

**CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
NEW DELHI**

Petition No. 616/MP/2020

- Subject : Petition under Section 38(2) of the Electricity Act, 2003 read with Section 79(1)(c) and Section 79(1)(k) of the Act, along with (i) Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Grant of Regulatory Approval for execution of Inter-State Transmission Scheme to Central Transmission Utility) Regulations, 2010;* (ii) Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Planning, Coordination and Development of Economic and Efficient Inter-State Transmission System by Central Transmission Utility and other related matters) Regulations, 2018; (iii) Regulations 111 and 114 of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Conduct of Business) Regulations, 1999 and (iv) Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Sharing of Inter-State Transmission Charges and Losses) Regulations, 2020 for execution of the Transmission System for Evacuation of power from potential Solar and Wind Energy Zones in Gujarat (13.5 GW) and Madhya Pradesh (4 GW).
- Date of Hearing : 19.7.2021
- Coram : Shri P. K. Pujari, Chairperson
Shri I. S. Jha, Member
Shri Arun Goyal, Member
Shri P. K. Singh, Member
- Petitioner : Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL)
- Respondents : Madhya Pradesh Power Management Company Limited and 13 Ors.
- Parties Present : Ms. Suparna Srivastava, Advocate, PGCIL
Shri Tushar Mathur, Advocate, PGCIL
Ms. Soumya Singh, Advocate, PGCIL

Record of Proceedings

Case was called out for virtual hearing.

2. At the outset, learned counsel for the Petitioner submitted that in compliance with the Commission's direction vide Record of Proceedings for the hearing dated 15.4.2021, the Petitioner has filed an amended Petition seeking regulatory approval for execution of transmission systems for evacuation of power from potential Solar and Wind Energy Zones in the States of Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh.

3. The representative of the Petitioner further made a brief presentation on the 'Revised Regulatory Approval for Transmission Systems for evacuation of power from potential Solar and Wind Energy Zones in the Western Region'. The representative of the Petitioner mainly submitted the following:

(a) Vide order dated 10.10.2019 in Petition No. 197/MP/2019, the Commission granted regulatory approval for the transmission systems for evacuation of power from 28 GW Renewable Energy Zones ('REZs') in Western Region [16 GW in the State of Gujarat, 7 GW in the State of Maharashtra and 5 GW in the State of Madhya Pradesh] and transmission system for immediate connectivity to Dholera UMSP (4 GW).

(b) However, subsequently, certain changes with respect to location of potential REZs in the States of Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh have taken place and accordingly, the transmission systems identified for earlier REZs in the States of Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh have been reviewed.

(c) Out of 16 GW of potential renewable capacity for the State of Gujarat (for which regulatory approval has been granted earlier vide order dated 10.10.2019 in Petition No. 197/MP/2019):

- Transmission systems for 3.5 GW (2 GW at Bhuj-II and 1.5 GW at Jam-Khambhaliya REZs) are already under advance stages of implementation.
- Transmission systems for 2 GW Lakadia REZ in the State of Gujarat remained unchanged.
- Transmission system for balance 10.5 GW (planned at Lakadia, Jamnagar, Rapar, Radhanesda and Jam Khambhaliya) has been shifted to Khavda region. Out of this 10.5 GW of potential REZs in Khavda region, Transmission system for 8 GW have been finalized – Transmission system for 3 GW has already been recommended by Western Regional Power Committee in 40th meeting held on 4th and 7th July, 2021, minutes of which are still awaited and Transmission system for balance 5 GW (8 GW finalized minus 3 GW recommended by WRPC) has been further revised in the 3rd WRPC (TP) meeting held on 14.6.2021 and WRPC deliberations thereon are yet to be held.

(d) Out of 5 GW of potential renewable capacity for the State of Madhya Pradesh (for which regulatory approval has been granted earlier vide order dated 10.10.2019 in Petition No. 197/MP/2019):

- 2.5 GW of Solar Energy Zone ('SEZ') potential in Khandwa has been re-distributed to Chhatarpur (1.5 GW) and Neemuch (1 GW). The transmission system for Chhatarpur (1.5 GW) has been recommended by WRPC in its 40th meeting, minutes of which are awaited. However, transmission scheme for 1 GW of SEZ at Neemuch is under finalisation.
- SEZ potential at Rajgarh (2.5 GW) has been agreed to be implemented in two phases, namely, Phase I (1.5 GW) and Phase II (1 GW). Transmission systems for 2.5 GW at Rajgarh have been recommended by WRPC in its 40th meeting, minutes of which are awaited.

(e) Transmission systems for 7 GW of REZ located in the State of Maharashtra as approved by the Commission in its Order dated 10.10.2019 in Petition No. 197/MP/2019 remain unchanged.

(f) Transmission system for immediate connectivity to Dholera UMSP (4 GW) is under review.

(g) Accordingly, vide the present Petition, the Petitioner has sought regulatory approval for execution of transmission systems for 2 GW of REZ in Bhuj-II & 1.5 GW REZ in Jam Khambhaliya (both already under implementation) and 3 GW of REZ in Khavda (Phase-I) in the State of Gujarat and for 4 GW of SEZs in the State of Madhya Pradesh [2.5 GW SEZ in Rajgarh and 1.5 GW of SEZ in Chhatarpur]. Regulatory approval for execution of transmission systems for 7 GW of REZ in the State of Maharashtra and 2 GW of REZ at Lakadia (Gujarat) is already there.

(h) For Khavda Phase I (3 GW), the Petitioner has already received Stage-II Connectivity and LTA applications for 3.5 GW and 1 GW respectively. For, Rajgarh (2.5 GW), the Petitioner has received Stage-II Connectivity and LTA for 1 GW each.

(i) Liberty was sought to place on record the aforesaid presentation and minutes of the 40th meeting of WRPC meeting after issuance of the same by WRPC.

4. None was present on behalf of the Respondents despite notice.

5. After hearing the learned counsel and the representative for the Petitioner, the Commission directed the Petitioner to file the following on affidavit on or before 30.7.202:

(a) Copy of Minutes of the 40th meeting of WRPC;

(b) Current status of Stage-II connectivity, LTA grant and status of associated RE generation at each location;

(c) Status of land acquisition at each project location w.r.t required land and acquired land; and

(d) Copy of the Power Point Presentation made by it.

6. Subject to the above, the Commission reserved the matter for order.

By order of the Commission

Sd/-

(T.D. Pant)

Joint Chief (Law)