

**IN THE JHARKHAND STATE ELECTRICITY REGULATORY
COMMISSION AT RANCHI**

Case No. 27 of 2026

Solar Energy Corporation of India Ltd. Petitioner

Versus

Jharkhand Bijli Vitran Nigam Limited (JBVNL) (R1)

Jharkhand Urja Sancharan Nigam Limited (JUSNL)(R2) .Respondents

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE NAVNEET KUMAR, CHAIRPERSON
HON'BLE MR. MAHENDRA PRASAD, MEMBER (LAW)**

For the Petitioner : Mr. Navin Kumar, Advocate

For the Respondent :Mr. Rajesh Kumar Mandal, EEE,JBVNL-Res. No. 1
Mr. Mukesh Kumar, Advocate, JUSNL- Res. No.2

ORDER

Date – 08th October, 2026

1. This instant petition has been filed by Solar Energy Corporation of India Limited (SECI), under clause 4.7 of the JSERC Electricity Supply Code 2015, seeking necessary approval of this Hon'ble Commission to allow it to reduce its connected load from 21 MVA to 750 KVA at supply voltage of 132 KV dedicated line built by the petitioner company at the cost of Rs.14 Cr approximately.

The Prayers of the Petitioner are as under: -

2. An application under clause 4.7 of the (Electricity Supply Code), 2015 seeking necessary approval of this Hon'ble commission to allow it to reduce its contract load from 21 MVA to 750 KVA from respondent JBVNL at supply voltage of 132KV through dedicated line built by the petitioner

company at the cost of Rs.14 Cr approximately from 27.07.2026 i.e. from the date on which the petitioner company applied for reduction of sanctioned service load as per notification No 112 date 9th August, 2025 by Hon'ble (JSERC) Jharkhand State Electricity Regulatory Commission the maximum auxiliary consumption for Floating solar projects shall be 0.75%, for our 100MW FSPV plant that comes to 750KVA.

Submissions of the Petitioner

3. The Petitioner, SECI, is a Central Public Sector Undertaking (CPSU) under the administrative control of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), set up on 20th September, 2011 to facilitate implementation of the National Solar Mission (NSM). It was originally incorporated as a Section-25 (not-for-profit) company under the Companies Act, 1956, and was converted into a Section-3 company in 2015 under the Companies Act, 2013, with its mandate broadened to cover the entire renewable energy domain. SECI is a nodal agency for implementation of several MNRE schemes and also holds a Category-1 power trading license.
4. It is submitted that the JSERC (Renewable Energy Purchase Obligation and its Compliance) Regulations, 2016 fixed the solar Renewable Purchase Obligation (RPO) of JBVNL at 6.55% for FY 2020-21, against which JBVNL achieved only 32.44 MUs against a target of 798.20 MUs. For FY 2021-22, the solar RPO component was fixed at 10.50%, against which JBVNL achieved only 128.90 MUs against a target of 1,317.83 MUs.
5. It is further submitted that by order dated 1st October, 2020, on true-up for FY 2018-19, Annual Performance Review for FY 2019-20 and ARR & Tariff for FY 2020-21, the Commission had directed JBVNL to strictly comply with its RPO in future years and to submit quarterly compliance reports; however, due to paucity of renewable sources, JBVNL has not been able to fulfil its RPO.
6. It has also been submitted that It is expected that power from upcoming 700 MW from Solar power developers, for which JBVNL has signed PPA with SECI, would help JBVNL to fulfil its RPO in future years (FY 2022-23 onwards). JBVNL has executed Power sale agreement (PSA) with SECI for procurement of 700 MW solar power from various solar power developers under which 315 MW is being availed by JBVNL since January 2022. The PSA has been approved by JSERC.
7. SECI, being the nodal agency for implementation of the National Solar Mission through grid-connected solar/wind projects, entered into an

agreement with JBVNL for a 100 MW Floating Solar PV (FSPV) Plant to be developed at the reservoir of Getalsud Dam, with SECI to call for competitive bidding for development of the plant through an Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) agency.

8. In order to fulfil its RPO, the Board of Directors of JBVNL, in its meeting held on 25.08.2021, approved purchase of 100 MW solar power from the floating solar PV plant to be established by SECI under MNRE on a long-term basis of 25 years, at a tariff of Rs. 3.50/kWh or lower to be determined by the appropriate Commission (CERC/JSERC) based on the rate quoted by the successful bidder in competitive bidding, and accordingly signed a provisional PPA with SECI for 100 MW floating solar power (Phase-I).
9. It has been stated that SECI, in pursuit of harnessing renewable energy while reducing land requirement, submitted a proposal to the Government of Jharkhand (GoJ) vide letter dated 6th April, 2018 for exploration of potential floating solar sites in the State, citing falling costs of solar power and the availability of vast reservoir area, floating solar also helping reduce evaporation loss and conserve water.
10. Pursuant to the above the GoJ, Department of Energy, conveyed its consent for implementation of FSPV power plants in the State vide letter no. 139/S.C. dated 20.04.2018, pursuant to which a Joint Working Group (JWG) of SECI and the Jharkhand Renewable Energy Development Agency (JREDA) was constituted and the JWG visited Ranchi on 21st-22nd August, 2018 to identify suitable reservoir sites for floating solar projects.
11. SECI, vide letter no. SECI/MD/FSPV/JBVNL/2018 dated 14.09.2018, expressed its desire to set up a project of up to 150 MW on its own and offered a levelized tariff of Rs. 3.5/kWh or lower to be determined by the appropriate Commission; this offer was accepted by JBVNL vide letter no. 325/(C&R) dated 11.10.2018.
12. Thereupon, SECI and JBVNL thereafter signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) dated 20.02.2019, following approval of the Board of Directors of JBVNL, for setting up of 100 MW FSPV at the reservoir of Getalsud Dam, Ranchi, and 50 MW at Dhurwa Dam.
13. The reservoir of Getalsud Dam, Ranchi, caters to drinking water requirements and is owned by the Water Resources Department (WRD), GoJ. NOCs for installation of the 100 MW FSPV plant at the reservoir were obtained from WRD vide letter no. 140 dated 28.01.2019 and from DW&SW, GoJ, vide letter no. 2711 dated 30.07.2019; land for

establishment of the 132/33kV Power Evacuation Switchyard was provided by WRD to JBVNL free of cost.

14. It is further stated and submitted that the tripartite water lease agreement between Water Resources Department, Govt. of Jharkhand, JBVNL and SECI Ltd. for installation of Floating Solar PV Plant of capacity 100MW at the reservoir of Getalsud Dam, has been executed subsequent to approval by Jharkhand Cabinet as communicated vide Resolution No. 928 Dt. 11/06/2021.
15. It is also submitted that vide 132 kV D/C Transmission Line (8.4 Km length) from SECI's 100 MW Floating Solar Plant to IRBA Substation at Ranchi, Jharkhand under Regulation 4.5 of the Central Electricity Authority (Measures relating to Safety and Electricity Supply) Regulations, 2023, the Central Electricity Authority gave approval for energization to the petitioner company.
16. It has been submitted that vide letter no. 2922 dated 03.07.2026, the respondent no. 2 sanctioned 21MVA load at 132 KVA under EHT Category under HTIS Tariff to M/s Solar Energy Corporation of India Ltd. (SECI) at Getalsud Dam, Ranchi and further directed the petitioner company to deposit security amount of Rs. 26,29,20,000.00/- only by way of cash or bank draft in the favour of JBVNL before execution of agreement.
17. Further the petitioner company on 10.07.2026 submitted requisite security amount in favour of JBVNL through bank guarantee as directed in the sanction letter dated 03.07.2026.
18. It is submitted that thereafter on 17.07.2026, the petitioner Unit signed this (EHT Category) Agreement with Respondent Jharkhand Bijli Vitran Nigam Limited for 21MVA through 132 kV D/C Transmission Line (8.4 Km length) from SECI's 100MW Floating Solar Plant to IRBA Substation at Ranchi, Jharkhand under Regulation 45 of the Central Electricity Authority (Measures relating to Safety and Electricity Supply) Regulations, 2023.
19. Further it has been submitted that after execution of agreement on 17.07.2026, the respondent JBVNL vide letter no. 3344/ESE dated 18.07.2026 issued instruction for energization of new service connection in the name of petitioner company on the basis of certificate issued by CEA and thereafter the service connection was energized.
20. The petitioner submitted that within a week the commercial operation of the petitioner floating solar plant will start and thereafter it will require only 750KVA of contract load as per notification No 112 date 9th August,

2025 by Hon'ble Jharkhand State Electricity Regulatory Commission the maximum auxiliary consumption for Floating solar projects shall be 0.75%, for our 100MW FSPV plant that comes to 750KVA and keeping in mind the above provision of regulation, the petitioner company on 27.07.2026, made a request for reduction of sanctioned service load to 750KVA with immediate effect for auxiliary consumption.

REPLY ON BEHALF OF THE RESPONDENT NO 1- JBVNL

21. It is submitted that as per the obligation clause SECI shall obtain all statutory approvals, clearance and permits necessary for the projects at his cost.
22. It is further submitted that as per the obligation clause SECI shall be responsible for all payments on accounts to take start up power required for the plant from JBVNL.
23. The respondent further submitted that as per agreement clause all arrangements/ equipment's shall be installed by SECI at its own cost.
24. It has been submitted that the answering respondent does not have any objections to the prayers of the petitioner subject to the aforesaid submissions.

REPLY ON BEHALF OF THE RESPONDENT NO.2 - JUSNL

25. The respondent submitted that the petitioner has filed the petition to reduce its contract demand load from 21 MVA to 750 KVA which is permissible under clause 4.3 of the Electricity Supply Code Regulations, 2015.
26. It has been further submitted that clause A 26- Auxillary Consumption has been defined in 2025 Regulations for solar PV Projects, whereby reduction of load for floating solar PV projects has been set up by this Commission to 0.75% of sanctioned service load.
27. It is submitted that there was an agreement between SECI and JBVNL, and that JUSNL has no concern and objection to the petition filed by the petitioner.

Commission's Observation and findings

28. The Commission has taken into consideration all the averments and submissions made by the parties and perused the materials available on records and has come to the following observations:
29. It is observed that the Petitioner has already been sanctioned a 21 MVA load under the EHT category at 132 KV by JBVNL, and that the Petitioner

has, at its own cost of approximately Rs. 14 Cr., constructed the entire dedicated 132 KV D/C transmission line (8.4 km) for evacuation of power from SECI's 100 MW floating solar plant to JBVNL's network, JBVNL being the sole purchaser of the entire electricity generated. The Petitioner now seeks to continue availing supply at the same 132 KV voltage, over the same dedicated line already built and energized, but at a reduced contract demand of 750 KVA.

30. The Commission notes that the figure of 750 KVA is not an arbitrary reduction but is derived directly from the auxiliary consumption norm of 0.75% prescribed for floating solar projects under Notification No. 112 dated 9th August, 2025 issued by this Commission, which for the Petitioner's 100 MW installed capacity works out to exactly 750 KVA. The reduced contract demand sought is therefore consistent with, and required to give effect to, the Commission's own Notification.

31. The Petitioner's submission that drawl of auxiliary power at any voltage other than 132 KV is not technically feasible, since its entire system is connected to the grid only through 132/33 kV power transformers and the dedicated line already built by it, remains uncontroverted on the records of the case. Continuation of supply at 132 KV, notwithstanding the reduced contract demand of 750 KVA — which is otherwise classifiable at a lower voltage under Clause 4.3 of the 2015 Regulations — is thus a matter squarely covered under Clause 4.7 of the 2015 Regulations.

32. Clause 4.7 of the 2015 Regulations provides as under:

“The Distribution Licensee may, depending upon the technical conditions of the distribution system, give supply at a voltage and phase other than the classification of supply in Clause 4.3 of the said Regulations, subject to the Commission's approval.”

33. Since the dedicated 132 KV transmission infrastructure already stands constructed and energized entirely at the Petitioner's own cost, continuation of supply at the said voltage at the reduced contract demand does not require any fresh infrastructure or alteration on the part of the Respondent-JBVNL, and that JBVNL also does not object to the prayer made by the petitioner.

34. The Commission also notes the Petitioner's undertaking that it shall not avail any Voltage Rebate from JBVNL on account of supply being continued at 132 KV, and that its Auxiliary Power Consumption shall stand net-metered against units generated in accordance with Relevant

clause of the PPA, with reactive power charges payable by the Petitioner as per JSERC Regulations. These undertakings adequately safeguard the commercial interest of the Respondent-JBVNL.

35. The Commission also notes that the present application, being in substance one for reduction of the Petitioner's contract demand from 21 MVA to 750 KVA, is governed by Clause 7.17 ("Load Reduction") of the 2015 Regulations, in addition to Clause 4.7. The procedural requirements of Clause 7.17.1 and 7.17.2 stand satisfied on the facts on record. In terms of Clause 7.17.6, the reduced contract demand shall be given effect and the revised agreement between the Petitioner and the Respondent-JBVNL shall be executed within the timeline directed in this Order.
36. The Commission also takes note that the underlying arrangement for procurement of solar power from the Petitioner's 100 MW FSPV plant already stands recognized by this Commission in its approval of the Provisional Power Purchase Agreement between JBVNL and SECI for 100 MW Floating Solar PV, and that continuation of this arrangement, including the connectivity arrangement now sought to be modified, is consistent with JBVNL's efforts towards compliance with its solar RPO.
37. For the reasons aforesaid, this Commission is satisfied that the prayer of the Petitioner deserves to be allowed, subject to the compliance of all safety measures as prescribed under the Electricity Act, 2003 and other conditions recorded in this Order.
38. It is clarified that the reduction of contract demand to 750 KVA, and the applicable tariff and other charges consequent thereupon, shall be given effect to by the Distribution Licensee-JBVNL in accordance with the 2015 Code and the relevant Tariff Order/Schedule of Charges in force, from 08.10.2026, i.e., the date of pronouncement of this order.

ORDER

39. In light of the aforesaid discussions and observations and in exercise of the powers conferred under the Electricity Act, 2003 and the applicable provisions of the JSERC Regulations, the Commission hereby allows the prayer of the Petitioner, Solar Energy Corporation of India Ltd. under Clause 4.7 of the JSERC (Electricity Supply Code) Regulations, 2015, to continue to take service connection from the Respondent-JBVNL at a supply voltage of 132 KV, through the dedicated 132 KV D/C transmission line constructed by the Petitioner at its own cost, with a reduced contract demand of 750 KVA, in place of the earlier sanctioned load of 21 MVA, with effect from today i.e. 08.10.2026.

40. The Petitioner's Auxiliary Power Consumption shall be net-metered against units generated in accordance with Clause 6.5 of the PPA between JBVNL and SECI, with reactive power charges payable by the Petitioner as per JSERC Regulations and also that the Petitioner shall not avail any Voltage Rebate from JBVNL.
41. Further, it is clarified as admitted by the petitioner that the petitioner will not avail voltage rebate corresponding to the aforesaid voltage level as per the JSERC (Electricity Supply Code) Regulations, 2015.
42. The Respondent-JBVNL is directed to give effect to this Order and to carry out the necessary modification in the service connection/agreement of the Petitioner accordingly, within Thirty (30) days of receipt of this Order.
43. Accordingly, with the aforesaid observations and findings the instant petition stands disposed off.

Sd/-
Member (L)

Sd/-
Chairperson