

**CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
NEW DELHI**

Petition No. 486/TL/2024

Coram:

Shri Jishnu Barua, Chairperson

Shri Ramesh Babu V., Member

Shri Harish Dudani, Member

Date of order: 26th February, 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 amendment of the existing RTM Transmission Licence to POWERGRID Ramgarh Transmission Limited to include transmission project "Augmentation of transformation Capacity at 400/220 kV Fatehgarh-III PS (Section-1) by 400/220 kV, 1x500 MVA ICT (5th)".

And

In the matter of

**POWERGRID Ramgarh 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. Uttar Pradesh Power Corporation Limited,
Shakti Bhawan-14, Ashok Marg,
Lucknow-226001, Uttar Pradesh.**

2. **Ajmer Vidyut Vitran Nigam Limited,**
Corporate office, Vidyut Bhawan,
Panchsheel Nagar, Makarwali road
Ajmer-305004, Rajasthan.
3. **Jaipur Vidyut Vitran Nigam Limited,**
132 kV, GSS RVPNL Sub-station Building,
Caligiri Road, Malviya Nagar,
Jaipur-302017, Rajasthan.
4. **Jodhpur Vidyut Vitran Nigam Limited,**
New Power House, Industrial Area,
Jodhpur-342003, Rajasthan.
5. **Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board Limited,**
Vidyut Bhawan,
Kumar House Complex Building II,
Shimla-171004, Himachal Pradesh.
6. **Punjab State Power Corporation Limited,**
The Mall, PSEB head office, Patiala-147001.
7. **Haryana Power Purchase Centre,**
Shakti Bhawan, Sector-6,
Panchkula-134109, Haryana.
8. **Jammu Kashmir Power Corporation Limited,**
220/66/33 kV Gladni SS SLDC Buliding,
Narwal, Jammu.
9. **BSES Yamuna Power Limited,**
B-Block, Shakti Kiran, Bldg. (Near Karkardooma Courts),
Karkardoomam, 2nd Floor, New Delhi-110092.
- 10 **BSES Rajdhani Power Limited,**
BSES Bhawan, Nehru Place,
New Delhi-110019.
- 11 **Tata Power Delhi Distribution Limited,**
NDPL House, Hudson Lines,
Kingsway Camp, Delhi-110009.
- 12 **Chandigarh Administration,**
Sector -9, Chandigarh.

- 13 Uttarakhand Power Corporation Limited,**
Urja Bhawan, Kanwali Road,
Dehradun, Uttarakhand.
- 14 New Delhi Municipal Council,**
Palika Kendra, Sansad Marg,
New Delhi-110002.
- 15 North Central Railway Allahabad,**
Uttar Pradesh.
- 16 Central Transmission Utility India Limited,**
Saudamini, Plot no.2, Sector -29,
Gurgaon-122001.
- 17. Central Electricity Authority,**
Sewa Bhawan, R. K. Puram,
Sector-1, New Delhi-110066.

...Respondents

Parties present:

Shri V. C. Sekhar, PRTL
Shri Prashant Kumar, PRTL
Shri Ranjeet Rajput, CTUIL
Shri Akshayvat Kislay, CTUIL

ORDER

The Petitioner, POWERGRID Ramgarh Transmission Limited (hereinafter referred to as 'Petitioner'), 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 amendment of the existing RTM transmission licence to POWERGRID Ramgarh Transmission Limited to include transmission project "Augmentation of transformation Capacity at 400/220 kV

Fatehragh-III PS(Section-1) by 400/200 kV, 1x500 MVA ICT(5th) (hereinafter referred to as the ‘transmission scheme/project’). The scope of the project for which the existing RTM transmission licence is being amended is as under:

Augmentation of transformation Capacity at 400/220 kV Fatehragh-III PS(Section-1) by 400/220 kV, 1x500 MVA ICT(5th):

| Sl. No. | Scope of the Transmission Scheme | Capacity/km | Implementation Timeframe |
|------------------------------|--|---|--|
| 1. | Augmentation with Transformer at Fatehragh-III PS (5 th ICT at Section-1) along with associated transformer bays * 1 no 400 kV (AIS) (including associated tie bay) and 1 no of 220 kV (AIS) transformer bay | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 500 MVA 400/220 kV ICT - 1 no. • 400 kV ICT bay (AIS) (including associated tie bay) – 1 no. • 220 kV (AIS) ICT bay - 1 no. | 18 months from the date of issuance of OM by CTUIL |
| Total Estimated Cost: | | | Rs. 58.18 Crores |

2. The Petitioner has made the following prayers:

*“(a) Amend the existing RTM Transmission License, granted by this Hon’ble Commission vide order dated 13.08.2024 in Petition 215/TL/2024 to incorporate the transmission project “**Augmentation of transformation Capacity at 400/220 kV Fatehragh-III PS(Section-1) by 400/200 kV, 1x500 MVA ICT(5th)**” assigned by CTUIL vide OM dated 22.03.2024 under Regulated Tariff Mechanism (RTM) mode.*

(b) Allow the Petitioner the liberty to approach the 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.

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

3. The Petitioner is an Inter-State transmission licensee and has implemented the “Transmission system strengthening scheme for evacuation of power from solar energy zones in Rajasthan (8.1 GW) under phase II – Part A” on a Build, Own, Operate and Maintain basis through Tariff Based Competitive Bidding (hereinafter referred to as “TBCB Project”) mode. The Commission, vide its order dated 31.5.2021 in Petition No. 89/TL/2021, granted a transmission licence (TBCB License) to the Petitioner for the aforesaid TBCB Project. Subsequently, the Commission, vide its order dated 15.4.2024 in Petition No. 293/TL/2023, granted a separate transmission licence to the Petitioner Company to implement the following Transmission Projects under the Regulated Tariff Mechanism (hereinafter referred to as “RTM”). :

Implementation of 400kV bays for RE generators at Fatehgarh-III (erstwhile Ramgarh-II) PS under ISTS.

- Transmission system for evacuation of power from REZ in Rajasthan (20GW) under Phase-III Part E1.
- Grant of 400 kV & 220 kV bays to RE generators at Fatehgarh-III (erstwhile Ramgarh-II) PS under ISTS.
- Transmission system for evacuation of power from REZ in Rajasthan (20GW) under phas-III Part E-2.
- Implementation of Bus Sectionalizer at 400kV level of 765/400/220 kV Fatehgarh-III PS (Section-2).

4. Further, the above transmission licence was amended by the Commission, vide its order dated 13.8.2024 in Petition 215/TL/2024 to incorporate the following transmission

scheme:

- **Implementation of 1 no. of 220 kV line bay at 400/220 kV Fatehgarh-III PS (Sec-1) for interconnection of BESS of JSW Renew Energy Five Ltd.**

| S. No. | Scope of the Transmission Scheme | Capacity/km | Implementation timeframe |
|------------------------------|---|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 | 1 no. of 220 kV line bay at 400/220 kV Fatehgarh-III PS (Sec1) for interconnection of JSW Renew Energy Five Ltd. BESS Project (Connectivity App No. 0212100040- 250 MW) | 220 kV line bay - 1 no. | 30.6.2025 |
| Total Estimated Cost: | | | Rs. 5.94 Crores |

5. Further, in addition to the above-mentioned scope, the Central Transmission Utility of India Limited (CTUIL), vide Office Memorandum dated 26.10.2023, has assigned the Transmission Projects for the “Augmentation of Transformation Capacity at 400/220 kV Fatehgarh-III PS(Section-1) by 400/220 kV, 1x500 MVA ICT (5th)” under the RTM mode while referring to the Ministry of Power office order dated 28.10.2021.

6. The Petitioner has submitted that upon amendment of the existing RTM transmission licence, it shall implement the aforementioned scheme under the RTM mode. The estimated completion cost of the transmission scheme, as per CTUIL’s Office Memorandum (OM) dated 26.10.2023, is Rs. 58.18 crores. After completion of the transmission scheme, the Petitioner shall approach the Commission for the determination of the transmission charges in accordance with the Tariff Regulations.

Hearing dated: 23.1.2025

7. During the course of the hearing, the representative of the Petitioner submitted that the present Petition had been filed seeking amendment of the existing RTM transmission licence granted to the Petitioner to include the Transmission Project viz., Augmentation of transformation Capacity at 400/220 kV Fatehgarh-III PS (Section 1) by 400/220 kV, 1x500 MVA ICT (5th), as assigned by CTUIL under the RTM mode vide OM dated 26.10.2023.

8. Vide Record of Proceedings for the hearing dated 23.1.2025, the parties were directed to file their respective replies and rejoinder. However, no reply has been filed by the Respondents despite notice.

9. Further, Vide Record of Proceedings dated 23.1.2025, the Petitioner was directed to clarify on an affidavit within a week the reasons for the delay in approaching for the amendment of the transmission licence and whether the Petitioner shall be able to complete the transmission scheme within the time frame, i.e., by 26.4.2025 (18 months from the issuance of OM dated 26.10.2023 by CTUIL).

10. In compliance with the Record of Proceedings dated 23.1.2025, the Petitioner, vide affidavit dated 5.2.2025, submitted that the Petitioner is a transmission licensee, who has implemented a transmission project under TBCB route, and the Commission granted a transmission licence for the same vide order dated 31.5.2021 in Petition No. 89/TL/2021. Subsequently, till date, the Petitioner, from time to time, has progressively been assigned 07 nos transmission projects under Regulated Tariff Mechanism (RTM) vide MOP/CTU OMs

dated 16.07.2021, 02.12.2021, 21.04.2023, 26.10.2023 and 22.03.2024 respectively. For the first 05 nos projects under RTM, the Petitioner had timely approached the Commission through Petition No. 293/TL/2023 for the grant of a separate RTM transmission licence. However, while proceedings in the Petition No. 293/TL/2023 were under progress, the Petitioner was entrusted with the additional RTM project covered under the instant Petition vide CTU OM dated 26.10.2023. In the event that the subject transmission project was to be included in the ongoing Petition No. 293/TL/2023, the Petitioner would have been required to amend the Petition. This would have resulted in a delay in the grant of the transmission licence for transmission schemes that had already been awarded to the Petitioner. Therefore, it was planned to file a separate Petition for the amendment of the RTM licence to include the subject transmission scheme after the issuance of the order in Petition No. 293/TL/2023, which was granted by the Commission on 15.4.2024. Upon issuance of the final order dated 15.4.2024 in Petition No. 293/TL/2023, the Petitioner inadvertently missed filing the licence Petition for the project entrusted under RTM vide CTU OM dated 26.10.2023 promptly. However, as soon as this oversight, came to the Petitioner's attention, the instant Petition was filed on 1.11.2024.

11. Despite the aforementioned inadvertent oversight, the Petitioner has diligently taken steps for the implementation of the instant transmission scheme and has been actively working towards the execution of this scheme utilizing prudent utility practices, ensuring minimal impact on project completion timelines. The Petitioner is committed to completing the transmission scheme within the timeframe, i.e., by 26.4.2025. The delay in filing the instant amendment application does not impact the Petitioner's commitment to the timely

execution of the instant transmission project. Therefore, the delay in approaching the Commission for the amendment of the existing transmission licence to include the subject transmission scheme was purely inadvertent and unintentional.

12. We have considered the submissions of the Petitioner. According to the Petitioner, it will complete the transmission scheme within the timeframe, i.e., by 26.4.2025, and delay in filing the instant amendment application does not impact the Petitioner's commitment to timely execution of the instant transmission project. Accordingly, we direct the Petitioner to implement the transmission scheme as committed by it in letter and spirit.

Analysis and Decision

13. We have considered the submissions of the Petitioner and CTUIL. The Petitioner has filed the present Petition for the amendment of the existing RTM transmission licence to include "Augmentation of transformation Capacity at 400/220 kV Fatehragh-III PS(Section-1) by 400/200 kV, 1x500 MVA ICT(5th)" through the RTM mode.

14. 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.”

15. Subsequently, a ‘Consultation Meeting for Evolving Transmission Schemes (CMETS) in Northern Region,’ vide its Minutes of the 21st Meeting dated 31.7.2023, notified “Augmentation of transformation Capacity at 400/220 kV Fatehgarh-III PS(Section-1) by 400/200 kV, 1x500 MVA ICT(5th)” on RTM mode to the Petitioner Company in line with the MoP Office order dated 28.10.2021 as under:

“Augmentation of 5th ICT at Fatehgarh-III PS(Section-1)

It was deliberated that Transmission System Strengthening for potential solar energy zones Phase-II in Northern Region for 8.1 GW was discussed and agreed in the 5th Meeting of Northern Region Standing Committee on Transmission (NRSCT) held on 13.09.2019. Subsequently, the scheme was approved in the 6th meeting of National Committee on Transmission (NCT) held on 30.09.2019. As part the above scheme, Ph-II Part-A involved establishment of 4x500 MVA Ramgarh PS (now Fatehgarh-III PS (sec-1)) along with 400 kV D/c lines towards Fatehgarh-II PS & Jaisalmer-II (RVPN) S/s.

Subsequently, as part of Transmission system for evacuation of power from REZ in Rajasthan under Phase-III (20GW), augmentation of 5th ICT at Fatehgarh-III PS(Sec-1) was discussed and agreed in the 3rd NRPC(TP) held on 19.02.2021. Further, the 5th ICT at Fatehgarh-III PS(Sec-1) was taken up for discussion and approval in the 5th NCT meeting held on 25.08.2021 and 02.09.2021 as part of Ph-III Part-J scheme.

However, in the 5th NCT meeting, it was opined that one of the pilot project of Battery Storage System of 250 MW is being planned at perspective location near Fatehgarh-3, therefore there might be a possibility that the 5th ICT of 500 MVA at Fatehgarh-III PS(Sec-1) may not be required and hence this item needs to be reviewed. Accordingly, the Augmentation of ICT(5th) at Fatehgarh-III PS (Sec-1) was deferred in the 5th NCT meeting.

Subsequently, in the manual on Transmission Planning Criteria 2023 by CEA published in March 2023, it is mentioned that 'N-1' reliability criteria may be considered for ICTs at the ISTS /STU pooling stations for renewable energy based generation of more than 1000 MW after considering the capacity factor of renewable generating stations.

Cumulative connectivity quantum of 2280 MW was granted at Fatehgarh-III PS(Sec-1). Recently, 300 MW has been surrendered in GNA Transition process. The remaining connectivity granted at Fatehgarh-III PS is 1980 MW. Therefore, to satisfy N-1 reliability criteria at 400/220 kV Fatehgarh-III PS(Section-1), it is necessary to take up augmentation of 5th ICT at Fatehgarh-III PS(Sec-1) is required.

Further, in the meeting for reallocation of connectivity bays in NR held on 20.06.2023, it was decided that in order to ensure N-1 compliance as per planning criteria 2023, the 220 kV line bay which is surrendered under GNA transition(300 MW) at Fatehgarh-III PS(Sec-1) shall not be granted to any other RE applicant and instead shall be utilized by upcoming pilot BESS project (2x250 MW) at Fatehgarh-III PS which is under implementation M/s JSW. However, despite interconnection of BESS, for N-1 compliance there is a need of 400/220 kV 500 MVA 5th ICT at Fatehgarh-III PS(Sec-1).

The Fatehgarh-III PS(Section-1) is currently under advanced stage of implementation by POWERGRID(TBCB) & is expected to be commissioned progressively from Aug'23. As per the latest JCC minutes, 1980 MW of generation projects granted connectivity at Fatehgarh-III PS(Section-1) are expected to be commissioned progressively from Sep'23. In view of the above, implementation of 5th ICT at Fatehgarh-III PS(Sec-1) is to be taken up on urgent basis to meet the N-1 compliance as per CEA Transmission Planning Criteria 2023.

In meeting SECI queried that requirement of Augmentation of 5th ICT at Fatehgarh-III PS(Section-1) is due to BESS. CTU stated that this ICT augmentation is not for

BESS, it is for requirement to meet the N-1 compliance as per CEA Transmission Planning Criteria 2023. SECI also queried regarding 220kV line bays for this ICT augmentation, CTU stated that for this ICT augmentation requires separate transformer bays. In view of above deliberations, following ISTS scheme was agreed.

SECI enquired about revision of RE capacity of 1980MW from earlier granted 2280MW capacity at Fatehgarh-III PS(Section-1). CTU stated that earlier 2280MW connectivity allocated to RE applicants at Fatehgarh-III PS(Section-1) against potential of 1.98GW in PhII. However, in view of surrendered capacity (300MW) at Fatehgarh-III PS(Section-1) and new N-1 compliance requirement as per CEA Transmission Planning Criteria 2023, RE connectivity at Fatehgarh-III PS(Section-1) allocated to 1980MW.

In view of above deliberations, following ISTS scheme was agreed:

- Augmentation of 400/220 kV , 1x500 MVA (5th) ICT at Fatehgarh-III PS(Section-1) along with transformer bays.”*

16. Based on the above, CTUIL, vide its Office Memorandum dated 26.10.2023, approved “Augmentation of Transformation Capacity at 400/220 kV Fatehgarh-III PS(Section-1) by 400/220 kV, 1x500 MVA (5th)” on RTM mode along with identifying the implementing agency and also addressing the same to the Ministry of Power, Government of India, and NCT. The relevant portion of the said Office Memorandum dated 26.10.2023 is extracted as under:

“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 Regulated Tariff Mechanism (RTM) mode by the implementing agencies as indicated in the table below:

| Sl. No. | Name of Transmission Scheme | Implementing Agency |
|----------------|---|---|
| 6. | Augmentation of Transformation Capacity at 400/220 kV Fatehgarh-III PS(Section-1) by 400/220 kV, 1x500 MVA (5 th) | POWERGRID Ramgarh Transmission Limited (A subsidiary of Power Grid Corporation of India Limited) |

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| | | |
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17. 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”

18. Regulation 4 (1)(b) of Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Procedure, Terms and Conditions for Grant of Transmission License and other related matters) Regulations, 2024 (Transmission License Regulations, 2024) allows an entity selected by the Central Government or its authorized agency to implement a project under the regulated tariff mechanism. Relevant extracts are as follows;

4. Eligibility for Grant of licence

(1) No person shall be eligible for grant of licence for inter-State transmission of electricity unless it is,

(a) selected through the process under the competitive bidding guidelines issued

under section 63 of the Act; or

(b) an entity selected by the Central Government or its authorized agency to implement a project under the regulated tariff mechanism.

19. Regulation 16 of the Transmission Licence Regulations, 2024 provides for the procedure for the amendment of a transmission licence as under:

“(1) The Commission may on its own motion or on an application made by the licensee (other than deemed licensee) or otherwise make such alterations and amendments in the terms and conditions of licence, if the Commission is of the opinion that the public interest so requires inter-alia under the following categories:

(a) Where the Commission orders any alterations and amendments otherwise than on the application of the licensee, the Commission shall publish a notice in two such daily digital newspapers as it considers necessary with the following particulars, namely: -

- i. name and address of the licensee;*
- ii. alterations and modifications proposed to be made in the licence;*
- iii. grounds for such alterations and modifications; and*
- iv. statement inviting suggestions and objections, if any, on the proposal for consideration of the Commission within the time specified in the notice.*

(b) Where an existing licensee which has been granted a transmission licence pursuant to selection under the competitive bidding guidelines, and is subsequently selected through the process under the competitive bidding guidelines to implement additional transmission element(s) under project mode, it shall be eligible to add such transmission element(s) to its existing licence, after making an application before the Commission in terms of this Regulation.

(c) Where an existing licensee which has been granted a transmission licence pursuant to being nominated by the Central Government or its authorized agency to implement transmission element(s) under regulated tariff mechanism, is further nominated to implement additional transmission element(s) under regulated tariff mechanism, it shall be eligible to add such transmission element(s) to its existing licence, by making an application before the Commission in terms of this Regulation.

(2) The procedure specified in Regulation 5 of these regulations (except clause 13) shall mutatis mutandis be applicable in case the licensee makes an application for any amendment to the licence.

(3) The Commission shall also upload Form-II submitted by the applicant on the website of the Commission, inviting suggestions and objections on the proposal for amendment of the licence.

(4) The Commission shall carry out such amendment to the licence as may be considered necessary after consideration of the suggestions and objections received.

(5) The licensee shall be required to maintain separate accounts for such additional elements in case of addition/modification of the licence.”

20. The Petitioner has filed the present Petition for the amendment of an existing RTM transmission licence granted vide order dated 13.8.2024 for the “Implementation of 1 no. of 220 kV line bay at 400/220 kV Fatehgarh-III PS (Sec-1) for interconnection of BESS of JSW Renew Energy Five Ltd.” through RTM mode to incorporate “Augmentation of transformation Capacity at 400/220 kV Fatehragh-III PS(Section-1) by 400/200 kV, 1x500 MVA ICT(5th)”, in accordance with the Transmission Licence Regulations.

21. 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.

22. 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 ‘Times of India’ and ‘Rashtrdoot’ (in English and Hindi Language, respectively) on 5.11.2024. In response, no objection has been

received from the general public to the notices.

23. The Petitioner has served a copy of the application on CTUIL as required under Section 15(3) of the Act and read with Regulations 5 (9) of the 2024 Transmission Licence Regulations. CTUIL, vide its letter dated 7.11.2024, has recommended the amendment of the existing transmission licence to include the transmission project to the Petitioner. The relevant portion of the said letter dated 7.11.2024 is extracted as under:

“This is with reference to petition having diary no. 818/2024 filed by M/s POWERGRID Ramgarh Transmission Ltd. (PRTL) before Hon’ble Commission for amendment of existing transmission license to include transmission project “Augmentation of transformation Capacity at 400/220 kV Fatehgarh-III PS(Section-I) by 400/200 kV, 1x500 MVA ICT(5th)”. In this regard, following is submitted:

- *Augmentation of 5th ICT at Fatehgarh-III PS (Sec-1) was discussed and agreed in 3rd NRPC (TP) meeting held on 19.02.2021 as part of Transmission system for evacuation of power from REZ in Rajasthan (20GW) under Phase-III. Further, above ICT was taken up for discussion and approval in the 5th NCT meeting held on 25.08.2021 and 02.09.2021. However, in the 5th NCT meeting, it was opined that one of the pilot projects of Battery Storage System of 250 MW is being planned at perspective location near Fatehgarh-III, therefore there might be a possibility that the 5th ICT of 500 MVA at Fatehgarh-III PS (Sec-1) may not be required and hence this needs to be reviewed. Accordingly, the Augmentation of ICT (5th) at Fatehgarh-III PS (Sec1) was deferred in the 5th NCT meeting. Relevant extracts of 5th NCT meeting are attached at **Annexure-I**.*
- *Subsequently, in the manual on Transmission Planning Criteria 2023 by CEA published in March 2023, it is mentioned that ‘N-T reliability criteria may be considered for ICTs at the ISTS /STU pooling stations for renewable energy-based generation of more than 1000 MW after considering the capacity factor of renewable generating stations. 2480 MW (RE: 1980 MW & BESS: 500 MW (2x250 MW)) connectivity/deemed GNA is granted at Fatehgarh-III PS (Sec-1). However, despite interconnection of BESS, for N-1 compliance, there was a need of 400/220 kV 500 MVA (5th) ICT at Fatehgarh-III PS(Sec-1). In view of the above, in the 21st CMETS-NR meeting held on 31.07.2023, implementation of 5th ICT at Fatehgarh- III PS (Sec-1) was agreed under ISTS on urgent basis to meet the N-1 compliance as per CEA Transmission Planning Criteria 2023. It is also to submit that Fatehgarh-III PS (Section-1) is*

an existing pooling station. At present, 1380 MW RE generation is connected at Fatehgarh-III PS (Sec-1) and balance 600 MW RE generation is expected by Jun'25. Relevant extracts of 21st CMETS-NR meeting are attached at **Annexure-II**.

- As per Ministry of Power, Govt, of India vide office order dated 28/10/2021, responsibility for approval of ISTS transmission projects costing (up to Rs. 100 Cr.) along with their mode of implementation was entrusted to CTUIL. In line with above notification, "Augmentation of transformation Capacity at 400/220 kV Fatehgarh-III PS(Section-1) by 400/200 kV, 1 x500 MVA ICT(5th)" was awarded to M/s PRTL vide CTU OM dated 26.10.2023 with a copy to MoP and NCT with following details:

| Sl. No. | Scope of the Transmission Scheme | Capacity | Implementation timeframe |
|----------------|---|--|--|
| 1. | Augmentation with 400/220kV, 1x500MVA Transformer at Fatehgarh-III PS (5th ICT at Section-1) along with associated transformer bays* *1 no. of 400kV (AIS) (including associated tie bay) and 1 no. of 220kV (AIS) transformer bay | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 500 MVA 400/220 kV ICT - 1no. • 400 kV ICT bay (including associated tie bay) - 1 no. • 220 kV ICT bay - 1 no. | 18 months from the date of issuance of OM by CTUIL |

Copy of CTU OM dated 26.10.2023 is attached at **Annexure-III**.

- Earlier M/s PRTL was granted ISTS Transmission License for implementation of "Transmission system strengthening scheme for evacuation of power from solar energy zones in Rajasthan (8.1 GW) under phase II - Part A" by Hon'ble Commission vide order dated 31.05.2021 in Petition No. 89/TL/2021. Subsequently, M/s PRTL was also granted separate transmission license to implement the following Transmission Projects under Regulated Tariff Mechanism:
 - > Implementation of 400kV bays for RE generators at Fatehgarh-III (erstwhile Ramgarh-II) PS under ISTS
 - > Transmission system for evacuation of power from REZ in Rajasthan (20GW) under Phase-III Part E1
 - > Grant of 400 kV & 220 kV bays to RE generators at Fatehgarh-III (erstwhile Ramgarh-II) PS under ISTS
 - > Transmission system for evacuation of power from REZ in Rajasthan

*(20GW) under phas-III Part E-2
> Implementation of Bus Sectionalizer at 400kV level of 765/400/220 kV
Fatehgarh-III PS (Section-2).”*

24. In the present case, the Petitioner is a transmission licensee who is already implementing the project defined under its scope under the RTM mechanism. The present Petition is consequent to the office order 28.10.2021 notified by the Ministry of Power Government of India wherein CTUIL has been authorized to determine the mode of implementation of ISTS projects costing up to Rs. 100 crores. Pursuant to the direction of the Ministry of Power, CTUIL, vide its Office Memorandum dated 26.10.2023 and recommendation letter dated 7.11.2024, has determined a list of Projects to be implemented through a Regulated Tariff Mechanism, which also includes the subject transmission system under the instant Petition.

25. Since the Petitioner is already an inter-State transmission licensee and has already been granted an RTM transmission licence to implement the transmission projects under RTM mode and again has been identified as an agency to implement the project under the RTM, we hold that the Petitioner is eligible for the amendment of existing RTM transmission licence. We, hereby, 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 amendment of the existing RTM transmission licence aforesaid. The objections or suggestions, if any, shall be filed by any person before the Commission by **11.3.2025**.

26. It is noted that regarding the approval of the Central Government to the transmission schemes under the Transmission System Planning Rules, 2021 for the Projects costing up

to Rs. 100 crores approved by the NCT/CTUIL as per the Ministry's Order dated 28.10.2021, the CTUIL has again approached the Ministry of Power in this regard. However, no clarification has been received so far. CTUIL is directed to place on record the response received from the Ministry of Power as and when it is received.

27. The Petition shall be listed for hearing on **13.3.2025**

Sd/-
(Harish Dudani)
Member

sd/-
(Ramesh Babu V.)
Member

sd/-
(Jishnu Barua)
Chairperson