SolarPower Europe and NSEFI join forces for new solar deployment guidelines for India



Supported by the <u>EU-India Clean Energy and Climate Partnership</u>, the National Solar Energy Federation of India (<u>NSEFI</u>) and SolarPower Europe have jointly published landmark best practice guidelines for engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC) of solar projects in India.

Read the EPC Best Practice Guidelines: India Edition

Thursday 9 June 2022: The 'EPC Best Practice Guidelines: India Edition' is a product of the joint Indian-European EPC Taskforce that was established in September 2021, assembling 31 leading solar experts from both regions.

Based on the first edition of SolarPower Europe's 'EPC Best Practice Guidelines: Europe Edition', recommendations in these latest guidelines have been adjusted to reflect the market and business conditions in India, taking the unique aspects of the country into account.

This India Edition of EPC Best Practice Guidelines includes key national legislation on occupational health, ensuring EPC service providers are aware of their obligations towards their staff. The guidelines also give details on where to acquire the relevant environmental consents for solar PV projects.

With regards to financing, the Guidelines highlight important aspects of the finance architecture in India, detailing what bonds and bank guarantees EPC service providers need to issue. Similarly, the guidelines have been adapted to include the relevant Indian standards governing component quality, and more detailed best practice recommendations on the handover of monitoring software to O&M service providers.

Walburga Hemetsberger, CEO of SolarPower Europe said: "India is the fifth largest solar market in the world, with 45 GW of solar capacity. As SolarPower Europe is pleased to work with our partners at NSEFI and the EU-India CECP to support the high-quality deployment of India's solar fleet."

Pranav R Mehta, Chairman of NSEFI said: "As India transitions from Government Driven Demand to Market Driven Demand it is imperative to establish industry accepted standards and best practices to ensure proliferation of quality solar installations. I am happy that we are able to create this document with the support of SolarPower Europe and the EU-India CECP through a wider consultation from Indian Stakeholders."

About the EU-India Clean Energy and Climate Partnership

The overall objective of the EU-India Clean Energy & Climate Partnership (EU-India CECP) is to reinforce cooperation between EU and India on clean energy and climate change with a view to ensure a secure, clean, affordable and reliable energy supply for all and to progress in the implementation of the Paris Agreement. The overall objective is envisaged to be achieved by focusing on Energy Efficiency, Renewable Energy, and Climate Change.

About the National Solar Energy Federation of India

National Solar Energy Federation of India (NSEFI) is an umbrella organization of all solar energy stakeholders of India. Which works in the area of policy advocacy and is a National Platform for addressing all issues connected with solar energy growth in India. It consists of leading International, National and Regional companies and includes Solar Developers, Manufacturers, EPC Contractors, Rooftop Installers, System Integrators, and Balance of Plant suppliers and Manufacturers, Small and Medium Enterprises and works in a complimentary manner with the Central and State Governments for achieving India's National Solar Target of 100 GW by 2022 & Renewable Target of 450 GW by 2030.

About SolarPower Europe

SolarPower Europe is the award-winning link between policymakers and the solar PV value chain. Our mission is to ensure solar becomes Europe's leading energy source by 2030.

As the member-led association for the European solar PV sector, SolarPower Europe represents over 260 organisations across the entire solar sector. With solar sitting on the horizon of unprecedented expansion, we work together with our members to create the necessary regulatory and business environment to take solar to the next level.