# Order

### on

# **Approval of Business Plan and**

## **Multi Year Tariff Petition**

### For

## State Load Despatch Centre of

### Uttarakhand

### For

### Fifth Control Period

### (FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28)

April 11, 2025

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.: 09 of 2025

#### In the Matter of:

Petition filed by State Load Despatch Centre of Uttarakhand for True up of FY 2023-24, Annual Performance Review for FY 2024-25 and Multi Year Tariff for Fifth Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28.

AND

Petition No.: 08 of 2025

#### In the Matter of:

Petition filed by State Load Despatch Centre of Uttarakhand for approval of Business Plan for Fifth Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28

#### In the Matter of:

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

...Petitioner

Coram

Shri M.L. PrasadChairmanShri Anurag SharmaMember (Law)

#### Date of Order: April 11, 2025

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. The Commission has also issued the Order dated March 30, 2023 carrying out the Annual Performance Review for FY 2022-23 and determined the ARR for FY 2023-24. Further, the Commission had issued the Order dated March 44 March 28, 2024 carrying out the Annual Performance Review for FY 2023-25.

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, 2024 (hereinafter referred to as "UERC Tariff Regulations, 2024") for the Fifth Control from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 specifying therein terms, conditions and norms of operation for licensees, generating companies and SLDC. In compliance with the provisions of the Act and Regulation of UERC Tariff Regulation, 2024, State Load Despatch Centre of Uttarakhand (hereinafter referred to as "SLDC" or "Petitioner") submitted the Application for Approval of Business Plan for FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 (Petition No. 08 of 2025 and hereinafter referred to as "Petition"). In compliance with the provisions of the Act and Regulations State Load Despatch Centre of Uttarakhand (hereinafter referred to as "SLDC" or "Petitioner") submitted the Application (Petition No. 09 of 2025 and hereinafter referred to as "SLDC" or "Petition") on November 26, 2024 for approval of True-up for FY 2023-24, approval of Annual Performance Review (APR) for FY 2024-25 and Multi Year Tariff for FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 in compliance with the provisions of the Act and Regulations, 2024.

The Petitions filed by SLDC had certain infirmities/deficiencies which were informed to SLDC and SLDC was directed to rectify the said infirmities in the Petitions and submit certain additional information necessary for admission of the Petitions. SLDC vide its submissions dated December 23, 2024 removed the critical deficiencies. Based on the submissions made by SLDC, the Commission vide its Order dated January 08, 2025 provisionally admitted the Petitions 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. 05/Dir. (Operations)/PTCUL/UERC dated January 03, 2025 removed additional deficiencies as directed in the Commission's letter no. UERC/7/CL/745/Misc. App. No. 122 of 2024/1231 dated December 12, 2024.

This Order, accordingly, relates to Petitions filed by the SLDC for approval of Business Plan and the MYT Petition along with the determination of SLDC Charges for the fifth Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 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 Stakeholder's Objections/Suggestions, Petitioner's Responses and Commission's Views.
- Chapter 3 Petitioner's Submission, Commission's Analysis, Scrutiny and Conclusion on Business Plan for Fifth Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28.
- Chapter 4- Petitioner's Submission, Commission's Analysis, Scrutiny and Conclusion on True up for FY 2023-24, Annual Performance Review for FY 2024-25 and determination of ARR for Fifth Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28.
- Chapter 5 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. The Commission had carried out the Annual Performance Review for FY 2021-22 vide its Order dated March 31, 2022.

The Commission has also carried out the Annual Performance Review for FY 2022-23 and Uttarakhand Electricity Regulatory Commission revised the ARR for FY 2023-24 vide Order dated March 30, 2023. Further the Commission has carried out the Annual Performance Review for FY 2023-24 and revised ARR for FY 2024-25 vide Order dated March 28, 2024.

As mentioned earlier also, in accordance with the provisions of the Act and UERC Tariff Regulations, 2024, SLDC is required to file a Petition for Annual Performance Review and Multi Year Tariff for the Control Period FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 by November 30, 2024. SLDC in compliance to the Regulations submitted the Petition for Annual Performance Review for FY 2024-25 and MYT for FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 on November 26, 2024 (Petition No 9 of 2025).

The Petition 09 of 2025 filed by SLDC had certain infirmities/deficiencies which were informed to SLDC vide Commission's letter no. UERC/7/CL/745/Misc. App. No. 122 of 2024/1231 dated December 12, 2024 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. 2223/Dir.(Operations)/PTCUL/UERC dated December 23, 2024 removed the critical deficiencies. Based on the submissions made by SLDC, the Commission vide its Order dated January 08, 2025 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. 05/Dir.(Operations)/PTCUL/UERC dated January 03, 2025 removed additional deficiencies as directed in the Commission's letter no. UERC/7/CL/745/Misc. App. No. 122 of 2024/1231 dated December 12, 2024.

Further in accordance with the provisions of the Act and Regulation 8(1)(d) of the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2024, SLDC is required to file a Petition for Business Plan for the entire Control Period. SLDC in compliance to the Regulations submitted the Petition for Business Plan for FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 on November 26, 2024.

The Petition 08 of 2025 filed by SLDC had certain infirmities/deficiencies which were informed to SLDC vide Commission's letter no. UERC/7/CL/744/Misc. App. No. 121 of 2024/1230 dated December 12, 2024 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. 2224/Dir.(Operations)/PTCUL/UERC dated December 23, 2024 removed the critical deficiencies. Based on the submissions made by SLDC, the Commission vide its Order dated January 08, 2025 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.

The Commission, through its above Admittance Order dated January 08, 2025, 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: Publication of Notice						
S. No.	Newspaper Name	<b>Date of Publication</b>				
1. Times of India		January 11, 2025				
2.	Hindustan	January 11, 2025				

Through above notice, the stakeholders were requested to submit their objections/suggestions / comments latest by February 15, 2025 (copy of the notice is enclosed as Annexure-1 and Annexure-2). The Commission received in all 03 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. Lohaghat		February 18, 2025			
2.	Rudrapur	February 19, 2025			
3.	Gopeshwar	February 25, 2025			
4.	Dehradun	February 28, 2025			

Table 1 2. Schedule of Hearing

The list of participants who attended the Public Hearing is enclosed at Annexure-4.

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 19, 2025, 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 capitalisation claimed.
- Soft Copy of Balance Sheet for FY 2023-24 and FY 2024-25 H1.
- Details of Physical and Financial Progress of schemes proposed to be capitalised during FY 2025-26.

So as to have better clarity on the data filed by the Petitioner and to remove inconsistency in the data, a Technical Validation Session (TVS) was also held with the Petitioner's officers on January 28, 2025 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/745/Petition No. 09 of 2025/1460 Petition No. 48 of 2024/1130 dated January 29, 2025, for its response. The Petitioner submitted the replies to issues raised in TVS vide its letter no. 201/Dir.(Operations)/PTCUL/UERC dated February 07, 2025.

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 Stakeholder's Objections/Suggestions, Petitioner's Responses and Commission's Views.

The Commission has received suggestions/objections/comments on SLDC's Petitions for approval of true up for FY 2023-24, Annual Performance Review for FY 2024-25 and Business Plan & Multi Year tariff Aggregate Revenue Requirement for the fifth Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28. List of stakeholders/respondents who have submitted their objections/suggestions/ comments in writing is given at **Annexure-3** and the list of participants who have participated in the Public Hearings is enclosed at **Annexure-4**. The Commission has further obtained replies from SLDC on the suggestions/objections/comments received from the stakeholders. For the sake of clarity, the objections raised by the stakeholders and responses of the Petitioner have been consolidated and summarized issue wise. In the subsequent Chapters of this Order, the Commission has kept in view the suggestions/objections/comments of the stakeholders and replies of the Petitioner while approving the Business Plan and MYT of SLDC.

#### 2.1 STU Charges

#### 2.1.1 Stakeholder's Comments

Shri Shakeel Siddiqui, Advisor Legal, M/s Galwalia Ispat Udyog Pvt. Ltd. and M /s Kashi Vishwanath Textile Mill Pvt. Ltd. and Shri Ashok Bansal, President, M/s Kumaon Garhwal Chamber of Commerce & Industry Uttarakhand submitted that PTCUL has instructed IEX to charge transmission charges as per time block from which the open access starts to the time block in which the open access ends. For example, if in a day some body purchases power between 06:00 hrs to 07:00 hrs and then purchases power between 14:00 hrs to 17:00 hrs, then irrespective of 4 hours power purchase in a day, it will be assumed to be more than 6 hours a day on the basis from where time block starts and ends. The UERC (Terms and Conditions of Intra-State Open Access) Regulations, 2015, regulation 20 (1) specifically provided that up to 6 Hours in a day 50% of the applicable charges shall be applicable: "Open Access customer using transmission system shall pay the charges as stated hereunder......Provided for Open Access, for part of the day, the transmission charges shall be levied as under: (i) Up to 6 Hours in a day: of the transmission charges as determined in sub regulation (1)(b) above; (ii) Above 6 Hours in a day: equal to the transmission charges determined in sub regulation (1) (b) above;"

Despite of a very specific regulation of UERC, PTCUL in its letter 456 dated 27.11.2024 and 28 dated 22.01.2025 (enclosed) is of opinion that the duration of Open Access is being considered from

the Time Block where open access starts to the Time Block where open access ends. The said methodology is being adopted by IEX for calculation of STU charges for Short Term Open Access is in line with UERC (Terms and Conditions of Intra-State Open Access) Regulations, 2015. The language of PITCUL letter is self-explanatory drawing a version of their own which is not supported by regulation framed by the UERC. The language is specific that up to 6 Hours a day 50 % of the transmission charges shall be levied. There is no discussion of blocks when open access starts or ends. Even previous letter issued by PTCUL mentions the same thing, letter 92 dated 18.08.2020 (enclosed) states "both collective DAM and RTM transactions are being processed on the basis of same NOC (PX-1) issued by SLDC, therefore the charges for collective DAM and RTM must be calculated and collected for a day after addition of both the transactions (DAM + RTM) to count the duration of the transaction in a day. If the duration (DAM + RTM) so calculated comes to be more than 06 (six) hours in a day, then full charges shall be applicable on the power procured under (DAM+RTM) transactions. In this letter there is no discussion of time block. PTCUL's methodology leads to excessive STU charges, that are not mentioned in the regulation.

#### 2.1.2 Petitioner's Response

The Petitioner submitted that the matter has been raised before SLDC by two Open Access consumers and the Petitioner has already responded to the stakeholders vide Letter No. 456 dated 27.11.2024. STU charges being charged are as per the regulation 20(1) of UERC (Terms and Conditions of Intra-State Open Access) Regulations 2015.

#### 2.1.3 Commission's Views

The Commission is of the view that this matter is not related to the present petition being filed by the PTCUL in accordance with the UERC Tariff Regulations.

#### 2.2 SLDC Scheduling and Operating Charges

#### 2.2.1 Stakeholder's Comments

Shri Shakeel Siddiqui, Advisor Legal, M/s Galwalia Ispat Udyog Pvt. Ltd. and M /s Kashi Vishwanath Textile Mill Pvt. Ltd. and Shri Ashok Bansal, President, M/s Kumaon Garhwal Chamber of Commerce & Industry Uttarakhand submitted that if a person is purchasing open access through both modes in a single day DAM and RTM then the fees charged should be Rs. 1,000/- day but on advice of PTCUL/SLDC the IEX is charging Rs. 1,000/- separately for DAM and RTM i.e., Rs. 2,000/-

per day. As per PTCUL letter no. 288 dated 21.08.2024, both DAM and RTM are different transactions as scheduling request for collective transaction in RTM and DAM are done separately and DAM and RTM do not have any interdependence on each other for calculation of any open access charges as per CERC and procedure issued by NLDC for DAM and RTM. None of the stand of PTCUL/SLDC is supported by any specific regulation of CERC/NLDC/UERC still the authority is behaving arbitrarily in charging charges.

#### 2.2.2 SLDC's Response

SLDC submitted that both DAM & RTM are two different transactions. Also, it has been mentioned that scheduling request for Collective transactions in Real Time Market & Day Ahead Market are done separately and DAM and RTM don't have any interdependence on each other for calculation of any open access charges being levied as per CERC (Open-Access in Inter-State Transmission Regulations) and procedure being issued by NLDC for DAM and RTM. Further, it is also mentioned that SLDC scheduling & operating charges are payable as per day per transaction. For DAM and RTM, all the entities are paying operating charges for both DAM and RTM as both are different transactions. Hence, SLDC scheduling and operating charges are being paid to IEX by the entity for both the transactions of DAM & RTM on a day for further payment of same to respective SLDC.

#### 2.2.3 Commission's Views

The Commission is of the view that this matter is not related to the present petition being filed by the PTCUL in accordance with the UERC Tariff Regulations.

#### 2.3 Issues Raised During Meeting of State Advisory Committee

#### 2.3.1 Stakeholder's Comments

During the State Advisory Committee meeting held on March 07, 2024, the Members made the following suggestions on the Petitions filed by PTCUL.

- STU Charges are not being levied as per the Regulations. The same needs to be corrected and the Commission is requested to take Suo-moto cognizance of this matter.
- The Commission should establish standard operating procedures (SOPs) for NOC issuance as it has been observed that SLDC wrongfully delayed the issuance of NOC on grounds of not providing MRI from ABT meters when actually the same is not the

responsibility of the applicant, preventing SLDC from imposing arbitrary conditions beyond Regulatory provisions.

• The SLDC has claimed very high expenses for FY 2026-27 and FY 2027-28, which is required to be prudently reviewed by the Commission.

#### 2.3.2 Petitioner's Response

The Petitioner submitted the following replies on the queries raised:

• To enhance grid security and reliability, measures are being taken to establish the SLDC as an independent and autonomous body as per the recommendation endorsed by the Ministry of Power (MoP) and Grid India. Additionally, a dedicated Information Security Division will be set up to strengthen cybersecurity. Given these critical upgrades, substantial capital investment has been proposed for the fifth Control Period. Govt. of India under PSDF scheme is providing 100% grant support to SLDC.

#### 2.3.3 Commission's Views

The issues raised by the Members of the Advisory Committee have been taken into consideration while deciding on the Petitioner's claims in the Petition filed for approval of true-up of FY 2023-24, APR for FY 2024-25 and Business Plan and Multi Year Tariff for FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 as detailed in subsequent Chapters of this Order.

#### 2.4 ABT Meter Data

#### 2.4.1 Stakeholder's Comments

Shri Shakeel Siddiqui, Advisor Legal, M/s Galwalia Ispat Udyog Pvt. Ltd. and M /s Kashi Vishwanath Textile Mill Pvt. Ltd. and Shri Ashok Bansal, President, M/s Kumaon Garhwal Chamber of Commerce & Industry Uttarakhand submitted that it has become a practice of PTCUL asking monthly ABT meter data directly from consumers instead of UPCL. The consumer is helpless running to UPCL office who take their own time in providing the same for reasons better known to them. The NOC are withheld by PTCUL in absence of data which is not a good practice. The consumer has been placed in a difficult position between PTCUL and SLDC.

#### 2.4.2 Petitioner's Response

SLDC submitted that Methodology is being followed as per point No. 2 of "Detailed procedure for submission/revision of DC/requisitions & approval of Drawal/Despatch schedule by SLDC on web-based scheduling portal (www.uksldc.com) and for meter data collection, conversion, assessment during the period of meter failure/missing data, DSM calculations, billing, disbursement etc." approved by the Commission vide Letter No. UERC/5/Tech/Petition No. 7 of 2018/533 dated 25.08.2020.

#### 2.4.3 Commission's Views

The Commission is of the view that this matter is not related to the present petition being filed by the PTCUL in accordance with the UERC Tariff Regulations.

#### 2.5 Changing Formats

#### 2.5.1 Stakeholder's Comments

Shri Shakeel Siddiqui, Advisor Legal, M/s Galwalia Ispat Udyog Pvt. Ltd. and M /s Kashi Vishwanath Textile Mill Pvt. Ltd. and Shri Ashok Bansal, President, M/s Kumaon Garhwal Chamber of Commerce & Industry Uttarakhand requested UERC to standardize the language and format for every month NOC being asked by PTCUL/SLDC. Every month there is new requirement, for example in the current month a separate undertaking is being asked for consisting of undermentioned clauses:

"2. THAT I solely affirm that, in furtherance of our application for short term open access for the period from 01st February, 2025 to 28th February, 2025 the Company shall keep each of the SLDCs/RLDCs involved indemnified at all times and shall undertake to indemnify, defend and save the SLDCs/RLDCs harmless from any or all damages, losses, claims and actions including those relating to injury to or death of any person or damage to property, demands, suits, recoveries, costs and expenses, court costs, attorney fees, and all other obligations by or to third parties, arising out of or resulting from the transactions."

#### 2.5.2 Petitioner's Response

SLDC submitted that a point in the form of undertaking as per the "Procedure for Grant of Temporary General Network Access (T-GNA) to the inter-State Transmission system" of NLDC has been added in the affidavit already being provided by Open Access consumers along with the application. Relevant extract of the same is being reproduced herein below:

**"16.Indemnification:** The applicant shall keep each of the SLDCs/RLDCs/NLDC indemnified at all times and shall undertake to indemnify, defend and save the SLDCs/RLDCs/NLDC harmless from any and all damages, losses, claims, and actions, including those relating to injury to or death of any person or damage to property, demands, suits, recoveries, costs and expenses, court costs, attorney fees, and all other obligations by or to third parties, arising out of or resulting from the transactions."

From the above-cited facts, it is clear that no arbitrary approach is being followed by SLDC/PTCUL for the above-said issues raised by the stakeholders. All the methodologies are in line with relevant regulations/procedures.

#### 2.5.3 Commission's Views

The Commission is of the view that this matter is not related to the present petition being filed by the PTCUL in accordance with the UERC Tariff Regulations.

### 3 Petitioner's Submissions, Commission's Analysis, Scrutiny & Conclusion on Business Plan for Fifth Control Period

#### 3.1 Statutory Requirement

In accordance with the provisions of the Act, the Commission had notified the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2024 on September 17, 2024, applicable for determination of Tariff for the fifth Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28.

#### 3.2 Multi Year Tariff Framework

As regards the Multi Year Tariff Framework, UERC Tariff Regulations, 2024 specifies as follows:

"4. MYT Petition for the Control Period

The Multiyear tariff framework shall be based on the following:

*a)* Business plan submitted by the applicant for the entire Control Period for the approval of the Commission prior to the beginning of the Control Period;

b) Applicant's forecast of expected ARR for each year of the Control Period, based on reasonable assumptions and financial & operational principles/parameters laid down under these Regulations submitted along with the MYT petition for determination of Aggregate Revenue Requirement and Tariffs for first year of the Control Period;

c) Review of Control Period ending on 31.03.2025 shall also be taken up along with the ARR/Tariff petition for the first year of ensuing Control Period;

d) Trajectory for specific parameters as may be stipulated by the Commission based on submissions made by the Licensee, actual performance data of the Applicants and performance achieved by similarly placed utilities;

*e)* Annual review of performance shall be conducted vis-a-vis the approved forecast and categorization of variations in performance into controllable factors and uncontrollable factors;

*f)* Sharing of excess profit or loss due to controllable and uncontrollable factors as per provisions of these Regulations

• • • •

7. Determination of Baseline

The baseline values (operating and cost parameters) for the base year of the Control Period shall be determined by the Commission and shall be based on the approved values by the Commission, the latest audited accounts, estimates for the relevant year, prudence check and other factors considered by tire Commission.

The Commission may re-determine the baseline values for the base year based on the actual audited accounts of the base year.

#### **Business Plan for fifth Control Period** 3.3

Regarding Business Plan, Regulation 8 of the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2024 specifies as follows:

- "8. Business Plan
- (1) An Applicant shall submit, under affidavit and as per the UERC Conduct of Business Regulations as amended from time to time, a Business Plan by November 30\*, 2024, for the Control Period of three (3) financial years from April1, 2025 to March 31, 2028;"
- d) The Business Plan for the State Load Dispatch Centre shall be for the entire Control Period and shall, interalia, contain
  - i. *Capital Investment Plan including phasing of expenditure and funding pattern;*
  - ii. Estimated budget for the Control Period;
- The Applicant shall also submit the details in respect of its manpower planning for the Control e) Period as part of Business Plan.
- The Commission shall scrutinize and approve the business plan after following the due f) consultation process
- (2) The Applicant shall also submit the details in respect of its manpower planning for the Control Period as part of Business Plan.
- (3) The Commission shall scrutinize and approve the business plan after following the due consultation process."

In accordance with Regulation 8 of the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2024, the Petitioner submitted the Business Plan for the fifth Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28. The Petitioner in its Business Plan Petition and subsequent submissions has submitted the Capital Expenditure Plan, Capitalisation Plan, Financing Plan and Human Resources Plan for the fifth Control Period from FY Uttarakhand Electricity Regulatory Commission 17 2025-26 to FY 2027-28. The Petitioner's submissions and the Commission's analysis on approval of Business Plan for SLDC for the fifth Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 are detailed below.

#### 3.4 Capital Expenditure Plan and Capitalisation Plan

#### 3.4.1 Petitioner's Submissions

The Petitioner has proposed the Capital Expenditure and Capitalisation for the fifth Control Period as per the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2024. The Petitioner has highlighted the various works that are proposed to be completed in the Control Period FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28. The Petitioner submitted the following with reference to the proposed works as detailed in the Business Plan during the Control Period FY 2025-26 to FY 2025-26 to FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28:

#### Establishment of Security Operations Centre (SOC) at SLDC Uttarakhand

The Uttarakhand State Load Dispatch Centre (SLDC) is the apex body responsible for the integrated operation of the power system within the State. SLDC's responsibilities include the scheduling and dispatch of electricity in close coordination with UPCL, meeting the State's power demand through Hydro Electric Power (HEP) Stations under UJVNL, and managing allocated shares from Central Sector Generating Stations, as well as internal and external power purchases (open access, GNA Contracts, banking, DAM, GDAM, RTM, etc.). SLDC operates in full compliance with the directives of the Northern Regional Load Dispatch Centre (NRLDC). SLDC monitors grid parameters and drawls by distribution licensees and restricts drawl from the grid beyond specified limits by issuing directions to UPCL.

SLDC issues necessary directives to the 400/220/132/66 kV substations across Uttarakhand to control parameters and power flows, thereby ensuring grid security. SLDC also prepares daily data and reports on breakdowns, supply position, and generation for state and central authorities, including the Uttarakhand Electricity Regulatory Commission (UERC), the Northern Regional Power Committee (NRPC), the NRLDC, and the Central Electricity Authority (CEA).

SLDC also handles real-time scheduling of gas-based and other power plants for efficient grid operation and load management, utilizing the National Load Dispatch Centre (NLDC) and Grid India Portal. In response to over/under-voltage conditions, SLDC issues necessary directives to the relevant substations and takes requisite actions to regulate voltage levels and maintain system parameters in accordance with Grid Standards.

 To streamline comprehensive information security monitoring and compliance, SLDC

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Uttarakhand proposes to implement and maintain a Cyber Security Operations Center (CSOC) for its Information Technology (IT) infrastructure. This infrastructure encompasses Critical Information Infrastructure (CII) at SLDC, Sub-LDC/Backup SLDC, and the IT network of SLDC, including existing and future sites.

The proposed CSOC facility will be equipped with tools such as a Security Information and Event Management (SIEM) system, an incident management system, Anti-Advanced Persistent Threat (Anti-APT) capabilities, a Privileged Identity Management (PIM) system, and security intelligence services. These resources will enhance security monitoring and response capabilities. The establishment of the CSOC will require SLDC Uttarakhand to undertake the following activities:

- (a) Security monitoring of attacks into, on, or against Uttarakhand SLDC's IT assets, covering both IT and Operational Technology (OT) systems.
- (b) Management of security, configuration, availability, performance, and fault management; provision of advisories for security devices and associated software.
- (c) Implementation of malware scanning, protection, and reporting, including a comprehensive Anti-APT solution.
- (d) Proactive threat intelligence and threat hunting.
- (e) Bi-annual vulnerability assessment and penetration testing of critical devices, servers, applications, and solutions.
- (f) Risk assessment and mitigation, and execution support for security solutions, devices, software, and tools.
- (g) Adherence to SLDC's Information Security Policy and Cyber Security Policy.
- (h) Ensuring the adequacy, appropriateness, and currency of various policies, in accordance with the requirements of regulatory authorities, Government of India security authorities, the Information Technology Act, 2000, subsequent amendments, and applicable guidelines.
- (i) Provision of forensics support as required in the event of any incident.

The proposed CSOC service will encompass security event correlation, monitoring, incident management, and the provision of proactive security alerts and remediation.

The actions performed by SOCs have significant effects on business outcomes. Effective cyber

security measures enhance brand reputation. Within organizations, SOCs, with their focused expertise, can have a positive impact. The specific benefits of a security operations center include:

(a) **Centralized Asset Visibility:** A real-time, holistic view of an organization's software and processes facilitates the detection of problems as they occur. This centralized monitoring is highly advantageous for maintaining smooth operations, even with dispersed assets.

(b) **Cost Minimization through Enhanced Awareness:** A primary benefit of a SOC is the increased ability to control systems and reduce the potential for data loss, thereby improving return on investment and preventing breaches. SOCs help maintain the integrity of sensitive information, reduce long-term costs, and mitigate the expenses associated with recovery from theft or fraud.

(c) **Strengthened Stakeholder Trust:** Customers and employees expect that their information will be secure. Implementing robust data loss prevention measures is essential for maintaining brand integrity.

(d) **Interdepartmental Collaboration:** SOCs comprise highly trained individuals working collaboratively. During cyber security incidents, effective interdepartmental coordination is crucial for efficient problem resolution. SOCs facilitate communication and collaboration across the organization in these situations.

#### **OPGW Installation for Enhanced Communication Infrastructure**

The Petitioner submitted that the power system in the State is rapidly expanding, with increased inter-regional interconnections and the adoption of new technologies. The grid in Uttarakhand experiences significant power flow variations due to fluctuations in demand and generation throughout the day and across seasons. Consumers are demanding higher quality and reliability in power supply. Reliable communication is essential for coordinating preventive measures in response to natural disaster warnings, and for facilitating restoration operations during natural calamities and grid disturbances. A robust communication system is also necessary to support new power system operation technologies, such as Special Protection Schemes (SPS), Grid Security Expert Systems, Load Management systems, Advanced Protection Systems, and Substation Automation Systems.

The need for a wideband communication system can be summarized as follows:

- (a) The rapid expansion of the power sector, including the establishment of Independent Power Producers (IPPs), Ultra Mega Power Projects (UMPPs), high-capacity transmission systems, and the strengthening of sub-transmission systems by states, has significantly increased the number of substations and power plants requiring data and voice connectivity with SLDCs/RLDCs.
- (b) Natural disasters can cause extensive damage to communication infrastructure and endanger lives. Reliable communication is crucial for all substations at the 132kV level and above to coordinate preventive measures upon receipt of natural disaster warnings, and to manage restoration operations during such events and grid disturbances.
- (c) System operators and users recognize the importance of Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) systems and demand highly reliable systems, which require robust communication infrastructure.
- (d) The construction of transmission lines with Loop in Loop out (LILO) provisions disrupts communication systems based on Power Line Carrier Communication (PLCC), as LILOs increase the number of PLCC hops, leading to a deterioration in PLCC communication performance.
- (e) The proposed communication network will be used by all agencies connected to the grid within the SLDC control area, increasing the number of substations and power plants utilizing the power sector's communication network.
- (f) The increasing complexity of the power system necessitates Special Protection Schemes (SPS) and Grid Security Expert Systems (GSES) to ensure rapid grid operations during contingencies and facilitate load management through automated defensive mechanisms. These systems require the simultaneous transfer of signals between multiple nodes. The effectiveness of these contingency provisions, which is of paramount importance, depends on the availability of a reliable communication system.
- (g) For shorter transmission lines, current differential protection, in conjunction with

distance protection, is preferred to provide two layers of line protection based on different principles. Current differential protection relays transmit current signals, including voltage and current magnitude, and displacement angle data, between the two ends of a line using dedicated optical fibers. The increasing prevalence of LILOs often results in shorter lines, making the availability of optical fibers essential for implementing current differential protection.

- (h) The rapid expansion of the power system is making it increasingly difficult to provide PLCC for protection and voice communication on new lines due to frequency congestion. A fiber optic-based communication network will alleviate this problem.
- (i) Many substations are operated remotely by POWERGRID, and PTCUL plans to implement remote operation for all its substations. The expansion of the wideband network will support effective remote operation of existing and new substations.
- (j) System operators and users recognize the importance of Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) systems and demand highly reliable systems, which require robust communication infrastructure.
- (k) The proposed installation of Optical Ground Wire (OPGW) on the 132 kV Majra-Jhajhra and 220 kV Jhajhra-Sherpur (PGCIL) lines is crucial for the Dehradun region. It will enhance PTCUL's communication and data acquisition capabilities. This route is also vital for data communication between SLDC Dehradun and NRLDC New Delhi, utilizing the transmission network. This will ensure uninterrupted data communication and improve communication reliability, leading to increased business revenues and improved consumer efficiency.

Previous experience indicates that spare capacity on fiber optic networks can be commercially utilized by offering it to telecommunication service providers. The fiber optic network proposed in this feasibility report would also provide similar opportunities, although the extent of such usage will depend on prevailing market conditions at the time of network completion. The project does not involve any environmental issues or other limitations.

The project is necessary to provide a reliable wideband communication system that meets the data and voice requirements for grid management, natural disaster management, and new technological requirements, including data cyber security, special protection schemes, Grid Security

Expert Systems, load management, advanced protection systems, and substation automation for substations and generating stations in the Dehradun region. The project will establish a vital data communication link between SLDC Dehradun and NRLDC New Delhi.

To ensure high reliability, availability, and maintainability, the proposed communication network will incorporate the following aspects:

- (a) Optical fiber is a highly reliable communication medium and can be readily deployed by replacing ground wire with OPGW on transmission lines without requiring shutdowns.
- (b) PTCUL is installing high-capacity fiber optic cables on high-voltage lines to meet its internal communication needs and generate additional revenue by leasing excess capacity to telecommunication network providers.

The capital investment plan for the MYT Control Period is designed to establish a robust infrastructure for acquiring real-time, reliable, and accurate data for energy accounting, and to improve the control center for SLDC.

Based on the works discussed above, the project wise phasing of capital expenditure and capitalisation for SLDC in the ensuing Control Period is as given below:

S1.	Name of the Scheme	Proposed Project Cost (Rs. Crore)	FY 2025- 26	FY 2026- 27	FY 2027- 28
Α	SLDC				
1	Load and Solar Generating forecasting	6.00	0.00	4.00	2.00
2	Development of application software for operator assistance	2.00	0.75	0.75	0.50
3	Energy accounting balancing & settlement mechanism	1.50	0.50	0.50	0.50
4	Infrastructural development	0.50	0.10	0.20	0.20
	Sub-Total – [A]	10.00	1.35	5.45	3.20
В	SCADA [Dehradun]				
5	Establishment of Security Operation Centre (SOC) at SLDC Uttarakhand	14.20	0.00	7.20	7.00
6	Supply Installation and Commissioning of OPGW and Associated Equipment's for 132KV Majra - Jhajhra and 220 KV Jhajra-Dehradun (PG Line)	6.62	0.00	3.62	3.00
	Sub-Total - [B]	20.82		10.82	10.00
С	SCADA [Kashipur]				
7	Installation of Firewall and Other accessories for Cyber Security Requirement	8.45	8.45	0.00	0.00
8	Implementation of Wide Area Monitoring System with PMU and communication with recommended locations as per the recommendation of the consultant	32.80	8.20	16.40	8.20
9	Separate infrastructure along with all civil works such as building for control and offices etc. including cost equipment, software & other expenses for establishment of Back Up SLDC at 400kV S/s, Kashipur	15.23	3.81	7.62	3.81
10	Supply, Installation, Testing& Commissioning of Optical Fiber Links	53.10	10.62	42.48	0.00
11	Reliable Communication & Data Acquisition System for PTCUL	165.00	41.25	82.50	41.25
12	Implementation of Islanding Scheme for PTCUL, Uttarakhand	25.00	6.25	12.50	6.25

#### Table 3.1: Phasing of Capitalisation submitted by SLDC (Rs. Crore)

	Table 5.1. Thasing of Capitalisation sublinited by SLDC (RS. Clore)						
S1.	Name of the Scheme	Proposed Project Cost (Rs. Crore)	FY 2025- 26	FY 2026- 27	FY 2027- 28		
13	Implementation of centralized Disturbance Recording & Other Associated Scheme for PTCUL, Uttarakhand	21.00	5.25	10.50	5.25		
14	Construction of separate SLDC building at 132 KV S/S Majra	32.04		32.04			
	Sub Total - [C]	352.62	83.83	204.04	64.76		
	Grand Total – [A+B+C]	383.44	85.18	220.31	77.96		

Table 3.1: Phasing of Capitalisation submitted b	v SLDC	(Rs Crore)
Table 5.1. I hasing of Capitalisation submitted b	y SLDC	(NS. CIULE)

The Petitioner has submitted the year wise phasing of capital expenditure and capitalisation for the above proposed works as shown in the table below:

Particulars	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27	FY 2027-28
Capital Expenditure	85.18	220.31	77.96
Capitalisation	85.18	220.31	77.96

#### 3.4.2 Commission's Analysis

The Commission asked SLDC to submit its preparedness to execute the capital works proposed and Plan for monitoring the progress of execution of Capex Schemes during the MYT Control Period for FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 in terms of tendering status and funds tie-up. In its reply, the Petitioner vide letter dated December, 12, 2024, has submitted that the DPR for some of the projects proposed in future years are submitted to the Commission for approval. Finalization of detailed scope of work is under progress for the proposed works. Details in terms of tendering status and fund tie-up will be submitted only after scope finalization and investment approval.

The Commission also sought justification for such an increase in capitalisation from the previous Control Period to the next Control Period i.e. from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28. In reply the Petitioner has submitted the clarification as shown in the table below:

<b>S1</b> .	Detail of Work	Clarification			
1.	Load and Solar Generation Forecasting	These series have been an an and the survey of the former to former the forme			
2.	Development of application software for Operator assistance	These capital works are proposed to ensure accurate forecasting, economic dispatch and correct energy accounting as per existing			
3.	Energy Accounting Balancing & settlement mechanism	and upcoming regulation / rules			
4.	Infrastructure development	and upcoming regulation / rules			
5.	PSDF /Establishment of Security Operation Center (SoC) at SLDC	This new work is proposed for strengthening of Security agains' Cyber threats in compliance of the directives of CEA, NCIIPC and CERT-in			
6.	Supply and installation and commissioning of OPGW and associated equipment's for 132 kV Majra – Jhajra and 220 kV Jhajhra – Dehradun (PG Line)	This new work is proposed for providing redundant path for communication over OPGW between SLDC Dehradun and NRLDC New Delhi and strengthening of OPGW Network of SCADA.			
7.	Installation of firewall and other accessories for Cyber Security Requirement	<ol> <li>Communication technology and therefore methodology adopted by SCADA wing is changing</li> </ol>			
8.	Implementation of Wide Area Monitoring System with PMU and communication with recommended locations as per the recommendation of the consultant.	very rapidly. The Communication backbone is shifting from PLCC media to optical media, Therefore, in order to streamline and implementation			
9.	Separate infrastructure along with all civil works such as	of recent guidelines it proposed to implement			

 Table 3.3: Clarifications Submitted by the Petitioner

	Table 3.3: Clarifications Submitted by the Petitioner					
<b>S1.</b>	Detail of Work	Clarification				
	building for control and offices etc. including cost equipment, software and other expenses for establishment of Backup SLDC at 400 kV S/s Kashipur	"Reliable Communication and Data Acquisition System for PTCUL". The project is likely to cover, all this transmission lines and S/s. The above project was				
10.	Supply, Installation Testing & Commissioning of Optical Fiber Links	submitted to PSDF, Delhi for sanction for fund for 100% grant. Due to delay in the above project, it is				
11.	Reliable Communication & Data Acquisition System for PTCUL	proposed to implement "Supply, Installation, testing and Commissioning of Optical Fiber Links" on few				
12.	Implementation of centralized disturbance recording & other associated scheme at PTCUL Uttarakhand.	<ul> <li>specific line on priority basis.</li> <li>2) In order to create infrastructure for backup SLDC, it is proposed to implement "Separate infrastructure along with all Civil works such as building for control and offices etc. including cost equipment, software and other expense for establishment of backup SLDC at 400 kV S/s Kashipur". The project shall work as full-fledged SLDC on specific circumstances.</li> <li>3) In view of 1 and 2 points mentioned above, it is proposed to "Implementation of Wide Area Monitoring System with PMU and communication with recommended locations as per the recommendation of the consultant" for grid security and grid defense mechanism.</li> <li>4) In additions of the above, it is also proposed to "Implementation of the Centralized Disturbance Recording and other associated schemes for PTCUL, Uttarakhand".</li> <li>Further, it is informed that the project "Installation of Firewall and Other Accessories for Cyber Security Requirement" is required to defend against cyber threads and the firewall and switches shall be installed.</li> </ul>				
13.	Construction of separate of SLDC Building 132 kV S/s Majra	This ongoing project is proposed for smooth functioning of SLDC.				

The Commission noted the submissions of the Petitioner. During the TVS, the Commission sought the details of the physical and financial progress for works proposed to be capitalised in FY 2025-26 and also asked the Petitioner to reassess and revise the proposed capitalisation from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28. In reply, the Petitioner vide letter dated February, 07, 2025, has submitted the revised Capital Investment Plan from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 alongwith current status as per below:

#### Table 3.4: Details of the Revised Capital Investment Plan submitted by the Petitioner

S1. No.	Name of the Scheme	Proposed Project Cost (Rs. Crore)	FY2025- 26	FY 2026- 27	FY 2027-28	Proposed Year of Completion	Remarks	
Α	SLDC + SCADA							
1	Load and Solar generation forecasting.	6	0.00	2	4	FY 27-28	LDCD	DPR preparation is under progress
2	Development of application software for operator assistance	2	0.5	0.75	0.75	FY27-28	LDCD	DPR preparation is under progress
3	Energy accounting balancing and settlement mechanism	1.5	0	0.75	0.75	FY27-28	LDCD	DPR preparation is under progress
4	Infrastructural development	0.5	0.1	0.2	0.2	FY27-28	LDCD	DPR preparation is under progress
5	Establishment of Next Generation Security Operation	11 93	0	5.23	5	FY 27-28	PSDF Grant upto 11.93 Cr only	Revision of DPR is under progress

	Table 3.4: Details of the Revised Capital Investment Plan submitted by the Petitioner							
Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Proposed Project Cost (Rs. Crore)	FY2025- 26	FY 2026- 27	FY 2027-28	Proposed Year of Completion	Ren	narks
	Centre (SOC) at SLDC Uttarakhand							
6	Implementation of Unified Load Dispatch and Communication (ULDC) Phase-III (SCADA/EMS Up gradation Project-NR SLDCs and RLDC)	48.42	0	6.91	6.91	FY 27-28	Project is being executed by M/s PGCIL for all constituent in NR and NRLDC in RTM mode.	
7	Installation of Firewall and Other accessories for Cyber Security Requirement	8.45	0	1.69	6.76	FY27-28	Approved in 92nd BoD	DPR is submitted to the Commission for approval.
8	Reliable Communication & Data Acquisition System for PTCUL	298.34	0	59.67	238.672	FY27-28	Submitted to PSDF for Grant Approval	In light of recent guidelines with respect to number of fibre, revised DPR is submitted to PSDF- NLDC & BoD for approval.
	Sub-Total – [A]							
В	SCADA [Kashipur]							
1	Installation of Firewall and Other accessories for Cyber Security Requirement	8.45	-	1.69	6.76		Approved in 92 <sup>nd</sup> BoD	DPR is submitted to the Commission.
2	Implementation of Wide Area Monitoring System with PMU and communication with recommended locations as per the recommendation of the consultant	32.8	-	6.56	26.24		The project shall submit to PSDF for 100% grant	Revised DPR regarding the project is under preparation.
3	Separate infrastructure along with all civil works such as building for control and offices etc. including cost equipment, software & other expenses for establishment of Back Up SLDC at 400 kV S/s, Kashipur	15.23	-	3.04	12.18		The DPR shall be submitted to UERC under Infrastructural Development after approval from BoD.	Revised DPR regarding the project is under preparation.
4	Reliable Communication & Data Acquisition System for PTCUL	298.34	-	59.66	238.67		Submitted to PSDF for 100% Grant	In light of recent guidelines with respect to number of fiber, revised DPR is submitted to PSDF- NLDC & BoD approval.
5	Implementation of centralized Disturbance Recording & Other Associated Scheme for PTCUL, Uttarakhand	21	-	4.2	16.8		Funding shall be under Investment Agency	DPR preparation is under progress.
6	Construction of separate SLDC building at 132 kV Substation Majra	32.04	19.09	6.41	0	May-26	LDCD/ SASCI	Work in progress

The Commission has observed the discrepancies between the year-wise capital expenditure proposed in the Business Plan Petition and the revised scheme-wise capital expenditure plan submitted by the Petitioner. Specifically, the Petitioner, vide letter dated February 07, 2025, revised the capitalisation values for certain schemes without providing adequate justification. The Petitioner

also withdrew the following projects from its revised submission and hence the Commission has not considered these schemes while approving the Capital Investment Plan for FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28:

- "Supply Installation & Commissioning of OPGW & Associated Equipment for 132KV Majra
   Jhajhra & 220 KV Jhajhra-Dehradun (PG Line)";
- "Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of Optical Fiber Links";
- "Implementation of Islanding Scheme for PTCUL, Uttarakhand".

The Commission further observed that a Detailed Project Report (DPR) amounting to Rs. 8.45 Crore was submitted to the Commission for the project *"Installation of Firewall and Other accessories for Cyber Security* Requirement," and that DPRs for the remaining projects are still in progress.

Further the Commission observed that the work "Implementation of Unified Load Dispatch and Communication (ULDC) Phase-III (SCADA/EMS Upgradation Project-NR SLDCs and RLDC)" was submitted by the Petitioner in its revised submission vide letter dated February 07, 2025. The Commission is of the view that implementation of ULDC is important for the SLDC to monitor, operate, and control the power grid. Hence, considering this aspect the Commission has considered the project in the Control period FY 2026-27 and FY 2027-28.

Based on the foregoing analysis, the Commission concluded that the remaining capital expenditure schemes proposed by the Petitioner are essential and important for strengthening the SLDC and ensuring disciplined grid operations. Therefore, the Commission has approved the Business Plan for the fifth Control Period for FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 as shown in the Table below:

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27	FY 2027-28
1.	Load and Solar Generation Forecasting	0	0	6.00
2.	Development of application software for Operator assistance	0	0	2.00
3.	Energy Accounting Balancing & settlement mechanism	0	0	1.50
4.	Infrastructural development	0	0	0.50
5.	Establishment of Security Operation Centre (SOC) at SLDC	0	0	14.20
6.	Installation of Firewall and Other accessories for Cyber Security Requirement	8.45	0	0
7.	Implementation of Wide Area Monitoring System with PMU and communication with recommended locations as per the recommendation of the consultant	0	0	32.80
8.	Reliable Communication & Data Acquisition System for PTCUL	0	0	165.00
9.	Implementation of Islanding Scheme for PTCUL, Uttarakhand	0	0	25.00
10.	Implementation of centralized Disturbance Recording & Other Associated Scheme for PTCUL, Uttarakhand	0	21.00	0.00
11.	Construction of separate SLDC building at 132 KV S/S Majra	0	32.04	0

Table 3.5: Capital Investment Plan considered by the Commission (Rs. Crore)

	Tuble blot capital interstitient Flair constanted by the	commissio		-)
Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27	FY 2027-28
12.	Implementation of Unified Load Dispatch and Communication (ULDC) Phase-III (SCADA/EMS Upgradation Project-NR SLDCs and RLDC)	0	6.91	6.91
	TOTAL	8.45	59.95	253.91

#### Table 3.5: Capital Investment Plan considered by the Commission (Rs. Crore)

#### 3.5 Financing Plan

#### 3.5.1 Petitioner's Submissions

The Petitioner has submitted that the funding pattern of project is proposed as 70:30 Debt to Equity after considering the LDCD fund. The debt shall be raised from institutions like PFC, REC or other financial institutions. The details of the funding pattern is shown in the table below:

Table 5.0. I unung Tattern of proposed Capitalisation (RS. Clore)							
Particular	FY2025-26	FY2026-27	FY2027-28				
Capitalisation	85.18	220.31	77.96				
Debt	55.18	153.2	53.73				
Equity	23.65	65.66	23.03				
Grant	0	0	0				
LDCD	6.35	1.45	1.2				

 Table 3.6: Funding Pattern of proposed Capitalisation (Rs. Crore)

#### 3.5.2 Commission's Analysis

Regulation 24 of the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2024 specifies as follows:

#### "24. Debt-equity ratio

(1) For a project declared under commercial operation on or after 1.4.2025, 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.

....″

#### Regulation 98 of the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2024 specifies as follows:

#### "98. LDC Development Fund:

- (1) The SLDC shall create and maintain a separate fund called 'Load Dispatch 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 utilize 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.
- ...″
- (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."

During the TVS, the Commission sought the detailed financing plan for each scheme proposed along with the supporting documents. In reply, the Petitioner vide letter dated February, 07, 2025, has submitted that DPRs for funding shall be submitted to the Financial Institutions after the Investment Approval of the Commission and Ioan component shall be arranged accordingly. The Commission observed that the Petitioner vide letter dated February 07, 2025, has submitted the revised details of the scheme wise funding pattern.

The Petitioner in its revised submission has submitted that the Projects namely "Establishment of Security Operation Centre (SOC) at SLDC"; "Implementation of Wide Area Monitoring System with PMU and communication with recommended locations as per the recommendation of the consultant;" and "Reliable Communication & Data Acquisition System for PTCUL" are funded from grant. Further the Commission has considered the utilisation of LDCD fund available at the opening of year as discussed in the subsequent section. Accordingly, the Commission has considered and approved the financing plan as shown in the Table below:

Particulars	FY 2025-26		FY 2	026-27	FY 2027-28	
1 articulars	Claimed	Allowable	Claimed	Allowable	Claimed	Allowable
Capitalisation	85.18	8.45	220.31	59.95	77.96	253.91
Debt	55.18	1.47	153.20	36.47	53.73	28.48
Equity	23.65	0.63	65.66	15.63	23.03	12.20
LDCD Fund	6.35	6.35	1.45	7.85	1.20	1.23
Grants	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	212.00
Debt (%)	64.78%	17.40%	69.54%	60.84%	68.92%	11.21%
Equity (%)	27.76%	7.46%	29.80%	26.07%	29.54%	4.81%
LDCD Fund (%)	7.45%	75.15%	0.66%	13.09%	1.54%	0.48%
Grants (%)	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	83.49%

 Table 3.7: Financing Plan approved by the Commission (Rs. Crore)

#### 3.6 Human Resource Plan

#### 3.6.1 Petitioner's Submissions

The Petitioner has proposed the Human Resource Plan in accordance with the Regulation 8(2) of the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2025. The HR plan for the fifth Control Period form FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 as submitted by the Petitioner is as shown in the Table below:

Table 5.8. HK Flatt as sublitted by the retitioner									
Particular	FY 2023-24	FY 2024-25	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27	FY 2028-29				
Opening number of employees	NA	45	46	56	67				
Addition of employes addition	NA	0	10	11	0				
Retirement of employees	NA	0	0	0	0				
Closing number of employees	45	46	56	67	67				

	Table	3.8:	HR	Plan	as	submitted	by	the	Petitioner
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#### 3.6.2 *Commissions' Analysis*

Regulation 8(2) of the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2024 specifies as follows:

"The Applicant shall also submit the details in respect of its manpower planning for the Control Period as part of Business Plan."

During the TVS, the Commission asked the Petitioner to submit the actual status of the recruitment. In reply, the Petitioner vide letter dated February 07, 2025, submitted that the Ministry of Power, Govt. of India, New Delhi vide their letter No. 22-1306/4/2022 [E-262577] dated 30.10.2024 circulated 'Workforce Adequacy Guidelines for Load Despatch Centres' and 'Guidelines for deputation of Workforce from SLDCs to Grid-India' for compliance to the Secretariat of Pan India. As per the said guidelines the SLDC, Uttarakhand fall under category of 'Medium SLDC's for which 103 nos. of consolidated manpower have been proposed for smooth functioning of SLDC. In this regard the said guidelines have been forwarded to the committee constituted for reviewing of staff structure with a direction to study and analyse the guidelines for SLDC and submit its report.

Further, Petitioner submitted that as per the work requirements of the State Load Despatch Centre (SLDC), sufficient staff have been posted from PTCUL's sanctioned manpower structure to ensure smooth functioning. Once the SLDC is ring-fenced, a proposal for 103 personnel – based on the 'Workforce Adequacy Guidelines for Load Despatch Centres' and the 'Guidelines for Deputation of Workforce from SLDCs to Grid-India' – will be submitted to the Board. Following the Board's recommendations, it will then be forwarded to the Government of Uttarakhand (GoU) for approval. Presently, 27 nos. regular employees and two outsourced DEOs are posted at the SLDC, which are meeting the Phase-I requirements as recommended by the committee. For Phase-II, the Petitioner submitted a proposal for 34 manpower positions for FY 2025-26, depending on the SLDC upgradation projects. This includes 01 no. Chief Engineer (CE), 01 no. Superintending Engineer (SE), 05 nos. Assistant Engineer (AE), 01 no. Account Officer and 02 nos. Accountants. For Phase-III, the petitioner submitted that a new SLDC building is currently under construction. Once the SLDC is fully ring-fenced with this new facility, a total of 45 nos. regular employees and 06 nos. outsourced staff will be provided accordingly.

The Commission observed that there is mismatch in number of employee addition proposed in the submission dated November 23, 2024, wherein, SLDC has proposed the revised 36 nos. of employees to be recruited in the FY 2025-26 as against the initial submission in the Petition of 10 nos. of employee. Hence, in absence of any justified reason for the revision of the manpower, the Commission has approved HR Plan based on the initial submission as shown in the Table below:

Particulars	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27	FY 2027-28
Opening no. of employees	45	55	66
Recruitment during the year	10	11	0
Retirement during the year	-	0	0
Closing no. of employees	55	66	66

 Table 3.9: HR Plan approved by the Commission

## 4 Petitioner's Submissions, Commission's Analysis, Scrutiny & Conclusion on APR of FY 2024-25 and MYT for the fifth Control Period

#### 4.1 Annual Performance Review for FY 2024-25

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(1) 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 2021-22. The Commission vide its Order dated March 31, 2022 had approved the Business Plan and Multi Year Tariff (MYT) for SLDC for the fourth Control Period from FY 2022-23 to FY 2024-25. The Commission vide its Order dated March 30, 2023 had

approved the Annual Performance Review for FY 2022-23 and determined the ARR for FY 2023-24. Further, the Commission vide its Order dated March 28, 2024 had approved the Annual Performance Review for FY 2023-24 and determined the ARR for FY 2024 25.

SLDC has filed this Petition for True-up for FY 2023-24, Annual Performance Review for FY 2024-25 and ARR for FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28. 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. Although, SLDC requested the Commission to True Up the expenses for SLDC for FY 2023-24 by filing a separate true up for FY 2023-24 and submitting the separate audited accounts for SLDC for FY 2023-24, but the Commission observed that the actual income and expenses of SLDC for FY 2023-24 are part of income and expenses of PTCUL and are included in PTCUL's audited accounts.

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 Commission in its Order dated March 30, 2023 on approval of ARR of FY 2023-24 directed as under:

"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."

The Commission in its Order dated March 28, 2024 on approval of ARR of FY 2024-25 directed as under:

"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 2023-24 along with the APR of FY 2024-25 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."

The Petitioner in the instant Petition submitted that the SLDC has still not been incorporated as a separate legal entity, however, separate audited accounts of SLDC have been prepared segregating the revenue and expenses of SLDC. PTCUL has already initiated the ring-fencing of the SLDC from PTCUL. As the first step, the separate business vertical for SLDC and SCADA has been mandated and the separate accounts have been prepared and audited accordingly for the FY 2023-24. The Petitioner submitted that the audited accounts are being submitted as part of the truing up Petition for the SLDC. As the next step forward, PTCUL has allocated the common expenses to be separately booked for PTCUL and SLDC. The Commission observes that although SLDC has segregated and separated their audited accounts for FY 2023-24, however, the actual income and expenses of SLDC for FY 2023-24 are still the part of PTCUL income and expenses and are included in PTCUL's audited accounts. As the complete audited accounts for SLDC are not available separately for FY 2023-24, the Commission is unable to carry out the truing up of SLDC for FY 2023-24 separately. Accordingly, the truing up of expenses and revenue of SLDC for FY 2023-24 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, 2024 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 2024-25 along with the APR of FY 2025-26 in accordance with the MYT Regulations, 2021 and UERC Tariff Regulations, 2024 respectively 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 2024-25 and projected the ARR for the next Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 in the instant Petition. The Commission in this Order has approved the ARR for the next Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 based on the GFA approved for FY 2023-24, revised GFA for FY 2024-25 and capital investment plan as approved in business plan chapter of SLDC. The approach adopted by the Commission in approving the ARR for the next Control Period from FY 2027-28 is elaborated in the subsequent Sections of this Order.

In accordance with Regulation 12(3) of the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2021, 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 2024-25 based on the audited accounts for FY 2024-25 and give effect to this account in the ARR of FY 2026-27 in accordance with Regulation 12(3) of the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2021. The Commission has computed certain expenses for FY 2024-25 based on the revised GFA for FY 2027-28.

## 4.2 Gross Fixed Assets

The Petitioner has considered the opening GFA for FY 2023-24 as Rs. 34.58 Crore as approved by the Commission vide Order dated March 28, 2024.

The Commission has noted the submissions of Petitioner. Accordingly, the Commission has considered the Opening GFA for FY 2023-24 same as that approved during APR of FY 2023-24 i.e. Rs. 34.58 Crore.

## 4.2.1 GFA Addition for 2023-24:

The Petitioner has claimed GFA addition of Rs. 1.643 Crore during FY 2023-24 towards Schemes as shown in the table below:

S1. No.	Work	Claimed
1.	Procurement and installation of solar power system at microwave station, Chilla	0.012
2.	Replacement of existing defective 48 V battery bank and charger with new battery bank and charger at SCADA, Rishikesh	0.157
3.	Replacement of old and obsolete AC's with new AC's at SCADA, Rishikesh	0.088
4.	Supply of Godrej make furniture at SCADA subdivision, Roorkee	0.02
5.	Purchase of mobile phone for JE, SCADA, Dehradun	0.001
6.	Replacement of 48V old battery bank with new battery bank at 132 Kv S/S at Majra, Dehradun	0.079
7.	Replacement of 48V old battery bank at 220 Kv S/S at Sidcul, Haridwar	0.071
8.	Maintenance charges for communication equipment for 02 year during warranty period	0.207
9.	Maintenance charges for communication equipment for 02 year during warranty period	0.207
10.	Maintenance charges for communication equipment system (excluding FO cabling) for 01 year after warranty period	0.276
11.	Training on fiber optic cabling (OPGW) and training on telecom equipment for communication equipment system (excluding FO cabling)	0.434
12.	Computers	0.008
13.	Computers	0.001
14.	Supply and Maintenance work at SCADA S/D Roorkee	0.001
15.	Purchase of water purifier	0.002
16.	Purchase of Furniture	0.05
17.	Computers	0.013
18.	Purchase of mobile phone for EE, SLDC	0.002
19.	Mobile phone received from O&M Division, Dehradun	0.002
20.	T&P received from HQPU	0.008
21.	Providing and installation of finger Wi-fi adapter with 300Mbps and Wi-fi routers	0.001
22.	Providing and fixing of metallic floor standing server cabinate 17U and other computer related works	0.003
	Total	1.643

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The Commission has noted the submissions of Petitioner. As discussed above SLDC has failed to completely separate the accounts of SLDC and PTCUL for FY 2023-24 and has further not submitted the separate audited annual accounts for SLDC for FY 2023-24. 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.

As some of the works claimed by SLDC are of R&M nature and hence the Commission has considered only works which are of capital nature to be considered for the capitalisation in FY 2023-24 which amount to Rs 0.407 Crore claimed by SLDC under the other works for PTCUL for FY 2023-24 Truing Up. Further, with regard to the capitalisation of minor assets of Rs. 1.24 Crore towards Furniture & Fixtures, and Office Equipment, the Commission in the Truing Up of FY 2023-24 for PTCUL has held that these expenses are towards minor assets and are to be considered as part of Operations & Maintenance (O&M) expenses. Hence, the same are not allowed as capitalisation during FY 2023-24 and added to actual O&M expenses for FY 2023-24 in the Truing Up exercise of FY 2023-24 for PTCUL. Accordingly, the Commission approves NIL capitalisation for SLDC during FY 2023-24 and accordingly arrived at the closing GFA for FY 2023-24 as Rs. 34.58 Crore.

#### 4.2.2 GFA base for FY 2024-25

The Petitioner has considered the opening GFA for FY 2024-25 as closing Gross Fixed Asset of FY 2023-24.

The Petitioner has claimed the addition of Rs. 0.0052 Crore during the FY 2024-25. During the TVS, the Commission asked the Petitioner to submit the details of the capitalisation claim of Rs. 0.0052 Crore. The Petitioner vide letter dated February 07, 2025 has submitted the details of the work i.e. Supply of multifunction printer & maintenance work at SCADA Sub-division, Roorkee of Rs. 0.002 Crore and Bio-metric machine at SCADA Sub-division, Roorkee of Rs. 0.001 Crore. The Commission is of the view that such schemes are of O&M nature and shall be met from the Operations & Maintenance (O&M) expenses. Hence the Commission has not considered the addition and approved the NIL capitalisation for FY 2024-25. Accordingly, the Commission has considered the NIL GFA addition for FY 2024-25 and accordingly arrived at the closing GFA of Rs. 34.58 Crore for FY 2024-25. The actual capitalisation during FY 2024-25 shall be considered by the Commission at the time of truing up subject to prudence check.

## 4.2.3 Capitalisation during the fifth Control Period

The Petitioner has proposed the capitalisation of Rs. 85.18 Crore, Rs. 220.31 Crore and Rs. 77.96 Crore for FY 2025-26, FY 2026-27 and FY 2027-28 respectively as per the Capitalisation Plan submitted in its Petition for approval of Business Plan for the fifth Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28.

The Commission, in the approval of Business Plan for the fifth Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 as discussed in Chapter 2 has approved the capitalisation of Rs. 8.45 Crore, Rs. 59.95 Crore and Rs. 253.91 Crore for FY 2025-26, FY 2026-27 and FY 2027-28 respectively. The Commission has considered the year wise capitalisation for the fifth Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 as approved in the Business Plan. The GFA base approved by the Commission for the fifth Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 is as shown in the Table below:

Table 4.2: GFA base approved by the Commission for the fifth Control Period from FY 2025-26to FY 2027-28 (Rs. Crore)

	FY 2025-2	26	FY 2026-2	27	FY 2027-28	
Particulars	Claimed by SLDC	Approved	Claimed by SLDC	Approved	Claimed by SLDC	Approved
Opening GFA	36.23	34.58	121.41	43.03	341.71	102.98
GFA addition during the year	85.18	8.45	220.31	59.95	77.96	253.91
Closing GFA	121.41	43.03	341.71	102.98	419.67	356.89

## 4.2.4 Financing Plan

The Petitioner has proposed the Debt-equity ratio of the proposed capitalisation during the fifth Control Period as per the Financing Plan submitted in its Petition for approval of the Business Plan for the fifth Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28.

The Commission, in the approval of Business Plan for the fifth Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 as discussed in Chapter 2 has approved the Financing Plan of the approved capitalisation during the fifth Control Period. The Commission has considered the Financing Plan for the fifth Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 as approved in the Business Plan. The Debt and Equity of approved capitalisation during the fifth Control Period is as shown in the Table below:

Table 4.5: Financing Fian approved by the Commission									
Particulars	FY 2025-2	26	FY 2026-2	27	FY 2027-28				
	Claimed by SLDC	Approved	Claimed BY SLDC	Approved	Claimed by SLDC	Approved			
Capitalisation (Rs. Crore)	85.18	8.45	220.31	59.95	77.96	253.91			
Debt (Rs. Crore)	55.18	1.47	153.20	36.47	53.73	28.48			
Equity (Rs. Crore)	23.65	0.63	65.66	15.63	23.03	12.20			
LDCD Fund (Rs. Crore)	6.35	6.35	1.45	7.85	1.20	1.23			

 Table 4.3: Financing Plan approved by the Commission

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Particulars	FY 2025-2	26	FY 2026-2	27	FY 2027-28	
	Claimed by SLDC	Approved	Claimed BY SLDC	Approved	Claimed by SLDC	Approved
Grants (Rs. Crore)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	212.00
Debt (%)	64.78%	17.40%	69.54%	60.84%	68.92%	11.21%
Equity (%)	27.76%	7.46%	29.80%	26.07%	29.54%	4.81%
LDCD Fund (%)	7.45%	75.15%	0.66%	13.09%	1.54%	0.48%
Grants (%)	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	83.49%

#### Table 4.3: Financing Plan approved by the Commission

### 4.3 Annual SLDC Charges

Regulation 99 of the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2024 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 each year of the fifth Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28.

#### 4.3.1 Operation and Maintenance expenses

Regarding the Operation and Maintenance expenses, Regulation 100 of the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2024 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. 2024-25, shall be approved based on the formula given below:-

 $O \mathscr{E} M n = R \mathscr{E} M n + E M P n + A \mathscr{E} G n$ 

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:

EMPn = (EMPn-1) x (1+Gn) x (1+CPlinflation)

R & Mn = K x (GFAn-1) x (1+WPIinflation) and

A&Gn = (A&Gn-1) x (1+WPIinflation) + Provision

Where -

- EMPn-1 Employee Costs for the (n-1)th year;
- *A&G n-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 of the transmission licensee for the n-1th year;

• Gn is a growth factor for the nth year and it can be greater than or less than zero based on the actual performance. Value of Gn shall be determined by the Commission in the MYT tariff order for meeting the additional manpower requirement based on SLDC'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. In accordance with Regulation 100 of the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2024, the O&M expenses for the first year of the Control Period shall be determined by the Commission taking into account actual O&M expenses of the previous years and any other factors considered appropriate by the Commission. The submissions of the Petitioner and the Commission's analysis on the O&M expenses for the fifth Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 is detailed below.

#### 4.3.1.1 Employee expenses

The Commission had approved the employee expenses of Rs. 6.02 Crore for FY 2024-25 in its Order dated March 28, 2024 on approval of ARR for FY 2024-25. The Petitioner, in its Petition, has proposed the employee expenses for FY 2024-25 as Rs. 6.15 Crore.

The Petitioner submitted that the employee expenses for the fifth Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 has been proposed as per the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2024. Further, the Gn factor for Control Period is considered as per manpower planning for the Control Period. Accordingly, the Petitioner has proposed the employee expenses of Rs. 7.89 Crore, Rs. 9.96 Crore and Rs. 10.50 Crore for FY 2025-26, FY 2026-27 and FY 2027-28 respectively.

The UERC Tariff Regulations, 2024 stipulate the normative O&M expenses for the fifth Control Period to be approved taking into account the actual O&M expenses of last five years, i.e. FY 2019-20 to FY 2023-24. As SLDC is not yet incorporated as a separate entity, the Commission did not carry out the true up of SLDC separately. Further, the actual O&M expenses for some of the years during FY 2019-20 to FY 2023-24 also includes the impact of Seventh Pay Commission and arrears for the same.

Regulation 103(2) of the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2024 stipulates as under:

"(2) Nothing in these Regulations shall bar the Commission from adopting in conformity with provisions of the Act, a procedure which is at variance with any of the provisions of these Regulations, if the Commission, in view of the special circumstances of a matter or a class of matters, deems it just or expedient for deciding such matter or class of matters."

In view of the special circumstances in this case, in exercise of powers conferred by the above stated Regulation, the Commission finds it prudent to deviate from the methodology stipulated in

the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2024 for approval of normative employee expenses for the fifth Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28.

The Commission has considered the normative opening employee expenses of Rs. 5.71 Crore the same as approved in the Tariff Order for FY 2024-25. This normative opening employee expenses have been adjusted for the Gn factor approved for FY 2024-25 and escalated with CPI inflation of 5.46% to arrive at the normative employee expenses for FY 2024-25. The employee expenses so arrived have been considered as the employee expenses for FY 2024-25. From FY 2025-26 onwards, the Commission has computed the normative employee expenses in accordance with Regulation 100(3) considering the Gn factor approved for the corresponding year and the CPI inflation of 4.84%.

The Commission, in the approval of the Business Plan for the fifth Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 as discussed in Chapter 2 has approved the HR Plan. Based on the approved HR Plan, the Commission has computed the 'Gn' Factor as shown in the Table below:

Table 4.4: Computation of 'Gn' Factor							
Particulars	FY 2025-26	FY 2027-28					
Closing no. of employees	55	66	66				
Gn	22.22%	20.00%	0.00%				

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With this approach, the normative employee expenses approved for the fifth Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 is as shown in the Table below:

Table 4.5: Employee expenses approved by the Commission for the fifth Control Period from FY
2025-26 to FY 2027-28 (Rs. Crore)

	FY 2025-26		FY 202	6-27	FY2027-28	
Particulars	Claimed by SLDC	Approved	Claimed by SLDC	Approved	Claimed by SLDC	Approved
EMPn-1	6.15	6.02	7.89	7.71	9.96	9.70
Gn	21.74%	22.22%	19.64%	20%	0.00%	0%
CPI inflation	5.46%	4.84%	5.46%	4.84%	5.46%	4.84%
EMPn=(EMPn-1) x (1+Gn)x(1+CPIinflation)	7.89	7.71	9.96	9.70	10.50	10.17

## 4.3.1.2 *R&M expenses*

The Commission has approved the R&M expenses of Rs. 3.68 Crore for FY 2024-25 in its Tariff Order dated March 28, 2024 on approval of ARR for FY 2024-25. The Petitioner has proposed the R&M expenses for FY 2024-25 as Rs. 3.23 Crore. The Petitioner submitted the WPI inflation considered for the MYT period as 7.21% which is the average increase in the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) for FY 2022-23 to FY 2023-24.

The Petitioner has not claimed any AMC Fee for FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28. Accordingly, the Commission has not considered any AMC fee for fifth Control Period.

The Commission has determined the R&M expenses for the fifth Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 in accordance with UERC Tariff Regulations, 2024. The Commission has computed the percentage of actual R&M expenses over approved opening GFA for each year of FY 2021-22 to FY 2023-24. Thereafter, the Commission has considered the average of such percentages as K factor which works out to 6.05%. The Commission has considered the opening GFA for each year of the fifth Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 as approved in this Order. The Commission has considered the WPI inflation of 3.65% which is the average increase in the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) for FY 2022-23 to FY 2024-25.

With this approach, the R&M expenses approved by the Commission for the fifth Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 is as shown in the Table below:

	FY 2025-26		FY	2026-27	FY 2027-28				
Particulars	Claimed by PTCUL	Approved	Claimed by PTCUL	Approved	Claimed by PTCUL	Approved			
K Factor	8.33%	6.05%	8.33%	6.05%	8.33%	6.05%			
GFAn-1	36.23	34.58	121.41	43.03	341.71	102.98			
WPI inflation	7.21%	3.65%	7.21%	3.65%	7.21%	3.65%			
R&Mn = K x (GFAn-1) x (1+WPI inflation)	3.24	2.17	10.84	2.70	30.52	6.46			

Table 4.6: R&M expenses approved by the Commission for the fifth Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 (Rs. Crore)

## 4.3.1.3 A&G expenses

The Commission has approved the A&G expenses of Rs. 0.89 Crore for FY 2024-25 in its Tariff Order dated March 28, 2024 on approval of ARR for FY 2024-25. The Petitioner, in its Petition, has proposed the A&G expenses for FY 2024-25 as Rs. 0.89 Crore. The Petitioner submitted the WPI inflation considered for the MYT period as 7.21% which is the average increase in the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) for FY 2022-23 to FY 2023-24.

The Petitioner submitted that the A&G expenses for the fifth Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 has been proposed as per the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2024. Accordingly, the Petitioner has proposed the A&G expenses of Rs. 0.96 Crore, Rs. 1.02 Crore and Rs. 1.10 Crore for FY 2025-26, FY 2026-27 and FY 2027-28 respectively.

The computation of A&G expenses submitted by the Petitioner fails to adhere to Regulation 100(1) of the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2024. Contrary to the regulatory requirement, the A&G expense for the first year of the Control Period was not determined based on the actual O&M expenses incurred during the five years prior to the base year.

As discussed in above para of employee expenses the Commission has deviated from the methodology stipulated in the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2024 for approval of normative A&G expenses for the fifth Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28.

The Commission has considered the normative of A&G expenses approved in the Tariff Order for FY 2023-24, i.e. Rs. 0.81 Crore as the Base A&G Expenses and then escalated first with WPI inflation of 7.23 % to derive the normative A&G expense for FY 2024-25 and again escalating it with WPI inflation of 3.65% to arrive at the normative A&G expenses for FY 2025-26. From FY 2025-26 onwards, the Commission has computed the normative A&G expenses in accordance with the Regulation 100(3) considering the WPI inflation of 3.65%. The normative A&G expenses approved by the Commission for the fifth Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 is as shown in the Table below:

Table 4.7: A&G expenses approved by the Commission for the fifth Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY2027-28 (Rs. Crore)

	FY 2025-26		FY 202	6-27	FY 2027-28	
Particulars	Claimed by SLDC	Approved	Claimed by SLDC	Approved	Claimed by SLDC	Approved
A&Gn-1	0.89	0.87	0.96	0.90	1.02	0.93
WPI inflation	7.21%	3.65%	7.21%	3.65%	7.21%	3.65%
Provision	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
A&Gn=A&Gn-1 x (1+WPI inflation) + Provision	0.96	0.90	1.02	0.93	1.10	0.97

## 4.3.1.4 O&M expenses

The O&M expenses approved by the Commission for the fifth Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 is as shown in the Table below:

Table 4.8: O&M expenses approved by the Commission for the fifth Control Period from FY2025-26 to FY 2027-28 (Rs. Crore)

			,	,			
	FY 202	5-26	FY 2020	6-27	FY 2027-28		
Particulars	Claimed by SLDC	Approved	Claimed by SLDC	Approved	Claimed by SLDC	Approved	
Employee expenses	7.89	7.71	9.96	9.70	10.50	10.17	
R&M expenses	3.24	2.17	10.84	2.70	30.52	6.46	
A&G expenses	0.96	0.90	1.02	0.93	1.10	0.97	
Total O&M expenses	12.08	10.78	21.82	13.33	42.12	17.59	

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#### 4.3.2 Return on Equity

The Petitioner has considered the opening equity for FY 2025-26 as Rs. 10.00 Crore. Further the funding details for the capitalisation in each year of the Control Period has been submitted in the Business Plan. The Petitioner has proposed the Return on Equity at the rate of 15.50% on the average equity for the year. Accordingly, the Petitioner has proposed the RoE of Rs. 3.46 Crore, Rs. 10.39 Crore and Rs. 17.26 Crore for FY 2025-26, FY 2026-27 and FY 2027-28 respectively.

Regarding the Return on Equity, Regulation 26 of the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2024 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 amount of allowed equity capital for the assets put to use at the commencement of each financial year.

Provided further that, if the generating stations/licensees are able to demonstrate the actual date of asset being put to use and capitalized in its accounts of each asset for the purposes of business carried on by it through documentary evidence, including but not limited to 'asset put to use certificate', 'audited accounts' etc., then in such cases, after due satisfaction of the Commission, the RoE shall be allowed on pro-rata basis after considering additional capitalization done during the year out of the equity capital.

(2) Return on equity shall be computed on at the base rate of 15.5% for thermal generating stations, transmission licensee, SLDC and run of the river hydro generating station and at the base rate of 16.50% for the storage type hydro generating stations and run of river generating station with pondage and distribution licensee on a post-tax basis.

Provided that return on equity in respect of additional capitalization after 01.04.2025 beyond the original scope of work excluding additional capitalization due to Change in Law, shall be computed at the base rate of one-year marginal cost of lending rate (MCLR) of the State Bank of India plus 350 basis points as on 1st April of the year, subject to a ceiling of 14%;

Provided further that:

(i) In case of generation and transmission projects commissioned on or after 1st April,

2025, an additional Return of 0.5% shall be allowed if such projects are completed within the timeline as specified in Appendix - I to these Regulations.

(*ii*) The additional return of 0.5% shall not be admissible if the project is not completed within the timeline specified above for whatsoever reasons:

(iii) Additional RoE of 0.50% may be allowed if any element of the transmission project is completed within the specified timeline and it is certified by the Northern Regional Power Committee that commissioning of the particular element will benefit the system operation in the regional/national grid:

*(iv) Additional RoE shall not be admissible for transmission line having length of less than* 50 kilometers."

Hence, the Commission has determined the RoE for each year of the fifth Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 considering the eligible opening equity for return for the respective year. The addition has been for each year has been considered based on capitalisation approved in Business Plan chapter for FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28.

The Return on Equity approved by the Commission for the fifth Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 is as shown in the Table below:

Table 4.9: Return on Equity approved by the Commission for the fifth Control Period from FY2025-26 to FY 2027-28 (Rs. Crore)

	FY 202	FY 2025-26		6-27	FY 2027-28		
Particulars	Claimed by SLDC	Approved	Claimed by SLDC	Approved	Claimed by SLDC	Approved	
Opening Equity	10.52	10.03	34.17	10.66	99.83	26.29	
Addition during the year	23.65	0.63	65.66	15.63	23.03	12.20	
Closing Equity	34.17	10.66	99.83	26.29	122.86	38.49	
Rate of Return	15.50%	15.50%	15.50%	15.50%	15.50%	15.50%	
Return on Equity	3.46	1.55	10.39	1.65	17.26	4.08	

## 4.3.3 Depreciation

The Petitioner submitted that the asset class wise depreciation has been computed considering the proposed GFA for each year of the fifth Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 and the rates of depreciation specified in the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2024. Accordingly, the Petitioner has proposed the depreciation of Rs. 4.36 Crore, Rs. 13.08 Crore and Rs. 21.59 Crore for FY 2025-26, FY 2026-27 and FY 2027-28 respectively.

Regulation 28 of the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2024 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 no depreciation shall 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.

Provided that in case of generating stations, the salvage value shall be as provided in the agreement signed by the developers with the State Government for creation of site;

Provided further that the capital cost of the assets of the generating station, for the purpose of computation of depreciable value for determination of tariff, under these regulations shall correspond to the percentage of sale of electricity under long-term power purchase agreement at regulated tariff.

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

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

••••

Further, Regulation 98(5) of the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2024 as follows:

(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.

The Commission has determined the depreciation for the fifth Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 considering the approved GFA base and asset class wise rates of depreciation specified in UERC Tariff Regulations, 2024. The depreciation approved by the Commission for the fifth Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 is as shown in the Table given below:

Table 4.10: Depreciation approved by the Commission for the fifth Control Period from
FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 (Rs. Crore)

	FY 20	25-26	FY 20	26-27	FY 2027-28		
Particulars	Claimed by SLDC	Approved	Claimed by SLDC	Approved	Claimed by SLDC	Approved	
Depreciation	4.36	2.47	13.08	4.50	21.59	7.60	

## 4.3.4 Interest on Loans

The Petitioner has considered the opening loan balance for FY 2025-26 as Rs. 2.13 Crore. The loan addition for each year has been considered equal to the proposed capitalisation during the respective year as per the funding plan for various schemes. The Petitioner has considered the normative repayment for each year equal to the depreciation for the year. The Petitioner has proposed the interest on loan by applying the interest rate of 9.64% on the average normative loan for the year. Accordingly, the Petitioner has proposed the interest on loan of Rs. 2.65 Crore, Rs. 11.87 Crore and Rs. 20.25 Crore for FY 2025-26, FY 2026-27 and FY 2027-28 respectively.

Regulation 27 of the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2024 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 01.04.2025 shall be worked out by deducting the cumulative repayment as admitted by the Commission up to 31.03.2025 from the approved 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. In case of decapitalization of assets, the repayment shall be adjusted by taking into account cumulative repayment on a pro rata basis and the adjustment should not exceed cumulative depreciation recovered up to the date of decapitalization of such asset.
- (4) Notwithstanding any moratorium period availed by the Generating Company or the Transmission Licensee or the Distribution Licensee or the SLDC, as the case may be the repayment of loan shall be considered from the first year of commercial operation of the project and shall be equal to the depreciation allowed for the year or part of the year.
- (5) The rate of interest shall be the weighted average rate of interest calculated on the basis of the actual loan portfolio of the previous year after providing appropriate accounting adjustment for interest capitalised:

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

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

- (6) The interest on loan shall be calculated on the normative average loan of the year by applying the weighted average rate of interest.
- Provided that on account of additional capitalization during the year, interest on additional loan shall be calculated on pro-rata basis.
  - .....″

The Commission has worked out the interest charges considering the approved means of finance. The Commission has considered the closing Loan balance for FY 2022-23 as opening loan balance for FY 2023-24 and has not further added any loan addition during FY 2023-24. Accordingly, the Commission has worked out opening loan balance of Rs. 7.93 Crore for FY 2024-25. The Commission has considered the closing loan balance for FY 2024-25 as the opening loan balance for FY 2025-26. The Commission has considered the loan addition during each year of the fifth Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 as per the approved Financing Plan. The Commission has considered the normative repayment equivalent to the approved depreciation for each year of the fifth Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28. The Commission has considered the interest rate of 9.64% which is the actual weighted average rate of interest for FY 2023-24. The Commission has determined the interest on loan by applying the interest rate of 9.64% on the average loan balance for each year of the fifth Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28. The interest on loan approved by the Commission for the fifth Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28. The interest on loan approved by the Commission for the fifth Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28. The interest on loan approved by the Commission for the fifth Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28.

from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 (Rs. Crore)										
Particulars	FY 2	025-26	F	Y 2026-27	FY 2027-28					
rarticulars	Claimed	Approved Claimed Approved Claim		Claimed	Approved					
Opening Loan balance	2.12	5.74	52.95	4.74	193.41	36.71				
Addition during the year	55.18	1.47	153.2	36.47	53.73	28.48				
Repayment during the year	4.36	2.47	12.74	4.50	20.37	7.60				

Table 4.11: Interest on Loan approved by the Commission for the fifth Control Periodfrom FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 (Rs. Crore)

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Particulars	FY 2025-26		F	Y 2026-27	FY 2027-28				
rarticulars	Claimed	Approved	Claimed	Approved	Claimed	Approved			
Closing Loan balance	52.95	4.74	193.41	36.71	226.77	57.59			
Average Loan	27.54	5.24	123.18	20.72	210.09	47.15			
Interest Rate	9.64%	9.64%	9.64%	9.64%	9.64%	9.64%			
Interest	2.65	0.51	11.87	2.00	20.25	4.55			

Table 4.11: Interest on Loan approved by the Commission for the fifth Control Periodfrom FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 (Rs. Crore)

## 4.3.5 Interest on Working Capital

The Petitioner has submitted that the interest on working capital for the fifth Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 has been proposed in accordance with UERC Tariff Regulations, 2024. Accordingly, the Petitioner has proposed the IWC of Rs. 0.82 Crore, Rs. 1.82 Crore and Rs. 3.33 Crore for FY 2025-26, FY 2026-27 and FY 2027-28 respectively.

The Commission has determined the interest on working capital for the fifth Control Period in accordance with the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2024.

## 4.3.5.1 One Month O&M Expenses

The annual O&M expenses approved by the Commission are Rs. 10.78 Crore, Rs. 13.33 Crore and Rs. 17.59 Crore for FY 2025-26, FY 2026-27 and FY 2027-28 respectively. Based on the approved O&M expenses, one month's O&M expenses work out to Rs. 0.90 Crore, Rs. 1.11 Crore and Rs. 1.47 Crore for FY 2025-26, FY 2026-27 and FY 2027-28 respectively.

## 4.3.5.2 Maintenance Spares

The Commission has considered the maintenance spares as 15% of O&M expenses in accordance with UERC Tariff Regulations, 2024, which work out to Rs. 1.62 Crore, Rs. 2.00 Crore and Rs. 2.64 Crore for FY 2025-26, FY 2026-27 and FY 2027-28 respectively.

## 4.3.5.3 Receivables

The Commission has approved the receivables for two months based on the approved SLDC charges of Rs. 15.94 Crore, Rs. 22.30 Crore and Rs. 35.02 Crore for FY 2025-26, FY 2026-27 and FY 2027-28 respectively, which works out to Rs. 2.66 Crore, Rs. 3.72 Crore and Rs.5.84 Crore for FY 2025-26, FY 2026-27 and FY 2025-26, FY 2026-27 and FY 2027-28 respectively.

Based on the above, the total working capital requirement of the Petitioner for FY 2025-26, FY 2026-27 and FY 2027-28 works out to Rs. 5.17 Crore, Rs. 6.83 Crore and Rs. 9.94 Crore respectively. The Commission has considered interest on working capital as 12.07% equal to the weighted average of one year MCLR as declared by the State Bank of India for FY 2023-24 plus 350 basis points and, accordingly, the interest on working capital works out to Rs. 0.62 Crore, Rs. 0.82 Crore, and Rs. 1.20 Crore for FY 2025-26, FY 2026-27 and FY 2027-28 respectively. The interest on working capital approved by the Commission for the fifth Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 is as shown in the Table below:

FY 2025-26 FY 2026-27 FY 2027-28 Claimed Particulars Claimed by Claimed Approved Approved Approved SLDC by SLDC by SLDC O&M expenses for 1 1.01 0.90 1.82 1.11 3.51 1.47 month 3.27 Maintenance Spares 1.81 1.62 2.00 6.32 2.64 Receivables equivalent 3.90 2.66 9.83 3.72 17.41 5.84 to 2 months Working Capital 6.72 5.17 14.92 6.83 27.24 9.94 Rate of Interest on 12.23% 12.07% 12.23% 12.07% 12.23% 12.07% Working Capital Interest on Working 0.82 0.62 1.82 0.82 3.33 1.20 Capital

Table 4.12: Interest on working capital approved by the Commission for the fifth ControlPeriod from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 (Rs. Crore)

## 4.3.6 Non-Tariff Income

The Petitioner has not proposed any non-tariff income for FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28. The Commission has not considered any non-tariff income in this Order. The actual non-tariff income shall be considered at the time of true for the respective year of the fifth Control Period.

## 4.3.7 SLDC Charges

Based on the above, the SLDC Charges approved by the Commission for the fifth Control Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 is as shown in the following Table:

Table 4.13: Annual Transmission Charges approved by the Commission for the fifth ControlPeriod from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 (Rs. Crore)

	FY 2025-26		FY 202	26-27	FY 2027-28		
Particulars	Claimed by SLDC	Approved	Claimed by SLDC	Approved	Claimed by SLDC	Approved	
O&M expenses	12.08	10.78	21.82	13.33	42.12	17.59	
Return on Equity	3.46	1.55	10.39	1.65	17.26	4.08	
Depreciation	4.36	2.47	13.08	4.50	21.59	7.60	
Interest on loan	2.65	0.51	11.87	2.00	20.25	4.55	

Period from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 (Rs. Crore)											
	FY 2025-26		FY 202	26-27	FY 2027-28						
Particulars	Claimed by SLDC	Approved	Claimed by SLDC	Approved	Claimed by SLDC	Approved					
Interest on working capital	0.82	0.62	1.82	0.82	3.33	1.20					
Aggregate Revenue Requirement	23.38	15.94	58.97	22.30	104.45	35.02					

## Table 4.13: Annual Transmission Charges approved by the Commission for the fifth ControlPeriod from FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 (Rs. Crore)

## 4.3.8 LDC Development Fund

Regulation 98 of UERC Tariff Regulations, 2024 specifies as under:

- *"98. LDC Development Fund:* 
  - (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 break-up 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."

The Petitioner submitted that as specified in Regulation 98 (2) of MYT Regulations 2024, the other income of SLDC like short term open access charges, registration charges, scheduling and operating charges, etc. shall be deposited into LDCD Fund. Accordingly, Rs. 1.23 Crore related to income from open access which includes operating charges and open access charges is added in the LDCD fund of the MYT Control Period FY 2025-26, FY 2026-27 & FY 2027-28 on provisional basis. The position of LDCD fund as submitted by the Petitioner is shown in the Table below:

Table 4.14: Position of LDCD fund submitted by SLDC (Ks. Crore)							
	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27	FY 2027-28				
Particulars	Claimed by SLDC	Claimed by SLDC	Claimed by SLDC				
Opening LDCD Fund	5.50	0.38	0.16				
Add: Additions in LDCD fund on account of Short-Term Open Access	1.23	1.23	1.23				
Total LDCD Fund	6.73	1.61	1.39				
Less: Utilization for Capital Expenditure	6.35	1.45	1.20				
Net LDCD Fund as on 31st March of the year	0.38	0.16	0.19				

Table 4.14: Position of LDCD fund submitted by SLDC (Rs. Crore)

The Commission observes that the opening LDCD balance claimed by the Petitioner for FY 2024-25 is in not line with the closing balance of FY 2023-24 as approved by the Commission vide its Tariff Order dated March 28, 2024. The Commission has considered the Opening LDCD Fund for FY 2024-25 as Rs. 11.74 Crore as approved in Tariff Order dated March 28, 2024. It is observed that the Petitioner has not shown any utilization during the FY 2023-24. Further, the Commission has observed that Petitioner has claimed the utilization of expenditure in FY 2024-25 of amount Rs. 7.45 Crore without submitting any details of the utilization of expenditure. Hence the Commission has not considered any utilization of LDCD fund during FY 2024-25. The same shall be considered at the time of true up for the FY 2024-25. The Commission has considered the complete utilisation of opening LDCD for each year FY 2026-27 and FY 2027-28. Accordingly, the LDCD fund approved by the Commission is as shown in the Table below:

Table 4.15. Tostilon of LDCD fund considered by the Commission (Rs. Clore)									
Particulars	FY 2024-25	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27	FY 2027-28					
Opening LDCD Fund	11.74	12.97	7.85	1.23					
Add: Additions in LDCD fund	1.23	1.23	1.23	1.23					
Total LDCD Fund	12.97	14.20	9.08	2.46					
Less: Utilization for Capital Expenditure	0.00	6.35	7.85	1.23					
Net LDCD Fund as on 31st March of the year	12.97	7.85	1.23	1.23					

Table 4.15: Position of LDCD fund considered by the Commission (Rs. Crore)

Further, as per Regulation 98(3) of UERC Tariff Regulations, 2024, 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.

## 4.3.9 Recovery of Annual SLDC Charges

Regulation 21(2)(a) of Uttarakhand Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions of Intra-State Open Access) Regulations, 2015, specifies as under:

## "(2) Transactions not involving inter-State transmission system

(a) Long-term access and medium-term open access

Long-term access and medium-term open access customers shall be liable to pay SLDC charges determined by the Commission under sub-section (3) of section 32 of the Act."

In compliance to the aforesaid Regulation, the Commission has decided to determine the Annual SLDC charges for FY 2025-26 as per the formula given below:

Annual SLDC charges = ARR SLDC/PLS<sub>T</sub> (Rs./MW)

Where,

ARR SLDC = ARR determined by the Commission for the State SLDC.

*PLS*<sup>T</sup> = *Peak load served by the State Transmission system in the previous year.* 

In this regard, ARR SLDC approved by the Commission for FY 2025-26 is Rs. 15.94 Crore and the PLST during the FY 2024-25 is 2863 MW. Hence, in accordance with the Regulation 21(2)(a) of Uttarakhand Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions of Intra-State Open Access) Regulations, 2015, the rate of Annual SLDC charges payable by the customers seeking open access to intra-State transmission system for FY 2025-26 shall be:

Table 4.16: Rate of Annual SLDC charges for Open Access approved for FY 2025-26				
Description Rs./MW				
Annual SLDC Charges	55,675.86			

## 4.3.10 Operating Charges

The Commission vide UERC (Terms and Conditions of Intra-State Open Access) Regulations, 2015 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 specify the Operating Charges for the Short-term Open Access customer which is reproduced hereunder:

*"21. SLDC and System Operation Charges:* 

SLDC and System Operation Charges shall be payable by Open Access customers at the following rates:-

(1) Transactions involving inter-State transmission system

• • •

(b) Short-term open access

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

(2) Transactions not involving inter-State transmission system

• • •

(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 of 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 2025-26 shall be applicable with effect from April 01, 2025 and shall continue to apply till further Orders of the Commission.

## 5 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.

## 5.1 Compliance of Directives issued in MYT Order dated March 28, 2024

### 5.1.1 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 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.

#### Petitioner's Submissions

The Petitioner submitted that the Separate audited accounts for FY 2023-24 are submitted along with Petition. In regard to the efforts made to the Ring-Fencing of SLDC, MoU was signed on 24-Jul-2023 between PTCUL and M/s Braithwaite & Company Ltd. (BCL), the executing agency nominated by GoU for execution of construction work of separate SLDC Building and subsequently an agreement was signed on 31-Oct-2023. The Construction of SLDC building is in progress and expected date of completion is 27-May-2026.

## 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, 2024 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 2024-25 along with the APR of FY 2025-26 i.e. along with separate Audited Accounts for SLDC. Further, as SLDC is part of PTCUL and SLDC accounts are part of PTCUL accounts, the Commission directs SLDC to submit the audited accounts of SLDC separately along with allocation of expenses and revenue between PTCUL and SLDC based on PTCUL accounts duly certified by Statutory Auditor of PTCUL. 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.

#### 5.1.2 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 on completed projects through LDCD fund is submitted as directed.

#### 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.

#### 5.1.3 Financing of infrastructural works

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.

#### **Petitioner's Submissions**

The Petitioner submitted that the details of works completed in FY 2023-24 funded by LDCD Funds are submitted in the current petition.

#### Fresh Directive

The Commission has noted the compliance made by the Petitioner. **The Petitioner is directed** to submit the details of the works financed through Internal Resources and LDCD Funds separately for FY 2024-25 within 3 months of issuance of this Order. The Petitioner is also directed to submit the same details for FY 2026-27 at the time of filing of Petition seeking truing up of FY 2024-25 along with the APR of FY 2025-26 in accordance with the UERC Tariff Regulations, 2024.

#### 5.1.4 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 2024-25.

#### Petitioner's Submissions

The Petitioner submitted list detailing the AMC Contracts awarded by SLDC.

#### Fresh Directive

The Commission has noted the compliance made by the Petitioner. **The Commission again** directs the Petitioner to submit the complete details of contracts awarded along with copy of Agreements and work orders for annual maintenance along with the next ARR Petition for FY 2026-27.

#### 5.1.5 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 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.

## 5.2 Fresh Directive

#### **Project Completion**

The Commission has approved the investment approval for the MYT fifth Control Period for FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28. The SLDC is directed to ensure the timely completion of those projects as projects are necessary for the grid maintain, operate and security reasons.

#### Human Resource Plan

# The Commission directs the timely recruitment of the manpower for measurable improvements in key performance indicators related to grid stability and economic operation.

The SLDC is directed to submit a status report on the manpower position, detailing filled and vacant posts against the sanctioned strength, within (03 months) from the date of this order and periodically thereafter.

#### Additional Capitalisation

The Commission has observed that the Petitioner in previous years has been claiming the O&M nature works as additional capitalisation. The Commission directs the Petitioner to refrain from such practices and adopt the proper accounting process.

(Anurag Sharma) Member (Law) (M.L. Prasad) Chairman

## 6 Annexures

# 6.1 Annexure-1: Public Notice on SLDC's Proposal for Multi Year Tariff from 2025-26 to 2027-28.

2025	oval of the True up for F -26 to FY 2027-28. The	Y 2023-24, A summary of J	Annual Perf proposal ma	de by SLDC i	ew for FY 2 for the afores	024-25 and aid is given	Multi Year	Tariff for I
		FY 2023-24 (*	Y	2024-2	R of SLDC ( 'Y 5 (APR)	₹Crore) FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27	FY 2027-28
S. No	Particulars	Approved in Tariff Order dt. 30.03.2023	Claimed for True up	Approved in Tariff Order dt. 28.03.2024	Revised Estimates	Proposed	Proposed	Proposed
1	O&M expenses	9.57	10.31	10.58	10.27	12.08	21.82	42.12
2	Interest & Loan	0.44	0.43	0.61	0.30	2.65	11.86	20.16
3	Return on Equity	1.55	1.59	1.85	1.63	3.46	10.39	17.26
4	Depreciation	3.40	1.88	2.60	1.93	4.36	13.08	21.59
5	Interest on Working Capital	0.54	0.63	0.58	0.57	0.82	1.82	3.33
6	Income Tax	_	2.04	_	. <del>.</del>		122	
	Total ARR	15.52	16.87	16.23	14.70	23.38	58.97	104.45
7	Less:Non-tariff Income	-	0.03	0.00	1.25	0.00	0.00	0.00
8	Net ARR	15.52	16.85	16.23	13.44	23.38	58.97	104.45
9	Revenue Gap/(Surplus) for the Year	-	0.66	-	-	343	1949) 1949)	-
10	Net ARR including True up of FY 2023-24					24.04		
2. SI In sh ha 3. Do M M 4. Th ( <u>w</u>	Net ARR including True up of FY 2023-24 DC has proposed a tota case, the entire claim of all be required over and s been proposed through etailed proposal can be anaging Director, Power ajra, Near ISBT, Dehre entioned offices of the Po the proposals are also av www.uksldc.in).	of SLDC is a above the hi suitable fees seen free of Transmissio adun-248001 etitioner. vailable at the invited from Uttarakhand I	48.12% for accepted by ke proposed and charge cost on an on Corporati , Uttarakha e website o a the consum	the Commiss d by UPCL. T s. y working da on of Uttarak nd. Relevant of the Commi ners and other Regulatory Co	tion, addition the recovery y at the Con hand Limited extracts can ssion (www. stakeholder ommission, e	ved SLDC all hike of ( of the charg nmission's o d, Vidyut Bl also be o uerc.gov.in) s on the abo ither in pers	0.07% in co es from the office or at hawan, Saha btained fro and at SL we proposal. on, or by p	nsumer t beneficia the offic ranpur R m the al DC's wel . This ma ost at Vie

Letter : 13/SLDC Dated 10.01.2024

"Save Electricity in the Interest of Nation"

Managing Director

6.2 Annexure-2: Public Notice on SLDC's Proposal for Business Plan from 2025-26 to 2027-28

POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION OF UTTARAKHAND LTD. (A Govt. of Uttarakhand Undertaking) CIN U40101UR2004GO1028675 Vidyut Bhawan Near ISBT Corssing, Saharanpur Road, Majra, Dehradun-248002 Phone no.:0135-2642006 Fax no. 01352643460
Public Notice
Inviting Comments on the Petition filed by SLDC for approval of the Business Plan for FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28
<ol> <li>State Load Despatch Centre (SLDC), 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 its Business Plan for FY 2025-26 to FY 2027-28 giving details of the activities proposed to be carried out by it during this Control Period.</li> <li>Detailed proposals 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, Dehradun, Vidyut Bhawan, Saharanpur Road, Majra, Near ISBT, Dehradun-248001, Uttarakhand. Relevant extracts can also be obtained from the above mentioned offices of the Petitioner.</li> <li>The proposals are also available at the website of the Commission (www.uerc.gov.in) and at SLDC's website</li> </ol>
(www.uksldc.in)
4. Objections/suggestions are invited from the consumers and other stakeholders on the above proposals . This 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 15.02.2025.
RO No. 12/SLDC Dated: 10.01.2025 Managing Director
"Save Electricity in the Interest of Nation"

Sl. No.	Name	Designation	Organization	Address
1.	Sh. Shakeel A. Siddiqui	Industrial Advisor	M/s Kashi Vishwanth Textile Mill (P) Ltd.	5th Km. Stone, Ramnagar Road, Kashipur
2.	Sh. Shakeel A. Siddiqui	Industrial Advisor	M/s Galwalia Ispat Udyog Pvt. Ltd	Narain Nagar Industrial Estate, Bazpur Road, Kashipur.
3.	Sh. Ashok Bansal	President	Kumaun Garhwal Chamber of Commerce & Industry	Chamber House, Industrial Estate, Bazpur Road, Kashipur.

## 6.3 Annexure-3: List of Respondents

## 6.4 Annexure-4: List of Participants in Public Hearing

S1. No.	Name	Designation	Organization	Address
1.	Sh. Manohar Singh	-	-	Village-Matiyani, Rausal, P.O Madhuwa, Lohaghat, Distt. Champawat.
2.	Sh. Vivek Rai	-	-	Hathrangia, P.OLohaghat-262524, Distt. Champawat.
3.	Sh. Chandar Chandra	-	-	Village-Jindi, Dhouni Shilang, Block- Lohaghat-262524, Distt. Champawat.
4.	Sh. Mukesh Kharkwal	-	-	Village-Patan, Chandmari Talli, P.O Lohaghat-262524, Distt. Champawat.
5.	Sh. Mahesh Chandra Joshi	-	-	Village-Kanera Patan, P.O Lohaghat- 262524, Distt. Champawat.
6.	Sh. Rajendra Singh Bohra	-	-	Village-Gallagaon, P.O Gallagaon, Block Barakot-262524, Distt. Champawat.
7.	Sh. Manoj Kharkwal	-	-	Village-Patan, Chandmari Talli, P.O Lohaghat-262524, Distt. Champawat.
8.	Sh. Hayat Singh Mehra	-	-	Chandmari Talli, P.OLohaghat-262524, Distt. Champawat.
9.	Sh. Manoj Kumar Joshi	-	-	Khari Bazaar, P.O Lohaghat-262524, Distt. Champawat.
10.	Sh. D.K. Joshi	-	-	Chandmari Talli, P.O Lohaghat-262524, Distt. Champawat.
11.	Sh. Harish Chandra Pant	-	-	Village-Chhulape, P.O Bardakhan -Distt. Champawat.
12.	Sh. Suresh Singh Vohra	-	-	Village-Koyati, Block-Lohaghat-262524, Distt. Champawat.
13.	Sh. Chandrakant Bisht	-	-	Village-Patan, Chandmari Talli, P.O Lohaghat-262524, Distt. Champawat.
14.	Sh. Manish Jukaria	-	RD Jukaria & Sons	Station Bazaar, P.O Lohaghat-262524, Distt. Champawat.
15.	Smt. Sarita Adhikari	-	-	Village-Kimtoli, P.O Malla Khadera, Block-Lohaghat-262524, Distt. Champawat.
16.	Sh. Ramesh Chandra Patni	-	-	Village-Patan Patani, P.OLohaghat- 262524, Distt. Champawat.
17.	Sh. Dinesh Singh	-	-	Village-Sirtoli, P.OChaumel-262525, Lohaghat, Distt. Champawat.
18.	Sh. Ganga Datt Ghaitoria	-	-	Patan, near Alpine Convent School, Pithoragarh Road, P.O Lohaghat-262524, Distt. Champawat.

## List of Participants in Hearing at Lohaghat on 18.02.2025

Sl. No.	Name	Designation	Organization	Address
1.	Sh. Teeka Singh Saini	Block President	Bhartiya Kisan Union	Office-61, Katoratal, Kashipur, Distt. Udhamsingh Nagar
2.	Sh. Balkar Singh Fauzi	-	-	Village-Raipur Khurd, P.O Kashipur, Distt. Udhamsingh Nagar
3.	Sh. Baljinder Singh Sandhu	District General Secretary	Bhartiya Kisan Union	Pega Farm, P.O Mahuakheraganj, Kashipur, Distt. Udhamsingh Nagar
4.	Sh. R.K. Singh	Head (CPED & E)	M/s Tata Motors Ltd.	Plot No. 1, Sector 11, Integrated Industrial Estate, SIDCUL, Pantnagar-263153, Udhamsingh Nagar.
5.	Sh. Shakeel A. Siddiqui	Industrial Advisor	M/s Galwalia Ispat Udyog Pvt. Ltd.	Narain Nagar Industrial Estate, Bazpur Road, Kashipur-244713, Distt. Udham Singh Nagar.
6.	Sh. Vipin Kumar	-	M/s Kashi Vishwanath Textile Mill (P) Ltd.	5 <sup>th</sup> KM, Stone, Ramnagar Road, Kashipur-244713, Distt. Udham Singh Nagar.
7.	Sh. Ashok Bansal	President	M/s Kumaon Garhwal Chamber of Commerce & Industry Uttarakhand	Chamber House, Industrial Estate, Bazpur Road, Kashipur, Distt. Udhamsingh Nagar.
8.	Sh. Sanjay Kumar Adhlakha	Director	M/s Ambashakti Glass India Pvt. Ltd.	Plot No. 41, Sector-3, IIE, SIDCUL, Pantnagar, Rudrapur-263153, Distt. Udhamsingh Nagar.
9.	Sh. Arunesh Kumar Singh	-	-	Village-Fulsunga, P.O Transit Camp, Rudrapur- 263153, Distt. Udham Singh Nagar.
10.	Sh. Rajeev Gupta	-	M/s Kashi Vishwanath Steels Pvt. Ltd.	Narain Nagar Industrial Estate, Bazpur Road, Kashipur-244713, Distt. Udham Singh Nagar
11.	Sh. Devendra Dwivedi	-	-	Village-Fulsunga, P.O Transit Camp, Rudrapur- 263153, Distt. Udham Singh Nagar.
12.	Sh. Than Singh Sammal	-	-	Village-Fulsunga, Bankhandi Colony, Phase-1, Rudrapur- 263153, Distt. Udham Singh Nagar.

List of Participants	in Hearing at Rudra	pur on 19.02.2025
List of I articipatite	III IICulling at Itaala	

Uttarakhand Electricity Regulatory Commission

S1.	Name	Designation	Organization	Address
No.				Village-Fatehpur, Barsati
13.	Sh. Deepak Chandra	-	-	Road, Haldwani, Nainital.
14.	Sh. Vishal Sharma	President	Suraj Sewa Dal (Kumaon Division)	Office-Shree Hari Enclave Colony, Phase-2, Cheenpur, Haldwani-263139, Nainital, Uttarakhand.
15.	Sh. D.K. Bisht	-	Suraj Sewa Dal (Kumaon Division)	Office-Shree Hari Enclave Colony, Phase-2, Cheenpur, Haldwani-263139, Nainital, Uttarakhand.
16.	Sh. Ram Kumar Agarwal	Director	M/s Umashakti Steels Pvt. Ltd.	Village-Vikrampur, Post Off Bazpur-262401, Distt. Udhamsingh Nagar.
17.	Sh. Govind Ballabh	-	Suraj Sewa Dal (Kumaon Division)	Office-Shree Hari Enclave Colony, Phase-2, Cheenpur, Haldwani-263139, Nainital, Uttarakhand.
18.	Sh. Sushil Kumar Tulsiyar	-	M/s Umashakti Steels Pvt. Ltd.	Village-Vikrampur, Post Off Bazpur-262401, Distt. Udhamsingh Nagar.
19.	Sh. Nishant Kumar	-	M/s Ideal Energy Solutions Pvt. Ltd.	<ul> <li>2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, B-205, Pacific Business Park,</li> <li>37/1, Maharajpur, Sahibabad Industrial Area, Site-IV,</li> <li>Ghaziabad-201010, Uttar Pradesh.</li> </ul>
20.	Sh. Akash Agarwal	-	M/s Ideal Energy Solutions Pvt. Ltd.	2nd Floor, B-205, Pacific Business Park, 37/1, Maharajpur, Sahibabad Industrial Area, Site-IV, Ghaziabad-201010, Uttar Pradesh.
21.	Sh. Praveen Singh	Plant Head	M/s Sanjay Technoplast Pvt. Ltd.	Pant Nagar Plant, Khata No. 182, Khasra No. 301, Min. Village-Fulsunga, Tehsil- Kichha, Rudrapur-263153, Distt. Udham Singh Nagar.
22.	Sh. Rahul Dev	Sr. Manager	M/s India Glycols Ltd.	A-1, Industrial Area, Bazpur Road, Kashipur-244713, Distt. Udham Singh Nagar.
23.	Sh. Daljeet Singh	-	District Court	Chamber No. 14, Rudrapur, Distt. Udham Singh Nagar.
24.	Sh. Sarabjeet Singh	-	District Court	Chamber No. 20, Rudrapur, Distt. Udham Singh Nagar.

List of Participants in Hearing at Rudrapur on 19.02.2025

<b>S1.</b>	Name	Designation	Organization	Address
No.	Tunic	Designation	Organization	
1.	Sh. Gajendra Singh Rawat	-	-	Village-Gauna, Block Dhasoli- 246424, Distt. Chamoli
2.	Sh. Manoj Tiwari	-	-	Hari Om Colony, Upper Bazaar, Gopeshwar, Distt. Chamoli
3.	Sh. Ravindra Jhinkwan	-	-	Village-Dungri, P.OMalkot- 246426, Distt. Chamoli
4.	Sh. Arjun Bisht	-	-	CGRF, Gauchar, Karanprayag, Distt. Chamoli
5.	Sh. Pitambar Singh	Gram Pradhan	-	Village-Mana, Block Dhasoli- 246424, Distt. Chamoli
6.	Sh. Hikmat Singh Negi	-	-	Kund Colony, Gopeshwar, Distt. Chamoli
7.	Sh. Manoj Bhandari	District Vice President	-	Garhwal Hotel, near Bus Stand, Gopeshwar-246401, Distt. Chamoli
8.	Sh. Vivek Negi	-	-	Hotel Comfort INN, NH-58, Badrinath Highway, Pipalkoti, Distt. Chamoli
9.	Sh. Pancham Singh Rawat	-	-	Near Govt. P.G. College, Stadium Gate, Gopeshwar- 246401, Distt. Chamoli
10.	Sh. Surendra Singh Bisht	-	-	Vikrant Hotel, Peepalkoti, Distt. Chamoli
11.	Sh. Manvendra Pal	-	-	Hotel Vinayak, Village-Gari, Batula, Pipalkoti-246472, Distt. Chamoli
12.	Sh. Manmohan Singh	-	-	Mehra General Store, Peepalkoti- 246472, Distt. Chamoli
13.	Sh. Sachin Sati	-	-	Village-Kothiyalsain, Near Hanuman Mandir, Opp. Institute of Technology, Tehsil Chamoli-246424, Distt. Chamoli
14.	Sh. Harish Purohit	-	-	Village-Mayapur, Peepalkoti, Distt. Chamoli
15.	Sh. Devendra Singh Negi	Former District Panchayat Member	-	Village- Raitoli, Gram Sabha- Salla Raitoli, Vikaskhand- Dasholi, P.OPeepalkoti, Distt. Chamoli
16.	Sh. Ayodhya Prasad Hatwal	-	-	Nagar Panchayat & P.O Gadora, Peepalkoti, Distt. Chamoli
17.	Sh. Anil Negi	-	-	S/o Surendra Singh Negi, Village-Raitoli, P.OPeepalkoti- 246472, Distt. Chamoli
18.	Sh. Atul Shah	-	-	C/o Hotel Ajay Palace, Main Market, P.OPeepalkoti, Distt. Chamoli

List of Partici	nants in Hoar	ing at Conech	war on 24.02.2024
LIST OF FAITICI	pains in near	ing at Gopesni	wal 011 24.02.2024

Uttarakhand Electricity Regulatory Commission

	List of Participants in Hearing at Gopesnwar on 24.02.2024						
S1. No.	Name	Designation	Organization	Address			
19.	Sh. Sandeep Rawat	Chairman	Nagar Palika	Gopeshwar-246401, Distt. Chamoli			
20.	Sh. Virendra Singh Rawat	Zonal President	-	Village-Lasi, Block-Dasoli- 249146, Distt. Chamoli			
21.	Sh. Pushpendra	-	-	Village-Gweelol, P.O Gopeshwar, Distt. Chamoli			
22.	Sh. Deepak Rana	President	Vyapar Sangh	Peepalkoti, Distt. Chamoli			
23.	Sh. Bhagat Singh Bisht	-	-	Village-Koteshwar, Block- Dasholi, Baragaon, Distt. Chamoli			
24.	Sh. Pradeep Singh Bisht	-	-	S/o Late Sh. Bhopal Singh Bisht, Gopinath Mandir Marg, Gopeshwar- 246401, Distt. Chamoli			
25.	Sh. Manoj Bisht	-	-	Near Jal Nigam Colony, Gopeshwar- 246401, Distt. Chamoli			
26.	Sh. Vikram Singh Bartwal	District Panchayat Member	-	Kothiyalsain, Gopeshwar- 246424, Distt. Chamoli			
27.	Sh. Manish Negi	-	Hotel Rajput	Near Indralok Hotel, Main Station, Peepalkoti, Distt. Chamoli			
28.	Sh. Pawan Rathore	-	-	Main Market Chamoli, Gopeshwar-246424, Distt. Chamoli			
29.	Sh. Prakash Bartwal	-	-	Main Market Chamoli, Gopeshwar-246424, Distt. Chamoli			
30.	Sh. Manish Parmar	-	-	Village-Malla Negwar, Gopeshwar-246401, Distt. Chamoli			
31.	Sh. Harak Singh Negi	Former District President	Bhartiya Janta Party	Distt. Chamoli			
32.	Sh. Sanjay Bisht	-	-	Aadarsh Colony, Gopeshwar, Distt. Chamoli			
33.	Sh. Surendra Singh Pharswan	_	-	Village-Sartoli Dharkot, Block- Dasoli, Distt. Chamoli			

List of Participants in Hearing at Gopeshwar on 24.02.2024

S1.			Organization	Address
No.	Name	Designation	Organization	Auuress
1.	Sh. Pankaj Gupta	President	M/s Industries Association of Uttarakhand	Mohabewala Industrial Area, Dehradun-248110
2.	Sh. Rajiv Agarwal	-	M/s Industries Association of Uttarakhand	Patelnagar Cooperative Area, Patelnagar, Dehradun.
3.	Sh. Sanjeev Kumar Sharma	Office Executive	M/s Industries Association of Uttarakhand	C/o Satya Industries, Mohabewala Industrial Area, Dehradun-248110
4.	Shri Anil Goyal	-	Prantiya Udyog Vyapar Pratinidhi Mandal- Uttaranchal	13- Gandhi Road, Dehradun.
5.	Sh. Dinesh Mudgal	-	M/s Industries Association of Uttarakhand	Mohabewala Industrial Area, Dehradun-248110.
6.	Sh. Sunil Kumar Gupta	Editor	Teesri Aankh ka Tehalka	16, Chakrata Road (Tiptop Gali), Dehradun-248001.
7.	Sh. Gulshan Khanduja	-	M/s Shree Ganesh Roller Flour Mills	Mohabewala Industrial Area, Subhash Nagar, Dehradun
8.	Sh. Pawan Agarwal	Vice-President	M/s Uttarakhand Steel Manufacturers Association	C/o Shree Sidhbali Industries Ltd., Kandi Road, Kotdwar, Uttarakhand.
9.	Sh. Suresh Bansal	-	M/s Kukreti Steels Ltd.	F-23-27, E-73-76, Jasodharpur Industrial Area, Kotdwar.
10.	Sh. Veeru Bisht	-	-	Mohanpur, Post Off Premnagar, Dehradun-248007.
11.	Sh. Shashi Kant Singhal	-	M/s Shree Sidhbali Industries Ltd.	Kandi Road, Kotdwar-246149, Uttarakhand.
12.	Sh. Rakesh Bhatia	-	M/s Integrated Industries Association	E-8, Govt. Industrial Area, Patelnagar, Dehradun.
13.	Sh. Vinod Kavi	Convenor	Vidyut Samvida Ekta Manch	Hydel Colony, Near 33/11 kV Substation, Araghar, Dehradun-248001.
14.	Sh. Vijay Singh Verma	-	-	Village-Delna, P.O. Jhabrera, Roorkee-247665, Haridwar
15.	Sh. Yashveer Arya	-	-	Surbhi Enclave, Canal Road, Jakhan, Rajpur Road, Dehradun-248001.
16.	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.
17.	Sh. Shivraj Sarhadi	-	-	4/2, Punjabi Colony, Vikasnagar, Dehradun.

List of Partici	pants in Hearing	r at Dehradun	on 28.02.2025
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Sl. No.	Name	Designation	Organization	Address
18.	Sh. Pankaj Agarwal	-	-	19, Dwarika Puri Extension, Shahid Ramesh Thapa Marg, GMS Road, Dehradun.
19.	Sh. Pankaj Bhatt	-	-	Shiv Shakti Colony, Zero Point Stand, Lower Nakronda, Dehradun-248008.
20.	Sh. Suresh Kumar	-	-	House No. 9, Chaman Vihar, Majra, Dehradun.

## List of Participants in Hearing at Dehradun on 28.02.2025