CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
NEW DELHI

Petition No. 206/TL/2026

Coram:
Shri Ramesh Babu V., Member
Shri Harish Dudani, Member
Shri Ravinder Singh Dhillon, Member

Date of Order: 22nd October, 2026

In the matter of:

Petition under Sections 14, 15 and 79(1)(e) of Electricity Act, 2003 read with the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Procedure, Terms and Conditions for Grant of Transmission License and other related matters) Regulations, 2024 seeking grant of a separate Transmission Licence to Ishanagar Power Transmission Limited for the project to be implemented under the Regulated Tariff Mechanism.

And
In the matter of

Ishanagar Power Transmission Limited,
Windsor, 1st Floor, Unit No. 101,
Kalina, Santacruz (East),
Mumbai - 400098, Maharashtra. ...**Petitioner**

Versus

1. Central Transmission Utility of India Limited (CTUIL),
CTU-Planning (1st Floor-A Wing),
Saudamini, Plot No. - 2, Sector- 29,
Near IFFCO Chowk Metro Station, Gurgaon-122001.

2. REC Power Development & Consultancy Limited,
D- BIock, REC Headquarter, Plot No. 1-4, Sector-29,
Gurgaon - 122001.

3. Madhya Pradesh Power Transmission Company Limited,
Block No. 11,1st Floor, Shakti Bhawan, Rampur,
Jabalpur - 482008, Madhya Pradesh.

4. Chhattisgarh State Power Distribution Company Limited,
Chhattisgarh State Power Trading Company Limited,
2nd Floor, Vidyut Seva Bhawan, Dangania,
Raipur - 492010, Chhattisgarh.

5. Goa Electricity Department,
3rd Floor, Vidyut Bhavan,

Electricity Department,
Govt, of Goa, Panaji - 403001, Goa.

6. Gujarat Urja Vikas Nigam Limited,
Commerce Department, 2nd Floor, Sardar Patel Vidyut Bhavan,
Race Course, Vadodara-390007, Gujarat.

7. Heavy Water Board,
0 Floor, Vikram Sarabhai Bhavan, Trombay,
Anushaktinagar, Mumbai - 400094, Maharashtra.

8. HVDC Bhadrawati, PGCIL,
PGCIL RHQ, WR-I, Sampriti Nagar,
Off National Highway-8,
Taluka Kamrej, PO: Uppalwadi,
Nagpur-440026, Maharashtra.

9. HVDC Vindhyachal, PGCIL
Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd.,
P.O. Vindhyanagar, P. Box No. 12,
Singrauli - 486885, Madhya Pradesh.

10. M.P. Power Management Company Limited,
Block No. 11,1st Floor, Shakti Bhawan,
Rampur, Jabalpur - 482008, Madhya Pradesh.

11. Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Company Limited,
Prakashgad, Plot No. G-9, A.K. Marg,
Bandra (East), Mumbai – 400051, Maharashtra.

12. ACB India Limited,
7th Floor, Corporate Tower, Ambience Mall,
NH-8, Gurgaon – 122001, Haryana.

13. Torrent Power Limited,
Samanvay, 600, Tapovan, Ambavadi,
Ahmedabad – 380015, Gujarat.

14. West Bengal State Electricity Distribution Company Limited,
Vidyut Bhavan, Block-DJ, Sector-II, Salt Lake,
Kolkata - 700091.

15. Thermal Powertech Corporation India,
6-3-1090, Block-A, Level-5, TSR Towers,
Raj Bhavan Road, Somajiguda,
Hyderabad – 500082, Andhra Pradesh.

16. Bhabha Atomic Research Centre,
Anushakti Nagar,
Mumbai – 400085, Maharashtra.

17. GMR Warora Energy Limited,
New Shakti Bhavan Bldg. No. 302,
New Udaan Bhavan Complex,
Adjacent to Terminal 3, IGI Airport,
New Delhi – 110037.

18. HVDC Champa Saudamini,
Plot No. 2, Sector-29, Gurgaon-122001, Haryana.

19. West Central Railway Head Office,
General Manager's Office, Electrical Branch,
Jabalpur – 482001.

20. Western Railway,
Office of Chief Electrical Engineer, Mumbai.

21. East Central Railway,
CEDE, Office of Chief Electrical Engineer,
ECR Zonal HQ, Dighikala, Patna – 844101, Bihar.

22. DB Power Limited – Untied,
3rd Floor, Naman Corporate Link,
Opp. Dena Bank, C-31, G-Block, BKC, Bandra (East),
Mumbai – 400051, Maharashtra.

23. Chhattisgarh State Power Trading Company Limited,
2nd Floor, Vidyut Seva Bhawan,
Dangania, Raipur – 492010, Chhattisgarh.

24. TRN Energy Private Ltd – Untied,
18, Vasant Enclave, Rao Tula Ram Marg, New Delhi - 110057.

25. Adani Power (Mundra) Limited,
Adani Corporate House, Shantigram,
Near Vaishno Devi Circle, S.G. Highway,
Ahmedabad - 382421, Gujarat.

26. Raigarh HVDC Station,
RPT HVDC Office, Hebbal,
Bangalore - 560094, Karnataka.

27. Arcelor Mittal Nippon Steel India Limited,
27 KM Surat Hazira Road, Surat Hazira,
Surat - 394270, Gujarat.

28. Central Railway,
Electrical Branch (HQ), 2nd Floor,
Parcel Office Building, Mumbai – 400001, Maharashtra.

29. Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu Power Distribution Corporation Limited,
1st & 2nd Floor, Vidyut Bhavan, Silvassa - 396230.

30. MPSEZ Utilities Limited,
Adani Corporate House,
Shantigram, Near Vaishno Devi Circle,
S.G. Highway,
Ahmedabad - 382421, Gujarat.

31. Avaada Energy Private Limited (AEPL),
Hubtown Solaris, 4th Floor, 406,
N.S. Phadke Marg, Near Andheri East West flyover,
Mumbai - 400069, Maharashtra. **…Respondents**

Parties present:

Ms. Aparajita Upadhyay, Advocate, IPTL
Shri Abhishek Kumar, Advocate, Avaada Energy
Shri Akshayvat Kislay, CTUIL

ORDER

The Petitioner, Ishanagar Power Transmission Limited (hereinafter referred to as "IPTL"), has filed the present Petition under Sections 14 15 and 79(1)(e) of the Electricity Act, 2003 (hereinafter referred to as "the Act") read with the provisions of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Procedure, Terms and Conditions for Grant of Transmission License and other related matters) Regulations, 2024 (hereinafter referred to as "the Transmission Licence Regulations") for the grant of a separate RTM Transmission Licence to IPTL to the implement transmission project "*Implementation of 1 No. 400 kV line bay at Ishanagar (New) Sub-station for interconnection of M/s Avaada Energy Pvt. Ltd. (AEPL) 350 MW REGS"* under the Regulated Tariff Mechanism (hereinafter referred to as "RTM") mode (hereinafter referred to as the "transmission project"). The scope of the project for which a transmission licence has been sought is as under:

Sl. No.	Scope of the Transmission Scheme	Item Description	Implementation Timeframe	Implementation Agency
1.	*Implementation of 1 No. of 400 kV line bay at Ishanagar (New) S/s for RE Interconnection (Appl. 2200001421: Avaada Energy Pvt. Ltd. (350 MW))*	• *400 kV line bay — 1 No. (Main bay along with associated Tie bay)*	*30.06.2027 i.e. start date of connectivity as per in-principal grant of Connectivity granted to AEPL [350MW (appl. no. 2200001421)*	*Ishanagar Power Transmission Limited (subsidiary IndiGrid 2 Pvt Ltd.)*
		Total Estimated Cost:	***₹ 15.55 Cr. (May'25 Price Level)***	

2. The Petitioner is an Inter-State Transmission Licensee and is implementing the transmission project *"Western Region Expansion Scheme XXXIII (WRES-XXXIII): Part C"* on a Build, Own, Operate and Transfer (hereinafter referred to as "BOOT") basis through Tariff Based Competitive Bidding route (hereinafter referred to as "TBCB Project"). The Commission, vide order dated 25.6.2024 in Petition No. 102/TL/2024, has granted a transmission licence (hereinafter referred to as "TBCB License") to the Petitioner for the aforesaid TBCB Project.

3. CTUIL, vide OM dated 4.11.2025, has assigned the transmission project namely *"Implementation of 1 No. 400 kV line bay at Ishanagar S/s for interconnection of M/s Avaada Enemy Pvt. Ltd. (AEPL) 350 MW REGS"* to the Petitioner under RTM Mode. The estimated cost of the scheme as per the CTUIL letter (OM) dated 4.11.2025 is Rs. 15.55 crore.

4. The Petitioner has submitted that after the grant of transmission licence, the Petitioner shall proceed to implement the transmission scheme under the RTM mode. The estimated completion cost of the transmission scheme, as per CTUIL's Office Memorandum (OM) dated 4.11.2025, is Rs. 15.55 crore. After completion of the transmission scheme, the Petitioner shall approach the Commission for the

determination of transmission charges in accordance with the provisions of the Tariff Regulations/ Transmission Licence Regulations.

5. Based on the above, CTUIL, vide OM dated 4.11.2025, approved "*Implementation of 1 No. 400 kV line bay at Ishanagar (New) S/s for interconnection of M/s Avaada Energy Pvt. Ltd. (AEPL) 350 MW REGS*" along with identifying the implementing agency and also addressing the same to the Ministry of Power, Government of India, and NCT.

6. The Commission, after considering the application of the Petitioner in light of the provisions of the Act and the Transmission Licence Regulations, vide its order dated 1.8.2026, *prima facie* proposed to grant a separate transmission licence to the Petitioner to implement the transmission project detailed in paragraph 1 of the order. The relevant extract of the order dated 1.8.2026 is extracted as under:

> *"24. Considering the material on record, we are prima facie of the view that the Petitioner satisfies the conditions for the grant of separate RTM transmission licence under Section 15 of the Act read with the Transmission Licence Regulations for implementation of the transmission project as described in para 1 of this order. We, therefore, direct that a public notice in two daily digital newspapers and on the Commission's website under clause (a) of sub-section (5) of Section 15 of the Act be published to invite suggestions or objections to the grant of a transmission licence aforesaid. The objections or suggestions, if any, be filed by any person before the Commission on or before 12.8.2026.*
>
> *25. It is also noted that, vide RoP dated 27.5.2026, CTUIL was directed to file its response to the Petitioner's email dated 5.12.2025 seeking details regarding the cost estimation of the Project. Thereafter, vide RoP dated 24.6.2026, a further period of one week was granted to CTUIL to file the requisite compliance affidavit. Since no response has been filed by the CTUIL, CTUIL is again directed to file, on or before 10.8.2026, the following information:*
>
> > *(a) Reply in response to the RoP for the hearing dated 27.5.2026 accompanied by an affidavit.*
> > *(b) The details of connectivity/ GNA granted at Ishanagar (New) S/s and its updated commissioning status/ schedule along with reply to the submission of Respondent No. 31/ AEPL regarding extension of SCOD of*

the elements under instant scheme."

7. A public notice under Sub-section (5) of Section 15 of the Act was published in all editions of the Indian Express (English) and Hindustan (Hindi) on 6.8.2026. No suggestions/ objections have been received from members of the public in response to the public notice.

Hearing Dated 13.8.2026

8. During the hearing on 13.8.2026, the learned counsel for the Petitioner submitted that, subsequent to the Interim Order dated 1.8.2026, CTUIL, vide its communication dated 7.8.2026, had awarded an additional scope under the RTM to the Petitioner, comprising one 400 kV line bay, including the main bay and associated tie bay, for interconnection of NTPC Barethi Solar Park, which pertains to the same Ishanagar (New) Sub-station, and accordingly sought permission to amend the Petition to include the said additional scope.

9. The representative of CTUIL submitted that, pursuant to the directions of the Commission dated 27.5.2026, CTUIL had uploaded its compliance affidavit dated 15.7.2026. However, due to an inadvertent error, only the word version was uploaded and the PDF version of the affidavit could not be uploaded. He further submitted that the compliance affidavit addressing the queries raised in the earlier RoPs/ orders was ready and sought liberty to file the same during the course of the day.

10. In addition, during the hearing, the learned counsel for Respondent No. 31, Avaada Energy Private Limited (hereinafter referred to as "AEPL"), submitted that certain information/ responses required from CTUIL pursuant to the Interim Order dated 1.8.2026 were still pending, to which the representative of CTUIL submitted

that the same would be addressed in its compliance affidavit.

11. Vide Record of Proceedings (hereinafter referred to as "RoP") dated 13.8.2026, CTUIL was directed to file its compliance affidavit in terms of the Interim Order dated 1.8.2026. In addition, on the leave sought by the Petitioner for filing an application for amendment of the present Petition, it was observed that upon incorporation of an additional element/ scope, the Petitioner may again be required to follow the procedure under Regulation 5 of the Transmission Licence Regulations, 2024 in respect of the amended Petition and the Petitioner may, therefore, first examine the proper course of action under the extant regulatory framework before moving an application seeking amendment of this Petition at this stage.

12. In compliance with Order/ RoP, CTUIL, vide affidavit dated 17.8.2026, has submitted as under:

a) In compliance with the directions issued vide RoP dated 27.5.2026 and the interim order dated 1.8.2026, the Petitioner, CTUIL had submitted its response with regard to the Petitioner`s e-mail dated 5.12.2025 seekng clarification regarding the cost estimate approved under the Office Memorandum dated 4.11.2025. The Petitioner specifically requested clarification as to whether the approved cost estimate included components towards Interest During Construction (hereinafter referred to as "IDC") and Incidental Expenditure During Construction (hereinafter referred to as "IEDC"), and, if so, the percentage considered under each of these heads. Although no separate reply was furnished to the Petitioner, the relevant details were later submitted as under:

i. The cost estimate for the subject transmission scheme was worked

out in accordance with the Indicative Cost Matrix, May 2025, based on the assumptions and methodology approved by the NCT Cost Committee.

ii. IDC: The IDC component was computed on the total project cost by applying the percentage rates prescribed by the Central Electricity Authority (Finance & Commercial Accounts Division). Accordingly, IDC equivalent to 7.77% of the project cost was considered for a project implementation period of 21 months.

iii. IEDC: No provision towards IEDC was considered in the approved cost estimate, in line with the Indicative Cost Matrix, May 2025, as the same had not been factored into the approved methodology adopted by the NCT Cost Committee.

b) The details of connectivity/ GNA granted at Ishanagar (New) S/s, the updated commissioning status/schedule, and CTUIL's reply to the submission of Respondent No. 31/AEPL regarding extension of SCOD of the elements under the instant scheme, are set out as under;

i. Background of connectivity granted to Avaada Energy Private Limited:

1. AEPL vide Application No. 2200001421 applied for the grant of 350 MW Connectivity for its REGS at Ishanagar (New) S/s with the start date of Connectivity as 30.6.2027. The subject application was deliberated in the 35th WR-CMETS meeting held on 7.2.2025, wherein it was agreed to grant the Connectivity to AEPL for its 350 MW REGS project through 1 no. 400 kV line bay at Ishanagar (New) S/s end, for termination of the AEPL - Ishanagar (New) 400 kV S/c line (on

D/c tower), under ISTS scope. The common transmission system augmentation for Connectivity under GNA includes "Western Region Expansion Scheme XXXIII (WRES-XXXIII): Part C", which is presently under implementation with SCOD of 09.02.2026 and an anticipated COD of 31.8.2026.

2. Intimation for in-principle grant of 350 MW Connectivity to AEPL (Application No. 2200001421) was issued vide CTUIL`s letter dated 1.7.2025, with the start date of Connectivity as 30.6.2027 (tentative). In terms of the in-principle grant, the requisite Conn-BG2 of Rs. 6 crore was submitted by AEPL. Accordingly, CTUIL, vide OM dated 4.11.2025, awarded the implementation work for 1 no. 400 kV line bay at Ishanagar (New) S/s to Ishanagar Power Transmission Limited (a subsidiary of IndiGrid 2 Pvt Ltd.) under RTM mode, with an implementation timeframe of 30.6.2027, i.e., the start date of connectivity sought by AEPL for 350 MW under Application No. 2200001421, for termination of the AEPL - Ishanagar (New) S/s 400 kV S/c line (on D/c tower). Thereafter, intimation for the final grant of 350 MW Connectivity to AEPL was issued vide CTUIL letter dated 1.1.2026, with a firm start date of Connectivity as 30.6.2027, effective upon commissioning of the transmission system identified under WRES-XXXIII: Part C and the subject 1 no. 400 kV line bay awarded vide CTUIL OM dated 4.11.2025. AEPL has also been intimated the final grant of Connectivity

for an additional 300 MW (Application No. 2200001463), through sharing of the dedicated transmission line proposed for its other WPP under Application No. 2200001421, with the start date of Connectivity as 30.6.2027.

ii. Background of connectivity granted to NTPC Renewable Energy Limited

1. NTPC Renewable Energy Limited (hereinafter referred to as "NTPC-REL"), vide Application No. 2200002105, subsequently applied for the grant of 630 MW Connectivity for its RPP at Ishanagar (New) S/s, with the start date of Connectivity as 31.12.2026. The subject application was deliberated in the 38th WR-CMETS meeting held on 11.8.2025, wherein NTPC-REL was requested to explore sharing of the dedicated transmission system of AEPL (Application No. 2200001421), it being noted that any such sharing arrangement could potentially impact the timelines of NTPC-REL, whose start date of Connectivity (31.12.2026) preceded that of AEPL (30.06.2027). NTPC-REL was accordingly advised to coordinate with AEPL to work out a suitable arrangement acceptable to both entities.

2. The matter was again deliberated in the 41st WR-CMETS meeting held on 2.2.2026, wherein the representative of NTPC-REL submitted that its project was geographically located far from, and on the other side of, Ishanagar (New) S/s, and that sharing of the bay already allotted to AEPL was, therefore, not feasible. NTPC-REL further informed that the

additional capacity was planned in the vicinity of the Barethi Solar Park and requested allotment of a separate 400 kV bay at Ishanagar (New) S/s and conveyed its agreement to the proposed ISTS timeline for the said bay. In view of the above, it was agreed to grant Connectivity to NTPC-REL for its 630 MW Barethi Solar Park (Madhya Pradesh) through a separate 1 no. 400 kV line bay at Ishanagar (New) S/s, for termination of its dedicated transmission line under ISTS.

3. Accordingly, intimation for in-principle grant of 630 MW Connectivity to NTPC-REL (Application No. 2200002105) was issued vide CTU letter dated 12.6.2026, with the start date of Connectivity as 28.2.2029 (tentative), considering implementation timeline of 30 months for the separate 400 kV line bay at Ishanagar (New) S/s in line with normative implementation schedule of 400kV bay prescribed by NCT in the 41st NCT meeting. In terms of the in-principle grant, the requisite Conn-BG2 of Rs. 6 crore has been furnished by NTPC-REL. However, based on the representation received from the MNRE for preponement of the commissioning schedule of 400 kV bay, CTUIL, vide OM dated 7.8.2026, awarded the implementation work for the said separate 1 no. 400 kV line bay at Ishanagar (New) S/s to Ishanagar Power Transmission Limited (a subsidiary of IndiGrid 2 Pvt Ltd.) under RTM mode, with an implementation timeframe of 7.8.2028 (24 months from the date of allocation), for

termination of the NTPC-REL - Ishanagar (New) S/s 400 kV S/c line. Thereafter, intimation for the final grant of the 630 MW Connectivity to NTPC-REL was issued vide CTUIL letter dated 10.8.2026, with a firm start date of Connectivity as 7.8.2028, effective upon commissioning of the transmission system identified under WRES-XXXIII: Part C and the said 1 no. 400 kV line bay awarded vide CTU OM dated 07.08.2026.

c) The updated status of connectivity/GNA granted at Ishanagar (New) S/s, as on date, is summarized below:

Application no.	Name of Applicant	Type of Project	Application Status	Connectivity Quantum (MW)	Start date of Connectivity*	Con BGs Furnished (in Cr.)
2200001421	Avaada Energy Private Limited (AEPL)	REGS (Wind)	Granted	350	30.06.2027	Con-BG1: 0.5, Con-BG2: 6, Con-BG3: 7
2200001463	Avaada Energy Private Limited (AEPL)	REGS (Wind)	Granted	300	30.06.2027	Con-BG1: 0.5, Con-BG2: Nil (on sharing with application no: 2200001421), Con-BG3: 6
2200002105	NTPC Renewable Energy Limited (NTPC-REL)	RPPD (Solar)	Granted	630	07.08.2028	Con-BG1: 0.5, Con-BG2: 6, Con-BG3:12.60,
Total				**1280**		

* Effectiveness of Connectivity shall be with the commissioning of the identified transmission system for Connectivity under GNA, as stipulated in the respective Connectivity grants.

13. Further, CTUIL vide same affidavit replied to the AEPL's submissions dated 20.6.2026, has submitted as under:

a) At the time of planning of the said 400 kV bay, the coordination has already taken place and the date requested by Avaada i.e. 30.6.2027 was duly considered. Accordingly, the bay was awarded with commissioning schedule of 30.6.2027.

b) CTUIL does not accept the Avaada's submissions that the Subject

Bay is not a standalone asset dependent on AEPL's generating station, that its early operation would constitute an RTM asset without beneficial use, and that the implementation schedule should be aligned with the actual readiness of AEPL's station and the Ishanagar connectivity arrangement. Further, as per CTUIL's Office Memorandum dated 4.11.2025, the Subject Bay has been allocated to the Petitioner under the RTM mode with an implementation timeline of 30.6.2027, corresponding to the connectivity start date under Application No. 2200001421. The liability for payment of the transmission charges and bilateral charges, as may be applicable, is required to be governed in accordance with the provisions of the CERC Sharing Regulations, 2020, read with the provisions of the Connectivity and GNA Regulations, 2022, which specify that connectivity shall be made effective from the firm start date of connectivity or the date of commissioning of the identified transmission elements, whichever is later.

c) Avaada's and NTPC's applications were received separately. Initially, it was envisaged that NTPC may share the bay allocated to Avaada. However, NTPC submitted that the sharing was not technically feasible, pursuant to which the bay sharing arrangement did not materialize. Considering the above, the NTPC requested for 400 kV bay to be implemented under ISTS. In such a case, the timeline for implementation shall be later than the sought start date i.e. December, 2026. After due deliberations, the implementation of a separate 400kV bay under ISTS was agreed in the 41st CMETS meeting dated 2.2.2026. The bay was awarded with implementation schedule of 24 months i.e. by 7.8.2028.

The final grant was issued on 10.8.2026, with a firm start date of Connectivity as 7.8.2028. It may be noted that the in-principle grant indicated the start date as 28.2.2029, considering implementation schedule of 400 kV line bay at Ishanagar S/s end as 30 months. However, based on the request of MNRE for preponement, the subject bay was awarded with implementation schedule of 24 months.

d) CTUIL also made further reference to the Commission's orders dated 31.1.2025 in Petition No. 437/TL/2024 and dated 6.4.2024 in Petition No. 123/TL/2023, wherein the implementation timelines of RTM projects were aligned with the revised timelines furnished by CTUIL while granting the transmission licence, support the Respondent's limited request in the present case. Since the subject bay is generator-specific and its beneficial use depends upon the readiness of the associated generating station and interconnection facilities, its implementation schedule ought to be aligned with the actual project readiness and the coordinated Ishanagar connectivity arrangement, rather than being treated as an isolated asset. Such a direction would cause no prejudice to the Petitioner and the transmission licence may be granted subject to the usual conditions.

e) Based on the request of AEPL and CTUIL OM dated 04.11.2025, the 1 no. 400 kV line bay at Ishanagar (New) S/s allotted to AEPL is required to be implemented by Ishanagar Power Transmission Limited (a subsidiary of IndiGrid 2 Pvt Ltd.) with an implementation timeframe of 30.6.2027, being the start date of Connectivity sought by AEPL itself. However, AEPL during the 52nd WR-JCC meeting held on 18/9.6.2026,

has indicated the commissioning schedule of its cumulative 650 MW Wind Power Project (350 MW + 300 MW) as 31.12.2027, i.e., subsequent to the implementation timeframe of 30.6.2027 presently assigned to the subject bay.

Hearing Dated 3.9.2026

14. During the hearing, the learned counsel for the Petitioner submitted that CTUIL has complied with the directions issued by RoP and Interim order dated 1.8.2026.

15. The learned counsel appearing on behalf of Respondent No. 31 i.e., AEPL, the beneficiary of the subject transmission system, submitted that the 400-kV line bay at Ishanagar (New) Sub-station is generator-specific and its beneficial utilisation is dependent upon the readiness of the associated generating station and interconnection facilities. Accordingly, it was submitted that the implementation and commissioning schedule of the subject bay ought to be aligned with the actual readiness of the generating station and the coordinated connectivity arrangement at Ishanagar, rather than treating the bay as an isolated transmission asset. The learned counsel for the Petitioner submitted that the Petitioner has commenced construction of the Project as per the timelines provided in the CTUIL`s OM. Since AEPL has now conveyed its revised generation schedule as 31.12.2027, any direction to match the implementation of the Project with the revised requirement of AEPL at this stage may be issued subject to grant of IDC and IEDC to IPTL for this extended period.

16. The representative for the CTUIL submitted that the complete factual position

has already been placed by them vide affidavit dated 17.8.2026. It was submitted that the issues raised by Respondent No. 31 i.e., AEPL, have been addressed in the said affidavit. CTUIL further submitted that the subject bay had been awarded with an implementation timeframe of 30.6.2027, corresponding to the start date of Connectivity sought by Avaada. However, Avaada had subsequently indicated, during the 52nd WR-JCC meeting held on 18/19.6.2026, that its cumulative 650 MW wind project was scheduled for commissioning on 31.12.2027. After hearing, the parties matter was reserved for Order.

17. We have noted the above submissions of the Petitioner and CTUIL and proceed to consider the application of the Petitioner for the grant of a separate RTM transmission licence.

18. As regards the grant of a transmission licence, Clauses (13) and (14) of Regulation 5 of the 2024 Transmission Licence Regulations provide as under:

> *"(13) The Commission may, after consideration of the further suggestions and objections, if any, received in response to the public notice in terms of Clause (12) of this Regulation, grant licence to the applicant in Form-III appended to these regulations or for reasons to be recorded in writing, reject the application.*
>
> *(14) The Commission shall before granting licence or rejecting the application under the provisions of this Regulation provide an opportunity of hearing to the applicant, CTUIL, the concerned DICs, or the person who has filed suggestions and objections, or any other interested person."*

19. In our order dated 1.8.2026, we had proposed to grant a separate RTM transmission licence to the Petitioner company and directed the issuance of a public notice. In response to the public notice, no suggestions/ objections have been received. CTUIL, in its letter dated 8.4.2026, recommended the grant of a separate RTM transmission licence to the Petitioner. Considering the submissions of the

Petitioner and CTUIL, we direct that the separate RTM transmission licence be granted to the Petitioner, Ishanagar Power Transmission Limited, to establish the transmission scheme through the RTM route as per the details given in paragraph 1 above.

20. The grant of the transmission licence to the Petitioner (hereinafter referred to as “the licensee”) is subject to the fulfilment of the following conditions throughout the period of the licence:

(a) The transmission licence shall, unless revoked earlier, remain in force for a period of 25 years from the date of issue;

(b) The transmission licensee shall comply with the provisions of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Procedure, Terms, and Conditions for grant of Transmission Licence and other related matters) Regulations, 2024 or any subsequent enactment thereof during the period of subsistence of the licence;

(c) The licensee shall not enter into any contract for or otherwise engage in the business of trading in electricity during the period of subsistence of the transmission licence;

(d) The licensee shall have the liability to pay the licence fee in accordance with the provisions of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Payment of Fees) Regulations, 2012, as amended from time to time or any subsequent enactment thereof. Delay in payment or non-payment of the licence fee or a part thereof for a period exceeding sixty days shall be construed as a breach of the terms and conditions of the licence;

(e) The licensee shall comply with the directions of the National Load Despatch Centre under Section 26 of the Act, or the Regional Load Despatch Centre under sub-section (3) of Section 28 or sub-section (1) of Section 29 of the Act, as may be issued from time to time for maintaining the availability of the transmission system;

(f) The licensee shall remain bound by the provisions of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Standard of Performance of inter-State transmission licensees) Regulations, 2012 or subsequent enactment thereof;

(g) The licensee shall provide the non-discriminatory open access to its Transmission System for use by any other licensee, including a distribution licensee or an electricity trader, or generating company or any other person in accordance with the Act; the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Open Access in inter-State Transmission) Regulations, 2008; the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Connectivity and General Network Access to the inter-State Transmission System) Regulations, 2023; the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Indian Electricity Grid Code) Regulations, 2023, as amended from time to time or any subsequent re-enactments thereof;

(h) The licensee shall not undertake any other business for optimum utilisation of the Transmission System without prior intimation to the Commission and shall comply with the provisions of the Central Electricity

Regulatory Commission (Sharing of Revenue Derived from Utilisation of Transmission Assets for other business) Regulations, 2020;

(i) The licensee shall remain bound by the provisions of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Sharing of inter-State Transmission Charges and Losses) Regulations, 2020, as amended from time to time read with para 12 of this order;

(j) The licensee shall remain bound by the provisions of the Act, the Rules and Regulations framed thereunder, in particular the 2024 Transmission Licence Regulations, the Grid Code, the Standards specified by the Central Electricity Authority, orders and directions of the Commission issued from time to time;

(k) The licensee shall ensure the execution of the Project as per the Technical Standards and Grid Standards of CEA;

(l) The licensee shall submit all such reports or information as may be required under 2024 Transmission Licence Regulations, Standard of Performance Regulations or any other regulation of the Commission or as per the directions of the Commission as may be issued from time to time;

(m) The licensee shall ensure that the EPC contract for the execution of work under the scope of the project is awarded through a competitive bidding process.

21. CTUIL and the Central Electricity Authority shall monitor the execution of the Project and bring to the Commission's notice any lapse on the part of the licensee in

meeting the schedule for further appropriate action in accordance with the provisions of the Transmission Service Agreement executed between the licensee and the Nodal Agency, the Act and the Transmission Licence Regulations. We note that Avaada Energy Private Limited (AEPL) was granted connectivity with an start date 30.06.2027 based on its application. CTUIL, vide Office Memorandum (OM) dated 04.11.2025, has allocated the implementation of 400 kV line bay at Ishanagar (New) S/s under ISTS meant for AEPL's generation projects to the Petitioner with an SCOD 30.06.2027; CTUIL vide its recommendation dated 8.04.26 has submitted as under :

i) AVAADA ENERGY PRIVATE LIMITED vide application (Appl No.: 2200001421) dated 30.10.2024 applied for grant of 350MW Connectivity under GNA for its REGS at Ishanagar (New) S/s with start date of Connectivity as 30.06.2027.

As per above Avaada made an application on 30.10.2024 seeking start date as 30.6.2027. Now AEPL vide affidavit dated 20.06.2026, after a lapse of almost 2 years after the Connectivity application, has submitted that the associated generating stations of AEPL is now expected to get delayed and beneficial utilization of impugned bay depends on readiness of AEPL's generation. Accordingly, AEPL is praying that implementation of impugned bay may be aligned with generation project and implementation to be deferred till March, 2028.

23. We have perused the submissions of the Respondent. We note that AEPL vide application dated 30.10.2024 applied for grant of the 350 MW connectivity based on LOA (SJVN) with start date of connectivity as 30.06.2027. During the 35th CMETS-WR dated 30.01.2025 and 07.02.2025, the application of AEPL was discussed and was approved with the following common transmission system:

सेंट्रल ट्रांसमिशन यूटिलिटी ऑफ इंडिया लिमिटेड
(पावर ग्रिड कार्पोरेशन ऑफ इंडिया लिमिटेड की सहायिक कं)
(भारत सरकार का उद्यम)
CENTRAL TRANSMISSION UTILITY OF INDIA LTD.
(A wholly owned subsidiary of Power Grid Corporation of India Limited)
(A Government of India Enterprise)

Ref: CTU/W/00/35th CMETS-WR

Date: 18.03.2025

As per distribution list

Subject: Minutes of the 35th Consultation Meeting for Evolving Transmission Schemes in Western Region held on 30.01.2025 & 07.02.2025 -reg.

Sir,

Please find enclosed the minutes of 35th Consultation Meeting for Evolving Transmission Schemes in Western Region held on 30.01.2025 & 07.02.2025 through video conferencing.

The minutes are also available at our website (www.ctuil.in>>ISTS Planning and Coordination>>Consultation Meetings for ISTS).

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

(Partha Sarathi Das)
Sr. General Manager

Encl.: As stated above

Sl. No.	Application No – Date – Fuel Source – Eligibility Criteria	Name of the Applicant	Nature of the Applicant	Project Location	Connectivity Location	Quantum (MW)	Connectivity Start Date (Requested & Actual)	Dedicated Transmission System for Connectivity	Associated Transmission System for GNA	Common Transmission System Augmentation	BG Details & Remarks (if any)
										• Jejuri (M) – Pune-III 400 kV D/c line (Quad ACSR/ AAAC/ AL59 Moose equivalent) (~20km.)	
7.	2200001421-30-10-24-Wind-LOA(SJVN)	Avaada Energy Pvt. Ltd. (AEPL)	Generating station(s), including REGS(s), without ESS	Ishanagar, Chhatarpur, Madhya Pradesh	Ishanagar PS	350	30-Jun-27 (Subject to CTS)	It was informed that one other application from M/s AEPL for 300MW is received in Nov'24. Hence connectivity is proposed on 400kV level. Also, injection at 220kV level is not desirable as it may lead of 220kV overloading of MPPTCL system. M/s AEPL requested for some time to evaluate the proposal. **After deliberations in 34th CMETS-WR, it was agreed that the matter shall be deliberated in next CMETS meeting based on confirmation received from Avaada regarding connectivity at 400kV level & feedback from NTPC for their proposed connectivity for 630MW solar park.** Matter was deliberated and M/s AEPL agreed to come on at 400kV level considering cumulative capacity of more than 600MW at Ishanagar PS. After deliberations, following was agreed: • AEPL – Ishanagar 400kV S/c line (on D/c tower) along with associated bays at the generation end (Under the scope of M/s AEPL). • 1 no. 400kV line bay at Ishanagar PS is to be implemented under ISTS as per feedback from applicant)	Nil	• Establishment of 2x1500 MVA, 765/400 kV and 2x500 MVA, 400/220kV Ishanagar (New) S/s. • LILO of one ckt of Jabalpur - Orai 765kV D/c line at Ishanagar (New) S/s. ***Scheme is currently under implementation with SCOD as 09.02.2026.***	Conn-BG1: **Rs. 0.5 Cr.** Conn-BG2: **Rs. 6 Crs.** Conn-BG3: **Rs. 7 Crs.**

**Note: The date of commencement of Connectivity under GNA is Interim. The timeline for completion of ATS/ Common Transmission System Augmentation /Terminals bay(s) (if not under implementation) as applicable along with firm date for start of connectivity shall be intimated within 6 months of furnishing of Conn-BG 1 (in case of Augmentation with ATS) and Conn-BG1, Conn-BG2 & Conn-BG3, (as applicable, in case of Augmentation without ATS) in line with Regulation 8.3 b of GNA Regulations.*

As per the above, the requested and actual start date of connectivity was 30.06.2027. The connectivity was granted based on the Common Transmission System (CTS) augmentation developed under 'WRES-XXXIII Part C' which is as under:

- 2x1500 MVA, 765/400 kV and 2x500 MVA, 400/220 kV Ishanagar (New) S/s.
- LILO of one ckt of Jabalpur - Orai 765 kV D/c line at Ishanagar (New) S/s.

The Common Transmission System (CTS) augmentation was under implementation with an SCOD of 09.02.2026, at the time of connectivity grant.

24. The 400 kV line bay at Ishanagar substation is planned under ISTS as requested by AEPL for interconnection of AEPL's generation plant with the scheduled commissioning date as 30.06.2027.

25. The 2022 GNA Regulations have provisions to ensure optimum utilization of the connectivity and ISTS transmission system meant for its operationalization. Let us peruse Regulation 24.6 of the 2022 GNA Regulations having provision for revocation of connectivity when a generation project is delayed in commissioning:

> ***"24.6(1) (a) Connectivity shall be revoked for the corresponding capacity, if the Connectivity and corresponding GNA has been made effective in terms of Clause (a) of Regulation 22.4 of these regulations and the Connectivity grantee fails to achieve COD either in full or in parts on or before****,*
>
> *(i) the scheduled date of commercial operation of the generation project, for cases covered under clause (xi)(a) of the Regulation 5.8, as intimated at the time of making application for grant of Connectivity or as applicable on signing of PPA or as extended or delayed commissioning permitted by the Renewable Energy Implementing Agency or the distribution licensee or the authorized agency on behalf of distribution licensee, as the case may be, whichever is later.*
>
> *(ii) six months after, the scheduled date of commercial operation as intimated at the time of making application for grant of Connectivity or firm start date of connectivity, whichever is later, for cases covered under clause (xi)(b) or (xi)(c) of the Regulation 5.8 of these regulations.*

(iii) for cases covered under Clause (xi)(a) of the Regulation 5.8 of these regulations but are subsequently covered under clause (xi)(b) or (xi)(c) of Regulation 5.8 under Regulation 11A of these Regulations, scheduled date of commercial operation for the purpose of Clause (ii) of this Regulation shall be the firm start date of Connectivity or the six months from the date of approval by CTU for such conversion from Clause (xi)(a) to Clause (xi)(b) or (xi)(c) of Regulation 5.8 of these Regulations, whichever is later."

As per above, if the GNA corresponding to the connectivity has been made effective; however, generation project fails to achieve COD, the connectivity corresponding un-commissioned capacity is liable to be revoked.

25. It pertinent to note that the transmission charges of ISTS transmission system are socialized on all DICs and thereby ultimately borne by the general public at large. The Ishanagar S/s was scheduled to be commissioned on 09.02.2026 and is being developed as Common Transmission System for RE generators in ISTS. At the time of grant of connectivity, Petitioner had about 30 months to commission its project.

26. AEPL's request for extension of SCOD of impugned 400kV bay upto March 2028, would lead to stranding of common transmission system i.e. Ishanagar S/s and associated ISTS line, as their utilization depends upon commissioning of the RE generating stations. Therefore, during such extended period, the transforming (MVA) capacity corresponding to AEPL's 650 MW wind project at Ishanagar S/s as well as analogous transmission margin in evacuation transmission line would remain unutilized.

27. We note that the extension of implementation schedule of impugned 400 kV bay beyond SCOD of Ishanagar S/s would lead to extension of Start date of Connectivity for the Respondent with no liability on generator to commission its project by current start date of connectivity of 30.6.2027. By seeking to extend the SCOD of the bay, would lead to extension of the start date of connectivity for the Respondent's project

thereby avoiding revocation and consequent implications on non-achievement of COD, which is not permissible under the law. In our considered opinion, such prayer for extension of implementation schedule of 400 kV impugned bay is against the welfare of general consumers and not tenable, therefore rejected. AEPL has no immediate threat of revocation of connectivity and should expedite execution to mitigate project slippage. Further, this Commission vide Order dated 14.08.2026 in *suo moto* Petition No. 05/SM/2026 has permitted RE generating stations to achieve the COD in extended period by paying Milestone Extension Charges, as applicable. Therefore, AEPL can proceed as per applicable Rules/ Regulations.

28. An extract of a copy of this order shall be sent to the Central Government in the Ministry of Power and the Central Electricity Authority in terms of sub-section (7) of Section 15 of the Electricity Act, 2003, for their information and record.

29. Petition No. 206/TL/2026 is allowed in terms of the above.

Sd/-	sd/-	sd/-
(Ravinder Singh Dhillon)	**(Harish Dudani)**	**(Ramesh Babu V.)**
Member	**Member**	**Member**