



ORDER
OF THE
WEST BENGAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
IN THE MATTER OF
CASE NO. OA- 542/ 25-26

IN-PRINCIPLE APPROVAL FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW TRANSMISSION SCHEME FOR EVACUATION OF POWER FROM UNDER CONSTRUCTION JSW SALBONI (2X800 + 2X800) MW THERMAL POWER PLANT IN MIDNAPORE(W) UNDER REGULATED TARIFF MECHANISM BY WEST BENGAL STATE ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION COMPANY LIMITED.

DATE: 14.01.2026



CASE IN BRIEF

- 1 The instant petition has been filed on 11.12.2025 by West Bengal State Electricity Transmission Company Limited (in short 'WBSETCL') for In-Principle approval for implementation of the transmission scheme for evacuation of power from under construction JSW Salboni (2X800 + 2X800) MW Thermal Power Plant in Midnapore(W) under Regulated Tariff Mechanism (RTM) by WBSETCL in terms of Regulation 6.1 of the West Bengal Electricity Regulatory Commission (Modalities of Tariff Determination) Regulations, 2023, as amended (In short "Modalities of Tariff Regulation").. The Commission has admitted the application on 30.12.2025 and registered in Case No. OA-542/25-26.
- 2 Subsequently supplementary application to the above application is submitted on 09.01.2026 for In-Principle approval for implementation of the above transmission scheme under RTM by WBSETCL in terms of regulation 10 of the Modalities of Tariff Regulation.. The Commission has admitted this supplementary application on 09.01.2026 under Case No. OA-542/25-26.
- 3 Following New Transmission scheme is included in this petition:

Sl. No.	Type of Works
1.	Construction of transmission lines by WBSETCL for evacuation of power from under construction JSW Salboni (2x800 + 2x800) MW Thermal Power Plant in the District West Midnapore.

- 4 In the application, WBSETCL has submitted the brief description of the following scheme:
 - 4.1 **Establishment of transmission lines by WBSETCL for evacuation of power from under construction JSW Salboni (2x800 + 2x800) MW Thermal Power Plant in Midnapore(W):**
 - 4.1.1 WBSETCL submits that M/s JSW Thermal Energy Limited has initiated site activities for the establishment of a 2x800 MW Thermal Power Plant at Salboni in the district of Paschim Medinipur, with provision for extension by two additional units of 800 MW each.
 - 4.1.2 A Power Supply Agreement (PSA) has been executed between West Bengal State Electricity Distribution Company Limited (in short 'WBSEDCL') and M/s JSW Thermal Energy Limited (in short 'JSW TEL') for procurement of 1492 MW power on long term basis from the above-stated generating station.



In-Principle approval for implementation of transmission scheme for implementation of the transmission scheme for evacuation of power from under construction JSW Salboni (2X800 + 2X800) MW Thermal Power Plant in Midnapore(W) under Regulated Tariff Mechanism by West Bengal State Electricity Transmission Company Limited (WBSETCL)

4.1.3 As per submission, the evacuation of power from the said generating station through high-voltage transmission lines shall be undertaken by WBSETCL. Based on load flow studies, a preliminary evacuation scheme has been formulated, which includes:

- a. Construction of a 400 KV double-circuit transmission line from JSW Salboni generating station to Kharagpur 400/220 kV Substation of WBSETCL using Quad Moose equivalent twin HTLS conductors (approximate route length: 88 km);
- b. Construction of 02 Nos. of 400 KV AIS Bays at Kharagpur 400 KV substation and
- c. Single-circuit LILO of the New PPSP–Arambagh 400 kV double-circuit line at JSW Salboni generating station, along with replacement of twin Moose conductor by Quad Moose equivalent twin HTLS conductor for the JSW–Arambagh portion (approximate LILO length: 68 km).

4.1.4 As per the provisions of the PSA executed between WBSEDCL and JSW TEL, the transmission system required for evacuation of power from the Delivery Point is to be made available by WBSETCL at least three (3) months prior to the Scheduled Synchronization Date of the first generating unit. The Scheduled Synchronization Date of the first unit is defined as the date falling upon completion of 48 months from the Appointed Date under the PSA.

4.1.5 Any delay in the Scheduled Synchronization Date of the first unit attributable to non-availability of the requisite transmission system would entail payment of compensation to the generating company, as per the PSA. Any delay in evacuation of power after completion of the generating project may result in an additional financial impact of up to Rs. 21 crore per day, based on present cost estimates. In addition, the PSA contains provisions for further compensation on account of interest payments and other charges attributable to default on the part of the utility. Such delay may also result in a gap between power demand and supply within the State, necessitating procurement of costlier power from the market, thereby increasing the tariff burden on consumers.

4.1.6 As per Regulation 6.1 of the Modalities of Tariff Regulation, all new green field transmission projects with an estimated cost exceeding Rs. 250 crore shall be implemented through the Tariff Based Competitive Bidding (TBCB) route in accordance with the Guidelines issued under section 63 of the Act. In this case, the Associated Transmission System (ATS) for the proposed evacuation scheme comprises both construction of new transmission lines and also system strengthening works. The system strengthening component cannot be suitably implemented under the TBCB framework.



- 4.1.7 WBSETCL submits that implementation of a generation evacuation transmission system through the TBCB route would be the first such instance in the State. Establishment of the necessary institutional and procedural framework for undertaking such a project through TBCB is likely to require considerable time. Further, there appears to be no precedent of a generation evacuation network between a private generating company and a State distribution licensee, under a PSA, being implemented through the TBCB route.
- 4.1.8 Additionally, the regular vendors of WBSETCL, who have successfully executed multiple transmission projects in the State over the past five to six years and are familiar with Right of Way (ROW) issues. Engagement of an external TBCB developer from outside the State may therefore pose significant challenges in timely resolution of ROW issues, adversely affecting project schedules.
- 4.1.9 The project risks associated with execution of this critical power evacuation scheme of State and national importance through the TBCB route are presently uncertain.
- 4.1.10 Implementation of these components through different modes and by different agencies may lead to serious coordination and synchronization issues, particularly in aligning the completion timelines of inter-dependent works. Such risks can be effectively avoided if the entire ATS is implemented by WBSETCL as a single implementing agency under the Regulated Tariff Mechanism (RTM).
- 4.1.11 In this regards, WBSETCL has also submitted supplementary application dated 09.01.2026 with a copy of letter of Govt. of West Bengal issued vide memo no 02-PS(P)/2026 dated 09.01.2026 wherein the Govt. of West Bengal has conveyed, in the interest of the consumers of the state, that the above application of WBSETCL be considered under RTM instead of TBCB route for implementation of the above transmission scheme for evacuation of power from the proposed generating units considering the urgency of establishing the transmission network in a time-bound manner to meet the growing demand in the State.

5 Financial implication:

As per submission of WBSETCL, the tentative estimated cost of the scheme, including associated bays at Kharagpur 400 kV Substation, is approximately Rs. 736.00 crore



In-Principle approval for implementation of transmission scheme for implementation of the transmission scheme for evacuation of power from under construction JSW Salboni (2X800 + 2X800) MW Thermal Power Plant in Midnapore(W) under Regulated Tariff Mechanism by West Bengal State Electricity Transmission Company Limited (WBSETCL)

Sl. No.	Description	Amount (Rs. in Lakhs)
i	Drawl of 400 KV D/C lines from JSW Salboni Plant to Kharagpur 400/220 KV SS, WBSETCL with Quad MOOSE Equivalent Twin HTLS Conductors (Approx RL= 88 KM).	435.00
ii	Construction of 02 Nos. of 400 KV AIS Bays at Kharagpur 400 s/s	15.00
iii	S/C LILO of New PPSP-Arambagh 400 KV D/C Line at JSW Salboni Plant with replacement of twin Moose conductor by Quad MOOSE Equivalent Twin HTLS Conductor iro JSW-Arambagh 400 KV Line portion. (Approx RL of LILO Portion= 68 KM).	286.00
Tentative Project Cost excluding IDC & Supervision		736.00
(Rupees Seven Hundred and Thirty Six Crores approx.)		

Preparation of the detailed estimate is presently under process.

OBSERVATIONS OF THE COMMISSION

- 5.0 The Commission observes that this transmission project will facilitate evacuation of power from the Delivery Point of the generating station of JSW TEL and thus this project is to be made available by WBSETCL in a time-bound manner as per provision of the PSA, at least three (3) months prior to the Scheduled Synchronization Date of the first generating unit.
- 6.0 Regulation 6.1 of Modalities Tariff Regulation has provided that all new green field transmission projects with an estimated cost exceeding Rs. 250 crore shall be implemented through the Tariff Based Competitive Bidding (TBCB) route in accordance with the Guidelines issued under section 63 of the Act.
- 7.0 The Commission further observes from the submission of WBSETCL that this proposed evacuation scheme comprises both construction of new transmission lines and system strengthening works where system strengthening component does not fall under the TBCB framework. It is also observed that Govt. of West Bengal has conveyed, in the interest of the consumers of the state, that implementation of the above transmission scheme be considered under RTM mode for evacuation of power from under-construction JSW Salboni (2x800 + 2x800) MW Thermal Power Plant for establishing it in time.



In-Principle approval for implementation of transmission scheme for implementation of the transmission scheme for evacuation of power from under construction JSW Salboni (2X800 + 2X800) MW Thermal Power Plant in Midnapore(W) under Regulated Tariff Mechanism by West Bengal State Electricity Transmission Company Limited (WBSETCL)

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- 8.0 The Commission after considering the views of Govt. of West Bengal & the facts submitted by WBSETCL in their petition, allows exemption in terms of regulation 10 of the Modalities of Tariff Regulation for implementation of the above transmission scheme under RTM mode for evacuation of power from the proposed generating units in time to meet the growing demand in the State.
- 9.0 The Commission also gives the following direction:
- (i) WBSETCL shall have to submit application for in-principle approval for above transmission scheme with Detail Project Report (DPR) along with other relevant documents in terms of regulation 2.8.2.3 and Paragraph 4.1 (vi) of Schedule-2 of the West Bengal Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions of Tariff) Regulations, 2011, as amended from time to time.
- 10.0 The Petition is thus disposed of.
- 11.0 A copy of the order shall be posted on the website of the Commission.
- 12.0 WBSETCL shall download the copy of the order from the website of the Commission and act on it. Certified copy of the order, if applied for, be given to the parties on completion of formalities laid down in the West Bengal Electricity Regulatory Commission (Conduct of Business) Regulations, 2013, as amended and on submission of necessary fees.

Sd/-

(DR. MALLELA VENKATESWARA RAO)
CHAIRPERSON

Dated: 14.01.2026

Sd/-

DEPUTY DIRECTOR, WBERC