

INDIAN TEA ASSOCIATION



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Circular No. 105/2024-25

21st March 2025

TO : ALL MEMBER COMPANIES WITH INTEREST IN ASSAM

Assam Integrated Clean Energy Policy – 2025 (ICE Policy)

Further to ITA Circular No 131/2022-23 dated 14th February 2023 regarding Assam Renewable Energy Policy 2022.

The Government of Assam has notified the Assam Integrated Clean Energy Policy – 2025 vide Notification No.PEL.19/2025/13 dated 24th February 2025. The operative period of this Policy is from the date of its notification to 31st March 2030 or till it is superseded by another Policy, whichever is earlier.

The salient features of this Policy are as below:

- i. This Policy supersedes the previous Policy i.e. Assam Renewable Energy Policy, 2022 [Clause 5.1 d.];
- ii. Assam Power Distribution Company Limited (APDCL) or any other Department / Agency notified by the State Govt. will be the Nodal Agency under this Policy. [Clause 2.4];
- iii. The Policy will focus on the following clean energy technologies:
 - Solar Power, Wind Power, Wind-Solar Hybrid Power, Biofuels / Biomass & Waste to Energy Projects, Green Hydrogen and its derivatives / Low Carbon Molecules Plants and associated units, EV charging infrastructure etc. [Clause 4.3];
- iv. Clean Energy Projects commissioned in Assam during the operative period shall be eligible for incentives declared under this Policy. [Clause 4.3];
- v. All Clean Energy projects allocated or sanctioned under the previous policies viz. Assam Solar Energy Policies of 2017 and till notification of the 2022 policy will be given liberty to migrate to this new ICE Policy. [Clause 4.4 a)];
- vi. Projects under previous policies which have not progressed or not adhered to timelines / conditions or not commissioned as per the timelines indicated in Allocation Letter / Implementation Agreement / Govt. Orders will not be permitted to migrate. [Clause 4.4 a) i)]
- vii. Migrated projects to ICE Policy shall entail payment of all applicable charges subject to adjustment of any charges that were paid under previous policy(ies) and compliance with the prescribed timelines of ICE Policy to avail the incentives under ICE Policy. [Clause 4.4 a) iii)];

- viii. The policy inter-alia aims to promote RE as under:
 - Promotion of small Decentralized Grid Connected Solar Power Projects [Clause 4.6 ii) d) i)]
 - Promotion of Rooftop Solar Projects through Net Metering, Net Billing, Gross Metering, Virtual Net Metering or in any other manner as per Electricity Act, 2003 and relevant Regulations / Orders issued by AERC / CERC / MNRE. [Clause 4.6 ii) d) ii)].
- ix. Regarding Land-facilitation, land utilized for the development of any Clean Energy Projects will be accorded “deemed non-agricultural status” for which Application has to be submitted to the Revenue Department for one time land conversion. Power (Electricity) Department, Government of Assam shall reimburse 100% of charges spent by the developer in respect of the reclassification of land and payment of Stamp Duty for the land utilized for development of any Clean Energy Project. [Clauses 5.3.5, 5.12 and 6.7.2 b)];
- x. As regards resource allocation, the developer will have to bear the entire cost of the project covering investigation to commissioning and subsequent operation and maintenance. [Clause 5.4.7];
- xi. Regarding Grid Connectivity and Power Evacuation, the power generated from Clean Energy Projects shall be injected at an appropriate voltage at the sub-station and/or interconnection point of the Transmission op Distribution Companies. [Clause 5.5.2];
- xii. The fees and charges for all the projects under the policy are exempted except the application fee and Performance Bank Guarantee. [Clause 5.6];
- xiii. 100% exemption of Intrastate Transmission Charges during the entire life of the project or upto 20 years, whichever is earlier. [Clause 5.7.1];

Distribution / Wheeling charges shall be waived off if the injection and withdrawal of power are at the same voltage levels. [Cl 5.7.2]

Wheeling charges will be determined by AERC from time to time. [Clause 5.7.3]
- xiv. 100% exemption of Electricity Duty for the power consumed from RE plants during the policy operative period from the date of commissioning of the project. [5.9.1];
- xv. Rooftop PV Solar Power Systems (SRTPVS) to be promoted interalia on domestic buildings, commercial and industrial establishments through net metering/net billing/Virtual Net metering as per AERC (Grid interactive Solar PV) Regulation 2019. SRTPVS Projects for domestic sector/residential sector will qualify for benefits under PM Surya Ghar Yojana and in addition the State Govt Subsidies (Clauses 6.1 & 6.7).
- xvi. Policy Incentive for Tea 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 Rubber). [Clause 6.1.9];

- xvii. Solar Power Projects for captive use within the state and set up within the premises of the consumer can sell surplus energy to APDCL @ 75% of the APPC rate. The maximum permissible capacity of individual solar plant for captive use within the State will be limited to "Contract Demand" of the consumer. [Clause 6.4.3].
- xviii. Solar Park: The state will promote the development of Solar Parks in Joint Venture (JV) mode with private developers by investing upto 50% equity. The applicant will need to submit proposal to APDCL for formation of JVCs with State Govt. [Clause 6.6.3];
- xix. With regard to wind power Clauses 7.1 to 7.6 contain the Policy Guideline
- xx. Clause 11 covers Waste to Energy Projects including Biogas based power plant and the incentives available under the policy.
- xxi. For speed of doing business, Single Window Clearance shall be applicable for the projects as per the operating period specified in this policy. [Clause 17.8.1];
- xxii. The fees and charges are as in Clause 17.9 of the Policy;
- xxiii. The timeline for Clean Energy Projects are as per Clause 17.10 of the Policy;

A soft copy of the Notification No.PEL.19/2025/13 dated 24th February 2025 is attached. The aforesaid is for Members' information.



Debasish Chakravarti
Secretary

Encl : As stated

Copy to:
Chairman / Vice-Chairman / Addl. Vice-Chairman, ITA
Secretary – ABITA
Secretary – SVBITA
Secretaries – Zone 1, 2 & 3 – ABITA