CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

6th, 7th & 8th Floors, Tower B, World Trade Centre, Nauroji Nagar,
New Delhi- 110029 Tele No.: 011- 26189709, Fax: 011-20904365

In the matter of : Petition No. 06/SM/2025 (Suo-Motu) Date of Proposal: 03rd June, 2025 and Public notice No. RA-14026(11)/4/2023-CERC Dated: 11.06.2025

In the matter of : Jaypore Hydropower Projects Ltd. Represented through Guatam Siddique, Advocate, resident of 2D/318,Sector-11, CDA, Cuttack, Odisha, 753015, represents as follows,

01. That, the letter No. GRIDCO/56/2024-CGM(COMMERCIAL-PP)(Part) 142 dated 29.03.2024 of Chief General manager (PP), GRIDCO Limited, Bhubaneswar, Odisha addressed to Hon'ble CERC in connection with CERC regulation 28 of the RE Tariff Regulations, 2024 for considerationof Normative CUF as 45% for State of Odisha is not based on any historical observations and computations.

Clause No.N.39 (Annexure-1) of Petition No. 06/SM/2025(Suo-Motu) states;

"Small Hydro Projects: Regulation 28 of the RE Tariff Regulations, 2024 specifies the norms for Capacity Utilization Factor (CUF) of units generated in a year in respect of the Small Hydro generating stations as per the details given in the table below:

Renewable Energy Projects	*CUF (%)*
Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, West Bengal, Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, Union Territory of Ladakh, North Eastern States and Odisha	*45%*
Punjab	*40%*
Other States	*30%*

GRIDCO's submission to Hon'ble CERC regarding normative CUF was as follows;

SHEP	Average CUF	Period of Operation
25 MW Middle Kolab 12 MW Lower Kolab	59.22%	13 years
20 MW Samal Barrage	45.54%	13 years
24MW Lower Baitarani	45.17%	02 years

02. That, all three achieved CUF is based on SHEPs on run off the river SHEP schemes. The flow conditions are completely different in comparison to a canal based SHEP or SHEPs in proposal (MoU signed).

Only 2 years data has been taken for 24 MW Lower Baitarani SHEP which may not be considerable for decision of Normative CUF of the State. Tariif period is 40years where as discharge taken as reference for consideration of CUF is 2years.

While considering the average CUF for 25 MW Middle Kolab, future construction and diversion of water due to Irrigation project by Govt. of Odisha have not been taken into consideration. Already, developers for SHEPs under construction / commissioned / to be constructed have signed supplementary MoU with state government for less generation due to non availability of water due to upcoming Middle Kolab Project.

03. That GRIDCO Ltd. has agreed to sign the Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with M/s. Meenakshi Odisha Power Pvt. Ltd. for 25 MW Saheed Lakhan Nayak SHEP on River Kolab and submitted the draft PPA before the Hon'ble OERC for its consideration. In the draft PPA, the tariff is as per 4th control period as decided in the case No.94/2023 by Hon'ble OERC i.e. Rs.5.82/KWh considering as 30% CUF. The submission by GRIDCO Ltd to Hon'ble OERC in the Draft PPA case and submission to Hon'ble CERC regarding normative CUF

for same river is contradictory. So, the submission of GRIDCO Ltd may not be taken for consideration for normative CUF of the state of Odisha.

04. That, in case of a canal head regulator based SHEP, the available flow is governed by the ayacut demand, which is mostly Khariff irrigation supplementation demand in the state spreading over during months mid-July to end of September. The GRIDCO's claim is based on run off river based SHEPs and has not covered to other proposed SHEPs, head regulator SHEPs and state's rain fall data.

05. That, the geographical area of Odisha is 1,55,000 Sq. Km. There are 11 river basins in the state. These river basins share their catchments with the co-basin states. Odisha is a lower repairan state for four of these basins (ex. Godavari, Brahmani, Mahanadi, Indravati), which indicates flow from upper riparian states govern the flow conditions in the rivers of the state of Odisha. For co-basin State such as State of Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Andhra Pradesh, CUF have been considered as 30%, while for State of Odisha it is considered as 45%.

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06. That, the Normative CUF arrived for state of Odisha is based on higher denomination of installed capacity (20 MW, 24 MW and 25 MW). No deduction of CUF has been made based on lower denomination. The projects below 5MW capacity or canal based SHEPs such as 3MW Satiguda SHEP may not be comparable with the ones considered to arrive at a recommended CUF of 45%.

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07. That, the sustainability of canal based SHEPs are depend upon cropping pattern of the ayacut. Its water requirement during the project life period needs to be ascertained from state Water Resources Deptt. This water requirement will govern the head discharge which in turn will affect performance of the SHEP. So, GRIDCO's submission may not be considered beyond the views of Water resources department, Odisha.

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08. Above all, arriving at a CUF of 45% for the entire state may not be justifiable in considering CUF of only three SHEP, that to period of consideration ranges

from 2 to 13 years only. A long term analysis for a data period 10-30 years as recommended in standard guideline would have been more appropriate.

09. That Kolab River is a common river for State of Chhattisgarh and the State of Odisha also an interstate river. Hon'ble CERC has set CUF for Chhattisgarh state is 30% and State of Odisha is 45%. Kolab is most CUF river in Odisha. So, 45% CUF for State of Odisha may not be considerable.

10. As the cost of basis construction materials like Cement, steel and labour has increased substantially, the cost of implementing small hydro projects has increased significantly.

As civil cost has increased substantially (ex. Cement 20%, mild steel 45% etc), the capital cost of a project is increased. There is minimal disparity in topological challenges between plain and hilly regions, that became the reason that capital cost for hydro power projects in both plain and hilly regions are converging to become equivalent. The anticipated capital cost below 25MW falls under the category of other states which are low Head and high discharge projects, estimated to be in the vicinity of Rs 14cr/MW. The projects are experiencing escalation due to following reasons;

1. as the width of river in Odisha region is too large, the substantial width of the river necessities the construction of significant scale of civil infrastructures (like barrage and non over flow sections(NOF)), thereby leading to escalated capital cost.

2. For low head and high discharge projects, the RPM is low. The lower RPM and larger turbine components necessitate heavier civil structures, such as the tunnel and penstock, are much more expensive in comparison with high head and low discharge projects.

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G.C. BEHERA ADVOCATE & NOTARY

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11. Capital cost / MW for the projects below 5 MW may be higher than the capital cost/MW for the project above 5 MW.

PRAYER

We request the Hon'ble commission to please consider our submission for determination of tariff for small hydro projects for state of Odisha considering 30% CUF and project cost as 14 Cr/MW.

Cuttack
Date: 21.06.2025

Submitted by Hydropower Projects Ltd, Jaypore, Odisha through Advocate

21.06.2025

GAUTAM SIDDIQUE
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ADVOCATE
Enroll.No-O-588/2012

NOTARY
Name:G.C. BEHERA
Area:Cuttack
Regd. No-ON-04/2018
GOVT. OF ODISHA (INDIA)

AFFIDAVIT

I, Guatam Siddique, Advocate, aged about of 45 years, son of Sk. Haziruddin, resident of 2D/318,Sector-11, CDA, PS-CDA Phase-II PS, Cuttack, Odisha, 753015, representative of Jaypore Hydropower Projects Ltd, do hereby solemnly affirm and state as follows,

G.C. BEHERA
ADVOCATE & NOTARY
REGN. No. ON-04/2018

1. That I am the representative of Jaypore Hydropower Projects Ltd, Jaypore, Odisha

2. That, I am swearing this affidavit on behalf of Jaypore Hydropower Projects Ltd, Jaypore, Odisha being duly authorized by them.

3. That the facts stated above are all trues to the best of my knowledge and as per my instruction.

21.06.2025
DEPONENT

Solemnly ... with by the ...
at Cuttack on 21.06.25 being ...
by Sri G.C. Behera
Advocate personally

G.C. BEHERA 21.06.25
Notary, Cuttack
Regn. No.-ON-04/2018

