CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION **NEW DELHI**

Petition (Diary) No. 333/2025 along with IA (Diary) Nos. 338 & 339/2025

Subject : Petition under Section 79(1)(c) of the Electricity Act, 2003 read

> with Regulation 9.1 of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Connectivity and General Network Access) Regulations, 2022 and other enabling powers seeking directions

to CTUIL for issuance of final grant of connectivity.

Petitioner : Avaada Energy Private Limited (AEPL)

Respondent : Central Transmission Utility of India Limited (CTUIL)

: 7.7.2025 Date of Hearing

: Shri Jishnu Barua, Chairperson Coram

> Shri Ramesh Babu V., Member Shri Harish Dudani, Member

Shri Ravinder Singh Dhillon, Member

Parties Present : Shri Navin Kohli, Sr. Advocate, AEPL

> Shri Abhishek Kumar, Advocate, AEPL Shri Nived Veerapaneni, Advocate, AEPL

Shri Anshul Malik, Advocate, AEPL Shri Aayushman, Advocate, AEPL

Shri Abhinav Kapoor, AEPL Shri Ashish Anand, AEPL Shri Angshuman Rudra, AEPL

Shri Shubham Arya, Advocate, CTUIL Ms. Reeha Singh, Advocate, CTUIL Ms. Kaavva. Advocate. CTUIL

Shri Swapnil Verma, CTUIL Shri Ranjeet Rajput, CTUIL

Record of Proceedings

Learned senior counsel for the Petitioner submitted that the present Petition has been filed seeking directions to CTUIL for issuance of a final grant of connectivity in due compliance with the GNA Regulations. Learned senior counsel mainly submitted as under:

- (a) The Petitioner has been granted in-principle connectivity at Koppal-II substation for 250 MW and 50 MW Wind Power Projects on 29.12.2023 and 10.1.2024, respectively. Further, in line with CTUIL's intimations, the Petitioner also furnished the Conn BG 1 and Conn BG 3 for the above connectivity on 18.1.2024 and 25.1.2024, respectively.
- (b) On 12.8.2024, the Petitioner, by its e-mail, requested CTUIL to construct the 220 kV terminal bay within its scope and expressed the willingness to furnish the requisite Conn BG2. The said request was again reiterated in an e-mail dated 26.11.2024. However, CTUIL, vide its e-mail dated 5.12.2024, intimated that it

cannot consider the Petitioner's above request for the construction of the 220 kV bay within its scope.

- (c) Thereafter, upon the grant of revision in the in-principle connectivity on 24.12.2024, the Petitioner again wrote to CTUIL on 31.1.2025, reiterating its request for the grant of the 220 kV terminal bay at Koppal-II, and the said request was again reiterated by e-mails dated 4.2.2025 and 17.3.2025. Finally, on 7.4.2025. CTUIL agreed to provide the 1 number of 220 kV terminal bay in view of the revocation of connectivity of one of the RE Developers at Koppal-II S/s and required the furnishing of Conn BG 2 of Rs. 3 crores. However, by an email dated 23.5.2025, the Petitioner intimated the CTUIL that it had decided to implement the 220 kV terminal bay at Koppal-II within its own scope and requested the CTUIL to grant final connectivity.
- (d) Regulation 9.1 of the GNA Regulations stipulates that the final connectivity ought to have been granted within 15 days from the submission of Conn BG2 and Conn BG3, and even since 23.5.2025, CTUIL has failed to grant the final connectivity within 15 days therefrom, i.e., by 7.6.2025.
- (e) CTUIL's failure to grant the final connectivity is preventing the Petitioner from exercising its rights to change the configuration of the connectivity, as well as the application route from Land+ BG route to LoA route. When the Petitioner approached CTUIL to change its application route, CTUIL, by its email dated 27.6.2025, stated that such a right can be exercised only after the grant of final connectivity.
- (f) Given the deadline for furnishing the documents as per Regulations 5.8(xi)(c) and 11A (1) of the GNA Regulations expired on 29.6.2025 for the 250 MW quantum and is set to expire on 10.7.2025 for 50 MW quantum, the Petitioner is also pressing for an interim direction to CTUIL to not to take any coercive/precipitative steps against the Petitioner during the pendency of the present Petition. The Petitioner has also moved IA (Diary) No. 338/2025 to this effect.
- Learned counsel for the Respondent, CTUIL, accepted the notice and sought liberty to file a reply in the matter. Learned counsel also clarified that there was no delay on the part of CTUIL in respect of the allocation of the terminal bay as sought to be portrayed by the Petitioner.
- Considering the submissions made by the learned senior counsel and learned counsel for the parties, the Commission ordered as under:
 - (a) Admit subject to just exceptions.
 - (b) The Respondent is to file its reply within two weeks with a copy to the Petitioner, who may file its rejoinder, within a week thereafter.
 - (c) The Petitioner was directed to provide the following information on affidavit within two weeks:

- Details of steps taken towards implementation of the project for each Connectivity, i.e., 250 MW and 50 MW.
- Total land required for the projects and the quantum of land acquired for compliance with the provision under Regulation 11A (1) of the GNA Regulations.
- (iii) A copy of the Avaada letter dated 22.02.2024 to CTUIL for a change in the start date of Connectivity.
- (d) The Respondent, CTUIL, was directed to provide the following information on an affidavit within two weeks:
 - Reason for non-issuance of final grant of Connectivity to the Petitioner, when, in principle, connectivity was issued way back in December 2023.
 - The intimation of in-principle grant of Connectivity was issued to the Petitioner (on Land BG route) on 29.12.2023 for 250 MW and 10.1.2024 for 50 MW. 18 months from the grant of in-principle comes out as June 2025 and July 2025. CTUIL to inform as to whether the Petitioner furnished the land documents under regulation 11A, if not, the action taken by CTUIL as per Regulation 11B(1) of the GNA Regulations.
 - Under which regulation, the CTUIL changed the start date of connectivity from 31.12.2025 to 31.12.2026. In how many cases did CTUIL change the start date of connectivity after issuance of the in-principle grant of Connectivity? Give a detailed list of such cases and the original date, the revised date, the reasons for such change, and the regulatory provision under which such change was carried out.
 - (iv) The application for grant of Connectivity for 50 MW was applied on 1.7.2023 and for 250 MW was applied on 22.09.2023, whereas the in-principle grant of connectivity for 250MW was issued earlier (i.e. on 29.12.2023) than in-principle grant for 50MW (i.e. on 10.01.2024). CTUIL to clarify the reason for issuance of in-principle grant of connectivity for the 250 MW application earlier than the 50 MW application.
- (e) With regard to interim relief, the Commission did not deem it appropriate to grant the same at this stage, in the absence of the required information.
- (f) IA (Diary) No.339/2025 filed for an urgent listing, having served its purpose, was disposed of.
- 4. The matter will be listed for hearing on 12.8.2025.

By order of the Commission Sd/-(T.D. Pant) Joint Chief (Law)