November 18, 2026

Acme Aklera Power Technology Private Limited: Rating reaffirmed

Summary of rating action

Instrument*	Previous rated amount (Rs. crore)	Current rated amount (Rs. crore)	Rating action	Financial sector regulator#
Long-term – Fund-based –Term loan	1,072.00	1,039.00	[ICRA]AA- (Stable); reaffirmed	RBI
Total	**1,072.00**	**1,039.00**		

**Instrument details are provided in Annexure I*

#SEBI's grievance redressal/dispute resolution and SEBI investor protection mechanisms such as SCORES and ODR shall not be available for activities and instruments which fall under the regulatory purview of Financial Sector Regulators other than SEBI.

Rationale

The long-term rating reaffirmation on the bank facilities of ACME Aklera Power Technology Private Limited (AAPTPL) factors in the company's parentage as a wholly owned subsidiary of ACME Solar Holdings Limited {ASHL; rated [ICRA]AA- (Stable)}, which has an established track record of about two decades in the renewable energy sector. ASHL has an operational capacity of 2.99 GWac[1] and 5.24 GWh of battery energy storage system (BESS) capacity, along with an under-development project pipeline of 5.41[1] GWac renewable projects with 19.3 GWh of associated BESS and 550 MWh of standalone BESS capacity.

ASHL has a diversified renewable asset profile across multiple locations and offtake arrangements with several Central (85%) and state offtakers (15%). The long-term power purchase agreements (PPAs) at competitive tariffs, the satisfactory generation performance of ASHL's assets, and long-term project finance at competitive interest rates ensure adequate debt coverage metrics for ASHL's renewable energy (RE) portfolio. However, ASHL's credit profile is constrained by significant capital expenditure (capex) plans for its under-development projects. ICRA notes that ASHL's financial profile has strengthened after its qualified institutional placement (QIP) in June 2026 through which the company raised about Rs. 2,800 crore of primary equity. Further, ASHL has exhibited satisfactory progress towards the completion of the under-construction projects, which mitigates the execution related challenges to an extent. The rating factors in the need-based support available from the parent, as demonstrated by the financial assistance extended to AMCE Group's special purpose vehicles (SPV) over the years.

AAPTPL has signed a 25-year PPA with Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI; rated [ICRA]AAA(Stable)/ [ICRA]A1+) at a fixed tariff of Rs. 2.48 per unit for the entire capacity, thus eliminating the demand and pricing risks. Further, comfort is drawn from the strong credit profile of the counterparty, SECI, leading to a timely realisation of payments within 10 days of the bills issued. SECI's inclusion in the tripartite agreement (TPA) with the Government of India, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the state governments provides a safeguard against payment delays from distribution companies.

ICRA notes that AAPTPL received a favourable order from the Rajasthan Electricity Regulatory Commission (RERC), directing SECI to pay Change in Law compensation of Rs. 47.8 crore, including carrying cost. The compensation pertained to the increase in project cost arising from the imposition of Basic Customs Duty (BCD) on imported solar modules as well as an increase in Goods and Services Tax (GST) on such imports. While the RERC order envisaged recovery of the compensation through annuity payments over a period of 15 years, SECI made the entire payment in FY2026. Consequently, the sanctioned debt limits were reduced to Rs. 1,039 crore from Rs. 1,072 crore on account of upfront receipt of Change in Law compensation from the offtaker.

[1] *As per Q2 FY2027 investor presentation of ASHL*

ICRA also notes that the solar power plant has experienced minor grid curtailment in certain months. Nevertheless, the generation performance of the 250 MW solar power asset has remained satisfactory, with the company reporting a plant load factor (PLF) of 29.3% during the trailing 12 months (TTM) ending in August 2026, 29.1% in FY2026 and 29.5% in FY2025, all of which remain in line with the P90 estimate. Satisfactory generation performance, long repayment tenure of about 20 years, a competitive interest rate locked in for five years and a structured amortisation profile is expected to support cumulative debt service coverage ratio (DSCR) of more than 1.25 times.

The rating is, however, constrained by the vulnerability of the company's cash flows to module performance and weather conditions, as the revenues are linked to the actual units generated and exported, given the fixed nature of the tariff. The rating also factors in the geographic concentration of the project at a single location in Rajasthan, which exposes it to high asset concentration risk. The company's debt coverage metrics also remain exposed to interest rate resets after the initial fixed-rate period of 5 years (ending in FY 2031).

The company remains exposed to deviation penalties under RERC's forecasting and scheduling regulations. Any tightening of these norms, in line with the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission's (CERC's) recent proposals for solar projects, could impact its cash flows. Additionally, AAPTPL is exposed to risks associated with a potential unfavourable outcome at the apex court for an ongoing legal dispute with the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) related to the deferment of Rs. 492-crore import duty against the Manufacturing & Other Operations in Warehouse Regulations (MOOWR) scheme. While the company has received a favourable order, in this regard, from the Delhi High Court, the appeal filed by the revenue department is pending before the Supreme Court of India. However, the company may seek compensation for any such liability under the Change in Law provisions of the PPA, though there could be a lag in recovery of the same. Herein comfort is drawn from the demonstrated track record of financial support extended by ASHL to its SPVs.

The Stable outlook assigned to the long-term rating factors in the steady cash flow visibility offered by the long-term PPA, a satisfactory generation level and the timely collections expected from the offtaker, which is likely to lead to healthy debt coverage and liquidity levels, going forward.

Key rating drivers and their description

Credit strengths

Benefits of parentage as the SPV is wholly owned by ASHL – The presence of an experienced sponsor, the ACME Group, with an established track record of developing and operating renewable power projects provides comfort. The Group has a strong track record of executing more than 5.0 GWp (including monetised assets) of solar projects since 2011. Further, the Group has an operational capacity of 2.99 GWac[2] along with an under-construction portfolio of about 4.31 GWac[2] of RE and 17 GWh of storage capacity, in addition to 550 MWh of standalone BESS projects, for which PPAs/BESPAs have already been signed across multiple project SPVs. In addition, the Group has under-construction projects of 1.1 GWac and 2.3 GWh[2] of storage capacity for which PPAs have not yet been signed. Moreover, ASHL has commissioned 5.24 GWh* of BESS projects ahead of its under-construction firm and dispatchable renewable energy (FDRE) projects. ICRA expects ASHL to extend need-based financial support to AAPTPL, as and when required.

[2] *As per Q2 FY2027 investor presentation of ASHL*

Revenue visibility owing to presence of long-term PPA leading to low offtake risk – The project is backed by a 25-year PPA with SECI. The PPA has a fixed annual tariff of Rs. 2.48 per unit that provides revenue visibility to the project and limits the offtake and tariff risks. Further, the receipt of Change in Law compensation of Rs. 47.8 crore from SECI in FY2026, following a favourable RERC order, has supported the company's cash flows.

Strong counterparty with track record of timely payments mitigating risk associated with working capital blockage – SECI (rated [ICRA]AAA (Stable) / [ICRA]A1+) is the sole counterparty for the entire project capacity. ICRA expects the strong counterparty to result in timely payments of dues, as has been consistently demonstrated with an average collection period of 10 days in the past. Hence, working capital requirement for the project is expected to be minimum, which would support generation of positive free cash flows.

Satisfactory generation performance and adequate debt coverage metrics – Despite grid curtailment in certain months during FY2026 and 5M FY2027 (ending in August 2026), AAPTPL reported PLF of 29.3% during the TTM ending in August 2026, 29.1% in FY2026 and 29.5% in FY2025, which was broadly in line with the P90 estimate. ICRA expects continuation of satisfactory generation performance, long tenure of debt, structured repayment and a competitive interest rate to support an adequate cumulative DSCR of more than 1.25 times over the debt tenure.

Credit challenges

Cash flow remains vulnerable to variability in solar irradiance and geographic concentration of project – AAPTPL is entirely dependent on power generation from the solar power project for its revenues and cash accruals, given the single part tariff in the PPA. Therefore, it remains exposed to the variability in solar irradiance and equipment performance. The risk is amplified by the geographic concentration of the asset as the entire capacity is at a single location.

Interest rate and regulatory risks – The company's capital structure remains highly leveraged with a major portion of the cost funded through debt. The interest rate on the term loan is fixed for the first five years (till August 2030) and resets every three years thereafter. Hence, the company's debt coverage metrics remain exposed to any upward movement in interest rates at each reset over the loan tenure. The company remains exposed to regulatory risks related to forecasting and scheduling. Since the project is connected to the state transmission network, it is subject to the forecasting, scheduling and deviation settlement framework prescribed by the RERC. Under this framework, the company has to pay penalties if actual generation varies from the forecast beyond the permitted tolerance band. Any future tightening of these norms in line with the changes proposed by the CERC for solar projects could raise deviation penalties and weaken the company's cash flows and debt coverage metrics.

Regulatory risk associated with potential unfavourable outcome in ongoing legal dispute – The company availed the MOOWR scheme to defer customs duty on imported solar modules. Although the company initially received approval from the customs department, CBIC subsequently issued a notice demanding payment of the duty. The company challenged the notice before the Delhi High Court and received a favourable order. The Revenue Department's appeal against this order is currently pending before the Supreme Court. An adverse outcome would require the company to pay duty of nearly Rs. 492 crore, which is significant relative to its scale of operations. However, the company may seek compensation for any such liability under the Change in Law provisions of the PPA, though there could be a lag in recovery of the same. Herein comfort is drawn from the demonstrated track record of financial support extended by ASHL to its SPVs

Liquidity position: Adequate

The liquidity position of the company is adequate mainly on account of timely realisations from SECI, expected continuation of satisfactory generation performance, and no planned capex spends. The company's projected cash flows from operations in FY2027 and FY2028 are likely to remain adequate to meet its debt servicing obligations. Additionally, AAPTPL has unencumbered cash balance of Rs. 23.2 crore as on September 30, 2026, along with debt service reserve account (DSRA) balance equivalent to next one quarter debt service obligations of Rs. 30.3 crore. Further, ICRA expects ASHL to extend need-based financial support to AAPTPL, as and when required.

Rating sensitivities

Positive factors –An improvement in the generation performance above P-90 levels, leading to a sustained improvement in the company's debt coverage indicators, could result in an upgrade. ICRA could also upgrade the rating if the credit profile of the holding company, ASHL, improves.

Negative factors – ICRA could downgrade AAPTPL's rating due to under-performance in generation, and/or increase in the operating expenses impacting its debt coverage metrics, pulling down the cumulative DSCR below 1.25x. An elongation in the realisation period from SECI or any deterioration in the credit profile of ASHL would also be negative rating triggers. Further, weakening of linkages between ASHL and AAPTPL can also exert downward pressure on the rating.

Analytical approach

Analytical approach	Comments
Applicable rating methodologies	Corporate Credit Rating Methodology Power - Solar and Wind
Parent/Group support	ICRA expects AAPTPL's parent, ASHL to be willing to extend financial support to AAPTPL, should there be a need, given the strategic importance that AAPTPL has for ASHL, and out of its need to protect its reputation from distress in a Group entity.
Consolidation/Standalone	The rating is based on the standalone financial profile of the company

About the company

Acme Aklera Power Technology Private Limited, incorporated in September 2018, has developed a solar PV project of 250 MW capacity in Barmer, Rajasthan, which was fully commissioned in January 2024. The company is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Acme Solar Holdings Limited. It has a long-term PPA for 25 years with SECI at a fixed tariff of Rs. 2.48/unit.

Key financial indicators (audited)

AAPTPL Standalone	FY2025	FY2026
Operating income	155.7	153.9
PAT	0.5	4.3
OPBDITA/OI	95.3%	92.8%
PAT/OI	0.3%	2.8%
Total outside liabilities/Tangible net worth (times)	7.8	10.1
Total debt/OPBDITA (times)	7.5	7.6
Interest coverage (times)	1.4	1.5

Source: Company, ICRA Research; All ratios as per ICRA's calculations; Amount in Rs. crore; PAT: Profit after tax; OPBDIT: Operating profit before depreciation, interest, taxes and amortisation

Status of non-cooperation with previous CRA: Not applicable

Any other information: A member of the board of directors of ICRA Limited is also an Independent Director on the board of directors of ACME Solar Holdings Limited. This Director was not involved in any of the discussions and processes related to the rating(s) of the instrument mentioned herein.

Rating history for past three years

Current (FY2027)					Chronology of rating history for the past 3 years					
FY2027					FY2026		FY2025		FY2024	
Instrument	Type	Amount rated (Rs. crore)	Date	Rating	Date	Rating	Date	Rating	Date	Rating
Long term-Fund-Based –Term loan	Long term	1,039.00	Nov 18, 2026	[ICRA]AA- (Stable)	Sep 23, 2025	[ICRA]AA- (Stable)	-	-	-	-
					April 14, 2025	[ICRA]A+ (Stable)	-	-	-	-

Complexity level of the rated instruments

Instrument	Complexity indicator
Long-term – Fund-based – Term loan	Simple

The Complexity Indicator refers to the ease with which the returns associated with the rated instrument could be estimated. It does not indicate the risk related to the timely payments on the instrument, which is rather indicated by the instrument's credit rating. It also does not indicate the complexity associated with analysing an entity's financial, business, industry risks or complexity related to the structural, transactional or legal aspects. Details on the complexity levels of the instruments are available on ICRA's website: Click Here

Annexure I: Instrument details

ISIN	Instrument name	Date of issuance	Coupon rate	Maturity	Amount rated (Rs. crore)	Current rating and outlook	Financial sector regulator#
NA	**Long term-Fund-Based –Term loan**	June 20, 2025	8.55%*	December 31, 2044	1,039.00	[ICRA]AA- (Stable)	RBI

Source: Company

**Fixed for first 5 years*

#SEBI's grievance redressal/dispute resolution and SEBI investor protection mechanisms such as SCORES and ODR shall not be available for activities and instruments that fall under the regulatory purview of financial sector regulators other than SEBI

Please click here to view details of lender-wise facilities rated by ICRA

Annexure II: List of entities considered for consolidated analysis – Not applicable

ANALYST CONTACTS

Girishkumar Kadam
+91 22 6114 3441
girishkumar@icraindia.com

Ankit Jain
+91 124 4545 865
ankit.jain@icraindia.com

Asmita Pant
+91 124 4545 856
asmita.pant@icraindia.com

Vaibhav Arora
+91 124 4545 386
vaibhav.arora@icraindia.com

RELATIONSHIP CONTACT

L. Shivakumar
+91 22 6114 3406
shivakumar@icraindia.com

MEDIA AND PUBLIC RELATIONS CONTACT

Ms. Naznin Prodhani
Tel: +91 124 4545 860
communications@icraindia.com

HELPLINE FOR BUSINESS QUERIES

+91-9354738909 (open Monday to Friday, from 9:30 am to 6 pm)

info@icraindia.com

ABOUT ICRA LIMITED

ICRA Limited was set up in 1991 by leading financial/investment institutions, commercial banks and financial services companies as an independent and professional investment Information and Credit Rating Agency.

Today, ICRA and its subsidiaries together form the ICRA Group of Companies (Group ICRA). ICRA is a Public Limited Company, with its shares listed on the Bombay Stock Exchange and the National Stock Exchange. The international Credit Rating Agency Moody's Investors Service is ICRA's largest shareholder.

For more information, visit www.icra.in

ICRA Limited

Registered Office

B-710, Statesman House, 148 Barakhamba Road, New Delhi-110001
Tel: +91 11 23357940-45

Branches



© Copyright, 2026 ICRA Limited. All Rights Reserved.

Contents may be used freely with due acknowledgement to ICRA.

ICRA ratings should not be treated as recommendation to buy, sell or hold the rated debt instruments. ICRA ratings are subject to a process of surveillance, which may lead to revision in ratings. An ICRA rating is a symbolic indicator of ICRA's current opinion on the relative capability of the issuer concerned to timely service debts and obligations, with reference to the instrument rated. Please visit our website www.icra.in or contact any ICRA office for the latest information on ICRA ratings outstanding. All information contained herein has been obtained by ICRA from sources believed by it to be accurate and reliable, including the rated issuer. ICRA however has not conducted any audit of the rated issuer or of the information provided by it. While reasonable care has been taken to ensure that the information herein is true, such information is provided 'as is' without any warranty of any kind, and ICRA in particular, makes no representation or warranty, express or implied, as to the accuracy, timeliness or completeness of any such information. Also, ICRA or any of its group companies may have provided services other than rating to the issuer rated. All information contained herein must be construed solely as statements of opinion, and ICRA shall not be liable for any losses incurred by users from any use of this publication or its contents.