CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION NEW DELHI

Petition No. 364/TL/2023

Coram: Shri Jishnu Barua, Chairperson Shri Arun Goyal, Member

Date of Order: 13th April, 2024

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 License and other related matters) Regulations, 2009 with respect to Transmission License to Ramgarh II Transmission Limited.

And In the matter of

Ramgarh II Transmission Limited, (Now known as POWERGRID Ramgarh II Transmission Limited), Registered office: B-9, Qutab Institutional Area, Katwaria Sarai, New Delhi 110 016

Address for correspondence: ED (TBCB), Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, Saudamini, Plot no.2, Sector -29, Gurgaon 122001, Haryana

....Petitioner

Vs

1. Central Transmission Utility of India Limited, Saudamini, Plot No.2, Sector-29, Gurgaon-122 001

 REC Power Development and Consultancy Limited, D Block, REC Headquarter, Plot No. 1-4, Sector- 29, Gurugram, Haryana- 122001

Adani Renewable Energy Holding Four Limited,
 4th Floor, South Wing, Adani Corporate House,
 Shantigram, S G Highway Ahmedabad 382421

4. Central Electricity Authority, Seva Bhawan, R.K. Puram, New Delhi-110016 5. Northern Regional Power Committee, 18A, Shaheed Jeet Singh Sansanwal Marg, Katwaria Sarai, New Delhi – 110 016.

6. Delhi Transco Limited, Shakti Sadan, Kotla Road, New Delhi-110 002

 Grid Controller of India Limited, (erstwhile Power System Operation Corporation Ltd.)
 9th Floor, IFCI Towers, 61, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110 016

8. Himachal Pradesh Power Transmission Corporation Limited, Himfed Bhawan, Panjari, Shimla-171005, Himachal Pradesh

9. UP Power Transmission Company Limited, Shakti Bhawan Extension, 3rd floor, 14, Ashok Marg, Lucknow-226 001, Uttar Pradesh.

10. Punjab State Transmission Corporation Limited, Head Office, The Mall, Patiala – 147001, Punjab

11. Power Transmission Corporation of Uttarakhand Limited, Vidyut Bhawan, Near ISBT Crossing, Saharanpur Road, Majra, Dehradun

12. Power Development Department, Grid Substation Complex, Janipur, Jammu

13. Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Prasaran Nigam Limited, Vidyut Bhawan, Jaipur-302005, Rajasthan.

14. Haryana Vidyut Prasaran Nigam Limited, Shakti Bhawan, Sector-6, Panchkula-134109, Haryana

15. Administration of Chandigarh, Electricity Department, UT Secretariat, Sector-9 D, Chandigarh-161009

....Respondents

Parties present:

Shri Mani Kumar, RIITL Shri Laditya Mahesh, RIITL Shri Ritem Biswas, RECDPCL Shri Ranjeet S. Rajput, CTUIL Ms. Priyanshi Jadiya, CTUIL Ms. Kavya Bhardwaj, CTUIL

<u>ORDER</u>

The Petitioner, Ramgarh II 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, 2009 (hereinafter referred to as "Transmission Licence Regulations") to establish the "Transmission system for evacuation of power from REZ in Rajasthan (20 GW) under Phase-III Part C1" on a Build, Own, Operate and Transfer basis (hereinafter referred to as "the Project") consisting of the following elements:

S. No.	Name of theTransmission Element	Scheduled COD in months from Effective Date
1.	Establishment of 2x1500 MVA, 765/400kV & 2x500 MVA 400/220 kV pooling station at Ramgarh along with 2x240 MVAr (765kV) Bus Reactor & 2x125 MVAr (420kV) Bus Reactor 765/400kV 1500 MVA ICTs: 2 nos. (7x500 MVA including one spare unit) 765kV ICT bays - 2 nos. 400/220 kV, 500 MVA ICT – 2 nos. 400 kV ICT bays - 4 nos. 220 kV ICT bays - 4 nos. 220 kV ICT bays - 2 nos. 400 kV line bays - 1 no. 220 kV line bays - 2 nos. 765kV line bays - 2 nos. 240 MVAr Bus Reactor-2 nos. (7x80 MVAr, including one spare unit) 765kV reactor bay - 2 nos. 125 MVAr, 420kV bus reactor - 2 nos. 400kV Sectionalization bay: 1 set	18 months
	Future provisions: Space for	

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2.	 765/400kV ICTs along with bays: 5 nos. 765kV line bay along with switchable line reactor: 2 nos. 765kV Bus Reactor along with bays: 2 nos. 400/220 kV ICTs along with bays: 8 nos. 400 kV line bays along with switchable line reactor: 4 nos. 400 kV line bays: 3 nos. 400 kV line bays: 3 nos. 400kV Bus Reactor along with bays: 2 nos. 400kV Sectionalization bay: 2 sets. ** 220 kV line bays: 13 nos. 220kV Sectionalization bay: 2 nos. ** Ramgarh PS – Bhadla-3 PS 765kV D/c line along with 240 MVAr Switchable line reactor at each circuit at Ramgarh end of Ramgarh PS – Bhadla-3 PS 765kV D/c line 765 kV, 240 MVAr Switchable line reactor-2 Switching equipment for 765kV 240 MVAR switchable line reactor –2 765kV line bays at Bhadla-3 PS 	
4.	765 kV line bays - 2nos ± 2x300MVAr STATCOM, 4x125 MVAr MSC,	
	2x125 MVAr MSR along with 2 nos. of 400 kV	
	bays at Ramgarh PS	

** Bus Sectionalization bay shall comprise of bus sectionalization of both Main Bus-I & Main Bus-II.

Notes:

(i) Provision of suitable sectionalization shall be kept at Ramgarh at 400kV & 220kV level to limit short circuit level.

(ii) Developer of Bhadla-3 S/s to provide space for 2 nos. of 765 kV line bays at Bhadla-3 S/s for termination of Ramgarh PS – Bhadla-3 PS 765kV D/c line.

(iii) Implementation schedule of Phase-III-Part C1 package is to match with package Phase III –Part B1 (establishment of Badhla-3 PS 765kV Bhadla-3 PS-Sikar-2 D/cline, 400 kV Bhadla-3 PS-Fathergarh-2 D/c line).

(iv) ± 300 MVAr STATCOM should be placed in each 400 kV bus section of Ramgarh PS.

2. Based on the competitive bidding carried out by the REC Power Development

and Consultancy Ltd. (RECPDCL), 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. 1615.05 million.

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 12.3.2024, *prima facie* proposed to grant a transmission licence to the Petitioner. The relevant extracts of the order dated 12.3.2024 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 inter-State transmission licence under Section 15 of the Act read with 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 under clause (a) of sub-section (5) of Section 15 of the Act be published to invite suggestions or objections to the grant of transmission licence aforesaid. The objections or suggestions, if any, be filed by any person before the Commission, by **25.3.2024.**"

4. A public notice under sub-section (5) of Section 15 of the Act was published on 16.3.2024 in all editions of the Indian Express (English) and Rashtriya Sahara (Hindi). No suggestions/ objections have been received from members of the public in response to the public notice.

5. The case was called out for the hearing on 10.4.2024. It was submitted by the representative of the Petitioner that, in response to a public notice published by the Commission, no objection had been received. The representative of the CTUIL submitted the present transmission system has been conceived through the competitive bidding process, and CTUIL has already recommended the grant of the transmission licence to the subject transmission system.

6. As regards the grant of a transmission licence, Clauses (15) and (16) of Regulation 7 of the Transmission Licence Regulations provide as under:

"(15) The Commission may after consideration of the further suggestions and objections, if any, received in response to the public notice as aforesaid, grant licence as nearly as practicable in Form-III attached to these regulations or for reasons to be recorded in writing, reject the application if such application is not in accordance with the provisions of the Act, the rules or regulations made thereunder or any other law for the time being in force or for any other valid reason.

(16) The Commission may, before granting licence or rejecting the application, provide an opportunity of hearing to the applicant, the Central Transmission Utility, the long-term customers, or the person who has filed suggestions and objections, or any other person: Provided further that the applicant shall always be given a reasonable opportunity of being heard before rejecting the application."

7. In our order dated 12.3.2024, we had proposed to grant a transmission licence to the Petitioner company and directed the issue of a public notice. In response to the public notice, no suggestions/objections have been received. CTUIL, in its letter dated 13.12.2023, 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 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 Ramgarh II Transmission Limited', for the grant of an inter-State transmission licence for the sublishment of the Inter-State Transmission System for the "Transmission System for Evacuation of Power from REZ in Rajasthan (20 GW) under Phase III-Part C1", through tariff based competitive bidding process on Build, Own Operate and Transfer (BOOT) basis as per the details given in paragraph 1 above.

8. 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 licence:

(a) The transmission licence shall, unless revoked earlier, remain in force for a period of 25 years from the date of issue;

(b) The transmission licensee shall comply with the provisions of the Transmission Licence Regulations or any subsequent enactment thereof during the period of subsistence of the licence;

(c) The licensee may make an application, two years before the expiry of the initial licence period, for the grant of the transmission licence for another term in accordance with Regulation 13 (2) of the Transmission Licence Regulations, which shall be considered by the Commission in accordance with law;

(d) The licensee shall not enter into any contract for or otherwise engage in the business of trading in electricity during the period of subsistence of the transmission licence;

(e) The licensee shall have the liability to pay the license fee in accordance with the provisions of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Payment of Fees) Regulations, 2012, as amended from time to time or any subsequent enactment thereof. Delay in payment or non-payment of licence fee or a part thereof for a period exceeding sixty days shall be construed as a breach of the terms and conditions of the licence;

(f) The licensee shall comply with the directions of the National Load Despatch Centre under Section 26 of the Act, or the Regional Load Despatch Centre under sub-section (3) of Section 28 or sub-section (1) of Section 29 of the Act, as may be issued from time to time for maintaining the availability of the transmission system;

(g) The licensee shall remain bound by the provisions of 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 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;

 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 report or information as may be required under 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.

9. CTUIL / its appointed Independent Engineer 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 to meet 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. 10. 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.

11. Let an extract copy of this order be sent to CTUIL, CEA and BPC for information and necessary action.

12. Petition No. 364/TL/2023 is allowed in terms of the above.

Sd/-(Arun Goyal) Member sd/-(Jishnu Barua) Chairperson