

**CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
NEW DELHI**

Petition No. 247/TL/2025

Coram:

Shri Jishnu Barua, Chairperson

Shri Ramesh Babu V., Member

Shri Harish Dudani, Member

Shri Ravinder Singh Dhillon, Member

Date of Order: 14th May, 2025

In the matter of

Application under Sections 14, 15, 79(1)(e) 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, seeking Transmission License for Bijapur REZ Transmission Limited.

And

In the matter of

Bijapur REZ Transmission Limited,
Urjanidhi, First Floor, 1, Barakhamba Lane,
Connaught Place, New Delhi- 110001.

...Petitioner

VERSUS

1. Central Transmission Utility of India Limited,
Shram Shakti Bhawan,
Rafi Marg, New Delhi-110001.

2. PFC Consulting Limited,
Urjanidhi, First Floor, 1, Barakhamba Lane,
Connaught Place, New Delhi-110001.

3. Kerala State Electricity Board Limited,
Tariff Regulatory and Affairs Cell,
Vydyuthi Bhavan, KSEB Ltd.,
Thiruvananthapuram- 695004, Kerala.

4. Tamil Nadu Generation & Distribution Corporation,
NPKRR Maaligai, 144 Anna Salai,
Chennai, Tamil Nadu-600002.

- 5. Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited,**
Corporate Office, KPTCL,
Kaveri Bhavan, K.G Road Bengaluru-560009,
Bengaluru-560009, Karnataka.
- 6. Southern Power Distribution Company of Andhra Pradesh Limited,**
APPCC, Vidyut Soudha,
Gunadala, Vijayawada-520004, Andhra Pradesh.
- 7. Transmission Corporation of Andhra Pradesh Limited,**
Power Systems & Commercial, APTRANSCO,
Vidyut Soudha, Vijayawada-520004.
- 8. Gulbarga Electricity Supply Company Limited,**
Corporate Office, PTC Section,
Station Main Road, Opp. Parivar Hotel,
GESCOM, Kalaburagi,
Gulbarga (Kalburgi)-585102, Karnataka.
- 9. Transmission Corporation of Telangana Limited,**
6-3-572 Vidyut Sauda, Khairatabad,
Hyderabad-500082, Telangana.
- 10. Bangalore Electricity Supply Company,**
Corporate Office BESCOM,
K.R. Circle Bangalore-560001,
Bengaluru-560001, Karnataka.
- 11. Renew Solar Power Private Limited,**
138, Ansal Chamber Bika Ji Cama,
Chamber, New Delhi-110029.
- 12. Chamundeshwari Electricity Supply Corporation Limited,**
No.29, Corporate Office CESC Mysore,
Vijayanagar 2nd Stage,
Hinkal, Mysuru-570017, Karnataka.
- 13. Mangalore Electricity Supply Company Limited,**
Corporate Office, Mescom,
Mescom Bhavana,
Kavoor Cross Road, Bejai,
Mangalore-575004, Karnataka.
- 14. JSW Renew Energy Limited,**
JSW Centre, BKC, Bandra East,
Mumbai- 400051, Maharashtra.
- 15. Renew Surya Ojas Private Limited,**
138, Ansal Chamber - II,
Bikaji Cama Place,

New Delhi-110066.

16. Ayana Renewable Power Six Private Limited,

S 2904, 29th floor, World Trade Center,
Brigade Gateway Campus,
26/1, Dr. Rajkumar Road,
Rajajinagar-560055, Bangalore.

17. Eastern Power Distribution Company of Andhra Pradesh Limited,

Chief General Manager, RA&PP,
Corporate Office, Seethammadhara, P&T Colony,
Visakhapatnam-530013, Andhra Pradesh.

18. Hubli Electricity Supply Company Limited,

Corporate Office PB Road,
Navanagar Hubballi, Hubli– 580025, Karnataka.

19. Power Grid Corporation of India Limited,

'Saudamini', Plot No.2,
Sector 29, Gurgaon-122001, Haryana.

...Respondents

Parties present:

Shri Hemant Singh, Advocate, BRTL
Ms. Supriya Rastogi, Advocate, BRTL
Ms. Ankita Bafna, Advocate, BRTL
Shri Jay Lal, Advocate, BRTL
Shri Arun Lal, Advocate, BRTL
Shri Lakhyajit Singh, Advocate, BRTL
Ms. Lavanya Panwar, Advocate, BRTL
Shri Akhyalal, Advocate, BRTL
Shri Pawan Singh, Advocate, BRTL
Shri Vivek Pratap Singh, BRTL
Shri Vijay Kumar Trivedi, BRTL
Shri Dharmender, Advocate, PFCCCL
Shri Deepak Kumar, Advocate, PFCCCL
Shri Ranjeet S Rajput, CTUIL

ORDER

The Petitioner, Bijapur REZ Transmission Limited (hereinafter referred to as “the Petitioner”), has filed the present Petition for the grant of a transmission licence under Sections 14, 15 and 79(1)(e) of the Electricity Act, 2003 (hereinafter referred to as “the Act”) read with the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Procedure, Terms, and Conditions for grant of Transmission Licence and other related matters)

Regulations, 2024 (hereinafter referred to as “the Transmission Licence Regulations”) to implement the inter-State transmission system, namely “Transmission Scheme for integration of Bijapur REZ in Karnataka” (hereinafter referred to as “the Project”) on a Build, Own, Operate and Transfer basis, consisting of the following elements:

Sl. No	Name of the Transmission Element	Scheduled COD	Percentage of Quoted Transmission Charges recoverable on Scheduled COD of the Element of the Project	Element(s) which are prerequisites for declaring the commercial operation (COD) of the respective Element
1	Establishment of 400/220 kV 5x500 MVA Pooling Station near Bijapur (Vijayapura), Karnataka • 400/220 kV, 500 MVA, ICTs-5nos. • 400 kV ICT bays-5nos. • 220 kV ICT bays-5nos. • 400 kV line bays - 2 nos. (at Bijapur PS for termination of Bijapur PS - Raichur New line) • 220 kV line bays - 10 nos. • 220 kV Sectionalizer: 1 sets • 220 kV Bus Coupler (BC) Bay- 2 nos. • 220 kV Transfer Bus Coupler (TBC) Bay - 2 nos. Future Space Provisions: • 400/220kV, 500 MVA, ICTs - 5 nos. • 400kV ICT bays - 5 nos.	24 months from Effective Date (i.e., transfer of SPV) (16.01.2027)	100	Element at Sl. No. 2 and 3

	• 220kV ICT bays- 5 nos. • 400kV line bays - 6 nos. (with provision for SLR) • 220kV line bays - 14 nos. • 220kV Sectionalizer: 2 sets • 220 kV Bus Coupler (BC) Bay - 2 nos. • 220 kV Transfer Bus Coupler (TBC) Bay - 2 nos			
2	Bijapur PS – Raichur New 400 kV (Quad ACSR moose) D/C line • 400 kV line bays - 2 nos. (at Raichur New)			Element at Sl. No. 1 and 3
3	2x125MVA 420 kV bus reactors at Bijapur PS • 420 kV, 125 MVA bus reactors - 2 nos. • 420 kV, 125 MVA bus reactor bays - 2 nos.			Element at Sl. No. 1 and 2

2. The Petitioner has made the following prayers:

“a) Issue the Transmission License to the Applicant/ Petitioner for establishing, operating and maintaining the Transmission System of “Transmission Scheme for integration of Bijapur REZ in Karnataka”, comprising of assets/ elements as detailed in the present petition, in terms of the provisions of RFP dated 01.01.2024 and Transmission Service Agreement dated 16.01.2025 read with Section 14, 15 and 79 (1) (e) of the Electricity Act, 2003;

b) Allow the Transmission Project, as detailed in the present Petition/ Application, to be part of the Inter-State Transmission System and direct that the recovery of transmission charges shall be in accordance with the terms of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Sharing of Inter-state Transmission Charges and losses) Regulations, 2020 and subsequent amendments/ enactments, thereto;

c) Condone any inadvertent errors omissions/ errors / shortcomings and permit the Applicant to add/change/modify/alter these pleadings and make further submissions as may be required at a future date;

d) Pass any such other order / orders, as may be deemed fit and proper in the facts and circumstances of the case.”

Hearing dated 11.3.2025

3. Notices were issued to the Respondents to file their respective replies. Vide Record of Proceedings dated 11.3.2025, the Petitioner was directed to implead POWERGRID (for Raichur New S/s) as a party to the Petition and file a revised memo of parties. CTUIL was directed to furnish the details of the inter-connecting upstream and downstream transmission system, as well as the details of connectivity/GNA granted and/or applications received at Bijapur Pooling Station, along with relevant documents.

4. In compliance with the Record of Proceedings dated 11.3.2025, the Petitioner has submitted the revised memo of parties vide affidavit dated 26.3.2025. CTUIL, in compliance, vide affidavit dated 28.3.2025, has submitted as under:

The details of the Inter-Connecting Upstream and Downstream Transmission System in the format as below:

S. No.	Particulars	Details of Transmission System	STU/ STS	Implementing Agency	Implementation Mode (RTM/TBCB)	Commissioning Schedule/Status
1	Upstream Transmission System	Bijapur REZ is being integrated with existing Raichur New through Bijapur PS – Raichur New 400kV (Quad) D/c line.				
2	Downstream Transmission System					

The details of the connectivity/ GNA granted and/ or applications received at Merta-II S/s - AIS as per the following table below:

- Bijapur PS was identified for the integration of 2 GW RE potential identified by the MNRE in the Bijapur area of Karnataka. However, CTUIL has received Connectivity applications much beyond the declared potential. The in-principle grant of connectivity for the applications up to the declared potential of 2 GW has

been issued with the tentative start date of connectivity. However, a firm date for the start of connectivity shall be communicated in the final grant of connectivity intimation. The details of the connectivity applications granted/received at Bijapur as on 28.2.2025 is as below:

S. No.	Applicant name	Type of applicant	Conn. quantum (MW)	Start date of conn as per the In-principle grant	Conn BGs furnished
1.	Apraava Energy Pvt. Ltd.	Generator	300	31.12.2025 (Tentative)	Conn BG1: 50 lakh Conn BG2: 3.0 crores Conn BG3: 6.0 crores
2.	Tata Power Renewable Energy Ltd.	Generator	252	31.07.2026 (Tentative)	Conn BG1: 50 lakh Conn BG2: 3.0 crores Conn BG3: 5.04 crores
3.	TEQ Green Power XVI Pvt. Ltd.	Generator	125	31.07.2026 (Tentative)	Conn BG1: 50 lakhs Conn BG2: 3.0 crores Conn BG3: 2.5 crores
4.	TEQ Green Power XVI Pvt. Ltd.	Generator	175	30.06.2026 (Tentative)	Conn BG1: 50 lakh Conn BG2: NA Conn BG3: 3.5 crores
5.	Tata Power Renewable Energy Ltd.	Generator	50.4	30.06.2026 (Tentative)	Conn BG1: 50 lakhs Conn BG2: NA Conn BG3: 1.008 crores
6.	Sunsure Solarpark Rj One Pvt Ltd	Generator	252	30.04.2027 (Tentative)	Conn BG1: 50 lakhs Conn BG2: 3.0 crores Conn BG3: 5.04 crores
7.	UPC Renewables India Management Pvt. Ltd.	Generator	160	30.09.2026 (Tentative)	Conn BG1: 50 lakhs Conn BG2: 3.0 crores Conn BG3: 3.2 crores
8.	Tepsol Green Energy Private Limited	Generator	200	31.08.2026 (Tentative)	Conn BG1: 50 lakh Conn BG2: NA Conn BG3: 4.0 crores
9.	EG Solwin Renewables Pvt. Ltd.	Generator	100	31.12.2026 (Tentative)	Conn BG1: 50 lakh Conn BG2: NA Conn BG3: 2.0 crores
10.	Vismaya Renewables India Project Pvt. Ltd.	Generator	300	01.10.2027	Conn BG1: 50 lakh Conn BG2: 3.0 crores Conn BG3: 6.0 crores
11.	Sunsure Solarpark Rj One Pvt Ltd	Generator	48	31.12.2027	Conn BG1: 50 lakh Conn BG2: NA. Conn BG3: 96 lakh
Sub Total (Sl. No. 1-11)			1962.4		

Sl. No.	Applicant name	Type of applicant	Conn. quantum (MW)	Start date of conn. as per the application	Conn BGs furnished
1.	Welspun Godavari Pvt. Ltd.	Generator	250	31.01.2027	NA
2.	Enfinity Global Haritha Udwal Pvt. Ltd.	Generator	100	31.12.2026	NA
3.	UPC Renewables India Management Pvt. Ltd.	Generator	56	30.11.2026	NA
4.	Purvah Green Power Pvt.Ltd.	Generator	351	01.08.2026	NA

Sl. No.	Applicant name	Type of applicant	Conn. quantum (MW)	Start date of conn. as per the application	Conn BGs furnished
5.	Ganeko Four Energy Pvt. Ltd.	Generator	300	30.06.2028	NA
6.	Purvah Green Power Pvt.Ltd.	Generator	250.8	01.04.2027	NA
7.	Diyos One Renewable Pvt. Ltd.	Generator	250	30.06.2028	NA
8.	Avaada Energy Private Limited	Generator	300	30.06.2027	NA
9.	Teq Green Power XIII Pvt. Ltd.	Generator	120	31.03.2027	NA
10.	UPC Renewables India Management Pvt. Ltd.	Generator	88	28.02.2027	NA
11.	Sunsure Solarpark Rj One Pvt Ltd	Generator	150	31.12.2027	NA
12.	Purvah Green Power Pvt. Ltd.	Generator	90	01.08.2026	NA
13.	Renew Wind Energy (AP Five) Pvt. Ltd.	Generator	231.8	31.03.2028	NA
14.	NTPC Renewable Energy Ltd.	Generator	600	30.06.2027	NA
15.	NTPC Renewable Energy Ltd.	Generator	300	30.06.2027	NA
16.	NTPC Renewable Energy Ltd.	Generator	300	30.06.2027	NA
17.	Apraava Energy Pvt. Ltd.	Generator	300	31.12.2027	NA
18.	Shree Cement Limited	Generator	125	30.06.2029	NA
19.	Tata Power Renewable Energy Ltd.	Generator	300	31.03.2027	NA
20.	Vena Energy Solar Helios India Power Resources Private Ltd.	Generator	200	31.12.2028	NA
21.	FP Andromeda Private Limited	Generator	300	30.06.2028	NA
22.	Juniper Green Ray Zeta Private Limited	Generator	300	30.06.2028	NA
23.	Hero Solar Energy Private Limited	Generator	300	28.06.2027	NA
Sub Total (Sl. No. 12-34)			5562.6		
Grand Total			7525		

Note: Applications from Sl. 12 to 34 are received beyond RE potential declared by MNRE. The start date mentioned above is the start date of connectivity sought by the applicants.

5. As per the submission of CTUIL, the implementation schedule of the Transmission Scheme for integration of Bijapur REZ in Karnataka is aligned with the implementation schedule of the identified upstream and downstream transmission schemes.

6. The matter was heard on 23.4.2025. The learned counsel for the Petitioner submitted that no reply has been received from the Respondent despite notice. After hearing the learned counsel, the Commission reserved the order in the matter.

7. The Petitioner has submitted that in accordance with the “Guidelines for Encouraging Competition in Development of Transmission Projects” and “Tariff Based Competitive Bidding Guidelines for Transmission Service” (hereinafter referred to as “the Guidelines”) issued by the Ministry of Power, Government of India, under Section 63 of the Act, PFC Consulting Limited (hereinafter referred to as “PFCCL”) was notified by the Ministry of Power, Government of India, vide Gazette Notification No. CG-DL-E-15032024- 253080 dated 15.3.2024 as the Bid Process Coordinator (BPC) for the purpose of selection of bidder as Transmission Service Provider (TSP) for the grant of a inter-State transmission licence to the Applicant for establishment of the “Transmission Scheme for integration of Bijapur REZ in Karnataka” on a Build, Own, Operate and Transfer basis.

8. PFCCL, in its capacity as the BPC, initiated the bid process on 1.6.2024 and completed it on 16.1.2025 in accordance with the Guidelines. G R Infraprojects Limited was selected as the successful bidder, having quoted the lowest transmission charges of Rs. 1,077.00 million per annum to provide the transmission services to the transmission system’s beneficiaries.

9. The RfP was issued on 1.6.2024. At the RfP (Technical and Financial) stage, nine bidders, namely, (i) Adani Energy Solutions Limited; (ii) Apraava Energy Private Limited; (iii) Barbrik Project Limited; (iv) Gawar Construction Limited; (v) G R Infraprojects Limited; (vi) Jakson Limited; (vii) Power Grid Corporation of India Limited; (viii) Sterlite Grid 32 Limited, and (ix) Techno Electric & Engineering Company Limited.

The RfP (Technical bids) of the nine bidders were opened by the Bid Opening Committee on 27.9.2024 in the presence of the representative of the bidders. The lowest Initial Price Offer discovered (Best Deal) at the MSTC portal was Rs. 1,077.00 million per annum.

10. As per Clause 3.5.1 of the RfP document, Initial Offers shall be ranked on the basis of ascending order for the determination of the qualified bidders. The bidders holding the first fifty per cent of the ranks (with any fraction rounded off to a higher integer) or four bidders, whichever is higher, shall be considered to be qualified for participating in the electronic reverse auction stage and submitting their final offer. Accordingly, the qualified bidders are as under:

Sr. No.	Name of the Bidder	Quoted Transmission Charges from the Initial Offer (in Indian Rs. Million per annum)	Rank
1.	G R Infraprojects Limited	1,077.00	L1
2.	Gawar Construction Limited	1,085.00	L2
3.	Barbrik Project Limited	1,090.00	L3
4.	Jakson Limited	1,190.65	L4
5.	Apraava Energy Private Limited	1,272.00	L5
6.	Techno Electric & Engineering Company Limited	1,290.00	L6
7.	Adani Energy Solutions Limited	1,343.90	L7
8.	Power Grid Corporation of India Limited	1,417.53	L8
9.	Sterlite Grid 32 Limited	1,501.00	L9

11. Out of the nine bidders, five bidders were qualified to participate in the e-reverse auction. Accordingly, the e-reverse auction was conducted on the MSTC portal on 7.11.2024 and concluded on the same day at 1200 hrs (IST). However, none of the qualified bidders participated in the e-reverse auction as under:

Sr. No.	Name of the Bidder	Quoted Transmission Charges from the Initial Offer (in Rs. Million per annum)	Rank
1.	G R Infraprojects Limited	1,077.00 (Not Participated in e-RA)	L1
2.	Gawar Construction Limited	1,085.00 (Not Participated in e-RA)	L2
3.	Barbrik Project Limited	1,090.00 (Not Participated in e-RA)	L3
4.	Jakson Limited	1,190.65 (Not Participated in e-RA)	L4
5.	Apraava Energy Private Limited	1,272.00 (Not Participated in e-RA)	L5

12. Further, as per the provisions of the RfP document, each bidder was required to quote only a single value for the annual transmission charges. In addition to the online submission, the bidder with the lowest Final Offer was required to submit original hard copies of the following documents prior to the issuance of the Letter of Intent (LoI), Power of Attorney, Power of Attorney from Consortium Members (if applicable), Consortium Agreement (if applicable), and Bid Bond. Accordingly, in compliance with the aforesaid requirement, G R Infraprojects Limited, being the lowest bidder, submitted the original hard copies of the above-stated documents to the Bid Process Coordinator (BPC) on 12.11.2024.

13. As per the Bid Evaluation Report dated 13.11.2024, G R Infraprojects Limited is the successful bidder with the lowest quoted transmission charges of Rs. 1,077.00 million per annum. BEC, vide its certificate dated 13.11.2024, has certified that the entire bid process has been carried out in accordance with the Guidelines issued by the Ministry of Power under Section 63 of the Act. BEC has further certified that the transmission charges discovered through the e-reverse auction are acceptable.

14. Consequent to its selection as the lowest bidder, a Letter of Intent (LoI) was issued to G R Infraprojects Limited by the BPC on 12.12.2024, which was accepted

by G R Infraprojects Limited. Under the terms of RfP and the Letter of Intent, the successful bidder is obligated to accomplish the following tasks:

- (a) Provide Contract Performance Guarantee in favour of the Central Transmission Utility of India Limited (CTUIL);
- (b) Execute Share Purchase Agreement and Transmission Service Agreement;
- (c) Acquire, for the Acquisition Price, a 100% equity share of Bijapur REZ Transmission Limited from PFCCL along with all its related assets and liabilities;
- (d) Make an application to this Commission for the adoption of transmission charges, as required under Section 63 of the Act; and
- (e) Apply to this Commission for the grant of a transmission licence;

15. M/s G R Infraprojects Limited has furnished the Contract Performance Guarantee (CPG) in favour of the Nodal Agency, i.e., CTUIL, for Rs. 30 crores on 13.1.2025 and has acquired a hundred per cent equity holding in Bijapur REZ Transmission Limited on 16.1.2025. The Petitioner entered into a Transmission Service Agreement (TSA) with CTUIL on 16.1.2025.

16. Section 14 of the Act provides that the Appropriate Commission may, on an application made under Section 15 of the Act, grant a licence to any person to transmit electricity as a transmission licensee in any area as may be specified in the licence. The word “person” has been defined in Section 2(49) of the Act to include any company or body corporate or association or body of individuals, whether incorporated or not, or artificial juridical person. The Petitioner has been incorporated under the Companies Act 2013. The main objective of the Petitioner Company is as under:

“To plan, promote and develop an integrated and efficient power transmission system network in all its aspects including planning, investigation, research,

design and engineering, preparation of preliminary, feasibility and definite project reports, construction, operation and maintenance of transmission lines, sub-stations, load dispatch stations and communication facilities and appurtenant works, coordination of integrated operation of state, regional and national grid system, execution of turn-key jobs for other utilities/organizations and wheeling of power in accordance with the policies, guidelines and objectives laid down by the Central Government from time to time”

17. Section 15(1) of the Act provides that every application under Section 14 of the Act shall be made in such manner and in such form as may be specified by the Appropriate Commission and shall be accompanied by such fees as may be prescribed by the Central Government. The Commission has specified Transmission Licence Regulations in this regard. Regulation 4 (1) of the Transmission Licence Regulations provides that eligibility for the grant of a licence for inter-State transmission of electricity is contingent upon the entity being selected either through the competitive bidding process under Section 63 of the Electricity Act, 2003 or by the Central Government or its authorized agency to implement a project under the regulated tariff mechanism. Regulation 10(1) of the Transmission Licence Regulations provided that in case the licensee has been selected for implementation of the project in accordance with the competitive bidding guidelines, the transmission tariff in terms of the Transmission Service Agreement shall be adopted by the Commission under Section 63 of the Act. The Project under consideration has been identified for development under competitive bidding by a competent authority, and the selection of the Project developer, Bijapur REZ Transmission Limited, has been certified to have been made in accordance with the Guidelines for competitive bidding.

18. Regulation 5 of the Transmission Licence Regulations, 2024 provides for the procedure for granting of a transmission licence as under:

“(1) The application for the grant of licence shall be made to the Commission in Form-I appended to these regulations and shall be accompanied by such fee

as may be prescribed by the Central Government from time to time under sub-section (1) of section 15 of the Act.

(2) The application shall be supported with an affidavit in accordance with Regulation 17 of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Conduct of Business) Regulations, 2023.

(3) The applicant shall submit the original application in electronic form along with enclosures on the e-filing portal of the Commission and electronically serve a copy of such application on all the concerned DICs of the project and the Central Transmission Utility. The application shall be served through email on the concerned DICs of the project who are not registered on the e-filing portal of the Commission.

(4) The applicant shall also upload the complete application along with annexures on its website, in English. The applicant shall also upload on its website, the details as per Form-I and Form-II appended to these regulations in the Indian language of the State or the Union Territory where an element of the project or concerned transmission line is situated or proposed to be situated. The application shall be kept posted on the website of the applicant till such time the application is disposed of by the Commission.

(5) The applicant shall, within 3 working days of filing the application, publish a notice of its application in Form-II appended to these regulations in at least two leading daily digital newspapers, one in English language and another in the Indian language of the State or Union Territory where an element of the project or concerned transmission line is situated or proposed to be situated, inviting comments from the general public. The notice shall also be kept posted on the website of the applicant.

(6) The Registry of the Commission shall carry out a preliminary scrutiny of the application and convey the defects, if any, as far as possible within 7 days of receipt of the application. The defects shall be rectified by the applicant within a period of 7 days from the date of such intimation from the Registry of the Commission.

(7) In the notice published in the digital newspapers and on the applicant's website under this Regulation, it shall be indicated that the suggestions and objections to the application, if any, may be filed by any person within 15 days of publication of the notice to The Secretary, Central Electricity Regulatory Commission at the address where the office of the Commission is situated and at email id: registry@cercind.gov.in. Any suggestion or objection received in response to the public notice shall be shared with the applicant and the respondents by the Registry of the Commission.

(8) The applicant shall within 3 working days from the date of publication of the notice in terms of Clause (5) of this Regulation submit to the Commission on affidavit the details of the notice published, names of the digital newspapers in which the notice has been published, the dates and places of their publication and enclosing the relevant pages of the publication of notice.

(9) The CTUIL shall send its recommendations, if any, to the Commission on the proposal for grant of licence made in the application as far as practicable within a period of 10 (ten) days from the date of receipt of the application with a copy to the applicant: Provided that if CTUIL is unable to submit its recommendations within a period of 10 days, it shall inform the Commission the reasons for the same and submit its recommendations within a period of 30 (thirty) days from the date of receipt of the application: Provided further that along with its recommendations, CTUIL shall submit the copy of approval of the transmission project by the Central Government in terms of Electricity (Transmission System Planning, Development and Recovery of Inter-state Transmission Charges) Rules, 2021 as amended from time to time. Explanation: The recommendations of the Central Transmission Utility shall not be binding on the Commission.

(10) The applicant may file its comments, duly supported by an affidavit, on the recommendations made by CTUIL and the suggestions and objections, if any, received in response to the public notice within 7 working days of receipt of such suggestions and objections, with an advance copy to the CTUIL and the person, if any, who has filed the suggestions and objections on the proposal made in the application.

(11) The Commission after considering the suggestions and objections received from the DICs and in response to the public notice published by the applicant, and the recommendations, if any, received from CTUIL may either propose to grant the licence to the applicant or for reasons to be recorded in writing, reject the application.

(12) Before granting a licence, the Commission shall publish a notice of its proposal on the Commission's website and in two daily digital newspapers, having wide circulation, as the Commission may consider appropriate, stating the name and address of the person to whom it proposes to grant the licence, details of the project for which it proposes to grant a licence, location or route of the elements of the project, and any other details that the Commission may consider appropriate, to invite further suggestions and objections on its proposal within 15 days of the publication of the notice.

(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.

(15) The Commission shall, within 7 days of making the order to grant the licence to an applicant send a copy of the licence to the Central Government,

the Central Electricity Authority, the Central Transmission Utility, the applicant and the concerned DIC(s)."

19. The Petitioner has approached the Commission with a separate application for the adoption of transmission charges in respect of the transmission system, which is presently under consideration by the Commission, and the order in that Petition will be issued separately. The Petitioner has filed the present Petition for the grant of a transmission licence in accordance with the provisions of the Transmission Licence Regulations, 2024. The Petitioner has submitted proof of service of the copies of the application on the BPC, CTUIL, and the beneficiaries and proof of web posting of the complete application. The Petitioner has further undertaken to pay the applicable licence fee upon the grant of a transmission licence in terms of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Payment of Fees) Regulations, 2012. The Petitioner has prayed for the grant of a transmission licence to Bijapur REZ Transmission Limited with respect to the transmission system as per the details given in paragraph 1 above.

20. The Petitioner made the Application as per Form-I and paid a fee of Rs. one lakh as prescribed by the Central Government. As per the direction of the Commission, the Petitioner has served a copy of the Application on the Respondent/beneficiaries. The transmission charges quoted by the Petitioner, which have been recommended by the Bid Evaluation Committee for acceptance, are Rs. 1,077.00 million per annum. The Petitioner has also enclosed copies of the recommendations of the Bid Evaluation Committee.

21. The Petitioner has published the notices on its website in Form-II in English and in the Vernacular language. The Petition has published the notices in The Indian

Express (English) and a Kannada newspaper (Kannada Language) on 23.1.2025. No objection has been received from the general public to the notices.

22. The Petitioner has served a copy of the Application on the Central Transmission of Utility of India Limited (CTUIL) as required under Section 15(3) of the Act and Regulation 5(3) of the Transmission Licence Regulations. CTUIL, vide its letter dated 28.1.2025, has recommended the grant of a transmission licence to the Petitioner. The Relevant portions of the said letter dated 28.1.2025 are extracted as under:

"This has reference to petition filed by M/s Bijapur REZ Transmission Limited for grant of Transmission License for subject transmission scheme against the application/petition filed to CERC. In this regard, following is submitted:

1. M/s Bijapur REZ Transmission Limited has filed application/petition under Section 14 & 15 of the Electricity Act, 2003 and CERC (Procedure, Terms and Conditions for grant of Transmission License and other related matters) Regulations, 2009 for grant of transmission license to establish Transmission Scheme "Transmission Scheme for integration of Bijapur REZ in Karnataka on Build, Own, Operate and Transfer (BOOT) basis as ISTS. The detailed scope of the scheme is enclosed at Annexure-1.

2. In reference to the Transmission Scheme "Transmission Scheme for integration of Bijapur REZ in Karnataka" following is submitted:

i) Govt. of India has set a target of 500 GW generation capacity from non-fossil fuel resources by 2030. In this direction, MNRE has identified addition of 181.5 GW RE Potential in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu (Offshore). Out of the identified 181.5 GW Potential, 86 GW RE Potential is identified in the State of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu (Offshore) in Southern Region. Out of the identified (86 GW) RE Potential in Southern Region, 17 GW has been identified in the State of Karnataka.

ii) Out of the identified (17 GW) RE Potential in Karnataka, 2 GW RE has been identified in the Bijapur area. Bijapur REZ is being integrated with existing Raichur New through Bijapur PS Raichur New 400kV (Quad ACSR moose) D/c line. The present scheme shall facilitate integration and evacuation of 2 GW RE potential from Bijapur area.

iii) The scheme was deliberated and agreed in the 25th CMETS-SR held on 28.11.2023. The scheme was discussed and agreed by all the Southern Region constituents in the Joint Study meeting held on 21-

22nd December 2023. Extracts of the minutes of 25th CMETS-SR and Joint Study meeting is enclosed at Annexure-II & Annexure-III.

iv) The scheme was deliberated in the 49th SRPC meeting held on 08.12.2023. Extracts of the minutes of 49th SRPC meeting is enclosed at Annexure-IV.

v) The National Committee on Transmission in its 18th meeting held on 05.03.2024 has approved the implementation of the subject transmission scheme through TBCB route and has identified the PFCCCL as BPC for bidding of the subject transmission scheme. Extracts of the minutes of 18th NCT meeting is enclosed at Annexure-V.

vi) MoP vide Gazette notification dated 15.03.2024 has notified the transmission scheme for implementation through TBCB route (copy enclosed at Annexure-VI).

3. M/s GR Infraprojects Limited is the successful bidder and has acquired M/s Bijapur REZ Transmission Limited on 16.01.2025 after execution of requisite Share Purchase Agreement. The Commissioning schedule of the schemes is 24 months from the date of transfer of SPV (16.01.2027).

4. Presently connectivity of about 1962 MW has been granted/agreed for grant at Bijapur PS with the above system. Further, additional connectivity applications of about 2537 MW has also been received at Bijapur PS. As the connectivity quantum has already surpassed the capacity of above transmission system, accordingly, suitable augmentation of transformation capacity and additional transmission system for facilitating immediate integration and evacuation is being identified separately.

5. In line with Section 15(4) of the Electricity Act, 2003, based on details furnished by M/s Bijapur REZ Transmission Limited, CTU recommends grant of transmission license to M/s Bijapur REZ Transmission Limited for executing the transmission scheme as mentioned in Para-1 above."

23. We have considered the submissions of the Petitioner, BPC, and CTUIL. The proviso to Clause 2.15.2 of the RfP provides that "if for any reason attributable to the BPC, the said activities are not completed by the Selected Bidder within the above period of ten (10) days as mentioned in this clause, such period of 10 days shall be extended, on a day to day basis till the end of the Bid validity period". As per the above provision, the selected bidder was required to complete all the activities, including the acquisition of SPVs, by 22.12.2024. Though Lol was issued on 12.12.2024, BPC, vide

its letter dated 16.1.2025 in terms of Clauses 2.15.2 of RfP, extended the date up to 16.1.2025 for completion of all activities by the successful bidder. The selected bidder furnished the Contract Performance Guarantee in favour of the Nodal Agency (CTUIL) for an amount of Rs. 30 crores on 13.1.2025 and acquired a hundred per cent equity-holding in the applicant company on 16.1.2025 after execution of the Share Purchase Agreement. As per clause 2.15.4 of the RfP, the TSP is required to apply to the Commission for the grant of a transmission licence within five working days of the issuance of the acquisition of the SPV to the successful bidder. The successful bidder, namely Bijapur REZ Transmission Limited, acquired the SPV on 16.1.2025. Accordingly, the TSP has filed the instant Petition through e-filing for the grant of a transmission licence on 21.1.2025.

24. Considering the material on record, we are *prima facie* of the view that the Petitioner satisfies the conditions for the grant of inter-State transmission licence under Section 15 of the Act, read with Transmission Licence Regulations for the transmission system as described in para 1 of this order. We, therefore, 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 grant of a transmission licence aforesaid. The objections or suggestions, if any, be filed by any person before the Commission by **28.5.2025**.

25. It is observed that as per Article 5.1.1 of the TSA, the TSP, at its own cost and expense, shall be responsible for designing, constructing, erecting, testing, and commissioning each element of the Project by scheduled COD in accordance with the various regulations of the Central Electricity Authority regarding Technical Standards and Grid Standards, Prudent Utility Practices and other applicable laws. Further,

Article 5.4 of the TSA provides that the TSP shall ensure that the Project is designed, built and completed in a good workman-like manner using sound engineering and construction practices and using only materials and equipment that are new and of international utility-grade quality such that the useful life of the Project will be till the expiry date. Further, the design, construction, and testing of all equipment, facilities, components and systems of the Project shall be in accordance with Indian Standards and Codes issued by the Bureau of India Standards. In this regard, the Petitioner has submitted that it would comply with the provisions of the TSA.

26. The Petition shall be listed for the hearing on **29.5.2025**.

Sd/-
(Ravinder Singh Dhillon)
Member

sd/-
(Harish Dudani)
Member

sd/-
(Ramesh Babu V.)
Member

sd/-
(Jishnu Barua)
Chairperson