



New Delhi, December 21th, 2012

## **PR Fonroche sets up 5 MW solar PV project in collaboration with Mahindra EPC in Bikaner, Rajasthan**

### **First team to commission solar PV power plants under National Solar Mission Phase I Batch II**

**New Delhi, December 21th, 2012:** PR Fonroche, a joint-venture between PR Clean Energy (India) and Fonroche Energie S.a.s (France), has collaborated with Mahindra EPC, a part of the USD 15.9 billion Mahindra Group, to establish a solar photo voltaic based power plant (5 MWp) at Gajner Village in Bikaner, Rajasthan under the National Solar Mission's Phase I Batch II. This will be the first of two projects totalling 20MWp to be commissioned by PR Fonroche and executed in collaboration with Mahindra EPC.

This project was awarded to Fonroche Energie in December 2011 under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission (JNNSM) scheme that aims to increase capacity of Solar PV in the country to 20,000MW through solar power projects, by 2020. Of the 22 companies allotted in Phase 1, Bidding Round 2, Fonroche is the first to begin operations in this batch. PR Fonroche and Mahindra EPC thus, have become the first team to commission solar PV power plants under the National Solar Mission Phase I Batch II.

The 5MWp solar PV power plant, financed by Fonroche, is equipped to supply more than 9 million units of clean and green energy. It is expected that the clean energy generated by the plant will displace nearly 7200 MT of CO<sub>2</sub> annually. The plant, which comprises more than 67,200 high output thin film technology Solar PV modules from First Solar USA and four power transformers to generate 5MWp, is spread across an area of 40 acres. Mahindra EPC's turnkey scope of work included complete Design, Engineering, Procurement and Construction of the 5MWp solar power plant, including construction of a 2.7Km, 33 kV double circuit transmission line to export the generated power to a nearby grid substation.

Speaking about this success story, **Thierry Carcel, CEO, Fonroche**, said, "Fonroche is pleased to partner with PR Clean Energy and Mahindra EPC on this project. We have delivered a great result on time and on budget. We combine our experience, technical expertise and our solid know-how to finance, develop and build efficient solar plants and enable our utility partners to secure high-quality renewable generation assets in India."

**Tarun Kapoor, Joint Secretary, Ministry of New & Renewable Energy**, in his message, congratulated the company for the early commissioning of the project and said he hopes that several more such projects would be taken up by the company and commissioned in as short a time as possible.

Speaking about the rapid completion of the first solar plant project under the JNNSM scheme, **Pratap Raju, Joint Managing Director, PR Fonroche** said, "We are pleased to have commissioned Fonroche's first solar PV plant in India, and look forward to building more solar PV assets in the near future. Factors such as rapid land acquisition and a deep understanding of the financing mechanisms, complemented by the international edge that Fonroche brings to this partnership, have aided quick completion of the project."

Speaking about this achievement, **Parag Shah, Managing Partner, Mahindra Partners**, said "At Mahindra Cleantech, our endeavour has always been to partner with like-minded institutions to aid us in our pursuit of producing affordable, clean and green energy. Mahindra

Cleantech is delighted to have partnered PR and Fonroche Energie for this landmark project.”

Speaking on the occasion, **Basant Jain, CEO, Mahindra EPC**, said, “We are delighted to achieve the coveted distinction of being the first to commission projects under NSM Phase I Batch II. Mahindra EPC commissioned this project with high quality standards in record time, thanks to our highly proficient EPC team and excellent cooperation extended by PR FONROCHE. ”

### **About PR Clean Energy:**

PR Clean Energy is a Renewable Energy Developer focused on solar, wind and small hydro projects in India. With offices in Mumbai, Hyderabad, Delhi and Visakhapatnam, they are developing both utility-scale renewable energy projects as well as private solutions for clients, including solar PV solutions for industrial clients, solar lighting solutions, PV-powered green houses, etc. The Group brings with it multiple years of experience and key relationships in the Indian Power Sector, having been associated with large Indian IPP developers in the past.

### **About Fonroche:**

Fonroche is specialized in the development, manufacturing, financing, construction and operation of renewable energy power generation solutions (solar, geothermal & biogas). Fonroche is the largest private solar company in France and has built a truly global solar business, developing projects in such countries as Kazakhstan, Africa, Brazil, USA and India. Fonroche is currently executing 350MW of projects worldwide, including investment of 200MW in proprietary plants.

### **About Mahindra EPC:**

As one of the largest Solar EPC players in the country this year, Mahindra EPC Services Limited is committed to providing world class EPC solutions to its customers. Mahindra EPC Services Pvt. Ltd. is a portfolio company under Mahindra Cleantech, Mahindra Partners. Mahindra EPC has established itself as a dominant player in both Grid Connected and Off-Grid EPC services, and is currently executing 58 MW of solar power plants across the country.

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