

**CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
NEW DELHI**

Petition No. 352/TL/2025

Coram:

Shri Jishnu Barua, Chairperson

Shri Ramesh Babu V., Member

Shri Harish Dudani, Member

Shri Ravinder Singh Dhillon, Member

Date of Order: 29th May, 2025

In the matter of

Petition under Sections 14 & 15 of the Electricity Act, 2003, read with Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Procedure, Terms and Conditions for Grant of Transmission License and other related matters) Regulations, 2024, with respect to Transmission License to Bidar Transco Limited.

And

In the matter of

Bidar Transco Limited,

(A 100% wholly owned subsidiary of Power Grid Corporation of India Limited)

Registered office:

B-9, Qutab Institutional Area, Katwaria Sarai, New Delhi 110016.

Address for correspondence:

C/o ED (TBCB), Power Grid Corporation of India Limited,
Saudamini, Plot no.2, Sector -29, Gurgaon 122001.

...Petitioner

VERSUS

1. Central Transmission Utility of India Limited,

Saudamini, Plot no.2, Sector -29,
Gurgaon-122001.

2. REC Power Development and Consultancy Limited,

(A wholly owned subsidiary of REC Limited)
Core-4, SCOPE Complex,
7, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003.

3. AMPIN Energy Utility Private Limited,

309, 3rd Floor, Rectangle One, Behind Sheraton Hotel,
Saket, New Delhi-110017.

4. Amp Energy C&I Thirteen Private Limited

309, 3rd Floor, Rectangle One, Behind Sheraton Hotel,

Saket, New Delhi-110017.

5. Sprng Energy Private Limited,

Upper Ground, Office A-001, Pentagon 5, Magarpatta City, Hadapsar, Pune-411013, Maharashtra.

6. Quest Hybren Private Limited,

Quest Hybren Private Limited, B-Block, 6th Floor, Embassy 247, Vikhroli West, Mumbai-400083.

7. Pulse Hybren Private Limited,

Pulse Hybren Private Limited, B-Block, 6th Floor, Embassy 247, Vikhroli West, Mumbai-400083.

8. Hero Solar Eneregy Private Limited,

Plot No. 201, Ground Floor, Okhla Industrial Estate, Phase-III, New Delhi-110020.

9. Andhra Pradesh Power Purchase Coordination Committee,

Andhra Pradesh Power Co-ordination Committee, Vidyut Soudha, Gunadala, Vijayawada-520004, Andhra Pradesh.

10. Bangalore Electricity Supply Company,

Corporate Office ,BESCOM K.R.CircleBangalore-560001.

11. Gulbarga Electricity Supply Company,

Gulbarga-585102.

12. Hubli Electricity Supply Company

HESCOM, Navanagar, P.B Road, Hubballi-580025.

13. Manglore Electricity Supply Company

3rd Floor, MESCOM Bhavan, Corporate Office, MESCOM, Kavour Cross Road, Bejai, Mangalore – 575004.

14. Chamundeswari Elect. Supply Company Limited,

CESC Mysore, Corporate Office, #29, Vijayanagara 2nd Stage, Hinkal-570017, Mysuru.

15. KSEB Limited,

Kerala Electricity Board, Vydyuthi Bhavanam, Pattom , Thiruvananthapuram-695004, Kerala.

16. Tamilnadu Gen & Dist Co Limited,

Tangedco, Chief Financial Controller/Revenue / Eastern Wing, 7th Floor, NPKRR Maaligai, 144, Anna Salai, Chennai-600002.

17. Telangana State PC Committee,

Vidyut Soudha, Khairathabad, Hyderabad-500082, Telangana, India.

18. Puducherry Electricity Department,

I Floor, Main Building, Electricity Department,
Govt of Puducherry, Puducherry-605001.

19. Goa Electricity Department-SR

Electricity Department , Division No: III, Curti, Ponda-403401, Goa.

20. HVDC, Kolar, Power Grid Corporation,

SRTS# II,Pragati Mahalakshmi, South Block , (2nd & 3rd Floor),
No.62, Bangalore-560001, Karnataka.

21. Thermal Powertech Corporation India,

Door No 6-3-1090, 2nd Floor, C Block, TSR Towers, Rajbhavan Road,
(Opposite Villae Marie College), Somajiguda, Hyderabad-500082.

22. SAIL-Salem Steel Plant,

Steel Authority of India Limited, Salem-636013.

23. Sembcorp Gayatri Power Limited,

6-3-1090, 5th Floor, A Block, TSR Towers,
Rajbhavan Road, Somajiguda,
Hyderabad-500082, TG.

24. South Western Railway

Office of Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer, Divisional Railway Manager,
Building, Traction Distribution Branch,
Ground Floor, Adjacent to City Railway Station,
Bengaluru-560023.

25. Pugalur HVDC Station, POWERGRID,

Sr General Manager, HVDC-Pugalur Nochipalayam Post,
Sirukinar Village Dharmapuram Taluk,
Tiruppur Dist.-638706, Tamil Nadu.

26. Thrissur HVDC Station, POWERGRID,

HVDC-THRISSUR Substation, Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd., Near
Cashew Research Station, Mannuthy Thannikudem Road, Madakathara,
Thrissur-680651, Kerala.

Parties present:

Shri Vikas Kumar, BTL

Shri Kamal, RECPDCL

Shri Swapnil Verma, CTUIL

Shri Ranjeet Rajput, CTUIL

ORDER

The Petitioner, Bidar Transco Limited, has filed the present Petition for the grant
of a transmission licence under Sections 14 and 15 of the Electricity Act, 2003

(hereinafter referred to as “the Act”) read with the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Procedure, Terms, and Conditions for grant of Transmission Licence and other related matters) Regulations, 2024 (hereinafter referred to as “the Transmission Licence Regulations”) to establish the inter-State transmission system for “Augmentation of transformation capacity by 3x500 MVA, 400/220 kV ICTs (6th-8th) and 1x1500 MVA, 765/400 kV ICT (4th) at Bidar PS” (hereinafter referred to as “Project”) on a Build, Own, Operate and Transfer basis, consisting of the following elements:

Sr. No	Name of the Transmission Element	Scheduled COD	Percentage of Quoted Transmission Charges recoverable on the Scheduled COD of the Element of the Project	Element(s) that are pre-required for declaring the commercial operation (COD) of the respective Element
1.	Augmentation of transformation capacity of 1x1500 MVA (4 th), 765/400 kV ICT at Bidar PS • 1x1500 MVA, 765/400 kV ICT • 765 kV ICT bay – 1 No. • 400 kV ICT bay – 1 No..	24 months from the date of SPV acquisition (18.2.2027)	95.80%	Element at Sl. No. 2
2.	Augmentation of transformation capacity by 3x500 MVA, 400/220 kV ICTs (6 th – 8 th) at Bidar PS • 3x500 MVA, 400/220 kV ICTs • 400 kV ICT bay – 3 Nos. • 220 kV ICT bay – 3 Nos			Element at Sl. No. 1
3.	1 No. of 220 kV line bay at Bidar PS for termination of dedicated transmission lines of M/s Quest Hybren Pvt. Ltd. • 220 kV line bay – 1 No.	30.6.2027	2.10%	Element at Sl. No. 1 and 2
4	1 No. of 220 kV line bay at Bidar PS for termination of dedicated transmission lines of M/s Pulse Hybren Pvt. Ltd. • 220 kV line bay – 1 No.	31.5.2027	2.10%	Element at Sl. No. 1 and 2

Note:

i. POWERGRID shall provide space for implementation of above works at Bidar PS.

2. The Petitioner has made the following prayers:

“a) Grant Transmission License to the Applicant; and

b) Allow the sharing and recovery of Transmission Charges for Inter-State Transmission System for “Augmentation of transformation capacity by 3x500 MVA, 400/220 kV ICTs (6th-8th) and 1x1500 MVA, 765/400 kV ICT (4th) at Bidar PS” as per Sharing of Inter-state Transmission Charges and Losses CERC Regulations 2020 and any other amendment thereon issued from time to time by CERC.

c) Pass such other order / orders, as may be deemed fit and proper in the facts & circumstances of the case.”

Hearing dated 30.4.2025

3. Notice was issued to the parties to file the reply and rejoinder. During the course of the hearing, the representative of the Petitioner submitted that there was a delay of 10 days in filing the instant Petition due to the non-reflection of the filing fees on the e-portal, and accordingly, prayed to condone the said delay.

4. Vide Record of Proceedings (“RoP”) for the hearing dated 30.4.2025, CTUIL was directed to furnish the details of the inter-connecting upstream and downstream transmission systems, as well as the details of connectivity and GNA granted and/or applications received at Bidar PS.

5. CTUIL, in compliance with the RoP dated 30.4.2025, vide affidavit dated 15.5.2025, has submitted as under:

i) Details of the inter-connecting upstream/downstream transmission system are as below:

S. No.	Particulars	Details of Transmission System	STU/ ISTS	Implementing Agency	Implementation Mode (RTM/TB CB)	Commissioning Schedule/ Status	Remarks
1	Upstream Transmission System / Downstream Transmission System	Establishment of Bidar 765/400/220kV PS is pre-requisite for the proposed augmentation of ICTs and bays at Bidar PS under the present scheme.					
2	Downstream Transmission system						

- Bidar 765/400/220kV PS is under implementation through the TBCB route with a 24-month schedule and is expected by 09.02.2026. The scope of works includes 3x1500 MVA, 765/400kV ICTs, 5x500 MVA 400/220 kV ICTs, and 08 nos. of 220 kV line bays. Connectivity of about 1900 MW at 220kV level has already been granted at Bidar PS with the above under implementation transmission system, and connectivity of about 300 MW has been agreed for the grant with 1x500 MVA, 400/220kV ICT (6th) considering N-1.
- Further, CTUIL has received additional connectivity applications for the 1150 MW seeking connectivity at Bidar PS. With this, the total connectivity quantum granted/under process at Bidar PS shall become about 3350 MW. Therefore, the grant of connectivity for the additional 1150 MW shall require augmentation of 1x1500 MVA, 765/400KV ICT (4th) and 2x500 MVA, 400/220kV ICTs (7th-8th) at Bidar PS, considering N-1 contingency of ICTS.

ii) The details of the connectivity/GNA granted and/or application received at Bidar PS as per the following table, with the relevant documents:

S. No.	Applicant name	Type of applicant	Conn. quantum (MW)	Start date of conn. as per In-principle grant	Conn BGs furnished
1.	SPMG Energy Pvt. Ltd.	Generator	100	30.06.2030	Conn BG1: 50 lakh Conn BG2: NA Conn BG3: 2.0 crores.
2.	AMPIN Energy Utility Pvt. Ltd.	Generator	150	31.12.2027 (Tentative)	Conn BG1: 50 lakh Conn BG2: 3.0 crores Conn BG3: 3.0 crores
3.	AMP Energy C&I Thirteen Pvt. Ltd.	Generator	50	31.12.2027 (Tentative)	Conn BG1: 50 lakhs Conn BG2: NA Conn BG3: 1.0 crores

S. No.	Applicant name	Type of applicant	Conn. quantum (MW)	Start date of conn. as per In-principle grant	Conn BGs furnished
4.	Quest Hybren Pvt. Ltd.	Generator	300	31.06.2027 (Tentative)	Conn BG1: 50 lakhs Conn BG2: 3.0 crores Conn BG3: 6.0 crores
5.	Pulse Hybren Pvt. Ltd.	Generator	300	31.05.2027	Conn BG1: 50 lakhs Conn BG2: 3.0 crores Conn BG3: 6.0 crores
6.	Hero Solar Ebergy Pvt. Ltd.	Generator	250	31.10.2026 (Tentative)	Conn BG1: 50 lakhs Conn BG2: 3.0 crores Conn BG3: 5.0 crores
7.	Lambent Energy (Eight) Private Limited	Generator	300	Agreed for grant	NA
	Total		1450		

Hearing dated 19.5.2025

6. During the course of the hearing held on 19.5.2025, the representative for the Petitioner submitted that CTUIL has furnished its recommendations under Section 15(4) of the Act for the grant of a transmission licence to the Petitioner. It was further submitted that the Petitioner has applied for a change of its name, and the approval in this regard is likely to be received shortly. Accordingly, the Petitioner may be permitted to file an additional affidavit to place on record the details of the change of name along with supporting documents. Considering the submissions made, the Commission reserved the matter for orders. However, the Petitioner has not submitted the additional affidavit to place on record the details of the change of name of the Petitioner's company.

7. No reply has been filed by the Respondents despite notice.

8. The Petitioner has submitted that in accordance with the "Guidelines for Encouraging Competition in Development of Transmission Projects" and "Tariff Based Competitive Bidding Guidelines for Transmission Service" (hereinafter referred to as "the Guidelines") issued by the Ministry of Power, Government of India, under Section 63 of the Act, REC Power Development and Consultancy Limited (hereinafter referred to as "RECPDCL") was notified by the Ministry of Power, Government of India, vide

Gazette Notification. No. 754 [ADVT.-III/4/Exty./524/2024-25] dated 25.9.2024 as the Bid Process Coordinator (hereinafter referred to as “BPC”) for the purpose of selection of bidder as the Transmission Service Provider (hereinafter referred to as “TSP”) to establish the Inter-State transmission system for the “Augmentation of transformation capacity by 3x500 MVA, 400/220 kV ICTs (6th-8th) and 1x1500 MVA, 765/400 kV ICT (4th) at Bidar PS” on a Build, Own, Operate and Transfer basis.

9. RECPDCL, in its capacity as the BPC, initiated the bid process on 12.10.2024 and completed the same on 18.2.2025 in accordance with the Guidelines. Power Grid Corporation of India Limited was selected as the successful bidder, having quoted the lowest transmission charges of Rs. 468.79 million in order to provide the transmission services to the beneficiaries of the transmission system.

10. The RfP was issued on 12.10.2024. At the RfP (Technical and Financial) stage, two bidders, namely, (i) Power Grid Corporation of India Limited and (ii) Megha Engineering and Infrastructures Limited, submitted their offers. The RfP (Technical) bids of the bidders were opened by the Bid Opening Committee in the Central Electricity Authority on 23.12.2024 in the presence of a representative of the bidders. Based on the recommendation of the Bid Evaluation Committee (BEC), the RfP (Financial) Bids-Initial Price Offer of the bidders were opened on 30.12.2024. The Lowest Initial Price Offer discovered (Best Deal) at the MSTC portal was Rs. 532.89 million. The details of the quoted transmission charges by the bidders are given below:

Sr. No.	Name of the Bidder	Quoted Transmission Charges from the Initial Offer (in Rs. Million)	Rank
1.	Power Grid Corporation of India Limited	532.89	L1
2.	Megha Engineering and Infrastructures Limited	820.00	L2

11. As per Clause 2.5 of the RfP document, Initial Offers shall be ranked on the basis of ascending order for the determination of the qualified bidders. The bidders holding the first fifty per cent of the ranks (with any fraction rounded off to a higher integer) or four bidders, whichever is higher, shall be considered to be qualified for participating in the electronic reverse auction stage and submitting their final offer.

12. The e-reverse was conducted on the MSTC portal on 31.12.2024 and was concluded on the same day. The following transmission charges, as quoted by each bidder, emerged:

Sr. No.	Name of the Bidder	Transmission Charges from the Initial Offer (in Rs. Million)	Transmission Charges from the Final Offer (in Rs. Million)	Rank
1.	Power Grid Corporation of India Limited	532.89	468.79	L1
2.	Megha Engineering and Infrastructures Limited	820.00	469.97	L2

13. As per the Bid Evaluation Report dated 2.1.2025, Power Grid Corporation of India Limited emerged as the successful bidder with the lowest quoted transmission charges of Rs. 468.79 million. BEC, vide its certificate dated 2.1.2025, has certified that the entire bid process has been carried out in accordance with the Guidelines issued by the Ministry of Power under Section 63 of the Act. BEC has further certified that the transmission charges discovered through the e-reverse auction are acceptable.

14. Consequent to its selection as the lowest bidder, a Letter of Intent (hereinafter referred to as “LoI”) was issued to Power Grid Corporation of India Limited by the BPC on 6.1.2025, which was accepted by Power Grid Corporation of India Limited. Under

the terms of RfP and the Letter of Intent, the successful bidder is obligated to accomplish the following tasks:

- (a) Provide Contract Performance Guarantee in favour of Central Transmission Utility of India Limited (CTUIL);
- (b) Execute Share Purchase Agreement and Transmission Service Agreement;
- (c) Acquire, for the Acquisition Price, a 100% equity share of Bidar Transco Limited from RECPDCL along with all its related assets and liabilities;
- (d) Make an application to this Commission for the adoption of transmission charges, as required under Section 63 of the Act; and
- (e) Apply to this Commission for the grant of a transmission licence;

15. Power Grid Corporation of India Limited has furnished the Contract Performance Guarantee (hereinafter referred to as “CPG”) in favour of the Nodal Agency, i.e., CTUIL, for Rs. 16.50 crores on 18.2.2025 and has acquired a hundred per cent equity holding in Bidar Transco Limited on 18.2.2025. The Petitioner entered into a Transmission Service Agreement (TSA) with CTUIL on 18.2.2025.

16. Section 14 of the Act provides that the Appropriate Commission may, on an application made under Section 15 of the Act, grant a licence to any person to transmit electricity as a transmission licensee in any area as may be specified in the licence. The word “person” has been defined in Section 2(49) of the Act to include any company or body corporate or association or body of individuals, whether incorporated or not, or artificial juridical person. The Petitioner has been incorporated under the Companies Act 2013. The main objective of the Petitioner Company is as under:

“To plan, promote and develop an integrated and efficient power transmission system network in all its aspects including planning, investigation, research,

design and engineering, preparation of preliminary, feasibility and definite project reports, construction, operation and maintenance of transmission lines, sub-stations, load dispatch stations and communication facilities and appurtenant works, coordination of integrated operation of state, regional and national grid system, execution of turn-key jobs for other utilities/organizations and wheeling of power in accordance with the policies, guidelines and objectives laid down by the Central Government from time to time”

17. Section 15 (1) of the Act provides that every application under Section 14 of the Act shall be made in such manner and in such form as may be specified by the Appropriate Commission and shall be accompanied by such fees as may be prescribed by the Central Government. The Commission has specified Transmission Licence Regulations in this regard. Regulation 4 (1) of the Transmission Licence Regulations provides that eligibility for the grant of a licence for inter-State transmission of electricity is contingent upon the entity being selected either through the competitive bidding process under Section 63 of the Electricity Act, 2003 or by the Central Government or its authorized agency to implement a project under the regulated tariff mechanism. Regulation 10 (1) of the Transmission Licence Regulations provided that in case the licensee has been selected for implementation of the project in accordance with the competitive bidding guidelines, the transmission tariff in terms of the Transmission Service Agreement shall be adopted by the Commission under Section 63 of the Act. The Project under consideration has been identified for development under competitive bidding by a competent authority, and the selection of the Project developer has been certified to have been made in accordance with the Guidelines for competitive bidding.

18. Regulation 5 of the Transmission Licence Regulations, 2024 provides for the procedure for granting of a transmission licence as under:

“(1) The application for the grant of licence shall be made to the Commission in Form-I appended to these regulations and shall be accompanied by such fee

as may be prescribed by the Central Government from time to time under sub-section (1) of section 15 of the Act.

(2) The application shall be supported with an affidavit in accordance with Regulation 17 of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Conduct of Business) Regulations, 2023.

(3) The applicant shall submit the original application in electronic form along with enclosures on the e-filing portal of the Commission and electronically serve a copy of such application on all the concerned DICs of the project and the Central Transmission Utility. The application shall be served through email on the concerned DICs of the project who are not registered on the e-filing portal of the Commission.

(4) The applicant shall also upload the complete application along with annexures on its website, in English. The applicant shall also upload on its website, the details as per Form-I and Form-II appended to these regulations in the Indian language of the State or the Union Territory where an element of the project or concerned transmission line is situated or proposed to be situated. The application shall be kept posted on the website of the applicant till such time the application is disposed of by the Commission.

(5) The applicant shall, within 3 working days of filing the application, publish a notice of its application in Form-II appended to these regulations in at least two leading daily digital newspapers, one in English language and another in the Indian language of the State or Union Territory where an element of the project or concerned transmission line is situated or proposed to be situated, inviting comments from the general public. The notice shall also be kept posted on the website of the applicant.

(6) The Registry of the Commission shall carry out a preliminary scrutiny of the application and convey the defects, if any, as far as possible within 7 days of receipt of the application. The defects shall be rectified by the applicant within a period of 7 days from the date of such intimation from the Registry of the Commission.

(7) In the notice published in the digital newspapers and on the applicant's website under this Regulation, it shall be indicated that the suggestions and objections to the application, if any, may be filed by any person within 15 days of publication of the notice to The Secretary, Central Electricity Regulatory Commission at the address where the office of the Commission is situated and at email id: registry@cercind.gov.in. Any suggestion or objection received in response to the public notice shall be shared with the applicant and the respondents by the Registry of the Commission.

(8) The applicant shall within 3 working days from the date of publication of the notice in terms of Clause (5) of this Regulation submit to the Commission on affidavit the details of the notice published, names of the digital newspapers in which the notice has been published, the dates and places of their publication and enclosing the relevant pages of the publication of notice.

(9) The CTUIL shall send its recommendations, if any, to the Commission on the proposal for grant of licence made in the application as far as practicable within a period of 10 (ten) days from the date of receipt of the application with a copy to the applicant: Provided that if CTUIL is unable to submit its recommendations within a period of 10 days, it shall inform the Commission the reasons for the same and submit its recommendations within a period of 30 (thirty) days from the date of receipt of the application: Provided further that along with its recommendations, CTUIL shall submit the copy of approval of the transmission project by the Central Government in terms of Electricity (Transmission System Planning, Development and Recovery of Inter-state Transmission Charges) Rules, 2021 as amended from time to time. Explanation: The recommendations of the Central Transmission Utility shall not be binding on the Commission.

(10) The applicant may file its comments, duly supported by an affidavit, on the recommendations made by CTUIL and the suggestions and objections, if any, received in response to the public notice within 7 working days of receipt of such suggestions and objections, with an advance copy to the CTUIL and the person, if any, who has filed the suggestions and objections on the proposal made in the application.

(11) The Commission after considering the suggestions and objections received from the DICs and in response to the public notice published by the applicant, and the recommendations, if any, received from CTUIL may either propose to grant the licence to the applicant or for reasons to be recorded in writing, reject the application.

(12) Before granting a licence, the Commission shall publish a notice of its proposal on the Commission's website and in two daily digital newspapers, having wide circulation, as the Commission may consider appropriate, stating the name and address of the person to whom it proposes to grant the licence, details of the project for which it proposes to grant a licence, location or route of the elements of the project, and any other details that the Commission may consider appropriate, to invite further suggestions and objections on its proposal within 15 days of the publication of the notice.

(13) The Commission may, after consideration of the further suggestions and objections, if any, received in response to the public notice in terms of Clause(12) of this Regulation, grant licence to the applicant in Form-III appended to these regulations or for reasons to be recorded in writing, reject the application.

(14) The Commission shall before granting licence or rejecting the application under the provisions of this Regulation provide an opportunity of hearing to the applicant, CTUIL, the concerned DICs, or the person who has filed suggestions and objections, or any other interested person.

(15) The Commission shall, within 7 days of making the order to grant the licence to an applicant send a copy of the licence to the Central Government,

the Central Electricity Authority, the Central Transmission Utility, the applicant and the concerned DIC(s)."

19. The Petitioner has approached the Commission with a separate application for the adoption of transmission charges in respect of the transmission system, which is presently under consideration by the Commission, and the order in that Petition will be issued separately. The Petitioner has filed the present Petition for the grant of a transmission licence in accordance with the provisions of the Transmission Licence Regulations, 2024. The Petitioner has submitted proof of service of the copies of the application on the BPC, CTUIL, and the beneficiaries and proof of web posting of the complete application. The Petitioner has further undertaken to pay the applicable licence fee upon the grant of a transmission licence in terms of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Payment of Fees) Regulations, 2012. The Petitioner has prayed for the grant of a transmission licence to Bidar Transco Limited with respect to the transmission system as per the details given in paragraph 1 above.

20. The Petitioner made the Application as per Form-I and paid a fee of Rs. one lakh as prescribed by the Central Government. As per the direction of the Commission, the Petitioner has served a copy of the Application on the Respondent/beneficiaries. The transmission charges quoted by the Petitioner, which have been recommended by the Bid Evaluation Committee for acceptance, are Rs. 468.79 million. The Petitioner has also enclosed copies of the recommendations of the Bid Evaluation Committee.

21. The Petitioner has published the notices on its website in Form-II in English and in the Vernacular language. The Petition has published the notices in Deccan

Herald (English) and Kannada Prabha (Kannada) on 13.3.2025. In response, no objection has been received from the general public to the notices.

22. The Petitioner has served a copy of the Application on the Central Transmission of Utility of India Limited (CTUIL) as required under Section 15(3) of the Act and Regulation 5(3) of the Transmission Licence Regulations. CTUIL, vide its letter dated 18.3.2025, has recommended the grant of a transmission licence to the Petitioner. The Relevant portions of the said letter dated 18.3.2025 are extracted as under:

“This has reference to petition filed by M/s Bidar Transco Limited for grant of Transmission License for subject transmission scheme against the application/petition filed to CERC. In this regard, following is submitted:

1. M/s Bidar Transco Limited has filed application/petition under Section 14 & 15 of the Electricity Act, 2003 and CERC (Procedure, Terms and Conditions for grant of Transmission License and other related matters) Regulations, 2009 for grant of transmission license to establish Transmission Scheme "Augmentation of transformation capacity by 3x500 MVA 400/220 kV ICTs (6th – 8th) and 1x1500 MVA 765/400 kV ICT (4th) at Bidar PS" on Build, Own, Operate and Transfer BOOT) basis as ISTS. The detailed scope of the scheme is enclosed at Annexure-1.

2. In reference to the Transmission Scheme "Augmentation of transformation capacity by 3x500 MVA, 400/220 kV ICTs (6th – 8th) and 1x1500 MVA, 765/400 KV ICT (4th) at Bidar PS" following is submitted:

i. Bidar 765/400/220KV PS is under implementation through TBCB route and is expected by Feb 26. Presently, 3x1500 MVA, 765/400 kV ICTs, 5x500 MVA 400/220 KV ICTs and 08 nos. of 220 kV line bays are under implementation.

ii. Connectivity of about 2500 MW at 220 kV level have already been granted at Bidar PS with the above under implementation transmission system.

iii. Further, CTU has received additional connectivity applications for 850 MW seeking connectivity at Bidar PS. With this, the total connectivity quantum granted / under process at Bidar PS shall become about 3350 MW. Therefore, grant of connectivity for additional 600 MW shall require augmentation of 1x1500 MVA, 765/400 kV ICT (4th) and 3x500 MVA, 400/220kV ICTs (6th – 8th) at Bidar PS considering N-1 contingency of ICTs. Further, additional connectivity

applications of about 1720 MW has also been received at Bidar PS. As the connectivity quantum has already surpassed the capacity of above transmission system, accordingly, suitable augmentation of transformation capacity and additional transmission system for facilitating immediate integration and evacuation is being identified separately.

iv. Augmentation of transformation capacity by 3x500 MVA 400/220kV ICTs (6th-8th) and 1x1500 MVA, 765/400KV ICT (4th) at Bidar PS scheme was discussed and agreed In the 33 CMETS-SR held on 5.07.2024 and 31.07.2024 respectively. Extracts of the minutes of 33 CMETS-SR are enclosed at Annexure-II.

v. The National Committee on Transmission in its 22th meeting held on 23.08.2024 has approved the implementation of the subject transmission scheme through TBCB route and has identified the RECPDCL as BPC for bidding of the subject transmission scheme. Extracts of the minutes of 22th NCT meeting is enclosed at Annexure-III.

vi. CEA vide Gazette notification dated 25.09.2024 has notified the transmission scheme for implementation through TBCB route (copy enclosed at Annexure-IV).

3. M/s Power Grid Corporation of India Limited is the successful bidder and has acquired Mis Bidar Transco Limited on 18.02.2025 after execution of requisite Share Purchase Agreement. The scheduled CoD of elements of the scheme is given at Annexure-I

4. In line with Section 15(4) of the Electricity Act, 2003, based on details furnished by Mis Bidar Transco Limited, CTU recommends grant of transmission license to Mis Bidar Transco Limited for executing the transmission scheme as mentioned in Para-1 above."

23. We have considered the submissions of the Petitioner, BPC, and CTUIL. The proviso to Clause 2.15.2 of the RfP provides that "if for any reason attributable to the BPC, the said activities are not completed by the Selected Bidder within the above period of ten (10) days as mentioned in this clause, such period of 10 days shall be extended, on a day to day basis till the end of the Bid validity period". As per the above provision, the selected bidder was required to complete all the activities, including the acquisition of the SPVs, by 16.1.2025. Though Lol was issued on 6.1.2025, BPC, vide its letter dated 18.2.2025 in terms of Clause 2.15.2 of RfP, extended the date up to 25.2.2025 for completion of all activities by the successful bidder. The selected bidder

furnished the Contract Performance Guarantee in favour of the Nodal Agency (CTUIL) for Rs. 16.50 crores on 18.2.2025 and acquired a hundred per cent equity-holding in the applicant company on 18.2.2025 after execution of the Share Purchase Agreement. As per clause 2.15.4 of the RfP, TSP is required to apply to the Commission for the grant of a transmission licence within five working days of the issuance of the acquisition of the SPV to the successful bidder. The successful bidder, namely Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, acquired the SPV on 18.2.2025. Accordingly, the TSP has filed the instant Petition through e-filing for the grant of a transmission licence on 7.3.2025. The Petitioner has submitted that there has been a delay in the filing of the Petition due to the non- reflection of the filing fees of the Petition on the e-portal and requested to condone the delay in the filing of the instant Petition. Since the Petitioner could not file the Petition due to procedural lapse, we condone the said delay.

24. Considering the material on record, we are *prima-facie* of the view that the Petitioner satisfies the conditions for the grant of inter-State transmission licence under Section 15 of the Act, read with the Transmission Licence Regulations for implementation of the transmission project as described in para 1 of this order. We, therefore, direct that a public notice in two daily digital newspapers and on the Commission`s website under clause (a) of sub-section (5) of Section 15 of the Act be published to invite suggestions or objections to the grant of the aforesaid transmission licence. The objections or suggestions, if any, may be filed by any person before the Commission on or before **13.6.2025**.

25. The Petitioner has undertaken that it shall implement the Project as per the provisions of the TSA. The Petitioner has also undertaken that the time overrun and cost overrun, if applicable, shall be claimed by the Petitioner in accordance with the

applicable provisions of the TSA read with the provisions of the Act, the bidding documents, and the regulations of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission.

26. It is observed that as per Article 5.1.1 of the TSA, the TSP, at its own cost and expense, shall be responsible for designing, constructing, erecting, testing, and commissioning each element of the Project by scheduled COD in accordance with the various regulations of the Central Electricity Authority regarding Technical Standards and Grid Standards, Prudent Utility Practices and other applicable laws. Further, Article 5.4 of the TSA provides that the TSP shall ensure that the Project is designed, built and completed in a good workman-like manner using sound engineering and construction practices and using only materials and equipment that are new and of international utility-grade quality such that the useful life of the Project will be till the expiry date. Further, the design, construction, and testing of all equipment, facilities, components, and systems of the Project shall be in accordance with Indian Standards and Codes issued by the Bureau of India Standards. In this regard, the Petitioner has submitted that it would implement the Project as per the provisions of the TSA, i.e., Articles 16.4, 5.1.1, and 5.4. It is expected that while carrying out the survey, the Petitioner has complied with the provisions of clause 2.5.7.3, clause 2.5.7.4, and clause 2.5.7.5 of the RfP. The Petitioner will comply with the provisions of the bidding documents and the TSA for the commissioning of the Project within the SCOD.

27. The Petition shall be listed for the hearing on **20.6.2025**.

Sd/-
(Ravinder Singh Dhillon)
Member

sd/-
(Harish Dudani)
Member

sd/-
(Ramesh Babu V.)
Member

sd/-
(Jishnu Barua)
Chairperson