

**CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
NEW DELHI**

Petition (Diary) No. 528/2026 along with IA (Diary) No. 529/2026

Subject : Petition under Section 79 of The Electricity Act, 2003 and read with Regulations 41 and 42 of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Connectivity and General Network Access to the Inter-State Transmission System) Regulations, 2022, seeking cancellation of the connectivity granted to the Petitioner on the LoA route and return of the Conn-BGs without encashment.

Petitioner : GRT Jewellers (India) Private Limited (GRTJPL)

Respondent : Central Transmission Utility of India Limited (CTUIL)

Date of Hearing : **16.7.2026**

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

Parties Present : Shri Anand K Ganesan, Advocate, GRTJPL
Ms. Harsha Rao, Advocate, GRTJPL
Shri Robin Singh, Advocate, GRTJPL

Record of Proceedings

The learned counsel for the Petitioner submitted that the present Petition has been filed seeking cancellation of the connectivity granted to the Petitioner at Tuticorin-II PS Pooling Station at 230 kV for its 150 MW ISTS-connected Solar Power Project on the LoA route, together with return of the Connectivity Bank Guarantees (Conn BGs) without encashment. The learned counsel submitted that the Petitioner was the successful bidder for the 150 MW Solar Project in the 1500 MW ISTS Solar-1 Scheme of SJVNL, pursuant to which a Letter of Award dated 26.2.2024 was issued and a Power Purchase Agreement dated 28.6.2024 was finalised with SJVNL at an adopted tariff of Rs. 2.52/kWh, on back-to-back basis with Power Supply Agreement (PSA) dated 27.6.2024 between SJVNL and PSPCL. However, the Punjab State Electricity Regulatory Commission (PSERC) did not grant its approval under Section 86(1)(b) of the Act, and resultantly, the PPA had to be terminated, and the 150 MW Project has become non-executable for no fault of the Petitioner. The learned counsel further submitted that, in view of the draft order dated 6.5.2026 issued by the Commission in Petition No.11/SM/2026 to address the issue of stranded connectivity obtained under LoA route due to PSAs not fructifying, the Petitioner, *vide* letter dated 24.6.2026, had requested CTUIL to permit surrender of the connectivity and return of the Conn-BGs. However, CTUIL, *vide* letter dated 9.7.2026, declined the said request, possibly due to the fact that the said order had not become final and directed the Petitioner to seek the conversion of the connectivity under Regulation 11A(3) by 16.7.2026 (i.e., today itself), failing which the connectivity shall be revoked and the Conn BGs will be



encashed. The learned counsel submitted that subsequent thereto, the Commission has passed the final order in Petition No.11/SM/2026 on 10.7.2026 and, based thereon, the Petitioner again requested the CTUIL to permit the surrender in terms thereof, which has not been replied to by CTUIL so far. The learned counsel, accordingly, submitted that since the deadline to seek conversion of connectivity as conveyed by CTUIL by its letter dated 9.7.2026 expires today itself, the Petitioner is also pressing for an interim direction to restrain CTUIL from taking any coercive action against the Petitioner in relation to the connectivity until disposal of the Petition. The learned counsel also fairly submitted that if the Commission is not inclined to consider the above relief, the Petitioner may be permitted some time to pay the amount equivalent to Conn BGs in lieu of encashment of such BGs.

2. In response to the specific query of the Commission regarding the applicability of the order passed in Petition No.11/SM/2026 to the Petitioner's case since it is not the case where PPA had not been signed, the learned counsel submitted that the Petitioner's case, in fact, stands on a higher footing than an entity having connectivity based on LoA, wherein no PPA has been signed for more than 12 months, as in the Petitioner's case, though the PPA was signed, it came to an end due to the non-approval of PSA by PSERC and in such circumstances, the Petitioner ought to be permitted to surrender/relinquish its connectivity without encashment of BGs.

3. After hearing the learned counsel for the Petitioner, the Commission directed as under:

(a) Admit and issue notice, subject to just exceptions.

(b) The Petitioner to implead the SJVNL as a party to the Petition and file revised memo of parties within two days.

(c) The Respondent to file its reply, if any, within two weeks with a copy to the Petitioner, who may file its rejoinder, if any, within two weeks thereafter.

(d) The Petitioner is permitted four days' time to deposit the amount equivalent to Conn BGs to CTUIL in lieu of the encashment of such BGs, failing which CTUIL will be at liberty to proceed with the encashment of BGs in accordance with GNA Regulations. Accordingly, I.A (D. No. 529/2026) is disposed of.

4. The Petitioner is directed to submit the following information, on an affidavit, within two weeks:

i. A copy of the Petitioner's letter dated 25.6.2025 requesting the SJVNL for termination of the PPA, and the Petitioner's letter dated 15.9.2025 for termination of PPA sent vide email dated 16.9.2025 to SJVNL.

ii. A copy of the SJVNL letter dated 13.3.2026 and the Petitioner response letter dated 20.3.2026.

5. SJVNL is directed to submit, on an affidavit, within two weeks, on what circumstances the PPA was terminated.

6. The Petition will be listed for hearing on **18.8.2026**.

By order of the Commission

**Sd/
(T.D. Pant)
Joint Chief (Law)**