

**CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
NEW DELHI**

Petition No. 487/TL/2024

Coram:

Shri Jishnu Barua, Chairperson

Shri Ramesh Babu V., Member

Shri Harish Dudani, Member

Shri Ravinder Singh Dhillon, Member

Date of order: 27th March, 2025

In the matter of:

Petition under Section 14 of the Electricity Act, 2003 read with Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Procedure, Terms and Conditions for Grant of Transmission Licence and other related matters) Regulations, 2024 for amendment of the existing RTM Transmission Licence to POWERGRID Bikaner Transmission System Limited to include transmission project "Implementation of Bus Sectionalizer at 400 kV level of 400/220 kV Bikaner-II PS" and "Augmentation of Transformation Capacity at 400/220 kV Bikaner-II PS in Rajasthan by 400/220 kV, 1×500 MVA ICT (9th)".

And

In the matter of

**POWERGRID Bikaner Transmission System Limited,
(A 100% wholly owned subsidiary of Power Grid Corporation of India Limited),**

Registered office:

B-9, Qutab Institutional Area,
Katwaria Sarai, New Delhi-110016.

Address for correspondence:

C/o ED (TBCB),
Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, Saudamini,
Plot No.2, Sector -29, Gurgaon-122001.

...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,**
B-Block, Shakti Kiran, Bldg. (Near Karkardooma Courts),
Karkardoomam 2nd Floor, 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. **Central Transmission Utility India Limited,**
Saudamini, Plot no.2, Sector -29,
Gurgaon-122001.
17. **Central Electricity Authority,**
Sewa Bhawan, R. K. Puram,
Sector-1, New Delhi - 110066.

...Respondents

Parties present:

Shri Prashant Kumar, PBTSL
Shri Ranjeet S. Rajput, CTUIL
Shri Swapnil Verma, CTUIL

ORDER

The Petitioner, POWERGRID Bikaner Transmission System Limited (hereinafter referred to as 'Petitioner'), has filed the present Petition under Sections 14 and 15 of the Electricity Act, 2003 (hereinafter referred to as 'the Act') read with the provisions of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Procedure, Terms and Conditions for Grant of Transmission License and other related matters) Regulations, 2024 for amendment of the existing RTM Transmission Licence to POWERGRID Bikaner Transmission System Limited to include the "Implementation of Bus Sectionalizer at 400 kV level of 400/220 kV Bikaner-II PS" and "Augmentation of Transformation Capacity at 400/220 kV Bikaner-II PS in Rajasthan by 400/220 kV, 1*500 MV A ICT (9th)" (hereinafter referred to as the 'transmission scheme/project'). The scope of the project for which the existing RTM transmission licence is being amended is as under:

"Implementation of Bus Sectionalizer at 400kV level of 400/220kV Bikaner-II PS"

Sl. No.	Scope of the Transmission Scheme	Item Description	Implementation timeframe
1.	- One set of bus sectionalizer at 400kV level of 400/220kV Bikaner-II PS - One no. of 400kV tie bay (associated with 400/220kV ICT-4)	400 kV Bus sectionalizer– 1 no. 400kV tie bay– 1 no.	Matching with implementation of 400/220kV ICTs (4th to 7th) i.e., Dec'24
Total Estimated Cost:			Rs 28 crores

Augmentation of Transformation Capacity at 400/220 kV Bikaner-II PS in Rajasthan by 400/220 kV, 1*500 MVA ICT (9th)

Sl. No.	Scope of the Transmission Scheme	Item Description	Implementation timeframe
1.	Augmentation of Transformation Capacity at 400/220 kV Bikaner-II PS in Rajasthan by 400/220 kV, 1*500 MVA ICT (9th) along with associated transformer bays	500 MVA, 400/220 kV ICT– 1 no. 400kV ICT bay–1 no. 220 kV ICT bay- 1 no.	18 months from the date of issuance of OM by CTUIL i.e. 18.01.2026.
Total Estimated Cost:			Rs 54.60 crores

2. The Petitioner is an Inter-State transmission licensee and has implemented the “Transmission System Strengthening Scheme for Evacuation of Power from Solar Energy Zones in Rajasthan (8.1 GW) under Phase II-Part F” through the Tariff Based Competitive Bidding (hereinafter referred to as ‘TBCB Project’) mode. The Commission, vide its order dated 15.7.2021 in Petition No. 99/TL/2021, granted a transmission licence (TBCB Licence) to the Petitioner for the aforesaid BCB Project. Subsequently, the Commission, vide its order dated 21.11.2022 in Petition No. 137/TL/2022, granted a separate transmission licence to the Petitioner Company to implement the following Transmission Projects under the Regulated Tariff Mechanism (hereinafter referred to as ‘RTM’). The RTM transmission projects assigned to the Petitioner are as under:

- “Implementation of 220 kV bays for RE generators and 400/220kV ICTs at Bikaner-II PS”: Applicant was nominated vide CTUIL OM dated 16.11.2021.
- “Implementation of 1 no. of 400 kV line bay at 400/220 kV Bikaner-II PS for interconnection of 1000 MW Solar Project of SJVN Ltd.”: Applicant was nominated vide CTUIL OM dated 26.04.2022.
- “Implementation of 2 no. of 220 kV line bays at 400/220 kV Bikaner-II PS for interconnection of solar projects (ACME Solar Holdings Pvt. Ltd., Prerak Greentech Pvt. Ltd.)”: Applicant was nominated vide CTUIL OM dated 25.08.2022.

3. Further, the above transmission licence was amended by the Commission, vide its order dated 28.1.2024 in Petition 181/TL/2023, to incorporate the following transmission scheme:

“4.1. Implementation of 1 no. of 220 kV line bay at 400/220 kV Bikaner-II PS for interconnection of solar project (M/s NHPC Ltd.): Applicant was nominated vide CTUIL OM dated 28.11.2022

Sl no	Scope of the Transmission Scheme	Capacity/km	Implementation timeframe
1	1 no. of 220 kV line bay at 400/220 kV Bikaner-II PS for interconnection of RE project (NHPC Ltd.)	220 kV line bay – 1 no. (refer note a)	15 months from the issue of OM by CTUIL, i.e. 27.02.2024
2	Implementation of 220 kV bus sectionalizer along with bus coupler and transfer bus coupler at 400/220kV Bikaner-II PS	220kV bus sectionalizer bay - 1 Set 220 kV bus coupler bay -1 No. 220 kV transfer bus coupler bay - 1 No. Bus works for future bays (4 nos. of line bays & 3 nos. of ICT bays)	

Note:

- a) At 220 kV Bikaner-II, future line bays in Section-C are proposed to be allocated to RE developers with bays in developer’s scope (no. 230-231) and ISTS scope (no. 26-227). Accordingly, 220 kV bus works may also be suitably taken up under the above scope.

4.2. Implementation of 2 no. of 220 kV line bays at 400/220 kV Bikaner-II PS for interconnection of RE power park of M/s ALF Solar Amarsar Pvt. Ltd.: Applicant was nominated vide CTUIL OM dated 17.01.2023

Sl.No.	Scope of the Transmission Scheme	Capacity/km	Implementation timeframe
1.	2 no. of 220 kV line bays at 400/220 kV Bikaner-II PS for interconnection of RE power park of M/s ALF Solar Amarsar Pvt. Ltd.	220 kV line bay – 2 nos.	30.06.2024

4.3. Transmission system for evacuation of power from Rajasthan REZ Ph-IV (Part-1) (Bikaner Complex) - Part-E. Applicant was nominated vide CTUIL OM dated 16.02.2023

Sl.No.	Scope of the Transmission Scheme	Capacity/km	Implementation timeframe
1.	Augmentation with 5X500 MVA, 400/220 kV ICTs at Bikaner-II PS	400/220 kV, 500 MVA ICT – 5 nos. 400 kV ICT bays – 5 nos. 220 kV ICT bays - 5 nos.	4x500MVA, 400/220kV ICTs: 31.12.2024 1x500MVA, 400/220kV ICT: 31.1.2025

**** This inter-alia includes the cost of 02 other transmission assets being constructed by POWERGRID at Bikaner (PG) & Kotputli (PG) sub-stations.**

4.4. Augmentation of transformation capacity at 400/220 kV Bikaner-II PS by 400/220 kV, 1X500 MVA ICT (3rd). Applicant was nominated vide CTUIL OM dated 08.06.2023

Sl.No.	Scope of the Transmission Scheme	Capacity/km	Implementation timeframe
1.	Augmentation of transformation capacity at 400/220 kV Bikaner-II PS by 400/220 kV, 1X500 MVA ICT (3rd) along with associated transformer bays* *1 no. of 400kV (AIS) (including associated tie bay) and 1 no. of 220 kV (AIS) transformer bay	500 MVA, 400/220 kV ICT – 1 no. 400 kV ICT bay (including associated tie bay) – 1 no. 220 kV ICT bays - 1 no	18 months from the issue of OM by CTUIL, i.e. 7.12.2024

4. Further, in addition to the above-mentioned scope, the Central Transmission Utility of India Limited (CTUIL), vide Office Memorandum dated 26.10.2023 and 18.7.2024, has

assigned the Transmission Projects “Implementation of Bus Sectionalizer at 400kV level of 400/220kV Bikaner-II PS” and “Augmentation of Transformation Capacity at 400/220 kV Bikaner-II PS in Rajasthan by 400/220 kV, 1*500 MVA ICT (9th)” under RTM mode while referring to the Ministry of Power office order dated 28.10.2021.

5. The Petitioner has submitted that upon amendment of the existing RTM transmission licence, the Petitioner shall implement the aforementioned scheme under RTM mode. The estimated completion cost of the transmission scheme, as per CTUIL's Office Memorandum (OMs) dated 26.10.2023 and 18.7.2024, is Rs. 28 crores and Rs. 54.60 crores, respectively. After completion of the transmission scheme, the Petitioner shall approach the Commission for the determination of the transmission charges in accordance with the Tariff Regulations.

6. 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 10.3.2025, prima facie proposed to amend the existing RTM transmission licence granted to the Petitioner to implement the transmission projects detailed in paragraph 1 of the order.

The relevant extract of the order dated 10.3.2025 is extracted as under:

18. It is noted that the CTUIL has not submitted the information called for vide RoP dated 11.2.2025 despite granting sufficient time. We express our strong displeasure at the conduct of the CTUIL for repeated non-compliance with our direction. We again direct the CTUIL to file the information called for vide ROP dated 11.2.2025 before the next date of the hearing.

“30. Since the Petitioner is already an inter-State transmission licensee and has already been granted an RTM transmission licence to implement the transmission projects under RTM mode and again has been identified as an agency to implement the project under the RTM, we hold that the Petitioner is eligible for the amendment of the existing RTM transmission licence. We, hereby, direct that a public notice under

*clause (a) of sub-section (5) of Section 15 of the Act be published to invite suggestions or objections to the amendment of the existing RTM transmission licence aforesaid. The objections or suggestions, if any, shall be filed by any person before the Commission by **21.3.2025.**”*

7. A public notice under sub-section (5) of Section 15 of the Act was published on 13.3.2025 in all editions of Times of India (English) and Hindustan (Hindi). No suggestions/objections have been received from members of the public in response to the public notice.

8. CTUIL, vide affidavit dated 7.3.2025, has submitted that during the 21st CMETS-NR meeting held on 31.07.2023, it was discussed that ‘TSP vide letter dated 27.06.2023 has informed that 400kV bus sectionalizer at Bikaner-II PS may be required after ICT-5 for taking up implementation of ICT-6th to 8th.’ It was also informed that in the absence of a 400kV bus sectionalizer, integration of the existing 400 kV section bus bar protection system & new bus bar protection system shall not be feasible. In view of the above, one set of sectionalizers at the 400kV level was agreed to be implemented under ISTS. The representative for the Petitioner during the hearing dated 11.02.2025 also submitted that in the absence of 400 kV bus sectionalizer bays, integration of the existing 400kV section bus bar protection system & new bus bar protection system shall not be feasible. To meet the above operational/protection requirements, a bus sectionalizer at 400/220kV Bikaner-II PS covered in the instant Petition shall be required.

9. We have considered the submissions of the CTUIL. As per the CTUIL, a 400kV bus sectionalizer at Bikaner-II PS is required after ICT-5 for taking up implementation of the ICT-6th to 8th and the same was discussed during the 21st CMETS-NR meeting held on 31.07.2023.

Hearing dated: 25.3.2025

10. During the course of the hearing, the representative of the Petitioner submitted that vide order dated 10.3.2025, the Commission has held that the Petitioner is eligible for the amendment of the existing RTM 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 amendment of a transmission licence of the Petitioner. However, in response thereof, no suggestion or objection has been received in response to the public notice.

11. We have noted the above submissions of the Petitioner and CTUIL and proceed to consider the application of the Petitioner for the amendment of the RTM transmission licence.

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

“(13) The Commission may, after consideration of the further suggestions and objections, if any, received in response to the public notice in terms of Clause (12) of this Regulation, grant licence to the applicant in Form-III appended to these regulations or for reasons to be recorded in writing, reject the application.

(14) The Commission shall before granting licence or rejecting the application under the provisions of this Regulation provide an opportunity of hearing to the applicant, CTUIL, the concerned DICs, or the person who has filed suggestions and objections, or any other interested person.”

13. In our order dated 10.3.2025, we had proposed to amend the existing RTM 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 dated 7.11.2024, has recommended the amendment to the existing RTM

transmission licence of the Petitioner. Considering the submissions of the Petitioner and CTUIL, we direct that the existing RTM transmission licence granted to POWERGRID Bikaner Transmission System Limited be amended to establish the transmission scheme through the RTM route as per the details given in paragraph 1 above.

14. The grant/amendment 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.

15. CTUIL 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.

16. It is noted that the CTUIL, vide its letter dated 10.1.2025, has requested the Ministry of Power to clarify the requirement of approval of the Central Government to transmission schemes under the Transmission System Planning Rules, 2021 for Projects costing up to Rs. 100 crores approved by CTUIL as per the Ministry's Order dated 28.10.2021. 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. 487/TL/2024 is allowed in terms of the above.

Sd/-
(Ravinder Singh Dhillon)
Member

sd/-
(Harish Dudani)
Member

sd/-
(Ramesh Babu V.)
Member

sd/-
(Jishnu Barua)
Chairperson