CLARIFICATION

Sub: Approved Models and Manufacturers of Solar Photovoltaic Modules (Requirements for Compulsory Registration) Order, 2019

Ref:

i. MNRE’s O.M. of even no. dated 2nd January, 2019 reg. Approved Models and Manufacturers of Solar Photovoltaic Modules (Requirements for Compulsory Registration) Order, 2019

ii. MNRE’s O.M. of even no. dated 28.03.2019 reg. Guidelines for enlistment under “Approved Models and Manufacturers of Solar Photovoltaic Modules (Requirements for Compulsory Registration) Order, 2019 and amendment thereto issued vide MNRE’s O.M. of even no. dated 12th June, 2019

iii. Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on Approved List of Models and Manufacturers (ALMM) of Solar Photovoltaic Modules, issued by MNRE on 25th June, 2019

(1). Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE) has been receiving request regarding further clarification on “definition of model”, “quantum of Application Fee” and provisions w.r.t. manufacturers currently exempted from BIS Registration / Certification for ALMM application purposes.

(2). Accordingly, following clarifications are hereby issued:

A. Definition and explanation of ‘model’ for ALMM application purposes:

i. The “model” as mentioned in ALMM Guidelines, refers to modules / cells of same nominal power output rating. All BIS approved modules/ cells of the applicant with same nominal power output rating shall be treated as one model.

ii. Since, single model of a module has a range of power wattage, as often described in the manufacturer’s datasheet for such model, the ALMM application form provides for specifying both the Mean Wattage and applicable Range of Wattage. However, since such range of wattage may vary from manufacturer to manufacturer based on the methodology of model categorisation adopted by them, it is hereby clarified that, for ALMM application purposes:

a. All the modules based on same technology (multi-crystalline/ mono-crystalline / mono- PERC/ bifacial/ half-cut, etc.) and having same no. of cells and having power ratings within ± 5% of the power rating of the mean wattage, as submitted by the applicant, shall be treated as one model.

b. The applicable range of wattage upto variation of ± 5% of the mean wattage of the module, shall only be permissible.

c. If a module has variation in power ratings beyond ± 5% of the mean wattage of the module under consideration, the said module will have to be covered under other model.

Thus,

a. If two different modules have same technology (say multi-crystalline), have same no. of cells (say 72 cells), have power ratings either identical (say 320 Wp and 320 Wp) or slightly
varying but within the permissible variation range of ± 5% from the mean wattage (say 315 Wp and 345 Wp which are within ±5% of the mean wattage module of 330 Wp), they shall be treated as one model, subject to all other major technical aspects being similar.

b. If there are two modules, both of which are multi-crystalline, have 72 no. of cells and have power rating 320 Wp, but have some difference in some technical feature like different voltage rating, different no. of bus bars, different anti-reflective coating, etc., they will not be treated as one model.

c. Similarly, for PV cells, all the cells based on same technology (multi-crystalline/mono-crystalline/mono-PERC/bifacial/half-cut, etc.) and having power ratings within ±5% of the power rating of the mean wattage as submitted by the applicant, shall be treated as one model, subject to all other major technical aspects being similar.

B. Quantum of Application Fee for enlistment in ALMM:

i. Subject to any amendment thereto, the application fee for one model of module/cell is Rs. 5,000/- per MW of the total installed manufacturing capacity for solar PV modules and Rs. 5,000/- per MW of the total installed manufacturing capacity for solar PV cells, of the applicant. The total installed manufacturing capacity refers to the total installed manufacturing capacity of cells or modules, as the case may be, of the applicant manufacturer across different technologies and different sites but manufacturing under the same "Brand" name.

ii. However, as provided vide Amendment dated 06th February, 2020 for PV module manufacturers having total installed manufacturing capacity of modules, across different technologies and different sites but manufacturing under the same "Brand" name, less than or equal to 50 MW, then for such PV module manufacturer, application fee for one model of module will be Rs. 2,500/- per MW of such total installed as described above in this paragraph.

iii. In case, the application consists of multiple models, (whether of same technology but different attributes or on account of multiple technologies), the application fee shall be as per B(i) or B(ii) above, as the case may be, for one model, and additional 1% of this for every additional model.

(eg. If an applicant having total installed manufacturing capacity of solar PV modules as 100MW, applies for enlistment of its 5 different models of modules, with three being of one technology and two of other technology, the application fee shall be 5,000x100 + 5,000x100x0.01 + 5,000x100x0.01 + 5,000x100x0.01 + 5,000x100x0.01 = Rs. 5,20,000/-)  

(eg. If an applicant having total installed manufacturing capacity of solar PV modules as 50MW, applies for enlistment of its 5 different models of modules, with three being of one technology and two of other technology, the application fee shall be 2,500x50 + 2,500x50x0.01 + 2,500x50x0.01 + 2,500x50x0.01 + 2,500x50x0.01 = Rs. 1,30,000/-)

Thus,

FOR MODULES

iv. If the applicant applies for enlistment of several models of PV modules comprising of different technologies and having different no. of cells and having different power ratings, the calculation of application fee shall be as follows:

• For first model: Rs. (5,000/2,500 as applicable x total installed manufacturing capacity (MW) of modules, of the applicant manufacturer across different technologies and different sites but manufacturing under the same "Brand" name)

• For all other models (irrespective of technology, no. of cells and power ratings): Rs. (5,000/2,500 as applicable x 0.01 x total installed manufacturing capacity (MW) of modules,
of the applicant manufacturer across different technologies and different sites but manufacturing under the same "Brand" name)

FOR CELLS

v. If the applicant applies for enlistment of several models of PV cells comprising of different technologies and having different power ratings, the calculation of application fee shall be as follows:

- **For first model:** Rs. \((5,000 \times \text{total installed manufacturing capacity (MW)} \times 0.01)\) of cells, of the applicant manufacturer across different technologies and different sites but manufacturing under the same "Brand" name)

- **For all other models (irrespective of technology and power ratings):** Rs. \((5,000 \times 0.01)\) x total installed manufacturing capacity (MW) of cells, of the applicant manufacturer across different technologies and different sites but manufacturing under the same "Brand" name)

C. Enlistment under ALMM, of PV manufacturers currently exempted from BIS Registration / Certification:

i. “The solar PV manufacturers who are exempted from BIS registration / certification, as per MNRE’s Gazette Notification No. S.O. 3449 (E) dated 13th July, 2018, or any extension thereof, are eligible for enlistment of their solar PV modules under MNRE’s “Approved Models and Manufacturers of Solar Photovoltaic Modules (Requirements for Compulsory Registration) Order, 2019" dated 2nd January, 2019 and amendments thereto. However, the validity of their enlistment in “Approved List of Models and Manufacturers” (ALMM) will be co-terminus with the validity of the exemption from BIS registration / certification available to them as per MNRE’s Gazette Notification No. S.O. 3449 (E) dated 13th July, 2018, or any extension thereof, after which the enlistment under ALMM will be continued / renewed only after submission of requisite documents, including documents pertaining to BIS Registration / Certification.”

ii. If the PV manufacturer who has enlisted his products under ALMM without BIS registration / certification, subsequently obtains BIS registration / certification and submits the requisite documents to MNRE, at least one month prior to the date of expiry of his ALMM enlistment, his enlistment under ALMM shall be considered valid for two years from the date of enlistment of his products under ALMM, without any additional fee requirement.

(3). This issues with the approval of Hon’ble Minister (Power & New & Renewable Energy).

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To:

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2. All concerned.
3. NIC, MNRE, for uploading on MNRE Website

Copy for internal circulation to:
PS to Hon’ble Minister (Power & NRE)/ Sr. PPS to Secretary/ Sr. PPS to JS (AKS)/ Dir (RG)/ Sci-D (SK)