CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
NEW DELHI

Petition No. 50/TL/2024

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 Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Procedure, Terms and Conditions for the grant of Transmission License and other related matters) Regulations, 2009 with respect to Transmission Licence to Vataman Transmission Limited.

And
In the matter of

Vataman Transmission Limited,
(Now known as 'POWERGRID Vataman Transmission Limited')
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-122001, Haryana

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

3. Adani Renewable Energy Holding Four Limited ,
4th Floor, South Wing, Adani Corporate House,
Shantigram, SG Highway, Ahmedabad, Gujarat

4. Adani Green Energy Limited,
4th Floor, South Wing, Adani Corporate House,
Shantigram, SG Highway,

Ahmedabad, Gujarat

5. Sarjan Realities Private Limited,
5th floor, Godrej Millenium,9, Koregaon Park,
Vasani Nagar Koregaon Park, Pune

6. NTPC Renewable Energy Limited,
Plot-A-8A, NTPC Ltd, Engineering Office Complex,
Sector-24, Noida-201301, Uttar Pradesh

7. Gujarat State Electricity Corporation Limited,
Vidyut Bhavan, Race Course,
Vadodara-390007, Gujarat

8. NHPC Limited,
NHPC Office Complex, RE Division,
Sector 33 Faridabad, Haryana

9. Chhattisgarh State Power Distribution Company Limited,
CSPDCL, Post: Sundernagar,Dangania,
Raipur-492013

10. Goa Electricity Department-WR,
Goa Electricity Dept Curti,
Ponda-403401

11. Gujarat Urja Vikas Nigam Limited,
Sardar Patel Vidyut Bhavan,
Race Course, Vadodara-390007

12. Heavy Water Board,
O Floor, Vikram Sarabhai Bhawan,
Trombay, Anushaktinagar,
MumbaiI- 400094, Maharashtra

13. HVDC Bhadrawati, PGCIL,
PGCIL RHQ, WR-I, Sampriti Nagar, Off
National Highway No. 8, Taluka : Kamrej,PO:
Uppalwadi , Nagpur , 440026 Maharashtra

14. HVDC Vindhyachal, PGCIL,
PGCIL RHQ, WR-I, Sampriti Nagar, , Off
National Highway No. 8, Taluka: Kamrej,
PO: Uppalwadi, Nagpur- 440026, Maharashtra

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

16. MSEDCL,
Plot No 9, "prakashgad", A K Marg,
Bandra East, Mumbai-400051

17. ACB India Limited,
7th Floor, Corporate Tower, Ambience Mall,
NH-8, Gurgaon-122 001(Haryana)

18. Torrent Power Limited,
Torrent Power Ltd. Naranpura Zonal Office,
Sola Road, Ahmedabad-380 013

19. West Bengal State Electricity Distribution Company Limited,
6th Floor Vidyut Bhawan, Karunamoyee,
Salt Lake, Kolkata-700 091,
West Bengal.

20. Thermal Powertech Corporation India Limited,
6-3-1090, Clock C, Level 2, TSR ,
Towers, Rajbhavan Road, Somajiguda ,
Hyderabad- 500082, Telangana

21. Bhabha Atomic Research Centre,
Anushakti Nagar, Mumbai,
Maharashtra- 400085

22. GMR Warora Energy Limited,
Plot B-1, GMR Warora Energy Ltd,
Mohabala MIDC Growth Centre,
Post-Warora, District Chandrapur-442 907,
Maharashtra

23. HVDC Champa,
PGCIL RHQ, WR-I, Sampriti Nagar,
Off National Highway No. 8, Taluka: Kamrej,
PO: Uppalwadi , Nagpur- 440026, Maharashtra

24. West Central Railway Head Office,
General Manager's Office, Electrical Branch,
Jabalpur– 482 001

25. Western Railway,
Office of Chief Electrical Engineer, Mumbai

26. East Central Railway,
CEDE, Office of Chief Electrical Engineer,
ECR, Zonal Head Quarter,
Dighikala-844101, Bihar

27. DB Power Limited- Untied,
Opp Dena Bank, C-31, G- Block, Mumbai

28. Chhattisgarh State Power Trading Company Limited,
2nd Floor, Vidyut Sewa Bhawan,
Raipur

29. TRN Energy Private Ltd-Untied,
7th Floor, Ambience Office Block,
Gurugram

30. Adani Power (Mundra) Limited,
Adani Corporate House, Shantigram,
Near Vaishnavdevi Circle, S G Road,
Ahmedabad- 382421

31. Raigarh HVDC Station,
RPT HVDC Office, Hebbal,
Bangalore – 560094

32. Arcelor Mittal Nippon Steel India Limited,
27, AMNS House, 2th KM Surat Hazira Road,
Hazira-394270, Gujarat

33. Central Railway,
Pcee's office, 2nd Floor, Parcle Building,
CSMT, Mumbai-400001

34. Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman & Power Distribution Corporation Limited, 1st & 2nd Floor,
Vidyut Bhavan, NexSilvassa & Daman

35. MPSEZ Utilities Limited,
3rd Floor, Adani Corporate House, Ahmedabad

….**Respondents**

Parties present:

Shri Rohit Jain, PVTL
Shri Shankalp Sharma, PVTL
Ms. Priyadarshini, Advocate, PFCCL
Shri Anubhav Kansal, PFCCL
Shri Siddharth Sharma, CTUIL
Shri Akshayvat Kislay, CTUIL

ORDER

The Petitioner, Vataman Transmission Limited (now known as 'POWERGRID Vataman 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 " the Transmission Licence Regulations") to establish the "Transmission System for Evacuation of Additional 7GW RE Power from Khavda RE Park under Phase-III Part B" on a Build, Own, Operate and Transfer (BOOT) basis (hereinafter referred to as "the Project") consisting of the following elements:

Sr. No	Name of the Transmission Element	Scheduled COD
1.	Establishment of 765 kV switching station near Vataman with 2x330MVAr, 765 kV bus reactor • 330 MVAR 765 kV bus reactor-2 (7x110 MVAr single phase reactor units including 1 spare unit for line/bus reactor) • 765 kV bus reactor bays- 2 • 765 kV line bays- 8 (for lines at Sl. 2, 5 & 7) Future Scope: Space for • 765/400kV ICT along with bays- 6 Nos. • 765 kV line bays along with switchable line reactors – 6 Nos • 765kV Bus Reactor along with bay: 2 Nos. • 765kV Sectionaliser bay: 1 -set • 400 kV line bays along with switchable line reactor- 12 Nos. • 400/220kV ICT along with bays -8 Nos. • 400 kV Bus Reactor along with bay: 2 Nos. • 400kV Sectionalization bay: 1- set • 220 kV line bays: 16 Nos. • 220kV Sectionalization bay: 2 sets • 220kV BC and TBC: 3 Nos. • STATCOM (±300 MVAr) along with MSC (2x125 MVAr) & MSR (1x125 MVAr) alongwith associated bays: 1 No.	24 months from the date of SPV acquisition
2.	Halvad – Vataman 765 kV D/c line	

3.	1x330 MVAr switchable line reactor on each ckt. at Vataman end of Halvad – Vataman 765 kV D/c line. • 330 MVAr, 765 kV switchable line reactor- 2 Nos. (6 x 110 MVAr single phase reactor unit) [110 MVAr single phase spare bus reactor unit to be used as spare for line reactor] • Switching equipment for 765 kV line reactors- 2	
4.	2 nos. of 765 kV line bays at Halvad end for termination of Halvad – Vataman 765 kV D/c line • 765 kV line bays– 2 Nos. (for Halvad end)	
5.	LILO of Lakadia – Vadodara 765 kV D/c line at Vataman 765 kV switching station	
6.	240 MVAr 765 kV switchable line reactor on each ckt at Vataman end of Lakadia – Vataman 765 kV D/c line with NGR bypassing arrangement • 240 MVAr, 765 kV switchable line reactor- 2 (7x 80 MVAr single phase reactor unit including 1 spare unit) • Switching equipment for 765 kV line reactors- 2	
7.	Vataman switching station- Navsari (New)(GIS) 765 kV D/c line	
8.	330 MVAr switchable line reactors on each ckt at Navsari (New) (GIS) end of Vataman switching station – Navsari (New) (GIS) 765 kV D/c line • 330 MVAr, 765 kV switchable line reactor- 2 Nos. (6x 110 MVAr single phase reactor unit) [110 MVAr spare reactor unit at Navsari being implemented by PGCIL, would be used as spare] • Switching equipments for 765 kV line reactor- 2	
9.	2 Nos. of 765 kV GIS line bays at Navsari (New) for termination of Vataman switching station – Navsari (New)(GIS) 765 kV D/c line • 765 kV line bays (GIS)-2 Nos. (2 Nos. for Navsari (New) end)	

Note:
(I) Developer of Halvad S/s shall provide space for implementation of 2 Nos. of 765 kV line bays for termination of Halvad – Vataman 765 kV D/c line

(II) Developer of Navsari (New)(GIS) S/s shall provide space for implementation of 2 Nos. of 765 kV line bays alongwith switchable line reactors for termination of Vataman switching station – Navsari (New)(GIS) 765 kV D/c line. Also, developer of Navsari (New)(GIS) S/s to allow the use of 110 MVAr single phase spare reactor unit for 330MVAr SLR on each ckt at Navsari (New) (GIS) end of Vataman switching station-–Navsari (New) (GIS) 765 kV D/c line.

(III) Bay(s) as may be required for completion of diameter (GIS) in one-and-half breaker scheme shall also be executed by the TSP.

(IV) Logic for Inter-tripping scheme for tripping of the switchable line reactor alongwith main line breaker at Lakadia and Vadodara end after LILO of Lakadia – Vadodara 765 kV D/c line at Vataman 765 kV switching stations hall be enabled by the existing owner of the line (i.e. M/s LVTPL) after LILO of Lakadia-Vadodara 765 kV D/c line at Vataman 765 kV switching station."

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. 4018.15 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 21.3.2024, *prima facie* proposed to grant a transmission licence to the Petitioner. The relevant extracts of the order dated 21.3.2024 are extracted as under:

"22. 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 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 ***4.4.2024."***

4. A public notice under Sub-section (5) of Section 15 of the Act was published on 2.4.2024 in all editions of the Hindustan Times (English) and Dainik Jagran (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.

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 21.3.2024, 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 19.1.2024, 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 Vataman Transmission Limited,' for the grant of an inter-State transmission licence for the establishment of the "Transmission System for Evacuation of Additional 7GW RE Power from Khavda RE Park under Phase-III Part B", through tariff based competitive bidding process on 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;

(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 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 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.

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. The Petitioner, vide its affidavit dated 27.3.2024, has informed that the name of the Petitioner company has been changed from 'Vataman Transmission Limited' to 'POWERGRID Vataman Transmission Limited' with effect from 22.3.2024. The certificate of change of name from 'Vataman Transmission Limited' to 'POWERGRID Vataman Transmission Limited' dated 22.3.2024 issued by the Registrar of Companies, Delhi has been placed on record. Accordingly, the name of the Petitioner has been changed to 'POWERGRID Vataman Transmission Limited' on the record of the Commission

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

13. Petition No. 50/TL/2024 is allowed in terms of the above.

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