MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

Universal Solar Pump Controller (USPC) Specifications for Stand-alone applications

1. **Preamble:**

The Controller for Solar PV pumping system is the heart and brain of the system. The Solar PV pumping system deployed at huge cost to the farmer and the exchequer for the Government is currently utilised only for half of the days in a year (around 150 days per year) on an average. In order to optimally utilize the solar photovoltaic system that generates the electricity throughout the year during sunshine hours, the controller supplied for installation of solar pumping system should be able to perform several other tasks for agricultural and other needs of a farmer. This will increase the productivity of agriculture sector and income of farmer. With the use of USPC the solar system could be used effectively throughout the year.

2. **Technical Specification for Stand Alone Application**

The USPC with SPV modules and structure can be used for agrarian applications such as water pumping, apple grading and polishing system, wheat (grain) flour grinding machine / aata chakki, cutter/chaff, deep-fridger / cold storage, blower fan for cleaning of grains, heating loads and any other standard voltage (400/415V) three phase motor/equipment of capacity not more than the capacity of Solar PV pumping system. The USPC operation schematic diagram is shown in Fig. 1. Further, the applications are not limited upto the few shown in the figure.

  I. Following table gives specifications of electrical supply from USPC for motors other than the solar pumps. For operating the pump the USPC must follow the MNRE specifications for SPV pumping systems.

Sr No.	Description	Desired requirement
1	Motor Supply Phases	Three phase R-Y-B
2	Rated motor frequency	48-50Hz
3	Frequency operation	0 to 52Hz
4	Rated motor voltage	415V ± 5%
5	Desired motor operation	Constant V by F or constant motor flux control

  II. Proposed electrical properties of USPC when operating motors other than motor- pump set:

Sr No.	Description	Desired requirement
1	Characteristic of voltages	Pure sinusoidal or Filtered AC output voltage at motor terminal. No PWM pulses allowed at the motor terminal, as it generates pronounced voltage spikes. The USPC output is intended to use for the

		traditional induction motors based applications which are design for sinusoidal grid supply.
2	THD of motor terminal voltages	Below 3%
3	THD of motor current (in case of balance/linear motor)	Below 5%
4	Balance supply	Three phases should be balanced and no negative sequence components to be allowed
5	Voltage spikes	Recurring or non-recurring voltage spikes more than 620V (peak of 440V AC supply) is not allowed between any two terminals
6	Alarms and Protections	Output voltage low, Output frequency low/high, Low irradiance/PV power, Current overload, Peak Torque overload

III. Controller should be able to run SPV pumping system as per MNRE specifications as well as any other type of motor of suitable rating, subject to the load characteristics of the equipment in which the motor is used is any of the following:
   a) Constant torque loads
   b) Constant power loads
   c) Quadratic loads
   d) Impact loads
   e) Hydraulic loads

   Subject to the maximum torque being not more than 150% of the rated torque of the motor.

IV. To ensure energy efficiency of solar PV system and to maintain reliability of PV installation against aging effect, module mismatch with time, partial shading, etc. , the desired USPC properties and configuration should be as follows:

   (a) Static MPPT efficiency of USPC should be equal or more than 98% during operation of 10 to 100% of rated STC PV power, and average MPPT tracking efficiency in the dynamic condition should be greater than 97 % with hot and cold profiles when feeding the water pumping, hydraulic or heating loads, so as to maintain MPPT irrespective of variation in solar energy or irradiance. `
   (b) USPC efficiency should be as follows for the operation at 80% rated STC power of the PV array:

Sr No.	SPV pumping system capacity	Controller power efficiency should be more than or equal to
1	3 HP	93.00%
2	5 HP	93.00%
3	7.5 HP	94.00%
4	10 HP	94.50%
5	15 HP	94.50%

(c) Considering voltage variation over the year due to variation in temperature, irradiance and effect due to ageing, environmental damages to PV panels with time, USPC should have MPPT channels as an integral part of system (or externally connected part) with wide range of input PV voltage for MPPT tracking of the PV panels. Input voltage range variation should be tested as per manufacturer declaration (min, nominal or 90% of the maximum) or if no declaration is made than at least it should be tested as per the table given below.

Sr No.	Motor Pump set capacity	Input voltage range		
		Minimum	Nominal	Maximum
1	3 HP	(Vnominal-50)		(Vnominal+50)
2	5 HP	(Vnominal-70)		(Vnominal+70)
3	7.5 HP	(Vnominal-70)	Nominal	(Vnominal+70)
4	10 HP	(Vnominal-100)		(Vnominal+100)
5	15 HP	(Vnominal-100)		(Vnominal+100)

V. There should be Mode selection located on control panel of the USPC along with display and user should be able to select either to run motor-pump set of any other application. The software/firmware required to operate these applications must get automatically loaded when an appropriate position of the switch is engaged.

VI. USPC must have at least four numbers of three phase output cables to feed power to the applications. The output power cable for specific application should get selected automatically upon selection of applications via keypad or via mobile or via remote control connectivity. The manual selector switch should not be used at the output to manage different loads. This is to ensure the hassle free operation of applications by farmer with adequate safety.
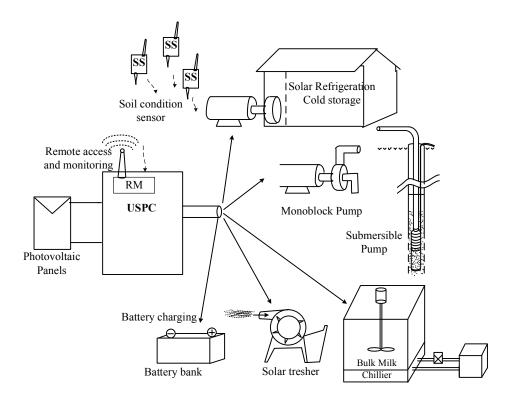
Fig. 1. USPC operation schematic diagram.

VII.   USPC based Solar system must be equipped with Remote monitoring and remote fault identification:

   (a)   Remote monitoring features should be integral part of solar pump controller and should provide time wise remote monitoring of PV voltage, PV Power, Water output, head, when used in solar pump mode. When operated in farm equipment mode, it should show, PV voltage, PV power, motor voltage, motor current and motor frequency.

   (b)   Cumulative energy generation from PV panels for a month, year and 5 years should be provided.

   (c)   Remote monitor should show current status of system like On, Off and fault.

   (d)   Software associated with remote monitoring should also provide location of SPV pumping system.

   (e)   Controller should have support of sufficient Internal memory/ SD card / memory card to support remote monitoring in case of network failure.

USPC must have IP65 protection or must be housed in a cabinet having at least IP65 protection.

Testing Procedure for Universal Solar Pump Controller (USPC)

USPC must be tested in two principle modes:

1. As an offgrid solar pump controller: the testing should be as per MNRE specifications and Test procedure.
2. As a controller to operate motorized farm equipment: The testing should be as described below.

To test the USPC in the second mode the test centres must have standard actual mode suitable for 4 loading modes. The input to the USPC must be from a solar PV simulator using the hot and cold profiles issued by MNRE. Following tests may be performed on USPC driving the agrarian load like Atta Chakki, Chaff Cutter and Deep Freezer under test. The USPC must be able to operate these motors of the attached agrarian load, so that they deliver the rated torque and are able to also operate till 150% of the rated torque for 30 seconds.

S.No.	Test Performed	Expected result	Test Lab Observation	Remarks
1	Application description on screen and selection of applications	LCD screen provided on controller need to shows various applications which can be selected by keypad using up-down and enter key		
3	Mode operation of applications (Automatic: through keypad or remote / Manual: control switches)	Universal Solar Agriculture controller should come with multiple outputs which can be permanently connected to the application by selecting appropriate options for example following applications should automatically started by USPC by appropriate mean such as keypad or remote for selection. (i) Water Pumping (ii) Chaff Cutter (iii) Deep fridge/ Cold Storage (iv) Atta Chakki Manual changeover is not allowed.		
4	Application Specific output (Application specific software)	USPC should have inbuilt individual application specific software to run the agrarian applications other than pumps and output of the controller should be suitable for above mentioned applications	-	

5	Input PV voltage range Minimum – Voc at STC Nominal – Voc at STC Maximum – Voc at STC			

6	USPC Efficiency measurement in Hot and cold profile should be measured as per BS EN 50530/IEC 62891

Efficiency of the UPSC at minimum……… VOC

Load %	Charge controller eff (%)	Power tracking Efficiency (%)	Overall charge controller efficiency (%)
10			
25			
50			
75			
100			

Efficiency of the UPSC at Nominal ……… VOC

Load %	Charge controller eff (%)	Power tracking Efficiency (%)	Overall charge controller efficiency (%)
10			
25			
50			
75			
100			

Efficiency of the UPSC at 90 % of Max ……. VOC

Load %	Charge controller eff (%)	Power tracking Efficiency (%)	Overall charge controller efficiency (%)
10			
25			
50			
75			
100			

Dynamic MPPT Efficiency	
Hot Profile	
Cold Profile	

7	Ripple and distortion at output on full load	Should below 5 % after 25 % loading condition		
8	Measurement of Output voltage waveform	Three phase output with up to 440 V rms pure Sine Wave to be measured at least 4 times between 300W/m2 irradiance and maximum irradiance as per the irradiance profile.	CF value should be provided by lab for voltage and current	
9	Operation at different output from array with all four load types (Array wattage as per MNRE model:	Above …………. Watt DC output Should not stop functioning at any load condition. Observation should be recorded.	Power value should be recorded by the lab with all agrarian load	Motor current should be recorded (for torque behavior) It must be almost constant

			supported by USPC	irrespective of available DC power from array (motor running condition). This is for Impact loading condition (such as Chaff cutter) current variation need to be recorded by laboratory.
	Example 4800 Wp array) At 40% Power At 50% Power At 75% Power At 100% Power			
10	Operation at different output from array with all four load types (Array wattage as MNRE model: Example 4800 Wp array) At 10 % Power At 25 % Power At 30 % Power	USPC need to run all the agrarian load in variable frequency at the lower irradiance value The load may be increased beyond 150% of rated torque to determine at what level the motor is stalling and stopping and it must trigger 'torque overload' alert. If it goes beyond 150% of the motor rated torque the USPC must trip indicating an 'overload tripping'.	Motor current should be recorded (for torque behavior) as it is a function of V/F ratio controlled by USPC	
11	Total circuit protection observation	• Soft Startup, • low radiation protection, • overload protection, • Open circuit protection • Reverse polarity protection		

Expected output of individual applications must be specify as per their power rating and SPV capacity, such as:

1. kg/hour grinding of atta chakki, and granularity.
2. Volumetric Iceing of cold storage in x hours.
3. Output in terms of kg/hours for a specific capacity grass-cutter.
4. Output must be quantify in terms of rate of volume or weight as above for any other applications.

All the test labs authorised to conduct testing for off-grid solar pumping system as per MNRE specifications may also conduct testing of USPC as per procedure prescribed above and issue testing certificates.