

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Hitachi ABB Power Grids energizes first phase of Raigarh-Pugalur 800 kV UHVDC transmission link

Bangalore, 25 September 2020 – Hitachi ABB Power Grids India (listed on Indian stock exchanges as “ABB Power Products and Systems India Ltd.”), along with consortium partner Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL), has successfully energized the first phase of the 6,000 megawatt (MW) +/-800 kilovolt (kV) Ultra-high Voltage Direct Current (UHVDC) transmission link connecting Raigarh in Central India to Pugalur in the southern state of Tamil Nadu.

When completed, the approximately 1,800-kilometer-long two-way transmission line will have the capacity to meet the electricity needs of over 80 million people in India. This link will assist India on the journey towards increasing amounts of renewable power, by bringing large amounts of renewable energy to the high consumption centers. When wind strength is low, it will support electricity demand in the South, and when it is in excess, transmit clean energy to the North.

That is also one of the key initiatives of the Government of India to increase renewable energy capacity to 450 gigawatts in the nation’s electricity mix, and is aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goal of affordable and clean energy.

“This is a proud moment for us. We have been involved in this project since 2016. With the completion of the first phase of the 6,000 MW +/-800 kV UHVDC project, braving difficulties posed by the Covid-19 pandemic, we will enable clean and reliable power for millions of people in the country. We are strongly committed to supporting the Government’s mission to bring 24/7 reliable power to all,” said N Venu, Managing Director, Hitachi ABB Power Grids India.

Occupying one-third of the space of a traditional AC substation, HVDC transmission links help to conserve land. In the current case, that amounts to a saving of approximately 244 square kilometres – about one-third the area of Bangalore. The mega project will also feature technologies selected to minimize the footprint of the transmission stations.

The consortium of Hitachi ABB Power Grids and state-owned engineering firm BHEL had won the order for the Raigarh-Pugalur 800 kV UHVDC transmission link from India’s national electricity grid operator Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (POWERGRID) in 2016. The project encompasses design, engineering, supply, installation, testing, commissioning of complete UHVDC converter terminal stations as well as major equipment supplies including 800 kV converter transformers, converter valves, cooling systems and control and protection technology.

Hitachi ABB Power Grids is the global market leader and partner of choice for stronger, smarter and greener grids around the world. The company has an impressive HVDC track record in India, where it introduced the technology over 30 years ago with the Vindhyachal project in 1989. Raigarh-Pugalur is the company’s sixth HVDC project in

India and the second UHVDC installation, following the multi-terminal North-East Agra link.

About Hitachi ABB Power Grids Ltd.

Hitachi ABB Power Grids is global technology leader with a combined heritage of almost 250 years, employing around 36,000 people in 90 countries. Headquartered in Switzerland, the business serves utility, industry and infrastructure customers across the value chain, and emerging areas like sustainable mobility, smart cities, energy storage and data centers. With a proven track record, global footprint and unparalleled installed base, Hitachi ABB Power Grids balances social, environmental and economic values. It is committed to powering good for a sustainable energy future, with pioneering and digital technologies, as the partner of choice for enabling a stronger, smarter and greener grid. <https://www.hitachiabb-powergrids.com>

Hitachi ABB Power Grids India operates under the legal entity name ABB Power Products and Systems India Limited and is listed on the National Stock Exchange of India Limited (NSE) and BSE Limited (BSE) as POWERINDIA, Scrip code 543187.

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Information contained in this news release is current as of the date of the press announcement, but may be subject to change without prior notice.
