

**CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION  
NEW DELHI**

**Petition No. 76/TL/2024**

**Coram:  
Shri Jishnu Barua, Chairperson  
Shri Arun Goyal, Member**

**Date of Order: 24<sup>th</sup> April, 2024**

**In the matter of**

Application under Sections 14, 15 and 79(1)(e) of the Electricity Act, 2003 read with the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Procedure, Terms and Conditions for Grant of Transmission License and other related matters) Regulations, 2009 with respect to the grant of the transmission license to Karera Power Transmission Limited.

**And**

**In the matter of**

**Karera Power Transmission Limited,**

(A 100% wholly owned subsidiary of Apraava Energy Private Limited)

T-15A, Third Floor, Salcon Rasvilas,  
Saket, New Delhi, 110017.

**...Petitioner**

**Vs**

**1. Central Transmission Utility of India Limited,**

Saudamini, Plot No.2, Sector-29  
Gurgaon-122 001

**2. REC Power Development & Consultancy Limited,**

D-Block, REC Headquarter  
Plot No. I-4, Sector-29  
Gurgaon-122001

**3. Chhatisgarh State Power Distribution Company Limited,**

CSPDCL, 4th Floor, Vidyut Sewa Bhawan,  
Daganiya, Raipur- 492013,  
Chhatisgarh

**4. Goa Electricity Department-WR,**

4th Floor, Vidyut Bhavan,  
Near main KTC bus stand,  
Vasco-da-Gama, 403 802South,  
GOA District, GOA

**5. Gujarat Urja Vikas Nigam Limited,**

Commerce Department 2nd Floor,

Sardar Patel Vidyut Bhavan, Race Course,  
Vadodara– 390007, Gujarat

**6. Heavy Water Board,**

5th Floor, Vikram Sarabhai Bhavan,  
Anushakti Nagar, Mumbai - 400 094

**7. HVDC Bhadrawati ,**

**Power Grid Corporation of India Limited**

Commercial & Regulatory Cell,  
Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd.,  
'Saudamini', Plot No.2, Sector 29,  
Gurgaon- 122001, Haryana.

**8. HVDC Vindychal,**

**Power Grid Corporation of India Limited**

Commercial & Regulatory Cell,  
Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd.,  
'Saudamini', Plot No.2, Sector 29,  
Gurgaon, Haryana, India- 122001

**9. M.P. Power Management Company Limited,**

Block No. 11, 1st Floor, Shakti Bhawan, Rampur,  
Jabalpur– 482008, Madhya Pradesh

**10. Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Company Limited,**

Prakashgad,plot No G-9, A K Marg,Bandra (East) ,  
Mumbai-400051, Maharashtra

**11. ACB India Limited,**

7th Floor, office Tower Ambiance Mall,  
Gurgaon– 122002, Haryana

**12. Torrent Power Limited,**

Samanvay, 600, Tapovan, Ambavadi,  
Ahmedabad- 380015, Gujarat

**13. Bhabha Atomic Research Centre,**

Trombay, Mumbai - 400 085

**14. GMR Warora Energy Limited,**

New Shakti Bhavan Bldg. No. 302,  
New Udaan Bhavan Complex,  
Adjacent To Terminal 3,  
IGI Airport, New Delhi-110037

**15. HVDC Champa,**

**Power Grid Corporation of India Limited,**

Commercial & Regulatory Cell,  
Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd.,  
'Saudamini', Plot No.2, Sector 29,

Gurgaon- 122001, Haryana.

**16. West Central Railway Head Office**

General Manager's Office, 3rd Floor, Electrical Branch,  
Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh- 482001

**17. Western Railway,**

PCEE Office, 5th Floor, Churchgate New station building,  
Churchgate, Mumbai-400020

**18. DB Power Limited,**

Office Block 1A, 5th Floor,  
Corporate Block, DB City Park DB City Area Hills,  
Opposite M. P. Nagar Zone, Bhopal – 462016

**19. Chattisgarh State Power Trading Company Limited,**

2nd floor Vidyut Seva Bhawan, Dangania,  
Raipur - 492010Chhattisgarh,

**20. TRN Energy Private Limited,**

18, Vasant Enclave, Rao Tula Ram Marg,  
New Delhi - 110057

**21. Adani Power (Mundra) Limited,**

Adani Corporate House, Shantigram  
Near Vaishno Devi circle, S G Highway  
Ahmedabad- 382421, Gujarat

**22. Raigarh HVDC Station,  
Power Grid Corporation of India Limited**

Commercial & Regulatory Cell,  
Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd.,  
'Saudamini', Plot No.2, Sector 29,  
Gurgaon- 122001, Haryana.

**23. Arcelor Mittal Nippon Steel India Limited,**

27KM Surat Hazira Road, Surat Hazira,  
Surat– 394270, Gujarat

**24. Central Railway**

Central Railway, Electrical Branch (HQ),  
2nd Floor, Parcel Office Bldg.,  
Mumbai– 400001, Maharashtra

**25. Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu,  
Power Distribution Corporation Limited,**

1st & 2nd Floor, Vidyut Bhavan,  
Silvassa– 396230.

**26. MPSEZ Utilities Limited,**

Adani Corporate House, Shantigram

Near Vaishno Devi circle, S G Highway  
Ahmedabad- 382421, Gujarat.

....Respondents

**Parties present:**

Ms. Bitika Kaur, KPTL  
Shri Siddharth Sharma, CTUIL  
Shri Akshyvat Kislay, CTUIL  
Shri Ritam Biswas, RECPDCL

**ORDER**

The Petitioner, Karera Power Transmission Limited, has filed the present Petition for the grant of a transmission licence under Sections 14, 15 and 79(1)(e) of the Electricity Act, 2003 (hereinafter referred to as “the Act”) read with the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Procedure, Terms and Conditions for grant of Transmission Licence and other related matters) Regulations, 2009 (hereinafter referred to as “Transmission Licence Regulations”) for the establishment of the “*Western Region Expansion Scheme XXXIII (WRES – XXXIII): Part B*” in Madhya Pradesh (hereinafter referred to as “Project”) on a Build, Own, Operate and Transfer basis, consisting of the following elements:

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Name of Transmission Element</b>	<b>Scheduled COD in months from Effective Date</b>
1.	<i>Establishment of 2x1500 MVA, 765/400 kV, 2x500 MVA, 400/220 kV S/s at Karera (near Datiya) along with 1x330 MVAR 765 kV bus reactor &amp; 1x125 MVAR, 420 kV bus reactor 765/400 kV, 1500 MVA ICT – 2 nos. (7x500 MVA single phase units including one spare unit) 400/220 kV, 500 MVA ICT – 2 nos. 765 kV ICT bays – 2 nos. 400 kV ICT bays – 4 nos. 220 kV ICT bays – 2 nos. 765 kV Line bays – 2 nos. 330 MVAR, 765 kV Bus Reactor – 1 no. (4x110 MVAR single phase units including one spare</i>	24 months

S. No.	Name of Transmission Element	Scheduled COD in months from Effective Date
	unit) 125 MVAR, 420 kV Bus reactor – 1 no. 765 kV Bus reactor bay: 1 no. 400 kV Bus reactor bay: 1 no. 220 kV Bus coupler bay- 2 no. 220 kV Transfer Bus Coupler (TBC) bay - 2 no. 220 kV line bays – 8 nos. (for 220 kV lines to be implemented by MPPTCL#) 220 kV Bus sectionaliser– 1 set. <b>Future provisions: Space for:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 765/400 kV ICT along with bays- 4 Nos.</li> <li>• 765 kV line bays along with switchable line reactors – 8 Nos.</li> <li>• 765 kV Bus Reactor along with bay: 3 Nos.</li> <li>• 765 kV Sectionalizer: 1 set</li> <li>• 400 kV line bays along with switchable line reactor – 10 Nos.</li> <li>• 400/220 kV ICT along with bays -6 Nos.</li> <li>• 400 kV Bus Reactor along with bays- 3 Nos.</li> <li>• 400 kV Sectionalization bay: 1 set</li> <li>• 220 kV line bays: 10 Nos.</li> <li>• 220 kV Sectionalization bay: 1 set</li> </ul>	
2.	LILO of Satna-Gwalior 765 kV S/c line at Karera	
3.	Installation of 1x330 MVAR, switchable line reactor at Karera end of Karera – Satna 765 kV line 765 kV, 330 MVAR SLR along with switching equipment – 1 No. (3 x 110 MVAR) [110 MVAR single phase reactor unit for bus reactor to be used as spare for line reactor too]	

#LILO of both circuits of Bina - Datiya 220 kV D/c line at Karera, Extension of LILO portion of 220kV Datiya - Bina line for Pichhore 220 kV upto Karera & Karera - Seondha 220 kV D/c line

Note:

(i) Implementation timeframe: 24 months from date of SPV transfer.

(ii) MPPTCL shall execute downstream network in matching time-frame of ISTS system.

2. The Petitioner has made the following prayers:

“(a) Issue the Transmission Licence to the Applicant for establishing, operating and maintaining the Project as provided for in the Transmission Service Agreement;

*(b) Allow the “Western Region Expansion Scheme XXXIII (WRES – XXXIII): Part B” in Madhya Pradesh to be part of Point of Connection Pool as per Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Sharing of Inter-State Transmission Charges and Losses) Regulations, 2020.*

*(c) Condone any inadvertent errors omissions/ errors shortcomings and permit the Applicant to add/change/modify/alter these filings and make further submissions as may be required at a future date.*

*(d) Pass such other order / orders, as may be deemed fit and proper in the facts & circumstances of the case.”*

### **Hearing dated 10.4.2024**

3. During the course of the hearing on 10.4.2024, the representative of the Petitioner submitted that the Petitioner has complied with the requirements, including publication of notice(s) under the provisions of the Transmission Licence Regulations and CTUIL has submitted its recommendations for the grant of a transmission licence to the Petitioner under Section 15(4) of the Electricity Act, 2003.

4. The representative of CTUIL confirmed that CTUIL has already issued its recommendations for the grant of a transmission licence to the Petitioner Company.

5. Vide Record of Proceedings for the hearing dated 10.4.2024, the Respondents were directed to file their reply with a copy to the Petitioner, who may file its rejoinder thereafter. However, no reply has been filed by the Respondents.

6. The Petitioner has submitted that in accordance with the “Guidelines for Encouraging Competition in Development of Transmission Projects” and “Tariff Based Competitive Bidding Guidelines for Transmission Service” (hereinafter referred to as “the Guidelines”) issued by the Ministry of Power, Government of India, under Section 63 of the Act, REC Power Development & Consultancy Limited (RECPDCL) was notified by the Ministry of Power, Government of India, vide Gazette Notification. No. CG-DL-E-15042023-245170 (No.1644) dated 13.4.2023 as

the Bid Process Coordinator (BPC) for the purpose of selection of bidder as Transmission Service Provider (TSP) for grant of inter-state transmission license to the Applicant for establishment of the “*Western Region Expansion Scheme XXXIII (WRES – XXXIII): Part B*” in Madhya Pradesh on a Build, Own, Operate and Transfer basis.

7. RECPDCL, in its capacity as the BPC, initiated the bid process on 22.5.2023 and completed it on 9.2.2024 in accordance with the Guidelines. Consortium of Apraava Energy Private Limited was selected as the successful bidder, having quoted the lowest transmission charges of Rs. 805.78 million to provide transmission services to the transmission system’s beneficiaries..

8. The RfP was issued on 22.5.2023. At the RfP (Technical and Financial) stage, seven bidders, namely, (i) Apraava Energy Private Limited (formerly known as CLP India Private Limited), (ii) Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, (iii) Indigrd 2 Limited and Indigrd 1 Limited- Consortium, (iv) GR Infraprojects Limited, (v) Techno Electric & Engineering Company Limited, (vi) Sterlite Grid 40 Limited, and (vii) Megha Engineering & Infrastructures Limited submitted their offers. The RfP (Technical bids) of the seven bidders were opened by the Bid Opening Committee on 26.12.2023 in the presence of the representative of the bidders. The lowest Initial Price Offer discovered (Best Deal) at the MSTC portal was Rs. 936.70 million. The details of the quoted transmission charges by the bidders are given below:

Sr. No.	Name of the Bidder	Quoted Transmission Charges as per the Initial Offer (in Rs. Million)	Rank
1.	Apraava Energy Private Limited (Formerly known as CLP India Private Limited)	936.70	L1

2.	Power Grid Corporation of India Limited	956.25	L2
3.	Indigrd 2 Limited and Indigrd 1 Limited – Consortium	965.00	L3
4.	G R Infraprojects Limited	1029.70	L4
5.	Techno Electric & Engineering Company Limited	1030.00	L5
6.	Sterlite Grid 40 Limited	1068.70	L6
7.	Megha Engineering & Infrastructures Limited	1222.70	L7

9. As per Clause 3.5.1 of the RfP document, Initial Offers shall be ranked on the basis of ascending order for determination of the qualified bidders. The bidders holding the first fifty per cent of the ranks (with any fraction rounded off to a higher integer) or four bidders, whichever is higher, shall be considered to be qualified for participating in the electronic reverse auction stage and submitting their final offer.

10. The e-reverse auction of four bidders was carried out at the MSTC portal on 27.12.2023. The following transmission charges, as quoted by each bidder, emerged:

Sr. No.	Name of the Bidder	Transmission Charges from the Initial Offer (Rs. in Million)	Transmission Charges from the Final Offer (Rs. in Million)	Rank
1.	Apraava Energy Private Limited	936.70	805.78	L1
2.	Power Grid Corporation of India Limited	956.25	807.80	L2
3.	G R Infraprojects Limited	1029.70	899.84	L3
4.	Indigrd 2 Limited and Indigrd 1 Limited- Consortium	965.00	No bid received in electronic reverse auction	L4

11. As per the Bid Evaluation Report dated 29.12.2023, Apraava Energy Private Limited emerged as the successful bidder with the lowest quoted transmission charges of Rs. 805.78 million. BEC, vide its certificate dated 29.12.2023, has certified that the entire bid process has been carried out in accordance with the Guidelines issued by the Ministry of Power under Section 63 of the Act. BEC has

further certified that the transmission charges discovered through the e-reverse auction are acceptable.

12. Consequent to its selection as the lowest bidder, a Letter of Intent (LoI) was issued to Apraava Energy Private Limited by the BPC on 31.12.2023, which was accepted by Apraava Energy Private Limited. Under the terms of RfP and the Letter of Intent, the successful bidder is obligated to accomplish the following tasks:

- (a) Provide Contract Performance Guarantee in favour of Central Transmission Utility of India Limited (CTUIL);
- (b) Execute Share Purchase Agreement and Transmission Service Agreement;
- (c) Acquire, for the Acquisition Price, a 100% equity share of Karera Power Transmission Limited from RECPDCL along with all its related assets and liabilities;
- (d) Make an application to this Commission for adoption of transmission charges, as required under Section 63 of the Act; and
- (e) Apply to this Commission for grant of transmission licence;

13. Apraava Energy Private Limited has furnished the Contract Performance Guarantee (CPG) in favour of Nodal Agency, i.e. CTUIL, for Rs. 35 crore on 9.2.2024 and has acquired a hundred per cent equity holding in Karera Power Transmission Limited on 9.2.2024. The Petitioner entered into a Transmission Service Agreement (TSA) with CTUIL on 9.2.2024.

14. Section 14 of the Act provides that the Appropriate Commission may, on an application made under Section 15 of the Act, grant a licence to any person to transmit electricity as a transmission licensee in any area as may be specified in the

licence. The word “person” has been defined in Section 2(49) of the Act to include any company or body corporate or association or body of individuals, whether incorporated or not, or artificial juridical person. The Petitioner has been incorporated under the Companies Act 2013. The main objective of the Petitioner Company is as under:

*“To plan, promote and develop an integrated and efficient power transmission system network in all its aspects including planning, investigation, research, design and engineering, preparation of preliminary, feasibility and definite project reports, construction, operation and maintenance of transmission lines, sub-stations, load dispatch stations and communication facilities and appurtenant works, coordination of integrated operation of state, regional and national grid system, execution of turn-key jobs for other utilities/organizations and wheeling of power in accordance with the policies, guidelines and objectives laid down by the Central Government from time to time”*

15. Section 15(1) of the Act provides that every application under Section 14 of the Act shall be made in such manner and in such form as may be specified by the Appropriate Commission and shall be accompanied by such fees as may be prescribed by the Central Government. The Commission has specified Transmission Licence Regulations in this regard. Regulation 3 of the Transmission Licence Regulations provides that the Empowered Committee shall identify the Projects included in the transmission plan to be developed under the Guidelines issued under Section 63 of the Act. Regulation 4 of the Transmission Licence Regulations provides that in case of projects identified for development under the Guidelines for competitive bidding, the selection of the project developer shall be made in accordance with the procedure laid down in the Guidelines. The Project under consideration has been identified for development under competitive bidding by a competent authority in the Ministry of Power/CEA vide its letter dated 16.10.2023 had issued prior approval to the Project under Section 68 of the Act. The selection

of the project developer, Karera Power Transmission Limited, has been certified to have been made in accordance with the Guidelines for competitive bidding.

16. Regulation 7 of the Transmission Licence Regulations read with the order dated 22.1.2022 passed in Petition No.1/SM/2022 [whereby the Commission, in the exercise of 'Power to Relax' under Regulation 24 of the Transmission Licence Regulations, modified/amended Clause (4), Clause (7), Clause (9) and Clause (12) and dispensed with Clause (10) of Regulation 7] provide for the procedure for grant of transmission licence as under:

*“(1) The application for grant of transmission licence shall be made to the Commission in Form-I appended to these regulations and shall be accompanied by such fees as may be prescribed by the Central Government from time to time.*

*(2) In case of the person selected for implementation of the project in accordance with the guidelines for competitive bidding, the application shall also contain such additional information, as may be required under these guidelines.*

*(3) The application shall be supported by affidavit of the person acquainted with the facts stated therein.*

*(4) Before making an application, the applicant shall submit the original application in electronic form along with annexures and enclosures on the e-filing portal of the Commission so that the same is served electronically on all the long-term customers of the project registered on the e-filing portal of the Commission. Also, a copy of the same be served through e-mail on the long term customers of the project not registered on the e-filing portal of the Commission. Further, the applicant shall also post the complete application along with annexures and enclosures in English and in the vernacular language, on its website.*

*(5) The application shall be kept on the website till such time the licence is issued or the application is rejected by the Commission.*

*(6) Immediately on making the application, the applicant shall forward a copy of the application to the Central Transmission Utility.*

*(7) The applicant shall, within 7 days after filing the application, post the application on the e-filing portal of the Commission and on its website in Form-II attached to these regulations in English language and in Vernacular*

*language of the State or Union Territory where an element of the project or a long-term customer is situated, inviting comments from the general public.*

*(8) As far as possible, within 7 days of receipt of the application the Secretariat of the Commission shall convey defects, if any, if noticed on preliminary scrutiny of the application for rectification and the defects conveyed shall be rectified by the applicant in such time as may be indicated in the letter conveying the defects.*

*(9) In the notice published on the e-filing portal of the Commission and on the applicant's website under clause (7) it shall be indicated that the suggestions and objections, if any, on the application, may be filed before the Secretary, Central Electricity Regulatory Commission, Third Floor, Chanderlok Building, Janpath, New Delhi-110001 (or the address where the office of the Commission is situated), with a copy to the applicant, by any person, including the long-term customers, within 30 days of publication of the notice*

.....

*(10) The Central Transmission Utility shall send its recommendations, if any, to the Commission on the proposal made in the application within a period of thirty days from the date of receipt of application by it:*

*Provided that copy of the recommendations, if any, made by the Central Transmission Utility shall always be forwarded to the applicant:*

*Provided further that these recommendations of the Central Transmission Utility shall not be binding on the Commission.*

*(11) The applicant may file its comments, duly supported by an affidavit, on the recommendations made by the Central Transmission Utility and the suggestions and objections, if any, received in response to the notice posted on the e-filing portal of the Commission and on the applicant's website by him, within 45 days of service of copy of the application on the Central Transmission Utility or publication of notice posted on the e-filing portal of the Commission and on the applicant's website, with an advance copy to the Central Transmission Utility or the person who has filed the suggestions and objections on the proposal made in the application, as the case may be.*

*(12) The Commission after considering the suggestions and objections received in response to the public notice published by the applicant and the recommendations, if any, of the Central Transmission Utility may, propose to grant transmission licence or for reasons to be recorded in writing, reject the application."*

17. The Petitioner has approached the Commission with a separate application for the adoption of transmission charges in respect of the transmission system, which is presently under consideration of the Commission, and the order in that Petition will be issued separately. The Petitioner has filed the present Petition for the

grant of a transmission licence in accordance with the provisions of the Transmission Licence Regulations. The Petitioner has submitted proof of service of the copies of the application on the BPC, CTUIL, and Northern Region beneficiaries and proof of web posting of the complete application. The Petitioner has further undertaken to pay the applicable licence fee upon the grant of transmission licence in terms of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Payment of Fees) Regulations, 2012. The Petitioner has prayed for the grant of a transmission licence to Karera Power Transmission Limited with respect to the transmission system as per the details given in paragraph 1 above.

18. The Petitioner made the Application as per Form-I and paid a fee of Rs. one lakh as prescribed by the Central Government. As per the direction of the Commission, the Petitioner has served a copy of the Application on Respondent/beneficiaries. The transmission charges quoted by the Petitioner, which have been recommended by the Bid Evaluation Committee for acceptance, are Rs. 805.78 million. The Petitioner has also enclosed copies of the recommendations of the Bid Evaluation Committee.

19. The Petitioner has published the notices on the e-filing portal of the Commission and on its website in Form-II in English language and in Hindi (Vernacular) language on 5.3.2024. No objection has been received from the general public to the notices.

20. The Petitioner has served the copy of the Application on the Central Transmission of Utility of India Limited (CTUIL) as required under Section 15(3) of the Act and Regulation 7(6) of the Transmission Licence Regulations. CTUIL, vide its letter dated 5.3.2024, has recommended the grant of a transmission licence to

the Petitioner. The Relevant portions of the said letter dated 5.3.2024 are extracted as under:

*“This has reference to the Petition with Dairy No. 92/2024 dated 14.02.2024 filed by **M/s Karera Power Transmission Ltd. (KPTL)** before Hon’ble Commission vide which **M/s KPTL** has requested CTU for issuance of recommendation for grant of Transmission License for implementation of subject transmission scheme. In this regard, the following is submitted:*

1. **M/s KPTL** has filed a petition under Section 14, 15 and 79(1 )(e) of the Electricity Act, 2003 read with CERC (Procedure, Terms and Conditions for Grant of Transmission License and other related matters) Regulations, 2009 for grant of Transmission License for implementation of **“Western Region Expansion Scheme XXXIII (WRES - XXXIII): Part B”** project on Build, Own, Operate and Transfer (BOOT) basis as ISTS. The detailed scope of the transmission scheme is enclosed at **Annexure-I**.

2. **M/s KPTL** has mapped Nodal Agency i.e., CTUIL on the e-portal of Hon’ble Commission, to serve a copy of the application for the grant of transmission license, for the above transmission system as per section 15(3) of the Electricity Act, 2003 and Regulation 7(6) of Transmission License Regulations, 2009 for recommendation required u/s 15(4) of the Electricity Act, 2003 and Regulation 7(11) of Transmission License Regulations, 2009.

3. In reference to **“Western Region Expansion Scheme XXXIII (WRES - XXXIII): Part B”**, the following is submitted:

i. Due to the high loadings on 3x315MVA, 400/220kV Gwalior ICTs, which are also ‘N-T non-compliant, a scheme to establish another Sis, to the south of Gwalior at Karera has been evolved. The subject transmission scheme, involves establishment of 765kV Karera switching station, LILO of Satna-Gwalior 765 kV S/c line along with 330MVAr switchable line reactor at the Karera end of the Karera - Satna 765 kV S/c line.

ii. Further, associated downstream network would be implemented by MPPTCL in the matching timeframe which involves LILO of Bina-Datiya 220kV D/c line at Karera, Extension of LILO portion of Datiya - Bina line (LILOed at Pichhore 220 kV) up to Karera so as to form Karera - Pichhore 220 kV D/c line, Upgradation of 132 kV Seondha S/s to 220 kV with 2x200MVA, 220/132 kV ICTs, Karera - Seondha 220 kV D/C (U/G) line and Seondha - Indergarh 132 kV DCSS line.

iii. The subject transmission scheme is also inter-linked with WRES-XXXIII: Part B1 project, which involves Conversion of 1x240MVAr, 765 kV Fixed line reactor at Gwalior end to Switchable line reactor (with NGR bypass arrangement) along with implementation of Inter-tripping scheme. WRES-XXXIII: Part B1 scheme is under implementation by POWERGRID. Implementation of these projects

shall relieve high loadings on Gwalior ICTs besides catering to the increased demand in that area and enabling for grant of Connectivity to the proposed PSPs of 2520MW capacity.

iv. The subject transmission scheme was discussed and agreed upon in the 45<sup>th</sup> WRPC meetings held on 02.12.2022. Extracts of the minutes of 45<sup>th</sup> WRPC meeting are enclosed at **Annexure-II**.

v. The subject transmission scheme was also discussed and agreed in the 11<sup>th</sup> NCT meeting held on 28.12.2022 & 17.01.2023 wherein it was decided to implement this transmission scheme through TBCB route. Extracts of the minutes of 11<sup>th</sup> NCT meeting is enclosed at **Annexure-III**.

vi. MoP, Govt, of India, vide Gazette notification dated 13.04.2023, had appointed M/s REC Power Distribution Company Ltd. (RECPDCL) as the Bid Process Coordinator (BPC) for the purpose of selection of bidder as Transmission Service Provider (TSP) to establish the subject transmission scheme through Tariff Based Competitive Bidding (TBCB) process. Copy of Gazette notification is enclosed at **Annexure-IV**.

4. Pursuant to the process of competitive bidding conducted by the BPC, M/s Apraava Energy Pvt. Ltd. (AEPL) emerged as the successful bidder. Thereafter, the BPC issued a Letter of Intent (LoI) to M/s AEPL on 31.12.2023. Subsequently, M/s Apraava Energy Pvt. Ltd. has acquired Karera Power Transmission Ltd. (KPTL) on 09.02.2024, after execution of the Share Purchase Agreement (SPA) and completing all procedural requirements as specified in the bid documents. The scheduled COD for the proposed ISTS scheme is 24 months from date of SPV transfer.

5. In line with Section 15(4) of the Electricity Act, 2003 and Regulation 7(11) of Transmission License Regulations, 2009, based on details furnished by M/s Karera Power Transmission Ltd., CTU recommends the grant of transmission license to M/s Karera Power Transmission Ltd. for executing the transmission scheme as mentioned in Para-1 above.”

21. We have considered the submissions of the Petitioner, BPC, and CTUIL. The proviso to Clause 2.15.2 of the RfP provides that "if for any reason attributable to the BPC, the said activities are not completed by the Selected Bidder within the above period of ten (10) days as mentioned in this clause, such period of 10 days shall be extended, on a day to day basis till the end of the Bid validity period". As per the above provision, the selected bidder was required to complete all the activities, including the acquisition of SPVs, by 10.1.2024. Though LoI was issued on 31.12.2023, BPC, vide its letter dated 9.2.2024 in terms of Clauses 2.15.2 of RfP,

extended the date up to 16.2.2024 for completion of all activities by the successful bidder. The selected bidder furnished the Contract Performance Guarantee in favour of Nodal Agency (CTUIL) for an amount of Rs. 35 crore on 9.2.2024 and acquired a hundred per cent equity-holding in the applicant company on 9.2.2024 after execution of the Share Purchase Agreement. As per clause 2.15.4 of the RfP, TSP is required to apply to the Commission for the grant of a transmission licence within five working days of the issuance of the acquisition of the SPV to the successful bidder. The successful bidder, namely Apraava Energy Private Limited, acquired the SPV on 9.2.2024. Accordingly, the TSP has filed the instant Petition through e-filing for the grant of a transmission licence on 14.2.2024.

22. Considering the material on record, we are *prima-facie* of the view that the Petitioner satisfies the conditions for the grant of inter-State transmission licence under Section 15 of the Act read with Transmission Licence Regulations for construction, operation and maintenance of the transmission system as described in para 1 of this order. We, therefore, direct that a public notice under clause (a) of sub-section (5) of Section 15 of the Act be published to invite suggestions or objections to the grant of a transmission licence aforesaid. The objections or suggestions, if any, be filed by any person before the Commission by **17.5.2024**.

23. The Petition shall be listed for the hearing on **22.5.2024**.

Sd/-  
**(Arun Goyal)**  
Member

sd/-  
**(Jishnu Barua)**  
Chairperson