



सत्यमेव जयते
भारत सरकार
Government of India
विद्युत मंत्रालय
Ministry of Power
केन्द्रीय विद्युत प्राधिकरण
Central Electricity Authority
विद्युत प्रणाली परियोजना प्रबोधन प्रभाग
Power System Project Monitoring Division

सेवा में,
 As per attached list

विषय / Subject :- Minutes of the Meeting chaired by Member (Power Systems), CEA on 29.01.2025 through Hybrid mode to review the transmission schemes, “North Karanpura generation project of NTPC (ERSS XIX)”, “Evacuation of 4.5 GW RE injection at Khavda P.S. under Phase-II – Part A” and “System strengthening in northern region (NRSS XXXVI)” under the Chairmanship of Member (Power Systems), CEA - reg.

The Minutes of the Meeting chaired by Member (Power Systems), CEA on 29.01.2025 through Hybrid mode to review the transmission schemes, “North Karanpura generation project of NTPC (ERSS XIX)”, “Evacuation of 4.5 GW RE injection at Khavda P.S. under Phase-II – Part A” and “System strengthening in northern region (NRSS XXXVI)” are attached as **Annexure-I**.

Encl: As above

भवदीय

प्रभजोत सिंह साही
 उप निदेशक (पीएसपीएम)

Copy for information to: -

1. JS (Trans), MoP
2. SA to Member (PS), CEA

List of addresses:

1.	COO, CTUIL
2.	Western Region Load Despatch Centre (WRLDC) Sh. Mahesh M. Mehendale, Exec. Director, WRLDC, mehendale@grid-india.in
3.	M/s Adani Energy Solutions Ltd. (AESL), Sh. Kandarp Patel, CEO, AESL kandarp.patel@adani.com
4.	M/s Tata Power / Resurgent Sh. S M Mahabale, CEO, NRSSXXXVI Trans. Ltd., smmahabale@tatapower.com

Annexure – I

Minutes of the Meeting chaired by Member (Power Systems), CEA on 29.01.2025 to review three under construction Inter-State Transmission System (ISTS) projects having forest and BSF land issues.

List of participants is attached at **Annexure-II**.

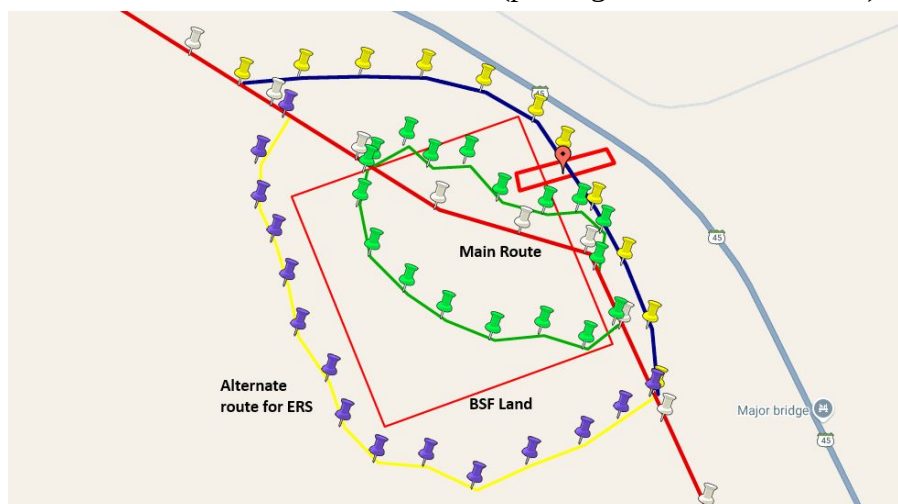
1. Member (Power Systems), CEA welcomed the participants and emphasized on timely completion of the projects to be reviewed in the meeting despite the challenges being faced.
- **Immediate evacuation for North Karanpura (3x660 MW) generation project of NTPC (ERSS XIX)”**
2. M/s Adani made a presentation (Annexure-III) and highlighted that under ERSS XIX, the only element remaining is North Karanpura – Gaya 400 kV Double circuit (D/c) line wherein delays w.r.t. tree cutting permission are being faced. There are three forest zones in the route of the Transmission Line (TL). It was informed that High Power Committee (HPC) of Forest Deptt. has granted tree felling permissions for Chatra South and Latehar forest divisions but recommendations for Chatra (North) from the High-Power Committee (HPC) is still awaited as the proposal is still pending with DFO, Chatra (North). After several site visits by the DFO Chatra (North), the proposal is yet to be sent to HPC for final tree felling recommendation. NKTL aims to commission the 400 kV D/c NK Gaya Line by October 2025 if tree cutting permission is received by mid of February 2025.
3. The TSP confirmed that they have made significant progress regarding laying of foundations in Chatra (South) and Latehar area having completed 25 (out of 71) and 11 (out of 18) Tower Foundations so far. Support from CEA was requested by the TSP w.r.t. the Chatra (North) issue.
4. Member (PS) directed that a letter may be issued from CEA to the state forest department for expediting the tree cutting permission for Chatra (North) as the project is already lagging its original schedule of September 2019.
5. The issue of Right of Way (ROW) optimization in forest area was discussed in detail. As per the latest proposal, around 14000 trees in Chatra (South), 4000 in Latehar and 3000 in Chatra (North) are planned to be cut. NKTL explained that Adani Energy Solutions Ltd (AESL) being an Environmental, social and governance (ESG) sensitive organization, have already built in the optimization of tree cutting while transmission routing, tower designing as well as project execution. Further, out of 14000 trees in Chatra (South) half of them are planned to be translocated. Also, all tower material of the

forest section have been supplied around a year ago in anticipation of the forest clearance.

6. It was brought out that tree cutting has already been optimized by the Transmission Service Provider (TSP) and based on the same forest permissions in three zones are at an advance stage of approval. Therefore, the possibility of further optimization in tree cuttings is not there.
7. NKTL confirmed that bays at both ends of Transmission Line (TL) are ready and all works in non-forest areas (except stringing) is complete. However, conductor theft is being encountered in Bihar area in the already strung sections. CEA directed NKTL to submit a written request for anti-theft back charging to Chief Electrical Inspectorate (CEI) after completion of rectification work.
8. As regard to theft of material NKTL was advised to lodge the police complaint/FIR.

• **Evacuation of 4.5 GW RE injection at Khavda P.S. under Phase-II – Part A: KPS2 - Lakadia 765 kV D/C line**

9. M/s Adani informed that the entire line is complete barring erection and stringing of 2 towers falling in Border Security Force (BSF)'s Land. In July 2024, during Tower erection at the two locations (Nos. 17/0 and 17/1), BSF has stopped the work stating that these locations are falling inside Small Arms Firing Range. BSF has referred the matter to Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) and it is understood that MHA on 28th January 2025 has raised certain queries w.r.t. KPS2 - Lakadia 765 kV D/c line which can potentially delay the project beyond March 2025.
10. It was unanimously agreed that the readiness of this line is critical to prevent bottling up of RE Power at Khavda region. M/s Adani requested to allow usage of Emergency Restoration System (ERS) via the alternate route to make the line operational as per schedule. The alternate route is shown below (passing below the BSF land).



11. GM, WRLDC remarked that the usage of Emergency Restoration System (ERS) is allowed in exceptional cases for a specified period, adding that the present case may not

be used as a precedence for further requests for completion of projects on ERS. Further, the TSP may not claim Commercial Operation Date (COD) till the line is operational on permanent towers.

12. Chief Engineer (CEI), CEA, and representative of Grid India also highlighted that charging on ERS should be allowed only for a limited period.
13. Member (PS), CEA, after detailed discussions, gave the following directions.
 - a. M/s Adani to follow up with BSF for expediting submission of response by BSF to the queries raised by MHA for early closure of the issue.
 - b. M/s Adani may deploy Emergency Restoration System to create a temporary bypass arrangement of BSF Land for one circuit of 765 kV D/c KPS-2 to Lakadia Line, as a special case. This arrangement shall not be construed as a precedence for future cases.
 - c. M/s Adani was advised to convene a meeting with WRLDC to sort the technical details of constructing the line on ERS (including Scheduled Commercial Operation Date (SCOD), quantum of power flow etc.). A period of six months is tentatively decided for charging the line on ERS and M/s Adani are advised to expeditiously resolve the BSF issue before expiry of this timeline.

• **400 kV D/c Rishikesh-Koteshwar Transmission Line**

14. Representatives from M/s Tata Power (NRSS XXXVI) made a presentation (Annexure-IV) and explained that while two out of three elements under the transmission scheme are already complete, issues are being faced w.r.t. forest clearance of Koteshwar - Rishikesh 400 kV D/c line which was targeted to be completed by March 2025 but is now likely to get delayed.
15. There are three forest zones: New Tehri, Dehradun and Narendra Nagar. While Stage 1 approval has been received on 29.10.2024, working permission has not been received in all three forest zones. There are a total of 102 tower locations (TL) under the line. Out of this, 63 TL are in forest and 39 TL in non-forest area. All non-forest locations stringing is completed. Two bays at Rishikesh end are also 70% complete and likely to be done by 1st week of February 2025.
16. Currently, 'tree stamping' of the trees identified for cutting is under progress which is likely to be finished by mid of February 2025.
17. CE (PSPM) advised the TSP to complete the formalities with the forest department at the earliest and target for completion of the project before monsoons.
18. On the issue of optimization of tree cuttings, M/s Tata Power highlighted that to achieve optimization the complete line is being constructed on 'tension towers' and stringing by drone is being adopted due to which RoW requirement is reduced. The trees being cut are primarily long Pine trees having height more than 18-24 m while

maintaining electrical clearance of 5.6 m. He further explained that though 23538 trees have been counted in the ROW corridor, No. of trees to be cut under the proposal are 15298. During construction due care shall be taken to reduce it further. Further, 21 spans are in the valley for which conductor can be taken above trees which will also save some trees.

19. M/s Tata Power further informed that material has already been received at site and 14 gangs for foundation work are in standby so that as soon as tree cutting permission is received, construction can be started.
20. Considering the deliberations as above, Member (PS) acknowledged that the efforts have already been made by the TSP to optimize the felling of trees. However, TSP is directed to ensure resorting to lopping/ trimming of trees rather than cutting it completely where ever possible in the interest of environment while maintain electrical clearances. Further, the pending activities for working permission/ tree cutting permission may be completed expeditiously in close coordination with the forest department.

Meeting ended with vote of thanks to the chair.

Annexure-II**List of Participants****CEA**

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|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Shri A.K. Rajput | Member (Power Systems) |
| 2. Shri Y.K. Swarnkar | Chief Engineer (PSPM) |
| 3. Shri S.M. Aimol | Director (PSPM) |
| 4. Shri Prabhjot Singh Sahi | Deputy Director (PSPM) |

CEI

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Smt. Rishika Sharan | Chief Engineer |
| 2. Smt. Shivani Sharma | Director |
| 3. Shri Ajit Kumar Ray | Deputy Director |
| 4. Shri Rahul Singh | Deputy Director |
| 5. Shri Alok Kumar | Deputy Director |

Western Region Load Despatch Centre (WRLDC)

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. S.S. Raghuwanshi | General Manager (Grid Mgmt) |
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Adani Energy Solutions Ltd

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|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Shri Atul Singh Raghav | V.P |
| 2. Shri Nitin Soni | Lead PMAG |
| 3. Shri Vivek Gautam | Chief Project Officer |
| 4. Shri Raghvendra Kumar | Head, Projects |
| 5. Shri Sunny Kr. Singh | Manager |

Tata Power (NRSS XXXVI Trans Ltd)

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Shri Sandeep Mahabale | CEO |
| 2. Shri Rajnish Mehrotra | Head, Environment & Forest |
| 3. Shri Kshitiz Punetha | Manager |