## CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION **NEW DELHI**

## IA No.18/2024 in Petition No.97/MP/2024

Subject : Application on behalf of the Petitioner for seeking Ad-Interim

relief in Petition under section 79 of the Electricity Act. 2003 read with Regulations 41 & 42 of CERC (Connectivity and General Network Access to the Inter-State Transmission System) Regulations, 2022 as amended from time to time, seeking connectivity as a Renewable Energy/ Power Park

Developer in phases.

Date of Hearing : 13.3.2024

Coram : Shri Jishnu Barua, Chairperson

Shri P. K. Singh, Member

Petitioner : Adani Green Energy Limited

Respondents : Central Transmission Utility of India Limited

Parties Present : Shri Amit Kapur, Advocate, AEGL

> Shri Hemant Singh, Advocate, AEGL Shri Chetan Garg, Advocate, AEGL Ms. Alchi Thapliyal, Advocate, AEGL

Shri Siddarth Sharma, CTUIL

## **Record of Proceedings**

At the outset, the learned counsel for the Petitioner circulated a note of arguments and mainly submitted as under:

- The Petitioner was authorized by the competent authority for the development of a 9500 MW Solar/ Wind/ Wind-Solar hybrid park project at Khavda, Gujarat, on behalf of the Renewable Energy Generators that will be setting up the generation stations in the park. For the purpose of setting up the above Project, the Petitioner was allotted land measuring 19,000 Ha in the Great Rann of Kutch by the Office of the Collector and District Magistrate, Kutchh, Bhuj on 12.12.2020, which then translated into a formal Land Lease Agreement dated 16.05.2023 executed by the Petitioner with the Collector and District Magistrate, Kutchh, Bhuj and Gujarat Power Corporation Limited ('GPCL').
- For the purpose of the interconnection of the above-mentioned 9500 MW Park Project with the inter-State transmission system ("ISTS"), prior to the notification of the GNA Regulations, 2022, i.e. 1.10.2023, the Petitioner had already obtained Stage-II Connectivity for 5400 MW (as detailed in the Para 4 of the IA) under the erstwhile regime [i.e., Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Grant of Connectivity, Long-term Access and

Medium-term Open Access in inter-State Transmission and related matters) Regulations, 2009]. As on date, the above 5400 MW stands converted and transitioned under the GNA Regulations.

- For the remaining quantum (i.e., 4100 MW), the Petitioner, vide multiple applications made on 10.1.2024, has applied for the grant of the Connectivity for a total quantum of 2075 MW (i.e., 650 MW + 75 MW + 100 MW + 1250 MW at the Khavda Pooling Station 1 & 3), which is pending.
- The Commission ought to consider that Regulation 5.5 of the GNA Regulations if interpreted and implemented very mechanically without considering the peculiar facts qua the Petitioner would also restrict the Petitioner to even apply for the balance of 4100 MW in one go as it would not be able to comply with the regulation since the connectivity sought under GNA Regulations is not representing the entire allocated capacity of the park. Since the Petitioner has already taken the connectivity for 5400 MW, under no circumstances, the Petitioner would be in a position to secure fresh Connectivity for the entire 9500 MW under the GNA Regulations to comply with Regulation 5.5. Therefore, Regulation 5.5 ought not to be implemented mechanically in the present case.
- The representative of Respondent, CTUIL, submitted that various applications 2. for the grant of Connectivity have been received wherein the entities are seeking connectivity which is less than their authorised quantum. He further submitted that CTUIL had preferred Petition No. 241/MP/2023, seeking standing directions regarding the implementation of the provisions relating to the applications for such connectivity applications which are less than the authorized quantum by the Renewable Power Park Developers. The representative of the CTUIL added that the Commission had observed that an amendment in the GNA Regulations, 2022, is required in this regard and directed the CTUIL to withdraw Petition No. 241/MP/2023 and to submit the proposal in this regard. Accordingly, CTUIL, vide its letter dated 21.2.2024 has sent the proposal for implementation of the provisions relating to applications received for the grant of the Connectivity for amendment of the GNA Regulations. The representative of the CTUIL submitted that the application of the Petitioner for the remaining quantum (i.e., 4100 MW) is still pending with the CTUIL and waiting for the direction of the Commission. The representative of the CTUIL sought liberty to file its reply in the main Petition, i.e. Petition No. 97/MP/2024.
- After hearing the learned counsel for the Petitioner and the representative of the CTUIL, the Commission directed the CTUIL not to reject/close the applications filed by the Petitioner for connectivity on the stated ground alone and keep it pending till the next date of hearing. Accordingly, IA No. 18/2024 was disposed of.
- The Commission directed the Commission's staff to process 4. representation made by the CTUIL, vide its letter dated 21.2.2024, for suitable amendment or issuance of standing practice directions for the same in the GNA Regulations.
- Respondent was directed to file its reply within four weeks with an advance 5. copy to the Petitioner, who may file a rejoinder thereof within three weeks thereafter.

6. The Petition shall be listed for the hearing on 12.6.2024.

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