

**CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
NEW DELHI**

Petition No. 513/TL/2024

Coram:

Shri Jishnu Barua, Chairperson

Shri Ramesh Babu V, Member

Shri Harish Dudani, Member

Shri Ravinder Singh Dhillon, Member

Date of Order: 18th December, 2025

In the Matter of:

Application under Sections 14, 15, 79(1)(e) of the Electricity Act, 2003 read with the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Procedure, Terms and Conditions for Grant of Transmission License and other Related Matters) Regulation, 2024 and any other amendments thereon issued from time to time by this Commission, if any, for grant of Transmission Licence to Eastern Region Expansion Scheme-XXXIX Power Transmission Limited.

AND

In the Matter of:

TP Gopalpur Transmission Limited,

(earlier known as EREX-XXXIX Power Transmission Limited)

104-B, First Floor, 191/A,

Kharavela Nagar, Unit- 3,

Bhubaneswar, Odisha-751001

..... Petitioner

Versus

- 1) Central Transmission Utility of India Limited,**
Plot No. 2 Sector-29, Gurgaon-122 001,
Haryana,
- 2) REC Power Development and Consultancy Limited,**
Core 4, SCOPE Complex 7,
Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003
- 3) Bihar State Power Transmission Company Ltd.,**
Vidyut Bhavan, 4th Floor, Bailey Road,
Patna-800021
- 4) Jharkhand Urja Sancharan Nigam Ltd.,**
Engineering Building, HEC, Dhurwa
Ranchi -834004
- 5) Odisha Power Transmission Corporation Ltd.,**
Bhoinagar Post Office, Janpath,
Bhubaneshwar-751022



- 6) **West Bengal State Electricity Transmission Company Ltd.,**
Vidyut Bhavan, 8th Floor, A-Block,
Salt Lake City, Kolkata-700091
- 7) **Power Department,**
Government of Sikkim,
Gangtok, Sikkim
- 8) **Damodar Valley Corporation,**
DVC Towers, VIP Road,
Kolkata-700054
- 9) **Power Grid Corporation of Indian Limited,**
Saudamini, Plot No. 2, Sector 29,
Gurgaon-122001, Haryana
- 10) **Avaada Greenh2 Private Limited,**
C-11, Sector 65, Gautam Buddha Nagar,
Noida, Uttar Pradesh-201301, India,
- 11) **Acme Clean Energy Private Limited,**
Plot No. 152, Sector-44, Gurugram-1220021,
Haryana, India,

.....Respondent(s)

Parties Present:

Shri Basava Prabhu Patil, Sr. Advocate, ERSS XXXIX
Shri Anand Kumar Shrivastava, Advocate, ERSS XXXIX
Shri Shivam Sinha, Advocate, ERSS XXXIX
Shri Ravi Nair, Advocate, ERSS XXXIX
Ms. Janhavi, Advocate, ERSS XXXIX
Shri Jatin Mahani, ERSS XXXIX
Ms. Rohini Prasad, Advocate, BSPTCL
Ms. Ashika Ranjan, Advocate, BSPTCL
Shri Ranjeet Rajput, CTUIL
Shri Akshayvat Kislay, CTUIL

ORDER

This instant Application/Petition has been filed under Sections 14, 15, 79(1)(e) of the Electricity Act, 2003 (in short, 'the Act') read with the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Procedure, Terms and Conditions for Grant of Transmission License and other Related Matters) Regulations, 2024 and any other amendments thereon for the grant of Transmission Licence to "Eastern Region Expansion Scheme – XXXIX Power Transmission Limited" on a Build, Own, Operate and Transfer basis (hereinafter referred to as "the Project") consisting of the following elements:



S.No.	Scope of the Transmission Scheme	Scheduled COD in months from Effective Date
1.	Establishment of a new 765/400 kV, 2x1500 MVA GIS substation at Gopalpur in Odisha •765/400 kV, 1500 MVA ICTs: 2 nos. (7x500 MVA single phase units including one spare) •765 kV ICT bays: 2 nos. •400 kV ICT bays: 2 nos. •765 kV, 330 MVar, Bus reactor: 2 nos. (7x110 MVar single phase units including one spare unit for both bus and line reactors) •765 kV Bus reactor bays: 2 nos. •420 kV, 125 MVar Bus reactor: 2 nos. •400 kV Bus reactor bays: 2 nos. •765 kV line bays: 2 nos. [for termination of Angul (POWERGRID) – Gopalpur 765 kV D/c line along with 765 kV, 1x330 MVar switchable line reactor at Gopalpur end in both circuits] •400 kV line bays: 2 nos. [for termination of Gopalpur – Gopalpur (OPTCL) 400 kV D/c (Quad) line] •765 kV, 330 MVar (3x110 MVar single phase units) switchable line reactor along with associated bay and 500 ohm NGR (with NGR bypass arrangement) [at Gopalpur end in both circuits of Angul (POWERGRID) – Gopalpur 765 kV D/c line]: 2 nos. Additional space for future expansion: •765/400 kV, 4x1500 MVA ICTs (12x500 MVA single phase units) along with associated ICT bays at both voltage levels •400/220 kV, 4x500 MVA ICTs along with associated ICT bays at both voltage levels •765 kV, 2x330 MVar (6x110 MVar single phase units) bus reactor along with associated bays •420 kV, 2x125 MVar bus reactor along with associated bays •8 nos. of 765 kV line bays (along with space for switchable line reactor) for future lines •10 nos. of 400 kV line bays (along with space for switchable line reactor) for future lines •12 nos. of 220 kV line bays for future lines •765 kV bus sectionaliser bay: 1 set •400 kV bus sectionaliser bay: 1 set •220 kV bus sectionaliser bay :1 set •220 kV bus coupler bay: 2 no.	31-12-2027
2.	Angul – Gopalpur 765 kV D/c line	
3.	Extension at 765 kV level at Angul (POWERGRID) S/s including bus extension in GIS •765 kV AIS line bays (along with space for future switchable line reactor): 2 nos. [for termination of Angul (POWERGRID) – Gopalpur 765 kV D/c line] including bus extension in GIS of about 3000 m	
4.	Gopalpur – Gopalpur (OPTCL) 400 kV D/c (Quad) line@	

5.	Extension at 400 kV level at #Gopalpur (OPTCL) GIS S/s	
	•400 kV GIS line bays: 2 nos. [for termination of Gopalpur – Gopalpur (OPTCL) 400 kV D/c (Quad) line] + #2 nos. for diameter completion	

Note:

a)@Gopalpur (OPTCL) is being taken up for implementation and is expected to be awarded by March 2024. As per OPTCL's input 20 km line has been considered between 765/400 kV (ISTS) and 400/220 kV (Intra-state) substations at Gopalpur.

b)#The bus scheme of 400 kV level at Gopalpur (OPTCL) GIS S/s shall be one and half breaker scheme, 2 nos. full diameter i.e., 4 nos. of GIS bays needs to be implemented in the scheme for requirement of 2 nos. GIS Bays for termination of Gopalpur (OPTCL) – Gopalpur 400 kV D/c (Quad) line in two different diameters.

c) Utilisation of other 2 nos. GIS bays of these diameters shall be identified in future.

d)OPTCL shall provide space at under implementation Gopalpur (OPTCL) 400/200 kV GIS S/s for implementation of 2 nos. of 400 kV GIS line bays for termination of Gopalpur (ISTS) – Gopalpur (OPTCL) 400 kV D/C (Quad) line. 2 nos. full diameter i.e. 4 nos. GIS bays shall be established.

e)POWERGRID shall provide space at Angul (POWERGRID) 765/400 kV S/s for implementation of 2 nos. of 765 kV line bays (along with space for future switchable line reactor) along with bus extension in GIS for termination Angul (POWERGRID) – Gopalpur 765 kV D/c line.

2. The Petitioner has made the following prayers:

- Issue the Transmission License to the Applicant for establishing, operating and maintaining the "Eastern Region Expansion Scheme – XXXIX" as provided in the Transmission Service Agreement and the Request for Proposal;
- Allow the sharing and recovery of Transmission charges for Inter-State Transmission System for the "Eastern Region Expansion Scheme – XXXIX" as per the CERC (Sharing of Inter-State Transmission and Losses) Regulations, 2020 and any other amendment thereon issued from time to time by this Hon'ble Commission;
- Condone any inadvertent errors/ omissions/ shortcomings and permit the Applicant to add/ change/ modify/ alter these filings and make further submissions as may be required at a future date; and
- Pass any such other order/orders, as may be deemed fit and proper in the facts and circumstances of the case.

3. The Petitioner has mainly submitted as under:

(a) In the 16th NCT meeting held on 30.11.2023, the Odisha Government requested an ISTS sub-station at Gopalpur to meet about 3 GW demand of new Green Hydrogen and Green Ammonia plants, and CTUIL supported the



need to bring renewable power from outside Odisha to meet the RPO. It was decided that the project would be implemented through TBCB mode. Later, on 01.03.2024, the Ministry of Power (MoP) vide notification dated 28.02.2024 notified REC as the BPC for selecting a TSP for the project, and on 05.03.2024, at the 18th NCT meeting, some changes to the project scope were approved.

(b) On 16.03.2024, REC issued the RfP for the selection of a TSP through the TBCB process to build the Transmission Project, with the condition that the successful bidder would take 100% equity of the Petitioner. On the same day, REC also published a global invitation in national and regional newspapers in English and local languages. On 18.03.2024, REC informed the Commission and MoP regarding uploading of the bid documents on its website.

(c) On 22.03.2024, REC issued Amendment-I to the RfP to align the Draft Transmission Service Agreement with the CERC Tariff Regulations, 2024. On 27.03.2024, the Petitioner was incorporated as a wholly owned subsidiary of REC to carry out pre-bid activities and later act as the TSP. On 05.04.2024, TPCL paid the required fee of Rs. 5,90,000/- (Rupees Five Lakh Ninety Thousand only) (inclusive of 18% GST) to REC for the RfP and related documents, and on 08.04.2024, REC shared the RfP, agreements, and survey reports with TPCL. REC also issued notices for a pre-bid meeting on 08.04.2024 and wrote to the District Magistrate and Collector Ganjam (Odisha) on 12.04.2024, seeking about 55 acres of land for the proposed substation at Gopalpur. On 18.04.2024, REC issued an invoice confirming TPCL's payment, and on 30.04.2024, issued Amendment-II to the RfP to rename the SPV as "ERES-XXXIX Power Transmission Limited."

(d) On 02.05.2024, REC issued clarifications to the RfP, and on the same day, the Petitioner wrote to CEA seeking approval for laying the overhead transmission lines under Section 68 of the Act. The MoP approved the same on 17.05.2024. Meanwhile, on 03.05.2024, REC informed TPCL that the tentative acquisition price for the Petitioner's shares was Rs. 1827.55 lakh. On 10.05.2024, CEA issued a letter to REC about constituting a Bid Evaluation Committee. REC continued to issue further amendments to the RfP on multiple dates from May to September 2024, mainly for extending bid submission timelines. As per the final amendment on 19.09.2024, the last date for online



submission of bids was 24.09.2024, with technical bids to be opened the same day and financial bids on 07.10.2024.

(e) REC also issued additional clarifications to the RfP on 14.06.2024, 22.07.2024, 16.08.2024, and 04.09.2024, regarding provisions in the RfP and Draft TSA. Further, at the 20th and 21st meetings of the NCT held on 25.06.2024 and 06.08.2024, the committee discussed changes to the implementation time frame for the Transmission Project.

(f) On 01.10.2024, REC declared TPCL as a 'Qualified Bidder' under the RfP and soon after, invited TPCL on 03.10.2024 to participate in the e-Reverse Auction scheduled for 04.10.2024. On 07.10.2024, REC requested TPCL to submit the original hard copies of certain bid documents as required under Clause 2.5.2 of the RfP, with a warning that any mismatch with the online submission would result in rejection. On the same day, TPCL confirmed to REC that it would submit the relevant documents within the required timeline.

(g) The Bid Evaluation Committee then met to assess the bids and declared TPCL as the L1 bidder with a quoted annual transmission tariff of Rs. 2897.29 million. On 08.10.2024, the Committee issued a certificate under the TBCB Guidelines. Accordingly, REC issued the Letter of Intent (LoI) to TPCL on 15.10.2024, requiring acceptance within 7 days. TPCL unconditionally accepted the LoI through its letter dated 21.10.2024. As per the RfP, TPCL was required, within 10 days of the LoI, to furnish a Contract Performance Guarantee to CTUIL, execute the TSA, and acquire the SPV, after which the TSP would file petitions before the Commission for adoption of charges and the grant of license.

(h) On 04.11.2024, the Ministry of Power approved the transfer of the Petitioner SPV to TPCL. Before this, TPCL had completed its due diligence on 23.10.2024. Thereafter, REC confirmed the acquisition price of the SPV as Rs. 18,56,22,381/- on 07.11.2024 and also intimated, via email on 06.11.2024, that the Share Purchase Agreement (SPA) would be executed on 14.11.2024.

(i) In accordance with Clause 2.15.2 of the RfP, TPCL furnished a Contract Performance Guarantee of Rs. 58,00,00,000/- on 07.11.2024 in favour of CTUIL, as required under Clause 2.12.1. Thereafter, on 13.11.2024, TPCL paid the acquisition price of Rs. 18,56,22,381/- for 100% equity shares of the

Petitioner, and on 14.11.2024, executed the Share Purchase Agreement (SPA) with REC and the Petitioner. On 14.11.2024, the Petitioner also signed the Transmission Service Agreement (TSA) with CTUIL for implementing the Transmission Project.

(j) On 14.11.2024, REC issued a letter to TPCL in relation to the handing over of the original documents to TPCL. Further, REC also issued a letter to TPCL on 14.11.2024, extending the timeline for the completion of the activities mentioned under Clauses 2.15.2, 2.15.3 and 2.15.4 of the RfP till 22.11.2024. Thus, in terms of Clause 2.15.4 of the RfP read with the Letter dated 14.11.2024 (extension of timeline), the present petition has been filed within 5 working days of the acquisition of the SPV by TPCL.

(l) The Petitioner undertakes to comply with procedural requirements. The implementation of the Transmission Project will be strictly in accordance with the signed TSA with CTUIL, and any time or cost overrun will be handled in accordance with the TSA, the Act, the bidding documents, and applicable regulations.

Hearing dated 28.01.2025

4. During the course of the hearing, the learned counsel for the Petitioner reiterated the submissions made in the Petition. The Representative of the Respondent, CTUIL, submitted that CTUIL has already filed its recommendations under Section 15(4) of the Electricity Act, 2003, for the grant of a transmission licence to the Petitioner. After hearing the parties, the Petition was admitted subject to just exceptions. Vide Record of Proceedings for the hearing dated 28.1.2025, the Petitioner was directed to implead PGCIL as a party to the Petition and to file a revised memo of parties. Further, CTUIL and OPTCL were directed to file the requisite information regarding inter-connecting upstream and downstream transmission systems and details of connectivity/ GNA granted and/ or applications received at Gopalpur ISTS S/S and Gopalpur (OPTCL).

Submissions of Petitioner:



5. In compliance with the ROP dated 28.01.2025, the Petitioner, vide its affidavit dated 03.02.2025, has submitted that the Petitioner has impleaded Power Grid Corporation of India Limited as a party to the Petition and has filed a revised memo of parties.

Submissions of Respondent No.1, CTUIL:

6. In compliance of ROP dated 28.01.2025, CTUIL vide affidavit dated 10.02.2025 and 28.02.2025 has submitted as under:

(a) Government of Odisha vide letter dated 08-02-2023 had requested the establishment of the 765 kV substation at Gopalpur under ISTS to feed the upcoming loads such as Green Hydrogen, Green Ammonia, Solar cell manufacturing, etc. As per the said inputs, new industrial demand from the Green Hydrogen and Green Ammonia industries in the range of about 3 GW is expected in the Gopalpur area starting from FY 2025-26 onwards.

(b) An ISTS scheme, namely “Eastern Region Expansion Scheme-XXXIX (ERES-XXXIX)” was agreed in the 16th NCT meeting held on 30.11.2023.

(c) Based on the OPTCL’s (STU of Odisha) letter dated 05.06.2024 regarding change in the expected commissioning schedule of its Gopalpur S/s to Dec 2026, the completion schedule of the ISTS scheme, namely ERES-XXXIX, was modified to 31.12.2026 in the 20th meeting on NCT held on 25.06.2024

(d) The instant ISTS scheme was re-discussed in the 21st meeting of NCT held on 06.08.2024, wherein, based on the OPTCL letter dated 01.08.2024 regarding change in the expected commissioning schedule of their Gopalpur S/s to Dec 2027, the completion schedule of the ISTS scheme, namely ERES-XXXIX, was modified to 31.12.2027.

i. RE: Inter-Connecting Upstream and Downstream Transmission Systems of Gopalpur (ISTS) in the following table:

Sl. No	Particulars	Detail of the transmission system	STU/ISTS	Implementing Agency	Implementation mode (RTM/TBCB)	Commissioning Schedule/status
1	Upstream Transmission system	The ERES-XXXIX scheme inter alia includes 765 kV D/c line from Angul (POWERGRID) S/s, which is an existing ISTS substation. The extension				



		works at Angul (POWERGRID) S/s for the termination of the line is also part of the same scheme.				
2	Downstream transmission system	Gopalpur (OPTCL) S/s	STU	STU	-	#Dec 2027 (Tender to be floated in Feb 2025)
		Gopalpur (OPTCL) – Pandiabili	STU	STU	-	
		Gopalpur (OPTCL) – Theruvali	STU	STU	-	#To be taken after tendering of Gopalpur S/s.

ii. RE: The details of the connectivity/ GNA granted and/ or applications received at Gopalpur ISTS S/s as per the following table with the relevant documents:

Sl. No.	Applicant name (Application No.)	Type of applicant (generator/ bulk consumer/ distribution licensee etc.)	Quantum of connectivity/ GNA granted/ applied for (in MW)	Start date of the connectivity/ GNA	Con BGs furnished
1.	Avaada Greenh2 Private Limited (2200000160)	Bulk Consumer	700	30-06-2026*	Yes BG1- 50 lakh BG3- 14 Crore
2.	Acme Clean Energy Pvt Ltd (2200001715)	Bulk Consumer	2182	31-12-2028 (requested)	Application under Scrutiny

* The ISTS scheme was awarded a commissioning schedule of 31-12-2027. Hence, the GNARE start date would be revised in line with the GNA Regulations.

Hearing dated 19.02.2025:

7. During the course of the hearing, the learned counsel for the Petitioner submitted that the name of the Company has been changed from ERES-XXXIX to TP Gopalpur, and sought permission to place on record the certificate in support thereof. Respondent No. 5, OPTCL, submitted that OPTCL has complied with the directions issued vide Record of Proceedings dated 28.1.2025 and has already submitted a brief note in this regard. Vide Record of Proceedings for the hearing dated 19.2.2025, the CTUIL was directed to submit the 'necessary augmentation for providing the connection to the ISTS' in terms of Regulation 12.5 of the GNA Regulations for each of the applicants at Gopalpur (ISTS) S/s, to file a copy of the GNA application for such

applicants and the grant by CTUIL specifying the elements covered under Regulation 12.5 of the GNA Regulations and also whether the applicants have applied for the GNA or GNA_{RE}?. The Petitioner was directed to file an appropriate Application for the change in the Company's name and to place on record the supporting documents in this regard.

Submissions of the Petitioner:

8. Vide an affidavit dated 22.02.2025, the Petitioner has submitted that the Petitioner's Board of Directors passed a resolution under the Companies Act, 2013, approving the name change. Subsequently, the Ministry of Corporate Affairs issued a Certificate of Incorporation on 07.02.2025, changing the Applicant's name from ERES XXXIX Power Transmission Limited to TP Gopalpur Transmission Limited. The amended memo of parties has been filed separately.

9. **Submissions of OPTCL on affidavit dated 13.02.2025:**

A. Inter-connecting Downstream Transmission Systems

S. No.	Particulars	Details of the Transmission System	STU/ ISTS	Implementing AGENCY	Implementation Mode (RTM/TB CB)	Commissioning Schedule/ status
1.	Downstream Transmission System	400/220/33 kV Gopalpur OPTCL at Badakusasthali (single line diagram attached as Annexure-I)	STU	OPTCL	RTM	December, 2027

B. Details of Connectivity/ GNA granted and/ or applications received at Gopalpur (OPTCL)

Sl. No	Applicant Name	Type of Applicant (Generator/ Bulk Consumer/ Distribution Licensee Etc.)	Quantum Of Connectivity (In MW)	Start Date of the Connectivity	REMARK
1.	M/S Avaada Greenh2 Pvt Ltd	Bulk Consumer	700 (400 kV)	Dec 27	Letter from Bulk Consumer is Attached

Submissions of CTUIL:

10. CTUIL, vide an affidavit dated 28.02.2025, has made the following submissions:

a) Govt. of Odisha vide letter dated 08.02.2023 had requested the establishment of 765 kV substation at Gopalpur under ISTS to feed the upcoming loads, such as Green Hydrogen, Green Ammonia, Solar cell manufacturing, etc. As per the said letter, the cumulative power requirement is expected to be about 3 GW. Further, MNRE vide OM dated 01.11.2023 has projected Green Hydrogen/Ammonia demand of 5.25 GW in ISTS. Keeping in view the progressive development of new industries, the ISTS scheme, namely Eastern Region Expansion Scheme-XXXIX (ERES-XXXIX), has been planned to meet the initial power demand requirement up to 3-3.5 GW. The system shall be augmented in the future as per requirement so as to meet demands beyond 3-3.5 GW.

(b) The Eastern Region Expansion Scheme-XXXIX (ERES-XXXIX) was agreed in the 16th NCT meeting held on 30-11-2023.

(c) Based on OPTCL's (STU of Odisha) letter dated 05-06-2024 regarding change in the expected commissioning schedule of their Gopalpur S/s to Dec 2026, the completion schedule of the ISTS scheme, namely ERES-XXXIX, was modified to 31-12-2026 in the 20th meeting on NCT held on 25-06-2024.

(d) The ERES-XXXIX scheme was re-discussed in the 21st meeting of NCT held on 06-08-2024, wherein, based on the OPTCL letter dated 01-08-2024 regarding a change in the expected commissioning schedule of their Gopalpur S/s to Dec 2027, the completion schedule of the ISTS scheme, namely ERES-XXXIX, was modified to 31-12-2027.

(e) The Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV), viz. ERES-XXXIX Power Transmission Limited, for the implementation of the ERES-XXXIX scheme, was transferred to the successful bidder, i.e., M/S Tata Power Company Limited, on 14-11-2024, with a SCoD of 31-12-2027.

(f) The details of the connectivity / GNA granted and/ or applications received at Gopalpur ISTS S/s as per the following table with the relevant documents:

Sl. No.	Applicant name (Application No.)	Type of applicant (generator/ bulk consumer/ distribution licensee etc.)	Quantum of connectivity/ GNA granted/ applied for (in MW)	Start date of the connectivity/ GNA	Conn-BGs furnished	Transmission system for grant of GNA, including the requirement under 12.5
1.	Avaada Greenh2 Private Limited (2200000160)	Bulk Consumer	700 (GNA _{RE})	30-06-2026 [@] (GNA _{RE})	Yes Conn-BG1: 50 lakh Conn-BG3: 14 Crore	(a) A common augmentation system has been planned for potential Green Hydrogen/ Green Ammonia-based consumers in the Gopalpur area, considering the potential provided by the Govt. of Odisha and MNRE, Govt. of India. The ISTS works are being implemented under ERES-XXXIX. (b) Line for connection to ISTS viz. Gopalpur (ISTS) – Avaada 400 kV D/c line, along with associated line bays at both ends, is under the scope of the applicant.
2.	Acme Clean Energy Private Limited (2200001715)	Bulk Consumer	2182 (GNA _{RE})	31-12-2028 (requested)	Application under process	Application under process

[@]The ISTS scheme has been awarded a commissioning schedule of 31-12-2027. Hence, the start date of GNA_{RE} would be revised in line with Regulation 22.4(b) of the GNA Regulations, 2022.

Hearing dated 04.03.2025

11. In view of the nature of the Transmission Scheme/ Project involved in the instance cases, the Commission deemed it appropriate to list the present cases along



with similar other cases, i.e., Petition Nos. 424/TL/2024 and 426/TL/2024 on 20.3.2025.

Hearing dated 20.03.2025:

12. During the course of the hearing, the learned counsel for the Petitioners requested that the transmission licence be granted so that the Petitioner company may approach the CEA for approval of Section 164 of the Act and start the work of the transmission lines to achieve the SCOD. Further, the representative of the CTUIL requested for interpretation of the scope of Regulation 12.5 of the GNA Regulations. After hearing the parties and the representative of the CTUIL, the parties were directed as under:

- “(a) The Petitioners to implead the bulk consumers that have been granted for GNA/GNA_{RE} at the substation included in the scheme in consultation with CTUIL and to file a revised memo of parties.
(b) The bulk consumers are directed to furnish their response, including the drawal schedule and implementation of their dedicated system.
(c) In Petition No. 513/TL/2024, OPTCL is directed to file its response in compliance with the RoP for the hearing dated 28.1.2025, along with the implementation schedule of the Gopalpur 400 kV substation.
(d) CTUIL to furnish on an affidavit the details of Start date of GNA/NGA_{RE} for bulk consumers/ distribution licensees covered under instant cases vis-a-vis schedule commissioning date of the transmission system under these Petitions.”*

RoP compliance affidavit on behalf of Respondent No. 1 (CTUIL) dated 17.04.2025

13. CTUIL, vide affidavit dated 17.04.2025, has submitted as below:

Sl. No.	Applicant name (Application No.)	Type of applicant (generator/ bulk consumer/ distribution licensee etc.)	Quantum of connectivity/ GNA granted/ applied for (in MW)	Start date of the connectivity / GNA	Conn-BGs furnished	Transmission system for grant of GNA, including the requirement under 12.5
1.	Avaada Greenh2 Private Limited (2200000160)	Bulk Consumer	700 (GNA _{RE})	31-12-2027* (GNA _{RE})	Conn-BG1: 0.5 Cr Conn-BG3: 14 Cr	(c) A common augmentation system has been planned for potential Green Hydrogen/ Green Ammonia-based consumers in the Gopalpur area, considering the potential provided by the Govt. of Odisha and MNRE, Govt. of India. The ISTS works are being implemented under ERES-XXXIX with a

						commissioning schedule of 31-12-2027. (d) Line for connection to ISTS viz. Gopalpur (ISTS) – Avaada 400 kV D/c line, along with associated line bays at both ends, is under the scope of the applicant.
2.	Acme Clean Energy Private Limited (2200001715)	Bulk Consumer	2182 (GNARE)	31-12-2028 (GNARE)	The application has been agreed for grant in the 41 st CMETS-ER held on 28-03-2025. Intimation will be issued shortly.	(a) A common augmentation system has been planned for potential Green Hydrogen/ Green Ammonia-based consumers in the Gopalpur area, considering the potential provided by the Govt. of Odisha and MNRE, Govt. of India. The ISTS works are being implemented under ERES-XXXIX with a commissioning schedule of 31-12-2027. (b) Additional Augmentation: ERES-46: with a completion scheduled of 31.12.2028 (i) Installation of 765/400 kV, 2x1500 MVA ICT (6x500 MVA single-phase units) at Gopalpur (ISTS) GIS S/s along with associated bays at both ends. (c) Line for connection to ISTS viz. Gopalpur (ISTS) – ACME 400 kV D/c line (minimum capacity of 2300MVA per circuit), along with associated line bays at both ends, is under the scope of the applicant.

**The ISTS scheme has been awarded a commissioning schedule of 31-12-2027. Hence, the start date of GNARE has been revised in line with Regulation 22.4 (b) of GNA Regulations, 2022, from 30-06-2026 to 31-12-2027.*

Hearing dated 22.04.2025:

14. In response to the specific queries of the Commission regarding the implementation of Regulation 12.5 of the GNA Regulations and the aspects of cost apportionment and securing guarantees from the Bulk Consumers, the representative of CTUIL sought liberty to file an additional affidavit in this regard. The Petitioner, in Petition Nos. 513/TL/2024 and 514/AT/2024, submitted that pursuant to the CTUIL meeting, one bulk consumer was initially impleaded as a party to the Petition. However, in its subsequent affidavit, CTUIL has now indicated the names of two additional bulk consumers, and the Petitioner may, accordingly, be permitted to a



revised memo of parties to implead these additional bulk consumers. After hearing the parties and the representative of the CTUIL, the Commission directed as under:

“(a) CTUIL has submitted in earlier affidavits that the transmission systems proposed under the subject Petitions are being planned for the entities covered under Regulation 17.1(iii) of the GNA Regulations. It is observed that some bulk consumers have withdrawn their GNA/ GNARE applications. Considering the above and the possibility of withdrawal/ relinquishment of such GNA/GNARE sought by the entities covered under Regulation 17.1(iii) of the GNA Regulations, CTUIL was directed to file, on affidavit, within ten days its proposal regarding security that may be taken from the Bulk Consumers considering Regulation 12.5 of the GNA Regulations, 2022. The Petitioner and the bulk consumers are to file their response to the CTUIL’s submissions.

(b) The Petitioner in Petition Nos. 513/TL/2024 and 514/AT/2024 were directed to file an amended memo of parties to also implead the additional bulk consumers as indicated by CTUIL.

(c) All the bulk consumers in these cases, including the additional Bulk Consumers to be impleaded as above, are to file their respective replies, including the details of their drawl schedules and implementation of the dedicated system, within ten days, if not filed already. In Petition No. 153/TL/2025, the bulk consumers granted GNA/GNARE at Gopalpur ISTS S/s to furnish their response/ reply within a week in compliance with the Record of Proceedings for the hearing dated 20.3.2025.

(d) In Petition Nos. 73/TL/2025 and 513/TL/2024, OPTC to file its response in compliance with the Record of Proceedings for the hearing dated 28.1.2025, along with the implementation schedule of Gopalpur 400 kV S/s and Gopalpur 400 kV S/s.”

Submissions of the Petitioner on affidavit dated 05.05.2025:

15. In compliance with the ROP dated 22.04.2025, the Petitioner has submitted that it has impleaded Avaada Greenh2 Private Limited and Acme Clean Energy Private Limited as parties to the Petition and has filed a revised memo of parties on 03.02.2025.

RoP compliance affidavit on behalf of Respondent, CTUIL

16. CTUIL, vide affidavit dated 16.05.2025, has submitted that with regard to security for entities under Regulation 17.1 (iii), it may be in the form of unconditional, on demand Bank Guarantee(s) as detailed below:

(a) If terminal bays for terminating the Dedicated Transmission Line of such entities under Regulation 17.1 (iii) are under the scope of the Transmission

Service Provider (TSP) implementing the Transmission Scheme, then the case is akin to terminal bays being implemented under ISTS for terminating the Dedicated Transmission Line of the Connectivity grantee. Accordingly, Conn-BG2 towards implementation of terminal bay(s) may be furnished by GNA/GNA_{RE} grantees [under Regulation 17.1 (iii)] as per Regulation 8.2 (a).

(b) Considering the average of estimated cost for GIS and AIS for installation of a 765/400 kV, 1x1500 MVA ICT along with associated bays, the Bank Guarantee of Rs. 12 Lakh/MW may be furnished by GNA/GNA_{RE} grantees [under Regulation 17.1 (iii)], if connection is provided at the 400 kV level. Similarly, considering the average estimated cost for GIS and AIS for the installation of a 400/220 kV, 1x500 MVA ICT along with associated bays, the Bank Guarantee of Rs. 14 Lakh/MW may be furnished by GNA/GNA_{RE} grantees [under Regulation 17.1 (iii)], for connection at the 220 kV level. This BG can be called as Conn-BG2 towards the implementation of ICTs at the pooling station, akin to Conn-BG2 towards the construction of the Associated Transmission System (ATS) for Connectivity grantee. This proposed Conn-BG2 shall be in addition to Conn-BGs [Conn-BG1 of Rs. 50 Lakhs and Conn-BG3 for 2 Lakh/MW] provisioned at Regulation 22.2 (b) (b-i). The Conn BG2 amount shall be the sum of the Conn-BG2 towards the bay, if applicable, and Conn-BG2 towards the implementation of ICT.

(c) The return of the above two Conn-BG2s towards implementation of the terminal bay(s) and implementation of ICTs at the pooling station can be as per Regulation 16.5.

(d) Further, considering Regulation 12.5 of the GNA Regulations, the ISTS transmission charges of the ICTs being implemented at Pooling stations [by Transmission Service Provider (TSP) implementing the Transmission Scheme] for providing GNA/GNA_{RE} for the entities covered under Regulation 17.1 (iii), may be apportioned to the GNA/GNA_{RE} grantees in proportion to their GNA/GNA_{RE}. If the State is also connected to such a pooling station, either through an ISTS line or an intra-State line, the ISTS Transmission charges for the ICTs implemented at the Pooling stations shall be apportioned to the State and GNA/GNA_{RE} grantees in the ratio of the number of feeders from such ICTs. Further apportionment to GNA/GNA_{RE} grantees [for entities under Regulation

17.1 (iii)] shall be in proportion to their GNA/GNA_{RE} quantum. The apportionment of the State share among drawee DICs located in the State shall be in proportion to their GNA/GNA_{RE} quantum. This provision shall be similar to the sharing of Transformer Component (TC) as provisioned in Regulation 7 of the CERC Sharing Regulations, 2020.

Hearing dated 20.05.2025:

17. During the course of the hearing, the representative of the Respondent, CTUIL, submitted that in terms of the direction of the Commission vide Record of Proceedings for the hearing dated 22.4.2025, CTUIL has already filed its compliance affidavit on 16.5.2025. Learned counsel for the OPTCL submitted that OPTCL has also filed its compliance affidavits in these matters. Learned counsel further submitted that OPTCL has raised an apprehension of some delay in the implementation of its S/S owing to land acquisition issues. Learned counsel further submitted that while OPTCL is trying to complete the Project in time, in case of unavoidable delay in the implementation of the said S/s, a dispensation as available to the TSP (i.e. extension/ grace period of 180 days on account of Force Majeure events) ought to also be extended to OPTCL. The Respondent, Bihar State Power Holding Company Limited (BSPHCL), submitted that, insofar as issues with respect to time overrun and cost overrun are concerned, the Commission may observe that these issues would be adjudged on their own merits as and when they arise. The learned counsel for the Petitioner submitted that in accordance with the direction of the Commission, the Petitioners have impleaded the Bulk Consumers, as conveyed by CTUIL, in the said matters and filed the amended memo of the parties. However, CTUIL has once again revised the list of Bulk Consumers, and in view of this, the Petitioner will have to again file a revised memo of parties in these matters. In this regard, the representative of CTUIL clarified that, upon processing the various applications received on a month-to-month basis, the names of applicants who do not meet the requisite criteria are struck off the list, which

has led to the revision of the list of Bulk Consumers in this case. Considering the submissions of the parties in the matters, the Commission directed that the Petitioner to file a revised memo of the parties, if required.

Hearing dated 20.06.2025:

18. During the course of the hearing, the learned counsel for the Petitioner submitted that while the pleadings in the matters are completed and none of the Bulk Consumers have filed any reply in the matter. He further submitted that a meeting was convened on 9.5.2025 amongst the Petitioner, OPTCL, MNRE and the Green Hydrogen/Ammonia Developer(s) regarding the shifting of the 765/400 kV Gopalpur S/s to Tata Steel SEZ. Learned counsel, accordingly, requested to permit the Petitioner to file its additional affidavit to place on record the minutes of the said meeting. The representative of the CTUIL apprised that one of the applicants, namely, Acme Clean Energy Private Limited, which had applied for the GNA of 2182 MW at Gopalpur S/s, has subsequently withdrawn its application on 3rd June, 2025. The said withdrawal has since been processed and allowed on 10th June, 2025, and as a result, the total quantum of GNA applied for/ granted at Gopalpur S/s now remains at 700 MW. The representative further sought liberty to file the updated information by way of an additional affidavit. The learned counsel for the OPTCL submitted that the OPTCL has already filed its compliance affidavit as per the direction contained in the Record of Proceedings dated 28.1.2025. Considering the above, the Commission permitted the Petitioner and CTUIL to file their respective affidavits.

Additional Affidavit of the Petitioner dated 03.07.2025:

19. The Petitioner, TP Gopalpur Transmission Limited (earlier known as Eres-xxxix Power Transmission Limited) has filed additional information in compliance with the Record of proceedings for hearing dated 20.06.2025 and has submitted as under:

a) On 17.03.2025, a meeting on the transmission plan and other related matters in Odisha was held at Gopalpur. The said meeting was attended by the officials from CEA, MNRE, ERPC, CTUIL, OPTCL, Odisha Discoms, GRIDCO Limited, the Petitioner, and the Green Hydrogen developers.

b) In the meeting held on 17.3.2025, the representatives of Green Hydrogen/ Ammonia Developers in Gopalpur suggested relocating the Gopalpur 765/400 kV ISTS substation closer to the TATA Steel SEZ area. Further, the cost of the increased line length of 765 kV D/C Angul (PGCIL) – Gopalpur ("Transmission Line") due to the shifting of 765/400 kV Gopalpur S/S to Tata Steel SEZ, along with its O&M expenses, were agreed to be shared among the Green Hydrogen/ Ammonia developers. Further, at the said meeting, it was also decided that the relocation of the 765/400 kV Gopalpur S/S shall be without any SCOD extension and without any implication on the tariff determined through bidding.

c) Pursuant to the above, on 09.05.2025, a meeting took place between the representatives of the Petitioner, OPTCL, MNRE, and the Green Hydrogen/ Ammonia Developers, regarding the additional costs and the modalities in respect of the shifting of 765/400 kV Gopalpur Pooling Station to be commissioned under the Project inside the Tata Steel SEZ premises. In the said meeting, it was also decided that the additional cost implications of shifting the aforesaid substation would be borne by the Green Hydrogen/ Ammonia Developers on an annuity basis as per their proportionate demands.

Additional Affidavit of Respondent No. 1 (CTUIL) dated 04.07.2025:

20. In compliance with the ROP dated 20.06.2025, CTUIL vide affidavit dated 10.09.2025, has submitted as under:

a) CTUIL vide affidavit dated 04.07.2025 had submitted that M/s ACME Clean Energy Private Limited vide letter dated 03-06-2025 has withdrawn their 2182 MW GNARE application. Accordingly, the application of M/s ACME Clean Energy Private Limited has been closed vide CTU Closure letter dated 09-06-2025.

GNA applications at Gopalpur (ISTS) S/s:



Sl. No.	Applicant name (Application No.)	Type of applicant (generator/ bulk consumer/ distribution licensee etc.)	Quantum of connectivity/ GNA granted/ applied for (in MW)	Start date of the connectivity/ GNA	Conn-BGs furnished	Transmission system for grant of GNA, including the requirement under 12.5
1.	Avaada Greenh2 Private Limited (2200000160)	Bulk Consumer	700 (GNARE)	31-12-2027* (GNARE)	Conn-BG1: 0.5 Cr Conn-BG3: 14 Cr	(a) A common augmentation system has been planned for potential Green Hydrogen/ Green Ammonia-based consumers in the Gopalpur area, considering the potential provided by the Govt. of Odisha and MNRE, Govt. of India. The ISTS works are being implemented under ERES-XXXIX with a commissioning schedule of 31-12-2027 . (b) Line for connection to ISTS, viz. Gopalpur (ISTS) – Avaada 400 kV D/c line, along with associated line bays at both ends, is under the scope of the applicant.

** The ISTS scheme has been awarded a commissioning schedule of 31-12-2027. Hence, the start date of GNARE has been revised in line with Regulation 22.4 (b) of GNA Regulations, 2022, from 30-06-2026 to 31-12-2027.*

Hearing dated 07.07.2025:

21. During the course of the hearing, the learned counsel for the Petitioner submitted that pursuant to the liberty granted by the Commission vide Record of Proceedings for the hearing dated 20.6.2025, the Petitioner has filed its affidavit placing on record the minutes of meeting convened on 9.5.2025 amongst the Petitioner, OPTCL, MNRE, and the Green Hydrogen/ Ammonia Developer(s) regarding the shifting of the 765/400 kV Gopalpur S/s to Tata Steel SEZ. He further submitted that while the aspect of shifting of the 765/400 kV Gopalpur S/s at the cost

to be borne by the Green Hydrogen/ Ammonia Developers was deliberated in the said meeting, there is, however, no final decision on the shifting of the said S/s and as on the date, the location of the said S/s remains unchanged. Learned counsel submitted that CTUIL has also filed its compliance affidavit in terms of the direction issued vide Record of Proceedings for the hearing dated 20.6.2025, and the matters may be reserved for order.

Corrigendum to RoP in Petition No. 513/TL/2024 of the Hearing dated 07.07.2025:

22. The matter was heard on 7.7.2025, and the Record of Proceedings in this regard was issued on 14.7.2025. However, subsequently, a corrigendum to the ROP dated 14.07.2025 was issued wherein CTUIL and Petitioner were directed to submit the following information:

“(a) Whether there would be any change in the location of the substation with respect to the location mentioned in the RfS documents?”

“(b) If there is a change, why this licence application should not be rejected since the licensee is planning to set-up the substation at a changed location other than what has been mentioned in the RfS documents?”

Additional submissions of the Petitioner

23. In compliance with the corrigendum to the ROP dated 07.07.2025, the Petitioner vide affidavit dated 10.09.2025 has submitted as under:

a) The Petitioner had filed an affidavit on 03.07.2025, placing on record the details of meetings which were held on 17.03.2025 and 09.05.2025 in the presence of representatives of the CEA, MNRE, ERPC, CTUIL, OPTCL, GRIDCO, the Petitioner, and Green Hydrogen/ Ammonia Developers, wherein suggestions were made to shift the proposed 765/400 kV Gopalpur substation closer to the Tata Steel SEZ and modalities for sharing additional costs were discussed. However, due to a lack of consensus between the parties, the Petitioner is not shifting the substation.

b) There is no change in the location of the sub-station, and it remains the same, as proposed. The Applicant/ Petitioner has already identified the land

parcel, and the acquisition process is ongoing as per the request for proposal document ("RfP"). The ongoing land acquisition process would be completed by October 2025, subject to the grant of transmission licence and approval of the adoption of tariff by this Commission, along with other necessary approvals, as required under the law.

c) The present Petition is not liable to be rejected in any manner or reason whatsoever, and on the contrary, in consideration of the facts and circumstances of the matter enunciated in the Petition.

Hearing dated 16.09.2025:

24. During the course of the hearing, the learned counsel for the Petitioner submitted that pursuant to the direction of the Commission vide Record of Proceedings ('RoP') for the hearing dated 7.7.2025, the Petitioner has filed its compliance affidavit dated 10.9.2025. The representative of the Respondent, CTUIL, submitted that vide RoP dated 7.7.2025, CTUIL, along with the Petitioner, was directed to file certain information by way of an affidavit. However, CTUIL has no further submissions to make in the matter. Considering the submissions made by the learned senior counsel and representative of the parties, the Commission reserved the matter for Order.

Analysis and Decision:

25. We have considered the submissions of the Petitioner and the Respondents and perused the documents available on record. The Petitioner has filed the instant Petition for the grant of transmission licence for the transmission scheme "Eastern Region Expansion Scheme-XXXIX", under which the following elements are being established as a part of the ISTS system with a SCOD of 31.12.2027:

- (a) Establishment of 2x1500 MVA, 765/400 kV Gopalpur S/s (GIS)
- (b) Angul - Gopalpur 765 kV D/c line
- (c) Gopalpur (ISTS) - Gopalpur (OPTCL) 400 kV D/c line

26. CTUIL has submitted that the instant scheme has been planned to facilitate the drawal of power to the Green Hydrogen/ Ammonia manufacturers. According to CTUIL, initially, two Green Hydrogen applications (cumulative application: 2822 MW) were received for the proposed Gopalpur (ISTS) sub-station. However, CTUIL, vide affidavit dated 04.07.2025, has submitted that one applicant (2182 MW) has withdrawn its application and consequently, only one GNA-RE grantee, namely Avaada Greenh2 Private Limited of 700 MW, was residual there.

27. Subsequently, a meeting was held on 17.03.2025 at Gopalpur, Odisha, for the implementation of the scheme, in the presence of the representatives of officials from CEA, MNRE, ERPC, CTUIL, OPTCL, Odisha Discoms, GRIDCO, the Petitioner, and Green Hydrogen developers. During the said meeting, shifting of the proposed Gopalpur (ISTS) sub-station nearer to the Tata SEZ was discussed. However, the Petitioner, vide affidavit dated 16.09.2025, has submitted that due to a lack of consensus among the parties, the decision is not finalised, and accordingly, there has been no shifting in the location of the proposed substation. During the meeting, the only GNA-RE grantee (M/s Avaada Greenh2 Private Limited) at Gopalpur (ISTS) substation mentioned that it is planning to connect only with the intra-State system and not with the ISTS S/s planned under the instant scheme. The relevant extracts of minutes of the meeting are as under:

भारत सरकार
Government of India
विद्युत मंत्रालय
Ministry of Power
केंद्रीय विद्युत प्राधिकरण
Central Electricity Authority
विद्युत प्रणाली योजना एवं मूल्यांकन प्रभाग-II
Power System Planning & Appraisal Division-II

सेवा में / To,

संलग्न सूची के अनुसार / As per attached list

विषय: ओडिशा के ट्रांसमिशन प्लान और अन्य संबंधित मुद्दों पर चर्चा करने के लिए हुई बैठक का कार्यपत्र।

Subject: Minutes of the meeting to discuss transmission plan and other related matters in Odisha.

महोदय / Sir,

A meeting to discuss transmission plan and other related matters in Odisha was held on 17th March, 2025 at Gopalpur, Odisha. The minutes of the meeting are enclosed herewith.

भवदीय/Yours faithfully,

(राहुल राज / Rahul Raj)
निदेशक/ Director

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impact on SCoD and tariff of the ERES-XXXIX project. He requested CMD, OPTCL to facilitate the land availability for the ISTS sub-station in the SEZ area.

19. Representative of CTUIL stated that adequate RoW for termination of future 765 kV, 400 kV and 220 kV lines for which space provision has been kept in the scope of ERES-XXXIX project also need to be seen.
20. Representative of AVAADA mentioned that they are now planning connection only to intra-state system and they shall not be party to the Green Hydrogen/Green Ammonia developers for sharing the cost of additional 765 kV line section to Tata Steel SEZ, Gopalpur.
21. After the deliberations, the following was decided.
 - i) The intra-state transmission resource adequacy plan of Odisha by 2034-35 prepared by the technical teams of CEA, OPTCL, CTU and ERLDC was broadly agreed. It was directed to finalise the plan and issue in March 2025.
(Action: CEA/GRIDCO/OPTCL/CTU)
 - ii) CTUIL to coordinate with POWERGRID for facilitating coordinates of bay space to TPGTL and PTL for extension work at Angul (POWERGRID) 765/400 kV sub-station. POWERGRID, shall provide encumbrance free land for extension works to TPGTL and PTL at Angul (POWERGRID) S/s and shall also arrange permission from forest department for tree cutting at Angul (POWERGRID) 765/400 kV S/s.
(Action: CTUIL/POWERGRID/TPGTL/PTL)
 - iii) Gopalpur 765/400 kV GIS S/s to be established in the TATA Steel SEZ for that approx. 80 acres of land for the substation would be made available by Tata Steel SEZ to Tata Power (the TSP). OPTCL shall extend necessary support including from state administration, for arranging the land, so that it can be made available to the TSP for the ISTS sub-station in the SEZ area.
(Action: OPTCL/Tata Steel SEZ/Tata Power)
 - iv) Upon shifting of the location of Gopalpur ISTS substation to SEZ area, the length of Angul-Gopalpur 765 kV D/c line may increase. The increased portion of the line will be constructed and maintained by the TSP (TPGTL). However, this portion will be funded by the Green Hydrogen/Ammonia Developers. TATA Steel SEZ shall coordinate with the Green Hydrogen/Ammonia Developers for sharing of the cost of the transmission line portion and its O&M. There would not be any impact on SCoD and tariff of the ERES-XXXIX project.
(Action: TPGTL/Green Hydrogen developers /TATA Steel SEZ)
 - v) The ISTS strengthening (HVDC / 1100kV / 765kV / combination of any) including scheme to provide alternate path (i.e. apart from Angul) to demand centers so as to provide reliable power to upcoming industries in eastern part of Odisha will be planned in due course with progressive development of industrial demand. OPTCL and GRIDCO shall regularly update the CEA and CTU about new industrial loads coming up in the state.
(Action: OPTCL/GRIDCO/CTU/CEA)

Meeting ended with thanks to the chair.

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As per the above, if Avaada relinquishes its GNA, there would be no drawee entity connecting with the instant ISTS system.

28. Further, it is noted that the Green Hydrogen (GH)/ Green Ammonia (GA) manufacturers are bulk consumers. The relevant extract for implementing the ISTS augmentation for the necessary connection with the ISTS, as per the 2022 GNA Regulations, is as under:

“12. Dedicated Transmission Lines and Bay(s)

....

12.5. In case of an entity covered under Regulation 17.1(iii), the line to connect such an entity to the ISTS and necessary augmentation for providing connection to the ISTS, shall be constructed and maintained by a licensee at the cost of such entity:

17. Eligibility for GNA

17.1. The following entities shall be eligible as Applicants to apply for grant of GNA or for enhancement of the quantum of GNA:

- (i) State Transmission Utility on behalf of intra-State entities including distribution licensees;*
- (ii) A drawee entity connected to intra-State transmission system;*
- (iii) A distribution licensee or a Bulk consumer, seeking to connect to ISTS, directly, with a load of 50 MW and above;***
- (iv) Trading licensees engaged in cross border trade of electricity in terms of the Cross-Border Regulations;*
- (v) Transmission licensee connected to ISTS for drawal of auxiliary power.*

22.2. Grant of GNA to entities other than STU.

.....

(b) The Nodal Agency shall grant GNA to entities covered under clauses (ii) to (v) of Regulation 17.1 specifying start date of GNA, as per the following timeline:

- (i) where GNA is granted on the existing system: by the end of the month subsequent to the month in which application complete in all respects has been received;*
- (ii) where augmentation of transmission system is required: within 180 days from the end of the month in which application complete in all respects has been received:*

(b-i) Entities covered under clause (iii) of Regulation 17.1 shall furnish ConnBG1 for Rs 50 lakhs per application and Conn-BG3 for Rs 2 lakh/MW.”

29. As per the above provisions, if a distribution licensee or a bulk consumer is seeking GNA with direct connectivity to ISTS, the line to connect such an entity to the ISTS and the 'necessary augmentation for providing the connection to the ISTS', shall be constructed and maintained by a licensee at the cost of such entity, meaning thereby that such bulk consumer is responsible for such line and such augmentation. Accordingly, a distribution licensee or a bulk consumer covered under Regulation 17.1(iii) and 12.5 of the GNA Regulations, is not required to furnish the Conn-BG2 (towards necessary augmentation in ISTS), currently, since the augmentation under ISTS for providing connection to the ISTS is under the scope of such a Bulk consumer.

30. Considering the above, 'necessary augmentation for providing connection to the ISTS' under the instant augmentation should have been constructed and maintained at the cost of entities such as bulk consumers. The investment in such a case would have been made by such a bulk consumer when it is committed to commissioning its project, thereby avoiding wasteful investment burdening the consumers at large.

31. We have also considered the submissions of CTUIL to the effect that the instant scheme was planned as per the details of proposed drawal plans by the Green Hydrogen (GH)/ Green Ammonia (GA) manufacturers till 2030, provided by the MNRE. The relevant extracts of the MNRE OM dated 01.11.2023 are as under:

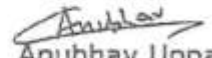
Atal Akshay Urja Bhawan
Lodhi Road, New Delhi - 110003
1st November 2023

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Details of year-wise planned Green Ammonia/ Green Methanol capacities and corresponding withdrawal capacities - reg.

The undersigned is directed to refer to the discussions held during the meeting chaired by Hon'ble Minister with Green Hydrogen industry stakeholders/associations on 19th October 2023, wherein Hon'ble Minister had instructed the developers to provide details of year-wise planned Green Ammonia/ Green Methanol capacities and corresponding withdrawal capacities desired at different locations. Hon'ble Minister also instructed that this information should be shared with the Central Transmission Utility of India Limited (CTUIL) for the purpose of planning the required substation capacities at these specified locations.

2. MNRE has consolidated the information received from various developers regarding their planned projects and their withdrawal requirements at the respective locations. The compiled list is attached herewith.
3. This issues with the approval of the component authority.


Anubhav Uppal
Scientist - C

Enclosed: as above

Connectivity to the Grid for planned Green Ammonia/ Green Methanol Plants						
S. No.	Developer	Product (Green Hydrogen/ Ammonia/ Green Methanol/ others- specify)	Planned Capacity (in Million Tonnes Per Annum)	Expected Year of Operations (provide breakup of capacity year wise)	Location where connectivity is required (mention the nearest port as well, if applicable)	Required Capacity of Power withdrawal from nearest Substation (in GW)
1.	Renew Power	Green Ammonia	1.1 MMTPA	300 TPD - 2026 1500 TPD - 2028 1500 TPD - 2030	Paradip	3 GW
		Green Ammonia	1.1 MMTPA	300 TPD - 2027 1500 TPD - 2029 1500 TPD - 2031	Gopalpur	3 GW
		Green Ammonia	1.1 MMTPA	300 TPD - 2027 1500 TPD - 2029 1500 TPD - 2031	Tuticorin	3 GW
		Green Ammonia	1.1 MMTPA	300 TPD - 2027 1500 TPD - 2029 1500 TPD - 2031	Kaichnada	3 GW
		Green Ammonia	1.1 MMTPA	300 TPD - 2027 1500 TPD - 2029 1500 TPD - 2031	Kandla	3 GW
		Green Methanol	0.3 MMTPA	450 TPD - 2027 450 TPD - 2029	Rayagada	1.1 GW
		Green Methanol	0.5 MMTPA	750 TPD - 2027 750 TPD - 2029	Malkangiri	1.8 GW
2.	Axis Energy Ventures India Pvt Ltd	Green Hydrogen, Ammonia, Methanol and its derivatives	2 MMTPA	1 MMTPA - 2027 1 MMTPA - 2030	Ramayapatnam Port, Andhra Pradesh	3.5 - 4 GW
3	Welapun New Energy	Green Hydrogen & Green Ammonia	0.7 MMTPA (GA equivalent)	0.1 MMTPA - 2027 0.6 MMTPA - 2030	Kendrapada dist.	3.5 GW
		Green Hydrogen & Green Ammonia	1 MMTPA (GA equivalent)	0.1 MMTPA - 2027 0.9 MMTPA - 2030	Kandla area, Kutch district	5 GW
4.	Gentari Hydrogen India	Green Ammonia	0.5 MMTPA (500 KTPA) Phase 1	2027	V. O. Chidambaram Port - Tuticorin (Tamil Nadu)	750 MW (0.75 GW)
		Green Ammonia	0.5 MMTPA	2028	New Mangalore Port	750 MW (0.75 GW)

			(500 KT PA) Phase 1		- Mangalore (Karnataka)	
5.	Aditya Birla Renewables	Green Ammonia	0.1 MMTPA	2027-28	Paradip Port	0.15 GW
6.	Greenko	Green Ammonia	1 MMTPA	2026	Kakinada	1.5 GW
		Green Ammonia	1 MMTPA	2027	Kakinada	1.5 GW
		Green Ammonia	1 MMTPA	2027	Tuticorin	1.5 GW
		Green Ammonia	1 MMTPA	2028	Mangalore	1.5 GW
		Green Ammonia	1 MMTPA	2028	Kandla	1.5 GW
		Green Ammonia	1 MMTPA			
7.	Adani New Industries Limited (ANIL)	Green Ammonia	1.2 MMTPA	2027	Injection point: (a) Lakadia ISTS S/s (up to 4 GW from Zone 3) (b) At a nearby location of Zone II / Zone I which may be taken into CEA planning considering huge quantum of power. Else, Radhanesda ISTS S/s (up to 18 GW) from Zone II / Zone I	4 GW
		Green Ammonia	1.2 MMTPA	2028		7 GW
		Green Ammonia	1.6 MMTPA	2029		6 GW
		Green Ammonia	1.6 MMTPA	2030		5 GW (22* GW combined) Withdrawal point - Proposed ISTS S/s at Navinal, Mundra (22 GW) *Overall plan is for transmission of - 40 GW of RE through ISTS by the end of 2032 for -9 MTPA of Green Ammonia production
8.	Infinity Global	Green Ammonia (Odisha)	0.5 MMTPA	Phase 1- 2027 Phase 2- 2029	Gopalpur Port, Odisha	0.75 GW RTC
		Green Ammonia (Tamil Nadu)	0.5 MMTPA	Phase 1- 2027 Phase 2- 2029	Tuticorin Port, Tamil Nadu	0.75 GW RTC

9.	Ocelor Energy	Green Ammonia	1 MMTPA	0.1 MMTPA – Jan 2027 0.9 MMTPA – Jan 2030	Gopalpur Industrial Park (TATA SEZ) in Odisha near Gopalpur port	0.15 GW [connected on state (Odisha) transmission system by Jan 2027] 1.5 GW [connected on Inter State transmission system by 2030]
		Green Ammonia	1 MMTPA	0.1 MMTPA – Jan 2027 0.9 MMTPA – Jan 2030	Kandla, Gujarat near Deendayal/Kandla port	0.19 GW (connected on Inter State Transmission System by Jan 2027) 1.5 GW (connected on Inter State transmission System by 2030)
10.	Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL)	Green Hydrogen – Visakhapatnam Refinery	0.37 KTPA (0.00037 MMTPA)	November 2023	Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh	2.6 MW (0.0026 GW)
		Green Hydrogen – Barmer Refinery	4.30 KTPA (0.0043 MMTPA)	December 2025	Newai, Dist. Balotra, Rajasthan	30 MW (0.03 GW)
		Green Hydrogen – Visakhapatnam Refinery	2.60 KTPA (0.0026 MMTPA)	December 2025	Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh	20 MW (0.02 GW)
		Green Hydrogen – Visakhapatnam Refinery	21.80 KTPA (0.0218 MMTPA)	2030	Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh	150 MW (0.15 GW)
11.	Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited	Green Hydrogen through electrolysis (cumulative production)	0.70 KTPA (0.0007 MMTPA)	2025	Bina, MP	5 MW (0.005 GW)
			7.60 KTPA (0.0076 MMTPA)	2027	Yet to be finalized	55 MW (0.055 GW)
			20.70 KTPA (0.0207 MMTPA)	2030	Yet to be finalized	150 MW (0.15 GW)

		Green Hydrogen through biomass (cumulative production)	37 KTPA (0.037 MMTPA)	2030	Yet to be finalized	
12.	NTPC	Green Ammonia	0.5 MMTPA	2027	VOC Port, Tuticorin, Tamil Nadu	1 GW
		Green Ammonia	1 MMTPA	2027	Deendayal Port, Kandla, Gujarat	2 GW
		Green Ammonia	2 MMTPA	2027	Pudimadaka, Andhra Pradesh (Near Visakhapatnam Port)	4 GW
		Green Ammonia	0.5 MMTPA	2028	Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, (Near Haldia port)	1 GW
		Green Methanol	0.5 MMTPA	2028	Simhadri / Pudimadaka, Andhra Pradesh, (Near Visakhapatnam Port)	1 GW
Total			29.295 MMTPA			75.3 GW

As per the above, MNRE has just consolidated the information received from Green Ammonia/ Hydrogen manufacturers, which provides the anticipated demand for

power for their projects. We observe that there is nothing on record to show that the MNRE assessed the potential of Green hydrogen/ Green ammonia at these locations, considering the feasibility of the locations or land availability.

32. Section 38 of the Act provides as under:

“Section 38. (Central Transmission Utility and functions):

...

(c) to ensure development of an efficient, coordinated and economical system of inter-State transmission lines for smooth flow of electricity from generating stations to the load centres;

As per the above provision, CTUIL is required to ensure the development of an efficient and economical transmission system in a coordinated manner. However, we observe that the data consolidated and shared by the MNRE could serve as one of the inputs for planning a transmission system, but it cannot be the sole basis for taking up the implementation of the planned system.

33. We note that one applicant, namely ACME, has already withdrawn its application, and another applicant, AVAADA, suggested that it wishes to shift to the intra-State, leaving no one to utilise the instant scheme of approximately Rs. 2892 crore with yearly transmission charges of Rs. 289.73 crore per annum.

34. The Act mandates that an inter-State transmission system is required to be developed in an efficient and economical manner. However, the instant transmission scheme may result in a redundant transmission asset without any visibility of its utilisation. Therefore, we are of the considered view that it is premature to consider the grant of a transmission licence for the instant transmission scheme, as it does not fulfil the requirement prescribed under Section 38(2)(c) of the Act. Therefore, we find it appropriate to refer the proposal for the instant transmission scheme back to the NCT for reconsideration on the basis of its likely utilisation and impact on the consumers in the absence of any application for its use by the bulk consumers.

Accordingly, we direct the Petitioner and the CTUIL to approach the NCT with the observations as made in this Order. After the decision of the NCT, the Petitioner is granted liberty to approach the Commission, if so advised.

35. Petition No. 513/TL/2024 is disposed of in terms of the above.

Sd/-
(Ravinder Singh Dhillon)
Member

sd/-
(Harish Dudani)
Member

sd/-
(Ramesh Babu V)
Member

sd/-
(Jishnu Barua)
Chairperson

