

**CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
NEW DELHI**

**I.A. (Diary) No. 215/2024
in
Petition No.342/MP/2023**

Subject : Petition under Section 79 read with Section 2(36) of Electricity Act, 2003, seeking, amongst others (i) appropriate directions for transition of ISTS connectivity of the Petitioner as Bulk Consumer under the CERC (Connectivity and General Network Access to the inter-State Transmission System) Regulations, 2022, and (ii) for modification of the connectivity so that the same is through the existing 400kV Vedanta- Sundargarh D/C line owned and maintained by the Petitioner, instead of the proposed new 400 KV Vedanta- Sundargarh D/C transmission line.

Petitioner : Vedanta Limited

Respondents : Odisha Power Transmission Corporation Ltd. & 3 Ors

Date of Hearing : **16.4.2024**

Coram : Shri Jishnu Barua, Chairperson
Shri Arun Goyal, Member
Shri P. K. Singh, Member

Parties Present : Shri Sitiesh Mukherjee, Advocate, Vedanta Limited
Shri Hemant Singh, Advocate, Vedanta Limited
Shri R.K. Mehta, Advocate, OPTCL

Record of Proceedings

Citing the urgency involved, the matter was mentioned by the learned counsel for the Petitioner and submitted that the Petitioner has filed an Interlocutory Application (Diary) No. 215/2024 seeking urgent listing and hearing of the Petition. The learned counsel further submitted that the Petition was filed *inter-alia* seeking appropriate directions upon CTUIL for the grant of ISTS connectivity/ GNA to the Petitioner as a Bulk Consumer in terms of Regulation 4 and 17 of Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Connectivity and General Network Access to the inter-State Transmission System) Regulations, 2022 (GNA Regulations, 2022) through existing 400 kV Vedanta-Sundargarh D/C line (*built and maintained by the Petitioner*) instead of the new 400 kV transmission line to be built by the inter-State transmission licensee at the cost of the Petitioner as decided in the Minutes of Meeting dated 30.5.2023.

2. The learned counsel submitted that the wind and solar capacity of the Power Plant being developed by the Serentica Renewables (*located in Karnataka*) with

whom the Petitioner has executed the Agreement for procurement of the renewable energy (RE) for its aluminium facility in the Jharsuguda (Odisha), was expected to be partly commissioned in the months of May and June, 2024 respectively. With the part commissioning of the Plant and commencement of power flow, the inter-State RE power so tied-up by the Petitioner was required to be transported till Jharsuguda, which required earliest adjudication of the issue involved in the present Petition so as to whether the ISTS connectivity/ GNA granted to the Petitioner vide Minutes of Meeting dated 30.5.2023, was to be implemented through existing 400 kV Vednata-Sundargarh D/C line or new 400 kV transmission line. In this regard, the learned counsel for the Petitioner placed on record the letter dated 13.4.2024 issued by the Serentica Renewables thereby intimating about the part commissioning of the wind and solar capacity in the months of May and June 2024 respectively. The learned counsel added that any delay in scheduling of such available RE power due to delay in adjudication of the present issue would cost the Petitioner approximately Rs. 5 to 6 crore /month on 100 MW RE power. The learned counsel requested for the urgent hearing of the Petition.

3. The learned counsel for the OPTCL submitted that there were other modalities involved which needed to be addressed before transitioning the connectivity/ GNA so granted to the Petitioner. However, the learned counsel for OPTCL had no objection if the Commission proceeds with final hearing in the first week of May, 2024.

4. After hearing the submissions of the learned counsels for the parties, it was ordered that the Petition be listed for the hearing on **1.5.2024**. Meanwhile, the parties are directed to complete the pleading, on or before, 29.4.2024. Accordingly, IA was disposed of.

By order of the Commission
Sd/-
(T.D. Pant)
Joint Chief (Law)