

**CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
NEW DELHI**

Petition No. 227/MP/2024
alongwith IA No. 93/2026

Subject : Petition under Section 79(1) (a) of the Electricity Act, 2003 read with the applicable provisions of the CERC (Terms & Conditions of Tariff) Regulations, 2024.

Petitioner : NTPC Limited

Respondent(s) : UPPCL & 37 Ors.

Petition No. 264/MP/2026

Subject : Petition under Section 79 (1) (a) & (f) of the Electricity Act, 2003 read with Regulation 65 of CERC Conduct of Business Regulations, 2023 and Applicable Provisions of the CERC (Terms & Conditions of Tariff) Regulations, 2024 for Adjudication of Disputes with regard to Invoices raised by NTPC Limited (Generating Company) towards Ash Transportation Charges.

Petitioner : GRIDCO

Respondent(s) : NTPC Limited

Date of hearing : **24.6.2026**

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

Parties Present : Shri Venkatesh, Advocate, NTPC
Shri Ashutosh K. Srivastava, Advocate, NTPC
Shri Nihal Bharadwaj, Advocate, NTPC
Shri Aashwyn Singh, Advocate, NTPC
Ms. Ananya Dutta, Advocate, NTPC
Shri Raj Kumar Mehta, Advocate, GRIDCO
Ms. Himanshi Andley, Advocate, GRIDCO
Ms. Anusha Nagarajan, Advocate, TNPDCL
Ms. Aakanksha Bhola, Advocate, TNPDCL
Shri Ravi Sharma, Advocate, MPPMCL
Shri Aryan Chanda, Advocate, MPPMCL
Shri Nitish Gupta, Advocate, UPPCL
Shri Nipun Sharma, Advocate, UPPCL
Ms. Anjali Dhingra, Advocate, UPPCL
Ms. Nidhi Mittal, Advocate, CSPDCL
Shri Puneeth Ganapathy, Advocate, BSPHCL
Shri Anshula Sinha, Advocate, BSPHCL



Shri Aditya Ajay, Advocate, Telangana Discoms
Ms. Mahima Kaur, Advocate, Telangana Discoms
Ms. Sneha Singh, Advocate, MSEDCL
Shri Vyom Chaturvedi, Advocate, MSEDCL
Ms. Janmali Manikala, Advocate, WBSEDCL

Record of Proceedings

The matters were called out for hearing through virtual mode.

2. During the hearing, the learned counsels for the parties requested that the above-mentioned Petitions be taken up together, as the matters in both the Petitions are related to the recovery of Ash Transportation charges through monthly bills.

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3. The matter was heard on 'admission', wherein the learned counsel for the Petitioner submitted that the Petition has been filed seeking adjudication of a dispute with regard to invoices raised by the Respondent towards ash transportation charges. He further submitted that a similar dispute is also being adjudicated by the Commission in Petition No. 227/MP/2024.

4. The Commission, after hearing the learned counsel for the parties, directed as under:

- a) Admit and issue notice to the Respondent.
- b) The Respondent shall file its reply on or before **24.7.2026**, after serving a copy on the Petitioner, who may file its rejoinder, if any, by **7.8.2026**.

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5. The learned counsel for the Respondent, TNPDC, submitted that it has filed an Interlocutory Application (IA No. 93/2026) seeking restraint on the Petitioner from raising invoices or taking any coercive steps for recovery of ash transportation charges for the period from 1.4.2024 to 9.4.2026. The learned counsel further submitted that the present Petition is contrary to the scheme of the 2024 Tariff Regulations, under which ash transportation expenses are admissible only after a prudence check. The learned counsel for the Respondent, GRIDCO, adopted similar submissions and contended that the 2026 amendment to the 2024 Tariff Regulations operates prospectively and is not applicable to invoices raised for the period from 2024 to 2026. He prayed that the invoices be stayed till the dispute is finally adjudicated.

6. The learned counsel for the NTPC opposed the IA and submitted that the same is not maintainable. In response to the submissions of the learned counsel for the GRIDCO, the learned counsel for the NTPC submitted that the invoices have been raised strictly in accordance with the applicable Regulations. He further submitted that several Discoms have already made payment of the invoiced amount, and payment arrangements have been mutually worked out between the Petitioner and various Discoms.

7. The learned counsels appearing for the Respondents, MPPMCL, UPPCL, MSEDCL, CSPDCL, WBPDC and BSPHCL opposed the submissions made by



NTPC. However, they sought time to file their replies to the additional information furnished by the Petitioner through its supplementary affidavit dated 23.6.2026, if not filed earlier.

8. The Commission observed that ash transportation charges are payable from 01.04.2024 in terms of the applicable regulatory framework; however, the methodology for the payment of ash transportation charges for the period prior to the second amendment is required to be decided in the present matters. In response to a specific query from the Commission regarding the uploading of invoices on the PRAAPTI portal and its consequences, the learned counsel for the Petitioner submitted that payment is already being made by the various discoms.

9. The Commission, after hearing the learned counsels of the parties at length, directed as under:

- a) The parties are to file a reply to IA No. 93/2026, on or before **17.7.2026**, **and** rejoinder, if any, by 31.7.2026.
- b) The Respondents are permitted to file a reply to the additional information filed by the Petitioner NTPC, on or before **17.7.2026**, after serving a copy to the Petitioner, who may file its rejoinder, if any, by **31.7.2026**.
- c) The parties shall continue making payment towards ash transportation charges in accordance with the applicable Regulations and the mutually agreed payment arrangement with NTPC.
- d) NTPC will not take any precipitative action in furtherance of the invoices raised for ash transportation charges on the PRAAPTI portal till the next date of hearing.
- e) In the meantime, the parties may explore an amicable settlement of the disputes involved in the instant Petition.

10. The Petitions shall be listed for hearing on **13.8.2026**.

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

