

# Steelmakers Seek Easing of Renewable Energy Mandate

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**New Delhi:** Large steel makers have sought changes to the Renewable Consumption Obligation (RCO) regime, proposing a downward revision in the mandatory share of renewable energy in their consumption and exclusion of electricity generated from waste heat gases from the ambit of RCO.

Steel producers have also urged the government to exclude transmission losses from RCO calculations to improve resource optimisation and reduce financial burdens, people familiar with the development said. Steel producers are mandated to meet 33.01% of their total captive electricity consumption from renewable sources in the current financial year, up from 29.91% in FY25. Their RCO target will rise to 43.33% by 2030.

The power and steel ministries are currently examining steelmakers' requests, a government official said. The industry had approached the ministries earlier this month. Waste heat gases are produced in the blast furnace during the steelmaking process, and companies utilise these gases to generate electricity for their consumption. It helps steelmakers dispose of these greenhouse gases (GHG) without releasing them into the atmosphere, thereby preventing an increase in GHG levels. It also helps reduce consumption of energy from external sources, they noted.

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