

**CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
NEW DELHI**

Petition No. 250/MP/2023

Coram:

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

Date of Order: 27.01.2024

In the matter of:

Petition preferred under Section 79(1)(c) and Section 79(1)(f) of the Electricity Act, 2003 and Regulation 41 and Regulation 42 read with Regulation 44 of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Connectivity and General Network Access to the inter-State Transmission System) Regulations, 2022 (“the GNA Regulations”) along with Regulation 110, Regulation 111 and Regulation 112 of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Conduct of Business) Regulations, 1999 read with Regulation 6(3) of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Payment of Fees) Regulations, 2012, seeking directions/intervention of the Commission for (i) increasing the timelines and application fee for scrutiny of Connectivity/GNA applications, (ii) adoption of process of prior scrutiny by external experts for effective verification of the land/financial documents and (iii) regulatory clarity regarding the land documents to be accepted under the head of “Land-Use Rights” for grant of Connectivity to applicants and (iv) the threshold/yardstick with respect to minimum land requirements per MW, which applicants shall meet and submit along with their applications, in support of the eligibility conditions as per Regulation 5.8 of the GNA Regulations.

And in the matter of:

Central Transmission Utility of India Limited
Plot No. 2, Sector- 29,
Gurugram,
Haryana-122001

...Petitioner

Vs.

1. Central Electricity Authority
Through Member Secretary (Power System),
Sewa Bhawan, Sector-1, Rama Krishna Puram,
New Delhi-600 002



2. Ministry of Power
Through Joint Secretary (Transmission),
Shram Shakti Bhawan, Rafi Marg,
New Delhi-110001

3. Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
Atal Akshay Urja Bhawan,
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road,
New Delhi-110003

...Respondent(s)

For Petitioner : Shri M.G. Ramachandran, Senior Advocate, CTUIL
Shri Shubham Arya, Advocate, CTUIL
Ms. Pallavi Saigal, Advocate, CTUIL
Shri Swapnil Verma, CTUIL
Shri Ranjeet S Rajput, CTUIL

For Respondents : None

ORDER

The Central Transmission Utility of India Limited (CTUIL) has filed the instant petition under Section 79(1)(c) and Section 79(1)(f) of the Electricity Act, 2003 (2003 Act) and Regulation 41 and Regulation 42 read with Regulation 44 of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Connectivity and General Network Access to the inter-State Transmission System) Regulations, 2022 (hereinafter referred to as the “GNA Regulations”) seeking directions of the Commission for (i) increasing the timelines and application fee for scrutiny of Connectivity/ GNA applications, (ii) adoption of the process of prior scrutiny by external experts for effective verification of the land/ financial documents and (iii) regulatory clarity regarding the land documents to be accepted under the head of “Land-Use Rights” for grant of Connectivity to the applicants and (iv) the threshold/ yardstick w.r.t minimum land requirements per MW.

2. The Petitioner has made the following prayers in the instant petition:



“(a) Admit the present petition;

(b) Issue appropriate Orders or practice directions regarding the following: -

- i. increasing the timelines from present timeline of 7 days for scrutiny of the application to an extended period of 30 days for intimation of in-principle grant of Connectivity [in case where no augmentation is required] and 60 days [in case where no augmentation is required] to effectively enable CTU to ensure the authenticity and correctness of land and financial documents;*
- ii. adoption of the process of “Prior scrutiny of land/financial documents by external experts” by CTU to ensure the authenticity and correctness of land/financial documents;*

OR

Reference of the application [including land and financial documents] by CTU on receipt, to external expert agency for ensuring authenticity and correctness of land/financial documents;

- iii. increase in the application fee to be submitted by applicants seeking Connectivity/GNA from the present Rs. 5 Lakhs/application to an enhanced amount of Rs. 20Lakhs/application, to cover the expenditure arising out of verification of land/financial documents by external expert agency;*
- iv. regulatory clarity may kindly be provided regarding the categories/documents which shall be accepted by CTU under the head of ‘land-use rights agreement’ in support of their eligibility for grant of Connectivity;*
- v. the Hon’ble Commission may kindly specify the threshold/yardstick w.r.t minimum land requirements per MW, which applicants shall meet and submit along with their applicants, in support of the eligibility conditions as per Regulation 5.8 of GNA Regulations;*

(c) Pass such other/further order(s) as this Hon’ble Commission may deem fit in the present facts and circumstances.”

3. The learned senior counsel for CTUIL appeared on 24.1.2024 and submitted that the Petitioner may be allowed to withdraw the instant petition and that the Petitioner would approach the Commission by way of representation for suitable directions in respect of the above-mentioned issues.

4. The Commission permitted the Petitioner to withdraw the petition.

5. Accordingly, Petition No. 250/MP/2023 is disposed of as withdrawn.

**sd/-
(P. K. Singh)
Member**

**sd/-
(Arun Goyal)
Member**

**sd/-
(Jishnu Barua)
Chairperson**

