

**Central Electricity Regulatory Commission
New Delhi**

Petition No. 222/TT/2025

Coram:

**Shri Ramesh Babu V., Member
Shri Harish Dudani, Member**

Date of Order: 27.03.2025

In the matter of:

Petition for truing up of the transmission tariff for the 2019-24 tariff period and determination of the transmission tariff for the 2024-29 tariff period for the “Combined Assets of the transmission system associated with Rampur HEP” under Section 62 read with Section 79 (1)(d) of the Electricity Act, 2003 and under Regulation 15 (1)(a) and Regulation 23 of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Conduct of Business) Regulations, 2023 read with the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions of Tariff) Regulations, 2019 and the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions of Tariff) Regulations, 2024.

And in the matter of:

Power Grid Corporation of India Limited,
Registered Office: B-9, Qutab Institutional Area,
Katwaria Sarai, New Delhi-110016.
Corporate Centre: “Saudamini”, Plot No. 2,
Sector-29, Gurgaon-122001 (Haryana).

...Petitioner

Vs.

- 1. Uttar Pradesh Power Corporation India Limited,**
Shakti Bhawan, 14, Ashok Marg,
Lucknow-226001
- 2. Ajmer Vidyut Vitran Nigam Limited,**
Corporate Office, Vidyut Bhawan,
Panchsheel Nagar, Makarwali Road,
Ajmer,
Rajasthan -305004
- 3. Jaipur Vidyut Vitran Nigam Limited,**
132 kV, GSS RVPNL Sub-station building,
Caligiri Road, Malviya Nagar,
Jaipur,
Rajasthan -302017



4. **Jodhpur Vidyut Vitran Nigam Limited,**
New Power House, Industrial Area,
Jodhpur,
Rajasthan -342003
5. **Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board Limited,**
Vidyut Bhawan,
Kumar House Complex Building II,
Shimla-171004
6. **Punjab State Power Corporation Limited,**
The Mall, PSEB Head Office,
Patiala-147001
7. **Haryana Power Purchase Centre,**
Shakti Bhawan, Sector-6,
Panchkula,
Haryana-134109
8. **Jammu Kashmir Power Corporation Limited,**
220/66/33 kV Gladni SS SLDC Building,
Narwal,
Jammu
9. **BSES Yamuna Power Limited,**
B-Block, Shakti Kiran Building,
(Near Karkadooma Court), Karkadooma 2nd Floor,
Karkadooma,
New Delhi-110092
10. **BSES Rajdhani Power Limited,**
BSES Bhawan, Nehru Place,
New Delhi
11. **TATA Power Delhi Distribution Limited,**
33 kV Substation Building,
Hudson Lane, Kingsway Camp,
North Delhi-110009
12. **Chandigarh Electricity Department,**
Chandigarh Administration,
Sector -9,
Chandigarh
13. **Uttarakhand Power Corporation Limited,**
Urja Bhawan,
Kanwali Road,
Dehradun
14. **North Central Railway,**
Allahabad



15. New Delhi Municipal Council,
Palika Kendra, Sansad Marg,
New Delhi-110002

...Respondents

Parties Present : Shri Mohd. Mohsin, PGCIL
Shri Vivek Kumar Singh, PGCIL

ORDER

The instant Petition has been filed by Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL) for truing-up of the transmission tariff for the 2019-24 period, in terms of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions of Tariff) Regulations, 2019 (hereinafter referred to as “the 2019 Tariff Regulations”) and the determination of transmission tariff for the 2024-29 tariff period, in terms of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions of Tariff) Regulations, 2024 (hereinafter referred to as “the 2024 Tariff Regulations”), in respect of the following transmission assets in the Northern Region (hereinafter referred to as the “Combined Assets”):

Assets	CODs	Effective COD
Asset-I: LILO of Patiala-Hissar line at Kaithal Substation along with associated bays	1.9.2011	16.2.2012
Asset-II: 400 kV Double Circuit (“D/C”) Patiala-Ludhiana line along with associated bays at Patiala and Ludhiana Substation	1.10.2011	
Asset-III: LILO of 1 st Circuit of 400 kV D/C Nathpa Jhakri-Nalagarh (Triple Snowbird) line at Rampur	1.3.2014	
Asset-IV: LILO of 2 nd Circuit of 400 kV Natpha Jhakri-Nalagarh (Triple Snowbird) line at Rampur	20.10.2014	

2. The Petitioner has made the following prayers in the instant Petition:

- Approve the trued-up Transmission Tariff for 2019-24 block and Transmission Tariff for 2024-29 block for the assets covered under this petition, as per para 14 and 15 above.*
- Admit the capital cost claimed and additional capitalization incurred during 2019-24.*
- Allow the petitioner to recover the shortfall or refund the excess Annual Fixed Charges, on account of Return on Equity due to change in applicable Minimum Alternate/Corporate Income Tax rate as per the Income Tax Act, 1961 (as amended from time to time) of the respective financial year directly without making any application*



before the Commission as provided in Tariff Regulations 2019 and Tariff Regulations, 2024 as per para 14 and 15 above for respective block.

- d) Approve the reimbursement of expenditure by the beneficiaries towards petition filing fee, and expenditure on publishing of notices in newspapers in terms of Regulation 94 (1) Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions of Tariff) Regulations, 2024, and other expenditure (if any) in relation to the filing of petition.*
- e) Allow the Initial spares claimed as project as a whole.*
- f) Allow the petitioner to bill and recover RLDC fees & charges and Licensee fee separately from the respondents in terms of Regulation 94 (3) and (4) Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions of Tariff) Regulations, 2024.*
- g) Allow the petitioner to bill and adjust impact on Interest on Loan due to change in Interest rate on account of floating rate of interest applicable during 2024-29 period, if any, from the respondents.*
- h) Allow the petitioner to file a separate petition before Hon'ble Commission for claiming the overall security expenses and consequential IOWC on that security expenses as mentioned at para 21 above.*
- i) Allow the petitioner to file a separate petition before Hon'ble Commission for claiming the overall insurance expenses and consequential IOWC on that insurance expenses as mentioned at para 21 above.*
- j) Allow the petitioner to file a separate petition before Hon'ble Commission for claiming the overall capital spares as per actual as mentioned at Para 21 above.*
- k) Allow the petitioner to claim expenses of CTUIL borne by POWERGRID through a separate petition as mentioned at para 22 above.*
- l) Allow the Petitioner to bill and recover GST on Transmission Charges separately from the respondents, if GST on transmission is levied at any rate in future. Further, any taxes including GST and duties including cess etc. imposed by any statutory/Govt./municipal authorities shall be allowed to be recovered from the beneficiaries.*

and pass such other relief as Hon'ble Commission deems fit and appropriate under the circumstances of the case and in the interest of justice."

Background

3. The brief facts of the case are as follows:

- a) The Investment Approval (IA) for the transmission project was accorded by the Petitioner's Board of Directors, vide Memorandum dated 20.2.2009 at an estimated cost of ₹18419 lakh, including an Interest During Construction ("IDC") of ₹1416 lakh, based on 4th Quarter, 2008 Price Level. The Revised Cost Estimate-I (RCE-I) of the transmission project was approved by the Petitioner's Board of Directors vide memorandum dated 11.3.2016 at an estimated cost of ₹17027 lakh, including an IDC of ₹1183 lakh. Further, the Revised Cost Estimate-II (RCE-II) of the transmission project was approved by the Petitioner's Board of Directors vide memorandum dated



18.2.2020, at an estimated cost of ₹17063 lakh, including an IDC of ₹1184 lakh, based on October, 2019 Price Level.

- b) The details of the transmission assets of the transmission project in the Western Region are as follows:

Asset-I: LILO of Patiala-Hissar line at Kaithal Substation along with associated bays.

Asset-II: 400 kV D/C Patiala-Ludhiana line along with associated bays at Patiala and Ludhiana Substation.

Asset-III: LILO of 1st Circuit of 400 kV D/C Nathpa Jhakri-Nalagarh (Triple Snowbird) line at Rampur.

Asset-IV: LILO of 2nd Circuit of 400 kV Natpha Jhakri-Nalagarh (Triple Snowbird) line at Rampur.

- c) The tariff from 1.9.2011 to 31.3.2014 for Asset-I and tariff from 1.10.2011 to 31.3.2014 for Asset-II was allowed vide order dated 25.4.2012 in Petition No. 84/TT/2011. The tariff for the 2009-14 tariff period in respect of Asset-III was determined vide order dated 25.8.2015 in Petition No. 288/TT/2013. The transmission tariff for the 2009-14 tariff period in respect of Asset-I and Asset-II (Combined Assets-I & II) was trued-up, and the tariff for the 2014-19 tariff period was determined vide order dated 17.2.2016 in Petition No. 527/TT/2014. The tariff for the 2009-14 tariff period was trued-up, and tariff for the 2014-19 tariff period was determined in respect of Asset-III vide order dated 26.10.2016 in Petition No. 163/TT/2016. Further, the tariff in respect of Asset-IV from 20.10.2014 to 31.3.2019 was determined vide order dated 28.3.2016 in Petition No. 137/TT/2015.
- d) The Commission vide order dated 29.5.2021 in Petition No. 449/TT/2020, trued-up the tariff in respect of the Combined Assets-I & II, Asset-III and Asset-IV for the 2014-19 tariff period and further determined the tariff in respect of the Combined Assets for the 2019-24 tariff Period.

4. The Respondents include Distribution Licensees, Power Departments, and Transmission Licensees that receive transmission services from the Petitioner, primarily benefiting the Northern Region.



5. The Petitioner has served a copy of the Petition on the Respondents, and notice regarding the filing of this Petition has been published in the newspapers in accordance with Section 64 of the Electricity Act, 2003 (the Act). No comments or suggestions have been received from the general public in response to the aforesaid notices published in the newspapers by the Petitioner.

6. The hearing in the matter was held on 12.2.2025, and the order was reserved.

7. The Commission vide Record of Proceedings (RoP) dated 12.2.2025 directed the Petitioner to clarify the reasons for not claiming the Plant & Machinery cost for Asset-IV in Petition No. 449/TT/2020, and provide the Auditor's Certificate for the Plant & Machinery cost of Asset-IV. In response, the Petitioner vide affidavit dated 13.3.2025 has submitted the relevant information regarding breakup of Plant and Machinery cost of Asset IV and furnished the Auditor's Certificate for the Plant & Machinery with regard to Asset-IV.

8. This order is being issued considering the Petitioner's submissions in the Petition vide affidavits dated 11.10.2024, 5.2.2025 and 19.3.2025. None of the Respondents have filed any reply.

9. We have considered the Petitioner's submission and have gone through the record. The tariff for the 2019-24 period is being trued up, and the tariff for the 2024-29 period is determined based on the information available on record which includes the information given in the data, tariff forms and documents available on record and called for, from the Petitioner.

10. Having heard the Petitioner's representative and perused the material available on record, we proceed to dispose of the Petition.



TRUING-UP OF ANNUAL FIXED CHARGES FOR THE 2019-24 TARIFF PERIOD

11. The details of the transmission charges allowed by the Commission vide order dated 29.5.2021 in Petition No. 449/TT/2020 in respect of the Combined Assets for the 2019-24 tariff period are as follows:

(₹ in lakh)					
Particulars	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Depreciation	897.04	897.24	897.24	897.24	897.24
Interest on Loan	450.65	371.58	292.22	212.77	133.14
Return on Equity	954.99	955.20	955.20	955.20	955.20
Interest on Working Capital	46.13	42.40	41.67	40.96	40.26
O&M Expenses	263.92	273.22	282.80	292.73	303.02
Total	2612.74	2539.64	2469.13	2398.90	2328.87

12. The details of the trued-up transmission charges claimed by the Petitioner in respect of the Combined Assets for the 2019-24 tariff period are as follows:

(₹ in lakh)					
Particulars	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Depreciation	896.88	896.88	896.88	896.88	896.88
Interest on Loan	449.44	366.63	287.54	210.40	132.70
Return on Equity	954.85	954.85	954.85	954.85	954.85
Interest on Working Capital	46.11	42.32	38.78	38.15	42.87
O&M Expenses	263.93	273.22	282.80	292.73	303.02
Total	2611.21	2533.90	2460.85	2393.01	2330.32

13. The details of the Interest on Working Capital (IWC) claimed by the Petitioner in respect of the Combined Assets for the 2019-24 tariff period are as follows:

(₹ in lakh)					
Particulars	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
O&M Expenses	21.99	22.77	23.57	24.39	25.25
Maintenance Spares	39.59	40.98	42.42	43.91	45.45
Receivables	321.05	312.40	303.39	295.03	286.51
Total Working Capital	382.63	376.15	369.38	363.33	357.21
Rate of Interest (in %)	12.05	11.25	10.50	10.50	12.00
Interest on Working Capital	46.11	42.32	38.78	38.15	42.87

Capital Cost for the 2019-24 Tariff Period

14. The Commission, vide order dated 29.5.2021 in Petition No. 449/TT/2020, had trued-up the tariff for the 2014-19 tariff period and, determined the tariff for the 2019-24 tariff period and considered the capital cost of ₹16944.41 lakh in respect of the Combined Assets as on 31.3.2019.



15. The Petitioner in the instant true-up Petition has claimed the capital cost of ₹16946.15 lakh as on 1.4.2019 and as on 31.3.2024.

16. We have considered the submissions of the Petitioner. The Petitioner has claimed the capital cost of ₹16946.15 lakh as on 31.3.2019 in respect of the Combined Assets for the 2019-24 tariff period. However, we have worked out the capital cost of ₹16946.02 lakh as on 31.3.2019, after allowing admissible Initial Spares as detailed in the paragraph below.

Initial Spares

17. With regard to Initial Spares, the Commission vide order dated 29.5.2021 in Petition No. 449/TT/2020 held as follows:

“57. As stated in earlier part of this order, Initial Spares are allowed for 2014-19 tariff period on the basis of the cost of individual asset. The transmission assets covered in the transmission project are combined and overall project cost has been arrived at in 2019-24 tariff period. Accordingly, Initial Spares have been allowed during 2019-24 tariff period on the basis of the overall project cost as per APTEL’s judgement dated 14.9.2019 in Appeal No.74 of 2017.

58. In view of above, Initial Spares are allowed in 2019-24 tariff period are as follows:

(₹ in lakh)							
Asset	Plant and Machinery Cost as on COD	Initial Spares claimed	Ceiling Limit (%)	Initial Spare workout	Initial Spare allowed	Initial Spare allowed earlier	Excess Initial Spare allowed in 2019-24
	(A)	(B)	(C)	$D=\{(A-B)*C/(100-C)\}$	(E)	(F)	(G)
For Substation							
Asset-I	682.25	55.81	2.50	16.06	16.06	16.06	
Asset-II	1002.54	85.87	2.50	23.50	23.50	23.50	
Asset-III	39.58	0.00	2.50	1.02	1.02	0.00	1.02
Total	1724.37	141.68	2.50	40.58	40.58	39.56	1.02

18. The Petitioner has claimed the additional Initial Spares of ₹0.72 lakh for the 2019-24 tariff period. The details of additional Initial Spares as submitted by the Petitioner are as follows:



(₹ in lakh)

Asset	Particulars	Plant and Machinery Cost as on COD	Initial Spares claimed	Ceiling Limit (%)	Initial Spares worked out	Initial Spares allowed in 449/TT/2020	Excess Initial Spares allowed in 2019-24
		(A)	(B)	(C)	$D = \{(A-B) * C / (100-C)\}$	(E)	(G)
Asset-I	Substation	682.25	55.81	2.50	41.30	40.58	0.72
Asset-II	Substation	1002.54	85.87				
Asset-III	Substation	39.58	0.00				
Asset-IV	Substation	27.92	0.00				
Combined Asset	Substation	1752.29	141.68				

19. The Petitioner, in compliance with the directions of the Commission vide RoP dated 12.2.2025, the Petitioner vide affidavit dated 19.3.2025 has submitted as follows:

- i) Petition No. 449/TT/2020 was filed for truing-up of the transmission tariff for the 2014-19 tariff period and determination of the transmission tariff for the 2019-24 tariff period in respect of the transmission system associated with Rampur HEP. The said associated transmission system comprises of the transmission assets, Assets-I to IV. Assets-I to III were commissioned during the 2009-14 tariff period, while Asset-IV was commissioned in the 2014-19 tariff period.
- ii) Pursuant to the oversight of Initial Spares for Asset-IV in Petition No. 449/TT/2020, the Petitioner has recalculated the Initial Spares at the project level in the instant Petition, considering the capital cost of ₹1752.29 lakh for Assets-I to IV.

The details of the same are as follows:

Asset	Particulars	Cost for Spares Calculation (A)	Initial Spares Claimed (B)	Ceiling (%) (C)	Initial Spares Worked out $D = [(A-B) * C / (100-C)]$	Initial Spares allowed in Petition No. 449/TT/2020	Additional Spares claimed in the instant Petition
Asset-I	SS	682.25	55.81	2.50	41.30	40.58	0.72
Asset-II	SS	1002.54	85.87				
Asset-III	SS	39.58	0.00				
Asset-IV	SS	27.92	0.00				
Combined Asset		1752.29	141.68				



iii) From the above table, the Initial Spares claimed for Asset-IV was "Nil." The Plant and Machinery cost was not explicitly mentioned in a separate table in the Auditor's Certificate dated 30.7.2019. However, the capital cost claimed in respect of Asset-IV in Petition No. 449/TT/2020 includes the Plant & Machinery cost, IDC, and IEDC. Further, as per the directions of the Commission, the Plant & Machinery cost is now presented in a separate table in the Auditor's Certificate.

20. We have considered the submissions of the Petitioner. It is observed that the Commission, vide its order dated 29.5.2021 in Petition No. 449/TT/2020, had considered the capital cost of Assets-I, II and III for the determination of Initial Spares in respect of the Combined Assets for the 2019-24 tariff period. Now, in the instant true-up Petition, the Petitioner has submitted that the capital cost of Asset-IV was inadvertently overlooked by the Petitioner in the calculation of Initial Spares for the Combined Assets. Therefore, the Petitioner has claimed an additional Initial Spares of ₹0.72 lakh, considering the capital cost of Asset-IV, in addition to the Initial Spares of ₹1.02 lakh, as approved by the Commission in Petition No. 449/TT/2020.

21. Further, upon perusal of the documents submitted by the Petitioner, it is observed that the Auditor's Certificate dated 13.3.2025 depicts the Plant and Machinery cost of ₹23.01 lakh in respect of Asset-IV, whereas the Petitioner has claimed ₹27.92 lakh for the same in the instant true-up Petition.

22. The transmission assets covered in the transmission project are combined, and the overall project cost has been arrived at in the 2019-24 tariff period. Accordingly, Initial Spares have been allowed during the 2019-24 tariff period on the basis of the overall project cost, as per APTEL's judgement dated 14.9.2019 in Appeal No. 74 of 2017. The total Initial Spares allowed for the 2019-24 tariff period are as follows:



(₹ in lakh)

Asset	Particulars	Plant and Machinery Cost as on COD	Initial Spares claimed	Ceiling Limit (in %)	Initial Spares worked out	Initial Spares allowed earlier	Excess Initial Spare allowed in 2019-24
		(A)	(B)	(C)	$D=\{(A-B)*C/(100-C)\}$	(E)	(G)
Asset-I	SS	682.25	55.81	2.50	41.17	39.56	1.61
Asset-II	SS	1002.54	85.87				
Asset-III	SS	39.58	0.00				
Asset-IV	SS	23.01	0.00				
Combined Assets	SS	1747.38	141.68				

23. Additional Initial Spares of ₹1.61 lakh have been allowed as part of the combined capital cost as on 31.3.2019 in respect of the Combined Assets, as per the APTEL's judgment dated 14.9.2019 in Appeal No. 74 of 2017. Accordingly, the capital cost in respect of the Combined Assets as on 1.4.2019, is worked out as follows:

(₹ in lakh)

Capital Cost approved vide order dated 29.5.2021 in Petition No. 449/TT/2020 as on 31.3.2019	Additional Initial Spares allowed as per APTEL's judgment dated 14.9.2019 in Appeal No. 74 of 2017	Combined Capital Cost as on 1.4.2019
16944.41	1.61	16946.02

Additional Capital Expenditure

24. The Commission vide order dated 29.5.2021 in Petition No. 449/TT/2020 had allowed the Additional Capital Expenditure (ACE) of ₹7.50 lakh for Asset-III beyond the cut-off date on account of balance and retention payment for works already executed during the 2019-24 tariff period under Regulation 25(1)(d) of 2019 Tariff Regulations.

25. The Petitioner has submitted that no ACE was incurred during the 2019-24 tariff period due to pending court cases. However, the Petitioner in its prayer "(b)" to the present Petition has prayed to admit the capital cost claimed and additional capitalization incurred during the 2019-24 tariff period.



26. Upon careful consideration of pleadings and perusal of available records, it is inferred that although the Petitioner has made a prayer for allowing additional capitalization for the 2019-24 tariff period, there is nothing on record to substantiate the claim in this regard. Accordingly, it is concluded that the Petitioner has not claimed any ACE in respect of the Combined Assets for the 2019-24 tariff period in the instant true-up Petition.

27. Accordingly, the capital cost allowed in respect of the Combined Assets for the 2019-24 tariff period is as follows:

(₹ in lakh)			
Apportioned Approved Cost as per FR/RCE-II	Expenditure as on 1.4.2019	ACE during the 2019-24 tariff period	Actual Capital Cost as on 31.3.2024
18419.00/17063.00	16946.02	0.00	16946.02

Debt-Equity Ratio

28. The details of the debt-equity ratio considered and allowed under Regulation 18 of the 2019 Tariff Regulations for computation of tariff of the Combined Assets during the 2019-24 tariff period are as follows:

Funding	Capital Cost as on 1.4.2019		Capital Cost as on 31.3.2024	
	(₹ in lakh)	(in %)	(₹ in lakh)	(in %)
Debt	11862.21	70.00	11862.21	70.00
Equity	5083.81	30.00	5083.81	30.00
Total	16946.02	100.00	16946.02	100.00

Depreciation

29. The depreciation has been worked out considering the admitted capital expenditure as on 1.4.2019 and thereafter up to 31.3.2024. The Weighted Average Rate of Depreciation (WAROD) has been worked out for the Combined Assets as per the rates of depreciation specified in the 2019 Tariff Regulations.

30. The depreciation allowed for the Combined Assets for the 2019-24 tariff period is as follows:

(₹ in lakh)

Sl. No.	Particulars	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
A	Opening Gross Block	16946.02	16946.02	16946.02	16946.02	16946.02
B	Addition during the year 2019-24 due to projected ACE	0	0	0	0	0
C	Closing Gross Block (A+B)	16946.02	16946.02	16946.02	16946.02	16946.02
D	Average Gross Block (A+C)/2	16946.02	16946.02	16946.02	16946.02	16946.02
E	Average Gross Block (90% depreciable assets)	16946.02	16946.02	16946.02	16946.02	16946.02
F	Average Gross Block (100% depreciable assets)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
G	Depreciable value (excluding IT equipment and software) (E*90%)	15251.42	15251.42	15251.42	15251.42	15251.42
H	Depreciable value of IT equipment and software (F*100%)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
I	Total Depreciable Value (G+H)	15251.42	15251.42	15251.42	15251.42	15251.42
J	Weighted average rate of Depreciation (WAROD) (in %)	5.2926	5.2926	5.2926	5.2926	5.2926
K	Lapsed useful life at the beginning of the year (Year)	7	8	9	10	11
L	Balance useful life at the beginning of the year (Year)	27	26	25	24	23
M	Depreciation during the year (D*J)	896.88	896.88	896.88	896.88	896.88
N	Cumulative Depreciation at the end of the year	7237.56	8134.43	9031.31	9928.19	10825.07
O	Remaining Aggregate Depreciable Value at the end of the year (I-N)	8013.86	7116.98	6220.11	5323.23	4426.35

31. The details of depreciation allowed vide order dated 29.5.2021 in Petition No. 449/TT/2020, depreciation claimed in the instant Petition, and trued-up depreciation allowed for the Combined Asset in the instant order are as follows:

(₹ in lakh)

Particulars	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Allowed vide order dated 29.5.2021 in Petition No. 449/TT/2020	897.04	897.24	897.24	897.24	897.24
Claimed by the Petitioner in the instant Petition	896.88	896.88	896.88	896.88	896.88
Allowed after truing-up in this order	896.88	896.88	896.88	896.88	896.88

Interest on Loan (IoL)

32. The Petitioner has claimed the Weighted Average Rate of Interest (WAROI) on loans based on its actual loan portfolio and prevailing interest rate. The IoL has been calculated based on the actual interest rate submitted by the Petitioner in accordance with Regulation 32 of the 2019 Tariff Regulations. The trued-up IoL allowed in respect of the Combined Assets is as follows:



(₹ in lakh)						
Sl. No.	Particulars	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
A	Gross Normative Loan	11862.21	11862.21	11862.21	11862.21	11862.21
B	Cumulative Repayments up to Previous Year	6340.68	7237.56	8134.43	9031.31	9928.19
C	Net Loan-Opening (A-B)	5521.53	4624.66	3727.78	2830.90	1934.02
D	Addition due to ACE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
E	Repayment during the year	896.88	896.88	896.88	896.88	896.88
F	Net Loan-Closing (C+D-E)	4624.66	3727.78	2830.90	1934.02	1037.15
G	Average Loan (C+F)/2	5073.09	4176.22	3279.34	2382.46	1485.59
H	Weighted Average Rate of Interest on Loan (in %)	8.8591	8.7790	8.7680	8.8309	8.9317
I	Interest on Loan (G*H)	449.43	366.63	287.53	210.39	132.69

33. The details of the IoL allowed vide order dated 29.5.2021 in Petition No. 449/TT/2020, IoL claimed in the instant Petition, and trued-up IoL allowed in the instant order in respect of the Combined Assets are as follows:

(₹ in lakh)					
Particulars	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Allowed vide order dated 29.5.2021 in Petition No. 449/TT/2020	450.65	371.58	292.22	212.77	133.14
Claimed by the Petitioner in the instant Petition	449.44	366.63	287.54	210.40	132.70
Allowed after truing-up in this order	449.43	366.63	287.53	210.39	132.69

Return on Equity (RoE)

34. The Petitioner has submitted that its Income Tax assessment has been completed, and assessment orders have been issued by the Income Tax Department for FY 2019-20 and FY 2020-21, and the income has been assessed under MAT [115JB of the Income Tax Act, 1961]. The Petitioner has further submitted that the Income Tax Returns (ITRs) have been filed for FYs 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24 (submitted in Petition No. 401/TT/2024).

35. The Petitioner has further submitted that it is liable to pay income tax at MAT rates (17.472, i.e. 15% Income Tax and Surcharge on Income Tax+4% Health and Education Cess on Income Tax and Surcharge) and has claimed the following effective tax rates for the 2019-24 tariff period:



Year	Claimed effective tax rate (in %)	Grossed up RoE (in %) [(Base Rate)/(1-t)]
2019-20	17.472	18.782
2020-21	17.472	18.782
2021-22	17.472	18.782
2022-23	17.472	18.782
2023-24	17.472	18.782

36. The Petitioner has requested to allow it to claim the differential tariff on account of the trued-up ROE based on the effective tax rate calculated on completion of Income Tax assessment/re-assessment for FYs 2019-20, 2020-21, 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24 on receipt of the respective assessment orders, directly from the beneficiaries on a year-to-year basis as provided in the regulation.

37. We have considered the Petitioner's submissions and have also gone through the record. We observe that the entities covered under the MAT regime are paying Income Tax as per the MAT rates notified for the respective financial year under the IT Act, 1961, which is levied on the book profit of the entity computed as per Section 115 JB of the IT Act, 1961. Section 115 JB(2) defines book profit as net profit in the statement of Profit and Loss prepared in accordance with Schedule-II of the Companies Act, 2013, subject to some additions and deductions as mentioned in the IT Act, 1961. Since the Petitioner has been paying the MAT rates of the respective financial year, the notified MAT rates for the respective financial year shall be considered as an effective tax rate for the purpose of grossing up the RoE for truing up the 2019-24 tariff period in terms of the provisions of the 2019 Tariff Regulations. Interest imposed on any additional income tax demand as per the Assessment order of the Income Tax Authorities shall be considered on the actual payment. However, the penalty (for default on the part of the Assessee), if any, imposed shall not be taken into account for the purpose of grossing up of the rate of RoE. Any under-recovery or over-recovery of the grossed-up rates on the RoE after truing up shall be recovered or refunded to the beneficiaries or the long-term customers, as the case may be on a year-



to- year basis. Therefore, the following effective tax rate based on the notified MAT rates are considered for the purpose of grossing up the rate of RoE:

Year	Notified MAT rates (in %) (inclusive of surcharge & cess)	Effective tax (in %)	Base rate of RoE (in %)	Grossed-up RoE [(Base Rate)/(1-t)] (in%)
2019-20	17.472	17.472	15.500	18.782
2020-21	17.472	17.472	15.500	18.782
2021-22	17.472	17.472	15.500	18.782
2022-23	17.472	17.472	15.500	18.782
2023-24	17.472	17.472	15.500	18.782

38. Accordingly, the trued-up RoE allowed in respect of the Combined Assets for the 2019-24 tariff period is as follows:

(₹ in lakh)						
Sl. No.	Particulars	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
A	Opening Equity	5083.81	5083.81	5083.81	5083.81	5083.81
B	Addition due to ACE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
C	Closing Equity (A+B)	5083.81	5083.81	5083.81	5083.81	5083.81
D	Average Equity (A+C)/2	5083.81	5083.81	5083.81	5083.81	5083.81
E	Return on Equity (Base Rate) (in %)	15.500	15.500	15.500	15.500	15.500
F	Tax Rate applicable (in %)	17.472	17.472	17.472	17.472	17.472
G	Rate of Return on Equity (in %)	18.782	18.782	18.782	18.782	18.782
H	Return on Equity (D*G)	954.84	954.84	954.84	954.84	954.84

39. The details of the RoE allowed vide order dated 29.5.2021 in Petition No. 449/TT/2020, RoE claimed in the instant Petition, and trued-up RoE allowed in the instant order in respect of the Combined Assets are as follows:

(₹ in lakh)					
Particulars	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Allowed vide order dated 29.5.2021 in Petition No. 449/TT/2020	954.99	955.20	955.20	955.20	955.20
Claimed by the Petitioner in the instant Petition	954.85	954.85	954.85	954.85	954.85
Allowed after truing-up in this order	954.84	954.84	954.84	954.84	954.84

Operation & Maintenance Expenses (O&M Expenses)

40. The Commission, vide order dated 29.5.2021 in Petition No. 449/TT/2020, had allowed the following O&M Expenses with respect to the Combined Assets for the 2019-24 period:



(₹ in lakh)				
2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
263.92	273.22	282.80	292.73	303.02

41. The Petitioner has claimed the following O&M Expenses for the 2019-24 tariff period in respect of the Combined Assets:

(₹ in lakh)				
2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
263.93	273.22	282.80	292.73	303.02

42. We have considered the submissions of the Petitioner. It is observed that the O&M Expenses claimed by the Petitioner in the instant true-up petition as per Regulation 35(3) of 2019 Tariff Regulation. The following O&M Expenses are worked out for the Combined Assets:

(₹ in lakh)					
Particulars	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Transmission line: 400 kV S/C Twin					
• Patiala-Ludhiana T/L – (Line length: 76.215 km)					
Norms as per Regulation (Rs. Per km)	0.503	0.521	0.539	0.558	0.578
O&M Expenses	38.34	39.71	41.08	42.53	44.05
Transmission Line: 400 kV D/C Triple Sub conductor					
• LILO of 400 kV Patiala-Hissar T/L at Kaithal: (Line length: 33.505 km)					
• LILO of 1 st Circuit of 400 kV D/C Nathpa jhakri-Nalagarh (Triple Snowbird) line at Rampur: (Line length: 2.680 km)					
• LILO of 2 nd Circuit of 400 kV Nathpa-Jhakri Nalagarh line at Rampur: (Line length: 0.915 km)					
Norms as pr Regulation (Rs. Per km)	0.881	0.912	0.944	0.977	1.011
O&M Expenses	32.69	33.84	35.02	36.25	37.51
Sub-station :400 kV bays					
• 1 No. Bay for Patiala at Kaithal Substation					
• 1 No. Bay for Hissar at Kaithal Substation					
• 1 No. of Ludhiana-I Bay for at Patiala Substation					
• 1 No. of Ludhiana-II Bay for at Patiala Substation					
• 1 No. of Patiala-I Bay for at Ludhiana Substation					
• 1 No. of Patiala-II Bay for at Ludhiana Substation					
Norms as pr Regulation (Rs. Per Bay)	32.15	33.28	34.45	35.66	36.91
O&M Expenses	192.9	199.68	206.7	213.96	221.46
Total O&M Expenses allowed	263.92	273.22	282.80	292.73	303.02



43. Accordingly, O&M Expenses approved vide dated 29.5.2021 in Petition No. 449/TT/2020, O&M Expenses claimed in the instant Petition and trued up O&M Expenses allowed in respect of the Combined Assets are shown in the table below:

	(₹ in lakh)				
Particulars	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Approved vide order dated 29.5.2021 in Petition No. 449/TT/2020	263.92	273.22	282.80	292.73	303.02
As claimed by the Petitioner in the instant Petition	263.93	273.22	282.80	292.73	303.02
Allowed in the instant true-up Petition	263.92	273.22	282.80	292.73	303.02

Interest on Working Capital (IWC)

44. IWC is worked out in accordance with Regulation 34 of the 2019 Tariff Regulations. The Rate of Interest (ROI) considered is 12.05% (SBI 1-year MCLR applicable as on 1.4.2019 of 8.55% plus 350 basis points) for FY 2019-20, 11.25% (SBI 1-year MCLR applicable as on 1.4.2020 of 7.75% plus 350 basis points) for FY 2020-21, 10.50% (SBI 1-year MCLR applicable as on 1.4.2021 of 7.00% plus 350 basis points) for FYs 2021-22 and 2022-23 and 12.00% (SBI 1 year MCLR applicable as on 1.4.2023 of 8.50% plus 350 basis points) for FY 2023-24.

45. The components of the working capital and interest allowed thereon for the Combined Asset are as follows:

		(₹ in lakh)				
Sl. No.	Particulars	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
A	Working Capital for O&M Expenses (O&M Expenses for one month)	21.99	22.77	23.57	24.39	25.25
B	Working Capital for Maintenance Spares (15% of O&M Expenses)	39.59	40.98	42.42	43.91	45.45
C	Working Capital for Receivables (Equivalent to 45 days of annual fixed cost /annual transmission charges)	321.05	312.40	303.39	295.03	286.51
D	Total Working Capital (A+B+C)	382.63	376.15	369.38	363.33	357.22
E	Rate of Interest for working capital (in %)	12.05	11.25	10.50	10.50	12.00
F	Interest on Working Capital (D*E)	46.11	42.32	38.78	38.15	42.87



46. The details of the IWC Expenses allowed vide order dated 29.5.2021 in Petition No. 449/TT/2020, IWC claimed in the instant Petition, and trued-up IWC allowed in the instant order in respect of the Combined Assets are as follows:

(₹ in lakh)					
Particulars	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Allowed vide order dated 29.5.2021 in Petition No. 449/TT/2020	46.13	42.40	41.67	40.96	40.26
Claimed by the Petitioner in the instant Petition	46.11	42.32	38.78	38.15	42.87
Allowed after truing-up in this order	46.11	42.32	38.78	38.15	42.87

Trued-up Annual Fixed Charges for the 2019-24 Tariff Period

47. Accordingly, the Annual Fixed Charges allowed after truing-up for the 2019-24 tariff period in respect of the Combined Assets are as follows:

(₹ in lakh)					
Particulars	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Depreciation	896.88	896.88	896.88	896.88	896.88
Interest on Loan	449.43	366.63	287.53	210.39	132.69
Return on Equity	954.84	954.84	954.84	954.84	954.84
O&M Expenses	263.92	273.22	282.80	292.73	303.02
Interest on Working Capital	46.11	42.32	38.78	38.15	42.87
Total	2611.18	2533.89	2460.83	2392.99	2330.30

48. The details of annual transmission charges allowed vide order dated 29.5.2021 in Petition No. 449/TT/2020, annual transmission charges claimed in the instant Petition, and trued-up annual transmission charges allowed in the instant order in respect of the Combined Assets are as follows:

(₹ in lakh)					
Particulars	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Allowed vide order dated 29.5.2021 in Petition No. 449/TT/2020	2612.74	2539.64	2469.13	2398.90	2328.87
Claimed by the Petitioner in the instant Petition	2611.21	2533.90	2460.85	2393.01	2330.32
Allowed after truing-up in this order	2611.18	2533.89	2460.83	2392.99	2330.30

DETERMINATION OF ANNUAL FIXED CHARGES FOR THE 2024-29 TARIFF PERIOD

49. The Petitioner has claimed the following transmission charges in respect of the Combined Assets for the 2024-29 tariff period:



(₹ in lakh)					
Particulars	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
Depreciation	201.21	201.21	201.21	201.20	201.21
Interest on Loan	84.13	66.70	48.71	29.96	11.98
Return on Equity	954.85	954.85	954.85	954.85	954.85
Interest on Working Capital	29.09	29.39	29.70	29.98	30.42
O&M Expenses	246.63	259.58	273.15	287.47	302.52
Total	1515.91	1511.73	1507.62	1503.46	1500.98

50. The Petitioner has claimed the following Interest of Working Capital (IWC) in respect of the Combined Assets for the 2024-29 tariff period:

(₹ in lakh)					
Particulars	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
O&M Expenses	20.55	21.63	22.76	23.96	25.21
Maintenance Spares	36.99	38.94	40.97	43.12	45.38
Receivables	186.89	186.38	185.87	184.85	185.05
Total Working Capital	244.43	246.95	249.60	251.93	255.64
Rate of Interest (in %)	11.90	11.90	11.90	11.90	11.90
Interest on Working Capital	29.09	29.39	29.70	29.98	30.42

Capital Cost

51. Regulation 19 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations provides as follows:

“19. Capital Cost: (1) *The Capital cost of the generating station or the transmission system, as the case may be, as determined by the Commission after prudence checks in accordance with these regulations shall form the basis for the determination of tariff for existing and new projects.*

(2) *The Capital Cost of a new project shall include the following:*

(a) *The expenditure incurred or projected to be incurred up to the date of commercial operation of the project;*

(b) *Interest during construction and financing charges, on the loans (i) being equal to 70% of the funds deployed and, in the event actual equity is in excess of 30% on a pari-passu basis, by treating the excess equity over and above 30% of the funds deployed as a normative loan, or (ii) being equal to the actual amount of the loan in the event of actual equity being less than 30% of the funds deployed;*

(c) *Any gain or loss on account of foreign exchange risk variation pertaining to the loan amount availed during the construction period;*

(d) *Interest during construction and incidental expenditure during construction as computed in accordance with these regulations;*

(e) *Capitalised initial spares subject to the ceiling rates in accordance with these regulations;*

(f) *Expenditure on account of additional capitalization and de-capitalisation determined in accordance with these regulations;*

(g) *Adjustment of revenue due to the sale of infirm power in excess of fuel cost prior to the date of commercial operation as specified under Regulation 6 of these regulations;*

(h) *Adjustment of revenue earned by the transmission licensee by using the assets before the date of commercial operation;*

(i) *Capital expenditure on account of ash disposal and utilization including handling and transportation facility;*



- (j) Capital expenditure incurred towards railway infrastructure and its augmentation for transportation of coal up to the receiving end of the generating station but does not include the transportation cost and any other appurtenant cost paid to the railway;
- (k) Capital expenditure on account of biomass handling equipment and facilities, for co-firing;
- (l) Capital expenditure on account of emission control system necessary to meet the revised emission standards and sewage treatment plant;
- (m) Expenditure on account of the fulfilment of any conditions for obtaining environment clearance for the project;
- (n) Expenditure on account of change in law and force majeure events; and
- (o) Capital cost incurred or projected to be incurred by a thermal generating station, on account of implementation of the norms under the Perform, Achieve and Trade (PAT) scheme of the Government of India shall be considered by the Commission subject to sharing of benefits accrued under the PAT scheme with the beneficiaries.
- (p) Expenditure required to enable flexible operation of the generating station at lower loads.

(3) The Capital cost of an existing project shall include the following:

- (a) Capital cost admitted by the Commission prior to 1.4.2024 duly trued up by excluding liability, if any, as on 1.4.2024;
- (b) Additional capitalization and de-capitalization for the respective year of tariff as determined in accordance with these regulations;
- (c) Capital expenditure on account of renovation and modernisation as admitted by this Commission in accordance with these regulations;
- (d) Capital expenditure on account of ash disposal and utilization, including handling and transportation facility;
- (e) Capital expenditure incurred towards railway infrastructure and its augmentation for transportation of coal up to the receiving end of generating station but does not include the transportation cost and any other appurtenant cost paid to the railway;
- (f) Capital cost incurred or projected to be incurred by a thermal generating station, on account of implementation of the norms under the Perform, Achieve and Trade (PAT) scheme of the Government of India shall be considered by the Commission subject to sharing of benefits accrued under the PAT scheme with the beneficiaries;
- (g) Expenditure required to enable flexible operation of the generating station at lower loads;
- (h) Capital expenditure on account of biomass handling equipment and facilities, for cofiring; and
- (i) Expenditure on account of change in law and force majeure events;

(4) The capital cost in case of existing or new hydro generating stations shall also include:

- (a) cost of approved rehabilitation and resettlement (R&R) plan of the project in conformity with National R&R Policy and R&R package as approved; and
- (b) cost of the developer's 10% contribution towards the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) and Deendayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDUGJY) project in the affected area.

(c) For uninterrupted and timely development of Hydro projects, expenditure incurred towards developing local infrastructure in the vicinity of the power plant not exceeding Rs. 10 lakh/MW shall be considered as part of the Capital cost, and in case the same work is covered under budgetary support provided by the Government of India, the funding of such works shall be adjusted on receipt of such funds.

Provided that such funds shall be allowed only if the funds are spent through Indian Governmental Instrumentality;

(5) For Projects acquired through NCLT proceedings under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016, the following shall be considered while approving Capital Costs for the determination of tariff:

- (a) For projects already under operation, historical GFA of the project acquired or the acquisition cost paid by the generating company, whichever is lower;



(b) For considering the historical GFA for the purpose of Sub-Clause (a) above, the same shall be the capital cost approved by the appropriate commission till the date of acquisition;

Provided that in the absence of any prior approved capital cost of an Appropriate Commission, the Commission shall consider the same on the basis of audited accounts subject to prudence check;

Provided further, that in case additional capital expenditure is required post acquisition of an already operational project, the same shall be considered under the provisions of Chapter 7 of these Regulations;

(c) In case any under construction project is acquired that has yet to achieve commercial operation, the acquisition cost or the actual audited cost incurred till the date of acquisition, whichever is lower, shall be considered and;

(d) any additional capital expenditure incurred post acquisition of such project up to the date of commercial operation of the project in line with the investment approval of the Board of Directors of the generating company or the transmission licensees shall also be considered on a case to case basis subject to prudence check.

Provided that post commercial operation, additional capital expenditure shall be allowed under the provisions of Chapter 7 of these Regulations.

- (6) The following shall be excluded from the capital cost of the existing and new projects:*
- (a) The assets forming part of the project but not in use, as declared in the tariff petition;*
 - (b) De-capitalised Assets after the date of commercial operation on account of obsolescence;*
 - (c) De-capitalised Assets on account of upgradation or shifting from one project to another project:*

Provided that in case such an asset is recommended for further utilisation by the Regional Power Committee in consultation with CTU, such asset shall be de-capitalised from the original project only after its redeployment;

Provided further that unless shifting of an asset from one project to another is of a permanent nature, there shall be no de-capitalization of the concerned assets.

(d) In the case of hydro generating stations, any expenditure incurred or committed to be incurred by a project developer for getting the project site allotted by the State Government by following a transparent process;

(e) Proportionate cost of land of the existing generation or transmission project, as the case may be, which is being used for generating power from a generating station based on renewable energy as may be permitted by the Commission; and

(f) Any grant received from the Central or State Government or any statutory body or authority for the execution of the project that does not carry any liability of repayment."

52. The capital cost approved as on 31.3.2024 is ₹16946.02 lakh. Therefore, the capital cost of ₹16946.02 lakh as on 31.3.2024 has been considered as the opening capital cost for the Combined Assets as on 1.4.2024 for the purpose of determination of transmission tariff for the 2024-29 tariff period in accordance with Regulation 19 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations.



Additional Capital Expenditure

53. The Petitioner has submitted that no ACE is proposed during the 2024-29 tariff block. However, a liability of ₹6.84 lakh is pending towards house compensation and the said amount is not included in the capital cost due to the pending court case. Therefore, the same shall be claimed based on the outcome of the court case.

54. We have considered the submission of the Petitioner. The Petitioner is at liberty to claim the liability towards house compensation as per the outcome of the pending court case, and the same will be dealt with as per applicable tariff regulations.

55. Accordingly, the details of the capital cost allowed as on 31.3.2024, and as on 31.3.2029 are as follows:

(₹ in lakh)			
Apportioned Approved Cost as per FR/RCE	Expenditure as on 31.3.2024	Expenditure during the 2019-24 tariff period	Actual Capital Cost as on 31.3.2029
18419.00/17063	16946.02	0.00	16946.02

Debt Equity Ratio

56. Regulation 18 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations provides as follows:

“18. Debt-Equity Ratio: (1) For new projects, the debt-equity ratio of 70:30 as on date of commercial operation shall be considered. If the equity actually deployed is more than 30% of the capital cost, equity in excess of 30% shall be treated as normative loan:

Provided that:

- where equity actually deployed is less than 30% of the capital cost, actual equity shall be considered for determination of tariff;
- the equity invested in foreign currency shall be designated in Indian rupees on the date of each investment;
- any grant obtained for the execution of the project shall not be considered as a part of capital structure for the purpose of debt: equity ratio.

Explanation- The premium, if any, raised by the generating company or the transmission licensee, as the case may be, while issuing share capital and investment of internal resources created out of its free reserve for the funding of the project, shall be reckoned as paid up capital for the purpose of computing return on equity, only if such premium amount and internal resources are actually utilized for meeting the capital expenditure of the generating station or the transmission system.

(2) The generating company or the transmission licensee, as the case may be, shall submit the resolution of the Board of the company or the approval of the competent authority in other cases regarding the infusion of funds from internal resources in support of the utilization made or proposed to be made to meet the capital expenditure of the



generating station or the transmission system including communication system, as the case may be.

(3) In the case of the generating station and the transmission system, including the communication system declared under commercial operation prior to 1.4.2024, the debt-equity ratio allowed by the Commission for the determination of tariff for the period ending 31.3.2024 shall be considered:

Provided that in the case of a generating station or a transmission system, including a communication system which has completed its useful life as on 1.4.2024 or is completing its useful life during the 2024-29 tariff period, if the equity actually deployed is more than 30% of the capital cost, equity in excess of 30% shall not be taken into account for tariff computation;

Provided further that in case of projects owned by Damodar Valley Corporation, the debt: equity ratio shall be governed as per sub-clause (ii) of clause (2) of Regulation 96 of these regulations.

(4) In the case of the generating station and the transmission system, including communication system declared under commercial operation prior to 1.4.2024, but where debt: equity ratio has not been determined by the Commission for determination of tariff for the period ending 31.3.2024, the Commission shall approve the debt: equity ratio in accordance with clause (1) of this Regulation.

(5) Any expenditure incurred or projected to be incurred on or after 1.4.2024 as may be admitted by the Commission as additional capital expenditure for determination of tariff, and renovation and modernisation expenditure for life extension shall be serviced in the manner specified in clause (1) of this Regulation.

(6) Any expenditure incurred for the emission control system during the tariff period as may be admitted by the Commission as additional capital expenditure for determination of supplementary tariff, shall be serviced in the manner specified in clause (1) of this Regulation.”

57. The debt-equity ratio for the 2024-29 tariff period is dealt with in line with Regulation 18 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations. Accordingly, the debt-equity considered for the 2024-29 tariff period for the Combined Assets is as follows:

Funding	Capital Cost as on 1.4.2024		Capital Cost as on 31.3.2029	
	₹ in lakh	(in %)	₹ in lakh	(in %)
Debt	11862.21	70.00	11862.21	70.00
Equity	5083.81	30.00	5083.81	30.00
Total	16946.02	100.00	16946.02	100.00

Depreciation

58. Regulation 33 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations provides as follows:

"33. Depreciation: (1) Depreciation shall be computed from the date of commercial operation of a generating station or unit thereof or a transmission system or element thereof including communication system. In the case of the tariff of all the units of a generating station or all elements of a transmission system including the communication



system for which a single tariff needs to be determined, the depreciation shall be computed from the effective date of commercial operation of the generating station or the transmission system taking into consideration the depreciation of individual units:

Provided that the effective date of commercial operation shall be worked out by considering the actual date of commercial operation and installed capacity of all the units of the generating station or capital cost of all elements of the transmission system, for which a single tariff needs to be determined.

(2) The value base for the purpose of depreciation shall be the capital cost of the asset admitted by the Commission. In case of multiple units of a generating station or multiple elements of a transmission system, the weighted average life for the generating station or the transmission system shall be applied. Depreciation shall be chargeable from the first year of commercial operation. In the case of commercial operation of the asset for a part of the year, depreciation shall be charged on a pro rata basis.

(3) The salvage value of the asset shall be considered as 10%, and depreciation shall be allowed up to the maximum of 90% of the capital cost of the asset:

Provided that the salvage value for IT equipment and software shall be considered as NIL and 100% value of the assets shall be considered depreciable;

.....

Provided also that any depreciation disallowed on account of lower availability of the generating station or unit or transmission system, as the case may be, shall not be allowed to be recovered at a later stage during the useful life or the extended life.

(4)

(5) Depreciation for Existing Projects shall be calculated annually based on the Straight Line Method and at rates specified in Appendix-I to these regulations for the assets of the generating station and transmission system:

Provided that the remaining depreciable value as on 31st March of the year closing after a period of 12 years from the effective date of commercial operation of the generating station or transmission system, as the case may be, shall be spread over the balance useful life of the assets.

.....

(6) Depreciation for New Projects shall be calculated annually based on the Straight Line Method and at rates specified in Appendix-II to these regulations for the assets of the generating station and transmission system:

Provided that the remaining depreciable value as on 31st March of the year closing after a period of 15 years from the effective date of commercial operation of the generating station or the transmission system, as the case may be, shall be spread over the balance useful life of the assets.

.....

(7) In the case of the existing projects, the balance depreciable value as on 1.4.2024 shall be worked out by deducting the cumulative depreciation as admitted to by the Commission up to 31.3.2024 from the gross depreciable value of the assets.

(8) The generating company or the transmission licensee, as the case may be, shall submit the details of capital expenditure proposed to be incurred during five years before the completion of useful life along with proper justification and proposed life extension. The Commission, based on prudence check of such submissions, shall approve the



depreciation by equally spreading the depreciable value over the balance Operational Life of the generating station or unit thereof or fifteen years, whichever is lower, and in case of the transmission system shall equally spread the depreciable value over the balance useful life of the Asset or 10 years whichever is higher.

(9) In case of de-capitalization of assets in respect of generating station or unit thereof or transmission system or element thereof, the cumulative depreciation shall be adjusted by taking into account the depreciation recovered in tariff by the de-capitalized asset during its useful service....”

59. The depreciation has been worked out considering the admitted capital expenditure as on 1.4.2024, and thereafter up to 31.3.2029. The Weighted Average Rate of Depreciation (WAROD) has been worked out for the Combined Assets as per the rates of depreciation specified in the 2024 Tariff Regulations. Further, the Combined Assets have already completed their 12 years of life as on 1.4.2024. Therefore, the depreciation for the 2024-29 tariff period has been calculated by spreading the balance depreciable value of ₹4426.35 lakh as on 1.4.2024 over the balance of the useful life of the Combined Assets in accordance with the 2024 Tariff Regulations.

60. Accordingly, the depreciation allowed in respect of the Combined Assets under Regulation 33 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations for the 2024-29 tariff period is as under:

(₹ in lakh)						
Sl. No.	Particulars	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
A	Opening Capital Cost	16946.02	16946.02	16946.02	16946.02	16946.02
B	Addition during the year 2024-29 due to ACE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
C	Closing Capital Cost (A+B)	16946.02	16946.02	16946.02	16946.02	16946.02
D	Average Capital Cost (A+C)/2	16946.02	16946.02	16946.02	16946.02	16946.02
E	Average Capital Cost (90% depreciable assets)	16946.02	16946.02	16946.02	16946.02	16946.02
F	Average Capital Cost (100% depreciable assets)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
G	Depreciable value (excluding IT equipment and software) (E*90%)	15251.42	15251.42	15251.42	15251.42	15251.42
H	Depreciable value of IT equipment and software (F*100%)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
I	Total Depreciable Value (G+H)	15251.42	15251.42	15251.42	15251.42	15251.42
J	Weighted average rate of Depreciation (WAROD) (in %)	Spread-Over				
K	Lapsed useful life at the beginning of the year (Year)	12	13	14	15	16



Sl. No.	Particulars	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
L	Balance useful life at the beginning of the year (Year)	22	21	20	19	18
M	Depreciation during the year	201.20	201.20	201.20	201.20	201.20
N	Cumulative Depreciation at the end of the year	11026.26	11227.46	11428.66	11629.86	11831.05
O	Remaining Aggregate Depreciable Value at the end of the year (I-N)	4225.15	4023.96	3822.76	3621.56	3420.36

Interest on Loan (IoL)

61. Regulation 32 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations provides as follows:

“32. Interest on loan capital: (1) The loans arrived at in the manner indicated in Regulation 18 of these regulations shall be considered gross normative loans for the calculation of interest on loans.

(2) The normative loan outstanding as on 1.4.2024 shall be worked out by deducting the cumulative repayment as admitted by the Commission up to 31.3.2024 from the gross normative loan.

(3) The repayment for each of the years of the tariff period 2024-29 shall be deemed to be equal to the depreciation allowed for the corresponding year or period. In case of de-capitalization of assets, the repayment shall be adjusted by taking into account cumulative repayment on a pro rata basis, and the adjustment should not exceed cumulative depreciation recovered up to the date of de-capitalisation of such asset.

(4) Notwithstanding any moratorium period availed of by the generating company or the transmission licensee, as the case may be, the repayment of the loan shall be considered from the first year of commercial operation of the project and shall be equal to the depreciation allowed for the year or part of the year.

(5) The rate of interest shall be the weighted average rate of interest calculated on the basis of the actual loan portfolio or allocated loan portfolio;

Provided that if there is no actual loan outstanding for a particular year but the normative loan is still outstanding, the last available weighted average rate of interest of the loan portfolio for the project shall be considered;

Provided further that if the generating station or the transmission system, as the case may be, does not have any actual loan, then the weighted average rate of interest of the loan portfolio of the generating company or the transmission licensee as a whole shall be considered.

Provided that the rate of interest on the loan for the installation of the emission control system commissioned subsequent to date of commercial operation of the generating station or unit thereof, shall be the weighted average rate of interest of the actual loan portfolio of the emission control system, and in the absence of the actual loan portfolio, the weighted average rate of interest of the generating company as a whole shall be considered, subject to a ceiling of 14%;

Provided further that if the generating company or the transmission licensee, as the case may be, does not have any actual loan, then the rate of interest for a loan shall be



considered as 1-year MCLR of the State Bank of India as applicable as on April 01, of the relevant financial year.

(6) The interest on the loan shall be calculated on the normative average loan of the year by applying the weighted average rate of interest.

(7) The changes to the terms and conditions of the loans shall be reflected from the date of such re-financing.”

62. The Petitioner has claimed the Weighted Average Rate of Interest (WAROI) on Loans based on its actual loan portfolio and rate of interest prevailing as on 1.4.2024.

63. We have considered the Petitioner’s submissions. The IoL is allowed under Regulation 32 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations in respect of the Combined Assets for the 2024-29 tariff period is as follows:

(₹ in lakh)						
Sl. No.	Particulars	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
A	Gross Normative Loan	11862.21	11862.21	11862.21	11862.21	11862.21
B	Cumulative Repayments up to Previous Year	10825.07	11026.26	11227.46	11428.66	11629.86
C	Net Loan-Opening (A-B)	1037.15	835.95	634.75	433.55	232.36
D	Addition due to ACE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
E	Repayment during the year	201.20	201.20	201.20	201.20	201.20
F	Net Loan-Closing (C+D-E)	835.95	634.75	433.55	232.36	31.16
G	Average Loan (C+F)/2	936.55	735.35	534.15	332.95	131.76
H	Weighted Average Rate of Interest on Loan (in %)	8.9823	9.0696	9.1177	8.9962	9.0917
I	Interest on Loan (G*H)	84.12	66.69	48.70	29.95	11.98

Return on Equity (RoE)

64. Regulations 30 and 31 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations provide as follows:

“30. Return on Equity: (1) Return on equity shall be computed in rupee terms, on the equity base determined in accordance with Regulation 18 of these regulations.

(2) Return on equity for existing project shall be computed at the base rate of 15.50% for thermal generating station, transmission system including communication system and run-of river hydro generating station and at the base rate of 16.50% for storage type hydro generating stations, pumped storage hydro generating stations and run-of- river generating station with pondage;

(3) Return on equity for new project achieving COD on or after 01.04.2024 shall be computed at the base rate of 15.00% for the transmission system, including the communication system, at the base rate of 15.50% for Thermal generating station and run-of-river hydro generating station and at the base rate of 17.00% for storage type hydro generating stations, pumped storage hydro generating stations and run-of-river generating station with pondage;



Provided that return on equity in respect of additional capitalization beyond the original scope, including additional capitalization on account of the emission control system, Change in Law, and Force Majeure shall be computed at the base rate of one-year marginal cost of lending rate (MCLR) of the State Bank of India plus 350 basis points as on 1st April of the year, subject to a ceiling of 14%;

Provided further that:

- i. In case of a new project, the rate of return on equity shall be reduced by 1.00% for such period as may be decided by the Commission if the generating station or transmission system is found to be declared under commercial operation without commissioning of any of the Free Governor Mode Operation (FGMO), data telemetry, communication system up to load dispatch centre or protection system based on the report submitted by the respective RLDC;

.....”

“31. Tax on Return on Equity. (1) The rate of return on equity as allowed by the Commission under Regulation 30 of these regulations shall be grossed up with the effective tax rate of the respective financial year. The effective tax rate shall be calculated at the beginning of every financial year based on the estimated profit and tax to be paid estimated in line with the provisions of the relevant Finance Act applicable for that financial year to the concerned generating company or the transmission licensee by excluding the income of non-generation or non-transmission business, as the case may be, and the corresponding tax thereon.

Provided that in case a generating company or transmission licensee is paying Minimum Alternate Tax (MAT) under Section 115JB of the Income Tax Act, 1961, the effective tax rate shall be the MAT rate, including surcharge and cess;

Provided further that in case a generating company or transmission licensee has opted for Section 115BAA, the effective tax rate shall be tax rate including surcharge and cess as specified under Section 115BAA of the Income Tax Act, 1961.

(2) The rate of return on equity shall be rounded off to three decimal places and shall be computed as per the formula given below:

$$\text{Rate of pre-tax return on equity} = \text{Base rate} / (1-t)$$

(3) The generating company or the transmission licensee, as the case may be, shall true up the effective tax rate for every financial year based on actual tax paid together with any additional tax demand, including interest thereon, duly adjusted for any refund of tax including interest received from the income tax authorities pertaining to the tariff period 2024-29 on actual gross income of any financial year. Further, any penalty arising on account of delay in deposit or short deposit of tax amount shall not be considered while computing the actual tax paid for the generating company or the transmission licensee, as the case may be.

Provided that in case a generating company or transmission licensee is paying Minimum Alternate Tax (MAT) under Section 115JB, the generating company or the transmission licensee, as the case may be, shall true up the grossed up rate of return on equity at the end of every financial year with the applicable MAT rate including surcharge and cess.

Provided that in case a generating company or transmission licensee is paying tax under Section 115BAA, the generating company or the transmission licensee, as the case



may be, shall true up the grossed up rate of return on equity at the end of every financial year with the tax rate including surcharge and cess as specified under Section 115BAA.

Provided that any under-recovery or over recovery of grossed up rate on return on equity after truing up, shall be recovered or refunded to beneficiaries or the long term customers, as the case may be, on a year to year basis."

65. The Petitioner has submitted that MAT rate applies to it.

66. We have considered the Petitioner's submissions and have gone through the record.

67. We have considered the applicable MAT rate for RoE, and the same will be trued-up in accordance with the 2024 Tariff Regulations. The RoE allowed in respect of the Combined Assets for the 2024-29 tariff period is as follows:

(₹ in lakh)						
Sl. No.	Particulars	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
A	Opening Equity	5083.81	5083.81	5083.81	5083.81	5083.81
B	Addition due to ACE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
C	Closing Equity (A+B)	5083.81	5083.81	5083.81	5083.81	5083.81
D	Average Equity (A+C)/2	5083.81	5083.81	5083.81	5083.81	5083.81
E	Return on Equity (Base Rate) (in %)	15.500	15.500	15.500	15.500	15.500
F	Tax Rate applicable (in %)	17.472	17.472	17.472	17.472	17.472
G	Rate of Return on Equity (in %)	18.782	18.782	18.782	18.782	18.782
H	Return on Equity (Pre-tax) (D*G)	954.84	954.84	954.84	954.84	954.84

Operation and Maintenance Expenses (O&M Expenses)

68. The O&M Expenses claimed by the Petitioner in respect of the Combined Assets for the 2024-29 tariff period are as follows:

(₹ in lakh)				
2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
246.63	259.58	273.15	287.47	302.52

69. Regulation 36(3) of the 2024 Tariff Regulations provides as follows:

"36. Operation and Maintenance Expenses:

.....

(3) Transmission system: (a) The following normative operation and maintenance expenses shall be admissible for the transmission system:

Particulars	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
Norms for sub-station Bays (Rs Lakh per bay)					
765 kV	41.34	43.51	45.79	48.20	50.73
400 kV	29.53	31.08	32.71	34.43	36.23
220 kV	20.67	21.75	22.90	24.10	25.36
132 kV and below	15.78	16.61	17.48	18.40	19.35
Norms for Transformers/Reactors (Rs Lakh per MVA or MVAR)					



O&M expenditure per MVA or per MVAR (Rs Lakh per MVA or per MVAR)	0.262	0.276	0.290	0.305	0.322
Norms for AC and HVDC lines (Rs Lakh per km)					
Single Circuit (Bundled Conductor with six or more sub-conductors)	0.861	0.906	0.953	1.003	1.056
Single Circuit (Bundled conductor with four or more sub-conductors)	0.738	0.776	0.817	0.860	0.905
Single Circuit (Twin & Triple Conductor)	0.492	0.518	0.545	0.573	0.603
Single Circuit (Single Conductor)	0.246	0.259	0.272	0.287	0.302
Double Circuit (Bundled conductor with four or more sub-conductors)	1.291	1.359	1.430	1.506	1.585
Double Circuit (Twin & Triple Conductor)	0.861	0.906	0.953	1.003	1.056
Double Circuit (Single Conductor)	0.369	0.388	0.409	0.430	0.453
Multi Circuit (Bundled Conductor with four or more sub-conductor)	2.266	2.385	2.510	2.642	2.781
Multi Circuit (Twin & Triple Conductor)	1.509	1.588	1.671	1.759	1.851
Norms for HVDC stations					
HVDC Back-to-Back stations (Rs Lakh per MW)	2.07	2.18	2.30	2.42	2.55
Gazuwaka BTB (Rs Lakh/MW)	1.83	1.92	2.03	2.13	2.24
HVDC bipole scheme (Rs Lakh/MW)	1.04	1.10	1.16	1.22	1.28

Provided that the O&M expenses for the GIS bays shall be allowed as worked out by multiplying 0.70 of the O&M expenses of the normative O&M expenses for bays;

Provided that the O&M expense norms of Double Circuit quad AC line shall be applicable to for HVDC bi-pole line;

Provided that the O&M expenses of ± 500 kV Mundra-Mohindergarh HVDC bipole scheme (2500 MW) shall be allowed as worked out by multiplying 0.80 of the normative O&M expenses for HVDC bipole scheme;

Provided further that the O&M expenses for Transmission Licensees whose transmission assets are located solely in NE Region (including Sikkim), States of Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, the Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, district of Darjeeling of West Bengal shall be worked out by multiplying 1.50 to the normative O&M expenses prescribed above.

(b) The total allowable operation and maintenance expenses for the transmission system shall be calculated by multiplying the number of substation bays, transformer capacity of the transformer/reactor/Static Var Compensator/Static Synchronous Compensator (in MVA/MVAR) and km of line length with the applicable norms for the operation and maintenance expenses per bay, per MVA/MVAR and per km respectively.

(c) Communication system: The operation and maintenance expenses for the ULDC or such similar scheme shall be worked out at 2.0% of the original project cost related to such communication system. The transmission licensee shall submit the actual operation and maintenance expenses for truing up. The expenses in case of U-NMS shall be allowed on actual basis after due prudence check.



(d) The Security Expenses, Capital Spares individually costing more than Rs. 10 lakh and Insurance expenses arrived through competitive bidding for the transmission system and associated communication system shall be allowed separately after prudence check: Provided that in case of self insurance, the premium shall not exceed 0.09% of the GFA of the assets insured;

Provided that the transmission licensee shall submit the along with estimated security expenses based on assessment of the security requirement, capital spares and insurance expenses, which shall be trued up based on details of the year-wise actuals along with appropriate justification for incurring the same and along with confirmation that the same is not claimed as a part of additional capitalisation or consumption of stores and spares and renovation and modernization.

(e) On the occurrence of any change in law event affecting O&M expenses, the impact shall be allowed to the transmission licensee at the time of truing up of tariff.

Provided that such impact shall be allowed only in case the overall impact of such change in law event in a year is more than 5% of normative O&M expenses of the project for the year.

(f) In case of a transmission licensee owned by the Central or State Government, the impact on account of implementation of wage or pay revision shall be allowed at the time of truing up of tariff.”

70. We have considered the submissions of the Petitioner. The O&M Expenses for the 2024-29 tariff period have been worked out as per the norms specified in the 2024 Tariff Regulations. The O&M Expenses approved in respect of the Combined Assets for the 2024-29 tariff period as per Regulation 36 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations are as under:

(₹ in lakh)					
Particulars	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
Transmission line: 400 kV S/C Twin					
• Patiala-Ludhiana T/L – 76.215 km					
Norms as per Regulation (Rs. Per km)	0.492	0.518	0.545	0.573	0.603
O&M Expenses	37.50	39.48	41.54	43.67	45.96
Transmission line: 400 kV D/C Twin					
• LILO of 400 kV Patiala-Hissar T/L at Kaithal: (Line length:33.505 km)					
• LILO of 1 st Circuit of 400 kV D/C Nathpa jhakri-Nalagarh (Triple Snowbird) line at Rampur: (Line length 2.680 km)					
• LILO of 2 nd Circuit of 400 kV Nathpa-Jhakri Nalagarh line at Ramgarh: (Line length 0.915 km)					
Norms as per Regulation (Rs. Per km)	0.861	0.906	0.953	1.003	1.056
O&M Expenses	31.94	33.61	35.36	37.21	39.18
Sub-station :400 kV bays					
• 1 No. Bay for Patiala at Kaithal Substation					
• 1 No. Bay for Hissar at Kaithal Substation					
• 1 No. of Ludhiana-I Bay for at Patiala Substation					
• 1 No. of Ludhiana-II Bay for at Patiala Substation					



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 No. of Patiala-I Bay for at Ludhiana Substation • 1 No. of Patiala-II Bay for at Ludhiana Substation 					
Norms as per Regulation (Rs. Per Bay)	29.53	31.08	32.71	34.43	36.23
O&M Expenses	177.18	186.48	196.26	206.58	217.38
Total O&M Expenses allowed	246.62	259.57	273.15	287.46	302.52

Interest on Working Capital (IWC)

71. Regulations 34(1)(d), 34(3), 34(4) of the 2024 Tariff Regulations provide as follows:

“34. Interest on Working Capital: (1) *The working capital shall cover:*

(a) For Coal-based/lignite-fired thermal generating stations:

(i) Cost of coal or lignite, if applicable, for 10 days for pit-head generating stations and 20 days for non-pit-head generating stations for generation corresponding to the normative annual plant availability factor or the maximum coal/lignite stock storage capacity, whichever is lower;

(ii) Limestone towards stock for 15 days corresponding to the normative annual plant availability

(iii) Advance payment for 30 days towards the cost of coal or lignite and limestone for generation corresponding to the normative annual plant availability factor;

(iv) Cost of secondary fuel oil for two months for generation corresponding to the normative annual plant availability factor, and in case of use of more than one secondary fuel oil, cost of fuel oil stock for the main secondary fuel oil;

(v) Maintenance spares @ 20% of operation and maintenance expenses, including water charges and security expenses;

(vi) Receivables equivalent to 45 days of capacity charge and energy charge for the sale of electricity calculated on the normative annual plant availability factor; and

(vii) Operation and maintenance expenses, including water charges and security expenses, for one month.

(b) For emission control system of coal or lignite based thermal generating stations:

(i) Cost of limestone or reagent towards stock for 20 days corresponding to the normative annual plant availability factor;

(ii) Advance payment for 30 days towards the cost of reagent for generation corresponding to the normative annual plant availability factor;

(iii) Receivables equivalent to 45 days of supplementary capacity charge and supplementary energy charge for the sale of electricity calculated on the normative annual plant availability factor;

(iv) Operation and maintenance expenses in respect of the emission control system for one month;

(v) Maintenance spares @20% of operation and maintenance expenses in respect of emission control system.

(c) For Open-cycle Gas Turbine/Combined Cycle thermal generating stations:

(i) Fuel cost for 15 days corresponding to the normative annual plant availability factor, duly taking into account the mode of operation of the generating station on gas fuel and liquid fuel;

(ii) Liquid fuel stock for 15 days corresponding to the normative annual plant availability factor, and in case of use of more than one liquid fuel, cost of main liquid fuel duly taking into account mode of operation of the generating stations of gas fuel and liquid fuel;

Provided that the above shall only be allowed to generating stations that have facilities to store liquid fuel.

(iii) Maintenance spares @ 30% of operation and maintenance expenses, including water charges and security expenses;

(iv) Receivables equivalent to 45 days of capacity charge and energy charge for the sale of electricity calculated on the normative plant availability factor, duly taking into account the mode of operation of the generating station on gas fuel and liquid fuel;

(v) Operation and maintenance expenses, including water charges and security expenses, for one month.

(d) For Hydro generating station (including Pumped Storage Hydro generating station) and Transmission System:

(i) Receivables equivalent to 45 days of annual fixed cost;

(ii) Maintenance spares @ 15% of operation and maintenance expenses including security expenses; and

(iii) Operation and maintenance expenses, including security expenses for one month.

(2) The cost of fuel in cases covered under sub-clauses (a) and (c) of clause (1) of this Regulation shall be based on the landed fuel cost (taking into account normative transit and handling losses in terms of Regulation 59 of these regulations) by the generating station and gross calorific value of the fuel as per actual weighted average for the preceding financial year in case of each financial year for which tariff is to be determined:

Provided that in the case of a new generating station, the cost of fuel for the first financial year shall be considered based on landed fuel cost (taking into account normative transit and handling losses in terms of Regulation 59 of these regulations) and gross calorific value of the fuel as per actual weighted average for three months, as used for infirm power, preceding date of commercial operation for which tariff is to be determined.

(3) Rate of interest on working capital shall be on a normative basis and shall be considered at the Reference Rate of Interest as on 1.4.2024 or as on 1st April of the year during the tariff period 2024- 29 in which the generating station or a unit thereof or the transmission system including communication system or element thereof, as the case may be, is declared under commercial operation, whichever is later:

Provided that in case of truing-up, the rate of interest on working capital shall be considered at Reference Rate of Interest as on 1st April of each of the financial year during the tariff period 2024-29.

(4) Interest on working capital shall be payable on a normative basis, notwithstanding that the generating company or the transmission licensee has not taken a loan for working capital from any outside agency.”

72. The Petitioner has considered the rate of IWC as 11.90% as on 1.4.2024. IWC is worked out in accordance with Regulation 34 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations. The Rate of Interest (ROI) considered is 11.90% (SBI 1-year MCLR applicable as on 1.4.2024 of 8.65% plus 325 basis points) for FY 2024-25 to FY 2028-29.



73. The components of the working capital and interest allowed thereon under Regulation 34 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations for the 2024-29 tariff period in respect of the Combined Assets are as under:

(₹ in lakh)

Sl. No.	Particulars	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
A	Working Capital for O&M Expenses (O&M Expenses for one month)	20.55	21.63	22.76	23.96	25.21
B	Working Capital for Maintenance Spares (15% of O&M Expenses)	36.99	38.94	40.97	43.12	45.38
C	Working Capital for Receivables (Equivalent to 45 days of annual fixed cost /annual transmission charges)	186.89	186.38	185.87	184.85	185.05
D	Total Working Capital (A+B+C)	244.44	246.94	249.60	251.93	255.64
E	Rate of Interest for working capital (in %)	11.90	11.90	11.90	11.90	11.90
F	Interest on Working Capital (D*E)	29.09	29.39	29.70	29.98	30.42

Annual Fixed Charges for the 2024-29 tariff period

74. The transmission charges allowed in respect of the Combined Assets for the 2024-29 tariff period are as follows:

(₹ in lakh)

Particulars	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
Depreciation	201.20	201.20	201.20	201.20	201.20
Interest on Loan	84.12	66.69	48.70	29.95	11.98
Return on Equity	954.84	954.84	954.84	954.84	954.84
O&M Expenses	246.62	259.57	273.15	287.46	302.52
Interest on Working Capital	29.09	29.39	29.70	29.98	30.42
Total	1515.87	1511.69	1507.59	1503.43	1500.96

Filing Fee and Publication Expenses

75. The Petitioner has claimed reimbursement of the fee paid by it for filing the Petition and publication expenses. The Petitioner has further submitted that it shall be entitled to the reimbursement of the filing fee and the expenses incurred on publication of notices in the application for approval of tariff directly from the beneficiaries or the long-term customers, as the case may be in accordance with Regulation 94(1) of the 2024 Tariff Regulations.



76. We have considered the Petitioner's submissions. The Petitioner is entitled to reimbursement of the fees paid for filing the Petition and publication expenses incurred on this count directly from the beneficiaries or long-term customers, as the case may be.

Fees and Charges of Central Transmission Utility of India Limited (CTUIL)

77. The Petitioner has submitted that as per Regulation 99 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations, the fees and charges of the CTUIL may be allowed separately through a separate regulation. The Petitioner has further submitted that in the absence of such regulation, the expenses of CTUIL will be borne by the Petitioner which will be recovered by the Petitioner as additional O&M Expenses through a separate Petition at the end of the tariff period.

78. It is apt here to refer to Regulation 99 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations which provides as under:

“99. Special Provisions relating to Central Transmission Utility of India Ltd. (CTUIL):
The fee and charges of CTUIL shall be allowed separately by the Commission through a separate regulation:

Provided that until such regulation is issued by the Commission, the expenses of CTUIL shall be borne by Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. (PGCIL) which shall be recovered by PGCIL as additional O&M expenses through a separate petition.”

79. We have considered the Petitioner's submissions and perused Regulation 99 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations. In view of the explicit provision made under Regulation 99 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations, we permit the Petitioner, i.e. PGCIL, to bear the fees and charges expenses of CTUIL and recover the same as additional O&M Expenses through a separate Petition until such regulation is notified and issued by the Commission.

License Fee and RLDC Fees and Charges

80. The Petitioner has claimed reimbursement of the license fee, RLDC Fees and Charges. The Petitioner is allowed the reimbursement of the license fee in accordance with Regulation 94(4) of the 2024 Tariff Regulations for the 2024-29 tariff period. The Petitioner



is also allowed to recover the RLDC fee and charges from the beneficiaries, in terms of Regulation 94(3) of the 2024 Tariff Regulations for the 2024-29 tariff period.

Goods and Services Tax

81. The Petitioner has submitted that the transmission charges claimed herein are exclusive of GST, and in case GST is levied in the future, the same shall be additionally paid by the Respondents and be charged and billed separately by the Petitioner. It is also prayed that additional taxes, if any, are paid by the Petitioner on account of the demand from the Government/ statutory authorities, and the Commission may allow the same to be recovered from the beneficiaries.

82. We have considered the Petitioner's submissions. Since GST is not levied on the transmission service at present, we are of the view that the Petitioner's prayer on this count is premature.

Security Expenses, Insurance and Capital Spares

83. The Petitioner has submitted that as per Regulation 36(3)(d) of the 2024 Tariff Regulations, the security expenses and capital spares of more than ₹10 lakh and insurance expenses arrived through the competitive bidding for the transmission system and associated communication system shall be allowed separately after a prudence check.

84. As regards the security expenses of the transmission assets, the Petitioner has submitted that it shall file a separate Petition for the truing up of security expenses from 1.4.2019 to 31.3.2024 under Regulation 35(3)(c) of the 2019 Tariff Regulations and recovery of security expenses from 1.4.2024 to 31.3.2029 under Regulation 36 (3)(d) of the 2024 Tariff Regulations. According to the Petitioner, the security expenses regarding the Combined Assets are not claimed in the instant Petition.



85. The Petitioner has also submitted that it has not claimed insurance expenses in the instant Petition and has submitted that it shall file a separate Petition for claiming the overall insurance expenses and consequential Interest on Working Capital (IWC) on the same, considering the actual insurance expenses incurred by it for FY 2023-24 after escalating the same at 5.25% per annum to arrive at the estimated insurance expense for FYs 2024-25, 2025-26, 2026-27, 2027-28, and 2028-29.

86. The Petitioner has not claimed capital spares for the Combined Assets in the instant Petition for the 2024-29 tariff period. According to the Petitioner, it shall file a separate Petition for the capital spares consumed and consequential IWC thereon on an actual basis for the 2024-29 tariff period as per the 2024 Tariff Regulations. The Petitioner has also submitted that it has filed Petition No. 45/MP/2024, claiming therein capital spares for the 2019-24 tariff period as per the 2019 Tariff Regulations.

87. We have considered the Petitioner's submissions and have perused the record. We deem it proper here to refer to Regulation 36(3)(d) of the 2024 Tariff Regulations which provides as follows:

"36(3)

(d) The Security Expenses, Capital Spares individually costing more than Rs. 10 lakh and Insurance expenses arrived through competitive bidding for the transmission system and associated communication system shall be allowed separately after prudence check:

Provided that in case of self insurance, the premium shall not exceed 0.12% of the GFA of the assets insured;

Provided that the transmission licensee shall submit the along with estimated security expenses based on assessment of the security requirement, capital spares and insurance expenses, which shall be trued up based on details of the year-wise actuals along with appropriate justification for incurring the same and along with confirmation that the same is not claimed as a part of additional capitalisation or consumption of stores and spares and renovation and modernization."

88. On perusal of Regulation 36(3)(d) of the 2024 Tariff Regulations and considering the Petitioner's submissions, the Petitioner is allowed to file a single consolidated Petition comprising of security expenses, capital spares individually costing more than ₹10 lakh and



insurance expenses on an estimated basis in terms of the 2024 Tariff Regulations for the 2024-29 tariff period.

Sharing of Transmission Charges

89. The billing, collection, and disbursement of the transmission charges in respect of the Combined Assets shall be recovered in terms of provisions of the 2020 Sharing Regulations as provided in Regulation 57 of the 2019 Tariff Regulations for the 2019-24 tariff period and Regulation 78 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations for the 2024-29 tariff period.

90. To summarize:

- a) The trued-up Annual Fixed Charges (AFC) approved for the 2019-24 tariff period in respect of the Combined Assets are as follows:

(₹ in lakh)					
Particulars	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
AFC Allowed	2611.18	2533.89	2460.83	2392.99	2330.30

- b) The AFC approved in respect of the Combined Asset for the 2024-29 tariff period are as follows:

(₹ in lakh)					
Particulars	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
AFC Allowed	1515.87	1511.69	1507.59	1503.43	1500.96

91. This order disposes of Petition No. 222/TT/2025 in terms of the above discussions and findings.

sd/-
(Harish Dudani)
Member

sd/-
(Ramesh Babu V.)
Member

