Order

on

Annual Performance Review for FY 2022-23 and Revised ARR for FY 2023-24 For State Load Despatch Centre of Uttarakhand

March 30, 2023

Uttarakhand Electricity Regulatory Commission Vidyut Niyamak Bhawan, Near I.S.B.T., P.O. Majra Dehradun – 248171

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Before

UTTARAKHAND ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Petition No.: 49 of 2022

In the Matter of:

Petition filed by State Load Despatch Centre of Uttarakhand for True up of FY 2021-22, Annual Performance Review for FY 2022-23 and Revised Aggregate Revenue Requirement for FY 2023-24.

AND

In the Matter of:

State Load Despatch Centre (SLDC) 132 kV Substation, H/Q Building, Majra, Dehradun, Uttarakhand

...Petitioner

Coram

Shri D.P. GairolaMember (Law)-Chairman(I/c)Shri M.K. JainMember (Technical)

Date of Order: March 30, 2023

Section 32(3) of the Electricity Act, 2003 (hereinafter referred to as "the Act") allows the State Load Despatch Centre to levy and collect such fee and charges from generating companies and licensees involved in intra-State transmission as may be specified by the Appropriate Commission. To this end, it is required to file an application for determination of these charges in such manner and along with such fee as may be specified by the Appropriate Commission.

In accordance with the relevant provisions of the Act, the Commission had notified Uttarakhand Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions for Determination of Tariff) Regulations, 2011 (hereinafter referred to as "UERC Tariff Regulations, 2011") for the first Control Period from FY 2013-14 to FY 2015-16 specifying therein terms, conditions and norms of operation for licensees, generating companies and SLDC. The Commission had issued the Order dated April 10, 2014 on Aggregate Revenue Requirement for SLDC for FY 2013-14 to FY 2015-16. In accordance with the provisions of the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2011, the Commission had issued the Order dated April 11, 2015 on Aggregate Revenue Requirement for SLDC for FY 2015-16.

Further, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Act, the Commission had notified Uttarakhand Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions for Determination of Multi Year Tariff) Regulations, 2015 (hereinafter referred to as "UERC Tariff Regulations, 2015") for the second Control Period from FY 2016-17 to FY 2018-19 specifying therein terms, conditions and norms of operation for licensees, generating companies and SLDC. The Commission had issued the MYT Order dated April 5, 2016 on Aggregate Revenue Requirement for SLDC for FY 2016-17 to FY 2018-19. In accordance with the provisions of the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2015, the Commission had carried out the Annual Performance Review for FY 2016-17, FY 2017-18 and FY 2018-19 vide its Orders dated March 29, 2017, March 21, 2018 and February 27, 2019.

Further, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Act, the Commission had notified Uttarakhand Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions for Determination of Multi Year Tariff) Regulations, 2018 (hereinafter referred to as "UERC Tariff Regulations, 2018") for the third Control Period from FY 2019-20 to FY 2021-22 specifying therein terms, conditions and norms of operation for licensees, generating companies and SLDC. The Commission had issued the Order dated February 27, 2019 on Aggregate Revenue Requirement for SLDC for FY 2019-20 to FY 2021-22. In accordance with the provisions of the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2018, the Commission had carried out the Annual Performance Review for FY 2019-20 vide its Order dated April 18, 2020. Further, the Commission has carried out the Annual Performance Review for FY 2020-21 vide its order dated April 26, 2021. The Commission also carried out the Annual Performance Review for FY 2021-22 vide its order dated March 31, 2022.

Further, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Act, the Commission had notified Uttarakhand Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions for Determination of Multi Year Tariff) Regulations, 2021 (hereinafter referred to as "UERC Tariff Regulations, 2021") for the fourth Control Period from FY 2022-23 to FY 2024-25 specifying therein terms, conditions and norms of operation for licensees, generating companies and SLDC. In compliance with the provisions of the Act and Regulation 8(1) and Regulation 10(1) of UERC Tariff Regulations, 2021, State Load Despatch Centre of Uttarakhand (hereinafter referred to as "SLDC" or "Petitioner") filed separate Petitions for

approval of its Business Plan for the fourth Control Period from FY 2022-23 to FY 2024-25 (Petition No. 51 of 2021 hereinafter referred to as the "Business Plan Petition") and Multi Year Tariff Petition (Petition No. 52 of 2021 hereinafter referred to as the "MYT Petition") on December 15, 2021. The Commission had issued the Order dated March 31, 2022 on Business Plan and Aggregate Revenue Requirement for SLDC for FY 2022-23 to FY 2024-25.

In compliance with the provisions of the Act and Regulation 8(1) and Regulation 10(1) of UERC Tariff Regulations, 2018, State Load Despatch Centre of Uttarakhand (hereinafter referred to as "SLDC" or "Petitioner") (hereinafter Application (Petition No. 49 of 2022 and hereinafter referred to as "Petition") on November 29, 2022 for approval of True-up for FY 2021-22, approval of Annual Performance Review (APR) for FY 2022-23 and Revised Aggregate Requirement (ARR)/Tariff for FY 2023-24 in compliance with the provisions of the Act and Regulation 8(1) and Regulation 10(1) of UERC Tariff Regulations, 2021.

The Petition filed by SLDC had certain infirmities/deficiencies which were informed to SLDC vide Commission's letter no. UERC/7/CL/593/2022-23/1101 dated December 07, 2022 and SLDC was directed to rectify the said infirmities in the Petition and submit certain additional information necessary for admission of the Petition. SLDC vide its Letter No. 3961/MD/PTCUL/UERC dated December 14, 2022 removed the critical deficiencies. Based on the submissions made by SLDC, the Commission vide its Order dated December 28, 2022 provisionally admitted the Petition for further processing subject to the condition that SLDC shall furnish any further information/clarifications as deemed necessary by the Commission during the processing of the Petition and provide such information and clarifications to the satisfaction of the Commission within the time frame, as may be stipulated by the Commission, failing which the Commission may proceed to dispose of the matter as it deems fit based on the information available with it. Further, SLDC vide Letter No. 46/Dir. (Projects)/PTCUL/ARR dated January 10, 2023 removed additional deficiencies as directed in the Commission's letter no. UERC/7/CL/593/2022-23/1101 dated December 07, 2022.

This Order, accordingly, relates to the Petition filed by the SLDC for approval of revised Aggregate Revenue Requirement for FY 2023-24, and is based on the original as well as all the subsequent submissions made by SLDC during the course of the proceedings.

Tariff determination being the most vital function of the Commission, it has been the practice of the Commission to elaborate in detail the procedure and to explain the underlying principles in

determination of tariffs. Accordingly, in the present Order also, in line with past practices, the Commission has tried to elaborate the procedure and principles followed by it in determining the ARR of SLDC. The SLDC Charges are recoverable from the beneficiaries. It has been the endeavour of the Commission in past also, to issue Tariff Orders for SLDC concurrently with the issue of Order on retail tariffs for Uttarakhand Power Corporation Limited (UPCL), so that UPCL is able to honour the payment liability towards SLDC charges. For the sake of convenience and clarity, this Order has further been divided into following Chapters:

- Chapter 1 Background and Procedural History.
- Chapter 2 Petitioner's Submission, Commission's Analysis, Scrutiny and Conclusion on True up for FY 2021-22, Annual Performance Review for FY 2022-23 and determination of ARR for FY 2023-24.
- Chapter 3 Commission's Directives.

1. Background and Procedural History

In accordance with the provisions of the Uttar Pradesh Reorganization Act 2000 (Act 29 of 2000), enacted by the Parliament of India on August 25, 2000, the State of Uttaranchal came into existence on November 9, 2000. Section 63(4) of the above Reorganization Act allowed the Government of Uttaranchal (hereinafter referred to as "GoU" or "State Government") to constitute a State Power Corporation at any time after the creation of the State. GoU, accordingly, established the Uttaranchal Power Corporation Limited (UPCL) under the Companies Act, 1956, on February 12, 2001 and entrusted it with the business of transmission and distribution in the State. Subsequently, from April 1, 2001, all works pertaining to the transmission, distribution and retail supply of electricity in the area of Uttaranchal were transferred from Uttar Pradesh Power Corporation Limited (UPPCL) to UPCL, in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding dated March 13, 2001, signed between the Governments of Uttaranchal and Uttar Pradesh.

Meanwhile, the Electricity Act, 2003 was enacted by the Parliament of India on June 10, 2003, which mandated separate licenses for transmission and distribution activities. In exercise of powers conferred under sub-section 4 of Section 131 of the Act, the GoU, therefore, through transfer scheme dated May 31, 2004, first vested all the interests, rights and liabilities related to Power Transmission and Load Despatch of "Uttaranchal Power Corporation Limited" into itself and, thereafter, re-vested them into a new company, i.e. "Power Transmission Corporation of Uttaranchal Limited", now renamed as "Power Transmission Corporation of Uttarakhand Limited" after change of name of the State. The State Government, further vide another notification dated May 31, 2004 declared Power Transmission Corporation of Uttarakhand as the State Transmission Utility (STU) responsible for undertaking, amongst others, the following main functions:

- a) To undertake transmission of electricity through intra-State transmission system.
- b) To discharge all functions of planning and co-ordination relating to intra-State transmission system.
- c) To ensure development of an efficient, co-ordinated and economical system of intra-State transmission lines.
- d) To provide open access.

A new company in the State was, thus, created to look after the functions of intra-State Transmission and Load Despatch, on May 31, 2004. In view of re-structuring of functions of UPCL and creation of a separate company for looking after the transmission related works, the Commission amended the earlier 'Transmission and Bulk Supply License' granted to 'Uttarakhand Power Corporation Limited' and transmission license was given to PTCUL for carrying out transmission related works in the State vide Commission's Order dated June 9, 2004.

The State Load Despatch Centre of Uttarakhand has been made operational w.e.f. November 27, 2012. As per Section 32 of the Act, the State Load Despatch Centre is the apex body to ensure integrated operation of the power system in the State. The functions of State Load Despatch Centre as stipulated in the Act are as follows:

- a) be responsible for optimum scheduling and despatch of electricity within the State, in accordance with the contracts entered into within the Licensees or the Generating Companies operating in the State;
- b) monitor grid operations;
- c) keep accounts of the quantity of electricity transmitted through the State grid;
- d) exercise supervision and control over the intra-State transmission system; and
- e) be responsible for carrying out real time operations for grid control and despatch of electricity within the State through secure and economic operation of the State grid in accordance with the Grid Standards and the State Grid Code.

In exercise of powers conferred to it under Section 61 of the Act, and all other powers enabling it in this behalf, the Commission notified the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2018 on September 14, 2018. These Regulations superseded the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2015.

The Commission vide its Order dated February 27, 2019 approved the Business Plan and Multi Year Tariff for SLDC for the third Control Period from FY 2019-20 to FY 2021-22. Further, the Commission had carried out the Annual Performance Review for FY 2018-19, FY 2019-20 and FY 2020-21 vide its Order dated February 27, 2019, April 18, 2020 and April 26, 2021.

The Commission vide its Order dated March 31, 2022 approved the Business Plan and Multi Year Tariff for SLDC for the fourth Control Period from FY 2022-23 to FY 2024-25. Further, the Commission had carried out the Annual Performance Review for FY 2021-22 vide its Order dated March 31, 2022.

As mentioned earlier also, in accordance with the provisions of the Act and Regulation 8(1) and Regulation 10(1) of the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2018, SLDC is required to file a Petition for Annual Performance Review by November 30 of every year. SLDC in compliance to the Regulations submitted the Petition for Annual Performance Review for FY 2022-23 and Revised Aggregate Revenue Requirement for FY 2023-24 on November 29, 2022.

The Petition filed by SLDC had certain infirmities/deficiencies which were informed to SLDC vide Commission's letter no. UERC/7/CL/593/2022-23/1101 dated December 07, 2022 and SLDC was directed to rectify the said infirmities in the Petition and submit certain additional information necessary for admission of the Petition. SLDC vide its Letter No. 3961/MD/PTCUL/UERC dated December 14, 2022 removed the critical deficiencies. Based on the submissions made by SLDC, the Commission vide its Order dated December 28, 2022 provisionally admitted the Petition for further processing subject to the condition that SLDC shall furnish any further information/clarifications as deemed necessary by the Commission during the processing of the Petition and provide such information and clarifications to the satisfaction of the Commission within the time frame, as may be stipulated by the Commission, failing which the Commission may proceed to dispose of the matter as it deems fit based on the information available with it. Further, SLDC vide Letter No. 46/Dir. (Projects)/PTCUL/ARR dated January 10, 2023 removed additional deficiencies as directed in the Commission's letter no. UERC/7/CL/593/2022-23/1101 dated December 07, 2022.

The Commission, through its above Admittance Order dated December 28, 2022, to provide transparency to the process of tariff determination and give all stakeholders an opportunity to submit their objections/suggestions/comments on the proposals of SLDC, directed SLDC to publish the salient features of its Petition in the leading newspapers. The salient points of the proposals were published by the Petitioner in the following newspapers:

Table 1.1; Fublication of Notice					
S. No.	Newspaper Name	Date of Publication			
1.	Times of India	January 01, 2023			
2.	Hindustan Times	January 01, 2023			
3.	Amar Ujala	December 31, 2022			
4.	Dainik Jagran	December 31, 2022			

Through above notice, the stakeholders were requested to submit their

Uttarakhand Electricity Regulatory Commission

objections/suggestions / comments latest by January 31, 2023 (copy of the notice is enclosed as **Annexure 1**). The Commission received no objections/suggestions/comments in writing on the Petition filed by SLDC.

Further, for direct interaction with all the stakeholders and public at large, the Commission also held public hearings on the proposals filed by the Petitioner at the following places in the State of Uttarakhand.

Table 1.2: Schedule of Hearing					
S. No.	Place	Date			
1.	Rudrapur	February 22, 2023			
2.	Pithoragarh	February 24, 2023			
3.	Srinagar-Garhwal	February 27, 2023			
4.	Dehradun	March 01, 2023			

Table 1.2: Schedule of Hearing

The list of participants who attended the Public Hearing is enclosed at Annexure-2.

The Commission also sent the copies of salient features of tariff proposals to Members of the State Advisory Committee and the State Government. The salient features of the Petition submitted by SLDC were also made available on the website of the Commission, i.e. www.uerc.gov.in. The Commission also held a meeting with the Members of the Advisory Committee on March 03, 2023, wherein, detailed deliberations were held with the Members of the Advisory Committee on the various issues linked with the Petition filed by SLDC.

Meanwhile, based on the scrutiny of the Petition submitted by SLDC, the Commission pointed out certain data gaps in the Petition and sought following additional information/clarification from the Petitioner:

- Details of Tariff Formats which are not duly filled or partially filled.
- Reconciliation of figures in case of discrepancies.
- Copy of Work Order for capitalization claimed.
- Details of Employee Growth Rate considered.
- Reasons for variation in WPI Factor
- Details of Physical and Financial Progress of schemes proposed to be capitalized during FY 2023-24.

So as to have better clarity on the data filed by the Petitioner and to remove inconsistency in Uttarakhand Electricity Regulatory Commission the data, a Technical Validation Session (TVS) was also held with the Petitioner's officers on January 24, 2023 for further deliberations on certain issues related to the Petition filed by SLDC. Minutes of TVS were sent to the Petitioner vide Commission's letter no. UERC/7/CL/593/Petition No. 49 of 2022/2022-23/1314 dated January 27, 2023, for its response. The Petitioner submitted the replies to issues raised in TVS vide its letter no. 395/MD/PTCUL/UERC dated February 03, 2023.

The submissions made by SLDC in the Petition as well as additional submissions have been discussed by the Commission at appropriate places in this Tariff Order along with the Commission's views on the same.

2. Petitioner's Submissions, Commission's Analysis, Scrutiny & Conclusion on True up for FY 2021-22, Annual Performance Review for FY 2022-23 and Determination of ARR for FY 2023-24

2.1 Annual Performance Review

Regulation 12(1) of the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2021 specifies that under the MYT framework, the performance of the SLDC shall be subject to Annual Performance Review.

Regulation 12(3) of the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2021 specifies as under:

"The scope of the Annual Performance Review shall be a comparison of the actual performance of the Applicant with the approved forecast of Aggregate Revenue Requirement and expected revenue from tariff and charges and shall comprise the following:

- a) A comparison of the audited performance of the applicant for the previous financial year with the approved forecast for such previous financial year and truing up of expenses and revenue subject to prudence check including pass through of impact of uncontrollable factors;
- *b)* Categorization of variations in performance with reference to approved forecast into factors within the control of the applicant (controllable factors) and those caused by factors beyond the control of the applicant (un-controllable factors);
- c) Revision of estimates for the ensuing financial year, if required, based on audited financial results for the previous financial year;
- d) Computation of sharing of gains and losses on account of controllable factors for the previous year."

The Commission vide its Order dated February 27, 2019 had approved the Business Plan and Multi Year Tariff (MYT) for SLDC for the third Control Period from FY 2019-20 to FY 2021-22 along with the Annual Performance Review for FY 2018-19. Further, the Commission vide its Order dated April 18, 2020 had approved the Annual Performance Review for FY 2019-20 and revised ARR for FY 2020-21. The Commission vide its order dated April 26, 2021 had approved the Annual Performance Review for FY 2020-21 and revised ARR for FY 2021-22. The Commission vide its order dated March 31, 2022 had approved the Annual Performance Review for FY 2021-22 and determined the ARR for FY 2022-23 to FY 2023-24.

2. Petitioner's Submissions, Commission's Analysis, Scrutiny & Conclusion on True up for FY 2021-22, Annual Performance Review for FY 2022-23 and Determination of ARR for FY 2023-24

SLDC has filed this Petition for True-up for FY 2021-22, Annual Performance Review for FY 2022-23 and revised ARR for FY 2023-24. SLDC and SCADA work as separate independent units within PTCUL with separate accounting heads created for recording their income and expenses. SLDC has still not been incorporated as a separate company and, hence, the accounts of SLDC are audited as part of PTCUL's accounts and no separate audited account of SLDC exists. The actual income and expenses of SLDC for FY 2021-22 are part of income and expenses of PTCUL and are included in PTCUL's audited accounts. Although, SLDC requested the Commission to True Up the expenses for SLDC for FY 2021-22 by filing a separate true up for FY 2021-22. However, the Commission observed that no separate audited accounts have been submitted for SLDC for FY 2021-22.

Further, the Commission observed that the Commission in its Order dated April 5, 2016 on approval of the Business Plan and MYT for the second Control Period from FY 2016-17 to FY 2018-19 directed as under:

"Hence, the Commission is of the opinion that as accounting of SLDC and SCADA is being done separately, accordingly, SLDC is directed to start preparing its annual statement of accounts separately from FY 2016-17 onwards in accordance with the requirement of the Regulations as referred above."

The Commission in its Order dated March 29, 2017 on approval of APR for FY 2016-17 and revised ARR for FY 2017-18 directed as under:

"The Commission directs SLDC that the provisions of the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2015 has to be complied strictly by SLDC regarding maintenance of its expenses related to operation of SLDC. The Commission also directs the SLDC to file the Petition seeking truing up of FY 2016-17 along with the APR of FY 2017-18 in accordance with the MYT Regulations, 2015."

The Commission vide its Tariff Order for FY 2018-19 dated March 21, 2018 directed the Petitioner to get the Transfer Scheme finalized and to submit the same to the Commission along with its Petition for Annual Performance Review for FY 2018-19.

The Commission in its Order dated February 27, 2019 on approval of MYT of FY 2019-20 to FY 2021-22 directed as under:

"The Commission expresses its extreme displeasure in the lackadaisical approach of the Petitioner in not acting responsibly in finalizing the value of transferred assets from UPCL. **In this regard, the Commission holds that any consequential impact due to finalization of transfer scheme** will be allowed without any carrying cost on the same as the delay is on the part of the Petitioner.

(Emphasis added)"

The Commission in its Order dated April 18, 2020 on approval of ARR of FY 2020-21 directed as under:

"The Commission once again directs SLDC that the provisions of the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2018 have to be complied strictly by SLDC regarding maintenance of its expenses related to operation of SLDC. The Commission also directs SLDC to file the Petition seeking truing up of FY 2019-20 along with the APR of FY 2020-21 in accordance with the MYT Regulations, 2018 failing which action may be initiated against it under the provisions of the Act."

The Commission in its Order dated April 26, 2021 on approval of ARR of FY 2021-22 directed as under:

"The Commission observed that the ring fencing of SLDC is still in process. The Commission once again directs SLDC that the provisions of the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2018 has to be complied strictly by SLDC regarding maintenance of its expenses related to operation of SLDC. The Commission also directs the SLDC to file the Petition seeking truing up of FY 2020-21 along with the APR of FY 2021-22 in accordance with the MYT Regulations, 2018."

The Commission in its Order dated March 31, 2022 on approval of ARR of FY 2022-23 to FY 2024-25 directed as under:

"The Commission observed that the ring fencing of SLDC is still in process. The Commission once again directs SLDC that the provisions of the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2021 has to be complied strictly by SLDC regarding maintenance of its expenses related to operation of SLDC. The Commission also directs the SLDC to file the Petition seeking truing up of FY 2021-22 along with the APR of FY 2022-23 in accordance with the MYT Regulations, 2018 failing which action may be initiated against it under the provisions of the Act. SLDC is also directed to submit quarterly status to the Commission regarding the efforts made for ring fencing of SLDC within 15 days from the end of each quarter."

The Petitioner in the instant Petition submitted that the SLDC has still not been incorporated as a separate legal entity hence there are no separate audited accounts of SLDC. The actual income and expenses of SLDC for FY 2021-22 are part of PTCUL income and expenses and are included in PTCUL's audited accounts. However separate accounting heads were created for SLDC and SCADA and recorded separately and the same are being certified and audited. Accordingly, SLDC is filing the True up Petition for FY 2021-22 in accordance with the Commission's directives, APR for FY 2022-23 and ARR Petition for FY 2023-24 based on audited accounts for FY 2021-22 and monthly trial balance for SLDC and SCADA. As the complete audited accounts for SLDC are not available separately for FY 2021-22, the Commission is unable to carry out the truing up of SLDC for FY 2021-22 has been done as part of truing up of PTCUL.

The Commission had been repeatedly directing SLDC for completion of ring fencing of SLDC and SCADA. Even after repeated directions, it has been submitted that the said process is still in progress. The Commission once again directs SLDC that the provisions of the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2021 has to be complied strictly by SLDC regarding maintenance of its expenses related to the operation of SLDC. The Commission also directs SLDC to file the Petition seeking truing up of FY 2022-23 along with the APR of FY 2023-24 in accordance with the MYT Regulations, 2021 alongwith separate Audited Accounts for SLDC, failing which action may be initiated against it under the provisions of the Act. SLDC is also directed to submit quarterly status to the Commission regarding the efforts made for ring fencing of SLDC within 15 days from the end of each quarter.

SLDC has submitted the APR for FY 2022-23 and revised ARR for FY 2023-24 in the instant Petition. The Commission in this Order has approved the revised ARR for FY 2023-24 based on the GFA approved for FY 2021-22, revised GFA for FY 2022-23 and FY 2023-24 of SLDC. The approach adopted by the Commission in approving the ARR for FY 2023-24 is elaborated in the subsequent Sections of this Order.

In accordance with Regulation 12(3) of the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2018, the scope of annual performance review does not provide for the revision of estimates for the current year and give effect on this account in the estimates of the ensuing year. The Commission shall carry out the truing up of FY 2022-23 based on the audited accounts for FY 2022-23 and give effect to this account in the revised ARR of FY 2024-25 in accordance with Regulation 12(3) of the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2021. The Commission has computed certain expenses for FY 2022-23 based on the revised GFA for FY 2022-23 only to facilitate the computations for the ensuing year FY 2023-24.

2.2 Gross Fixed Assets

The Petitioner has considered the opening GFA for FY 2021-22 as Rs. 34.43 Crore as against the

opening GFA of Rs. 34.55 Crore approved vide Order dated March 31, 2022. In this regard the Commission vide Letter No. UERC/7/CL/593/2022-23/1101 dated December 07, 2022 has asked SLDC to clarify the reason for variation in opening GFA for FY 2021-22. In response, SLDC vide Letter No. 46/Dir. (Projects)/PTCUL/ARR dated January 10, 2023 submitted that the opening GFA of Rs. 34.43 Crore for FY 2021-22 has been considered by SLDC in accordance with Note 6 of the Annual Accounts of SLDC.

The Commission has noted the submissions of Petitioner. The Commission observes that Opening Value of Rs. 34.55 Crore has already been approved by the Commission for FY 2021-22 vide order dated March 31, 2022. Accordingly, the Commission has considered the Opening GFA for FY 2021-22 same as that approved during APR of FY 2021-22 i.e. Rs. 34.55 Crore.

GFA Addition for 2021-22: The Petitioner has claimed GFA addition of Rs. 0.03 Crore during FY 2021-22 towards Scheme "Development of Web based software & implementation of Online system for grant of NoC to Open Access Consumers". In this regard the Commission vide Letter No. UERC/7/CL/593/2022-23/1101 dated December 07, 2022 has asked SLDC to submit the work order for the capitalization scheme. In response, SLDC vide Letter No. 3961/MD/PTCUL/UERC dated December 14, 2022 submitted the work order for the scheme.

As discussed above SLDC has failed to completely separate the accounts of SLDC and PTCUL for FY 2021-22 and has further not submitted the annual accounts for SLDC for FY 2021-22. In view of the same, the Commission has not taken up truing-up of SLDC separately and has considered the same as a part of overall true-up of PTCUL. Accordingly, the Commission has considered the Additional capitalization of Rs 0.03 Crore claimed by SLDC towards Scheme "Development of Web based software & implementation of Online system for grant of NoC to Open Access Consumers" and has approved the same under other works for PTCUL for FY 2021-22 Truing Up.

Accordingly, the Commission approves NIL capitalization for SLDC during FY 2021-22 and accordingly arrived at the closing GFA for FY 2021-22 as Rs. 34.55 Crore.

GFA Addition for 2022-23: As detailed in the previous para the Commission has not consider the capitalization of Rs. 0.03 Crore claimed by SLDC towards "Development of Web based software & implementation of Online system for grant of NoC to Open Access Consumers" since truing up of SLDC was not taken up by the Commission during FY 2021-22. However, since the said capitalization is a part of the gross block of SLDC, accordingly the Commission has considered the opening gross block for FY 2022-23 as Rs. 34.58 Crore which includes the capitalization of Rs. 0.03 Crore pertaining to scheme "Development of Web based software & implementation of Online system for grant of NoC to Open Access Consumers". The Commission in the MYT Order dated March 31, 2022 had approved the GFA addition of Rs. 27.76 Crore for FY 2022-23. As against the same, the Petitioner has claimed the NIL GFA addition during FY 2022-23. In this regard the Commission vide Letter No. UERC/7/CL/593/2022-23/1101 dated December 07, 2022 has asked SLDC to clarify the reason for claiming NIL GFA addition during FY 2022-23 as against the approved GFA addition of Rs. 27.76 Crore. In response, SLDC vide Letter No. 46/Dir. (Projects)/PTCUL/ARR dated January 10, 2023 submitted that due change in scope of work and preparation of DPR being under progress for the some of the works, NIL capitalisation has been projected for FY 2022-23 by SLDC.

Taking into consideration the submissions of the Petitioner, the Commission has considered the NIL GFA addition for FY 2022-23 and accordingly arrived at the closing GFA for FY 2022-23 as Rs. 34.58 Crore.

GFA Addition for 2023-24: The Commission has considered the opening GFA for FY 2023-24 as Rs. 34.58 Crore. The Commission in its Order dated March 31, 2022 on approval of the Business Plan and MYT for fourth Control Period from FY 2022-23 to FY 2024-25 had approved the GFA addition of Rs. 33.29 Crore during FY 2023-24 against which the Petitioner had initially claimed only Rs. 10.01 Crore for FY 2023-24 in the Petition. With regard to the claim of the Petitioner, the Commission vide Letter No. UERC/7/CL/593/2022-23/1101 dated December 07, 2022 has asked SLDC to provide details of physical and financial progress for schemes proposed to be capitalized during FY 2023-24. In response, SLDC vide Letter No. 46/Dir. (Projects)/PTCUL/ARR dated January 10, 2023 submitted almost NIL progress for all the schemes projected to be capitalized during FY 2023-24. Based on the response of the Petitioner, the Commission during the Technical Validation Session asked SLDC whether any of the schemes projected are expected to be implemented during FY 2023-24. In response, SLDC submitted that it is unlikely that schemes would be implemented before FY 2024-25. Accordingly, the Commission vide its letter TVS Letter UERC/7/CL/593/Petition No. 49 of 2022/2022-23/1314 dated January 27, 2023 asked SLDC to revisit and reassess the projections made for FY 2023-24 and submit the details of schemes which can be actually capitalized during FY 2023-24 along with the Implementation Schedule in terms of PERT Chart. SLDC vide letter no. 395/MD/PTCUL/UERC dated February 03, 2023 submitted that only three schemes namely, "Development of Application Software for Operator Assistance", "Energy Accounting Balancing & Settlement Mechanism" and "Infrastructural Development" are expected to be completed during FY 2023-24. The cost break-up for the three Schemes proposed to be capitalized during FY 2023-24 is as under:

	Table 2.1: Capitalization	Joposeu		,
S. No.	Name of Scheme / Description of investment	Total Project Cost	Capitalization proposed during FY 2023-24in the Petition	Revised Capitalization Proposed for FY 2023- 24 as per TVS Reply dated 03.02.2023
1	Development of Application Software for Operator Assistance	1.50	1.00	1.00
2	Energy Accounting Balancing & Settlement Mechanism.	2.50	1.00	1.00
3	Infrastructural Development	0.22	0.08	0.08
4	Enhancement of Real Time Data Acquisition Capability	37.46	2.00	0.00
5	Back-Up SLDC Building at 400kv S/s, Kashipur	1.30	0.26	0.00
6	Up Gradation of SCADA Servers (of Sub-LDC Kashipur)	20.00	0.50	0.00
7	Sub Station Display Unit (LDMS)	0.75	0.15	0.00
8	OPGW Cables and Terminal Equipments	22.00	0.80	0.00
9	Remote Terminal Units	1.80	0.23	0.00
10	Phasor Measurement Unit	3.28	0.50	0.00
11	Weather Sensors	0.06	0.01	0.00
12	Auxiliary Power Supply System	1.28	0.26	0.00
13	Separate Earthing System for SCADA related equipment at all Sub Stations of Kumaon	0.32	0.06	0.00
14	Digital Power Line Carrier Communication	0.35	0.07	0.00
15	Testing Equipments (OTDR, Optical Power Meter, Level Meter cum Level Generator, etc.)	0.42	0.08	0.00
16	Any other Investment (SLDC/Sub LDC Upgradation)	43.99	3.00	0.00
	Total	137.23	10.01	2.08

 Table 2.1: Capitalization proposed for FY 2023-24 (Rs. Crore)

Taking into consideration the submissions of the Petitioner, the Commission has considered the GFA addition of Rs. 2.08 Crore for FY 2023-24 and accordingly arrived at the closing GFA of Rs. 36.66 Crore for FY 2023-24. The actual capitalisation during FY 2023-24 shall be considered by the Commission at the time of truing up subject to prudence check.

The Table below shows the details of GFA as submitted by the Petitioner and approved by the Commission:

2. Petitioner's Submissions, Commission's Analysis, Scrutiny & Conclusion on True up for FY 2021-22, Annual Performance Review for FY 2022-23 and Determination of ARR for FY 2023-24

Table 2.2: Gross Fixed Assets (Rs. Crore)							
Particulars	FY 2021-22		FY 2022-23		FY 2023-24		
Tatticulais	Proposed	Approved	Proposed	Approved	Proposed	Approved	
Opening GFA	34.43	34.55	34.47	34.58	34.47	34.58	
Addition	0.03	-	-	-	10.01	2.08	
Deduction and adjustment	-	-	-	-	0.00	0.00	
Closing GFA	34.47	34.55	34.47	34.58	44.47	36.66	

2.3 Debt-Equity ratio

Regulation 24 of UERC Tariff Regulations, 2021 specifies as under:

"(1) For a project declared under commercial operation on or after 1.4.2022, debt-equity ratio shall be 70:30. Where equity employed is more than 30%, the amount of equity for the purpose of tariff shall be limited to 30% and the balance amount shall be considered as normative loan. Where actual equity employed is less than 30%, the actual equity would be used for determination of Return on Equity in tariff computations."

The Petitioner has proposed the Debt-Equity ratio of 70:30 for the proposed capitalization in FY 2022-23 and FY 2023-24.

The Commission in its Order dated March 31, 2022 on approval of Business Plan for the fourth Control Period from FY 2022-23 to FY 2024-25 had approved the Debt-Equity ratio as 70:30. The capitalisation for FY 2022-23 & FY 2023-24 is considered to be funded with Debt-Equity ratio of 70:30.

The Commission observed that, the Petitioner has not projected any utilization of LDCD Funds in the Petition towards the capitalization claimed for FY 2023-24 in the Petition and the Tariff computations submitted by the Petitioner.

Taking into consideration the submissions of the Petitioner, the Commission has considered financing at the normative Debt:Equity ratio for FY 2022-23. The Table below shows the Means of Finance approved by the Commission:

Table 2.5. Wears of Thanee (RS. Crore)						
Particulars	FY 2022-2	23	FY 2023-24			
ratticulats	Claimed by SLDC	Approved	Claimed by SLDC	Approved		
GFA Addition	-	-	10.01	2.08		
Debt (%)	70.00%	70.00%	70%	70%		
Equity (%)	30.00%	30.00%	30%	30%		
Debt	-	-	7.00	1.46		
Equity	-	-	3.00	0.62		

Table 2.3: Means of Finance (Rs. Crore)

2.4 Annual SLDC Charges

Regulation 99 of the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2021 specifies as follows:

"99. Annual SLDC Charges

The annual charges to be recovered by the SLDC shall include the component of Return on Equity and also the following expenses:

- (a) O&M expenses;
- (b) Return on Equity;
- (c) Depreciation;
- (d) Lease Charges;
- (e) Interest and Finance charges on Loan Capital;
- (f) Income Tax, if any;
- (g) Interest on working capital, if any;
- (h) Any other expenses incidental to discharging the functions of SLDC as deemed appropriate by the Commission;"

The Commission in this Order has approved the SLDC Charges for FY 2023-24 based on the GFA approved for FY 2021-22, FY 2022-23.

2.4.1 Operation and Maintenance (O&M) expenses

The Petitioner submitted that O&M expenses have been projected based on the methodology specified in the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2021.

Regarding the Operation and Maintenance expenses, Regulation 100 of the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2021 specifies as follows:

"100. Operation and Maintenance Expenses

(1) The O&M expenses for the first year of the Control Period will be approved by the Commission taking into account actual O&M expenses for last five years till Base Year subject to prudence check and any other factors considered appropriate by the Commission.

(2) The O&M expenses for the nth year and also for the year immediately preceding the Control *Period i.e., FY 2021-22 shall be approved based on the formula given below:-*

 $O\mathcal{E}M_n = R\mathcal{E}M_n + EMP_n + A\mathcal{E}G_n$

Where –

- *O&Mn Operation and Maintenance expense for the nth year;*
- *EMPn Employee Costs for the nth year;*
- *R&Mn Repair and Maintenance Costs for the nth year;*

• A&Gn – Administrative and General Costs for the nth year;

(3) The above components shall be computed in the manner specified below:

 $EMP_n = (EMP_{n-1}) x (1+G_n) x (CPI_{inflation})$ $R&Mn = K x (GFA_{n-1}) x (WPI_{inflation}) and$ $A&Gn = (A&G_{n-1}) x (WPI_{inflation}) + Provision$ Where -

- EMP_{n-1} Employee Costs for the (n-1)th year;
- A&Gn-1 Administrative and General Costs for the (n-1)th year;
- Provision: Cost for initiatives or other one-time expenses as proposed by the SLDC and validated by the Commission.
- "K" is a constant specified by the Commission in %. Value of K for each year of the control period shall be determined by the Commission in the MYT Tariff order based on SLDC's filing, benchmarking of repair and maintenance expenses, approved repair and maintenance expenses vis-à-vis GFA approved by the Commission in past and any other factor considered appropriate by the Commission;
- CPIinflation is the average increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for immediately preceding three years;
- WPIinflation is the average increase in the Wholesale Price Index (CPI) for immediately preceding three years;
- *GFAn-1 Gross Fixed Asset for the n-1th year;*
- Gn is a growth factor for the nth year. Value of Gn shall be determined by the Commission in the MYT tariff order for meeting the additional manpower requirement based on Transmission Licensee's filings, benchmarking and any other factor that the Commission feels appropriate:

Provided that repair and maintenance expenses determined shall be utilised towards repair and maintenance works only."

The O&M expenses include Employee expenses, R&M expenses and A&G expenses. The Commission in its Order dated March 31, 2022 on approval of APR for FY 2021-22 and MYT for fourth control period from FY 2022-23 to FY 2024-25 had approved the O&M expenses for the fourth Control Period based on the O&M expenses approved for SLDC and SCADA units working within PTCUL

in FY 2021-22 in accordance with Regulation 100 of the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2021.

The submissions of the Petitioner and the approach adopted by the Commission for approving the various components of O&M expenses for FY 2023-24 are discussed below.

2.4.1.1 Employee expenses

The Commission had approved the employee expenses of Rs. 4.38 Crore for FY 2022-23 and Rs. 6.82 Crore for FY 2023-24 in its MYT Order dated March 31, 2022.

The Petitioner has submitted that the employee expenses for FY 2022-23 and FY 2023-24 have been proposed as per the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2021 considering closing normative employee expenses for FY 2021-22 as opening employee expenses for FY 2022-23 and closing employee expenses for FY 2022-23 as opening employee expenses for FY 2023-24. The Petitioner has escalated EMPn-1 for FY 2021-22 with average CPI inflation for last three years (FY 2019-20 to FY 2021-22) and multiplied the same by Growth factor proposed for FY 2022-23 based on actual addition and retirement of employees during FY 2022-23 to arrive at the revised estimates of employee expenses. For the calculation of employee expenses of FY 2023-24, the Petitioner has escalated the opening employee expenses projected for FY 2022-23 with average CPI inflation for last 3 years (FY 2019-20 to FY 2019-20 to FY 2021-22) and multiplied the same by Growth Factor proposed for FY 2023-24 to arrive at the revised estimates of employee expenses of FY 2021-22 and multiplied the same by Growth Factor proposed for FY 2023-24 to arrive at the revised estimates of employee expenses of FY 2021-22 and multiplied the same by Growth Factor proposed for FY 2023-24 to arrive at the revised estimates of employee expenses. Accordingly, the Petitioner has proposed the employee expenses of Rs. 5.16 Crore and Rs. 5.59 Crore for FY 2022-23 and FY 2023-24 respectively.

The Commission has computed the employee expenses in accordance with the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2021. In order to work put the Employee Growth Rate, the Commission vide Letter No. UERC/7/CL/593/2022-23/1101 dated December 07, 2022 has asked SLDC to submit the reason and basis of consideration of Employee Growth Factor as 17.95% for FY 2021-22. SLDC vide reply dated January 10, 2023 submitted that the No. of Employees has increased from 39 in FY 2020-21 to 46 in FY 2021-22 based on which the employee growth factor works out as 17.95% for FY 2021-22 for SLDC. Further, the Commission vide Letter No. UERC/7/CL/593/2022-23/1101 dated December 07, 2022 has asked SLDC to provide reasons for variation in total manpower submitted by SLDC for FY 2021-22 i.e. 46 Employees vis-à-vis 32 Employees as approved vide Tariff Order dated March 31, 2022. SLDC vide reply dated January 10, 2023 submitted that the by H1 FY 2021-22 end, total manpower of SLDC for FY 2021-22 was 20. The Petitioner further submitted that in order to address the functional requirement, 26 additional Employees of PTCUL were shifted to SLDC through Corporation Order No. 1434/HR & Adm /PTCUL/E0-4 /Dated 03/08/2021 thereby leading to total manpower of 46 Employees during FY 2021-22.

Noting the response of SLDC, the Commission during the TVS Session asked SLDC to confirm if the 26 employees which have been considered as part of SLDC have been reduced from PTCUL while computing Growth Factor or not. If not, SLDC was asked to reduce these 26 number of employees from PTCUL and revise the Growth Factor. Further, SLDC was asked to submit the revised closing number of employees for FY 2021-22 considering the closing no. of employees as 32 for FY 2020-21 in line with the Tariff Order dated 31.03.2022. In response, SLDC vide Letter dated February 03, 2022 submitted that 26 employees are already considered in PTCUL for calculation of Growth factor of PTCUL & these 26 employees are posted at SLDC with only additional charge and the same shall not be considered as part of SLDC. SLDC further submitted that there was an inadvertent error in submission of Closing no. of Employees for FY 2020-21. The actual closing no. of employees for FY 2020-21 was 38 which includes the 19 employees in SLDC Dehradun, 14 employees in SCADA Dehradun and 5 employees in SCADA Haldwani. Accordingly, the Petitioner submitted the revised computation for growth factor as under:

Table 2.4: Revised Recruitment plan submitted by the Petitioner						
Particulars FY 2020-21 FY 2021-22 FY 2022-23 FY 2023-24						
Opening No. of Employees	38	38	45	47		
Employees recruited/transfer	-	7	2	-		
Retirement	-	-	-	2		
Closing No. of Employees	38	45	47	45		
Gn	0.00%	18.42%	4.44%	0.00%		

The Commission has noted the submission of Petitioner. The Commission has considered the actual closing no. of employees for FY 2020-21 as submitted by the Petitioner as the opening no. of employees for FY 2021-22. Further, based on the submission of the Petitioner, the Commission has considered the recruitment of 7 and 2 employees during FY 2021-22 and FY 2022-23 respectively. Based on the submission of the Petitioner, the Commission has considered the proposed retirement of 2 employees for FY 2023-24.

Accordingly, the Commission has approved the Gn factors of 4.44% for FY 2022-23 and 0.00% for FY 2023-24 as computed below:

	FY 2022-23		FY 2023-24	
Particulars	Claimed as per revised submission	Allowable	Claimed as per revised submission	Allowable
Opening number of employees	45	45	47	47
Recruitment during the year	2	2	0	0
Retirement during the year	0	0	2	2
Closing number of employees	47	47	45	45
Gn	4.44%	4.44%	0%	0%

Table 2.5. G., Computations for FY 2023-24 (Rs. Crore)

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However, if the actual addition to number of employees is lower or higher, as the case may be, than the number of employee addition considered in this Order, the impact of the same shall be adjusted while carrying out the truing up and will not be considered as reduction or increase in Employee expenses on account of controllable factors.

In accordance with UERC Tariff Regulations, 2021, CPI inflation which is the average increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the preceding three years is to be considered. The Commission has calculated the annual growth in values of CPI (overall) based on the average of preceding three full years up to FY 2021-22 as 5.89%.

Accordingly, the normative employee expenses approved by the Commission for FY 2023-24 are as shown in the Table below:

Particulars	FY 2023-24		
1 atticulars	Claimed by SLDC	Approved	
EMPn-1	5.16	5.41	
Gn	2.22%	0.00%	
CPI inflation	5.89%	5.89%	
EMPn=(EMPn-1) x (1+Gn)x(1+CPIinflation)	5.59	5.73	

Table 2.6: Employee expenses approved by the Commission for FY 2023-24 (Rs. Crore)

2.4.1.2 Repairs and Maintenance (R&M) expenses

The Commission has approved the R&M expenses of Rs. 3.12 Crore for FY 2022-23 and Rs. 5.49 Crore for FY 2023-24 in its MYT Order dated March 31, 2022. The Petitioner has proposed the R&M expenses for FY 2022-23 as Rs. 3.52 Crore and for FY 2023-24 as Rs. 3.02 Crore. The Petitioner submitted that R&M expenses have been computed as per UERC Tariff Regulations, 2021.

The Petitioner submitted that it had awarded an Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC) to the original contractor of the project for the up-keep and maintenance of the SLDC assets. The Petitioner further submitted that it has awarded other AMCs for successful maintenance of the assets.

The Commission has revised the R&M expenses for FY 2022-23 and FY 2023-24 from that approved in the MYT Order considering the following:

- The revised opening GFA has been considered for determining the R&M expenses.
- K factor has been considered as 8.33% which is same as approved in the MYT Order dated March 31, 2022.
- The WPI inflation has been revised to average increase in WPI inflation for the preceding 3 years to 5.32%.

The Petitioner in the instant Petition submitted that a total of 5 AMCs has been awarded for maintenance of various assets. Detail of the same is as under:

S. No.	Name of Work/ Details of Asset	Original Cost of the Asset	Amount of AMC in FY 2022-23 (Estimated)
1.	AMC of SCADA system under SCADA/EMS Project by M/s GE T&D India Ltd. (Formerly M/s Alstom) on single quotation basis	4,69,52,045	75,92,000
2.	AMC of PUNCOM make PLCC	62,14,538	4,13,953
3.	AMC of OPGW installed under various ULDC project of Norther Region	-	11,91,912
4.	AMC (with parts) of AC System in Control Room and Server Room at SLDC Dehradun & AMC of AC system of 08 nos. 2 Ton Split AC installed at UPS Battery Room of SCADA and 02 Nos. 1.5 Ton Split AC installed at Video Conferencing Room	55,00,000	3,49,700
5.	AMC of auxiliary power equipment installed under various project in ULDC NR		5,25,000
	Total	5,86,66,583.00	1,00,72,565.00

Table 2.7: Details of various AMC's (in Rs.)

The assets under AMCs have been excluded from the GFA by the Petitioner for the purpose of projections of the R&M Expenses. Accordingly, to calculate 'GFAn-1', the value of GFA under AMC for FY 2022-23 and FY 2024-25 has been subtracted from the opening GFA of the respective year.

The Commission in its MYT Order for SLDC for the fourth Control Period from FY 2022-23 to FY 2023-24, for determining the normative R&M expenses, had approved the K factor of 8.33% considering the actual R&M expenses which already included the AMC charges and actual GFA base for SLDC for the past years. The Commission observed that the Petitioner is again claiming the normative R&M expenses considering the entire GFA base and is also claiming the AMC fees in addition to the normative R&M expenses. The Commission finds this approach of the Petitioner to be grossly incorrect as maintenance charges for the same assets cannot be claimed twice particularly when the normative R&M expenses for entire GFA is allowed as per Regulations. The AMC expenses have to be met from the normative R&M expenses allowed by the Commission. Hence, the Commission in this Order has considered the entire approved GFA base for determining the normative R&M expenses in accordance with the Regulations. The Commission has considered the WPI inflation of 5.32% which is the average increase in the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) for FY 2019-20 to FY 2021-22.

Accordingly, the R&M expenses approved by the Commission for FY 2023-24, is shown in the Table below:

Particulars	FY 2023-24	FY 2023-24		
Particulars	Claimed by PTCUL	Approved		
К	8.33%	8.33%		
GFAn-1	34.47	34.58		
WPI inflation	5.32%	5.32%		
R&Mn = K x (GFAn-1) x (1+WPI inflation)	3.02	3.03		
AMC Fee	0.00	0.00		
Total R&M Expenses	3.02	3.03		

 Table 2.8: R&M expenses approved by the Commission for FY 2023-24 (Rs. Crore)

The Petitioner has considered the wrong value for GFA_{n-1} of Rs. 34.47 Crore as the opening GFA for FY 2023-24. The Commission has rectified the same and considered Rs. 34.58 Crore which is the Opening GFA of FY 2023-24, for the calculation of R&M expenses for FY 2023-24.

2.4.1.3 Administrative and General (A&G) expenses

The Petitioner submitted that the A&G expenses consists of rent, rates and taxes, travel and conveyance expenses, consultancy and legal fees, insurance and other administration expenses. The Petitioner, in its Petition, has proposed the A&G expenses for FY 2022-23 as Rs. 0.77 Crore and for FY 2023-24 as Rs. 0.81 Crore.

The Petitioner submitted that the A&G expenses for FY 2021-22 have been computed in accordance with UERC Tariff Regulations, 2021 considering the WPI escalation of 5.32%.

The Commission has revised the A&G expenses for FY 2022-23 and FY 2023-24 from that approved in the MYT Order considering the following:

- The base year A&G expenses have been considered for FY 2021-22 as per the Order dated April 18, 2020 (i.e. Rs.0.71 Crore) and the same has been escalated with WPI Inflation of 2.42% to arrive at the opening A&G Expenses for FY 2022-23 and consecutively for FY 2023-24.
- The WPI inflation has been revised to average increase in WPI inflation for the preceding 3 years to 5.32%.

Accordingly, the A&G expenses approved by the Commission for FY 2023-24 are as shown in the Table below:

2025-24 (KS. Crore)			
	FY 2023-24		
Particulars	Claimed by PTCUL	Approved	
A&Gn-1	0.77	0.77	
WPI inflation	5.32%	5.32%	
Provision	0.00	0.00	
A&Gn=A&Gn-1 x (1+WPI inflation) + Provision	0.81	0.81	

Table 2.9: A&G expenses approved by the Commission for FY 2023-24 (Rs. Crore)

2.4.1.4 O&M expenses

The Table below shows the proposed and approved O&M expenses for FY 2023-24:

Table 2.10. Own expenses for F1 2023-24 (RS. Crore)						
MYT Order	Claimed	Approved				
6.82	5.59	5.73				
5.49	3.02	3.03				
0.76	0.81	0.81				
13.07	9.42	9.57				
	MYT Order 6.82 5.49 0.76	MYT Order Claimed 6.82 5.59 5.49 3.02 0.76 0.81				

Table 2.10: O&M expenses for FY 2023-24 (Rs. Crore)

2.4.2 Return on Equity

The Petitioner has considered the opening Equity for FY 2023-24 as Rs. 10.34 Crore. The Petitioner has considered the equity addition for FY 2022-23 and FY 2023-24 equivalent to 30% of the proposed capitalization for the respective year. The Petitioner has proposed the Return on Equity at the rate of 15.50% on the opening equity for the year. Accordingly, the Petitioner has proposed the Return on Equity of Rs. 1.60 Crore for FY 2022-23 and FY 2023-24 respectively.

Regarding the Return on Equity, Regulation 26 of the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2021 specifies as follows:

"26. Return on Equity

(1) Return on equity shall be computed on the equity base determined in accordance with Regulation 24.

Provided that, Return on Equity shall be allowed on account of allowed equity capital for the assets put to use at the commencement of each financial year.

(2) Return on equity shall be computed on at the base rate of 15.50% for thermal generating stations, transmission licensee, SLDC ..."

The Petitioner submitted that the assets under SLDC and SCADA divisions are funded through 30% equity. Further, the Petitioner has claimed RoE on the opening equity for FY 2023-24. As discussed above, the Commission has considered the debt-equity ratio of 70:30 and has, accordingly, considered the equity addition to the extent of 30% of the total GFA addition for the corresponding year. However, the Return on Equity has been approved by the Commission on the opening equity in accordance with the MYT Regulations, 2021 for FY 2023-24 and is as shown in the Table below:

Particulars	MYT Order	Claimed	Approved
Opening Equity	15.99	10.34	10.03
Addition	7.26	3.00	0.62
Closing Equity	23.25	13.34	10.65
Rate of Return on Equity	15.50%	15.50%	15.50%
Return on Equity	2.48	1.60	1.55

Table 2.11: Return on Equity for FY 2023-24 (Rs. Crore)

2.4.3 Depreciation

The Petitioner submitted that the asset class wise depreciation has been computed considering the proposed GFA for FY 2022-23 and FY 2023-24 and the rates of depreciation specified in the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2021. Accordingly, the Petitioner has proposed the depreciation of Rs. 2.19 Crore and Rs. 2.49 Crore for FY 2022-23 and FY 2023-24 respectively.

Regulation 28 of the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2021 specifies as follows:

"28. Depreciation

(1) The value base for the purpose of depreciation shall be the capital cost of the asset admitted by the *Commission*.

Provided that depreciation shall not be allowed on assets funded through Consumer Contribution and Capital Subsidies/Grants.

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

•••

(4) Depreciation shall be calculated annually based on Straight Line Method and at rates specified in Appendix - II to these Regulations.

...″

Further, Regulation 98(5) of the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2021 specifies as follows:

"Any asset created by the SLDC out of the money deposited into the LDCD Fund shall not be entitled for return on equity, interest on loan and depreciation on same principles as in case of grant. SLDC shall submit details of such assets in the CAPEX plan."

The Commission has computed the depreciation by considering the depreciation rates

specified in the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2021. The Commission has computed the depreciation for full year on opening GFA and asset class wise rates of depreciation specified in UERC Tariff Regulations, 2021. The depreciation approved by the Commission is as shown in the Table below:

Table 2.12: Depreciation for FY 2023-24 (Rs. Crore)					
Particulars MYT Order Claimed Approved					
Depreciation	5.15	2.49	3.40		

The variation in depreciation is on account of variation in Opening GFA considered by SLDC during FY 2021-22 and variation in GFA Addition during FY 2021-22 and FY 2023-24 as elaborated under Section 2.2 of this Order.

2.4.4 Interest charges

The Petitioner has considered the loan addition during FY 2022-23 and FY 2023-24 equivalent to 70% of the proposed capitalization for the respective year. The Petitioner has considered the normative repayment for each year equal to the depreciation for the respective year. The Petitioner has proposed the interest on loan by applying the interest rate of 9.82% which is the weighted average rate of interest for FY 2021-22. Accordingly, the Petitioner has proposed the interest on loan of Rs. 0.77 Crore and Rs. 0.89 Crore for FY 2022-23 and FY 2023-24 respectively.

Regulation 27 of the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2021 specifies as follows:

"27. Interest and finance charges on loan capital and on Security Deposit

(1) The loans arrived at in the manner indicated in Regulation 24 shall be considered as gross normative loan for calculation of interest on loan.

(2) The normative loan outstanding as on 1.4.2022 shall be worked out by deducting the cumulative repayment as admitted by the Commission up to 31.3.2022 from the gross normative loan.

(3) The repayment for each year of the Control Period shall be deemed to be equal to the depreciation allowed for that year ...

(5) The rate of interest shall be the weighted average rate of interest calculated on the basis of the actual loan portfolio of previous year after providing appropriate accounting adjustment for interest capitalised:

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

The Commission has worked out the interest charges considering the approved means of

. .

..."

finance. The Commission has considered the closing loan balance for FY 2020-21 as opening loan balance for FY 2021-22 and has further not considered any loan addition during FY 2021-22 as discussed under Section 2.2 of this Order. Accordingly, the Commission has worked out the opening loan balance of Rs. 4.78 Crore for FY 2023-24. The Commission has considered the interest rate of 11.61% which is the weighted average rate of interest for FY 2021-22 based on the interest expenses and long-term borrowing details as per Annual Accounts for FY 2021-22. The Commission has considered the normative repayment equal to the depreciation in accordance with the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2021. The interest charges approved by the Commission for FY 2023-24 are as shown in the following Table:

Particulars	MYT Order	Claimed	Approved
Opening Loan	18.03	6.80	4.78
Addition	16.94	7.01	1.46
Repayment	5.15	2.50	3.40
Closing Loan	29.82	11.30	2.83
Average Loan	23.92	9.05	3.81
Interest rate	10.94%	9.82%	11.61%
Interest	2.62	0.89	0.44

Table 2.13: Interest charges for FY 2023-24 (Rs. Crore)

2.4.5 Interest on Working Capital

The Petitioner submitted that it had estimated the Interest on Working Capital amounting to Rs. 0.57 Crore for FY 2023-24 in accordance with the provisions of UERC Tariff Regulations, 2021.

The Commission has worked out the Interest on Working Capital in accordance with the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2021 and has approved an amount of Rs. 0.54 Crore. Details of the same are as follows:

2.4.5.1 One Month O&M Expenses

The annual O&M expenses approved by the Commission are Rs. 9.57 Crore for FY 2023-24. Based on the approved O&M expenses, one month's O&M expenses works out to Rs. 0.80 Crore for FY 2023-24.

2.4.5.2 Maintenance Spares

The Commission has considered the maintenance spares as 15% of O&M expenses in accordance with UERC Tariff Regulations, 2021 which works out to Rs. 1.44 Crore for FY 2023-24.

2.4.5.3 Receivables

2. Petitioner's Submissions, Commission's Analysis, Scrutiny & Conclusion on True up for FY 2021-22, Annual Performance Review for FY 2022-23 and Determination of ARR for FY 2023-24

The Commission has approved the receivables for two months based on the approved SLDC charges of Rs. 15.52 Crore for FY 2023-24, which works out to Rs. 2.59 Crore for FY 2023-24.

Based on the above, the total working capital requirement of the Petitioner for FY 2023-24 works out to Rs. 4.82 Crore. The Commission has considered the rate of interest on working capital as 11.29% i.e. the prevailing weighted average of 'one-year marginal Cost of funds based lending rate (MCLR)' as declared by the State Bank of India from time to time for the financial year in which the application for determination of tariff is made, i.e. 7.79% plus 350 basis points and accordingly, the interest on working capital works out to Rs. 0.54 Crore for FY 2023-24.

The Interest on Working Capital approved by the Commission is as shown in the Table below:

Particulars	MYT Order	Claimed	Approved	
O&M expenses for one month	1.09	0.78	0.80	
Maintenance spares	1.96	1.41	1.44	
Two months receivables	4.01	2.75	2.59	
Working Capital	7.06	4.94	4.82	
Rate of Interest on Working Capital	10.50%	11.45%	11.29%	
Interest on Working Capital	0.74	0.57	0.54	

Table 2.14: Interest on Working Capital for FY 2023-24 (Rs. Crore)

2.4.6 Non-Tariff Income

The Petitioner has not proposed any non-tariff income. The Commission has also not considered any non-tariff income in this Order. The actual non-tariff income shall be considered at the time of true up for the respective year of the third Control Period.

2.4.7 SLDC Charges

Based on the above, the SLDC Charges approved by the Commission for FY 2023-24 is as shown in the Table below:

S. No.	Particulars	MYT Order	Revised Proposed	Approved
1.	O&M expenses	13.07	9.42	9.57
2.	Return on Equity	2.48	1.60	1.55
3.	Depreciation	5.15	2.49	3.40
4.	Interest and Finance Charges	2.62	0.89	0.44
5.	Interest on Working Capital	0.74	0.57	0.54
6.	Less: Non-Tariff Income	-	-	-
7.	Add: True Up of Previous Year	-	1.51	-
	ARR	24.05	16.48	15.52

 Table 2.15: SLDC Charges for FY 2023-24 (Rs. Crore)

2.4.8 LDC Development Fund

Regulation 98 of UERC Tariff Regulations, 2021 specifies as under:

"

- (1) The SLDC shall create and maintain a separate fund called 'Load Despatch Centre Development Fund' ("LDCD Fund").
- (2) All the other income of SLDC like short term open access charges, registration charges, scheduling and operating charges, etc. shall be deposited into LDCD Fund.
- (3) The SLDC shall be entitled to utilise the money available in the LDCD Fund for creation of new assets, meeting stipulated equity portion in asset creation, margin money for raising loan from the financial institutions and funding of R&D projects.
- (4) The LDCD Fund shall not be utilized for revenue expenditure except to meet the short fall, if any, in the annual charges allowed by the Commission or to meet the contingency expenses which were not foreseen at the time of making the application for fees and charges and are considered necessary for the efficient power system operation. However, such drawls from the said fund shall be recouped from the expenditure allowed by the Commission under the respective heads at the time of truing up.
- (5) Any asset created by the SLDC out of the money deposited into the LDCD Fund shall not be entitled for return on equity, interest on loan and depreciation on same principles as in case of grant. SLDC shall submit details of such assets in the CAPEX plan.
- (6) SLDC shall submit the amount accumulated in LDC development fund along with the breakup of sources from where the fund is received. The Commission shall review the LDC development fund every year and issue directions to SLDC for effective utilization of the funds, if required."

It is observed that the Petitioner has not made any submission in the Petition with regard to utilization of LDCD Fund.

However, the Commission observes that the Petitioner under Format Form 12 of the Tariff Formats has filled the details with regard to utilization plan for LDCD fund as shown in the Table below:

	Table 2.10. I ostion of EDCD I and submitted by SEDC (Rs. Clore)				
S. No.	Particulars	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23	FY 2023-24	
а	Opening LDCD Fund	7.01	8.72	9.78	
	Add:				
b	Additions in LDCD Fund on account of:				
(i)	Short Term Open Access	1.76	0.66	0.69	
(ii)	Registration Fees	0.00	0.41	0.43	

 Table 2.16: Position of LDCD Fund submitted by SLDC (Rs. Crore)

Uttarakhand Electricity Regulatory Commission

2. Petitioner's Submissions, Commission's Analysis, Scrutiny & Conclusion on True up for FY 2021-22, Annual Performance Review for FY 2022-23 and Determination of ARR for FY 2023-24

	Table 2.16: Position of LDCD Fund submitted by SLDC (Rs. Crore)						
S. No.	Particulars FY 2021-22 FY 2022-23 FY 2023-24						
с	Total LDCD Fund	8.77	9.78	10.90			
d	Less:						
d(i)	Utilisation for Capital Expenses	-	-	2.08			
d(ii)	Utilisation for Revenue Expenses	0.06	-	0.00			
e	Net LDCD Fund as on 31 st March of the Year	8.72	9.78	8.82			

The Commission observed that there is a variation in the opening LDCD balance claimed by the Petitioner for FY 2021-22 and approved by the Commission vide its Tariff Order dated March 31, 2022. Accordingly, the Commission has considered the Opening LDCD Fund for FY 2021-22 as Rs. 8.72 Crore as approved in Tariff Order dated March 31, 2022. It is observed that the Petitioner has shown the utilization of LDCD Fund to the tune of Rs. 2.08 Crore during FY 2023-24 under Form 12 of the Tariff Formats, however the Petitioner has not considered the same while working out the financing plan for the purpose of capitalization claimed during FY 2023-24 and has worked out the financing for capitalization claimed during FY 2022-23 and FY 2023-24 based on normative Debt:Equity financing of 70:30.

Based on the observations made in the preceding para the Commission has not approved the utilization of Capital Expenditure from LDCD fund for FY 2023-24. The same shall be subject to revision when the Petitioner files the True Up Petition for FY 2022-23. Accordingly, the LDCD fund approved by the Commission is as shown in the Table below:

Table 4	Table 2.17. I osition of EDCD Fund as considered by the commission (Rs. Crore)				
S. No.	Particulars	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23	FY 2023-24	
1.	Opening LDCD Fund	8.72	10.48	11.55	
2.	Additions during the year	1.76	1.07	1.12	
3.	Total LDCD Fund	10.48	11.55	12.66	
4.	Less: Utilization for capital expenditure	0.00	0.00	0.00	
5.	Closing LDCD Fund	10.48	11.55	12.66	

Table 2.17: Position of LDCD Fund as considered by the Commission (Rs. Crore)

Further, as per Regulation 98(3) of UERC Tariff Regulations, 2021, the SLDC shall be entitled to utilize the money available in the LDCD Fund to meet the stipulated equity portion and margin money for raising loan from financial institutions for creation of new assets and funding of R&D projects and such LDC fund will be treated as grant and shall be accounted for accordingly. In this regard, the Commission directs the Petitioner to ensure timely submission of the completed cost along with the scheduled CoD, actual CoD and actual IDC incurred on the projects developed through LDC Development fund within 30 days of CoD of the project/works.

2.4.9 Operating Charges

The Commission vide UERC (Terms and Conditions of Intra-State Open Access) Regulations,

2015 and their amendment thereof, has specified the Operating Charges in respect of short-term open access customers. Regulation 21 of the UERC (Terms and Conditions of Intra-State Open Access) Regulations, 2015 specifies the Operating Charges for the Short-term Open Access customer which is reproduced hereunder:

"21. SLDC and System Operation Charges:

(1) <u>Transactions involving inter-State transmission system</u>

...

(b) <u>Short-term open access</u>

Regional Load Despatch Centre and State load despatch centre system operation charges as specified by the Central Commission.

(2) <u>Transactions not involving inter-State transmission system</u>

•••

(b) Short-term open access

System Operation charge per day or for part of the day shall be payable by a short-term open access customer for each transaction to SLDC as determined by the Commission from time to time.

[Explanation: System Operation charge includes fee for scheduling and system operation, energy accounting, fee for affecting revisions in schedule on bonafide grounds and collection and disbursement of charges.]"

In compliance to the aforesaid Regulation 21(2)(b), the Commission has decided to retain the system operation charges of Rs. 3,000 per day or part of the day for each transaction payable to the SLDC by Intra-state open access customers with effect from the date of issue of this Order.

The SLDC Charges approved for FY 2023-24 shall be applicable with effect from April 01, 2023 and shall continue to apply till further Orders of the Commission.

3. Commission's Directives

The Commission in its previous Orders had issued a number of specific directions to SLDC with an objective of attaining operational efficiency and streamlining the flow of information, which would be beneficial for the sector and the Petitioner both in short and long term. This Chapter deals with the compliance status and Commission's views thereon as well as the summary of new directions for compliance and implementation by SLDC.

3.1 Compliance of Directives issued in MYT Order dated March 31, 2022

3.1.1 Project Cost & Transfer of assets from PTCUL to SLDC

The Commission once again directs SLDC that the provisions of the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2021 has to be complied strictly by SLDC regarding maintenance of its expenses related to operation of SLDC.

The Commission also directs the SLDC to file the Petition seeking truing up of FY 2021-22 along with the APR of FY 2022-23 in accordance with the MYT Regulations, 2018 failing which action may be initiated against it under the provisions of the Act. SLDC is also directed to submit quarterly status to the Commission regarding the efforts made for ring fencing of SLDC within 15 days from the end of each quarter.

Petitioner's Submissions

The Petitioner submitted that separate accounting heads were created for SLDC and SCADA and the expenses are recorded separately and the same are being certified and audited. SLDC submitted that accordingly, SLDC has filed the True up for FY 2021-22 in this instant petition based on the trail balance for FY 2021-22. The Petitioner further submitted that the process of ring fencing of SLDC is underway and several concrete steps have been taken by PTCUL in this direction. The Petitioner submitted that three officers from SLDC and PTCUL visited the SLDC of Haryana, Punjab and Himachal Pradesh to gather information on status of ring fencing, infrastructure and ergonomics, information technology/logistics, implementation of SAMAST recommendations and status of manpower.

Fresh Directive

As discussed earlier, though the SLDC has filed the true-up separately, but the separate

audited accounts of SLDC are not prepared. The Commission observed that the ring fencing of SLDC is still in process. The Commission is of the view that till ring fencing of SLDC is complete and the separate accounts of SLDC are prepared, filing separate true up Petition for SLDC does not make sense. Hence, the Commission once again directs SLDC that the provisions of the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2021 has to be complied strictly by SLDC regarding maintenance of its expenses related to the operation of SLDC. The Commission also directs SLDC to file the Petition seeking truing up of FY 2022-23 along with the APR of FY 2023-24 in accordance with the MYT Regulations, 2021 along with separate Audited Accounts for SLDC, failing which action may be initiated against it under the provisions of the Act. SLDC is also directed to submit quarterly status to the Commission regarding the efforts made for ring fencing of SLDC within 15 days from the end of each quarter.

3.1.2 LDC Development Fund

The Petitioner is directed to ensure timely submission of the completed cost along with the scheduled COD, actual COD and actual IDC incurred on the projects developed through LDC Development fund within 30 days of CoD of the project/works.

Petitioner's Submissions

The information of projects completed through LDCD fund shall be submitted to the Commission in a timely manner as prescribed by the Commission.

Fresh Directive

The Petitioner is directed to ensure timely submission of the completed cost along with the scheduled COD, actual COD and actual IDC incurred on the projects developed through LDC Development fund within 30 days of CoD of the project/works.

3.1.3 Financing of infrastructural works

The Petitioner is directed to submit the details of the works financed through Internal Resources separately for FY 2021-22 within 3 months of issuance of this Order. The Petitioner is also directed to submit the same details for FY 2022-23 at the time of filing of Petition seeking truing up of FY 2021-22 along with the APR of FY 2022-23 in accordance with the MYT Regulations, 2021.

Petitioner's Submissions

The Petitioner submitted that they shall adhere to the Commission's directions. The Petitioner

further submitted that the details of works completed in FY 2021-22 have been submitted in the current petition.

Fresh Directive

The Commission noticed that in the Tariff Petition the Petitioner has not submitted details of work financed from Internal Resources separately as well as the details of the work financed from LDCD fund. The Petitioner submitted that the projects are financed through debt and equity in the ratio of 70:30. The Petitioner is directed to submit the details of the works financed through Internal Resources and LDCD Funds separately for FY 2022-23 within 3 months of issuance of this Order. The Petitioner is also directed to submit the same details for FY 2023-24 at the time of filing of Petition seeking truing up of FY 2022-23 along with the APR of FY 2023-24 in accordance with the MYT Regulations, 2021.

3.1.4 AMC Contracts

The Commission directs the Petitioner to submit the details of bids received along with the details of L-1, L-2, and L-3 bidders for annual maintenance along with the next ARR Petition for FY 2023-24.

Petitioner's Submissions

The Petitioner submitted that the compliance to the directives of the Commission is being adhered to and further submitted that the AMC during FY 2020-21 and FY 2021-22 was done only for proprietary work of SCADA. The Petitioner submitted that details of bids will be shared after award of contract.

Fresh Directive

The Commission noticed that along with the Petition, the Petitioner has not submitted the bid details as well as work order details related to Annual Maintenance Contracts (AMC) for FY 2022-23. In the matter, the Commission directs the Petitioner to submit the details of bids received along with the details of L-1, L-2, and L-3 bidders for annual maintenance alongwith the next ARR Petition for FY 2024-25.

3.1.5 Timely execution and Capitalization of schemes

The Commission strictly directs the Petitioner to expedite the process of executing the projects and capitalize the schemes as approved in the current order.

Petitioner's Submissions

The Petitioner submitted that the directive of the Hon'ble Commission is well taken and SLDC will ensure timely execution of the projects.

Fresh Directive

The Commission has noted the submission of the Petitioner. The Commission once again directs the Petitioner to expedite the process of executing the projects and capitalize the schemes as approved in the current order.

3.1.6 Utilization of LDCD Fund

The Petitioner is directed to utilize the money out of LDCD fund only in creation of new assets in accordance with Regulation 98(3) and not meeting any revenue expenditure as was proposed by the Petitioner in its Business Plan for the fourth control period that it would carry out capacity building from funds available in LDCD fund. Further, the Commission directs the Petitioner to ensure timely submission of the completed cost along with the scheduled CoD, actual CoD and actual IDC incurred on the projects developed through LDC Development fund within 30 days of CoD of the project/works.

Petitioner's Submissions

The Petitioner submitted that the directive of the Hon'ble Commission is well taken and SLDC will utilize the money out of LDCD fund only for creation of new assets.

Fresh Directive

The Commission noticed that along with the Petition, the Petitioner has not submitted the utilization details of LDCD Funds for capitalization of new assets. The Commission directs the Petitioner to ensure timely submission of the completed cost along with the scheduled CoD, actual CoD and actual IDC incurred on the projects developed through LDC Development fund within 30 days of CoD of the project/works.

M.K. Jain Member (Technical) D.P. Gairola Member (Law)-Chairman(I/c)

4. Annexures

4.1 Annexure-1 : Public Notice on SLDC's Proposal

POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION OF UTTARAKHAND LTD. (A Govt. of Uttarakhand Enterprise) "Vidyut Bhawan" Near ISBT, Crossing, Saharanpur Road, Majra, Dehrad Corporate ID U40101UR2004GOI028675 Tel. No. 0135-2642711

Dehradun-248002

PUBLIC NOTICE

Inviting Comments on the petition filed by SLDC for approval of the True Up for FY 2021-22, Annual Performance Review for FY2022-23 and Revised Aggregate Revenue Requirement for FY 2023-24

Salient Points of the ARR/ Tariff Petition

State Load Despatch Centre, which has been made operational for grid control and despatch of electricity and other related works w.e.f. November 27, 2012 in the State of Uttarakhand, has filed a petition before the Commission for approval of the True Up for FY 2021-22, Annual Performance Review for FY 2022-23 and Revised Aggregate Revenue Requirement for FY 2023-24. The summary of SLDC for the aforesaid is given in the following Table: DD and ADD of SI DC (#Crore)

	Particulars	FY 2021-22 (True Up)		FY 2022-23 (APR)		FY 2023-24 (ARR)	
S. No		Approved (T.O. dt. 26.04.2021)	Claimed for True Up	Approved (T.O. dt. 31.03.2022)	Revised Estimates	Approved (T.O. dt. 31.03.2022)	Proposed
1.	Depreciation	3.50	2.18	3.95	2.19	5.15	2.49
2.	Interest & Finance Charges	1.16	0.99	1.50	0.77	2.62	0.89
3.	Return on Equity	1.55	1.60	1.65	1.60	2.48	1.60
4.	O&M Expenses	7.74	9.23	8.24	9.45	13.07	9.42
5.	Interest on Working Capital	0.51	0.69	0.48	0.53	0.74	0.57
6.	Gross Expenditure	14.46	15.71	15.82	14.54	24.05	14.97
7.	Less: Non-tariff Income	-	0.01	-	-	2. 2 5	-
8.	Net Expenditure	14.46	15.70	15.82	14.54	24.05	14.97
9.	Add True Up of Previous Year	-				3 9 .8	1.51
10.	Net ARR	14.46	15.70	15.82	14.54	24.05	16.48
11.	Revenue Gap/(Surplus) for the year		1.25	0.00	2002	80 8 0	350

2. SLDC has proposed a total increases of 4.17% for FY 2023-24 over the approved SLDC charges for FY 2022-23. Since UPCL has considered ₹ 24.50 Crore as SLDC Charges for FY 2023-24 as per Business Plan Order dated 31.03.2022, Whereas actual claim by SLDC for the said year is ₹ 16.48 Crore, therefore, it this reduction as claimed by SLDC is accepted by the Commission, reduction of 0.09% in consumer tariff shall be required over and above the hike proposed by UPCL. The recovery of the charges from the beneficiaries has been proposed through suitable fees and charges.

3. Detailed proposal can be seen free of cost on any working day at the Commission's office or at the office of Managing Director, Power Transmission Corporation of Uttarakhand Limited, Vidyut Bhawan, Saharanpur Road, Majra, Near ISBT, Dehradun-248001, Uttarakhand, Relevant extracts can also be obtained from the above mentioned offices of the Petitioner.

The proposals are also available at the website of the Commission (www.uerc.gov.in) and at SLDC's website (www.uksldc.in).

5. Objections/suggestions are invited from the consumers and other stakeholders on the above proposals. These may be sent to the Secretary, Uttarakhand Electricity Regulatory Commission, either in person, or by post at Vidyut Niyamak Bhawan, Near I.S.B.T., P.O.-Majra Dehradun-248171 or through e-mail to secy.uerc@gov.in as a statement of objections or comments with copies of the documents and evidence in support thereof so as to reach the Secretary by 31.01.2023.

Letter No. 521/SLDC Dated : 30/12/2022

Managing Director

"Save Electricity in the Interest of Nation"

4.2 Annexure-2 : List of Participants in Public Hearings

S1 .	Name	Designation	Organization	A damag
No.	Name	Designation	Organization	Address
1.	Sh. Shakeel A. Siddiqui	Legal Advisor	M/s Kashi Vishwanath Textile Mill (P) Ltd.	5th Km. Stone, Ramnagar Road, Kashipur-244713, Distt. Udham Singh Nagar.
2.	Sh. Mukesh Tyagi	-	M/s Voltas Ltd.	Plot No. 2-5, Sector-8, IIE, Pantnagar Industrial Area, Rudrapur-263153, Distt. Udhamsingh Nagar
3.	Sh. Teeka Singh Saini	Block President	Bhartiya Kisan Union	Office-33, Katoratal, Kashipur, Distt. Udhamsingh Nagar
4.	Sh. Sheetal Singh	-	-	Village-Jagatpur Patti, P.O. Shivrajpur, Jaspur, Distt. Udhamsingh Nagar
5.	Sh. Baljinder Singh Sandhu	District General Secretary	Bhartiya Kisan Union	Office-33, Katoratal, Kashipur, Distt. Udhamsingh Nagar
6.	Sh. Manoj Khantwal	Head (HR)	M/s Green Panel India Ltd.	Plot No. 2, Sector-9, IIE, Rudrapur- 263153, Distt. Udhamsingh Nagar
7.	Sh. R.S. Yadav	President	M/s India Glycols Ltd.	A-1, Industrial Area, Bazpur Road, Kashipur-244713, Distt. Udham Singh Nagar.
8.	Sh. Vineet Kumar Sangal	President	M/s Kumaon Garhwal Chamber of Commerce & Industry- Uttarakhand	Chamber House, Industrial Estate, Bazpur Road, Kashipur, Udhamsingh Nagar.
9.	Sh. Madhup Mishra	Vice President	M/s India Glycols Ltd.	A-1, Industrial Area, Bazpur Road, Kashipur-244713, Distt. Udham Singh Nagar.
10.	Sh. Laxmikant Sharma	-	M/s Aurangabad Auto Engineering Pvt. Ltd.	Sector-9, Plot No7H, Sidcul, Pantnagar-263153, Distt. Udham Singh Nagar.
11.	Sh. Om Prakash	-	M/s Imperial Auto Industries	Plot No. 48, Sector-11, IIE, Sidcul, Rudrapur-263153, Distt. Udhamsingh Nagar
12.	Sh. Amit Goel	-	M/s Ashok Leyland Ltd.	Plot No. 1, Sector-12, IIE, Sidcul, Rudrapur-263153, Distt. Udhamsingh Nagar
13.	Sh. Naresh	-	M/s Aica Laminates India Pvt. Ltd.	Plot No. 23-26 and 45-48, Sector-5, IIE, Sidcul, Pantnagar, Rudrapur-263153, Distt. Udhamsingh Nagar
14.	Sh. R.K. Gupta	-	M/s Polyplex Corporation Ltd.	Lohia Head Road, Village Amau, Khatima-262308, Distt. Udhamsingh Nagar
15.	Sh. Rajeev Gupta	-	M/s Kashi Vishwanath Steels Pvt. Ltd.	Narain Nagar Industrial Estate, Bazpur Road, Kashipur-244713, Distt. Udham Singh Nagar

List of Participants in Hearing at Rudrapur on 22.02.2023

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51. No.	Name	Designation	Organization	Address
16.	Sh. Virat Seth	-	M/s Tata Motors Ltd.	Plot No1, Sector-11, Integrated Industrial Estate, SIDCUL, Pantnagar- 263153, Distt. Udhamsingh Nagar.
17.	Sh. Sanjay Kumar Adhlakha	Director	M/s Ambashakti Glass India Pvt. Ltd.	Plot No. 41, Sector 3, IIE, Pantnagar, Rudrapur-263153, Distt. Udhamsingh Nagar
18.	Sh. Sukha Singh Virk	-	-	Village & P.O. Chattarpur, Rudrapur, Distt. Udham Singh Nagar
19.	Sh. Nipun Mahajan	Manager (Engg.)	M/s G.S. Pharmbutor Pvt. Ltd.	Plot No 58, 59, 66 & 67, Sector-3, IIE, Pantnagar, Rudrapur-263153, Distt. Udhamsingh Nagar
20.	Sh. Rampal Bisht	-	M/s G.S. Pharmbutor Pvt. Ltd.	Plot No. 58, 59, 66 & 67, Sector-3, IIE, Pantnagar, Rudrapur-263153, Distt. Udhamsingh Nagar
21.	Sh. Ram Kumar Agarwal	-	M/s Umashakti Steels Pvt. Ltd.	Village-Vikrampur, Post OffBazpur- 262401, Distt. Udhamsingh Nagar
22.	Sh. Harvinder Singh	-	M/s ALF Engineering Pvt. Ltd.	Plot No. 74-A, Sector-11, Sidcul, IIE, Pantnagar, Rudrapur-263153, Distt. Udhamsingh Nagar
23.	Sh. Kapil Talwar	Fish Farmer	Talwar Farms	Tehsil-Khatima, Distt. Udhamsingh Nagar.
24.	Sh. Vineet Agarwal	Fish Farmer	-	Village-Jaitpur, P.OKundeshwari, Kashipur, Distt. Udhamsingh Nagar.
25.	Sh. N.C. Singh	Fish Farmer	Raja Farm	Village-Bhagwantpur, P.ODhanauri, Kashipur, Distt. Udhamsingh Nagar.
26.	Sh. D.K. Singh	-	M/s Omega Icehill Pvt. Ltd.	Plot No. 37, Sector-4, IIE, Sidcul, Pantnagar, Rudrapur-263153, Distt. Udhamsingh Nagar
27.	Sh. Amarendra Patel	-	M/s Manjushree Technopack Ltd.	Plot No. 22(b) 23 23(a), IIE, SIDCUL, Pantnagar, Distt. Udhamsingh Nagar.
28.	Sh. Ajeet Sharma	-	M/s SRF Ltd.	Plot No. 12, Ramnagar Road, Kashipur, Distt. Udham Singh Nagar
29.	Sh. Balbeer Singh	-	-	Dhakia No. 1, Kashipur-244713, Distt. Udham Singh Nagar
30.	Sh. Mahesh Chandra Pant	-	-	Dariya Nagar, Ward No. 37, Rudrapur, Distt. Udham Singh Nagar
31.	Sh. V.S. Gangwar	-	-	Awas Vikas Colony, Rudrapur- 263153, Distt. Udham Singh Nagar
32.	Sh. Ramanjeet Singh	-	-	Hotel Channi Raja, Mall Road, Nainital.
33.	Sh. Hemant Pathak	-	-	Gaujajali, Haldwani, Nainital.
34.	Sh. Ajay Bansal	-	-	Teachers Colony, Subhash Nagar, Ward No. 8, Bazpur-262401, Distt. Udham Singh Nagar
35.	Sh. Umesh Sharma	-	M/s Voltas Ltd.	Plot No. 2-5, Sector-8, IIE, Pantnagar Industrial Area, Rudrapur-263153, Distt. Udhamsingh Nagar

Sl. No.	Name	Designation	Organization	Address
1.	Sh. Umakant Dwivedi	-	-	New Piyana, Near Plaza Hotel, Pithoragarh
2.	Sh. Manoj Chauhan	-	-	Chauhan Medical Store, Pithoragarh
3.	Sh. Govind Singh Bisht	-	-	New Bajeti Shivaji Nagar, Pithoragarh
4.	Sh. Mohan Singh	-	-	Village-Bisa Bajer, P.O. Bisa Bajer, Pithoragarh
5.	Sh. T.N. Pant	Advocate	-	Pant Bhawan, Takana, Pithoragarh.
6.	Sh. Kishan	Sabhasad	Nagarpalika	Kharkot, Pithoragarh.
7.	Sh. Chandrashekhar Martoliya	-	-	Rai, Pithoragarh.
8.	Sh. Neeraj Gururani	-	-	Aincholi, Pithoragarh.
9.	Sh. Vipin Chandra Joshi	-	-	Village-Toli, P.OToli, Gurna, Pithoragarh.
10.	Sh. Ajay Prasad	-	-	Meldungri, Pithoragarh.
11.	Sh. Anil Kumar	-	-	Pithoragarh.
12.	Sh. Mohan Bhatt	-	-	Siltham Zila Panchayat, Pithoragarh.
13.	Sh. Dinesh Kapdi	-	-	Sabhasad, Dhanaura Ward and President, Nagar Mandal, Dhanaura Ward, Pithoragarh.
14.	Sh. Hemant Singh Bisht	Zonal President	Gauran Desh	Village-Majhera, P.ONakote, Pithoragarh.
15.	Sh. Yogesh Chandra Bhatt	-	-	Village-Jakh, P.O. Jakh Puran, Pithoragarh.
16.	Sh. Vikram Valmiki	-	-	Takana Colony, Pithoragarh.
17.	Sh. Subhash Singh Bisht	-	-	Takana, Pithoragarh.
18.	Sh. Bhagwan Rawat	-	-	GIC Road, Pithoragarh.
19.	Sh. Sushil Khatri	-	-	Simalgair Bazar, Pithoragarh.
20.			Social Welfare	Punetha Niwas, Takana Road,
20.		-	Society	Pithoragarh.
21.	Sh. Shamsher Mehar, GDSM	Pradesh Mantri	Udyog Vyapar Pratinidhi Mandal- Uttarakhand	101, Krishnapuri, Tanakpur Road- 262501, Pithoragarh.

S1. No.	Name	Designation	Organization	Address
1	Sh. Rajveer Singh	Dy. Director	Fisheries Department	Office-Garhwal Region, Pauri (Garhwal).
2	Ms. Suman Lata Rawat	Anganbadi Worker	-	Nursery Road, Ward No. 6, Srinagar (Garhwal), Uttarakhand
3	Ms. Sunita	Anganbadi Worker	-	Brahman Mohalla-2, Srinagar (Garhwal), Uttarakhand
4	Sh. Mukesh Rawat	-	-	Bhaktiyana, Near SSB, Srinagar (Garhwal), Uttarakhand
5	Sh. Apal Raturi	President	Hotel Association	Hotel Sriyantra Tapu, Srinagar (Garhwal), Uttarakhand
6	Sh. Naresh Nautiyal	-	-	Gayatri Medical Store, Srikot, Srinagar (Garhwal), Uttarakhand
7	Sh. Atar Singh Aswal	-	-	Hotel Devlok, Srinagar (Garhwal), Uttarakhand
8	Sh. Bimal Prasad Bahuguna	President	Retired Employees Association-Srinagar	Upper Bhaktiyana, Pauri Road, Srinagar (Garhwal), Uttarakhand
9	Sh. Pankaj Sati	-	Zila Panchayat	New Dang, Ward No. 12, Srinagar (Garhwal), Uttarakhand
10	Sh. D.S. Bhandari	-	-	Srikot, Ganganali, Srinagar (Garhwal)-246178, Uttarakhand
11	Sh. Udayram Lakheda	-	-	Nursery Road, Ward No. 6, Srinagar (Garhwal), Uttarakhand
12	Sh. Sehdev Singh Bisht	-	-	Kesharpur, Srinagar (Garhwal), Uttarakhand
13	Sh. A.D. Pandey	-	-	Village & Post-Ufalda, Srinagar (Garhwal), Uttarakhand
14	Sh. Mohan Singh Kunwar	-	-	Village & Post-Ufalda, Srinagar (Garhwal), Uttarakhand
15	Sh. Pradeep Chauhan	-	-	Lower Bhaktiyana, Pauri Road, Srinagar (Garhwal), Uttarakhand
16	Sh. Mohal Lal	Retd. Asstt. Engineer (Meter)	UPCL	Nursery Road, Near 132 kV Substation, Srinagar (Garhwal), Uttarakhand
17	Sh. Sandeep Singh Rawat	-	-	Village-Nakot, P.O. Kirti Nagar, Pauri Garhwal-249161, Uttarakhand

List of Participants in Hearing at Srinagar (Garhwal) on 27.02.2023

Sl. No.	Name	Designation	Organization	Address
1	Sh. Pankaj Gupta	President	Industries Association of Uttarakhand	Mohabewala Industrial Area, Dehradun-248110
2	Sh. Rajiv Agarwal	-	M/s Industries Association of Uttarakhand	Mohabewala Industrial Area, Dehradun-248110
3	Sh. Sanjeev Kumar	Office Executive	M/s Industries Association of Uttarakhand	C/o Satya Industries, Mohabbewala Industrial Area, Dehradun
4	Sh. Padam	-	-	Near ISBT, MDDA Colony, Dehradun
5	Sh. Ashok Saini	-	-	Mohit Vihar, Near Niranjanpur Mandi, Dehradun
6	Sh. Narendra Malik	-	-	100/2, Bell Road, Clementown, Dehradun
7	Sh. Vinod Sharma	-	-	House No. 28/16A, Lane No. 3, Turner Road, Clementown, Dehradun
8	Sh. Satyapal Singh	-	-	60, Hill View Colony, Dehradun
9	Sh. Pawan Agarwal	Vice-President	M/s Uttarakhand Steel Manufacturers Association	C/o Shree Sidhbali Industries Ltd., Kandi Road, Kotdwar, Uttarakhand
10	Sh. Sanovar	-	-	Lane No. 3, Vijay Park Extension, Near Ballupur, Dehradun
11	Sh. Suresh Chand Bansal	-	M/s Kukreti Steel Ltd.	Jasodharpur Industrial Area, Kotdwar
12	Sh. Munish Talwar	-	M/s Asahi India Glass Ltd.	Integrated Glass Plant, Village- Latherdeva Hoon, Manglaur- Jhabrera Road, P.O. Jhabrera, Tehsil Roorkee, Distt. Haridwar, Uttarakhand.
13	Sh. Gulshan Khanduja	-	M/s Shree Ganesh Roller Flour Mills	Mohabewala Industrial Area, Subhash Nagar, Dehradun
14	Sh. Shashi Kant Singhal	-	M/s Shree Sidhbali Industries Ltd.	Kandi Road, Kotdwar, Uttarakhand.
15	Sh. Vijay Singh Verma	-	-	Village-Delna, P.O. Jhabrera, Roorkee-247665, Haridwar
16	Sh. Katar Singh	President	Bhartiya Kisan Club	Village-Sultanpur Sabatwali, P.O. Jhabrera-247665, Tehsil-Roorkee, Haridwar.
17	Sh. Sunil Kumar Gupta	Editor	Teesri Aankh ka Tehalka	16, Chakrata Road (Tiptop Gali), Dehradun-248001
18	Sh. Munendra Badoni	-	Fisheries Department	Dehradun
19	Sh. Nitin Mittal	-	M/s Instrument & Systems	30, Mohabewala Industrial Area, Dehradun-248110
20	Sh. Shanti Prasad Bhatt	-	Uttarakhand Kranti Dal	Residence-124, Mitralok Colony, Ballupur Road, Dehradun, Uttarakhand.

List of Participants in Hearing at Dehradun on 01.03.2023

Sl. No.	Name	Designation	Organization	Address
21	Ms. Sulochana Istwal	-	-	10, Court Road, Dehradun
22	Ms. Babita	-	-	Village-Bistipur, P.O. Jhabrera, Roorkee, Haridwar
23	Sh. Nand Kishore	-	-	Village-Sherpur Khelmau, P.O. Khas, Tehsil-Roorkee, Block- Narsan, Haridwar
24	Sh. Vijendra Singh	-	-	Village-Tanshipur, P.O. Mangalore, Tehsil-Roorkee, Haridwar
25	Sh. Ramesh	-	-	Village-Bistipur, P.O. Jhabrera, Tehsil-Roorkee, Haridwar
26	Sh. Rakesh Bhatia	State Chairman	Indian Industries Association	E-8, Govt. Industrial Area, Patel Nagar, Dehradun.
27	Sh. Ramesh Joshi	State President	Suraj Sewa Dal	Office-Kaulagarh Road, Sirmaur Marg, Dehradun.
28	Sh. Sunil Uniyal	President	M/s Uttarakhand Industrial Welfare Association	222/5, Gandhi Gram, Dehradun- 248001, Uttarakhand.
29	Sh. Nepal Singh Kashyap	President	District Cooperative Fisheries Development & Marketing Federation	Mangalore, Roorkee, District- Haridwar-247670, Uttarakhand.
30	Sh. Ramesh Chand	President	Khedajatt Sehkari Matasya Jivi Samiti Ltd.	Office-Khedajatt Post Khaas, Vikas Khand-Narsan, Tehsil- Roorkee, Haridwar, Uttarakhand.
31	Sh. Sushil Kumar	-	-	Society Road, Laksar, Haridwar
32	Sh. Adarsh Jaiswal	Senior Manager (E&I)	M/s Ambuja Cement Ltd. (Unit-Roorkee)	Village Lakeshwari, P.O. Sikandarpur Bhainswal, Tehsil Roorkee, Distt. Haridwar-247661, Uttarakhand.
33	Sh. Ajay Pandey	-	-	Jogiwala, Dehradun
34	Sh. Deepak Dhaundiyal	-	-	Lower Nehrugram, Nanda Devi Enclave, Phase-2, Dehradun
35	Sh. Amit Verma	-	M/s Finolex Cables Ltd.	Plot no. K1&K2, AIS Indl. Estate, Village-Latherdevahoon, Manglour, Jhabrera Road, P.O Jhabrera, Tehsil-Roorkee, Haridwar-247665, Uttarakhand.
36	Sh. Rajendra Chaudhary	General Secretary	UKPCC	Address-423/35, Civil Lines, Roorkee, Distt. Haridwar.
37	Sh. K.L. Sundriyal	General Secretary	M/s Prantiya Electrical Contractors Association- Uttarakhand	2(4/3), New Road, Near Hotel Relax, (Amrit Kaur Road), Dehradun.
38	Sh. Sanjay Aggarwal	President	Mussoorie Hotel Association	Hotel Mall Palace, Mall Road Jhulaghar, Mussoorie, Dehradun.
39	Sh. Ashish Goel	Joint Secretary	Mussoorie Hotel Association	Hotel Mall Palace, Mall Road Jhulaghar, Mussoorie, Dehradun.
40	Sh. Sanjay Chaudhary	Zonal President	Bhartiya Kisan Union	Village-Nagla Salaru, Post Off

Sl. No.	Name	Designation	Organization	Address
		(Garhwal)	(Tikait)	Gurukul Narsan, Distt. Haridwar.
41	Sh. Kamaldeep Kamboj	-	-	G-3, Janpath Shopping Complex, Chakrata Road, Dehradun
42	Sh. K.G. Behl	President	All India Consumer Council & SNS- Uttarakhand	8-A, Nemi Road, Dalanwala, Dehradun.
43	Sh. Arvind Jain	-	-	Raghunathpuram, Near Bhuddhi, Shimla Bypass Road, Dehradun
44	Ms. Ruby Goel	-	-	Chaman Vihar, Phase-2, ITBP Road, Dehradun
45	Sh. Harjinder Singh	-	-	Office-278, Khurbuda, Dehradun- 248001.
46	Sh. Hari Om Pali	-	-	101/8, Govindgarh, Dehradun
47	Sh. Manish Oli	-	-	34, Kailash Puri, ONGC Hospital, Chakrata Road, Dehradun
48	Sh. Vijay Kumar	-	-	91, THDC Colony, Dehradun
49	Sh. Deepak Sharma	Secretary	Shastri Enclave Welfare Society	Shastri Enclave, Haridwar Road, Dehradun
50	Sh. Vishwa Mitra Gogia	-	-	36, Panchsheel Park, Chakrata Road, Dehradun-248006
51	Sh. Insarul Hak	-	-	14/8, Turner Road, Clementown, Dehradun
52	Sh. Veeru Bisht	-	-	Mohanpur, Post OffPremnagar, Dehradun-248007