

पावर ग्रिड कारपोरेशन ऑफ इंडिया लिमिटेड
POWER GRID CORPORATION OF INDIA LIMITED
सूचना का अधिकार अधिनियम 2005 के अंतर्गत आपीलीय अधिकारी
APPELLATE AUTHORITY UNDER THE RTI ACT, 2005
केन्द्रीय कार्यालय, सौदामिनी, प्लॉट नं.2, सेक्टर- 29, गुड़गांव,
हरियाणा-122001
CORPORATE CENTRE, 'SAUDAMINI', PLOT No.2, SECTOR-29, GURGAON,
HARYANA- 122001

Ref: C/CP/AA/RTI Act, 2005

Date: 23rd October, 2019

Appellant: Sh. Suraj Kumar Singh, R/O Chamber No. 565, 5th Floor, Lawyers Block, Saket Court Complex, Saket, New Delhi – 110 017

Public Authority: POWERGRID

Respondent: Sr. GM (CP) & CPIO, Corporate Centre, POWERGRID, Gurgaon.
ED (TBCB), Corporate Centre, POWERGRID, Gurgaon

ORDER

Grounds of Appeal

The Appellate Authority has received a Postal Appeal dated 24.09.2019 from Sh. Suraj Kumar Singh. Earlier, the appellant herein had filed a Postal RTI application SKS/4/RTI 2019 dated 16th August 2019, with the CPIO Corporate Centre, POWERGRID, seeking various information in respect of request for proposal dated 18th March 2019, issued by REC Transmission Projects Company Ltd., for selection of transmission service provider through Tariff Based Competitive Bidding process to establish Transmission System for WRSS-21 (Part-B) Transmission System Strengthening for relieving overloading observed in Gujarat Intra State System due to re-injections in Bhuj PS.

The instant appeal has been filed by the appellant on the ground that CPIO has refused to provide the information related to POWERGRID, pertaining to aforementioned request for proposal.

Decision:

I have perused the relevant papers and information provided by the CPIO vide letter dated 26th August 2019. It can be seen that in his RTI application as well as

appeal, the appellant is seeking information regarding initial offer, final offer, estimated project cost, target equity Internal rate return, project internal rate return etc., in respect of POWERGRID. It is pertinent to mention that the appellant is also seeking copy of all the internal notes, memos, minutes of meetings and resolutions adopted by POWERGRID for approval of initial offer price and final offer price at the stage of bidding process for qualified bidder and during e-reverse auction bidding stage respectively.

In my opinion the information sought cannot be provided for the simple reason that it is squarely falling within the realm of commercial confidence. It can easily be made out that once the information sought by the appellant is available in public domain, POWERGRID will lose its competitive edge for future projects and may result in loss of business through TBCB route ultimately jeopardizing the interest of POWERGRID. In order to avoid such situations the Act provided certain exemptions under which the information sought may be denied. Section 8(1) (d) squarely applies in current situation which provides that information including commercial confidence, trade secrets or intellectual property, can be denied unless the larger public interest warrants the disclosure of such information which is not the case here. In view of the foregoing the information sought by the appellant cannot be provided.

The Appeal is accordingly disposed of.

(Sanjeev Singh)

ED (CMG) & Appellate Authority

To: Sh. Suraj Kumar Singh, R/O Chamber No. 565, 5th Floor, Lawyers Block, Saket Court Complex, Saket, New Delhi – 110 017

Copy to: (i) Sr. GM (CP) & CPIO, Corporate Centre, POWERGRID, Gurgaon.
(ii) ED (TBCB), Corporate Centre, POWERGRID, Gurgaon