

**CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
NEW DELHI**

Petition No.127/MP/2025

Subject : Petition under Section 79 of the Electricity Act, 2003 seeking extension of SCOD due to delay in commissioning on account of Force Majeure and for recovery of additional Project Costs incurred on account of Change in Law, under the Transmission Service Agreement dated 10.12.2021 executed with Respondent No.1 and Respondent No. 2.

Petitioner : Gadag Transmission Limited (GTL)

Respondents : ReNew Solar Power Private Limited and Ors.

Date of Hearing : **16.6.2026**

Coram : Shri Jishnu Barua, Chairperson
Shri Ramesh Babu V, Member
Shri Harish Dudani, Member
Shri Ravinder Singh Dhillon, Member

Parties Present : Shri Vishrov Mukerjee, Advocate, GTL
Shri Girik Bhalla, Advocate, GTL
Ms. Garima Adlakha, Advocate, GTL
Shri Aniket Praoon, Advocate, VEVPL
Shri Sarthak Sareen, Advocate, VEVPL
Shri S. Vallinayagam, Advocate, TNPDC
Ms. Bhavya Arora, Advocate, TNPDC
Ms. Rimali Batra, Advocate, RECPDCL
Ms. Himani Dutta, NLDC
Shri Gajendra Sinh Vasava, NLDC

Record of Proceedings

The learned counsel for the Petitioner submitted that the present Petition has been filed *inter alia* seeking (i) extension of Scheduled Commercial Operation Date (SCOD) of its Project from 16.9.2023 to the actual date of commercial operation, i.e., 4.9.2024, on account of the Force Majeure events, and (ii) compensatory relief on account of Change in Law events that impacted the construction of the Project. The learned counsel submitted that the delay of about 354 days in the commissioning of the Project was attributable to the Force Majeure events viz., (i) delay by district authorities in issuing compensation orders for RoW over land (59-133 days), (ii) severe RoW issues along the route of transmission line (367 days), (iii) Court proceedings and stay on installation of transmission lines in certain segments (20-91 days), (iv) delay in grant of forest clearance (442 days), (v) delay due to change in Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2023 (11 days), (vi) unprecedented heavy rains and cyclone in Karnataka (69 days), and (vii) closure of stone quarries and crushers in Karnataka due to State-wide strike (19 days). The learned counsel further submitted that the



Petitioner has sought compensatory reliefs on account of Change in Law events, viz. (i) MoP Guidelines dated 15.10.2015 and its subsequent adoption by the Govt. of Karnataka on (Rs. 27.20 crore), (ii) increase in Forest NPV (Rs.3.64 lakhs), (ii) increase in compensatory Afforestation Charges & Medicinal Plantation (Rs. 4.01 lakh and Rs. 0.50 lakh), (iv) forest approval for Gadag district (Rs. 2.06 crore), (v) watering charges (Rs. 39.62 lakh), (vi) increase in Acquisition Price (Rs. 6.29 lakh). Additionally, the Petitioner has prayed for the IDC & IEDC, carrying cost and also the shifting of the tariff under the TSA. The learned counsel further made elaborate submissions in support of the above claims.

2. The learned counsel for the Respondents, VEVPL and TNPDC, also made detailed oral submissions strongly refuting the Force Majeure and Change in Law claims of the Petitioner. The learned counsel for the Respondent, REPDCL, submitted that the Respondent has filed its affidavit and submissions made therein have already been referred to by the other Respondents.

3. Due to a paucity of time, rejoinder arguments of the learned counsel for the Petitioner could not commence, and the matter was adjourned. The Commission also directed the Respondents to file their respective notes of arguments to the Petitioner within a week, who may also file their notes of arguments within a week thereafter.

4. The matter remained part-heard and will be listed for hearing on **14.7.2026**.

By order of the Commission
Sd/-
(T.D. Pant)
Joint Chief (Law)