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feed-in approval under the REA is also required to apply for a license for the generation and supply of electricity. The specific type of renewable energy PPA that is to be used for licensees eligible for feed-in approvals is prescribed by regulation based on the type of renewable energy and the capacity of the proposed renewable energy installation.

**Thailand**

The Energy Industry Act (2007), or "EIA," is Thailand's principal source of legislation governing electricity and the natural gas business. The Ministry of Energy is responsible for the implementation of the EIA, and the Department of Alternative Energy Development and Efficiency is responsible for implementation of alternative energy plans. The EIA established the Energy Regulatory Commission. Operators of solar and wind projects must obtain several licenses from the Energy Regulatory Commission. Royal decrees, regulations and notifications have been published to implement the EIA.

Government solar and wind power purchasers in Thailand include:

- the Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand, which purchases under PPAs from "Small Power Producers" (producers having an installed capacity of less than 90 MW but more than 10 MW), and
- the Provincial Electricity Authority and the Metropolitan Electricity Authority, which purchase under PPAs from "Very Small Power Producers" (producers having an installed capacity of not more than 10 MW).

The forms of PPAs and rules governing land and connections to the power grid and other subjects are prescribed by the applicable authorities.

Wind power projects are often located on public land of various categories and subject to specific restrictions, including limitations on foreign ownership of land and limitations on the amount of area that may be leased and the duration of such lease. Both solar and wind projects are subject to environmental laws, which may require an environmental impact assessment. For example, wind power project sites adjacent to national parks or certain locations specified as watershed areas require an environmental impact assessment.

**Nicaragua**

The Nicaraguan energy sector is governed by the Electric Industry Law, related regulations and and the rules issued by the Nicaraguan Energy Institute. The governmental department in charge of this sector is the Ministry of Energy and Mines, which grants concessions and licenses to invest and operate in the energy sector.

The concessions for distributing electricity within Nicaragua have been granted in favor of two private companies, Distribuidora de Electricidad del Norte, S.A. and Distribuidora de Electricidad del Sur, S.A. Electricity generators execute PPAs with these companies to distribute produced energy within local electric markets. To transport the energy, generators must execute an interconnection agreement with the National Company for Electric Energy Transmission, a public company that owns the national electric network. The PPA executed between the generators and distributors must be registered before the National Grid, after receiving approval by Ministry of Energy and the Mines and the Nicaraguan Energy Institute.

Parties interested in establishing wind energy projects must obtain the following governmental permits: (i) provisional license to carry out pre-investment studies; (ii) generation license for investment and generation activities and; (iii) environmental authorization that establishes the terms and conditions for environment protection. Items (i) and (ii) above are issued by Ministry of Energy and the Mines, and item (iii) is issued by the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources. Other governmental permits may apply depending on the location and conditions of the project, such as permits issued by the National Forestry Institute to clear trees, water concessions issued by the Water National Authority or exploitation of road material permit issued by Ministry of Energy and the Mines.