

**CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
NEW DELHI**

Petition No. 461/TT/2024

Coram:

**Shri Ramesh Babu V., Member
Shri Harish Dudani, Member**

Date of Order: 22.07.2025

In the matter of:

Petition for truing up of the transmission tariff for the 2019-24 tariff period and determination of the transmission tariff for the 2024-29 tariff period for **Combined Assets under “Augmentation of Transformation Capacity”** in the Southern Region under Section 62 read with Section 79 (1)(d) of the Electricity Act, 2003 and under Regulation 15 (1)(a) and Regulation 23 of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Conduct of Business) Regulations, 2023 read with the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions of Tariff) Regulations, 2019 and the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions of Tariff) Regulations, 2024.

And in the matter of:

Power Grid Corporation of India Limited,
SAUDAMINI, Plot No. 2,
Sector-29, Gurgaon-122001 (Haryana).

...Petitioner

Versus

- 1. Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation Limited,**
NPKRR Maaligai, 800, Anna Salai,
Chennai – 600002.
- 2. Kerala State Electricity Board Limited,**
Vaidyuthi Bhavanam, Pattom,
Thiruvananthapuram – 695004.
- 3. Electricity Department,**
Government of Goa, Vidyuti Bhawan,
Panaji, Goa – 403001.



- 4. Electricity Department, Government of Pondicherry,**
137, Netaji Subash Chandra Bose Salai,
Pondicherry – 605001.
- 5. Eastern Power Distribution Company of Andhra Pradesh Limited,**
APEPDCL, P&T Colony, Seethmmadhara,
Vishakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.
- 6. Southern Power Distribution Company of Andhra Pradesh Limited,**
#19-13-65/A, Srinivasapuram, Tiruchanoor Road
Tirupati – 517503, Andhra Pradesh
- 7. Andhra Pradesh Central Power Distribution Company Limited,**
Corporate Office, Beside Polytechnic College, ITI Road,
Krishna District, Andhra Pradesh, Vijayawada – 520008
- 8. Southern Power Distribution Company of Telangana Limited,**
6-1-50, Corporate Office, Mint Compound,
Hyderabad, Telangana – 500063
- 9. Northern Power Distribution Company of Telangana Limited,**
H.No 2-5-3 1/2, Vidyut Bhawan, Corporate Office, Nakkal Gutta,
Hanamkonda, Warangal – 506001 (Telangana)
- 10. Bangalore Electricity Supply Company Limited,**
Corporate Office, K.R.Circle,
Bangalore – 560001 (Karnataka)
- 11. Gulbarga Electricity Supply Company Limited,**
Station Main Road,
Gulbarga, Karnataka – 585102
- 12. Hubli Electricity Supply Company Limited,**
Navanagar, PB Road,
Hubli, Karnataka-580025
- 13. Mangalore Electricity Supply Company Limited,**
MESCOM Corporate Office, 1st Floor, MESCOM Bhavan,
Kavoor Cross Road, Bejai, Mangalore-575 004 (Karnataka)
- 14. Chamundeswari Electricity Supply Corporation Limited,**
29, Vijayanagara 2nd Stage, Hinkal, Mysuru-570017, Karnataka

...Respondent(s)



Parties Present: Shri Mohd. Mohsin, PGCIL
Shri V.C. Shekhar, PGCIL
Shri Naresh Kumar Angaru, PGCIL
Shri G. Vijay, PGCIL
Shri Vivek Kumar Singh, PGCIL
Shri Nitish Kumar, PGCIL
Ms. Ashita Chauhan, PGCIL
Shri Ashish Alankar, PGCIL
Shri Arjun Malhotra, PGCIL

ORDER

The instant Petition has been filed by Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, a deemed transmission licensee, for truing up the transmission tariff for the 2019-24 period under the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions of Tariff) Regulations, 2019 (hereinafter referred to as “the 2019 Tariff Regulations”), and for the determination of the transmission tariff under the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions of Tariff) Regulations, 2024 (hereinafter referred to as “the 2024 Tariff Regulations”) in respect of the following transmission assets under “Augmentation of Transformation Capacity” in the Southern Region.

Asset-1: 1x500 MVA 400/230 kV ICT along with associated bays and equipment at Arasur Sub-station.

Asset-2: 1x500 MVA 400/230 kV ICT along with associated bays and equipment at Karaikudi Sub-station.

Asset-3: 1x500 MVA 400/230 kV ICT along with associated bays and equipment at Tirunelveli Sub-station.

Asset-4: 1x500 MVA 400/230 kV ICT along with associated bays and equipment at Pondicherry Sub-station.

Asset-5: 1x500 MVA 400/230 kV ICT along with associated bays and equipment at Kozhikode Sub-station.

Assets 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 have been combined, and a combined tariff has been claimed for them for the 2019-24 and 2024-29 tariff periods. As such, they have been referred to as “Combined Assets” for the 2019-24 and 2024-29 tariff periods.

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



- “a) Approve the trued-up Transmission Tariff for 2019-24 block and transmission tariff for 2024-29 block for the assets covered under this petition, as per para 14 and 15 above.*
- b) Admit the capital cost claimed, and additional capitalization incurred during 2019-24 (Arbitral award) and also allow the projected additional capitalization during 2024-29.*
- c) Allow the petitioner to recover the shortfall or refund the excess Annual Fixed Charges, on account of Return on Equity due to change in applicable Minimum Alternate/Corporate Income Tax rate as per the Income Tax Act, 1961 (as amended from time to time) of the respective financial year directly without making any application before the Commission as provided in Tariff Regulations 2019 and Tariff Regulations, 2024 as per para 14 and 15 above for respective block.*
- d) Approve the reimbursement of expenditure by the beneficiaries towards petition filing fee, and expenditure on publishing of notices in newspapers in terms of Regulation 94 (1) Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions of Tariff) Regulations, 2024, and other expenditure (if any) in relation to the filing of petition.*
- e) Allow the petitioner to bill and recover RLDC fees & charges and Licensee fee separately from the respondents in terms of Regulation 94 (3) and (4) Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions of Tariff) Regulations, 2024.*
- f) Allow the petitioner to bill and adjust impact on Interest on Loan due to change in Interest rate on account of floating rate of interest applicable during 2024-29 period, if any, from the respondents.*
- g) Allow the petitioner to file a separate petition before Hon’ble Commission for claiming the overall security expenses and consequential IOWC on that security expenses as mentioned at para 21 above.*
- h) Allow the petitioner to file a separate petition before Hon’ble Commission for claiming the overall insurance expenses and consequential IOWC on that insurance expenses as mentioned at para 21 above.*
- i) Allow the petitioner to file a separate petition before Hon’ble Commission for claiming the overall capital spares at the end of tariff block as per actual as mentioned at Para 21 above.*
- j) Allow the petitioner to claim expenses of CTUIL borne by POWERGRID through a separate petition as mentioned at para 22 above.*
- k) Allow the Petitioner to bill and recover GST on Transmission Charges separately from the respondents, if GST on transmission is levied at any rate in future. Further, any taxes including GST and duties including cess etc. imposed by any statutory/Govt./municipal authorities shall be allowed to be recovered from the beneficiaries.*

and pass such other relief as Hon’ble Commission deems fit and appropriate under the circumstances of the case and in the interest of justice.”



Background

3. The brief facts of the case are as follows:

- a. The Investment Approval (IA) and expenditure sanction for the transmission project was accorded by the Board of Directors of the Petitioner vide letter dated 24.10.2016 at an estimated cost of ₹16775 lakh, including an IDC of ₹994 lakh based on the June 2016 price level.
- b. The scope of work covered under the transmission project is as follows:

Sub-stations:

i. Arasur 400/230 kV Sub-Station

- 1 number 400/230 kV, 1x500 MVA ICT
- 400 kV ICT Bays: 1 Number
- 230 kV ICT Bays: 1 Number

ii. Karaikudi 400/230 kV Sub-station

- 1 number 400/230 kV, 1x500 MVA ICT
- 400 kV ICT Bays: 1 Number
- 230 kV ICT Bays: 1 Number

iii. Tirunelveli 400/230 kV Sub-station

- 1 number 400/230 kV, 1x500 MVA ICT
- 400 kV ICT Bays: 1 Number
- 230 kV ICT Bays: 1 Number

iv. Pondicherry 400/230 kV Sub-station

- 1 number 400/230 kV, 1x500 MVA ICT
- 400 kV ICT Bays: 1 Number
- 230 kV ICT Bays: 1 Number

v. Kozhikode 400/230 kV Sub-station

- 1 number 400/230 kV, 1x500 MVA ICT
- 400 kV ICT Bays: 1 Number
- 230 kV ICT Bays: 1 Number

- c. The Petitioner has filed the present Petition for the truing-up of the transmission tariff for the 2019-24 tariff period and the determination of the transmission tariff for the 2024-29 tariff period for the following



transmission assets (Combined Assets) implemented in the Southern Region:

Asset	Asset Name	COD	Remarks
Asset-1	1x500 MVA 400/230 kV ICT along with associated bays and equipment at Arasur Sub-station	31.3.2018	All assets merged during 2019-24 tariff block with effective COD as 18.4.2018
Asset-2	1x500 MVA 400/230 kV ICT along with associated bays and equipment at Karaikudi Sub-station	2.4.2018	
Asset-3	1x500 MVA 400/230 kV ICT along with associated bays and equipment at Tirunelveli Sub-station	31.3.2018	
Asset-4	1x500 MVA 400/230 kV ICT along with associated bays and equipment at Pondicherry Sub-station	22.6.2018	
Asset-5	1x500 MVA 400/230 kV ICT along with associated bays and equipment at Kozhikode Sub-station	3.4.2018	

- d. The transmission assets were scheduled to be commissioned within 30 months from the date of IA, i.e., by 21.4.2019. The details of the Scheduled Commercial Operation Date (SCOD), COD and time over-run are as follows:

Assets	SCOD	COD	Time Over-run
Asset-1	21.4.2019	31.3.2018	-
Asset-2		2.4.2018	-
Asset-3		31.3.2018	-
Asset-4		22.6.2018	-
Asset-5		3.4.2018	-

4. The Commission vide order dated 6.6.2019 in Petition No. 110/TT/2018 approved the transmission tariff in respect of Assets-1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 from their respective CODs to 31.3.2019. Further, the Commission, vide order dated 13.12.2021 in Petition No. 668/TT/2020, trued-up the transmission tariff for the 2014-19 tariff period and determined the transmission tariff for the 2019-24 tariff period.



5. The Respondents are distribution licensees, transmission licensees and power departments, which are procuring transmission services from the Petitioner, mainly beneficiaries of the Southern Region.

6. The Petitioner has served a copy of the Petition on the Respondents and notice regarding filing of this Petition has been published in the newspapers in accordance with Section 64 of the Electricity Act, 2003. No comments or suggestions have been received from the general public in response to the aforesaid notices published in the newspapers by the Petitioner.

7. Kerala State Electricity Board Limited (KSEBL), Respondent No. 2, has filed its reply vide affidavit dated 12.2.2025 and has raised the issues of adjustments in Additional Capital Expenditure, grossed up rate of Return on Equity (RoE), Interest on Loan (IoL) and effect of Goods and Service Tax (GST). The issues raised by KSEBL and the response thereto given by the Petitioner are considered in the succeeding paragraphs of this order.

8. The hearing in this matter was held on 11.3.2025, 25.3.2025 and 22.4.2025, and the order was reserved.

9. This order is issued considering the submissions made by the Petitioner vide affidavits dated 14.9.2024, 25.3.2025, and KSEBL's reply filed vide affidavit dated 12.2.2025 and Petitioner's rejoinder affidavit dated 9.4.2025 to the reply filed by KSEBL.

10. Having heard the Petitioner's representatives and perused the material on record, we proceed to dispose of the Petition.

True-Up of Annual Fixed Charges for the 2019-24 Tariff Period

11. The details of the trued-up transmission charges claimed by the Petitioner in respect of the Combined Assets are as follows:



(₹ in lakh)					
Particulars	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Depreciation	670.26	723.83	731.31	731.31	731.31
Interest on Loan	624.88	575.13	512.84	490.41	457.65
Return on Equity	697.59	754.63	762.61	762.61	762.61
Interest on Working Capital	80.88	78.13	73.85	75.27	87.43
O&M Expenses	1168.30	1210.40	1252.85	1298.10	1341.25
Total	3241.91	3342.12	3333.46	3357.70	3380.25

12. The details of the trued-up Interest on Working Capital (IWC) claimed by the Petitioner in respect of the Combined Assets are as follows:

(₹ in lakh)					
Particulars	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
O&M Expenses	97.36	100.87	104.40	108.18	111.77
Maintenance Spares	175.25	181.56	187.93	194.72	201.19
Receivables	398.60	412.04	410.97	413.96	415.60
Total Working Capital	671.21	694.47	703.30	716.86	728.56
Rate of Interest (in %)	12.05	11.25	10.50	10.50	12.00
Interest on Working Capital	80.88	78.13	73.85	75.27	87.43

Capital Cost for the 2019-24 Tariff Period

13. The capital cost of the transmission system has been calculated in accordance with Regulation 19(1) and 19(3) of the 2019 Tariff Regulations.

14. The Commission, vide order dated 13.12.2021 in Petition No. 668/TT/2020, trued-up the transmission tariff for the 2014-19 tariff period and allowed the transmission tariff for the 2019-24 tariff period. The capital cost of ₹11509.56 lakh was approved by the Commission for the transmission assets as on 31.3.2019 in Petition No. 668/TT/2020 and the same has been considered as opening capital cost as on 1.4.2019 for the purpose of truing-up of transmission tariff for the 2019-24 tariff period in accordance with Regulation 19 of the 2019 Tariff Regulations in the instant Petition.

15. The Commission vide order dated 13.12.2021 in Petition No. 668/TT/2020 allowed capital cost as on 1.4.2019 for the Combined Assets and Additional Capital



Expenditure (ACE) for the 2019-24 tariff period. The details of the capital cost as allowed by the Commission in the aforesaid order are as follows:

(₹ in lakh)

Assets	FR Apportioned Approved Cost	Capital Cost allowed as on 1.4.2019	ACE Allowed 2019-20	Capital Cost allowed as on 31.3.2024
Combined Assets	16774.98	11509.56*	1799.21*	13308.77

*IDC disallowed due to computational difference of ₹1.29 lakh (₹0.25 lakh up to COD and ₹1.04 lakh in FY 2019-20 ACE)

16. The Petitioner in the instant true-up Petition has claimed the following capital cost for true-up in the 2019-24 tariff period:

(₹ in lakh)

Assets	FR Apportioned Approved Cost	Capital Cost up to 1.4.2019	ACE Claimed					Total Capital Cost as on 31.3.2024
			2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	
Combined Assets	16774.98	11509.56	1744.20	283.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	13536.80

Additional Capital Expenditure (ACE)

17. The Commission vide order dated 13.12.2021 in Petition No. 668/TT/2020 allowed the following ACE in respect of the Combined Assets for the 2019-24 tariff period :

(₹ in lakh)

Particulars	Admitted ACE
	Combined Assets
Un-discharged liability projected towards final payment/ withheld payment due to contractual exigencies for works executed within the cut-off date, and accrued IDC discharge is allowed under Regulation 24(1)(a) and Regulation 24(1)(b) of the 2019 Tariff Regulations.	1737.17
IDC discharge	62.04
Total ACE allowed	1799.21

18. Against this, the Petitioner has claimed the following ACE for the Combined Assets based on the actual expenditure in accordance with Regulation 24(1)(a) of the 2019 Tariff Regulations:



(₹ in lakh)		
Particulars	Regulations	Actual ACE
Undischarged Liability	24(1)(a) of the 2019 Tariff Regulations	1744.20
		283.04
Total		2027.24

19. The vendor-wise details of ACE claimed by the Petitioner for the transmission assets are as follows:

(₹ in lakh)				
Asset	Vendor	Year	Discharge	Total
Asset-1	TBEA Energy (India) Private Limited	2019-20	186.19	186.19
Asset-2	TBEA Energy (India) Private Limited	2019-20	339.42	359.28
		2020-21	19.86	
Asset-3	TBEA Energy (India) Private Limited	2019-20	210.63	210.63
Asset-4	TBEA Energy (India) Private Limited	2019-20	334.84	460.64
		2020-21	125.80	
Asset-5	TBEA Energy (India) Private Limited	2019-20	611.08	748.46
		2020-21	137.38	
Total ACE claimed		2019-20	1682.16	1965.20
		2020-21	283.04	

20. KSEBL in its reply has submitted that the Petitioner has claimed ₹1744.20 lakh and ₹283.04 lakh under Regulation 24(1)(a) of the 2019 Tariff Regulations for the FYs 2019-20 and 2020-21 respectively against the approved amount of ₹1799.21 lakh under Regulations 24(1)(a) & 24(1)(b) of the 2019 Tariff Regulations for the 2019-20. However, the same has not been substantiated with supporting documents. The Respondent has further submitted that the Petitioner may be directed to furnish proof of payments for a prudence check. As per regulatory practice, such documentation is essential to ascertain compliance and prudence of expenditure under Regulation 24(1)(a) of the 2019 Tariff Regulations.

21. In response, the Petitioner has submitted that the ACE claimed in the instant Petition has been duly certified by the auditor after scrutiny of such expenditure, and



regarding the supporting documents for the ACE claimed, in addition to the Auditor's Certificate, the liability flow statement containing vendor wise details of actual ACE incurred during the 2019-24 tariff period has already been submitted.

22. The Petitioner, in the RoP reply filed vide affidavit dated 25.3.2025, has submitted that the primary reason for the variation in the ACE claimed and allowed is that the ACE claimed is based on the actual payments made to the vendors after receipt of final invoices and incorporating the amendments.

23. The Petitioner has further submitted that the difference of ₹63.08 lakh in the 2019-24 tariff period between ACE claimed and ACE as per Auditor's Certificate/liability flow statement is on account of IDC discharged during the 2019-20, which is as follows:

Sl. No.	Particulars	Substation	IT	Total
1	Cost as on 31.3.2019 as per the Auditor's certificate	11402.47	170.42	11572.89
2	Less: IDC disallowed due to computational difference	0.25	0.00	0.25
3	Less: IDC discharged during 2019-20	61.81	1.27	63.08
4	Capital cost allowed as on 31.3.2019	11340.41	169.15	11509.56
5	ACE for 2019-20 as per the Auditor's certificate	1682.16	0.00	1682.16
6	Less: IDC disallowed due to computational difference	1.02	0.02	1.04
7	Add: IDC discharged during 2019-20	61.81	1.27	63.08
8	ACE for 2019-20	1742.95	1.25	1744.2
9	ACE for 2020-21	283.04	0.00	283.04
10	Total	13366.40	170.40	13536.80

24. We have considered the submissions of the Petitioner and the Respondent. The un-discharged IDC has been allowed as ACE during the year of its discharge. The allowed ACE for the Combined Assets is as under:

(₹ in lakh)			
Particulars	Regulation	Year	ACE allowed
Undischarged Liability	24(1)(a) and	2019-20	1682.16



Particulars	Regulation	Year	ACE allowed
	24(1)(b) of the 2019 Tariff Regulations	2020-21	283.04
IDC Discharged after COD		2019-20	62.04
Total ACE Allowed		2019-20	1744.20
		2020-21	283.04
Total			2027.24

25. We have considered the submissions of the Petitioner. ACE claimed towards balance and retentions payments and unexecuted works within the cut-off date have been allowed under Regulation 24(1)(a) and Regulation 24(1)(b) of the 2019 Tariff Regulations. Capital cost and ACE allowed in respect of the Combined Assets for the 2019-24 tariff period are as follows:

Asset	FR Appportioned Approved Cost	Capital Cost allowed as on 1.4.2019	Allowed ACE		Capital Cost as on 31.3.2024
			2019-20	2020-21	
Combined Assets	16774.98	11509.56	1744.20	283.04	13536.80

(₹ in lakh)

Debt-Equity Ratio

26. The details of the debt-equity ratio considered and allowed under Regulation 18 of the 2019 Tariff Regulations for computation of tariff of the Combined Assets during the 2019-24 tariff period are as follows:

Funding	Capital Cost as on 1.4.2019 (₹ in lakh)	(in %)	ACE in 2019-24 (₹ in lakh)	(in %)	Capital Cost as on 31.3.2024 (₹ in lakh)	(in %)
Debt	8056.70	70.00	1419.07	70.00	9475.77	70.00
Equity	3452.86	30.00	608.17	30.00	4061.03	30.00
Total	11509.56	100.00	2027.24	100.00	13536.80	100.00

Depreciation

27. The depreciation has been worked out considering the admitted capital expenditure as on 1.4.2019 and, thereafter, up to 31.3.2024. The Weighted Average



Rate of Depreciation (WAROD) has been worked out for the Combined Assets as per the rates of depreciation specified in Regulation 33 of the 2019 Tariff Regulations.

28. The depreciation allowed for the Combined Assets for the 2019-24 tariff period is as follows:

(₹ in lakh)						
Combined Assets						
	Particulars	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
A	Opening Gross Block	11509.56	13253.76	13536.80	13536.80	13536.80
B	Addition during 2019-24 due to ACE	1744.20	283.04	0.00	0.00	0.00
C	Closing Gross Block (A+B)	13253.76	13536.80	13536.80	13536.80	13536.80
D	Average Gross Block (A+C)/2	12381.66	13395.28	13536.80	13536.80	13536.80
E	Average Capital Cost (90% depreciable assets)	12212.05	13225.22	13366.74	13366.74	13366.74
F	Average Capital Cost (100% depreciable assets)	169.61	170.06	170.06	170.06	170.06
G	Depreciable Value (excluding IT equipment and software) (E*90%)	10990.85	11902.70	12030.06	12030.06	12030.06
H	Depreciable Value of IT equipment and software (F*100%)	169.61	170.06	170.06	170.06	170.06
I	Total Depreciable Value (G+H)	11160.45	12072.76	12200.13	12200.13	12200.13
J	Freehold Land	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
K	Weighted average rate of Depreciation (WAROD) (in %)	5.41%	5.40%	5.40%	5.40%	5.40%
L	Balance useful life of the asset (Year)	25	24	23	22	21
M	Elapsed life at the beginning of the year (Year)	0	1	2	3	4
N	Depreciation during the year (D*K)	670.24	723.80	731.27	731.27	731.27
O	Aggregate Cumulative Depreciation	1165.55	1889.35	2620.62	3351.89	4083.16
P	Remaining Aggregate Depreciable Value	9994.90	10183.41	9579.51	8848.24	8116.97

29. The details of depreciation approved vide order dated 13.12.2021 in Petition No. 668/TT/2020 in respect of the Combined Assets, depreciation claimed by the Petitioner in the instant Petition and trued up depreciation in the instant order are as follows:

(₹ in lakh)					
Combined Assets	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Allowed vide order dated 13.12.2021 in Petition No. 668/TT/2020	671.71	719.27	719.27	719.27	719.27
Claimed by the Petitioner in the instant Petition	670.26	723.83	731.31	731.31	731.31



Combined Assets	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Approved after true-up in this order	670.24	723.80	731.27	731.27	731.27

Interest on Loan (IoL)

30. The Petitioner has claimed the Weighted Average Rate of IoL based on its actual loan portfolio and rate of interest.

31. With regard to IoL, KSEBL has submitted that as per the 2019 Tariff Regulations, the IoL is to be calculated based on the actual rate of interest for various loans availed during the tariff period. The Petitioner in the instant Petition has not furnished the details of the actual loan availed for the project, interest on the loan, etc. The Petitioner to furnish detailed loan agreements and proof of actual loan repayments during the 2019-24 tariff period.

32. In response, the Petitioner has submitted that the tariff calculations for the 2019-24 tariff period, IoL, have been calculated on the basis of the actual rate of interest of various loans deployed for each year. In the tariff calculations for the 2024-29 tariff period, IoL has been calculated on the basis of prevailing interest rates for respective loans. The change in interest rate is due to the floating rate of interest applicable, if any, for the project needs to be claimed/adjusted over the tariff period of 5 years directly from/with the beneficiaries. For the purpose of the supporting documents for the rate of interest, a compendium of floating rate of interest of various loans during the 2019-24 tariff period has been submitted along with the true-up Petition (Diary no. 716/2024). These documents/details are also available on the Petitioner's website www.powergrid.in.

33. We have considered the submissions of the Petitioner and KSEBL. IoL has been calculated based on the actual interest rate submitted by the Petitioner in accordance



with Regulation 32 of the 2019 Tariff Regulations. The trued-up IoL allowed in respect of the Combined Assets is as follows:

(₹ in lakh)

Particulars		Combined Assets				
		2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
A	Gross Normative Loan	8056.70	9277.64	9475.77	9475.77	9475.77
B	Cumulative Repayments upto Previous Year	495.31	1165.55	1889.35	2620.62	3351.89
C	Net Loan-Opening (A-B)	7561.39	8112.09	7586.42	6855.15	6123.88
D	Additions	1220.94	198.13	0.00	0.00	0.00
E	Repayment during the year	670.24	723.80	731.27	731.27	731.27
F	Net Loan-Closing (C+D-E)	8112.09	7586.42	6855.15	6123.88	5392.61
G	Average Loan (C+F)/2	7836.74	7849.25	7220.78	6489.51	5758.24
H	Weighted Average Rate of Interest on Loan (in %)	7.9734	7.3266	7.1016	7.5563	7.9469
I	Interest on Loan	624.85	575.08	512.79	490.37	457.60

34. The details of IoL allowed vide order dated 13.12.2021 in Petition No. 668/TT/2020 for the Combined Assets, IoL claimed by the Petitioner in the instant Petition and trued-up IoL in the instant order are as follows:

(₹ in lakh)

Combined Assets	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Allowed vide order dated 13.12.2021 in Petition No. 668/TT/2020	637.23	631.81	573.47	514.86	455.96
Claimed by the Petitioner in the instant Petition	624.88	575.13	512.84	490.41	457.65
Approved after true-up in this order	624.85	575.08	512.79	490.37	457.60

Return on Equity (RoE)

35. The Petitioner has submitted that its Income Tax Assessment has been completed, and assessment orders have been issued by the Income Tax Department for FY 2019- 20 and FY 2020-21, and the income has been assessed under MAT (115JB of the Income Tax Act, 1961). The Petitioner vide affidavit dated 9.4.2025 has submitted that the Income Tax Returns (ITRs) have been filed for the FY 2021-22, FY 2022-23 and FY 2023-24 (submitted in Petition No. 401/TT/2024).



36. The Petitioner has further submitted that it is liable to pay the income tax at the MAT rates (17.472%, i.e., 15% Income Tax + 12% Surcharge on Income Tax+ 4% Health and Education Cess on Income Tax and Surcharge) and has claimed the following effective tax rates for the 2019-24 tariff period:

Year	Claimed effective tax rate (in %)	Grossed-up RoE [(Base Rate)/(1-t)] (in %)
2019-20	17.472	18.782
2020-21	17.472	18.782
2021-22	17.472	18.782
2022-23	17.472	18.782
2023-24	17.472	18.782

37. KSEBL, in its reply filed vide affidavit dated 12.2.2025, has submitted that the Petitioner has not provided the Income Tax Assessment Orders for FY 2019-20 and FY 2020-21, which are critical for determining the effective tax rate. Additionally, Income Tax Returns for FY 2023-24 have not been filed. The Petitioner may be directed to submit audited accounts for the actual taxes paid for all relevant years. Further, any cost due to delay in filing Income Tax shall not be passed on to the beneficiaries. It is observed that the Petitioner has not yet filed the Income Tax for FY 2023-24.

38. We have considered the submissions of the Petitioner and KSEBL and have also gone through the record.

39. The Petitioner vide affidavit dated 9.4.2025 has submitted that the Income Tax assessment has been completed, and Assessment Orders have been issued by the Income Tax Department for FYs 2019-20 and 2020-21. Further, the Income Tax Assessment for FYs 2021-22, 2022-23, and 2023-24 are in progress with the Income Tax Authorities. The assessment orders for FYs 2019-20 and 2020-21 and ITRs for FYs 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24 have been submitted vide affidavit dated 17.12.2024 in Petition No. 401/TT/2024. Further, the Income Tax Return for FY 2023-24 has now been



filed, and accordingly, the revised computation of the effective tax percentage is as under:

Financial Year	Basis considered	Total Tax & Interest paid (₹)	Assessed MAT Income under Sec 115JB (₹)	Effective Tax Percentage (in %)	Grossed up ROE (Base rate/(1-t) (in %))
2019-20	Assessment Order	24526276991	140374753855	17.472	18.782
2020-21	Assessment Order	26089359008	149320965036	17.472	18.782
2021-22	Actual Tax paid	31814640406	182089288030	17.472	18.782
2022-23	Actual Tax paid	30428820993	174157629306	17.472	18.782
2023-24	Actual Tax paid	31321238737	179265331597	17.472	18.782

40. The Petitioner has requested to allow it to claim the differential tariff on account of the trued-up ROE based on the effective tax rate calculated on completion of Income Tax assessment/re-assessment for FYs 2019-20, 2020-21, 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24 on receipt of the respective assessment orders, directly from the beneficiaries on a year-to-year basis as provided in the regulation. Further, the audited statements pertaining to actual taxes paid during FYs 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 have already been submitted in the Petitions filed during the truing up of the 2014-19 tariff period and, therefore, the same are submitted in the instant Petition.

41. We note that the entities covered under the MAT regime are paying Income Tax as per the MAT rates notified for the respective financial year under the IT Act, 1961, which is levied on the book profit of the entity computed as per Section 115 JB of the IT Act, 1961. Section 115 JB(2) of the IT Act, 1961 defines book profit as net profit in the statement of Profit and Loss prepared in accordance with Schedule-III of the Companies Act, 2013, subject to some additions and deductions as mentioned in the IT Act, 1961. Since the Petitioner has been paying the MAT rates of the respective financial year, the



notified MAT rates for the respective financial year shall be considered as an effective tax rate for the purpose of grossing up the RoE for truing up the 2019-24 tariff period in terms of the provisions of the 2019 Tariff Regulations. Interest imposed on any additional income tax demand as per the Assessment Order of the Income Tax Authorities shall be considered on the actual payment. However, the penalty (for default on the part of the Assessee), if any, imposed shall not be taken into account for the purpose of grossing up the rate of RoE. Any under-recovery or over-recovery of the grossed-up rates on the RoE after truing up shall be recovered or refunded to the beneficiaries or the long-term customers, as the case may be, on a year-to-year basis. Therefore, the following effective tax rate based on the notified MAT rates is considered for the purpose of grossing up the rate of RoE:

Year	Notified MAT rates (in %) (inclusive of surcharge & cess)	Effective Tax (in %)	Base rate of RoE (in %)	Grossed-up RoE [(Base Rate)/(1-t)] (in %)
2019-20	17.472	17.472	15.500	18.782
2020-21	17.472	17.472	15.500	18.782
2021-22	17.472	17.472	15.500	18.782
2022-23	17.472	17.472	15.500	18.782
2023-24	17.472	17.472	15.500	18.782

42. Accordingly, the trued-up RoE allowed in respect of the Combined Assets for the 2019-24 tariff period is as follows:

Particulars		Combined Assets				
		2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
A	Opening Equity	3452.86	3976.12	4061.03	4061.03	4061.03
B	Additions	523.26	84.91	0.00	0.00	0.00
C	Closing Equity (A+B)	3976.12	4061.03	4061.03	4061.03	4061.03
D	Average Equity (A+C)/2	3714.49	4018.58	4061.03	4061.03	4061.03
E	Return on Equity (Base Rate) (in %)	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50
F	MAT Rate for respective year (in %)	17.472	17.472	17.472	17.472	17.472
G	Rate of Return on Equity (in %)	18.782	18.782	18.782	18.782	18.782
H	Return on Equity (D*G)	697.66	754.77	762.74	762.74	762.74



43. The details of RoE approved vide order dated 13.12.2021 in Petition No. 668/TT/2020 for the Combined Assets, RoE claimed by the Petitioner in the instant Petition and trued-up RoE in the instant order are as follows:

(₹ in lakh)					
Combined Assets	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Allowed vide order dated 13.12.2021 in Petition No. 668/TT/2020	699.21	749.89	749.89	749.89	749.89
Claimed by the Petitioner in the instant Petition	697.59	754.63	762.61	762.61	762.61
Approved after true-up in this order	697.66	754.77	762.74	762.74	762.74

Operation & Maintenance Expenses (O&M Expenses)

44. The O&M Expenses claimed by the Petitioner for the Combined Assets for the 2019-24 period are as follows:

(₹ in lakh)					
Particulars	Combined Asset				
	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
O&M Expenses claimed	1168.30	1210.40	1252.85	1298.10	1341.25

45. We have considered the submission of the Petitioner. The O&M Expenses allowed for the Combined Assets as per norms specified in the 2019 Tariff Regulations are as follows:

(₹ in lakh)					
Combined Assets					
Particulars	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Sub-station Bays					
Tirunelveli: ICT at Tirunelveli (HV Side)	1	1	1	1	1
Thirunelveli: ICT at Triunelveli (LV Side)	1	1	1	1	1
Arasur: ICT Bay at Arasur (HV Side)	1	1	1	1	1
Arasur: ICT Bay at Arasur (LV Side)	1	1	1	1	1
Karaikudi: ICT Bay at Karaikudi (LV Side)	1	1	1	1	1



Combined Assets					
Particulars	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Karaikudi: ICT Bay at Karaikudi (HV Side)	1	1	1	1	1
Puducherry: ICT at Pondicherry	1	1	1	1	1
Puducherry: ICT at Pondicherry (LV Side)	1	1	1	1	1
ICT at Kozhikode (HV Side)	1	1	1	1	1
ICT at Kozhikode (LV Side)	1	1	1	1	1
Norm (₹ lakh/bay)					
400 kV	32.15	33.28	34.45	35.66	36.91
220 kV	22.51	23.30	24.12	24.96	25.84
Total Sub-station O&M Expenses	273.30	282.90	292.85	303.10	313.75
Transformer					
Thirunelveli: ICT at Tirunelveli (MVA)	500	500	500	500	500
Arasur: Transformer at Arasur (MVA)	500	500	500	500	500
Karaikudi: ICT at Karaikudi (MVA)	500	500	500	500	500
Thirunelveli: ICT at Pondicherry	500	500	500	500	500
ICT at Kozhikode (MVA)	500	500	500	500	500
Norm (₹ lakh/ MVA)					
400 kV	0.358	0.371	0.384	0.398	0.411
Total Transformer	895.00	927.50	960.00	995.00	1027.50
Total O&M Expenses	1168.30	1210.40	1252.85	1298.10	1341.25

46. The details of O&M Expenses approved vide order dated 13.12.2021 in Petition No. 668/TT/2020, O&M Expenses claimed by the Petitioner in the instant Petition and true-up O&M Expenses in the instant order are as follows:

(₹ in lakh)					
Combined Assets	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Allowed vide order dated 13.12.2021 in Petition No. 668/TT/2020	1168.30	1210.40	1252.85	1298.10	1341.25
Claimed by the Petitioner in the instant Petition	1168.30	1210.40	1252.85	1298.10	1341.25
Approved after true-up in this order	1168.30	1210.40	1252.85	1298.10	1341.25

Interest on Working Capital (IWC)

47. IWC has been worked in accordance with Regulation 34 of the 2019 Tariff Regulations. The Rate of Interest (ROI) considered is 12.05% (SBI 1-year MCLR applicable as on 1.4.2019 of 8.55% plus 350 basis points) for the FY 2019-20, 11.25% (SBI 1-year MCLR applicable as on 1.4.2020 of 7.75% plus 350 basis points) for the FY



2020-21, 10.50% (SBI 1-year MCLR applicable as on 1.4.2021 of 7.00% plus 350 basis points) for the FY 2021-22 & FY 2022-23 and 12.00% (SBI 1-year MCLR applicable as on 1.4.2023 of 8.50% plus 350 basis points) for FY 2023-24.

48. The components of the working capital and interest allowed thereon for the Combined Assets for 2019-24 are as follows:

(₹ in lakh)						
	Particulars	Combined Assets				
		2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
A	Working Capital for O&M Expenses (O&M Expenses for one month)	97.36	100.87	104.40	108.18	111.77
B	Working Capital for Maintenance Spares (15% of O&M Expenses)	175.25	181.56	187.93	194.72	201.19
C	Working Capital for Receivables (Equivalent to 45 days of annual fixed cost /annual transmission charges)	398.60	412.05	410.98	413.97	415.61
D	Total Working Capital (A+B+C)	671.21	694.48	703.31	716.86	728.57
E	Rate of Interest for working capital (in %)	12.05	11.25	10.50	10.50	12.00
F	Interest of working capital (D*E)	80.88	78.13	73.85	75.27	87.43

49. The details of IWC allowed vide order dated 13.12.2021 in Petition No. 668/TT/2020 for the Combined Assets, IWC claimed by the Petitioner in the instant Petition and trued-up IWC in the instant order are as follows:

(₹ in lakh)					
Combined Assets	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Allowed vide order dated 13.12.2021 in Petition No. 668/TT/2020	81.11	78.79	74.32	75.27	76.01
Claimed by the Petitioner in the instant Petition	80.88	78.13	73.85	75.27	87.43
Approved after true-up in this order	80.88	78.13	73.85	75.27	87.43

Trued-up Annual Fixed Charges for the 2019-24 Tariff Period

50. Accordingly, the annual fixed charges allowed after the truing-up for the 2019-24 tariff period in respect of the Combined Assets are as follows:



(₹ in lakh)

	Particulars	Combined Assets				
		2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
A	Depreciation	670.24	723.80	731.27	731.27	731.27
B	Interest on Loan	624.85	575.08	512.79	490.37	457.60
C	Return on Equity	697.66	754.77	762.74	762.74	762.74
D	Interest on Working Capital	80.88	78.13	73.85	75.27	87.43
E	O&M Expenses	1168.30	1210.40	1252.85	1298.10	1341.25
F	Total (A+B+C+D+E)	3241.93	3342.18	3333.49	3357.75	3380.29

51. The details of the AFC allowed vide order dated 13.12.2021 in Petition No. 668/TT/2020 for the Combined Assets, AFC claimed by the Petitioner in the instant Petition and trued-up in the instant order are as follows:

(₹ in lakh)

Combined Assets	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Allowed vide order dated 13.12.2021 in Petition No. 668/TT/2020	3257.55	3390.17	3369.80	3357.38	3342.38
Claimed by the Petitioner in the instant Petition	3241.91	3342.12	3333.46	3357.70	3380.25
Approved after true-up in this order	3241.93	3342.18	3333.49	3357.75	3380.29

Determination of Annual Fixed Charges for the 2024-29 Tariff Period

52. The Petitioner has claimed the following transmission charges in respect of the Combined Assets for the 2024-29 tariff period:

(₹ in lakh)

Combined Assets					
Particulars	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
Depreciation	731.31	714.67	705.75	705.75	705.75
Interest on Loan	399.80	341.63	284.39	227.77	171.56
Return on Equity	762.61	762.61	762.61	762.61	762.61
Interest on Working Capital	67.22	68.18	69.30	70.58	72.35
O&M Expenses	906.00	954.15	1003.05	1055.15	1112.95
Total	2866.94	2841.24	2825.10	2821.86	2825.22

53. The details of IWC claimed by the Petitioner for the 2024-29 tariff period for the Combined Assets are as under:



Combined Asset					
Particulars	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
O&M Expenses	75.50	79.51	83.59	87.93	92.75
Maintenance Spares	135.90	143.12	150.46	158.27	166.94
Receivables	353.46	350.29	348.30	346.95	348.31
Total Working Capital	564.86	572.92	582.35	593.15	608.00
Rate of Interest (in %)	11.90	11.90	11.90	11.90	11.90
Interest on Working Capital	67.22	68.18	69.30	70.58	72.35

Capital Cost

54. Regulation 19 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations provides as follows:

“19. Capital Cost: (1) The Capital cost of the generating station or the transmission system, as the case may be, as determined by the Commission after prudence checks in accordance with these regulations shall form the basis for the determination of tariff for existing and new projects.

(2) The Capital Cost of a new project shall include the following:

- (a) The expenditure incurred or projected to be incurred up to the date of commercial operation of the project;
- (b) Interest during construction and financing charges, on the loans (i) being equal to 70% of the funds deployed and, in the event actual equity is in excess of 30% on a pari-passu basis, by treating the excess equity over and above 30% of the funds deployed as a normative loan, or (ii) being equal to the actual amount of the loan in the event of actual equity being less than 30% of the funds deployed;
- (c) Any gain or loss on account of foreign exchange risk variation pertaining to the loan amount availed during the construction period;
- (d) Interest during construction and incidental expenditure during construction as computed in accordance with these regulations;
- (e) Capitalised initial spares subject to the ceiling rates in accordance with these regulations;
- (f) Expenditure on account of additional capitalization and de-capitalisation determined in accordance with these regulations;
- (g) Adjustment of revenue due to the sale of infirm power in excess of fuel cost prior to the date of commercial operation as specified under Regulation 6 of these regulations;
- (h) Adjustment of revenue earned by the transmission licensee by using the assets before the date of commercial operation;
- (i) Capital expenditure on account of ash disposal and utilization including handling and transportation facility;
- (j) Capital expenditure incurred towards railway infrastructure and its augmentation for transportation of coal up to the receiving end of the generating station but does not include the transportation cost and any other appurtenant cost paid to the railway;



- (k) Capital expenditure on account of biomass handling equipment and facilities, for co-firing;*
- (l) Capital expenditure on account of emission control system necessary to meet the revised emission standards and sewage treatment plant;*
- (m) Expenditure on account of the fulfilment of any conditions for obtaining environment clearance for the project;*
- (n) Expenditure on account of change in law and force majeure events; and*
- (o).....*
- (p).....*

(3) The Capital cost of an existing project shall include the following:

- (a) Capital cost admitted by the Commission prior to 1.4.2024 duly trued up by excluding liability, if any, as on 1.4.2024;*
- (b) Additional capitalization and de-capitalization for the respective year of tariff as determined in accordance with these regulations;*
- (c) Capital expenditure on account of renovation and modernisation as admitted by this Commission in accordance with these regulations;*
- (d) to (h).....*
- (i) Expenditure on account of change in law and force majeure events;*

(4) & (5)

(6) The following shall be excluded from the capital cost of the existing and new projects:

- (a) The assets forming part of the project but not in use, as declared in the tariff petition;*
- (b) De-capitalised Assets after the date of commercial operation on account of obsolescence;*
- (c) De-capitalised Assets on account of upgradation or shifting from one project to another project:*
Provided that in case such an asset is recommended for further utilisation by the Regional Power Committee in consultation with CTU, such asset shall be decapitalised from the original project only after its redeployment;
Provided further that unless shifting of an asset from one project to another is of a permanent nature, there shall be no de-capitalization of the concerned assets.
- (d).....*
- (e) Proportionate cost of land of the existing generation or transmission project, as the case may be, which is being used for generating power from a generating station based on renewable energy as may be permitted by the Commission; and*
- (f) Any grant received from the Central or State Government or any statutory body or authority for the execution of the project that does not carry any liability of repayment.”*



55. The Petitioner has claimed the following capital cost of the Combined Assets during the 2024-29 tariff period:

(₹ in lakh)

Asset	Capital Cost claimed as on 31.3.2024	ACE Claimed	Estimated Completion Cost
		2024-29	
Combined Assets	13536.80	0.00	13536.80

56. We have considered the submissions of the Petitioner. The capital cost has been dealt with in line with Regulation 19(3) of the 2024 Tariff Regulations. The element-wise capital cost (i.e., land, building, transmission line, Sub-station and PLCC) as admitted by the Commission on 31.3.2024 for the Combined Assets has been considered as capital cost as on 1.4.2024 as per the following details:

(₹ in lakh)

Element	Combined Assets
Freehold Land	0.00
Leasehold Land	0.00
Building Civil Works & Colony	0.00
Transmission Line	0.00
Sub Station	13366.74
PLCC	0.00
IT Equipment (Incl. Software)	170.06
Total	13536.80

57. The trued-up capital cost of ₹13536.80 lakh for the Combined Assets is considered as admitted capital cost as on 1.4.2024 for working out the tariff for the 2024-29 tariff period.

Additional Capital Expenditure (ACE)

58. The Petitioner has not claimed ACE in respect of the Combined Assets for the 2024-29 tariff period.

Debt-Equity ratio

59. Regulation 18 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations provides as follows:



“18. Debt-Equity Ratio: (1) For new projects, the debt-equity ratio of 70:30 as on date of commercial operation shall be considered. If the equity actually deployed is more than 30% of the capital cost, equity in excess of 30% shall be treated as normative loan:

Provided that:

- i. where equity actually deployed is less than 30% of the capital cost, actual equity shall be considered for determination of tariff:
- ii. the equity invested in foreign currency shall be designated in Indian rupees on the date of each investment:
- iii. any grant obtained for the execution of the project shall not be considered as a part of capital structure for the purpose of debt: equity ratio.

Explanation.-The premium, if any, raised by the generating company or the transmission licensee, as the case may be, while issuing share capital and investment of internal resources created out of its free reserve, for the funding of the project, shall be reckoned as paid up capital for the purpose of computing return on equity, only if such premium amount and internal resources are actually utilised for meeting the capital expenditure of the generating station or the transmission system.

(2) The generating company or the transmission licensee, as the case may be, shall submit the resolution of the Board of the company or approval of the competent authority in other cases regarding infusion of funds from internal resources in support of the utilization made or proposed to be made to meet the capital expenditure of the generating station or the transmission system including communication system, as the case may be.

(3) In case of the generating station and the transmission system including communication system declared under commercial operation prior to 1.4.2019, debt: equity ratio allowed by the Commission for determination of tariff for the period ending 31.3.2024 shall be considered:

Provided that in case of a generating station or a transmission system including communication system which has completed its useful life as on or after 1.4.2024, if the equity actually deployed as on 1.4.2024 is more than 30% of the capital cost, equity in excess of 30% shall not be taken into account for tariff computation;

Provided further that in case of projects owned by Damodar Valley Corporation, the debt: equity ratio shall be governed as per sub-clause (ii) of clause (2) of Regulation 72 of these regulations.

(4) In case of the generating station and the transmission system including communication system declared under commercial operation prior to 1.4.2024, but where debt: equity ratio has not been determined by the Commission for determination of tariff for the period ending 31.3.2024, the Commission shall approve the debt: equity ratio in accordance with clause (1) of this Regulation.

(5) Any expenditure incurred or projected to be incurred on or after 1.4.2024 as may be admitted by the Commission as additional capital expenditure for determination of tariff, and renovation and modernisation expenditure for life extension shall be serviced in the manner specified in clause (1) of this Regulation.



(6) Any expenditure incurred for the emission control system during the tariff period as may be admitted by the Commission as additional capital expenditure for determination of supplementary tariff, shall be serviced in the manner specified in clause (1) of this Regulation.”

60. The debt-equity considered for the purpose of computation of tariff for the 2024-29 tariff period is allowed as per Regulation 18(3) of the 2024 Tariff Regulations. The debt-equity considered for the purpose of computation of tariff for the Combined Assets for the 2024-29 tariff period is as follows:

Funding	Capital Cost as on 1.4.2024 (₹ in lakh)	(in %)	Capital Cost as on 31.3.2029 (₹ in lakh)	(in %)
Debt	9475.77	70.00	9475.77	70.00
Equity	4061.03	30.00	4061.03	30.00
Total	13536.80	100.00	13536.80	100.00

Depreciation

61. Regulation 33 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations provides as follows:

"33. Depreciation: (1) Depreciation shall be computed from the date of commercial operation of a generating station or unit thereof or a transmission system or element thereof including communication system. In the case of the tariff of all the units of a generating station or all elements of a transmission system including the communication system for which a single tariff needs to be determined, the depreciation shall be computed from the effective date of commercial operation of the generating station or the transmission system taking into consideration the depreciation of individual units:

Provided that the effective date of commercial operation shall be worked out by considering the actual date of commercial operation and installed capacity of all the units of the generating station or capital cost of all elements of the transmission system, for which a single tariff needs to be determined.

(2) The value base for the purpose of depreciation shall be the capital cost of the asset admitted by the Commission. In case of multiple units of a generating station or multiple elements of a transmission system, the weighted average life for the generating station or the transmission system shall be applied. Depreciation shall be chargeable from the first year of commercial operation. In the case of commercial operation of the asset for a part of the year, depreciation shall be charged on a pro rata basis.

(3) The salvage value of the asset shall be considered as 10%, and depreciation shall be allowed up to the maximum of 90% of the capital cost of the asset:

Provided that the salvage value for IT equipment and software shall be considered as NIL and 100% value of the assets shall be considered depreciable;



.....

Provided also that any depreciation disallowed on account of lower availability of the generating station or unit or transmission system, as the case may be, shall not be allowed to be recovered at a later stage during the useful life or the extended life.

(4)

(5) Depreciation for Existing Projects shall be calculated annually based on the Straight Line Method and at rates specified in Appendix-I to these regulations for the assets of the generating station and transmission system:

Provided that the remaining depreciable value as on 31st March of the year closing after a period of 12 years from the effective date of commercial operation of the generating station or transmission system, as the case may be, shall be spread over the balance useful life of the assets.

.....

(6) Depreciation for New Projects shall be calculated annually based on the Straight Line Method and at rates specified in Appendix-II to these regulations for the assets of the generating station and transmission system:

Provided that the remaining depreciable value as on 31st March of the year closing after a period of 15 years from the effective date of commercial operation of the generating station or the transmission system, as the case may be, shall be spread over the balance useful life of the assets.

.....

(7) In the case of the existing projects, the balance depreciable value as on 1.4.2024 shall be worked out by deducting the cumulative depreciation as admitted to by the Commission up to 31.3.2024 from the gross depreciable value of the assets.

(8) The generating company or the transmission licensee, as the case may be, shall submit the details of capital expenditure proposed to be incurred during five years before the completion of useful life along with proper justification and proposed life extension. The Commission, based on prudence check of such submissions, shall approve the depreciation by equally spreading the depreciable value over the balance Operational Life of the generating station or unit thereof or fifteen years, whichever is lower, and in case of the transmission system shall equally spread the depreciable value over the balance useful life of the Asset or 10 years whichever is higher.

(9) In case of de-capitalization of assets in respect of generating station or unit thereof or transmission system or element thereof, the cumulative depreciation shall be adjusted by taking into account the depreciation recovered in tariff by the de-capitalised asset during its useful service.....

(10) Xxxxx

(11) Xxxxx

(12) Xxxxx”



62. The depreciation has been worked out considering the admitted capital expenditure as on 1.4.2024 and thereafter up to 31.3.2029. The WAROD has been worked out for the Combined Assets as per the rates of depreciation specified in the 2024 Tariff Regulations.

63. The depreciation allowed for the Combined Assets under Regulation 33 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations for the 2024-29 tariff period is as under:

(₹ in lakh)

Combined Asset						
	Particulars	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
A	Opening Capital Cost	13536.80	13536.80	13536.80	13536.80	13536.80
B	Addition during the year 2019-24 due to ACE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
C	Closing Capital Cost (A+B)	13536.80	13536.80	13536.80	13536.80	13536.80
D	Average Capital Cost (A+C)/2	13536.80	13536.80	13536.80	13536.80	13536.80
E	Average Capital Cost (90% depreciable assets)	13366.74	13366.74	13366.74	13366.74	13366.74
F	Average Capital Cost (100% depreciable assets)	170.06	170.06	170.06	170.06	170.06
G	Depreciable value (excluding IT equipment and software) (E*90%)	12030.06	12030.06	12030.06	12030.06	12030.06
H	Depreciable value of IT equipment and software (F*100%)	170.06	170.06	170.06	170.06	170.06
I	Total Depreciable Value (G+H)	12200.13	12200.13	12200.13	12200.13	12200.13
J	Weighted average rate of Depreciation (WAROD) (in %)	5.40%	5.28%	5.21%	5.21%	5.21%
K	Lapsed useful life at the beginning of the year (Year)	20	19	18	17	16
L	Balance useful life at the beginning of the year (Year)	5	6	7	8	9
M	Depreciation during the year (D*J)	731.27	714.62	705.76	705.76	705.76
N	Cumulative Depreciation at the end of the year	4814.43	5529.05	6234.81	6940.57	7646.33
O	Remaining Aggregate Depreciable Value at the end of the year	7385.70	6671.08	5965.32	5259.56	4553.80

Interest on Loan (IoL)

64. Regulation 32 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations provides as follows:



“32. Interest on loan capital: (1) The loans arrived at in the manner indicated in Regulation 18 of these regulations shall be considered gross normative loans for the calculation of interest on loans.

(2) The normative loan outstanding as on 1.4.2024 shall be worked out by deducting the cumulative repayment as admitted by the Commission up to 31.3.2024 from the gross normative loan.

(3) The repayment for each of the years of the tariff period 2024-29 shall be deemed to be equal to the depreciation allowed for the corresponding year or period. In case of decapitalization of assets, the repayment shall be adjusted by taking into account cumulative repayment on a pro rata basis, and the adjustment should not exceed cumulative depreciation recovered up to the date of de-capitalisation of such asset.

(4) Notwithstanding any moratorium period availed of by the generating company or the transmission licensee, as the case may be, the repayment of the loan shall be considered from the first year of commercial operation of the project and shall be equal to the depreciation allowed for the year or part of the year.

(5) The rate of interest shall be the weighted average rate of interest calculated on the basis of the actual loan portfolio or allocated loan portfolio;

Provided that if there is no actual loan outstanding for a particular year but the normative loan is still outstanding, the last available weighted average rate of interest of the loan portfolio for the project shall be considered;

Provided further that if the generating station or the transmission system, as the case may be, does not have any actual loan, then the weighted average rate of interest of the loan portfolio of the generating company or the transmission licensee as a whole shall be considered.

Provided that the rate of interest on the loan for the installation of the emission control system commissioned subsequent to date of commercial operation of the generating station or unit thereof, shall be the weighted average rate of interest of the actual loan portfolio of the emission control system, and in the absence of the actual loan portfolio, the weighted average rate of interest of the generating company as a whole shall be considered, subject to a ceiling of 14%;

Provided further that if the generating company or the transmission licensee, as the case may be, does not have any actual loan, then the rate of interest for a loan shall be considered as 1-year MCLR of the State Bank of India as applicable as on April 01, of the relevant financial year.

(6) The interest on the loan shall be calculated on the normative average loan of the year by applying the weighted average rate of interest.

(7) The changes to the terms and conditions of the loans shall be reflected from the date of such re-financing.”



65. The Weighted Average Rate of IoL has been considered on the basis of the rate prevailing as on 1.4.2024. The Petitioner has prayed that the change in interest rate due to the floating rate of interest applicable, if any, during the 2024-29 tariff period may be adjusted. Accordingly, the floating rate of interest, if any, will be considered at the time of true-up. IoL has been allowed in accordance with Regulation 32 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations. The IoL allowed in respect of the Combined Assets for the 2024-29 tariff period is as follows:

(₹ in lakh)						
Combined Assets						
	Particulars	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
A	Gross Normative Loan	9475.77	9475.77	9475.77	9475.77	9475.77
B	Cumulative Repayments upto the Previous Year	4083.16	4814.43	5529.05	6234.81	6940.57
C	Net Loan-Opening (A-B)	5392.61	4661.34	3946.72	3240.96	2535.20
D	Additions	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
E	Repayment during the year	731.27	714.62	705.76	705.76	705.76
F	Net Loan-Closing (C+D-E)	4661.34	3946.72	3240.96	2535.20	1829.44
G	Average Loan (C+F)/2	5026.98	4304.03	3593.84	2888.08	2182.32
H	Weighted Average Rate of Interest on Loan (in %)	7.9523	7.9366	7.9122	7.8853	7.8594
I	Interest on Loan (G*H)	399.76	341.59	284.35	227.74	171.52

Return on Equity (RoE)

66. Regulations 30 and 31 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations provide as follows:

“30. Return on Equity: (1) Return on equity shall be computed in rupee terms, on the equity base determined in accordance with Regulation 18 of these regulations.

(2) Return on equity for existing project shall be computed at the base rate of 15.50% for thermal generating station, transmission system including communication system and run-of river hydro generating station and at the base rate of 16.50% for storage type hydro generating stations, pumped storage hydro generating stations and run-of- river generating station with pondage;

(3) Return on equity for new project achieving COD on or after 01.04.2024 shall be computed at the base rate of 15.00% for the transmission system, including the communication system, at the base rate of 15.50% for Thermal generating station and



run-of-river hydro generating station and at the base rate of 17.00% for storage type hydro generating stations, pumped storage hydro generating stations and run-of-river generating station with pondage;

Provided that return on equity in respect of additional capitalization beyond the original scope, including additional capitalization on account of the emission control system, Change in Law, and Force Majeure shall be computed at the base rate of one-year marginal cost of lending rate (MCLR) of the State Bank of India plus 350 basis points as on 1st April of the year, subject to a ceiling of 14%;

Provided further that:

i. In case of a new project, the rate of return on equity shall be reduced by 1.00% for such period as may be decided by the Commission if the generating station or transmission system is found to be declared under commercial operation without commissioning of any of the Free Governor Mode Operation (FGMO), data telemetry, communication system up to load dispatch centre or protection system based on the report submitted by the respective RLDC;

.....”

“31. Tax on Return on Equity. (1) The rate of return on equity as allowed by the Commission under Regulation 30 of these regulations shall be grossed up with the effective tax rate of the respective financial year. The effective tax rate shall be calculated at the beginning of every financial year based on the estimated profit and tax to be paid estimated in line with the provisions of the relevant Finance Act applicable for that financial year to the concerned generating company or the transmission licensee by excluding the income of non-generation or non-transmission business, as the case may be, and the corresponding tax thereon.

Provided that in case a generating company or transmission licensee is paying Minimum Alternate Tax (MAT) under Section 115JB of the Income Tax Act, 1961, the effective tax rate shall be the MAT rate, including surcharge and cess;

Provided further that in case a generating company or transmission licensee has opted for Section 115BAA, the effective tax rate shall be tax rate including surcharge and cess as specified under Section 115BAA of the Income Tax Act, 1961.

(2) The rate of return on equity shall be rounded off to three decimal places and shall be computed as per the formula given below:

$$\text{Rate of pre-tax return on equity} = \text{Base rate} / (1-t)$$

(3) The generating company or the transmission licensee, as the case may be, shall true up the effective tax rate for every financial year based on actual tax paid together with any additional tax demand, including interest thereon, duly adjusted for any refund of tax including interest received from the income tax authorities pertaining to the tariff period 2024-29 on actual gross income of any financial year. Further, any penalty arising on account of delay in deposit or short deposit of tax amount shall not be considered while computing the actual tax paid for the generating company or the transmission licensee, as the case may be.

Provided that in case a generating company or transmission licensee is paying Minimum Alternate Tax (MAT) under Section 115JB, the generating company or the transmission licensee, as the case may be, shall true up the grossed up rate of return



on equity at the end of every financial year with the applicable MAT rate including surcharge and cess.

Provided that in case a generating company or transmission licensee is paying tax under Section 115BAA, the generating company or the transmission licensee, as the case may be, shall true up the grossed up rate of return on equity at the end of every financial year with the tax rate including surcharge and cess as specified under Section 115BAA.

Provided that any under-recovery or over recovery of grossed up rate on return on equity after truing up, shall be recovered or refunded to beneficiaries or the long term customers, as the case may be, on a year to year basis."

67. The Petitioner has submitted that the MAT rate applies to it. We have considered the Petitioner's submissions and have gone through the record.

68. We have considered the applicable MAT rate for the RoE, which will be trued-up in accordance with the 2024 Tariff Regulations. The RoE allowed for the Combined Assets for the 2024-29 tariff period is as follows:

(₹ in lakh)						
Combined Assets						
	Particulars	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
A	Opening Equity	4061.03	4061.03	4061.03	4061.03	4061.03
B	Additions	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
C	Closing Equity (A+B)	4061.03	4061.03	4061.03	4061.03	4061.03
D	Average Equity (A+C)/2	4061.03	4061.03	4061.03	4061.03	4061.03
E	Return on Equity (Base Rate) (in %)	15.500	15.500	15.500	15.500	15.500
F	MAT Rate for respective year (in %)	17.472	17.472	17.472	17.472	17.472
G	Rate of Return on Equity (in %)	18.782	18.782	18.782	18.782	18.782
H	Return on Equity (D*G)	762.74	762.74	762.74	762.74	762.74

Operation & Maintenance Expenses (O&M Expenses)

69. The O&M Expenses claimed by the Petitioner for the Combined Assets for the 2024-29 period are as follows:



Particulars	Combined Assets				
	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
O&M Expenses (₹ in lakh)	906.00	954.15	1003.05	1055.15	1112.95

70. The norms specified under Regulation 36(3) of the 2024 Tariff Regulations provides as follows:

“36. Operation and Maintenance Expenses:

...

(3) Transmission system: (a) The following normative operation and maintenance expenses shall be admissible for the transmission system:

Particulars	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
Norms for sub-station Bays (₹ Lakh per bay)					
765 kV	41.34	43.51	45.79	48.20	50.73
400 kV	29.53	31.08	32.71	34.43	36.23
220 kV	20.67	21.75	22.90	24.10	25.36
132 kV and below	15.78	16.61	17.48	18.40	19.35
Norms for Transformers/ Reactors (₹ Lakh per MVA or MVAR)					
O&M expenditure per MVA or per MVAR (₹ Lakh per MVA or MVAR)	0.262	0.276	0.290	0.305	0.322
Norms for AC and HVDC lines (₹ Lakh per km)					
Single Circuit (Bundled Conductor with six or more sub-conductors)	0.861	0.906	0.953	1.003	1.056
Single Circuit (Bundled conductor with four sub-conductors)	0.738	0.776	0.817	0.860	0.905
Single Circuit (Twin & Triple Conductor)	0.492	0.518	0.545	0.573	0.603
Single Circuit (Single Conductor)	0.346	0.259	0.272	0.287	0.302
Double Circuit (Bundled conductor with four or more sub-conductors)	1.291	1.359	1.430	1.506	1.585
Double Circuit (Twin & Triple Conductor)	0.861	0.906	0.953	1.003	1.056
Double Circuit (Single Conductor)	0.369	0.388	0.409	0.430	0.453
Multi Circuit (Bundled Conductor with four or more sub-conductor)	2.266	2.385	2.510	2.642	2.781
Multi Circuit (Twin & Triple Conductor)	1.509	1.588	1.671	1.759	1.851
Norms for HVDC stations					
HVDC Back-to-Back stations (₹ Lakh per MW) (Except Gazuwaka BTB)	2.07	2.18	2.30	2.42	2.55
Gazuwaka HVDC Back-to-Back station (₹ Lakh per MW)	1.83	1.92	2.03	2.13	2.24
HVDC bipole scheme (₹ Lakh per MW)	1.04	1.10	1.16	1.22	1.28



Provided that the O&M expenses for the GIS bays shall be allowed as worked out by multiplying 0.70 of the O&M expenses of the normative O&M expenses for bays;

Provided that the O&M expense norms of Double Circuit quad AC line shall be applicable to for HVDC bi-pole line;

Provided that the O&M expenses of ± 500 kV Mundra-Mohindergarh HVDC bipole scheme (2500 MW) shall be allowed as worked out by multiplying 0.80 of the normative O&M expenses for HVDC bipole scheme;

Provided further that the O&M expenses for Transmission Licensees whose transmission assets are located solely in NE Region (including Sikkim), States of Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, the Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, district of Darjeeling of West Bengal shall be worked out by multiplying 1.50 to the normative O&M expenses prescribed above.

(b) The total allowable operation and maintenance expenses for the transmission system shall be calculated by multiplying the number of substation bays, transformer capacity of the transformer/reactor/Static Var Compensator/Static Synchronous Compensator (in MVA/MVAr) and km of line length with the applicable norms for the operation and maintenance expenses per bay, per MVA/MVAr and per km respectively.

.....”

71. We have considered the submissions of the Petitioner. The O&M Expenses have been worked out in accordance with Regulation 36 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations, and the same are as follows:

(₹ in lakh)					
Combined Assets					
Particulars	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
Sub-station Bays					
Tirunelveli: ICT at Tirunelveli (HV Side)	1	1	1	1	1
Thirunelveli: ICT at Triunelveli (LV Side)	1	1	1	1	1
Arasur: ICT Bay at Arasur (HV Side)	1	1	1	1	1
Arasur: ICT Bay at Arasur (LV Side)	1	1	1	1	1
Karaikudi: ICT Bay at Karaikudi (LV Side)	1	1	1	1	1
Karaikudi: ICT Bay at Karaikudi (HV Side)	1	1	1	1	1
Puducherry: ICT at Pondicherry	1	1	1	1	1
Puducherry: ICT at Pondicherry (LV Side)	1	1	1	1	1
ICT at Kozhikode (HV Side)	1	1	1	1	1



Combined Assets					
Particulars	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
ICT at Kozhikode (LV Side)	1	1	1	1	1
Norm (₹ lakh/bay)					
400 kV	29.53	31.08	32.71	34.43	36.23
220 kV	20.67	21.75	22.90	24.10	25.36
O&M expenses allowed	251.00	264.15	278.05	292.65	307.95
Transformer					
Thirunelveli: ICT at Tirunelveli (MVA)	500	500	500	500	500
Arasur: Transformer at Arasur (MVA)	500	500	500	500	500
Karaikudi: ICT at Karaikudi (MVA)	500	500	500	500	500
Thirunelveli: ICT at Pondicherry (MVA)	500	500	500	500	500
ICT at Kozhikode (MVA)	500	500	500	500	500
Norm (₹ lakh/MVA)					
400 kV	0.262	0.276	0.290	0.305	0.322
O&M Expenses allowed	655.00	690.00	725.00	762.50	805.00
Total O&M Expenses allowed	906.00	954.15	1003.05	1055.15	1112.95

Interest on Working Capital (IWC)

72. Regulations 34(1)(d), 34(3) and 34(4) of the 2024 Tariff Regulations specify as follows:

“34. Interest on Working Capital: (1) *The working capital shall cover:*

.....

(d) *For Hydro generating station (including Pumped Storage Hydro generating station) and Transmission System:*

- (i) *Receivables equivalent to 45 days of annual fixed cost;*
- (ii) *Maintenance spares @ 15% of operation and maintenance expenses including security expenses; and*
- (iii) *Operation and maintenance expenses, including security expenses for one month.*

(2)

(3) *Rate of interest on working capital shall be on a normative basis and shall be considered at the Reference Rate of Interest as on 1.4.2024 or as on 1st April of the year during the tariff period 2024- 29 in which the generating station or a unit thereof or the transmission system including communication system or element thereof, as the case may be, is declared under commercial operation, whichever is later:*

Provided that in case of truing-up, the rate of interest on working capital shall be considered at Reference Rate of Interest as on 1st April of each of the financial year during the tariff period 2024-29.

(4) *Interest on working capital shall be payable on a normative basis, notwithstanding that the generating company or the transmission licensee has not taken a loan for working capital from any outside agency.”*



73. The Petitioner has considered the rate of IWC as 11.90% as on 1.4.2024. IWC is worked out in accordance with Regulation 34 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations. The ROI considered is 11.90% (SBI 1-year MCLR applicable as on 1.4.2024 of 8.65% plus 325 basis points) for FY 2024-25 to FY 2028-29.

74. The components of the working capital and interest allowed thereon under Regulation 34 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations for the 2024-29 tariff period in respect of the Combined Assets are as under:

(₹ in lakh)

Combined Assets						
	Particulars	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
A	Working Capital for O&M Expenses (O&M Expenses for one month)	75.50	79.51	83.59	87.93	92.75
B	Working Capital for Maintenance Spares (15% of O&M Expenses)	135.90	143.12	150.46	158.27	166.94
C	Working Capital for Receivables (Equivalent to 45 days of annual fixed cost /annual transmission charges)	353.47	350.30	348.31	346.96	348.32
D	Total Working Capital (A+B+C)	564.87	572.93	582.35	593.16	608.01
E	Rate of Interest for working capital (in %)	11.90	11.90	11.90	11.90	11.90
F	Interest on working capital (D*E)	67.22	68.18	69.30	70.59	72.35

Annual Fixed Charges of the 2024-29 Tariff Period

75. The annual transmission charges allowed in respect of the Combined Assets for the 2024-29 tariff period are as follows:

(₹ in lakh)

Combined Assets					
Particulars	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
Depreciation	731.27	714.62	705.76	705.76	705.76



Combined Assets					
Particulars	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
Interest on Loan	399.76	341.59	284.35	227.74	171.52
Return on Equity	762.74	762.74	762.74	762.74	762.74
Interest on Working Capital	67.22	68.18	69.30	70.59	72.35
O&M Expenses	906.00	954.15	1003.05	1055.15	1112.95
Total	2866.99	2841.28	2825.20	2821.97	2825.32

Filing Fee and Publication Expenses

76. The Petitioner has claimed reimbursement of the fee paid by it for filing the Petition and publication expenses. The Petitioner has further submitted that it is entitled to reimbursement of the filing fee and the expenses incurred on publication of notices in the application for approval of tariff directly from the beneficiaries or the long-term customers, as the case may be, in accordance with Regulation 94(1) of the 2024 Tariff Regulations.

77. We have considered the Petitioner's submissions. The Petitioner is entitled to reimbursement of the fee paid for filing the Petition and publication expenses incurred on this count directly from the beneficiaries or long-term customers, as the case may be.

Fees and Charges of Central Transmission Utility of India Limited (CTUIL)

78. The Petitioner has submitted that, as per Regulation 99 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations, the fees and charges of the CTUIL may be allowed separately through a separate regulation. The Petitioner has further submitted that in the absence of such regulation, the expenses of CTUIL will be borne by the Petitioner, which will be recovered by the Petitioner as additional O&M Expenses through a separate Petition at the end of the tariff period.

79. It is apt here to refer to Regulation 99 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations, which provides as under:



“99. Special Provisions relating to Central Transmission Utility of India Ltd. (CTUIL): The fee and charges of CTUIL shall be allowed separately by the Commission through a separate regulation:

Provided that until such regulation is issued by the Commission, the expenses of CTUIL shall be borne by Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. (PGCIL) which shall be recovered by PGCIL as additional O&M expenses through a separate petition.”

80. We have considered the Petitioner’s submissions and perused Regulation 99 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations. In view of the explicit provision made under Regulation 99 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations, we permit the Petitioner, i.e., PGCIL, to bear the fees and charges expenses of CTUIL and recover the same as additional O&M Expenses through a separate Petition until such regulation is notified and issued by the Commission.

License Fee and RLDC Fees and Charges

81. The Petitioner has claimed reimbursement of the license fee, RLDC Fees and Charges. The Petitioner is allowed the reimbursement of the license fee in accordance with Regulation 94(4) of the 2024 Tariff Regulations for the 2024-29 tariff period. The Petitioner is also allowed to recover the RLDC fee and charges from the beneficiaries in terms of Regulation 94(3) of the 2024 Tariff Regulations for the 2024-29 tariff period.

Goods and Services Tax

82. The Petitioner has submitted that the transmission charges claimed herein are exclusive of GST, and in case GST is levied in the future, the same shall be additionally paid by the Respondents and be charged and billed separately by the Petitioner. It is also prayed that additional taxes, if any, are paid by the Petitioner on account of the demand from the Government/ statutory authorities, and the Commission may allow the same to be recovered from the beneficiaries.



83. KSEBL has submitted that the Petitioner has requested the inclusion of GST and related duties as pass-through costs. However, as per recent orders of the Commission (Petition No. 382/TT/2024 and Petition No. 383/TT/2024), similar requests have been treated as premature. Further, the claim for GST should be deferred and considered only upon actual imposition of such taxes, as and when applicable.

84. In response, the Petitioner has reiterated the submissions made in its Petition.

85. We have considered the submissions of the Petitioner and KSEBL. Since GST is not levied on the transmission service at present, we are of the view that the Petitioner's prayer on this count is premature.

Security Expenses, Insurance and Capital Spares

86. The Petitioner has submitted that as per Regulation 36(3)(d) of the 2024 Tariff Regulations, the security expenses and capital spares of more than ₹10 lakh and insurance expenses arrived through the competitive bidding for the transmission system and associated communication system shall be allowed separately after a prudence check.

87. As regards the security expenses of the transmission assets, the Petitioner has submitted that it shall file a separate Petition for the truing up of security expenses from 1.4.2019 to 31.3.2024 under Regulation 35(3)(c) of the 2019 Tariff Regulations and recovery of security expenses from 1.4.2024 to 31.3.2029 under Regulation 36 (3)(d) of the 2024 Tariff Regulations. According to the Petitioner, the security expenses regarding the transmission assets (Combined Assets) are not claimed in the instant Petition.



88. The Petitioner has also submitted that it has not claimed insurance expenses in the instant Petition and has submitted that it shall file a separate Petition for claiming the overall insurance expenses and consequential Interest on Working Capital (IWC) on the same, considering the actual insurance expenses incurred by it for the FY 2023-24 after escalating the same at 5.25% per annum to arrive at the estimated insurance expense for the FY 2024-25, FY 2025-26, FY 2026-27, FY 2027-28, and FY 2028-29.

89. The Petitioner has not claimed capital spares for the Combined Assets in the instant Petition for the 2024-29 tariff period. According to the Petitioner, it shall file a separate Petition for the capital spares consumed and consequential IWC thereon on an actual basis for the 2024-29 tariff period as per the 2024 Tariff Regulations. The Petitioner has also submitted that it has filed Petition No. 45/MP/2024, claiming therein capital spares for the 2019-24 tariff period as per the 2019 Tariff Regulations.

90. We have considered the Petitioner's submissions and have perused the record. We deem it proper here to refer to Regulation 36(3) (d) of the 2024 Tariff Regulations which provides as follows:

"36(3)

(d) The Security Expenses, Capital Spares individually costing more than Rs. 10 lakh and Insurance expenses arrived through competitive bidding for the transmission system and associated communication system shall be allowed separately after prudence check:

Provided that in case of self insurance, the premium shall not exceed 0.12% of the GFA of the assets insured;

Provided that the transmission licensee shall submit the along with estimated security expenses based on assessment of the security requirement, capital spares and insurance expenses, which shall be trued up based on details of the year-wise actuals along with appropriate justification for incurring the same and along with confirmation that the same is not claimed as a part of additional capitalisation or consumption of stores and spares and renovation and modernization."

91. On perusal of Regulation 36(3)(d) of the 2024 Tariff Regulations and considering the Petitioner's submissions, the Petitioner is allowed to file a single consolidated



Petition comprising security expenses, capital spares individually costing more than ₹10 lakh and insurance expenses on the estimated basis as per the 2024 Tariff Regulations for the 2024-29 tariff period.

Sharing of Transmission Charges

92. The billing, collection, and disbursement of the transmission charges for the Combined Assets shall be recovered in terms of provisions of Regulation 57 of the 2019 Tariff Regulations for the 2019-24 tariff period and Regulation 78 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations for the 2024-29 tariff period.

93. To summarise:

- a. The trued-up Annual Fixed Charges (AFC) allowed for the 2019-24 tariff period are as follows:

(₹ in lakh)					
Particulars	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Combined Assets	3241.93	3342.18	3333.49	3357.75	3380.29

- b. Annual Fixed Charges allowed for the 2024-29 tariff period in this order are as follows:

(₹ in lakh)					
Particulars	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
Combined Assets	2866.99	2841.28	2825.20	2821.97	2825.32

94. This order disposes of the Petition No. 461/TT/2024, in terms of the above discussions and findings.

sd/-
(Harish Dudani)
Member

sd/-
(Ramesh Babu V.)
Member

