green Open Access Regulations to be notified by Assam Electricity Regulatory Commission after gazette notification of this policy document.

11. ***Battery Energy Storage Systems or "BESS"*** shall mean the system(s)/projects utilizing methods and technologies such as electrochemical batteries (Lead Acid, Li-ion, solid state batteries, flow batteries, etc.), providing a facility that can store chemical energy and deliver the stored energy in the form of electricity, including but not limited to ancillary facilities (grid support, for example). Such systems may be co-located with RE Generating Stations or may be operated/ connected on a standalone basis at Grid substation or Distribution substation.

12. BESPA means Battery Energy Storage Purchase Agreement

13. ***Billing Cycle*** means the period for which the regular electricity bills are prepared for different categories of consumers by the Distribution licensee as specified by the Commission.

14. ***Bio-CNG*** means purified form of Biogas whose composition & energy potential is similar to that of fossil based natural gas and is produced from press mud, agricultural residues, animal dung, food waste, MSW, Sewage water, and industrial waste.

15. ***Ethanol*** means ethanol produced from biomass such as sugar containing materials, like sugar cane, sugar beet, sweet sorghum etc.; starch containing materials such as corn, cassava, rotten potatoes, agri food/pulp industry waste, algae etc.; and cellulosic materials such as bagasse, wood waste, agricultural and forestry residues or other renewable resources like industrial waste, vegetable wastes, industrial waste off gases or any combination of above feedstock.

16. ***Biofuels*** means fuels produced from renewable resources and used in place of or blended with diesel,

petrol, Natural Gas or other fossil fuels for transport (including Sustainable Aviation Fuel), stationary, portable, and other applications.

17. ***Captive generating plant*** means a power plant as defined u/s 2 (8) and shall comply with qualifications prescribed under Rule 3 of the Electricity Rules notified by Central Government u/s 3 of Act as amended from time to time.

18. ***Commercial Operation Date (COD)*** refers to the actual time/ period, a project is completed after achieving all the defined milestones and begins commercial operations.

19. ***Charge Point Operator (CPO)*** means any individual/entity operating the EV Charging Station.

20. ***Charge Point Developer (CPD)*** means any individual/entity who can undertake Supply, Installation, Commissioning, Operation & Maintenance of electric vehicle charging stations.

21. ***Clean Energy Project(s)*** means and includes projects which generate electricity using renewable and sustainable sources, aiming to minimize environmental impact and reduce dependence on fossil fuels as approved by the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy, Government of India. These projects include solar, wind, solar-wind hybrid, BESS, PSP, mini and small hydro, Green Hydrogen and its derivatives/ Low Carbon Molecules plants and associated units, Biofuels, and EVCI.

22. ***CBG*** means Compressed Biogas

23. ***CEA*** means Central Electricity Authority

24. ***CNG*** means Compressed Natural Gas

25. ***CSS*** means Cross Subsidy Surcharge

26. ***Dedicated feeder (line)*** means any electric supply-line for point-to-point transmission which are required for the purpose of connecting electric plants of a captive generating plant, cogeneration plant or renewable energy source power plant such as solar, wind, small hydro, bio-mass, and municipal solid waste to State TRANSCO/DISCOM substations.

27. ***Drop-in fuels*** mean any liquid fuel produced from Biomass, Agri-residues, wastes such as Municipal Solid Wastes (MSW), Plastic wastes, Industrial wastes, etc., which meets the Indian standards for MS, HSD and Jet fuel, in pure or blended form, for its subsequent utilization in vehicles without any modifications in the engine systems and can utilize existing petroleum distribution system.

28. ***DISCOM*** means Distribution Company

29. ***Electric Vehicle*** means a vehicle that can be powered by an electric motor that draws electricity from a battery and is capable of being charged from an external source. This may include electric two-wheeler, three-wheeler, quadricycle, four-wheeler, bus, trucks, etc.

30. ***Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure (EVCI)*** is a network of charging stations catering to diverse charging requirement and includes components such as EVSE, connection to DISCOM's supply system, Power Management System for energy optimization, energy distribution, grid stability and renewables integration, Communication network to assist data exchange in real time and remotely manage EV charging stations, cables, connectors, RFID tags, software applications, circuit breakers, solar panels (if connected), civil work, smart meter, transformer, etc.

31. ***Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE)*** means equipment in Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure (EVCI) that supplies electrical energy for recharging the battery of electric vehicles.

32. ***Electric Vehicle Charging Station***: Premises having any one or more EVSEs or combinations thereof, supporting upstream infrastructure and amenities as specified in subsequent sections of these guidelines.

33. "***Electrolyzer"***: An electrolyzer is an electrochemical device that uses electrical energy to split a water module (H2O) into its constituent elemental modules i.e., Hydrogen (H2) and Oxygen (O2) through a

process called electrolysis.

34. "***Energy Transition***": refers to a revolutionary change in the way energy is obtained and used. Currently, energy transition is driven by the need to address climate change, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and limit the environmental impacts of fossil fuels and involves a shift from non-renewable sources of energy to renewable sources.

35. ***Financial year*** means a period commencing on 1st April of a calendar year and ending on 31st March of the subsequent calendar year.

36. ***Firm and Dispatchable RE Power***: The term „firm and dispatchable power" denotes, the power profile configuration that is defined in the RfS that is sought to be met by RE power sources and will include configurations like assured peak power, Round the Clock RE with firm delivery of power at rated capacity at any hour of the day as per demand or load following power delivery as specified by DISCOM, Clean Energy Project with firm delivery of power for fixed hours of requirement by DISCOMs, etc.

37. ***Fuel Cell***: A fuel cell is an electrochemical cell that converts the chemical energy of a fuel and an oxidizing agent (often oxygen) into electricity through a pair of redox reactions.

38. ***Gross Metering*** means a mechanism whereby the total energy exported from the Grid Interactive Solar Rooftop Photovoltaic System and the total energy consumed by the prosumer from the DISCOM is measured separately through appropriate metering arrangements and for the billing purpose, the energy consumed by the prosumer is accounted for at the applicable retail tariff as per the Tariff Order and total energy exported to the DISCOM is accounted for at feed-in-tariff as fixed by the Commission.

39. ***"Green Ammonia***": is any ammonia produced using renewable energy sources to power the process of converting nitrogen (N2) and hydrogen (H2) into ammonia (NH3) through the Haber – Bosch process. Green ammonia derived from green hydrogen shall have an equivalent factor of 0.1765 kg Green Hydrogen per kg of green ammonia produced.

40. "***Green Hydrogen***": shall mean hydrogen produced using renewable energy, including, but not limited to, production through electrolysis or conversion of biomass. Renewable energy also includes such electricity generated from renewable sources which is stored in an energy storage system or banked with grid in accordance with applicable regulations as defined in "Green Hydrogen Standard for India" dated 18th August 2023.

41. **Green Hydrogen and its derivatives/ Low Carbon Molecules** shall be Green Hydrogen, Green Ammonia, Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF), 2G ethanol, Green Methanol or any Green Fuel/Green Chemical except 1G Ethanol and CBG, which are produced using Green Hydrogen from electrolysis using renewable energy or by conversion of Biomass using pyrolysis of biogas or other biomass products / gasification or any other route. Renewable energy also includes electricity generated from renewable sources which is stored in an energy storage system or banked with the grid in accordance with applicable regulations. Plants for Production of such derivatives and molecules shall also include associated units like upstream feedstock cultivation, aggregation, processing etc. or downstream storage, distribution assets etc.

42. "***Green Hydrogen Park developer***" means an entity which is involved in the development of Green Hydrogen Parks, and related infrastructure.

43. ***Infrastructure Sector*** means such sectors notified by Department of Economic Affairs in its Gazette Notification no. 13/1/2017-INF dated 14thNovember 2017 and as amended from time to time.

44. ***Interconnection Point means*** the interface of the Clean Energy Project with the network of distribution licensee/Transco.

45. ***"National Green Hydrogen Mission***" was approved by the Union Cabinet on 4th January 2022 to make India the global hub for production, usage and export of Green Hydrogen and its derivatives.

46. ***"National Green Hydrogen Policy***" was published on 17th February 2022 to promote production of

green hydrogen / ammonia both as energy carrier and chemical feedstock.

47. ***Net Zero*** means cutting greenhouse gas emissions to as close to zero as possible, with any remaining emissions re-absorbed from the atmosphere by oceans and forests, for instance.

48. ***"Nodal Agency"*** means Assam Power Distribution Company Limited (APDCL) or any other Department / Agency as notified by Government of Assam.

49. ***Open Access*** means the non-discriminatory provision for the use of transmission lines or distribution systems or associated facilities with such lines or systems by any licensee or consumer or a person engaged in generation in accordance with the Regulations issued by the Assam Electricity Regulatory Commission.

50. ***Power Evacuation*** means a facility that allows generated power to be immediately transmitted from a generating plant to the grid for further transmission/distribution to load centers.

51. ***Project Developer/ Developer*** is a company responsible for managing the development of Clean Energy Project(s) or RE Manufacturing Project(s)or Solar Park or REZ or REMZ from inception to completion and also manages the operations of such projects.

52. ***Prosumers*** means a person who consumes electricity from the grid and injects electricity into the grid of a distribution licensee.

53. ***Public Charging Station (PCS)*** shall mean EV charging station where any electric vehicle can get its battery recharged.

54. ***Renewable resources*** are the biodegradable fraction of products, wastes and residues from agriculture, forestry, tree-based oil other non-edible oils and related industries as well as the biodegradable fraction of industrial and municipal wastes.

55. ***Renewable Source of Energy*** means sources of energy such as small hydro, wind, solar, biomass, biofuel, cogeneration (including bagasse-based cogeneration), municipal solid waste, RE Hybrid, hydro, storage (if the storage uses renewable energy) and such other sources/mechanism as recognized and approved by the GoI or State Government.

56. ***RE Manufacturing Project(s)*** refers to industrial undertakings that design, produce, and assemble components, systems, or equipment related to renewable energy technologies, such as: Solar photovoltaic (PV) panels and modules, Wind turbines and components, Hydroelectric power equipment, Biomass and bioenergy technologies and Energy storage systems. This policy covers Solar photovoltaic (PV) panels and modules, Wind Turbines, battery and inverter manufacturing only.

57. ***Resident Welfare Association (RWA)*** means an association comprising of all the property owners/residents within a Co-operative Group Housing Society, Multi Storied Building, Residential Colony, or a similar body registered with the State Government.

58. ***Scheduled COD*** refers to the prescribed timeline for achieving the Commercial Operation Date (COD) of a project (Clean Energy Projects/ RE Manufacturing Projects) without any of the extension period permissible under the policy.

59. ***Solar Rooftop Photovoltaic Power Plant or Solar Rooftop Photovoltaic System (SRTPVS***)means the Grid Interactive Solar Photovoltaic Power Plant that uses the sunlight for direct conversion into electricity through photovoltaic technology, which is owned and operated by a prosumer(s) with his/her/their own investment/third-party investment installed at his/her/their rooftops or walls or open land/space within their premises or any open land outside the premises of the consumer(s) in case of group and virtual net metering.

60. ***State DISCOMs*** means Assam Power Distribution Company Limited (APDCL)

61. ***State TRANSCO*** means Assam Electricity Grid Corporation Limited

62. ***SIPB*** means State Investment Promotion Board

63. ***SIPC*** means State Investment Promotion Committee.

64. ***Virtual Net Metering*** means the metering mechanism specified by the State Commission.

65. ***Wind-Solar Hybrid Project*** means a hybrid project if the rated power capacity of one resource is at least 25% of the rated power capacity of other resource. Further, each 1 (one) MW of contracted Wind Solar Hybrid Project shall achieve a minimum CUF of 40%.

19. Regulation

The provisions of this policy shall be the guiding principles for Assam Electricity Regulatory Commission (AERC) to enable the implementation of the policy. State DISCOM and State TRANSCO shall approach the commission for the required amendments and changes for issuance of orders based on the policy provisions.

20. Mid Term Review

State Government may undertake a mid-term review of this policy after a period of two (2) years, or as and when the need arises in view of any technological breakthroughs or to remove any difficulties pertaining to implementation of the policy or any inconsistency with Electricity Act 2003, rules and regulations made there under or any Government of India policy.

21. Power to remove difficulties

If any difficulty arises in giving effect to this policy, the Power (Electricity) Department, Government of Assam, is authorized to issue clarification as well as interpretation to such provisions, as may appear to be necessary for removing the difficulty either on its own motion or after hearing those parties who have represented for change in any provision.

Sd./- Dr. Krishna Kumar Dwivedi, IAS
Principal Secretary to the Govt. of Assam
Power Department

Memo No. PEL 19/2025/13 Dated Dispur, the 24th February, 2025

Copy to:

1. The Principal Accountant General, Assam, Maidamgaon, Beltola, Guwahati- 29
2. The Secretary to the Govt. of India, Ministry of Power, Shram Shakti Bhawan, Rafi Marg, New Delhi- 110001
3. The Secretary to the Govt. of India, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Atal Akshay Urja Bhawan, Opp. Gate No. 2, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003
4. PPS to Chief Minister, Assam, Dispur, Guwahati- 6
5. PO to Chief Secretary, Assam, Dispur, Guwahati- 6
6. The Senior most Secretary, Industries, Commerce and Public Enterprises Department/ Finance Department/ Department of Housing and Urban Affairs/ Science & Technology Department/ Revenue & Disaster Management Department, Dispur, Guwahati- 6.
7. The Chairman, APDCL/ APGCL/ AEGCL
8. The Chairman, Assam Electricity Regulatory Commission, ASEB Compound, Sixth Mile, Guwahati- 22
9. The Managing Director, APDCL/ APGCL/ AEGCL, Bijulee Bhawan, Guwahati- 01
10. The Joint Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Political (Cabinet Cell) Department, Dispur, Guwahati- 06
11. The Director, Government Press, Assam, Bamunimaidam, Guwahati- 21 with a request to publish the Notification in the next gazette.

By order etc.,

24/2/25

Addl. Secretary to the Govt. of Assam,
Power Department