

**CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION  
NEW DELHI**

**Petition No. 886/TL/2025**

**Coram:**

**Shri Jishnu Barua, Chairperson  
Shri Ramesh Babu V., Member  
Shri Harish Dudani, Member**

**Date of Order: 18<sup>th</sup> February, 2026**

**In the matter of**

Application under Sections 14 & 15 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 with respect to Transmission Licence to Vindhyachal Varanasi Transmission Limited.

**And**

**In the matter of**

**Vindhyachal Varanasi Transmission Limited,  
(Now known as 'Powergrid Prayagraj Transmission 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. Central Transmission Utility of India Limited,  
Saudamini, Plot No.2, Sector-29,  
Gurgaon – 122001, Haryana.**

**2. PFC Consulting Limited,  
9th Floor, A-Wing, Statesman House,  
Connaught Place, New Delhi - 110001.**

**3. Chandigarh Electricity Department,  
UT-Chandigarh, Div-11, Opposite Transport Nagar,  
Industrial Area Phase - I, Chandigarh.**

**4. BSES Rajdhani Power Limited,  
AVP (PMG), PMG Office, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor B-Block,**

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Nehru Place, New Delhi – 110019.

**5. BSES Yamuna Power Limited,**  
Asstt. Vice President (PMG), Shakti Kiran Bldg,  
Second Floor, Karkardooma, New Delhi - 110032.

**6. New Delhi Municipal Council,**  
AAO (Commercial), 19<sup>th</sup> Floor, NDMC, Palika Kendra,  
Sansad Marg, New Delhi – 110001.

**7. Tata Power Delhi Distribution Limited,**  
Power Management Group, Technology Centre,  
Near PP-3 Grid Sub Station, Opp. PP Jewellers,  
Netaji Shubhash Place, Pitampura, New Delhi – 110034.

**8. Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board,**  
PR&ALDC, HPSEB Ltd, 132 KV S/S Tutu,  
Shimla – 171011, Himachal Pradesh.

**9. Haryana Power Purchase Centre,**  
Shakti Bhawan, Energy Exchange,  
Panchkula.

**10. Power Development Department,**  
Jammu SLDC Building, 1st Floor, Gladni,  
Power House Narwal, Jammu, J&K.

**11. Punjab State Power Corporation Limited,**  
Shed No. T-1A, Thermal Designs,  
Patiala – 147001, Punjab.

**12. HVDC Dadri, POWERGRID,**  
B-9, Qutub Institutional Area,  
Katwaria Sarai, New Delhi - 110016.

**13. HVDC Rihand, POWERGRID,**  
B-9, Qutub Institutional Area,  
Katwaria Sarai, New Delhi - 110016.

**14. Ajmer Vidyut Vitran Nigam Limited,**  
The Superintending Engineer (Billing),  
Rajasthan Urja Vikas Nigam Limited,  
132 KV, Sub- Station Building, Calgiri Road,  
Malviya Nagar, Jaipur-302017, Rajasthan.

**15. Jodhpur Vidyut Vitran Nigam Limited,**  
The Superintending Engineer (Billing),  
Rajasthan Urja Vikas Nigam Limited,  
132 KV, Sub- Station Building, Calgiri Road,  
Malviya Nagar, Jaipur-302017, Rajasthan.

**16. Jaipur Vidyut Vitran Nigam Limited,**  
The Superintending Engineer (Billing),  
Rajasthan Urja Vikas Nigam Limited,  
132 KV, Sub- Station Building, Calgiri Road  
Malviya Nagar, Jaipur-302017, Rajasthan.

**17. North Central Railway,**  
DRM Office Nawab Yusuf Road – 211011.

**18. Uttarakhand Power Corporation Limited,**  
Urja Bhjawan, Kanwali Road, Dehradun - 248001.

**19. Uttar Pradesh Power Corporation Limited,**  
Fund Management, Shakti Bhawan,  
14 Ashok Marg, Lucknow, UP.

**20. AD Hydro,**  
AD Hydro Power Limited,  
Bhilwara Towers, A-12, Sector-1,  
Noida - 201301.

**21. GMR Kamalanga Energy Limited,**  
25/1 SKIP HOUSE, 25/1 Skip House,  
Museum Road, Museum Road,  
Bangalore - 560025, Karnataka.

**22. MB Power (Madhya Pradesh) Limited,**  
239, Okhla Industrial Estate, Phase –III,  
New Delhi - 110020.

**23. HVDC Agra, POWERGRID,**  
B-9, Qutub Institutional Area, New Delhi.

**24. HVDC Balia, POWERGRID,**  
POWERGRID B-9, Qutub Institutional Area,  
Katwaria Sarai, New Delhi – 110016.

**25. HVDC Bhiwadi, POWERGRID,**  
POWERGRID B-9, Qutub Institutional Area,  
Katwaria Sarai, New Delhi – 110016.

**26. HVDC Kurukshetra, POWERGRID,**  
POWERGRID B-9, Qutub Institutional Area,  
Katwaria Sarai, New Delhi – 110016.

**27. Northern Indian Railway,**  
Sr. DEE, TRD, Delhi Division Central Delhi.

**28. Noida Power Company Limited,**

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Electric Sub Station Knowledge Park IV,  
Greater Noida – 201310.

**29. Northern Railways,**  
Sr. DEE/ TRD, DRM Office, Hazratgan,  
Lucknow – 226001.

**30. Chhattisgarh State Power Distribution Co. Limited,**  
CSPDCL, Post: Sundernagar, Dangania,  
Raipur – 492013.

**31. Goa Electricity Department-WR,**  
Goa Electricity DeptCurti, Ponda403401

**32. Gujarat Urja Vikas Nigam Limited,**  
Sardar Patel Vidyut Bhavan, Racecourse,  
Vadodara – 390007.

**33. Heavy Water Board,**  
O Floor, Vikram Sarabhai Bhavan,  
Trombay, Anushaktinagar,  
Mumbai - 400094, Maharashtra.

**34. HVDC Bhadrawati, PGCIL,**  
PGCIL RHQ, WR-I, Sampriiti Nagar,  
Off National Highway No. 8,  
Taluka: Kamrej, PO: Uppalwadi,  
Nagpur – 440026, Maharashtra.

**35. HVDC Vindhyachal, PGCIL,**  
PGCIL RHQ, WR-I, Sampriiti Nagar,  
Off National Highway No. 8,  
Taluka: Kamrej, PO: Uppalwadi,  
Nagpur – 440026, Maharashtra.

**36. M.P. Power Management Company Limited,**  
14, Shakti Bhawan, Rampur,  
Jabalpur – 482008.

**37. MSEDCL,**  
Plot No. 9, "Prakashgad", A K Marg,  
Bandra East, Mumbai – 400051.

**38. ACB India Limited,**  
7th Floor, Corporate Tower, Ambience Mall, NH-8,  
Gurgaon-122001, Haryana.

**39. Torrent Power Limited,**  
Torrent Power Ltd. Naranpura Zonal Office,  
Sola Road, Ahmedabad – 380013.

- 40. Thermal Powertech Corporation India,**  
6-3-1090, Clock C, Level 2, TSR, Towers,  
Rajbhavan Road, Somajiguda,  
Hyderabad - 500082, Telangana.
- 41. Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, BARC,**  
Anushakti Nagar, Mumbai – 400085, Maharashtra.
- 42. GMR Warora Energy Limited,**  
Plot B-1, GMR Warora Energy Ltd,  
Mohabala MIDC Growth Centre, Post – Warora,  
Dist – Chandrapur – 442907, Maharashtra.
- 43. HVDC Champa,**  
PGCIL RHQ, WR-I, Sampriti Nagar,  
Off National Highway No. 8, Taluka: Kamrej,  
PO: Uppalwadi, Nagpur – 440026, Maharashtra.
- 44. West Central Railway Head Office,**  
General Manager's Office, Electrical Branch,  
Jabalpur– 482001.
- 45. Western Railway,**  
Office of Chief Electrical Engineer, Mumbai.
- 46. DB Power Limited- Untied,**  
Opp. Dena Bank, C-31, G- Block, Mumbai.
- 47. Chhattisgarh State Power Trading Co. Limited,**  
2<sup>nd</sup> floor Vidyut Sewa Bhawan, Raipur.
- 48. TRN Energy Private Ltd.-Untied,**  
7<sup>th</sup> Floor, Ambience Office Block, Gurugram.
- 49. Adani Power (Mundra) Limited,**  
Adani Corporate House, Shantigram,  
Near Vaishnavdevi Circle,  
S G Road Ahmedabad – 382421.
- 50. Raigarh HVDC Station,**  
RPT HVDC Office, Hebbal,  
Bangalore – 560094.
- 51. Arcelor Mittal Nippon Steel India Limited,**  
27, AMNS House, 2TH KM Surat Hazira road,  
Hazira - 394270, Gujarat.
- 52. Central Railway,**  
Pcee's Office 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Parcle Building,

Csmt Mumbai - 400001.

**53. Dadra & Nagar Haveli & Daman & Power Distribution Corporation Limited,**  
1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Vidyut Bhavan,  
Nex Silvassa & Daman.

**54. MPSEZ Utilities Limited,**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Adani Corporate House,  
Ahmedabad.

....Respondents

**Parties present:**

Shri Rohit Jain, VVTL  
Shri Sachin Yadav, VVTL  
Shri Akshayvat Kislay, CTUIL  
Shri Aniruddha Khopde, CTUIL

**ORDER**

The Petitioner, Vindhyachal Varanasi Transmission Limited (now known as 'Powergrid Prayagraj Transmission Limited'), has filed the present Petition for the grant of a transmission licence under Sections 14 and 15 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 establish the Inter-State transmission system for "Inter-regional (NR-WR) Transmission System strengthening to relieve the loading of 765 kV Vindhyachal - Varanasi D/c line" on a Build, Own, Operate and Transfer Basis (hereinafter referred to as "the Project") consisting of the following elements:

Sl. No	Name of the Transmission Element	Scheduled COD	Element(s) which are pre-required for declaring the Commercial Operation Date (COD) of the respective Element
1.	Establishment of 765 kV Prayagraj S/s near Prayagraj (Uttar Pradesh)	24 months (16.10.2027)	All elements of the scheme are required to be commissioned

	<p>along with 2x330 MVAr 765 kV Bus reactors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 765 kV, 330 MVAr Bus Reactor: 2 Nos. (7x110 MVAr, including one spare unit)</li> <li>• 765 kV Bus Reactor bays: 2 Nos.</li> <li>• 765 kV Line bays: 6 Nos. (for LILO of 765 kV Fatehpur-Sasaram S/C line, LILO of 765 kV Fatehpur – Varanasi S/C line and Vindhaychal Pool-Prayagraj 765 kV D/C line)</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Future provisions:</u></b> <b>Space for</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 765/400 kV ICTs along with bays- 4 Nos.</li> <li>• 765 kV line bays along with switchable line reactors – 8 Nos.</li> <li>• 765 kV Bus Reactor along with bay: 1 No.</li> <li>• 400 kV line bays along with switchable line reactor: 4 Nos.</li> <li>• 400 kV line bays: 2 Nos.</li> <li>• 400 kV Bus Reactor along with bays: 2 Nos.</li> <li>• 400 kV Sectionalization bay: 1 set</li> </ul>	<p>simultaneously as their utilisation is dependent on each other.</p>
2.	LILO of 765 kV Fatehpur – Varanasi S/C line at Prayagraj.	
3.	LILO of 765 kV Fatehpur – Sasaram S/C line at Prayagraj.	
4.	<p>765 kV Vindhyachal Pool – Prayagraj D/C line, along with 330 MVAr line reactor (switchable) at Prayagraj end on each circuit of 765 kV Vindhyachal Pool - Prayagraj D/C line</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 765 kV, 330 MVAr switchable line reactors at Prayagraj end: 2 Nos.</li> <li>• Switching equipment for 765 kV 330 MVAr switchable line reactors at Prayagraj S/s: 2 Nos</li> </ul>	
5.	Bypassing both circuits of 765 kV Sasan – Vindhyachal Pool 2xS/C line at Vindhyachal Pool and connecting it with 765 kV Vindhyachal Pool - Prayagraj D/C line, thus forming 765 kV Sasan - Prayagraj D/C line	

2. Based on the competitive bidding carried out by the PFC Consulting Limited (PFCCL), in its capacity as the Bid Process Coordinator (BPC), in accordance with the Guidelines issued by the Ministry of Power, Government of India under Section 63 of the Act, Power Grid Corporation of India Limited was declared a successful bidder with the lowest quoted annual transmission charges of Rs. 3,231.30 million per annum.

3. The Commission, after considering the application of the Petitioner in light of the provisions of the Act and the Transmission Licence Regulations, in its order dated 31.1.2026, *prima facie* proposed to grant a transmission licence to the Petitioner. The relevant extracts of the order dated 31.1.2026 are extracted as under:

*“23. Considering the material on record, we are prima facie of the view that the Petitioner satisfies the conditions for the grant of an inter-State transmission licence under Section 15 of the Act, read with the Transmission Licence Regulations for construction, operation, and maintenance of the transmission system 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, shall be filed by any person before the Commission by 13.2.2026.”*

4. A public notice under Sub-section (5) of Section 15 of the Act was published in all editions of The Hindu (English) and Dainik Jagran (Hindi) on 4.2.2026. No suggestions/ objections have been received from members of the public in response to the public notice.

#### **Hearing dated 17.2.2026**

5. The matter was called out for the hearing on 17.2.2026. During the course of the hearing, the representative of the Petitioner submitted that no objection had been received in response to the public notice published by the Commission under sub-

section (5) of Section 15 of the Act. He further submitted that the name of the Petitioner company has been changed, and the same may be taken on record.

6. The Petitioner, vide its affidavit dated 29.1.2026, has submitted that the name of the Petitioner company has been changed from 'Vindhyachal Varanasi Transmission Limited' to 'Powergrid Prayagraj Transmission Limited' with effect from 20.1.2026. The certificate of change of name from 'Vindhyachal Varanasi Transmission Limited' to 'Powergrid Prayagraj Transmission Limited' dated 20.1.2026, issued by the Registrar of Companies, Central Processing Zone, Manesar, Haryana, has been placed on record. Accordingly, the name of the Petitioner has been changed to 'Powergrid Prayagraj Transmission Limited'

7. As regards the grant of a transmission licence, Clauses (13) and (14) of Regulation 5 of the 2024 Transmission Licence Regulations 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.”*

8. In our order dated 31.1.2026, we had proposed to grant a transmission licence to the Petitioner company and directed the issue of public notice. In response to the public notice, no suggestions/objections have been received. CTUIL, in its letter dated 3.11.2025, has recommended the grant of a transmission licence to the Petitioner. We find that the Petitioner company meets the requirements of the Act and the Transmission Licence Regulations, 2024, for the grant of a transmission licence for

the subject Transmission System mentioned in paragraph 1 of this order. Considering the submissions of the Petitioner and CTUIL, we direct that a transmission licence be granted to the Petitioner, 'Powergrid Prayagraj Transmission Limited, to establish the Inter-State transmission system for "Inter-regional (NR-WR) Transmission System strengthening to relieve the loading of 765 kV Vindhyachal - Varanasi D/c line" on a Build, Own, Operate and Transfer basis as per the details given in paragraph 1 above.

9. The grant of the transmission licence to the Petitioner (hereinafter referred to as "the licensee") is subject to the fulfilment of the following conditions throughout the period of the 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 Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Procedure, Terms, and Conditions for grant of Transmission Licence and other related matters) Regulations, 2024 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 2024 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 the 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 CEA;
- (m) The licensee shall submit all such reports 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.

10. 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 Transmission Service Agreement executed between the licensee and the Nodal Agency, the Act and the Transmission Licence Regulations.

11. It is expected that while carrying out the survey, the Petitioner has complied with the provisions of clauses 2.5.7.3, 2.5.7.4, and 2.5.7.5 of the RfP. The Petitioner will comply with the provisions of the bidding documents and the TSA for the commissioning of the Project within the SCOD in letter and spirit.

12. An extract copy of this order is to be sent to CTUIL, CEA, and BPC for information and necessary action.

13. Petition No. 886/TL/2025 is allowed in terms of the above.

**sd/-**  
**(Harish Dudani)**  
**Member**

**sd/-**  
**(Ramesh Babu V)**  
**Member**

**sd/-**  
**(Jishnu Barua)**  
**Chairperson**