BEFORE THE HARYANA ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION AT PANCHKULA

HERC/Petition No. 32 of 2025 IA No. 14 of 2025

Date of Hearing : 21.05.2025 Date of Order : 22.05.2025

In the Matter of

Petition under Section 86(1)(b) of the Electricity Act, 2003 read with the Haryana Electricity Regulatory Commission (Conduct of Business) Regulations, 2019 seeking source approval for power up to 161.25 MW in the month of May, 2025 and 193.5 MW in the months of June, 2025 to September, 2025 allocated by Ministry of Power (MoP) from unallocated quota of power of Central Generating Stations (CGSs) of Northern Region, during Summer Months of Year 2025-26, in view of revised NRPC Allocation memo dated 28.03.2025.

Petitioner

Haryana Power Purchase Centre, Panchkula (HPPC)

Respondent

Nil

Present on behalf of the Petitioner

- 1. Ms. Sonia Madan, Advocate
- 2. Ms. Seema Sidana, Xen, HPPC

Quorum

Shri Nand Lal Sharma Shri Mukesh Garg Chairman Member

ORDER

Brief Background of the case

- The present petition has been filed by HPPC, a joint forum of Haryana Distribution licensees for power purchase/trading, seeking the source approval for procurement of upto 161.25 MW power in the month of May, 2025 and 193.5 MW in the months of June, 2025 to September, 2025 allocated by Ministry of Power (MoP) from pool of Central Generating Stations (CGS) of Northern Region, during summer season, in view of revised NRPC Allocation memo dated 28.03.2025
- 2. HPPC's submissions: -
- 2.1 That, NRPC vide its memo dated 28.03.2025, has intimated that the CEA vide its letter no. CEA-GO-12-15/1/2018-GM Division-Part(1) dated 26.03.2025 has revised allocation of power from un-allocated quota of CGSs of Northern Region for the period from April to June, 2025. The same has been done keeping in view the change in the

requirement of power of Northern States with the onset of summer season. Vide the said memo dated 28.03.2025 it has also been informed that – "6. NRLDC is requested to implement this allocation order w.e.f. 0000 hrs of 01.04.2025." 10% share of power from the unallocated pool has been allocated to the State of Haryana for the months of May, 2025 and 12 % share has been allocated for the months of June, 2025 to September, 2025.

2.2 That the schedule of allocation intimated by NRPC vide Memo dated 28.03.2025 is tabulated as under:

State/UT	Allocation in percentage for Summer Months (Year 2025-26)					
Month	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25
Chandigarh	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00
NDMC	09.00	09.00	09.00	09.00	09.00	09.00
Delhi	12.00	12.00	12.00	08.00	08.00	08.00
Haryana	0.00	10.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00
Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0
UT of J&K and Ladakh	30.00	20.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
Punjab	0.00	0.00	14.00	20.00	20.00	20.00
Rajasthan	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00
Uttar Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0
Uttarakhand	20.00	20.00	14.00	12.00	12.00	12.00
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

- 2.3 That as per CERC (Terms and Conditions of Tariff) Regulations, 2019, the payment of capacity & energy charge for the unallocated power shall be shared by the beneficiaries. Clause no. 55 (2) of the said Regulations is reproduced here under: "55(2) Payment of the capacity charge for a thermal generating station shall be shared by the beneficiaries of the generating station as per their percentage shares for the month (inclusive of any allocation out of the unallocated capacity) in the installed capacity of the generating station. Payment of capacity charge and energy charge for a hydro generating station shall be shared by the beneficiaries of the generating station in proportion to their shares (inclusive of any allocation out of the unallocated capacity) in the saleable capacity (to be determined after deducting the capacity corresponding to free energy to home State as per Note 3 herein."
- 2.4 That the foregoing power shall help meet the power requirement during peak summer months and paddy season. It is pertinent to mention here that the Petitioner is facing deficit of power to meet the demand of the consumers of the State due to non-availability of power from CGPL Mundra, Faridabad Gas Power Plant (FGPP) and J&K Baglihar Hydro power project. Further, the availability of power from thermal power plants reduces owing to less availability of coal from coal mines in rainy season. The Petitioner is projecting a power deficit in the range of 1000 MW to 3300 MW during the forthcoming summer months of FY 2025-26. The tables depicting the current Demand-Availability projections for FY 2025-26 is as under:

Demand & Availability Scenario for FY 2025-26							
Month	Projected Peak Demand (in MW)	Normative Availability as per PLF (in MW)	Tentative Availability including Banking arrangements (in MW)	Surplus (+)/ Deficit(-) (in MW)			
May	12945	11474	11153	-1792			
June	15292	12405	11994	-3298			
July	15558	12645	12566	-2992			
Aug	14316	12518	12509	-1807			
Sept	12890	11847	11771	-1119			
Oct	11550	10695	10565	-985			

Note: The power quantum of 500 MW RTC power from NIT-116 has already been considered as the part of availability.

- 2.5 That it is relevant to highlight that the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD), Government of India, in its press release dated 31.03.2025, has issued an outlook for the seasonal temperatures during the months of March-25 to May-25. The forecast indicates that above-normal maximum temperatures and an increased number of heatwave days are expected to persist in most parts of the country during this period. Further, NLDC under the grid controller of India Ltd. anticipates significant power shortage this summer, particularly in May and June. Also, shortages are more likely to occur during non-solar hours in May, June, July and August 2025.
- 2.6 That the State of Haryana is an agrarian economy where various agricultural activities, particularly paddy cultivation, are carried out at large scale, the power demand of the State rises exponentially during the summer/paddy season due to heavy power requirements of agricultural tube wells. Further the temperature of the state starts increasing from April-May, causing an increase in power demand due to air conditioning load in the commercial and residential sectors. The brief details of year wise maximum demand for preceding years are mentioned hereunder for reference:

Year	Max. Demand (MW)
2021	12120
2022	12687
2023	13055
2024	14709

- 2.7 That considering the past trend of the maximum demand witnessed in the State, it is expected that the peak demand may touch 15500 MW in FY 2025-26. Further, CEA vide its 20th EPS report has projected 15335 MW peak demand for Haryana for FY 2025-26.
- 2.8 That volatility in the rates in power exchanges has been witnessed for long and there is no assured clearance of power. The tariff for peak hours is hovering around Rs.10/-per unit. Even after bidding at the maximum tariff of Rs. 10/-per unit in the exchange(s), the bided quantum is cleared partially. During the summer/ paddy season of the year 2025, there is a likelihood of procuring the power at an exorbitant price coupled with

- unreliable supply during the peak season which consequently shall lead to large scale power cuts for the consumers of Haryana. In the time slots where rates in power exchange are higher, there is difficulty in clearance of requisite bid quantum.
- 2.9 That further the thermal plants across the country are grappling with a coal shortage as the power demand in the Country is steadily increasing, and difficulty is being experienced in bridging the gap between demand and supply because of insufficient coal stocks at the thermal plants.
- 2.10 That Ministry of Power (MoP) vide circular dated 20.02.2023 had issued directions under Section 11 of the Electricity Act, 2003 to all imported coal-based plants for use of blended coal for optimum generation. The said directions have been extended till 30.04.2025 vide circular of MoP dated 28.02.2025. It has been mentioned therein that in view of the surge in the electricity demand and reduced availability of domestic cost, the use of imported coal has become imperative. As such, the cost of thermal power has increased substantially over the years.
- 2.11 That considering the requirement of power during peak summer months and paddy season, as also experienced over the previous years, HPPC, with an endeavor to bridge the gap between demand and availability of power from 01.05.2025 to 15.10.2025, issued two Notice Inviting Tenders (hereinafter referred to as 'NIT-118' and 'NIT-121') for purchase of 700 MW and 800 MW RTC power respectively through tariff based competitive bidding process using National e-bidding portal i.e. DEEP Portal in accordance with the guidelines dated 30.03.2016 issued by the MoP. The tariff discovered through NIT-121 were higher than the tariff discovered through NIT-118. In view thereof, keeping in view the best interest of the consumers at large, the Petitioner only considered the offers against NIT-118 as the rates discovered in NIT-121 were higher than NIT-118.
- 2.12 That the month-wise approved quantum and weighted average rate against NIT-118 is tabulated hereunder:-

	NIT-118			
Period	Total Quantum (MW)	Weighted Average Landed Rate (Rs./unit)		
01-05-25 to 31-05-25	267	7.38		
01-06-25 to 30-06-25	976	6.88		
01-07-25 to 31-07-25	1414	6.42		
01-08-25 to 31-08-25	1064	6.17		
01-09-25 to 30-09-25	700	6.33		
01-10-25 to 15-10-25	525	6.43		
Weighted average Rate including transmission charges during 01-05-25 to 15-10-25	6.50			

HPPC has filed petition seeking approval of the same.

- 2.13 That in view of the requirement of power from May 2025 to October 2025, HPPC considers that the sourcing of unallocated share of power from CGSs will be in the overall interest of State of Haryana and shall help in meeting the power requirement for the peak season of the FY 2025-26.
- 2.14 That the petition necessitates an urgent adjudication and disposal as the power supply, in the instant case, has to commence from 01.05.2025. Pursuant to the approval of source, PPA has to be executed and requisite arrangement has to be made for commencement of power supply. Any delay in securing regulatory clearance will thus directly result in a loss of assured power supply.
- 2.15 That in view of the urgent requirement of power from May, 2025 to September, 2025, the Petitioner most respectfully submits that sourcing power from the unallocated quota of CGSs will help ensure reliable electricity supply during the peak summer season. The approval of this procurement is essential to prevent power shortages, mitigate the anticipated deficit, and meet consumer demand.
- 2.16 That the power supply deficit in the State of Haryana is projected to range between 1000 MW to 3300 MW during the forthcoming summer months of FY 2025-26, owing to non-availability of power from CGPL Mundra, Faridabad Gas Power Plant (FGPP), and J&K Baglihar Hydro Power Project. Further, the reduced coal availability during the monsoon season is expected to exacerbate the supply constraints. As a result, the Petitioner urgently requires additional power procurement to ensure uninterrupted electricity supply.
- 2.17 That delay in obtaining approval will result in disruptions in power supply to consumers, particularly during the critical paddy season and peak summer months, when demand is at its highest. Such an eventuality will adversely impact agricultural operations, industrial production, and overall economic activity in the State of Haryana.
- 2.18 That a petition (HERC/Petition No. 30 of 2024) was further preferred by the Petitioner seeking similar source approval for the year 2024 in view of the revised allocation of Power from Un-allocated quota of CGSs of Northern Region. The same was also allowed by the Hon'ble Commission vide Order dated 12.08.2024.
- 2.19 The following prayers have been made: -
 - a) Allow the present Application and list and hear the captioned Petition on an urgent and expeditious basis: and
 - b) Grant source approval for power up to 161.25 MW in the month of May, 2025 and 193.5 MW in the months of June, 2025 to September, 2025 allocated by Ministry of Power (MoP) from unallocated quota of power of Central Generating Stations (CGSs) of Northern Region, during Summer Months of Year 2025-26, in view of revised NRPC Allocation memo dated 28.03.2025.

c) Pass any other order(s) and or direction(s), which the Hon'ble Commission may deem fit and proper in the facts and circumstances of the case.

Proceedings in the Case

The case was heard on 21.05.2025, in the court room of the Commission, wherein the
petitioner mainly reiterated the contents of its written submissions, which for the sake
of brevity are not being reproduced here.

Commission's Order

- 4. The Commission heard the arguments of the petitioner at length as well as perused the written submissions placed on record by it. The Commission has considered the prayer of the petitioner herein i.e. to grant source approval for procurement of upto 161.25 MW in the month of May, 2025 and 193.5 MW in the months of June, 2025 to September, 2025 allocated by Ministry of Power (MoP) from unallocated quota of power of Central Generating Stations (CGSs) of Northern Region, during Summer Months of Year 2025-26, in view of revised NRPC Allocation memo dated 28.03.2025.
- 5. Ms. Sonia Madan, the learned counsel appearing for the petitioner submitted that the payment of capacity & energy charge for the unallocated power availed by the Haryana Discoms shall be governed by the CERC (Terms and Conditions of Tariff) Regulations in vogue including the order(s) issued by the Central Commission. Ms. Madan further submitted that similar power was procured by HPPC, last year also, wherein the average rate was near to the average power purchase cost of the Discoms.
- 6. Upon hearing the counsel, the Commission notes that the power generated by Central Generating Stations/CPSUs are usually tied up under long term Power Purchase Agreement(s). However, CGS/CPSUs have some unallocated share also, which are allocated to State Discoms, from time to time, by the Ministry of Power, Gol/Northern Regional Power Committee (NRPC) as part of the central pool. As per the petition, the revision was done by the NRPC vide memo dated 28.03.2025. It has been submitted that allocation is for the summer months of the FY 2025-26 i.e. from May 2025 to September, 2025.
- 7. The Commission has considered the power deficit scenario projected by HPPC and submission of HPPC that power may not be available at all in the power exchanges during the period from April, 2025 to September, 2025, even at the ceiling tariff of Rs. 10/kWh. The Commission is conscious of the fact that with the demand may rise significantly during the summer months, due to power requirement of AP tube-well consumers as well as air conditioning load and the supply of power especially during the peak period is often inadequate. The supply side has been continuously

constrained because of non-availability of power from certain tied-up sources. Further, non-availability of certain intra-state thermal generators due to technical glitches/unforeseen circumstances, cannot be ruled out. Additionally, the short-term rates in the power exchanges are also expected to be exorbitant during the peak months as the power demand in the entire northern region increases during these months. Hence, the Commission, has considered the trade-off between the loss of production due to non-availability of grid power including harassment and inconvenience faced by the consumers and purchase of expensive short-term power.

- 8. In view of the above discussions, in order to ensure that the electricity consumers of Haryana get un-interrupted power supply during the summer months, given supply constraints of a few coal/gas based generators with which Haryana has long term PPAs, the Commission grants source approval, as prayed by the petitioner, for power allocated by the Ministry of Power (MoP) from pool of the Central Generating Stations (CGS) of Northern Region, during summer season, in view of the revised NRPC Allocation memo dated 28.03.2025.
- 9. The present petition brought before the Commission is disposed of in terms of the above order.

This order is signed, dated and issued by the Haryana Electricity Regulatory Commission on 22.05.2025.

Date:22.05.2025 Place: Panchkula (Mukesh Garg) Member (Nand Lal Sharma) Chairman