

**CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
NEW DELHI**

Petition No. 225/TL/2024

Coram:

Shri Jishnu Barua, Chairperson

Shri Ramesh Babu V., Member

Shri Harish Dudani, Member

Date of order: 14th February, 2025

In the matter of:

Petition under Section-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, 2024 for Grant of separate Transmission License for Augmentation of 2x500 MVA, 400/230kV transformation capacity (3rd & 4th ICTs) at Karur PS and Implementation of 1 no. of 230kV line bay at Karur 400/230kV PS for interconnection of REGS of M/s Nannai Solar Park Pvt. Ltd. on Regulated Tariff Mechanism (RTM) route.

And

In the matter of

Karur Transmission Limited,

C 105, Anand Niketan,

New Delhi-110021.

..... **Petitioner**

Vs.

1. JSW Renew Energy Limited,

JSW Centre,

Bandra Kurla Complex,

Bandra (E), Mumbai – 400051.

2. POWERGRID Corporation of India Limited,

Chief Executive Officer, CTU Planning,

Saudamini, Plot No.2, Sector-29,

Gurgaon-122001.

..... **Respondents**

Parties present:

Shri Afak Pothiawala, KTL

ORDER

The Petitioner, Karur Transmission Limited (hereinafter referred to as 'Petitioner/KTL'), has filed the present Petition under Sections 14 and 15 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 for the grant of a separate Transmission License for "Augmentation of 2x500 MVA, 400/230kV transformation capacity (3rd & 4th ICTs) at Karur PS and Implementation of the 1 no. of 230kV line bay at Karur 400/230kV PS for interconnection of REGS of M/s Nannai Solar Park Pvt. Ltd. on RTM route" (hereinafter referred to as the 'transmission scheme/project'). The scope of the project for which a transmission licence has been sought is as follows:

S. No.	Name of the scheme and Implementation timeframe	Estimated Cost (₹ Crores)	Remark
1	Augmentation of 2x500 MVA, 400/230 kV transformation capacity (3 rd & 4 th ICTs) at Karur PS. Tentative Implementation timeframe: 18 months.	115	Approved to be implemented under RTM by Karur Transmission Limited
2	Implementation of 1 no. of 230kV line bay at Karur 400/230kV PS for interconnection of REGS of M/s Nannai Solar Park Pvt. Ltd. 15 months from the date of issuance of OM by CTUIL, i.e., 23/1/2026.	5.57	Approved to be implemented under RTM by Karur Transmission Limited

Detailed scope of the Scheme is given below:

S.No.	Scope of the Transmission Scheme	Capacity/ km
1	Augmentation of 2x500 MVA, 400/230 kV transformation capacity (3 rd & 4 th ICTs) at Karur PS	i. 500 MVA, 400/230 kV ICTs – 2 Nos. ii. 400 kV ICT bay – 2 Nos. iii. 230 kV ICT bay – 2 Nos.
2	1 no. of 230kV line bay at Karur 400/230kV PS for interconnection of REGS of M/s Nannai Solar Park Pvt. Ltd.	i. 230kV line bay–1 No.

2. The Petitioner in its Petition has made the following prayers:

“(a) Grant Separate Transmission Licence to the Applicant for implementation of “Augmentation of 2x500 MVA, 400/230kV transformation capacity (3rd & 4th ICTs) at Karur PS” and “Implementation of 1 no. of 230kV line bay at Karur 400/230kV PS for interconnection of REGS of M/s Nannai Solar Park Pvt. Ltd.” on Regulated Tariff Mechanism (RTM) basis with detailed scope as per para 8 and para 13 respectively.

(b) Allow the Applicant liberty to approach the Hon'ble Commission for determination of transmission charges for the additional scope of work in the proposed Transmission license in this petition in accordance with Section 61, 62 of the Electricity Act, 2003.

(c) Condone any inadvertent errors omissions/ errors / shortcomings and permit the Petitioner to add/change/modify/alter these filings and make further submissions as may be required at a future date.

(d) Pass any such other order / orders, as may be deemed fit and proper in the facts and circumstances of the case.”

3. The Petitioner company was incorporated as a special purpose vehicle by PFC Consulting Limited (hereinafter referred to as ‘PFCCL’) as part of the Tariff Based Competitive Bidding (TBCB) process for implementing the transmission project *“Transmission Scheme for evacuation of power from RE sources in Karur/Tiruppur Wind Energy Zone (Tamil Nadu) (1000 MW) under Phase-I”*. Adani Energy Solutions Limited (hereinafter referred to as ‘AESL’) (Previously known as Adani Transmission Limited (ATL))

participated in the competitive bidding process conducted by PFCCL, and upon emerging as the successful bidder, a Letter of Intent (LOI) was issued by PFCCL to AESL on 22.12.2021. In accordance with the bidding documents, AESL acquired 100% of the shareholding in the Petitioner Company by executing a Share Purchase Agreement with PFCCL on 18.1.2022. TSP entered into a Transmission Service Agreement (TSA) with LTTCS on 18.1.2022. The Commission, vide its order dated 16.6.2022 in Petition No. 102/TL/2022, granted a transmission licence to the Petitioner Company for inter-State transmission of electricity to establish the transmission project for **“evacuation of power from RE sources in Karur/Tiruppur Wind Energy Zone (Tamil Nadu) (1000 MW) under Phase-I”**. Implementation status of the project is as under: -

SN	Name of the Transmission Element	Scheduled COD in months from Effective Date
1	<p>Establishment of 2x500 MVA, 400/230 kV Karur Pooling Station (at a location in between Karur Wind zone and Tiruppur wind zone)</p> <p>4 Nos. of 230kV line bays for interconnection of wind projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2x500MVA, 400/230kV ICTs • 400kV ICT bay – 2 nos. • 230kV ICT bay – 2 nos. • 400kV line bay – 4 nos. • 400kV reactor bay – 2 nos. • 230kV line bays – 4 nos. • 230kV Bus coupler bay- 1 no.* • 230kV Transfer Bus Coupler (TBC) bay - 1 no.* <p>Space provision for Phase-II:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. 400/230kV ICTs along with bays: 3 nos. ii. 230kV line bays: 5 nos. 	<p>Matching with schedule of RE developers or 18 months from the date of transfer of SPV whichever is later.</p>

	iii. 230 kV Bus Sectionalizer bays: 2 nos. Future provisions (Additional Space for): i. 400/230kV ICTs along with bays: 3 nos. ii. 400kV line bays: 6 nos. 230kV line bays: 7 nos.	
2	LILO of both circuits of Pugalur – Pugalur (HVDC) 400 kV D/c line (with Quad Moose ACSR Conductor) at Karur PS.	
3	2x125 MVA, 400 kV Bus reactors at Karur PS.	

Note:

** To fulfil the requirement of the bus switching scheme.*

4. Subsequently, NCT approved the Augmentation of 2x500 MVA, 400/230 kV transformation capacity (3rd & 4th ICTs) at Karur PS on the Regulated Tariff Mechanism (RTM) to Karur Transmission Limited. Thereafter, Central Transmission Utility of India Limited (hereinafter referred to as 'CTUIL') has issued an Office Memorandum dated 12.3.2024 to the Petitioner wherein CTUIL has approved and nominated the Petitioner to implement the transmission scheme Augmentation of 2x500MVA, 400/230kV transformation capacity (3rd & 4th ICTs) at Karur PS.

5. Further, the Consultation Meeting for Evolving Transmission Schemes (hereinafter referred to as 'CMETS') in the Western Region, as recorded in the Minutes of the 34th Meeting dated 29.10.2024, approved the implementation of one (1) 230 kV line bay at Karur 400/230 kV Power Station (PS) for the interconnection of the Renewable Energy Generation System (REGS) of M/s Nannai Solar Park Pvt. Ltd. under the Regulated Tariff Mechanism (RTM) to Karur Transmission Limited. This approval was granted in accordance with the Ministry of Power (MoP) office order dated 28.10.2021, which referenced the reconstitution

of the National Committee on Transmission (NCT) and its Terms of Reference. In this context, the CTUIL also approved the implementation of the aforementioned 230 kV line bay at Karur 400/230 kV PS for the interconnection of the REGS of Nannai Solar Park Pvt. Ltd. under the RTM to Karur Transmission Limited. Thereafter, CTUIL, vide its letter dated 23.10.2024, requested the Petitioner to initiate the necessary actions for the implementation of the aforementioned transmission scheme.

6. The Petitioner has submitted that after the grant of a separate transmission licence, the Petitioner shall proceed to implement the transmission scheme under RTM mode. The estimated cost of the transmission scheme as per the 18th meeting of NCT dated 5.3.2024 is Rs.115 crore, and as per the 34th meeting of CMETS (Western Region) is Rs. 5.57 crore. After completion of the transmission scheme, the Petitioner shall approach the Commission for determination of transmission charges in accordance with Sections 61 and 62 of the Act and Tariff Regulations in vogue as per Regulation 8 (2) of the Transmission Licence Regulations.

Hearing dated: 7.1.2025

7. During the course of the hearing, the representative of the Petitioner submitted that the present Petition had been filed seeking grant of a separate transmission licence for (i) Augmentation of the 2x500 MVA, 400/230kV transformation capacity (3rd & 4th ICTs) at Karur PS, and (ii) Implementation of 1 no. of 230kV line bay at Karur 400/230kV PS for interconnection of REGS of M/s Nannai Solar Park Pvt. Ltd. on Regulated Tariff Mechanism (RTM) route. He further submitted that while element (i) was awarded by CTUIL vide its

letter dated 12.3.2024, element (ii) was awarded by CTUIL vide its letter dated 23.10.2024. Accordingly, keeping in view that element (ii), as noted above, came to be awarded to the Petitioner after the Commission having passed its order dated 16.10.2024 proposing the grant of a transmission licence to the Petitioner and causing the issuance of notices under Section 15(5)(a) of the Electricity Act, 2003 ('the Act') in respect of element (i) and Petitioner having sought to include the element (ii) in the present Petition itself by filing the Amended Petition vide affidavit dated 5.11.2024.

8. Vide Record of Proceedings for the hearing dated 7.1.2025, the Commission observed that a fresh order to the aforesaid effect would be required to be issued in respect of the amended Petition.

9. CTUIL, vide Record of Proceedings for the hearing dated 7.1.2025, was directed to file the following information on an affidavit within a week:

- i. A copy of the recommendation letter for the grant of a transmission licence for the additional 1 no. of 230kV line bay at Karur 400/230kV PS under RTM.
- ii. The commissioning schedule of the 1 no. of 230 kV line bay at Karur 400/230kV PS, for which the Petitioner is seeking transmission licence, vis-à-vis the start date of the connectivity of the REGS granted connectivity on this bay.

10. CTUIL, in compliance with the Record of Proceedings dated 7.1.2025, vide affidavit dated 6.2.2025, has placed on record its recommendation dated 23.1.2025 for the additional 1 no. of 230kV line bay at Karur 400/230kV PS. The CTUIL has submitted that the commissioning schedule of the 1 no. of 230kV line bay at Karur 400/230kV PS is 23/01/2026.

The Start date of the connectivity of the REGS granted connectivity on this Bay is 24/01/2026.

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 transmission licence to the Applicant for implementation of the “Augmentation of 2x500 MVA, 400/230kV transformation capacity (3rd & 4th ICTs) at Karur PS” and “Implementation of 1 no. of 230kV line bay at Karur 400/230kV PS for interconnection of REGS of Nannai Solar Park Pvt. Ltd” on the RTM route.

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 crores and Rs.500 crores 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 of India Limited (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 Rs.100 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 CTU (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 CTU.”

13. The subject transmission scheme was discussed and agreed upon in the 18th NCT meeting held on 5.3.2024 and the 34th meeting held on 29.10.2024. Based on the same, CTUIL, vide its Office Memorandums dated 12.3.2024 and 23.10.2024, approved the subject transmission scheme under the Regulated Tariff Mechanism (RTM) mode and informed regarding the name of implementing agency, viz., the Petitioner. The relevant portion of the said Office Memorandums dated 12.3.2024 and 23.10.2024 are extracted as under:

“Office Memorandum dated 12.3.2024

Sub: Implementation of ISTS Transmission/Communication Schemes approved by NCT in its 18th meeting held on 31-01-2024 under Regulated Tariff Mechanism (RTM).

NCT vide letter dated 11.03.2024 has awarded various ISTS Transmission/Communication schemes for its implementation under RTM mode by the respective implementing agencies as indicated in the table below:

Sl. No.	Name of Transmission Scheme	Implementation Agency
<i>I. ISTS schemes costing between Rs. 100 Crs To Rs. 500 Crs</i>		
1.	<i>Augmentation of 2x500MVA, 400/230kV transformation capacity (3rd & 4th ICTs) at Karur PS.</i>	<i>Karur Transmission Ltd. (a subsidiary of Adani Energy Solutions Ltd.)</i>

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

implementation of the aforementioned Transmission Schemes.

Office Memorandum dated 23.10.2024

Sub: Inter-State Transmission Schemes (costing up to Rs.100 Cr.) to be taken up for implementation under Regulated Tariff Mechanism (RTM).

The undersigned is directed to inform that CTU has approved the implementation of the following ISTS costing less than or equal to Rs.100 Cr. in line with the MoP office order dated 28.10.2021 under the Regulated Tariff Mechanism (RTM) mode by the implementing agencies as indicated in the table below:

Sl. No.	Name of Transmission Scheme	Implementation Agency
Southern Region		
5.	Implementation of 1 no. of 230kV line bay at Karur 400/230kV PS for interconnection of REGS of M/s Nannai Solar Park Pvt. Ltd.	Karur Transmission Ltd. (a subsidiary of Adani Energy Solutions Ltd.)

14. 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 judicial 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 turn-key jobs for other utilities/organizations and wheeling of power in accordance with the policies, guidelines and objectives laid down by the Central Government from

time to time”

15. 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, Karur Transmission Limited, has been certified to have been made in accordance with the Ministry of Power order dated 28.10.2021.

16. 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 subsection (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 Interstate 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)."

17. 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 Karur Transmission Limited with respect to the transmission project as per the details given in paragraph 1 above.

18. 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.

19. The Petitioner has published the notices on the e-filing portal of the Commission and on its website in Form-II in English and Vernacular language. The Petitioner has also published the notice digitally in all editions of 'The Hindu: Tiruchirappalli' and 'The Hindu: Tiruchirappalli' (in English and Tamil, respectively) on 18.11.2024. In response, no objection has been received from the general public to the notices.

20. The Petitioner has served a copy of the application on CTUIL as required under Section 15(3) of the Act and Regulation 7(6) of the 2009 Transmission Licence Regulations read with Regulations 5 (9) of the 2024 Transmission Licence Regulations. CTUIL, vide its letter dated 17.7.2024, has recommended the grant of a transmission licence to the

Petitioner for the Augmentation of 2x500 MVA, 400/230 kV transformation capacity (3rd & 4th ICTs) at Karur PS. The relevant portion of the said letter dated 17.7.2024 are extracted as under:

“This has reference to petition filed M/s Karur Transmission Limited for grant of Transmission License for subject transmission scheme against the application / petition filed to CERC. In this regard, following is submitted:

*1. M/s Karur Transmission Limited has filed application / petition under Section 14 & 15 of the Electricity Act, 2003 and CERC (Procedure, Terms and Conditions for grant of Transmission License and other related matters) Regulations, 2009 for grant of transmission license to establish Transmission Scheme “Augmentation of 2x500 MVA, 400/230 kV transformation capacity (3rd & 4th ICTs) at Karur PS” under RTM mode. The detailed scope of the scheme is enclosed at **Annexure-I**.*

2. In reference to the subject Transmission Scheme following is submitted:

i) Karur PS has been implemented by M/s Karur Transmission Limited (a subsidiary of Adani Energy Solutions Ltd.) through TBCB route and is under operation with transformation capacity of 1000 MVA (2x500 MVA ICTs).

ii) The Connectivity of about 1112 MW has been granted to RE generation projects at Karur PS. The 1x500 MVA, 400/230kV ICT (3rd) is required for connectivity to RE generation projects and 1x500 MVA, 400/230kV ICT (4th) is required for meeting the N-1 contingency criteria.

*iii) Accordingly, augmentation of 2x500 MVA, 400/230 kV transformation capacity (3rd & 4th ICTs) at Karur PS was discussed and agreed for integration of RE generation projects and meeting the N-1 contingency criteria in the 27th CMETS-SR held on 30.01.2024. Extracts of the minutes of 27th CMETS-SR is enclosed at **Annexure-II**.*

*iv) The National Committee on Transmission (NCT) in its 18th meeting held on 31.01.2024 has recommended the implementation of the subject transmission scheme through RTM route. Extracts of the minutes of 18th NCT meeting is enclosed at **Annexure-III**.*

*v) NCT vide its letter dated 11.03.2024 had approved the implementation of the above scheme under RTM (Copy of CEA letter is enclosed at **Annexure-IV**). Subsequently, CTU vide letter dated 12.03.2024 has communicated the same to M/s Karur Transmission Limited. The Commissioning schedule of the scheme is 18 months (i.e. 12.09.2025) from the date of CTU communication. Copy of CTU letter is enclosed at **Annexure-V**.*

3. In line with Section 15(4) of the Electricity Act, 2003, based on details furnished by

M/s Karur Transmission Limited, CTU recommends grant of transmission license to M/s Karur Transmission Limited for executing the transmission scheme "Augmentation of 2x500 MVA, 400/230 kV transformation capacity (3rd & 4th ICTs) at Karur PS" as mentioned in Para-1 above."

21. Subsequently, CTUIL, vide its letter dated 23.1.2025, has recommended the grant of a transmission licence to the Petitioner for the implementation of 1 no. of 230kV line bay at Karur 400/230kV PS. The relevant portion of the said letter dated 23.1.2025 is extracted as under:

"Sub: Recommendation of CTU under Section 15(4) of Electricity Act, 2003 on application filed by Mis Karur Transmission Limited before Hon'ble Commission for Grant of Transmission License for establishment of Transmission Scheme "Implementation of 1 no. of 230kV line bay at Karur 400/230kV PS for Interconnection of REGS of Mis Nannai Solar Park Pvt. Ltd." -reg.

This has reference to petition filed M/s Karur Transmission Limited for grant of Transmission License for subject transmission scheme against the application/petition filed to CERC. In this regard, following is submitted:

1. Mis Karur Transmission Limited has filed application/petition under Section 14 & 15 of the Electricity Act, 2003 and CERC (Procedure, Terms and Conditions for grant of Transmission License and other related matters) Regulations, 2009 for grant transmission license to establish Transmission Scheme "Implementation of 1 no. of 230kV line bay at Karur 400/230kV PS for interconnection of REGS of M/s Nannai Solar Park Pvt. Ltd. under RTM mode. The detailed scope of the scheme is enclosed at Annexure-1.

2. In reference to the subject Transmission Scheme following is submitted.

- i) The Transmission Scheme involves implementation of 1 no. of 230kV line bay at Karur PS for integration of RE generation project of Mis Nannai Solar Park Pvt. Ltd. who has been granted connectivity for 93 MW at Karur PS. The transmission scheme was agreed in the 30th Consultation Meeting for Evolving Transmission Scheme in Southern Region (CMETS-SR) held on 30.04.2024. Extract of the minutes of 30 CMETS-SR is enclosed at Annexure-II.*
- ii) CTU vide its OM dated 23.10.2024 had approved the implementation of the above scheme under RTM. Copy of OM enclosed at Annexure-III The*

Commissioning schedule of the scheme is 23.01.2026.

3. In line with Section 15(4) of the Electricity Act 2003, based on details furnished by Mis Karur Transmission Limited, CTU recommends grant of transmission license to M/s Karur Transmission Limited for executing the transmission scheme "Implementation of 1 no. of 230kV line bay at kaur 400/230kV PS for interconnection of REGS of M/s Nannai Solar Park Pvt. Ltd." As mentioned in Para-1 above."

22. It is noted that the CTUIL, vide its letter dated 14.5.2024, has requested the Ministry of Power to clarify the requirement of approval of the Central Government to transmission schemes under the Transmission System Planning Rules, 2021 for Projects costing up to Rs. 500 crores, as approved by NCT/CTUIL as per the Ministry's Order dated 28.10.2021, quoted in para 12 above. CTUIL is directed to place on record the response received from the Ministry of Power when the same is received. Meanwhile, we proceed to grant the transmission licence to the Petitioner Company so that the construction work of the transmission line may not be delayed.

23. We have considered the Petitioner's submission. The Petitioner has filed the present Petition for the issuance of a separate transmission licence for "*Augmentation of 2x500 MV A, 400/230kV transformation capacity (3rd & 4th ICTs) at Karur PS and Implementation of 1 no. of 230kV line bay at Karur 400/23 OkV PS for interconnection of REGS of M/s Nannai Solar Park Pvt. Ltd.*" on the Regulated Tariff Mechanism (RTM) route.

24. In view of the amended Petition filed by the Petitioner vide affidavit dated 5.11.2024, the earlier order passed by the Commission is rendered inoperative.

25. 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, be filed by any person before the Commission on or before **28.2.2025**.

26. The Petition shall be listed for hearing on **6.3.2025**.

Sd/-
(Harish Dudani)
Member

sd/-
(Ramesh Babu V.)
Member

sd/-
(Jishnu Barua)
Chairperson