

**CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
NEW DELHI**

Petition No. 437/TL/2024

Coram:

Shri Jishnu Barua, Chairperson

Shri Ramesh Babu V., Member

Shri Harish Dudani, Member

Date of order: 31st January, 2025

In the matter of:

Petition under Section 14 of the Electricity Act, 2003 read with the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Procedure, Terms and Conditions for Grant of Transmission Licence and other related matters) Regulations, 2024 for the grant of a separate RTM Transmission Licence to POWERGRID Bhadla III Transmission Limited.

And

In the matter of

**POWERGRID Bhadla III Transmission Limited,
(A 100% wholly owned subsidiary of Power Grid Corporation of India Limited),
B-9, Qutab Institutional Area,
Katwaria Sarai, New Delhi-110016**

....Petitioner

Vs

- 1. Uttar Pradesh Power Corporation Limited,**
Shakti Bhawan, 14, Ashok Marg,
Lucknow-226001, Uttar Pradesh.
- 2. Ajmer Vidyut Vitran Nigam Limited,**
Corporate office, Vidyut Bhawan,
Panchsheel Nagar, Makarwali road,
Ajmer-305004, Rajasthan.
- 3. Jaipur Vidyut Vitran Nigam Limited,**
132 kV, GSS RVPNL Sub-station Building,
Caligiri Road, Malviya Nagar,
Jaipur-302017, Rajasthan.

4. **Jodhpur Vidyut Vitran Nigam Limited,**
New Power House, Industrial Area,
Jodhpur-342003, Rajasthan.
5. **Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board Limited,**
Vidyut Bhawan, Kumar House Complex Building II,
Shimla-171004, Himachal Pradesh.
6. **Punjab State Power Corporation Limited,**
the Mall, PSEB head office,
Patiala -147001.
7. **Haryana Power Purchase Centre,**
Shakti Bhawan, Sector-6,
Panchkula-134109, Haryana.
8. **Jammu Kashmir Power Corporation Limited,**
220/66/33 kV Gladni SS SLDC buliding,
Narwal, Jammu.
9. **BSES Yamuna Power Limited (BYPL),**
B-Block, Shakti Kiran, Bldg. (Near Karkardooma Courts),
2nd Floor, Karkardoomam,
New Delhi-110092.
10. **BSES Rajdhani Power Limited,**
BSES Bhawan, Nehru Place,
New Delhi-110019.
11. **Tata Power Delhi Distribution Limited,**
NDPL House, Hudson Lines,
Kingsway Camp, Delhi-110009.
12. **Chandigarh Administration,**
Sector -9, Chandigarh.
13. **Uttarakhand Power Corporation Limited,**
Urja Bhawan, Kanwali Road,
Dehradun, Uttarakhand.

- 14 New Delhi Municipal Council,**
Palika Kendra, Sansad Marg,
New Delhi-110002.
- 15 North Central Railway,**
Allahabad (Uttar Pradesh).
- 16 Chief Operating Officer, Central Transmission Utility India Limited,**
Saudamini, Plot no.2, Sector -29,
Gurgaon-122001.
- 17. Power System Project Monitoring Division,**
Central Electricity Authority,
Sewa Bhawan, R. K. Puram,
Sector-1, New Delhi-110066.
-Respondents**

Parties present:

Shri V. C Sekhar, PBTL
Shri Prashant Kumar, PBTL
Shri Akshayvat Kislay, CTUIL

ORDER

The Petitioner, POWERGRID Bhadla III Transmission Limited (hereinafter referred to as 'Petitioner'), has filed the present Petition under Section 14 and of the Electricity Act, 2003 (hereinafter referred to as 'the Act') read with the provisions of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions for Grant of Transmission Licence and other related matters) Regulations, 2024 (hereinafter referred to as 'the Transmission Licence Regulations') for the grant of a separate RTM Transmission License to POWERGRID Bhadla III Transmission Limited for "Implementation of 01 no. of 400 kV line bay at 765/400/220 kV Bhadla-III PS for interconnection of M/s ReNew Solar (Shakti Six) Pvt. Ltd." under the Regulated Tariff Mechanism (RTM) mode (hereinafter referred to as the 'transmission project'). The scope of the project for which

a transmission licence has been sought is as follows:

Transmission Scheme: “Implementation of 01 no. of 400 kV line bay at 765/400/220 kV Bhadla-III PS for interconnection of M/s ReNew Solar (Shakti Six) Pvt. Ltd.

S. No.	Scope of the Transmission Scheme	Capacity/km	Implementation timeframe
1.	1 no. of 400 kV line bay at 765/400/220 kV Bhadla-III PS for interconnection of RE project (M/s ReNew Solar (Shakti Six) Pvt. Ltd.	400 kV line bay- 1 no	31.3.2026
Total Estimated Cost:			Rs 13.37 crores

2. The Petitioner, POWERGRID Bhadla III Transmission Limited (a 100% wholly owned subsidiary of Power Grid Corporation of India Limited), is an Inter-State Transmission Licensee implementing the "Transmission system for evacuation of power from REZ in Rajasthan (20GW) under Phase-III Part B1" through TBCB route. The Commission, vide its order dated 29.2.2024 in Petition No. 344/TL/2023, granted a transmission licence to Bhadla III Transmission Limited (now known as POWERGRID Bhadla III Transmission Limited) for the aforesaid TBCB Project.

3. The Central Transmission Utility of India Limited (CTUIL) has issued an Office Memorandum dated 14.6.2024 to the Petitioner wherein it has approved and nominated the Petitioner company to implement the transmission scheme through “Regulated Tariff Mechanism” (RTM) mode.

4. The Petitioner has submitted that after the grant of a separate transmission licence, the Petitioner shall proceed to implement the transmission scheme under the RTM mode. The estimated completion cost of the transmission scheme, as per CTUIL’s Office

Memorandum (OM), is Rs. 13.37 crores. After completion of the transmission scheme, the Petitioner shall approach the Commission for determination of the transmission charges in accordance with the Transmission Licence Regulations.

5. The transmission scheme was agreed upon in the 23rd Consultation Meeting of the Northern Region held on 29.8.2023. The relevant portion of the minutes of the meeting held on 29.8.2023 are extracted as under:

Start Date of Connectivity under GNA: 30.09.2025(Interim) Final date shall be confirmed upon award of the system.

S. No.	Applicant Name	Application No. (St-II)	Pooling Station	Balance Connectivity under 37.2 (MW)	Bay Scope and Status	Start Date of Connectivity as per intimation	Start Date requested for transition under GNA	Expected Start Date of Connectivity under GNA	BG Requirement as per GNA Regulations. (BGs, if any submitted in Connectivity Regulations, 2009 shall be adjusted)
39	ReNew Solar (Shakti Six) Pvt. Ltd	1200003848 Bhadla-III	1200003848	550	Under ISTS: 400 kV (1 no.) Common bay for App. No.0312100004 – 450 MW & 1200003848– 550 MW Schedule: M/s Renew vide mail dated 1.9.2023 confirmed the bay schedule as 30.6.2025	30-Jun-24	31-Dec-25	31-Dec-25 (Interim)	• Conn BG-1: Rs. 50 lakh • Conn BG-2: Continue to maintain earlier submitted Conn BG-2(Rs. 6 Cr.) • Conn BG-3: Rs. 2 lakh/MW

It was informed that M/s ReNew Solar (Shakti Six) Pvt. Ltd. had requested a Start Date of Connectivity under GNA from 31/12/2025 for 550 MW. Considering the same and the expected commissioning date of the transmission system, the start date of Connectivity under GNA shall be 31/12/2025(Interim) as requested. The applicant noted and agreed to the same.

Details of Transmission System for Connectivity under GNA:

A. Associated Transmission System (ATS): NIL

B. Transmission System under applicant scope

(i). ReNew Solar (Shakti Six) Private Limited Solar Power Project – Bhadla-III PS 400 kV S/c (high capacity) line on D/c tower (Suitable to carry minimum 1000 MW at nominal voltage).

C. Common Transmission system for Connectivity under GNA: (Augmentation without ATS)

1. Augmentation of 2x1500 MVA (1st & 2nd), 765/400kV ICT at Bhadla-III PS
2. Fatehgarh-III – Bhadla-III 400kV D/c line (Quad) along with 63 MVAR Switchable line reactor for each circuit at both ends of Fatehgarh-III- Bhadla-III 400kV D/c line
3. Bhadla-III – Sikar-II 765 kV D/c line along with 330 MVAR Switchable line reactor for each circuit at each end of Bhadla-III – Sikar-II 765 kV D/c line
4. Sikar-II – Khetri 765 kV D/c line
5. Sikar-II – Narela 765 kV D/c line along with 240 MVAR Switchable line reactor for each circuit at each end of Sikar-II – Narela 765 kV D/c line
6. Jhatikara – Dwarka 400kV D/c line (Quad)
7. Augmentation of 1x1500 MVA ICT (3rd), 765/400kV ICT at Jhatikara Substation (Bamnoli/Dwarka section).

...

Start Date of Connectivity under GNA: 30.09.2025(Interim) Final date shall be confirmed upon award of the system.

S. No.	Applicant Name	Application No. (St-II)	Pooling Station	Balance Connectivity under 37.2 (MW)	Bay Scope and Status	Start Date of Connectivity as per intimation	Start Date requested for transition under GNA	Expected Start Date of Connectivity under GNA	BG Requirement as per GNA Regulations. (BGs, if any submitted in Connectivity Regulations, 2009 shall be adjusted)
42	ReNew Solar (Shakti Six) Private Limited	0312100004	Bhadla-III	450	Under ISTS: 400 kV (1 no.) Common bay for App. No.0312100004 – 450 MW & 1200003848– 550 MW Schedule: M/s Renew vide mail dated 01.09.2023 confirmed the bay schedule as 30.06.2025	31-Dec-24	31-Mar-25	30-Sep-25 (Interim)	• Conn BG-1: Rs. 50 lakh • Conn BG-2: NIL(Sharing with S. No. 39) • Conn BG-3: Rs. 2 lakh/MW

(i). ReNew Solar (Shakti Six) Private Limited Solar Power Project – Bhadla-III PS 400 kV S/c (high capacity) line on D/c tower (Suitable to carry minimum 1000 MW at nominal voltage) [Common line for App. No.0312100004 – 450 MW & 1200003848– 550 MW]

C. Common Transmission system for Connectivity under GNA: (Augmentation without ATS)

1. Augmentation of 2x1500 MVA (2nd & 3rd), 765/400kV ICT at Bhadla-III
2. Fatehgarh-III – Bhadla-III 400kV D/c line (Quad) along with 63 MVAR Switchable line reactor for each circuit at both ends of Fatehgarh-III- Bhadla-III 400kV D/c line
3. Bhadla-III – Sikar-II 765 kV D/c line along with 330 MVAR Switchable line reactor for each circuit at each end of Bhadla-III – Sikar-II 765 kV D/c line
4. Sikar-II – Khetri 765 kV D/c line

5. Sikar-II – Narela 765 kV D/c line along with 240 MVAR Switchable line reactor for each circuit at each end of Sikar-II – Narela 765 kV D/c line
6. Jhatikara – Dwarka 400kV D/c line (Quad)
7. Augmentation of 1x1500 MVA ICT (3rd), 765/400kV ICT at Jhatikara Substation (Bamnoli/Dwarka section).

Start Date of Connectivity under GNA: 30.09.2025 (Interim) Final date shall be confirmed upon award of the system.”

6. Based on the above, CTUIL, vide its Office Memorandum dated 14.6.2024, approved the implementation of the “Implementation of 01 no. of 400 kV line bay at 765/400/220 kV Bhadla-III PS for interconnection of ReNew Solar (Shakti Six) Pvt. Ltd.” on RTM mode along with identifying the implementing agency and also addressing the same to the Ministry of Power, Government of India, and NCT.

7. The Commission, after considering the application of the Petitioner in light of the provisions of the Act and the Transmission Licence Regulations, vide its order dated 3.1.2025, *prima facie* proposed to grant a separate transmission licence to the Petitioner to implement the transmission projects detailed in paragraph 1 of the order. The relevant extracts of the order dated 3.1.2025 are extracted as under:

“9. In addition, vide Record of Proceedings dated 22.11.2024, CTUIL was directed to file on an affidavit within two weeks the status of the associated generation project for whom the transmission scheme covered under the present Petition is being implemented.

10. In response to the above direction, CTUIL has not submitted the above information within time granted vide ROP dated 22.11.2024, which was required to be filed, on or before, 9.12.2024. However, CTUIL has uploaded the above information on the e-filing portal on 2.1.2025. Since the order was in process, the information could not be taken on record. We express our strong displeasure over the conduct of the CTUIL in disregarding the direction for filing the details as mentioned in the said ROP within time granted in the ROP.

24. Considering the material on record, we are prima-facie of the view that the Petitioner satisfies the conditions for the grant of a separate RTM transmission licence under Section 15 of the Act read with the Transmission Licence Regulations for the implementation of the transmission project as described in para 1 of this order.

We, therefore, direct that a public notice in two daily digital newspapers and on the Commission`s website under clause (a) of sub-section (5) of Section 15 of the Act be published to invite suggestions or objections to the grant of a transmission licence aforesaid. The objections or suggestions, if any, be filed by any person before the Commission on or before 15.1.2025.”

Hearing dated: 21.1.2025

8. During the course of the hearing, the representative of the Petitioner submitted that vide order dated 3.1.2025, the Commission has held that the Petitioner is eligible for the grant of a separate transmission licence and, consequently, directed to issue public notice under Section 15(5)(a) of the Electricity Act, 2003 inviting suggestion or objection to the grant of a transmission licence to the Petitioner. However, in response thereof, no suggestion or objection has been received in response to the public notice.

9. In response to the specific query regarding the mismatch of the timeframe in the implementation of the 400kV bay covered under the instant Petition and associated generation project, the representative of the Petitioner submitted that there is a mismatch of approximately 3 months, and since the transmission scheme has been awarded by CTUIL itself on the RTM mode, it was prayed that CTUIL may be directed to align the implementation schedule of the bay with that of the generating station.

10. We have noted the above submissions of the Petitioner and CTUIL and proceed to consider the application of the Petitioner for the grant of the transmission licence.

11. As regards the grant of a transmission licence, Clauses (13) and (14) of Regulation 5 of the Transmission Licence Regulations, 2024 provide as under:

“(15) The Commission may after consideration of the further suggestions and objections, if any, received in response to the public notice as aforesaid, grant licence

as nearly as practicable in Form-III attached to these regulations or for reasons to be recorded in writing, reject the application if such application is not in accordance with the provisions of the Act, the rules or regulations made thereunder or any other law for the time being in force or for any other valid reason.

(16) The Commission may, before granting licence or rejecting the application, provide an opportunity of hearing to the applicant, the Central Transmission Utility, the long term customers, or the person who has filed suggestions and objections, or any other person: Provided further that the applicant shall always be given a reasonable opportunity of being heard before rejecting the application.”

12. In our order dated 3.1.2025, we had proposed to grant a transmission licence to the Petitioner company and directed for the issuance of public notice. In response to the public notice, no suggestions/ objections have been received. CTUIL, vide its letter 30.10.2024, has recommended the grant of a transmission licence to the Petitioner company. Considering the submissions of the Petitioner and CTUIL, we direct that the transmission licence be granted to the Petitioner, POWERGRID Bhadla III Transmission Limited, to establish the transmission scheme through the RTM route as per the details given in paragraph 1 above.

13. The grant of the transmission licence to the Petitioner (hereinafter referred to as “the licensee”) is subject to the fulfilment of the following conditions throughout the period of licence:

(a) The transmission licence shall, unless revoked earlier, remain in force for a period of 25 years from the date of issue;

(b) The transmission licensee shall comply with the provisions of the Transmission Licence Regulations or any subsequent enactment thereof during the period of subsistence of the licence;

(c) The licensee may make an application, two years before the expiry of the initial licence period, for the grant of the transmission licence for another term in accordance with Regulation 9 (2) of the Transmission Licence Regulations, which shall be considered by the Commission in accordance with law;

(d)The licensee shall not enter into any contract for or otherwise engage in the business of trading in electricity during the period of subsistence of the transmission licence;

(e)The licensee shall have the liability to pay the license fee in accordance with the provisions of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Payment of Fees) Regulations, 2012, as amended from time to time or any subsequent enactment thereof. Delay in payment or non-payment of licence fee or a part thereof for a period exceeding sixty days shall be construed as a breach of the terms and conditions of the licence;

(f) The licensee shall comply with the directions of the National Load Despatch Centre under Section 26 of the Act, or the Regional Load Despatch Centre under sub-section (3) of Section 28 or sub-section (1) of Section 29 of the Act, as may be issued from time to time for maintaining the availability of the transmission system;

(g)The licensee shall remain bound by the provisions of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Standard of Performance of inter-State transmission licensees) Regulations, 2012 or subsequent enactment thereof;

(h)The licensee shall provide the non-discriminatory open access to its Transmission System for use by any other licensee, including a distribution licensee or an electricity

trader, or generating company or any other person in accordance with the Act; the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Open Access in inter-State Transmission) Regulations, 2008; the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Connectivity and General Network Access to the inter State Transmission System) Regulations, 2023; the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Indian Electricity Grid Code) Regulations, 2023, as amended from time to time or any subsequent re-enactments thereof;

(i) The licensee shall not undertake any other business for optimum utilization of the transmission system without prior intimation to the Commission and shall comply with the provisions of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Sharing of Revenue Derived from Utilization of Transmission Assets for other business) Regulations, 2020;

(j) The licensee shall remain bound by provisions of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Sharing of inter-State Transmission Charges and Losses) Regulations, 2020 as amended from time to time;

(k) The licensee shall remain bound by the provisions of the Act, the Rules and Regulations framed thereunder, in particular the 2024 Transmission Licence Regulations, the Grid Code, the Standards specified by the Central Electricity Authority, orders and directions of the Commission issued from time to time;

(l) The licensee shall ensure the execution of the Project as per the Technical Standards and Grid Standards of the CEA;

(m) The licensee shall submit all such report or information as may be required under

2024 Transmission Licence Regulations, Standard of Performance Regulations or any other regulation of the Commission or as per the directions of the Commission as may be issued from time to time;

(n)The licensee shall ensure that the EPC contract for the execution of work under the scope of the project is awarded through a competitive bidding process.

14. CTUIL/its appointed Independent Engineer and the Central Electricity Authority shall monitor the execution of the Project and bring to the Commission's notice any lapse on the part of the licensee in meeting the schedule for further appropriate action in accordance with the provisions of the Act and the Transmission Licence Regulations.

15. It is noticed that the CTUIL, vide Record of Proceedings for the hearing dated 22.11.2024 was directed to file the requisite information. However, the same was not filed by the CTUIL. However, CTUIL, vide order dated 3.1.2025, again was directed to file the status of the associated generation project for which the transmission scheme covered under the present Petition is being implemented. In response, CTUIL, vide its affidavit dated 1.1.2025, has submitted that ReNew Solar (Shakti Six) Pvt. Ltd. has been granted connectivity of 1000 MW (550 MW + 450 MW) with effect from 31.3.2026 at Bhadla-III PS. For the interconnection of the above generation project, the 400 kV bay covered under the present Petition is to be implemented. As per the information provided by ReNew in the 32nd NR JCC meeting held on 24.12.2024 (minutes awaited), the generation project is now expected to be commissioned by 30.6.2026. We have considered the submissions of the CTUIL; it is noted that there is a mismatch of approximately 3 months; CTUIL is directed to align the implementation schedule of the bay with the associated generating project in letter

and spirit.

16. In response to the Commission's query regarding the approval of the Central Government to the transmission schemes under the Transmission System Planning Rules, 2021 for the Projects costing up to Rs. 100 crores approved by the NCT/CTUIL as per the Ministry's Order dated 28.10.2021, the CTUIL's representative submitted that it had again approached the Ministry of Power in this regard. However, no clarification has been received so far. CTUIL is directed to place on record the response received from the Ministry of Power as and when it is received. Meanwhile, we grant the transmission licence to the Petitioner Company so that the construction work of the transmission line may not be delayed.

17. An extract of a copy of this order shall be sent to the Central Government in the Ministry of Power and the Central Electricity Authority in terms of sub-section (7) of Section 15 of the Electricity Act, 2003, for their information and record.

18. Petition No. 437/TL/2024 is allowed in terms of the above.

Sd/-
(Harish Dudani)
Member

Sd/-
(Ramesh Babu V.)
Member

Sd/-
(Jishnu Barua)
Chairperson