CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
NEW DELHI

Petition No. 246/MP/2026 along with IA No. 82/2026

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

Date of Order: 18th November, 2026

In the matter of:

Petition under Section 79 (1) (c) and (k) of the Electricity Act, 2003 read with Regulation 27 and 28 of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Sharing of Inter-State Transmission Charges and Losses) Regulations, 2020 and read with the reports issued by the Report Recommending Extension of Scheduled Date of Commissioning, Start Date of Connectivity and the consequential waiver of 100% inter-state transmission charges by the Committee formed under Regulation 13(2)(h) of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Sharing of Inter-State Transmission Charges and Losses) Regulations, 2020 for seeking extension of Scheduled of Commission and 100% waiver of the inter-state transmission charges.

And in the matter of:

Zenataris Renewable Energy Private Limited
Plot No. N46, House No. 4-9-10,
HMT Nagar, Hyderabad 500076 **……Petitioner**

Versus

Central Transmission Utility of India Limited,
Saudamini, 1st Floor, Plot No. 2,
Sector 29, Gurugram-122001 **……Respondent**

Parties Present:
Shri Aditya K Singh, Advocate, ZREPL
Shri Mridul Gupta, Advocate, ZREPL
Shri Vinit Kumar, Advocate, ZREPL

ORDER

The Zenataris Renewable Energy Private Limited (hereinafter referred to as the "Petitioner/ Zentaris") has filed the present Petition seeking extension of Scheduled Commercial Operation Date (SCOD) for 171.6 MW Wind-Solar Hybrid Project and consequent waiver from payment of ISTS Charges under Regulation 13(2)(h)(ii) of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Sharing of Inter-State Transmission Charges and Losses) Regulations, 2020 (hereinafter referred to as the "2020 Sharing Regulations"). The Petitioner has made the following prayers in the main Petition No. 246/MP/2026:

(a) *To Hold and Declare that the Petitioner has not been able to commission 171.6 MW (connectivity application no. 2200000061) as it is impacted due to occurrence of the Force Majeure Events;*

(b) *To Hold and Declare that the Petitioner is entitled to an extension of SCOD of 171.6 MW Project by 12 months i.e. up to 30.06.2026, subject to commissioning of CTS Line w.r.t Narendra New (GIS) - Pune (GIS) 765kV D/c line with 1x330MVAr switchable line reactor (SLR) linked to start date of connectivity as illustrated below. Further, the Petitioner prays that in case of further delay in commissioning of CTS Line beyond 30.06.2026, the project SCOD be further extended till the commissioning of the CTS Line required for evacuation of the power from this project.*

(c) *To Hold and Declare that the Start Date of the Connectivity of 171.6 MW (connectivity application no. 2200000061) of the Petitioner to be aligned with point no. (b) above.*

(d) *To Declare that the Petitioner's 171.6 MW Project is entitled for 100% waiver of the inter-state transmission charges.*

(e) *Without prejudice to aforementioned prayers, to Hold and Declare that the Petitioner has liberty to approach this Hon'ble Commission in future upon occurrence of the force majeure events in the future seeking extension of SCOD and waiver of transmission charges for its 171.6 MW Wind-Solar Hybrid project;*

(f) *Pass such further orders and direct such other consequential relief, including costs of this Petition, as this Hon'ble Commission may deem fit and proper in the nature and circumstance of the case and in the interest of justice.*

2. The Petitioner has also filed an IA bearing number 82/IA/2026 and has made following prayers:

(a) *admit and list the captioned Application for an urgent hearing;*

(b) *Direct the Respondent not to levy monthly transmission charges for the utilisation of ISTS network (POC charges) from the consumers of the Applicant equivalent to the cumulative capacity of 171.6 MW pending disposal of the accompanying Petition.*

(c) *pass such other order(s) and/ or direction(s) as this Hon'ble Commission may deem just and proper in the facts and circumstances of the case.*

Submissions of the Petitioner in 246/MP/2026:

3. The Petitioners have mainly submitted in Petition No. 246/MP/2026 as under:

(a) The Petitioner is committed to developing a 300.3 MW Wind Solar Hybrid project (66MW + 171.6MW + 62.7MW) in Vijayanagara district, Karnataka. The Hybrid Project is being developed for sale to third parties under a bilateral/ group captive

arrangement. The details of the project are as under:

Sl. No	Application ID	Intimation of final grant of connectivity	Name of Applicant	Capacity granted	Connectivity/ GNA start Date
1	0251100011	25.01.2024	Zenataris Renewable Energy Pvt. Ltd.	66 MW- Wind	16.07.2024
2	2200000061	08.03.2024		171.6 MW (Solar-100 MW & Wind - 71.6 MW)	30.06.2025
3	2200000920	07.01.2025		62.7 MW- Wind	31.12.2025

(b) The present Petition is confined to the extension of SCOD, for the purpose of waiver of Inter-State Transmission System ("ISTS") charges for 171.6 MW Project under Regulation 13(2)(h)(ii) of the 2020 Sharing Regulations.

(c) On 09.10.2023, CTUIL granted in-principle approval for 66 MW connectivity to the Petitioner with Narendra New - Pune CTS with a connectivity start date of 16.07.2024 under the GNA regime. Final connectivity for 66 MW was granted on 25.01.2024 at the new Narendra New - Pune CTS, with a connectivity start date of 16.07.2024.

(d) The Petitioner, with an intent to enhance the capacity of the generating station from 66 MW to 237.6 MW, on 11.05.2023 made another application for additional 171.6 MW connectivity at Hiriyur Sub-station and requested a connectivity start date of 31.12.2024.

(e) During the 22nd Consultation Meeting for Evolving Transmission Schemes ("CMETS") dated 25.08.2023, the Petitioner's request was discussed, and it was decided that the Petitioner ought to be granted the enhanced connectivity capacity with the connectivity start date from 31.12.2024.

(f) The Petitioner, on 28.08.2023, issued a letter to CTUIL requesting a revision of the start date of connectivity. The Petitioner requested that the start of connectivity be revised from 31.12.2024 to 30.06.2025. It was also requested that the fuel type be changed to 100 MW solar and 71.6 MW wind.

(g) On 20.10.2023, the in-principle grant of connectivity for an additional 171.6 MW was communicated to the Petitioner with the start date as 30.06.2025. On 08.03.2024, the final grant of connectivity towards an additional 171.6 MW was granted to the Petitioner with a start date as 30.06.2025.

(h) Relying on the final grant of connectivity letters issued by CTUIL, the Petitioner has

invested approximately INR 1700 crores in critical infrastructure, including 93.48 km of dedicated transmission line, a Grid Substation (GSS), 46 Wind Turbine Generators (WTGs) delivered to site and 42 WTGs already installed, and the acquisition of 758 acres for the solar project. Furthermore, 66.82 MW AC of solar capacity was mechanically completed by June 2025 and obtained CEA Energisation approval on 26th June 2025. The balance 33.18 MW AC of Solar was also mechanically completed in November 2025 and obtained CEA Energisation approval on 07th November 2025.

(i) As per the 50th JCC meeting dated 26.06.2025, the SCOD of CTS line has been changed to 31st December 2025.

(j) This shifting of timeline for commissioning of CTS has significant adverse impact on the overall project schedule, particularly since the successful commissioning of the project is contingent on the availability of the CTS Line.

(k) The Petitioner, vide application dated 08.09.2025, approached the Committee constituted under the 2020 Sharing Regulations for the purposes of seeking extension of SCOD of the 171.6 MW Project till the completion date of the Common Transmission Line and 100% waiver of the inter-state transmission charges.

(l) The Committee vide its report dated 27.10.2025 recommended the extension of SCOD for the 171.6 MW project of the Petitioner for a period of six months from 30.06.2025 or till commissioning of the Common Transmission System (Narendra (New) - Pune 765 kV D/c line), whichever is earlier.

(m) The Petitioner again approached the Committee vide application dated 16.02.2026. The Committee, vide its report dated 18.03.2026, recommended extending the SCOD of the Petitioner's project up to 30.06.2026 or till commissioning of the CTS required for the operationalisation of the Connectivity/GNA, whichever is earlier.

(n) On the basis of the aforementioned facts and the recommendations issued by the Committee, the Petitioner is seeking declaration and grant of extension and waiver as already recommended by the Committee.

Submissions of the Petitioner in 82/IA/2026:

4. The Petitioner has mainly submitted as under:

(a) The Petitioner has obtained recommendations from the Committee recommending for

extension of SCOD and waiver of 100% Inter-State Transmission Charges (ISTS) waiver for the entire project capacity of 171.6 MW up to 30.06.2026 or the actual commissioning of the Narendra - Pune CTS line, in continuation of the waiver already if applicable, to the commissioned portion of the project, as the Petitioner had to face force majeure events and there is a delay in commissioning of the Narendra - Pune CTS line.

(b) That the Committee has issued the aforesaid recommendation after examining in detail the documents on record and in consideration of the detailed submissions made by the Petitioner justifying the delays in achieving the SCOD of the 171.6 MW capacity of the Project, as the Petitioner was impeded due to the occurrence of various force majeure events which have been duly acknowledged by the Ld. Committee.

(c) The Narendra-Pune CTS line has not yet achieved commissioning, whereas the 171.6 MW capacity has achieved mechanical completion and requires only approx. 60 days to complete pre-commissioning activities. Therefore, levying ISTS network charges for power consumed from the 171.6MW capacity by the consumers of the Petitioner would be unjust and without authority of law pending final disposal of the accompanying Petition.

(d) The Petitioner is seeking direction from this Commission to direct the Respondent to refrain from levy of ISTS network charges for the power consumed from the capacity of 171.6 MW by the consumers of the Petitioner.

Hearing dated 24.06.2026

5. The extracts of the RoP for the hearing dated 24.06.2026 are as under:

"The learned counsel for the Petitioner submitted that the present Petition has been filed inter alia seeking extension of the Scheduled Date of Commissioning and 100% waiver of inter-State transmission charges, pursuant to the recommendations dated 27.10.2025 and 18.03.2026 issued by the Committee constituted under Regulation 13(2)(h) of the Sharing Regulations, 2020.

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

(a) Admit and issue notice to the Respondent.

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

(c) The Petitioner was directed to submit the following information on an affidavit within a week:

(i) The Annexures to the Application dated 08.09.2025 and 16.02.2026, submitted before the Committee.

(ii) Copy of connectivity application, in-principle grant of connectivity and final grant of

connectivity for the capacity 171.6 MW.

(iii) Present status of the Petitioner's 171.6 MW project.

(iv) The Petitioner has furnished only some pages of the Committee Report dated 27.10.2025 and 18.03.2026. Furnish the complete report of the Committee.

(d) CTUIL is directed to furnish, within a week, an affidavit on the status of the transmission system required for the effectiveness of the connectivity granted to the Petitioner."

Submissions of Petitioner in compliance with the RoP for hearing dated 24.06.2026:

6. The Petitioner, vide affidavit dated 25.06.2026 and 09.07.2026, submitted the Annexures to the Application dated 08.09.2025 and 16.02.2026, copy of connectivity application, in-principle grant of connectivity and final grant of connectivity for the capacity of 171.6 MW and complete report of the Committee and submitted as under:

(a) The Petitioner on 06.05.2026, 20.05.2026 and 26.06.2026, declared the COD for 66 MW wind capacity from 08.05.2026, 94.325 MW solar capacity from 22.05.2026 and for 15.125 MW solar capacity from 28.06.2025. Therefore, the Project, having cumulative capacity of 171.6 MW, is fully commissioned.

Submissions of CTUIL in compliance with the RoP for hearing dated 24.06.2026:

7. CTUIL, vide affidavit dated 21.09.2026, submitted that the Connectivity is granted to the Petitioner with "Augmentation (Without ATS)" linked with the ISTS Network Expansion Scheme in Western Region and Southern Region for Export of Surplus Power During High RE Scenario in Southern Region. The TSP, WRSR Power Transmission Limited, is implementing the scheme, with an Anticipated CoD of December 2026, as per the latest information furnished by the TSP.

Hearing dated 22.09.2026

8. The extracts of the RoP for the hearing dated 22.09.2026 are as under:

"The learned counsel for the Petitioner submitted that the present Petition has been filed inter alia seeking extension of the Scheduled Date of Commissioning (SCD) and 100% waiver of the inter-State transmission charges in terms of Reports dated 27.10.2025 and 18.3.2026 of the Committee constituted under Regulation 13(2)(h) of the Sharing Regulations, 2020. The learned counsel submitted that in the said Reports, the Committee recommended extending the SCD of the Petitioner's Project and a 100% waiver of the ISTS charges. Learned counsel further submitted that CTUIL has also not taken an adversarial stand in the matter and, by its compliance affidavit dated 21.9.2026, it has indicated the status of the transmission system required for the effectiveness of the Petitioner's connectivity. Accordingly, learned counsel, requested that the matter be reserved for order.

2. The Commission observed that as per the final grant of connectivity, the installed capacity of Petitioner's project is 71.6 MW wind and 100 MW solar. However, as per the Petitioner's submissions, it has achieved the COD of 66 MW wind and 109.45 MW solar. Accordingly, the

Petitioner was directed to clarify, on an affidavit, within a week, the capacity declared COD with respect to 71.6 Wind component and 100 MW Solar Component along with date of commercial operation and corresponding COD certificate.

3. Considering the above submissions, the Commission reserved the matter for order."

Submissions of Petitioner in compliance with the RoP for hearing dated 22.09.2026:

9. The Petitioner vide affidavit dated 08.10.2026 submitted as under:

(a) The 66 MW wind capacity was commissioned on 06.05.2026. The remaining wind capacity of 5.6 MW was commissioned on 30.08.2026. The trial certificate dated 13.08.2026 will reflect the trial and commissioning of 16.5 MW. Out of 16.5 MW, 5.6 MW is part of the 71.6 MW capacity that is the subject matter of the present Petition.

(b) The delay in commissioning of the remaining 5.6 MW wind capacity was on account of non-commissioning of the CTS, which is necessary for operationalisation of Connectivity/GNA.

(c) If this Commission arrives at a conclusion that the Petitioner is not entitled to an extension and the consequent 100% waiver of transmission charges to the extent of 5.6 MW wind capacity, then liberty may be granted to the Petitioner to approach this Commission in future for the purposes of seeking an extension and the consequent 100% waiver of transmission charges to the extent of the remaining 5.6 MW wind capacity.

Analysis and Decision:

10. We have considered the submissions of the Petitioner and the Respondent and the documents placed on the record. The following issue arises for our consideration:

Issue 1: Whether the Petitioner's project is eligible for extension in SCOD and is entitled to a 100% waiver of Inter-State Transmission System charges as if the project had achieved COD on or before 30.06.2025, under Regulation 13(2)(h) of the 2020 Sharing Regulations?

11. The above issue is dealt with in subsequent paragraphs.

12. The Petitioner has submitted that the Petitioner's 171.6 MW Wind - Solar Hybrid Project, having connectivity at Hiriyur sub-station, was planned to be commissioned by 30.06.2025, which was the start date of connectivity communicated under the Final Grant of connectivity. In view of the delay in commissioning of the CTS, on 08.09.2025, the Petitioner submitted a representation to the Committee constituted under Regulation 13(2)(h) of the 2020 Sharing Regulations, seeking extension of the SCOD

of its Project and consequent waiver of inter-State transmission charges. The Committee, vide its Report dated 27.10.2025, recommended 1st extension for a period of six months or till commissioning of the Common Transmission System, whichever is earlier. On 16.02.2026, Petitioner submitted another representation to the Committee seeking additional extension. On 18.03.2026, the Committee, vide its Report, recommended a 2nd extension of the SCOD of the 171.6 MW Wind-Solar Hybrid Project up to 30.06.2026 or till commissioning of the CTS required for the effectiveness of the GNA, whichever is earlier.

13. Petitioner has also submitted that it has achieved the CoD for 66 MW wind capacity on 08.05.2026, 94.325 MW solar capacity on 22.05.2026, 15.125 MW solar capacity on 28.06.2025 and 5.6 MW wind capacity on 30.08.2026.

14. The Petitioner has filed the present Petition seeking extension of SCOD till the commissioning of CTS, for the purpose of waiver of Inter-State Transmission System charges for its 171.6 MW Wind - Solar Hybrid Project as recommended by the Committee.

15. CTUIL has submitted that the anticipated CoD of the transmission system required for the effectiveness of the GNA of the Petitioner is December 2026.

16. The relevant extracts of the Committee's Report dated 27.10.2025 are as under:

> ***"7. Conclusions and Recommendations***
>
> *7.1 Based on the submissions, deliberations, and supporting documents, the Committee observes the following:*
>
> *a) The SCOD of the 171.6 MW project is 30.06.2025.*
>
> *b) Major project components and dedicated transmission line were completed before the SCOD.*
>
> *c) The delay in commissioning of the CTS Line by the Transmission Provider, as well as Force Majeure events such as local obstruction, ROW issues, and exceptionally heavy monsoon, have materially impeded COD achievement of total capacity.*
>
> *d) These circumstances merit consideration for extension under Regulation 13(2)(h) of the CERC Sharing Regulations, 2020 (as amended).*
>
> *7.2 Recommendation: In view of the above, the Committee recommends that extension of SCOD for the 171.6 MW project of M/s Zentaris Renewable Energy Private Limited be granted for a period of six (6) months from 30.06.2025 or till commissioning of the Common Transmission System (Narendra (New)—Pune 765 kV D/c line), whichever is earlier. Any further extension, if required, may be considered in accordance with Regulation 13(2)(h) of the Sharing Regulations, 2020 (as amended), based on fresh evaluation by the Committee."*

17. The Petitioner approached the Committee vide its second representation dated

16.02.2026 seeking further extension. The relevant extracts of the Committee's report dated 18.03.2026 are as under:

"5. Committee's view

The Committee is satisfied that: (a) the generating plant has been physically completed; (b) energisation approvals from CEA have been obtained; (c) the developer's dedicated transmission system up to Hiriyur sub-station is already in place; and (d) the principal constraint relates to non-availability of the CTS, which is outside the control of the developer.

The Committee also notes that the developer expects to complete the remaining balance activities and be ready for commissioning by 30.06.2026.

6. Recommendation

The Committee recommends for a further extension of SCOD for ZREPL's 171.6 MW Wind - Solar Hybrid project for the purpose of determining eligibility for waiver of ISTS charges as follows:

- *Extension of SCOD up to 30.06.2026 (i.e., the second six-month period from the original SCOD of 30.06.2025) or until commissioning of the CTS required for operationalisation of Connectivity/GNA, whichever is earlier.*
- *ZREPL has requested approximately two months plus 45-60 days for completion of balance pre-commissioning and first-time energisation activities. The Committee notes that such activities are standard for safe integration of RE generating stations and may be accommodated within the extended period ending on 30.06.2026."*

Accordingly, the Committee recommended extending the SCOD of the Petitioner's 171.6 MW project up to 30.06.2026 or until commissioning of the CTS required for the effectiveness of the GNA, whichever is earlier.

18. Regulation 13(2)(h) of the 2020 Sharing Regulations provides as under:

"(h) Any REGS based on wind or solar source or RHGS based on combination of wind and solar source or Battery ESS which is eligible for a waiver of inter-state transmission charges under Regulation 13(2) of these regulations and is having its scheduled date of commercial operation (SCOD) on or before 30th June 2025 is granted extension of time to achieve commercial operation date (COD) on account of any Force Majeure event including non-availability of transmission system or for reasons not attributable to the REGS, and the project achieves COD on or before the extended date, it shall be eligible for a waiver of inter-state transmission charges as if the said REGS had achieved COD on 30.6.2025. Such extension to achieve SCOD for the purpose of this Regulation shall not exceed a period of six months at a time and not more than two times, where the extension provided is for a period beyond 30.06.2025. Such extension shall be granted by:

(i) Renewable Energy Implementing Agency or a distribution licensee or an authorized agency on behalf of a distribution licensee or MNRE as per the competent authority in terms of the Power Purchase Agreements, where PPA has been entered into consequent to tariff based competitive bidding, under Section 63 of the Act;

(ii) Commission based on recommendations of Committee to be appointed by the Commission, for cases other than covered in sub-clause (i) of this Clause. For the purpose of seeking such extension, the concerned generation project or ESS shall file an application to the Committee as notified through a separate Order by the Commission."

As per the above, the following three conditions are to be met by a RE generator to get waiver in terms of Regulation 13(2)(h):

Condition-1: RE generation project has its scheduled date of commercial operation (SCOD) on or before 30th June 2025.

Condition-2: There is a delay in project CoD on account of any Force Majeure event, including non-availability of the transmission system, or for reasons not attributable to the REGS.

Condition-3: RE generation project has achieved COD on or before the extended date.

19. The Committee, in its reports, has recognised the SCOD of the Petitioner's project as 30.06.2025 and, finding the project eligible, recommended extension of SCOD till 30.06.2026 or until commissioning of the CTS required for effectiveness of GNA, whichever is earlier.

20. Petitioner claimed to have achieved commercial operation for 66 MW wind capacity on 08.05.2026, 94.325 MW solar capacity on 22.05.2026, 15.125 MW solar capacity on 28.06.2025 and 5.6 MW wind capacity on 30.08.2026.

21. We note that Regulation 13(2)(h) of the Sharing Regulations provides for extension of SCOD for a limited period of one year, based on the recommendation of the Committee for the specified cases, including the instant case, only for the purpose of waiver, which is subject to the condition that the project achieves COD by the extended date. In this light, based on the findings and recommendations of the Committee, we are of the considered view that the capacity of Petitioner's project, which actually achieved COD as on 30.06.2026, shall be eligible for waiver of inter-state transmission charges, as if the said project capacity had achieved COD on or before 30.06.2025 in terms of Regulation 13(2)(h) of the 2020 Sharing Regulations. We note that, as per the Petitioner, 5.6 MW Wind capacity could not achieve COD on or before 30.06.2026. Accordingly, it shall not be eligible for any relief under Regulation 13(2)(h) of the 2020 Sharing Regulations. NLDC shall verify the COD certificates for the capacity of Petitioner's project that has achieved COD on or before 30.06.2026 before considering for ISTS waiver.

22. We observe that Petitioner has also prayed that in case of delay in commissioning of CTS beyond 30.06.2026, the project SCOD be further extended till the commissioning of the CTS Line required for evacuation of the power from its project and also to align the start date of connectivity with such extended date. In this regard, in the absence of

any provision under the 2020 Sharing Regulations, the reliefs sought by the Petitioner are rejected.

23. The Petition No. 246/MP/2026 along with 82/IA/2026 stands disposed of in terms of the above. No order as to costs.

Sd/	**Sd/**	**Sd/**	**Sd/**
(Ravinder Singh Dhillon)	**(Harish Dudani)**	**(Ramesh Babu V)**	**(Jishnu Barua)**
Member	**Member**	**Member**	**Chairperson**