

**CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
NEW DELHI**

Petition No. 240/MP/2021 along with IA No. 83/IA/2021

Subject : Petition for grant of Stage-II connectivity to the Petitioner under Regulation 32 of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Grant of Connectivity, Long-term Access and Medium-Term Open Access in inter-State Transmission and related matters) regulations, 2009 and for seeking appropriate directions by the Commission on the Respondent No.1 to grant physical connectivity for the Petitioner's Project with present transformer capacity of 55 MVA for achieving early commissioning of approximately 27 MW out of the total Project capacity of 50.6 MW.

Date of Hearing : 24.3.2022

Coram : Shri I. S. Jha, Member
Shri Arun Goyal, Member
Shri P. K. Singh, Member

Petitioner : Powerica Limited

Respondents : Central Transmission Utility of India Limited (CTUIL) and Anr.

Parties Present : Shri Sakya Singha Chaudhuri, Advocate, Powerica
Ms. Astha Sharma, Advocate, Powerica
Shri Praveen Arora, Advocate, Powerica
Shri Aishwarya Kaushiq, Advocate, Powerica
Ms. Suruchi Kotoky, Advocate, Powerica
Shri Ravi Sharma, Powerica
Shri Ashok Pal, CTUIL
Shri Bhaskar Wagh, CTUIL
Shri Partha Sarathi Das, CTUIL
Shri Swapnil Verma, CTUIL
Shri Siddharth Sharma, CTUIL
Shri Ranjeet Singh Rajput, CTUIL
Ms. Priyanshi Jadiya, CTUIL

Record of Proceedings

Case was called out for virtual hearing.

2. Learned counsel for the Petitioner submitted that the present Petition has been filed under Regulation 32 of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Grant of Connectivity, Long-term Access and Medium-term Open Access in inter-State Transmission and related matters) Regulation, 2009 and Clause 12.2.2 (vi) of the Detailed Procedure for 'Grant of Connectivity to Projects Based on Renewable Sources to inter-State Transmission System' ('Detailed Procedure') seeking appropriate direction to CTUIL to grant final Stage-II connectivity for the Petitioner's Project with present transformer capacity of 55 MVA for achieving early

commissioning of approximately 27 MW out of the total project capacity of 50.6 MW. Learned counsel mainly submitted that following:

(a) Pursuant to the competitive bid process conducted by SECI for setting up of 1200 MW wind power projects (Tranche VI), the Petitioner has been awarded the wind power project of 50 MW.

(b) In respect of aforesaid project, the Petitioner obtained Stage-II connectivity from CTUIL on 3.5.2019 and entered into the transmission agreement for connectivity of 50.6 MW on 22.5.2019. On 25.9.2019, Long Term Access (LTA) for 50.6 MW was granted to the Petitioner. As per LTA, the power is required to be injected at Jamkhambalia Pooling Station in the State of Gujarat.

(c) Since the project capacity is only 50.6 MW, the Petitioner has currently installed a transformer having a capacity of 55 MVA even though the capacities of evacuation facilities is higher. However, CTUIL, relying upon the Clause 12.2.2 (iv) of the Detailed Procedure, has been insisting on the installation of a transformer of 100 MVA for grant of connectivity to the project.

(d) Taking into the account the size of the Petitioner's project and fact that no new projects are coming up in the vicinity of the Petitioner's project owing to the change in the land allocation policy in Gujarat, the installation of an additional transformer of 55 MVA would be redundant and lead to sub-optimal use of the capacity.

(e) Further, Clause 12.2.2(vi) of the Detailed Procedure provides for minimum aggregate 'evacuation capacity' of generator pooling station to not to be less than 100 MVA. Thus, it is the capacity of 'evacuation facility' which needs to be 100 MVA in aggregate and not the 'transformer specification'. The evacuation facility, in common practice, includes facilities like conductor, bus power, & CT, etc. and generally transformer is not considered as party of evacuation facility.

(f) The Petitioner has filed IA No.83/IA/2021 seeking direction to CTUIL to provide connectivity to the Petitioner's project with current transformer capacity of 55 MVA pending adjudication of the present Petition.

(g) The Petitioner vide affidavit dated 27.12.2021 has sought the impleadment of Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) as party to the Petition. MNRE being the nodal Ministry for all matters relating to renewable energy, it has a role to provide clarification/guidelines surrounding technical ambiguities being faced by the smaller generators such as the Petitioner.

3. The representative of the Respondent, CTUIL mainly submitted the following:

(a) As per Clause 12.2.2 (iv) of the Detailed Procedure, the minimum aggregate evacuation capacity of the generator pooling station has to be at least 100 MVA and presently, the Petitioner has installed the transformer with capacity of 55 MVA only in its pooling station.

(b) Further, as per Clauses 12.2.2 (i) and (iii) of the Detailed Procedure, the Petitioner is required to ensure space and provision for aggregate 300 MW transformation capacity since the dedicated transmission line along with bay equipment and bus bar are designed for carrying capacity of 300 MW. Thus, the Petitioner will need to install additional transformation capacity to fulfil the

requirement of minimum 100 MVA aggregate evacuation capacity and to ensure space provisions for additional 200 MVA transformation capacity.

(c) CTUIL has already signed the Connectivity Agreement with the Petitioner.

4. After hearing the learned counsel for the Petitioner and the representative of the Respondent, CTUIL, the Commission ordered as under:

(a) Admit. Issue notice to the Respondents.

(b) The Petitioner to serve copy of the Petition on the Respondents, immediately, if not already served and the Respondents to file their reply, if any, by 18.4.2022 after serving copy of the same to the Petitioner, who may file its rejoinder, if any, by 13.5.2022.

(c) As regards the prayer of the Petitioner for impleadment of MNRE as party to the Petition, the Commission observed that MNRE is not a necessary party to this proceedings at this stage of the hearings.

(d) The Petitioner to provide the following details/information on affidavit by 18.4.2022:

(a) Current commissioning status of its Wind Project and its Pooling Station with MVA capacity; and

(b) Drawings including layout of instant project, if any, in line with requirements of clauses 12.2.2(i), (iii) & (iv) of the revised RE Procedure.

(e) Parties to comply with the above direction within the specified timeline and no extension of time shall be granted.

5. The Petition shall be listed for hearing in due course for which separate notice will be issued.

By order of the Commission

**Sd/-
(T.D. Pant)
Joint Chief (Law)**