

**CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
New Delhi**

Petition No. 250/MP/2023

Subject : Petition preferred under 79 (1)(c) and Section 79(1)(f) of the Electricity Act, 2003 and Regulation 41 and Regulation 42 read with Regulation 44 of Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Connectivity and General Network Access to the inter-State Transmission System) Regulations, 2022 (“GNA Regulations”) along with Regulation 110, Regulation 111 and Regulation 112 of the CERC (Conduct of Business) Regulations, 1999 read with Regulation 6(3) of the CERC (Payment of Fees) Regulations, 2012, seeking directions/intervention of this Commission for (i) increasing the timelines and application fee for scrutiny of Connectivity/GNA applications, (ii) adoption of process of prior scrutiny by external experts for effective verification of the land/financial documents and (iii) regulatory clarity regarding the land documents to be accepted under the head of “Land-Use Rights” for grant of Connectivity to applicants and (iv) the threshold/yardstick w.r.t minimum land requirements per MW, which applicants shall meet and submit along with their applicants, in support of the eligibility conditions as per Regulation 5.8 of GNA Regulations

Date of Hearing : 19.1.2024

Coram : Shri Jishnu Barua, Chairperson
Shri I S Jha, Member
Shri P. K. Singh, Member

Petitioner : Central Transmission Utility of India Limited(CTUIL)

Respondent : Central Electricity Authority & Ors.

Parties present : Shri Shubham Arya, Advocate, CTUIL
Shri Pallavi Saigal, Advocate, CTUIL
Shri Swapnil Verma, CTUIL
Shri Ranjeet S Rajput, CTUIL



Record of Proceedings

The instant petition is filed by the CTUIL for:

- a. Adoption of the process of prior/ post scrutiny by expert agencies by CTUIL to ensure the authenticity and correctness of land/financial documents
 - b. Enhancement of the present timelines of 7 days for scrutiny of the application to 30 days for intimation of in-principle grant of connectivity (in case where no augmentation is required) and 60 days (where augmentation is required)
 - c. Increasing the application fee from ₹5 lakh to ₹20 lakh per application to cover expenses for verifying land/financial documents by an external expert agency
 - d. Clarifications in regard to the categories/documents which shall be accepted by CTUIL under the head of "land-use rights agreement" in support of their eligibility for grant of Connectivity; and the threshold/yardstick w.r.t minimum land requirements per MW to be submitted by the applicant in support of the eligibility conditions as per GNA Regulations
2. In response to a Commission's query, the learned counsel for the Petitioner submitted that the reliefs are sought under the Commission's "Power to Relax and removal of Difficulty".
 3. The Commission observed that CTUIL, in a way, is seeking amendment of the GNA Regulations.
 4. The learned counsel for the Petitioner sought time to seek instructions from the Petitioner and also sought the Commission's permission to amend the petition or file additional information if required.
 5. The Commission granted liberty to the Petitioner to take suitable action within 30 days.
 6. The petition will be listed for further hearing on 28.2.2024.

By order of the Commission

sd/-

(V. Sreenivas)
Joint Chief (Law)

