

**CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
NEW DELHI**

Petition No. 477/TL/2024

Coram:

Shri Jishnu Barua, Chairperson

Shri Ramesh Babu V., Member

Shri Harish Dudani, Member

Date of order: 14th February, 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 License and other related matters) Regulations, 2024 for the grant of a separate RTM Transmission License to POWERGRID Neemuch Transmission System Limited.

And

In the matter of

**POWERGRID Neemuch Transmission System 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. Madhya Pradesh Power Management Company Limited,
Shakti Bhawan, Rampur,
Jabalpur-482008.**
- 2. Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Company Limited,
Prakashgad, Plot No G-9,
A K Marg, Bandra (East), Mumbai-400051.**
- 3. Gujarat Urja Vikas Nigam Limited,
Sardar Patel Vidyut Bhawan,
Race Course Road,
Vadodara -390007.**
- 4. Electricity Department,
Vidyut Bhawan, Govt. of Goa,
Panaji-403001, Goa.**

5. **DNHDD Power Distribution Corporation Limited,**
Vidyut Bhawan, 66kv road, Near secretariat,
Amlī, Silvassa–396230.
6. **Chhattisgarh State Power Distribution Company Limited,**
P.O. Sunder Nagar,
Dangania,
Raipur-492013, Chhattisgarh.
7. **Central Transmission Utility India Limited,**
Saudamini, Plot No.2, Sector-29,
Gurgaon-122001.
8. **Central Electricity Authority,**
Sewa Bhawan, R. K. Puram,
Sector-1, New Delhi-110066.

.... Respondents

Parties present:

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

ORDER

The Petitioner, POWERGRID Neemuch Transmission System Limited (hereinafter referred to as 'Petitioner'), has filed the present Petition under Section 14 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 Licence to POWERGRID Neemuch Transmission System Limited for "Transmission System for enabling interconnection of REGS at Neemuch S/s" 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: “Transmission System for enabling interconnection of REGS at Neemuch S/s”

S.No.	Scope of the Transmission Scheme	Capacity/km	Implementation timeframe
1.	01 No. of 220kV bay at Neemuch S/s for RE Interconnection [ACME Cleantech Solutions Pvt. Ltd. (2200000709) for 300MW]	220kV bays- 1 no.	31.1.2026
Total Estimated Cost:			Rs 5.57 crores

2. The Petitioner, POWERGRID Neemuch Transmission System 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 Neemuch SEZ" on a Build, Own, Operate and Transfer (BOOT) basis through TBCB route (hereinafter referred to as 'TBCB Project'). The Commission, vide its order dated 27.12.2022 in Petition No. 247/TL/2022, granted a transmission licence to Neemuch Transmission Limited (now known as POWERGRID Neemuch Transmission Limited) for the aforesaid TBCB Project.

3. The Central Transmission Utility of India Limited (CTUIL) has issued an Office Memorandum dated 5.9.2024 to the Petitioner wherein it has approved and nominated the Petitioner company to implement the transmission scheme through the “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. 5.57 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 29th Consultation Meeting for Evolving Transmission Schemes (CMETS) in the Western Region, held on 12.6.2024. The relevant portion of the minutes of the meeting held on 12.6.2024 is extracted as under:

S n	Application ID	Applicant Name	Connectivity Location Requested	Quantum (MW)	Connectivity Sought from and Actual Start Date*	Dedicated Transmission System for Connectivity	Associated Transmission System for GNA	Common Transmission System Augmentation	BG details and remarks (if any)
3	2200000709	ACME Cleantech Solutions Private Limited	Neemuch SEZ PP	300	30.04.2025 Revised Start Date: 31.12.2025 Actual Start Date: 31.12.2025	ACME-Neemuch 220kV S/C line along with associated bay at the generation end (under the scope of the applicant) -1 no 220 kv line bay at Neemuch S/s (to be implemented under ISTS based on the feedback of applicant)	Nil	Nil	• Conn BG-1: 0.5 Crs • Conn BG-2: 3 Crs • Conn BG-3: 6 Crs

6. Based on the above, CTUIL, vide its Office Memorandum dated 5.9.2024, approved the implementation of the transmission project, "Transmission System for enabling interconnection of REGS at Neemuch S/s" 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 17.1.2025, *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 extract of the order dated 17.1.2025 is extracted as under:

“22. 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 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 4.2.2025.”

8. A public notice under sub-section (5) of Section 15 of the Act was published on 22.1.2025 in all editions of “The Hindu (English) and ‘Dainik Jagran’ (Hindi). No suggestions/objections have been received from members of the public in response to the public notice.

Hearing dated: 6.2.2025

9. During the course of the hearing, the representative of the Petitioner submitted that vide order dated 17.1.2025, 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.

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 a separate licence transmission licence through RTM Mode.

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 17.1.2025, 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 14.11.2024, 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 Neemuch Transmission System 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. 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.

16. Petition No. 477/TL/2024 is allowed in terms of the above.

Sd/-
(Harish Dudani)
Member

Sd/-
(Ramesh Babu V.)
Member

Sd/-
(Jishnu Barua)
Chairperson