

HIMURJA
(H.P. GOVT. ENERGY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY)
SHIMLA- 171 009.

Letter of Invitation

No: HIMURJA (F-7)2/ESPP/WB/2024- 6166

Dated 22nd Oct, 2024

To carry out Environment and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) for HIMURJA,
under World Bank funded "Himachal Pradesh Power Sector Development
Program".

✓



HIMURJA
(H.P. GOVT. ENERGY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY)
SHIMLA- 171 009.

Notice Inviting Proposal (NIP)

To carry out Environment and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) for HIMURJA, under World Bank funded "Himachal Pradesh Power Sector Development Program".

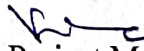
HIMURJA (H.P. Govt Energy Development Agency), Government of Himachal Pradesh, invites proposals from reputed consultancy agencies/organizations for carrying out Environment and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) for 11 Solar Power Projects to be developed in the State of H.P. The request for proposal document (RFP) can be obtained from the Project Manager (Solar), HIMURJA, 8-A, SDA Complex, Kasumpti, Shimla-171009 on a payment of Rs 3000 (Rupees Three Thousand only) non-refundable, through Bank draft/Banker cheque in favour of Chief Executive Officer, HIMURJA, Shimla in the account details as mentioned below:

Beneficiary Name	Chief Executive Officer, HIMURJA
Account Number	55070883802
Bank Name	State Bank of India
IFSC code	SBIN 0014639
Branch	Kasumpti

The start and last date for sale of RFP document to the interested bidders, last date of submission and date of opening of bids is as under:

1. Date of Issue: 25-10-2024
2. Start date for sale of RFP document: 28-10-2024
3. Last date for sale of RFP document: 18-11-2024 upto 5:00 PM
4. Pre-Bid meeting: 5-11-2024 at 3:00 PM
5. Last date of submission of bids: 19-11-2024 upto 5:00 PM
6. Date of opening of bids: 20-11-2024 at 11:00 AM

The letter of invitation and Terms of References etc, are available on the website of HIMURJA i.e. www.himurja.hp.gov.in.


Project Manager (Solar),
HIMURJA,
Shimla.

Terms of Reference (TOR)

HIMURJA (H.P. Govt Energy Development Agency), Government of Himachal Pradesh, invites proposals from reputed consultancy agencies/ organizations having sufficient experience, in conducting Environment and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) for infrastructure projects.

1. Introduction

HIMURJA (H.P. Govt Energy Development Agency) under the Department of Non Conventional energy Sources, Govt of H.P. is registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860. HIMURJA is the state Nodal Agency to promote, popularize and tap Renewable Energy potential in the State including harnessing of Hydro Power potential upto 5 MW capacity. HIMURJA proposes to develop Solar Power Projects of approx 10 MW capacity under the World Bank funded "Himachal Pradesh Power Sector Development Program".

2. Proposal Details

The World Bank is supporting the Himachal Pradesh Power Sector Development Program which is a PforR results-based program that aims to support HP in fulfilling its vision of becoming first 'Green Energy' State in the country by March, 2026. The Program envisages improved integration of RE resources through optimization of state's current and proposed generation base. This would involve bundling hydropower with variable non-hydro RE (solar, wind, biomass, etc.) to provide reliable power. Planned investment in Solar (with or without storage solutions) will further complement to adding green energy to the State.

The support is also being provided by the World Bank to strengthen the existing Environment and Social Impact Assessment framework and to develop Environment and Social Policy Procedures (ESPP) for utilities which do not have one in place. HIMURJA at present does not have any in house staff or expert for drafting of ESPP and carry out studies for ESIA for the allotted projects.

TOR : To carry out Environment and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA), studies for Solar Projects being developed by HIMURJA under the World Bank funded "Himachal Pradesh Power Sector Development Program".

HIMURJA proposes to develop Solar Power Projects of approx 10 MW capacity under the World Bank funded "Himachal Pradesh Power Sector Development Program. In the first phase, 11 panchayats have been proposed to be developed as Green Panchayats, where Ground Mounted Solar Power Projects (GMSPPs) of 500 kW capacity each will be installed. The cumulative capacity of these GMSPPs will be 5.5 MW. The details of the sites are as under:

Name of site	Gram Panchayat	Distt	Area (in Ha)	Type of Land
Sera	Karaur	Hamirpur	00-68.49	Govt Land
Kashidhar	Buai	Kullu	0.9983	Forest Land, FCA obtained
Mamligh	Mamligh	Solan	0.9712	Govt land
Kutharbeet	Kutharbeet	Una	0-98-90	Forest land
Panjada	Panjada	Kangra	0-89-10	Govt Land (Transferred)
Jol	Lehri Sarail	Bilaspur	0.6772	Forest Land
Pashmi	Gwali	Sirmaur	0.8	Forest land
Muhal	Muhal	Kangra	0-86-42	Govt land
Jagla	Khangsar (Lahaul)	L& S	0.9592	Forest land
Dharech	Theog	Shimla	1	Govt land
Parali	Jubbal & Kotkhai	Shimla	1	Panchayat Land NOC obtained

(I) Details of the project, project activities and timelines.

Ground Mounted Solar Power Projects of 500 kW capacity will be set up at the 11 sites for which land less than or equal to 1 hectare is required. The prefeasibility of the sites have been carried out and the consent from HPSEBL

√



has also been obtained for the interconnection point where the power will be injected from the GMSP to the grid. The GMSP comprises of Solar Photovoltaic Modules, supported on the Module Mounting Structure of steel framework, Power Conditioning Unit with associated cabling, transformer, civil/drainage works. The power generated from the GMSP will be transmitted to nearest available transmission network of HPSEBL which is approx at a distance of 200 meter to 800 meters. Water for cleaning of modules will be sourced either from ground water source or from the Jalshakti Department from their existing/augmented supplies. The likely date of commissioning of the GMSPs will be April, 2025.

(II) Requirement For ESIA

The Solar Power Projects in the State do not require a regulatory environmental clearance as per the Swaran Jayanti Energy Policy, 2021. Though the proposed GMSPs are of 500 kW capacity and require less than 1 hectare of land, but these projects may still have an environmental and social impacts which need to be avoided. In case risks and impacts cannot be avoided, in such cases impacts need to be mitigated or managed. The basic guiding principle is to avoid the sites where the loss of natural resources, forests, habitats (such as coasts and wetlands) are significant; or where large-scale resettlement, acquisition of high productive land, diversion of water meant for domestic use would be required.

(III) Reference Framework

The ESIA should be prepared based on the requirements of the following:

- a) National/local environmental and social regulations
- b) Environmental and Social Framework of the World Bank Group including ESS 2-8 and ESS 10
- c) Applicable World Bank Group (WBG) Environmental Health & Safety (EHS) guidelines.

✓

(iv) Co
secor
pr
(v)

(IV) Objectives

The objectives of the ESIA would be to:

- (i) Identify Project Impact and Influence Areas
- (ii) Determine the environmental and social (E&S) baseline conditions at the project's Impact and Influence Areas.
- (iii) Prepare Exclusion Criteria in consultation with the Implantation Authority
- (iv) Identification of the project impacted families, assess loss of livelihood / property resources for people living within the proposed site and in its immediate vicinity through primary surveys / consultations.
- (v) Carry out Stakeholder Mapping and Consultation in all phases of ESIA preparation.
- (vi) Assess the E&S risks and impacts (direct and indirect, including impacts on vulnerable project affected persons/groups) resulting from the construction, operation and decommissioning of the project.
- (vii) Analyze all feasible project alternatives.
- (viii) Identify mitigation and management measures.
- (ix) Social Framework, especially those identified in ESSs 2-10.
- (x) To develop an Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) for implementation and monitoring of the mitigation measures.

(V) Scope of Work

The ESIA Consultant shall undertake the following tasks which are not limited to:

- (i) Literature survey, data collection, examination of available environmental reports/data, understanding the proposed project through project report and discussions etc.
- (ii) Undertake E&S scoping, based on review of available primary and secondary data, to ensure focus on key impacts and exclude insignificant issues.
- (iii) Define the project's Project Impact and Influence Areas.

- (iv) Collection and generation of baseline environmental data (primary & secondary) & compilation of environmental and social status of proposed project.
- (v) Identify all potential significant adverse environmental and social impacts of the project and recommend measures for mitigation.
- (vi) Identify the process of public participation, Compensation, Livelihood Restoration Planning and Implementation processes as per their applicability.
- (vii) Verify compliance with the national environmental and social regulations, other relevant laws as well as applicable common international guidelines/ practices.
- (viii) To list out all the species of Flora and Fauna affected due to project activity (both temporarily and permanently). This shall also list out the ecologically sensitive area (if any) in the vicinity of the proposed project sites.
- (ix) Prepare an ESIA report, including management plans and monitoring programs, and an estimated implementation budget in compliance to ESS 2-8 and ESS10.
- (x) To adopt differentiated measures so that adverse impacts do not fall disproportionately on the disadvantaged or vulnerable, and they are not disadvantaged in sharing development benefits and opportunities resulting from the project.
- (xi) If applicable, conduct supplemental studies such as a Critical Habitat Assessment and/or Indigenous Peoples' Assessment, including Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP), Indigenous Peoples' Development Plan (IPDP), etc.
- (xii) Prepare a summary of the ESIA report to be used with the full report in public consultations; and
- (xiii) Design, execute and document any public/stakeholder consultations and engagement throughout the ESIA process, including stakeholder identification, analysis, consultation, engagement, along with preparation of a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) and establishment of grievance mechanisms which can be effectively accessed by project affected stakeholders.
- (xiv) To utilize national environmental and social institutions, systems, laws, regulations, and procedures in the assessment, development, and implementation of projects, whenever appropriate.
- (xv) To develop an Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) for implementation and monitoring of the mitigation measures.

2

(VI) Deliverables

The key output of this assignment will be the ESIA main report, including monitoring programmes, along with maps depicting project impact and influence area, meeting minutes/transcripts, photographs taken during site visits and any other relevant information. The information in the main text of the ESIA report should be supported by references. Finally ESMP should also be prepared with inputs from ESIA and all related studies.

The draft ESIA report will address any comments by Implementation Agency and World Bank before being finalized. Final reports will be issued in the English language.

(VII) Indicative Scope of ESIA Report

The report will provide overview of significant findings and recommended actions, ideally in non-technical language. Concisely discusses significant findings and recommended actions.

(i) Regulatory and Institutional Framework

Discusses the policy, legal, institutional and administrative framework within which the Assessment is carried out, including host country regulations, obligations implementing relevant international environmental and social treaties, agreements, and conventions, World Bank Group's ESF and EHS guidelines, as well as any additional priorities and objectives for environmental or social performance identified by the lender.

(ii) Project Description

Briefly describes the proposed project and its geographic, ecological, social, and temporal context, including any related facilities that may be required (access roads, water supply, housing, and storage facilities), with maps showing the project site and the project's area of influence. This chapter needs thorough consideration of the details of the project, indicates the need for any plan to meet the requirements of ESS 1 through 10; includes a map of sufficient detail, showing the project site

and the area that may be affected by the project's direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts.

(iii) Analysis of Alternatives

Compare reasonable alternatives to the proposed project site, technology, design, and operation in terms of their potential environmental impacts; the feasibility of mitigating these impacts; their capital and recurrent costs; their suitability under local conditions; and their institutional, training, and monitoring requirements. States the basis for selecting the project design proposed and justifies recommended emission levels and approaches to pollution prevention and abatement. Propose micro-level adjustments to the project design as needed (e.g. shifting the positioning of certain facilities by small distances to avoid impacts).

(iv) Baseline Studies

Assesses the dimensions of the study area and describes relevant physical, biological, socioeconomic, and labor conditions, including any changes anticipated before the project commences. Also considers current and proposed development activities within the project area but not directly connected to the project. Data should be relevant to decisions about project location, design, operation, or mitigation measures. The section indicates the accuracy, reliability, and sources of the data. This section should include description of the overall methodology (e.g. sampling methods and rationale) for undertaking the ESIA including data collection and analysis.

a) Environmental Baseline

Baseline conditions of the following (and other) aspects should be established:

- Describe the natural environment including meteorology, geology, hydrogeology, rivers, streams, drainage, land use, etc. based on secondary data
- Describe key local natural resources and confirm if the project is located in or around a critical habitat and if there are protected/threatened species in or around the project site

3

- Establish a baseline of key local fauna, flora, habitats, ecosystems, ecosystem services, and movement corridors if any, based on secondary data
- Present modeling data on air quality, noise, vibration, etc.
- Present monitoring data on surface water quality, ground water quality, etc.
- Mention issues arising from other industries and operations in the vicinity of the project site, which may lead to cumulative impacts

b) Socio-economic Baseline

Baseline conditions of the following (and other) aspects should be established:

- Site land history, situation of local community and residents.
- Identification of directly and indirectly affected communities, including vulnerable persons/groups, and ethnic groups/communities, within the project's primary and secondary AOI's
- Analyze the following (and other) socio-economic attributes of the above identified project affected communities: (i) population; (ii) demographic characteristics; (iii) physical locations; (iv) income level and sources; (v) health conditions; (vi) educational attainment levels; (vii) access to health and education services and facilities; (viii) norms and practices of ethnic minority groups (as applicable); (ix) use and access of local natural resources; (x) types and quantities of various assets held by PAP such as land, livestock, etc; (xi) key livelihood activities; (xii) etc.
- Description of the political and institutional environment (local government and administration, government policies, local NGOs, and community-based organizations (CBOs), social organization and leadership, social network structures), as part of stakeholder identification and analysis.
- Conditions, access, and availability of local Infrastructure (roads and communication systems, transport, waste disposal and treatment facilities, etc).
- Social and other community services and facilities (education, health, police and security, religious, etc.)
- Establish how many persons and assets/structures will be physically and/or economically displaced by the project; Where physical/economic displacement is expected, establish whether and how many displaced

persons are from each of the following categories: (i) those who have formal legal rights to land; (ii) those who do not have formal legal rights to land but have a claim to such land or assets recognized under national laws; (iii) those with no recognizable legal right or claim to the land they are occupying.

- Describe and analyze the different types of land tenure and ownership systems of the project and associated facility sites. A particular focus will be on whether any of the above lands or natural resources are considered (either by law or in actual practice) to be of traditional / customary ownership and/or tenure and/or use
- Identify and document any cultural heritage (including critical cultural heritage) according to Environmental and Social Framework of the World Bank.

(I) Schedule

The ESIA Consultant is expected to complete the assignment within a maximum duration of 1.5 months from the day of issuance of the work order.

2