

**CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
NEW DELHI**

Petition No. 688/TL/2025

Coram:

Shri Jishnu Barua, Chairperson

Shri Ramesh Babu V., Member

Shri Harish Dudani, Member

Shri Ravinder Singh Dhillon, Member

Date of Order: 27th September, 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 grant of separate RTM Transmission Licence to POWERGRID Bhuj Transmission Limited to implement transmission project "Augmentation of transformation capacity" at Bhuj-II PS (GIS) & Provision of ICT Augmentation and Bus Reactor at Bhuj-II PS under "Regulated Tariff Mechanism" (RTM) Mode.

And

In the matter of

**POWERGRID Bhuj 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

Versus

**1. Madhya Pradesh Power Management Company Limited,
Shakti Bhawan, Rampur,
Jabalpur – 482008.**

**2. Gujarat Urja Vikas Nigam Limited,
Sardar Patel Vidyut Bhawan,
Race Course Road,
Vadodara – 390007.**

**3. Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Company Limited,
Prakashgad, Plot No G-9,
A K Marg, Bandra (East),
Mumbai-400051.**

4. Electricity Department, Govt. of Goa,

Vidyut Bhawan, Panaji – 403001, Goa.

5. DNHDD Power Distribution Corporation Limited,

Vidyut Bhawan, 66kv Road, Near Secretariat,
Amli, 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.

9. Adani Green Energy Limited,

Adani House 4th Floor,
South Wing, Shanti Gram, S.G Highway,
Ahmedabad-382421.

10. Aditya Birla Renewable Subsidiary Limited,

A-4, Aditya Birla Centre,
S K Ahire Marg, Worli,
Mumbai - 400030, Maharashtra.

11. Acme Cleantech Solutions Private Limited,

Plot No.152, Sector - 44, Gurugram - 122002,
Haryana.

12. Avaada Energy Private Limited,

910, Surya Kiran Building,
Kasturba Gandhi Marg,
New Delhi – 110001.

13. Adani Green Energy Thirty-Two Limited,

Adani Corporate House,
Shantigram, Nr. Vaishno Devi Circle,
S G Highway, Khodiyar,
Ahmedabad-382421.

14. Adani Renewable Energy Eight Limited,

Adani Corporate House,
Shantigram, Near Vaishnodevi Circle,
SG Highway, Khodiyar,
Ahmedabad-382421, Gujarat.

15. Netra Wind Private Limited,

B.504, Delhi building, Orchard Avenue,
Sector no. 3 Hiranandani Business Park
Powai, Mumbai- 400076

.... Respondents

Parties present:

Ms. Tanushree Rao, Advocate, PBTL
Shri Prashant Kumar, PBTL
Shri Akshayvat Kislay, CTUIL

ORDER

The Petitioner, POWERGRID Bhuj Transmission Limited (hereinafter referred to as “PBTL”), has filed the present Petition under Sections 14 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 (hereinafter referred to as “the Transmission Licence Regulations”) for the grant of a separate RTM transmission licence to POWERGRID Bhuj Transmission Limited to implement the transmission project “*Augmentation of transformation capacity at Bhuj-II PS (GIS)*” & *Provision of ICT Augmentation and Bus Reactor at Bhuj-II PS*” under the Regulated Tariff Mechanism (hereinafter referred to as “RTM”) mode (hereinafter referred to as the “transmission project”). The scope of the project for which a transmission licence has been sought is as under:

Augmentation of Transformation capacity at Bhuj-II PS (GIS):

S. No	Scope of the Transmission Scheme	Item Description	Implementation timeframe
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1.	i) Creation of New 220 kV Bus Section-II at Bhuj-II PS	Bhuj-II PS 220 kV Bus sectionaliser bay-1 Set (to be kept normally CLOSED and may be opened based on system requirement) 220 kV BC-1 No.	21 months
	ii) Augmentation of transformation capacity at Bhuj II PS (GIS) by 2x500 MVA, 400/220 kV ICT (5th & 6th) and by 1x1500 MVA, 765/400 kV ICT (3rd)	500 MVA, 400/220 kV ICTs: 2 Nos. 1500 MVA, 765/400 kV ICTs: 1 No. 765 kV ICT bay: 2 No. [1 No. for ICT & 1 No. for Dia. completion (with provision of Switchable LR)] 400 kV ICT bays: 4 Nos. [3 Nos. for ICT termination and 1 No. for Dia. completion (with provision of Switchable LR)] 220 kV ICT bays: 2 Nos. GIB Duct length for 1x1500 MVA, 765/400 kV ICT: 1 Ph. 765 kV GIB Duct -600 m (approx.) 1 Ph. 400 kV GIB Duct – 625 m. (approx.) GIB Duct length for 2x500 MVA, 400/220 kV ICTs: 1 Ph. 400 kV GIB- 300 m (approx.) 1 Ph. 220 kV GIB- 750 m (approx.)	
	Implementation of 220 kV GIS line bay at Bhuj-II PS for ABREL (RJ) Projects Limited	220 kV line bay-1 No. (GIS) GIB Duct length: 1 Ph. 220 kV GIB-150 m (approx.)	
2	Total Estimated Cost:		Rs. 428 crores

Note: • Wherever required, Petitioner (PBTL) shall implement complete Dia consisting of 2 Main Bays & 1 Tie Bay required for completion of diameter (GIS) in one-and-half breaker scheme.

• GIB Bus Duct lengths are as communicated Petitioner (PBTL) of Bhuj-II PS.

• The Petitioner (PBTL) PBTL of Bhuj-II PS shall provide space for execution of above works.”

Provision of ICT Augmentation and Bus Reactor at Bhuj-II PS:

S. No.	Scope of the Transmission Scheme	Item Description	Implementation timeframe
1	Augmentation of transformation capacity at Bhuj-II PS (GIS) by 3x500 MVA, 400/220 kV ICT (7th, 8th & 9th).	500 MVA, 400/220 kV ICTs: 3 No. 400 kV ICT bays: 3 No. (with addl. 3 Nos. for dia completion) 220 kV ICT bays: 3 No	21 months
2	Augmentation of transformation capacity at Bhuj-II PS (GIS) by 1x1500 MVA, 765/400 kV ICT (4th)	1500 MVA, 765/400 kV ICT: 1 No. 765 kV ICT bay: 1 No. (with addl. 1 No. for dia completion) 400 kV ICT bay: Nil. (1 No. considered at Sl. No.1 above)	
3	Installation of 1x330 MVA 765 kV Bus Reactor (2nd) along with the associated bay	Reactor (2nd) along with associated bay 330 MVA, 765 kV Bus Reactor: 1 No. 765 kV BR bay: Nil (1 No. considered at Sl. No.2 above)	
4	Implementation of 220 kV GIS line bay at Bhuj-II PS for Aditya Birla Renewables Subsidiary Limited (ABRSL)	220 kV line bay-1 No. (GIS) (Bus Sec-II)	21 months
5	Implementation of 220 kV GIS line bay at Bhuj-II PS for ACME Cleantech Solutions Private Limited (ACSPL)	220 kV line bay-1 No. (GIS) (Bus Sec-II)	
6	Implementation of 220 kV GIS line bay at Bhuj-II PS for ACME Cleantech Solutions Private Limited (ACSPL)	220 kV line bay-1 No. (GIS) (Bus Sec-II)	

7	Implementation of 220 kV GIS line bay at Bhuj-II PS for Avaada Energy Pvt Ltd	220 kV line bay-1 No. (GIS) (Bus Sec-II)	
8	Implementation of 220 kV GIS line bays at Bhuj-II PS for Adani Green Energy Thirty-Two Ltd. (AGE32L)	220 kV line bay – 1 No. (GIS) (Bus Sec-II)	21 months
9	Implementation of 220 kV GIS line bays at Bhuj-II PS for Adani Renewable Energy Eight Ltd. (ARE8L)	220 kV line bay-1 No. (GIS) (Bus Sec-II)	
10	Total estimated cost		Rs. 587 crore

2. The Petitioner has made the following prayers:

- a) *Grant the separate RTM Transmission Licence to Petitioner to implement transmission system includes “Augmentation of transformation capacity at Bhuj-II PS (GIS) & Provision of ICT Augmentation and Bus Reactor at Bhuj-II Pooling Station” as detailed at para 6-9 above.*
- b) *Allow the Petitioner the liberty to approach the Hon’ble Commission with actual cost on completion of works for determination of transmission charges for the aforementioned additional scope in accordance with Section 61, 62 of the Electricity Act, 2003 and applicable Tariff Regulations as per 10 (2) of the Transmission License Regulations, 2024.*
- c) *Condone any inadvertent omissions/ shortcomings/ errors and permit the Petitioner to add/ modify/ alter this Petition and make further submissions as may be required at a future date.*

3. The Petitioner is an Inter-State Transmission Licensee and is implementing the transmission project “*Transmission System for providing connectivity to RE Projects at Bhuj-II (2000 MW) in Gujarat*” on a Build, Own, Operate and Transfer (hereinafter referred to as “BOOT”) basis through the Tariff Based Competitive Bidding route (hereinafter referred to as “TBCB Project”). The Commission, vide order dated 3.3.2020 in Petition No. 447/TL/2019, has granted a transmission licence (hereinafter referred to as “TBCB Licence”) to the Petitioner for the TBCB Project consisting of the following scope of work:

Sl. No.	Project elements
1	<p>Establishment of 2x1500 MVA (765/400 kV), 4x500 MVA (400/220 kV) Bhuj-II PS (GIS) with 765kV (1x330 MVar) and 420 kV (125 MVar) bus reactor</p> <p>(2x1500 MVA (765/400 kV), 4x500 MVA (400/220 kV), 1x500 MVA (765/400 kV), 1-ph ICT (spare unit)</p> <p>400 kV ICT bay-6 nos. 765 kV ICT bay-2 nos. 220 kV ICT bay-4 nos. 765 kV line bay-4 nos. 220 kV line bay-7 nos. 1x330 MVar-765 kV 1x110 MVar-765 kV, 1ph Reactor (spare unit) 1x125 MVar-420kV 765 kV reactor Bays-1 no. 400 kV reactor Bays-1 no.</p> <p>Future provisions: Space for:</p> <p>765/400 kV ICTs along with bays: 2 nos. 400/220 kV ICTs along with bays: 5 nos. 765 kV line bays: 4 nos. 400 kV line bays: 6 nos. 220 kV line bays: 9 nos. 765 kV bus reactor along with bays: 1 no. 400 kV bus reactor along with bays: 1 no.</p>
	Reconfiguration of Bhuj PS- Lakadia PS 765 kV D/C line so as to establish Bhuj-II – Lakadia 765 kV D/C line as well as Bhuj – Bhuj-II 765 kV D/C line
	1x240 MVar switchable line reactor for each circuit at Bhuj-II PS end of Bhuj-II – Lakadia 765kV D/C line (2x240 MVar, 765 kV with 400-ohm NGR; 765 kV Reactor Bays-2 nos; 1x80 MVar, 765 kV, 1-ph switchable line Reactor (spare unit) at Bhuj-II end)

4. CTUIL, vide Office Memorandum (OM) dated 10.7.2023, assigned PBTL to implement the transmission project, namely *“Requirement of additional Fiber Optic Terminal Equipment (FOTE) of STM-16 capacity at Bhuj-II substation to cater to connectivity of RE Gencos”* under the Regulated Tariff Mechanism mode. Accordingly, PBTL filed Petition No. 44/TL/2024 under Section 14 of the Electricity Act, 2003 read with Transmission Licence Regulations, 2009, for the grant of a

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separate RTM licence. The Commission, vide Order dated 10.7.2024 in Petition No. 44/TL/2024, observed that a transmission licence can be granted to a transmission element that transmits electricity and the instant element (FOTE) does not fulfil the requirements for the grant of a separate transmission licence under the Act, 2003 as FOTE is the integral part of the “Transmission System for providing connectivity to RE Projects at Bhuj-II (2000 MW) in Gujarat” and licence for this Project has already been granted to the Petitioner. Therefore, the Petitioner was directed to implement the scheme as per the scope of work approved by the NCT. After the implementation of the scheme, the Petitioner was directed to approach the Commission for the recovery of expenditure incurred in the implementation of the FOTE scheme.

5. Subsequently, the Central Transmission Utility of India Limited (hereinafter referred to as “CTUIL”) has issued an OM dated 24.2.2025 to the Petitioner based on the approval granted by the National Committee on Transmission in its 27th Meeting held on 6.2.2025 and in pursuance conveyed to CTUIL vide its letter dated 24.2.2025 wherein the Petitioner has been nominated to implement the ISTS transmission scheme i.e., “Augmentation of Transformation capacity at Bhuj-II PS (GIS)” covered under the instant petition through the RTM mode. The estimated cost of the scheme as per the CTUIL OM dated 24.2.2025 is Rs. 428 crore.

6. Additionally, CTUIL has issued another OM dated 18.3.2025 to the Petitioner based on the approval granted by MOP vide its letter dated 18.3.2025 wherein it conveyed to CTUIL that the Petitioner has been nominated to implement the ISTS transmission scheme, i.e., Provision of ICT Augmentation and Bus Reactor at Bhuj-II PS covered under the instant Petition through RTM mode. The estimated cost of the scheme, as per the CTUIL OM dated 18.3.2025, is Rs. 587 crore. It is to be

mentioned that the detailed scope of this transmission scheme was earlier discussed and approved by the 20th NCT and subsequent amendments thereof

7. The above two transmission schemes, i.e., “*Augmentation of transformation capacity at Bhuj-II PS (GIS)*” & “*Provision of ICT Augmentation and Bus Reactor at Bhuj-II PS*” were agreed in the 16th and the 20th meeting of the NCT meeting held on 30.11.2023 and 26.6.2024, respectively, under the TBCB route. However, despite multiple attempts by the Bid Process Coordinator, only a single bid has been received by the BPC for both of the above projects. Therefore, in a meeting held under the Chairmanship of the Secretary (Power), it was recommended that NCT may consider the above two transmission schemes for allotment under the RTM. Consequently, after deliberations, NCT, in its 27th meeting, approved the implementation of the above two ISTS transmission schemes under RTM mode by Powergrid Bhuj Transmission Limited.

8. The Petitioner has submitted that, upon the grant of a transmission licence, it shall proceed with the implementation of the transmission scheme under the RTM mode. The estimated completion cost of the transmission scheme, as per CTUIL’s Office Memorandums dated 24.2.2025 and 18.3.2025, is Rs. 428 crore and Rs. 587 crore, respectively. It was further submitted that, upon completion of the transmission scheme, the Petitioner shall approach the Commission for the determination of transmission charges in accordance with the provisions of the Tariff Regulations/Transmission Licence Regulations.

Hearing dated 12.8.2025

9. Notices were issued to the parties to file their respective replies and rejoinders. However, no reply has been filed by the Respondents despite the notice.

Hearing dated 9.9.2025

10. During the course of the hearing, the representative of the Petitioner submitted that the Petitioner has complied with all the requirements for the grant of a transmission licence and CTUIL has given its recommendations in this regard to the Petitioner company under Section 15(4) of the Electricity Act, 2003. Considering the submissions made by the parties, the Commission reserved the matter for order.

Analysis and Decision

11. We have considered the submissions of the Petitioner and CTUIL. The Petitioner has filed the present Petition for the grant of a separate RTM Transmission License for the implementation of the transmission project, “Augmentation of transformation capacity at Bhuj-II PS (GIS)” & “Provision of ICT Augmentation and Bus Reactor at Bhuj-II PS” under RTM mode.

12. The Ministry of Power, Government of India, vide its letter dated 28.10.2021, issued terms of reference to the NCT and, *inter-alia*, directed that the NCT will approve the ISTS costing between Rs.100 crore and Rs. 500 crore or such limit as prescribed by the Ministry of Power from time to time, along with their mode of implementation under intimation to the Ministry of Power. The Ministry of Power further directed that ISTS costing less than or equal to Rs. 100 crores, or such limit as prescribed by the Ministry of Power from time to time, will be approved by the Central Transmission Utility (CTUIL) along with the mode of implementation under intimation to the NCT and the Ministry of Power, Government of India. The relevant portion of the said order dated 28.10.2021 is extracted as under:

“2. Terms of Reference (ToR) of the NCT are as under:
*i. ******

VIII. The NCT shall recommend to Ministry of Power (MoP) for implementation of the ISTS for projects with cost more than Rs 500 crore, along with their mode of implementation i.e. Tariff Based Competitive Bidding (TBCB) / Regulated Tariff Mechanism (RTM), as per the existing Tariff Policy. However, the NCT shall approve the ISTS costing between Rs100 crore to Rs.500 crore or such limit as prescribed by MoP from time to time, along with their mode of implementation under intimation to MoP. The ISTS costing less than or equal to Rs. 100 crores, or such limit as prescribed by MoP from time to time, will be approved by the CTU along with their mode of implementation under intimation to the NCT and MoP. After approval of the ISTS by the NCT or the CTUIL (as the case may be), the TBCB project shall be allocated to Bid Process Coordinators through Gazette Notification, while the RTM project shall be allocated to CTUIL.”

13. The transmission scheme “Augmentation of transformation capacity at Bhuj-II PS (GIS)” was discussed and agreed upon in the 27th National Committee on Transmission (NCT), and vide its Minutes of the Meeting dated 6.2.2025, the NCT notified as under:

3.5 Issues related to bidding process for augmentation of transformation capacity at Bhuj-II Pooling Station

3.5.1 The transmission scheme “Augmentation of transformation capacity at Bhuj-II PS (GIS)” was agreed in the 16th meeting of National Committee on Transmission held on 30.11.2023 under TBCB route with estimated cost of Rs. 428 crores and implementation timeframe of 21 months. Gazette was notified on 23.01.2024 with PFCCL as BPC.

3.5.2 Further a transmission scheme “Provision of ICT Augmentation and Bus Reactor at Bhuj-II PS” was agreed in the 20th meeting of National Committee on Transmission held on 25.06.2024 under TBCB route with estimated cost of Rs. 587 crores and implementation timeframe of 21 months. Gazette was notified on 21.08.2024 with PFCCL as BPC.

3.5.3 Despite multiple bidding attempts by the Bid Process Coordinator (BPC), only single bid has been received for both the above projects.

3.5.4 In a meeting held under the chairmanship of Secretary (Power), it was recommended that NCT may consider the two schemes for augmenting transformation capacity at Bhuj-II Pooling Station, with estimated costs of ₹428 Cr and ₹587 Cr, for allotment under the RTM.

3.5.5 NCT, after deliberations:

(i). Approved the implementation of “Augmentation of transformation capacity

at Bhuj-II PS (GIS)” scheme under RTM Mode by POWERGRID Bhuj Transmission Limited, which is the original TSP of Bhuj-II PS and

- (ii). Recommended the implementation of “Provision of ICT Augmentation and Bus Reactor at Bhuj-II PS” under RTM mode by POWERGRID Bhuj Transmission Limited.

Summary of the deliberations of the 27th meeting of NCT held on 6th February, 2025

“II. ISTS Transmission schemes, costing greater than Rs. 500 Crore, recommended by NCT to MoP under RTM:

The ISTS transmission schemes recommended by NCT to MoP are given below:

S. No.	Name of Transmission Scheme	Implementation Mode	Tentative Implementation timeframe	Estimated Cost (Rs. Cr.)
1.	Provision of ICT Augmentation and Bus Reactor at Bhuj-II PS	RTM through POWERGRID Bhuj Transmission Limited	21 months	587

The broad scope of the above ISTS schemes is as given below:

S. No.	Name of Scheme & Tentative implementation timeframe	Broad Scope
1	Provision of IC T Augmentation and Bus Reactor at Bhuj-II PS Implementation Timeframe: 21 Months	<p>i. Augmentation of transformation capacity at Bhuj-II PS (GIS) by 3x500 M VA, 400/220 kV ICT (7th, 8th* 9th)</p> <p>ii. Augmentation of transformation capacity at Bhuj-TI PS (GIS) by 1x1500 M VA, 765/400 kV ICT (4th)</p> <p>iii. Installation of 1x330 MVA 765 kV Bus Reactor (2nd) along-with associated bay</p> <p>iv. Implementation of 220 kV GIS line bay at Bhuj-II PS for Aditya Birla Renewables Subsidiary Limited (ABRSL) [Appln No: 2200000321 (362 MW)]</p> <p>v. Implementation of 220 kV GIS line bay at Bhuj-II PS for ACM E Cleantech</p>

		<p><i>Solutions Private Limited (ACSPL) [Appln No: 2200000382(350 MW)]</i></p> <p><i>vi. Implementation of 220 kV GIS line bay at Bhuj-II PS for ACM E Cleantech Solutions Private Limited (ACSPL) [Appln No: 2200000431(50 MW)]</i></p> <p><i>vii. Implementation of 220 kV GIS line bay at Bhuj-II PS for Avaada Energy Pvt Ltd. (AEPL) [Appl. No: 2200000444(100 MW)]</i></p> <p><i>viii. Implementation of 220 kV GIS line bays at Bhuj-II PS for Adani Green Energy Thirty-Two Ltd. (AGE32L.) [Appl. No: 2200000514 (260.5 MW)]</i></p> <p><i>ix. Implementation of 220 kV GIS line bays at Bhuj-TI PS for Adani Renewable Energy Eight Ltd. (ARE8L) [Appl. No: 2200000545 (115 MW)] (Detailed scope as approved by 20th NCT and subsequent amendments thereof)</i></p>
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III. ISTS Transmission schemes, approved by NCT:

S. No.	Name of Transmission Scheme	Implementation Mode	Implementation timeframe	Estimated Cost (Rs. Cr.)
1	Augmentation of transformation capacity at Bhuj-II PS (GIS)	RTM through POWERGRID Bhuj Transmission Limited	21 months	428

The broad scope of above schemes are given below:

S. No.	Name of Scheme & tentative implementation timeframe	Broad Scope
	Augmentation of transformation capacity at Bhuj-II PS (GIS) Implementation Timeframe: 21 Months	i) Augmentation of transformation capacity at Bhuj- IT PS (GIS) by 2x500 MVA, 400/220 kV ICT (5th & 6th) and by 1x1500 MVA, 765/400 kV ICT (3rd)

		<i>ii) Implementation of 220 kV GIS line bay at Bhuj-II PS for ABREL (RJ) Projects Limited (Detailed scope as approved by 16th NCT and subsequent amendments thereof)</i>
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14. Based on the above, NCT vide letter dated 24.02.2025 intimated CTUIL regarding the approval of transmission scheme "Augmentation of transformation capacity' at Bhuj-II PS (GIS," and CTUIL, vide OM dated 24.2.2025, conveyed NCT approval along with identifying the implementing agency. The relevant portion of the said Office Memorandum dated 24.2.2025 is extracted as under:

"Sub: Implementation of ISTS Transmission Schemes approved by NCT in its 27th meeting held on 06th February 2025 under Regulated Tariff Mechanism (RTM).

NCT vide letter dated 24.02.2025 has awarded following ISTS Transmission scheme for its implementation under RTM mode by the respective implementing agency as indicated in the table below:

Sl. No.	Transmission Schemes	Implementing Agency
<i>II. ISTS Transmission schemes approved by NCT under RTM Route</i>		
1.	<i>Augmentation of transformation capacity' at Bhuj-II PS (GIS)</i>	<i>POWERGRID Bhuj Transmission Limited</i>

15. MOP vide OM dated 18.3.2025 awarded the Transmission scheme "Provision of ICT Augmentation and Bus Reactor at Bhuj-II PS" along with the implementing agency to CTUIL and CTUIL, vide OM dated 18.3.2025, conveyed the MOP approval along with the identified implementing agency. The relevant portion of the said Office Memorandum dated 18.3.2025 is extracted as under:

"Sub: Implementation of ISTS Transmission Scheme under Regulated Tariff Mechanism (RTM) as approved by MoP based on the recommendation of 27th meeting of National Committee on Transmission (NCT) held on 06th Feb'25

Transmission scheme for its implementation under RTM mode by the respective implementing agency as indicated in the table below:

Sl. No.	Transmission Schemes	Implementing Agency
1.	<i>Provision of ICT Augmentation and Bus Reactor at Bhuj-II PS</i>	<i>PGCIL Bhuj Transmission Limited</i>

Copy of MoP OM dated 18th March 2025 is enclosed at **Annexure-I**. The detailed scope of work along with implementation time frame for the above Transmission Schemes shall be as per the Minutes of the meeting of 27th NCT.

The implementing agency shall enter into a concession agreement with CTUIL for implementation of the aforementioned Transmission Schemes. However, pending finalization of Concession Agreement, it is requested to initiate necessary' actions for implementation of the aforementioned Transmission Schemes."

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 company has been incorporated under the Companies Act 2013 and is already a transmission licensee. 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 turnkey jobs for other utilities/ organisations 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 the 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. The transmission project under consideration has been identified for development under a regulated tariff mechanism by a competent authority, and the selection of the project developer, POWERGRID Bhuj Transmission Limited, has been certified to have been made in accordance with the MOP order dated 28.10.2021.

18. Regulation 5 of the Transmission Licence Regulations provides for the procedure for the grant 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 filed the present Petition for the grant of a separate RTM transmission licence in accordance with the Transmission Licence Regulations. The Petitioner has submitted proof of service of the copies of the application on 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 POWERGRID Bhuj Transmission Limited with respect to the transmission project as per the details given in paragraph 1 above.

20. The Petitioner has 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 beneficiaries of the transmission project.

21. The Petitioner has published the notices on its website in Form II in English and the Vernacular language. The Petitioner has also published the notice digitally in all editions of 'Free Press and Divya Bhaskar' (in English and Gujarati, respectively) on 14.6.2025. In response, no objection has been received from the general public to the notices.

22. The Petitioner has served a copy of the application on CTUIL as required under Section 15 (3) of the Act and Regulation 5 (3) of the Transmission Licence Regulations. CTUIL, vide its affidavit dated 26.6.2025, has recommended the grant of a transmission licence to the Petitioner. The relevant portions of the letter dated 20.6.2025 are extracted as under:

"This has reference to the Petition with Dairy No. 303_2025 dated 10.06.2025 filed by M/s POWERGRID Bhuj Transmission Limited before Hon'ble Commission vide which M/s POWERGRID Bhuj Transmission Limited has requested CTU for issuance of recommendation for grant of separate RTM Transmission License for implementation of subject transmission scheme. In this regard, the following is submitted:

1. M/s POWERGRID Bhuj Transmission Limited has filed a petition under Section 14 of the Electricity Act, 2003 read with CERC (Procedure, Terms and Conditions for Grant of Transmission License and other related matters) Regulations, 2024 for grant of separate RTM Transmission License for "Augmentation of transformation capacity at Bhuj-II PS (GIS) & "Provision of ICT Augmentation and Bus Reactor at Bhuj-II PS" project through RTM under ISTS. The detailed scope of the transmission scheme is enclosed at

Annexure-I & Annexure-II.

2. M/s POWERGRID Bhuj Transmission Limited has mapped Nodal Agency i.e., CTUIL on the e- portal of Hon'ble Commission, to serve a copy of the application for the grant of Transmission License, for the above transmission system as per section 15(3) of the Electricity Act, 2003 and Regulation 5(3) of Transmission License Regulations, 2024 for recommendation required u/s 15(4) of the Electricity Act, 2003 and Regulation 5(9) of Transmission License Regulations, 2024.

3. In reference to the subject transmission schemes, the following is submitted:

i) Govt. of India has set a target for establishing 500 GW capacity from non-fossil energy sources by 2030. In this direction, "Transmission System for providing connectivity to RE Projects at Bhuj-II (2000 MW) in Gujarat" in Gujarat has been implemented by POWERGRID Bhuj Transmission Ltd. under TBCB route. The scheme broadly includes Establishment of 2x1500 MVA (765/400 kV), 4x500 MVA (400/220 kV) Bhuj-II PS (GIS) alongwith Reconfiguration of Bhuj PS - Lakadia PS 765 kV D/C line so as to establish Bhuj- II - Lakadia 765 kV D/C line as well as Bhuj - Bhuj-II 765kV D/C line.

ii) Augmentation of transformation capacity at Bhuj-II PS (GIS) scheme shall enable evacuation of power beyond 2GW at Bhuj-II PS (up to 2.5GW) using Renewable energy sources.

Augmentation of transformation capacity at Bhuj-II PS scheme involves creation of New 220kV Bus Section at Bhuj-II PS, augmentation of transformation capacity at Bhuj-II PS (GIS) by 1x1500MVA, 765/400kV ICT (3rd) and by 2x500MVA, 400/220kV ICT (5th & 6th). The transmission scheme would facilitate integration of 0.5GW power beyond 2GW at Bhuj-II PS (i.e., up to 2.5GW) and further enable compliance of loading limits under 'N-1' contingency criteria for cumulative 2.5GW GNA applications received at Bhuj-II PS.

iii) Provision of ICT Augmentation and Bus Reactor at Bhuj-II PS scheme shall enable evacuation of power beyond 2.5GW at Bhuj-II PS (up to 4GW). Connectivity under GNA for entire 4000 MW has been granted at Bhuj-II PS.

The subject transmission scheme includes Augmentation of transformation capacity at Bhuj- II PS (GIS) by 3x500 MVA, 400/220 kV ICT (7th, 8th & 9th), Augmentation of transformation capacity at Bhuj-II PS (GIS) by 1x1500 MVA, 765/400 kV ICT (4th), Installation of 1x330 MVar 765 kV Bus Reactor (2nd) along-with associated bay & 6 Nos. of 220 kV line bays at New 220kV Bus Section of Bhuj-II PS for termination of dedicated lines of various generation developers. The transmission scheme would facilitate integration of 1.5GW power beyond 2.5GW at Bhuj-II PS (i.e., up to 4 GW).

Further, details of Inter-Connecting Upstream and Downstream

Transmission System of subject two schemes in the prescribed format prescribed by the Hon'ble Commission vide its RoP of hearing dated 30.05.2025 along with details of the connectivity/ GNA granted and/ or applications received at Bhuj-II PS (GIS) linked with subject schemes is enclosed at Annexure-III.

4. The subject ISTS scheme has been agreed/approved in various forums as detailed below:

S. No.	Meeting	Meeting No.	Date	Remarks
Augmentation of transformation capacity at Bhuj-II PS (GIS)				
1	Consultation Meeting for Evolving Transmission Schemes in Western Region.	22 nd	23.10.2023	Relevant excerpts attached as Annexure-IV (a)
2	National Committee on Transmission (NCT)	16 th 27 th	30.11.2023 6.2.2025	Relevant excerpts attached as Annexure-V (a) & V (b)
Provision of ICT Augmentation and Bus Reactor at Bhuj-II PS				
3	Consultation Meeting for Evolving Transmission Schemes in Western Region.	25 th	29.1.2024	Relevant excerpts attached as Annexure- IV (b)
4	Special WRPC meeting		27.3.2024	Relevant excerpts attached as Annexure- VI
5	National Committee on Transmission (NCT)	20 th 27 th	25.6.2024 6.2.2025	Relevant excerpts attached as Annexure- V (c) & V (b)

“Augmentation of transformation capacity at Bhuj-II PS (GIS)” scheme was deliberated and recommended in 16th NCT Meeting held on 30.11.2023 under TBCB route. Further, “Provision of ICT Augmentation and Bus Reactor at Bhuj-II PS” scheme was deliberated and recommended in 20th NCT meeting held on 25.06.2024 under TBCB route.

However, despite Multiple bidding attempts by the BPC, only single Bid has been received for both the above-mentioned projects. Further in a meeting under the chairmanship of Secretary (Power), it was

recommended that NCT may consider the above two schemes under RTM mode. Hence, the subject transmission scheme was discussed in the 27th NCT meeting held on 06.02.2025 wherein the NCT approved implementation of "Augmentation of transformation capacity at Bhuj-II PS (GIS)" scheme under RTM Mode by POWERGRID Bhuj Transmission Limited, which is the original TSP of Bhuj-II PS.

NCT vide OM dated 24.02.2025 has approved the implementation of "Augmentation of transformation capacity at Bhuj-II PS (GIS)" scheme under RTM mode by POWERGRID Bhuj Transmission Limited with implementation timeframe of 21 months from OM date (i.e. 24.11.2026). NCT letter dated 24.02.2025 in this regard is enclosed at Annexure-VII.

Further, in the 27th NCT meeting held on 06.02.2025, NCT recommended the implementation of "Provision of ICT Augmentation and Bus Reactor at Bhuj-II PS" scheme under RTM mode by POWERGRID Bhuj Transmission Limited, which is original TSP of Bhuj-II PS under RTM.

MoP vide OM dated 18.03.2025 has approved the implementation of "Provision of ICT Augmentation and Bus Reactor at Bhuj-II PS" scheme under RTM mode by POWERGRID Bhuj Transmission Limited with implementation timeframe of 21 months from OM date (i.e. 18.12.2026). MoP OM dated 18.03.2025 in this regard is enclosed at Annexure-Annexure-VIII.

5. CTU vide letters dated 24.02.2025 & 18.03.2025 has forwarded the implementation of "Augmentation of transformation capacity at Bhuj-II PS (GIS)" & "Provision of ICT Augmentation and Bus Reactor at Bhuj-II PS" under RTM to M/s POWERGRID Bhuj Transmission Limited with implementation timeframe of 21 Months i.e. 24.11.2026 & 18.12.2026 respectively. CTU OM is enclosed at Annexure-IX.

6. In line with Section 15(4) of the Electricity Act, 2003 and Regulation 5(9) of Transmission License Regulations, 2024, based on details furnished by M/s POWERGRID Bhuj Transmission Limited, CTU recommends the grant transmission license to M/s POWERGRID Bhuj Transmission Limited for executing the above transmission schemes as mentioned in Para-1 above."

23. We have considered the Petitioner's submission. The Petitioner has filed the present Petition for the issuance of a separate transmission licence to implement the transmission project "Augmentation of transformation capacity at Bhuj-II PS (GIS) and Provision of ICT Augmentation and Bus Reactor at Bhuj-II Pooling Station".

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, may be filed by any person before the Commission, on or before **9.10.2025**.

25. The Petition shall be listed for hearing on **16.10.2025**.

Sd/-
(Ravinder Singh Dhillon)
Member

sd/-
(Harish Dudani)
Member

sd/-
(Ramesh Babu V.)
Member

sd/-
(Jishnu Barua)
Chairperson