



पावर ग्रिड कारपोरेशन ऑफ इंडिया लिमिटेड

(भारत सरकार का उद्यम)

POWER GRID CORPORATION OF INDIA LIMITED

(A Government of India Enterprise)



पावरग्रिड

केन्द्रीय कार्यालय: "सौदामिनी" प्लॉट सं. 2, सेक्टर-29, गुडगाँव-122 001, (हरियाणा) दूरभाष: 0124-2571700-719, फैक्स : 0124-2571762, "Saudamini" Plot No. 2, Sector-29, Gurgaon-122 001, (Haryana) Tel. : 0124-2571700-719, Fax : 0124-2571762, Web.: www.powergridindia.com

Ref No.: PG-Tele/TRAI/Consult/2014-15/002

Date: October 14, 2014

Advisor (NSL)  
Telecom Regulatory Authority of India  
Mahanagar Door Sanchar Bhavan,  
Jawahar Lal Nehru Marg (Old Minto Road)  
New Delhi - 110002

Kind Attention: Shri Arvind Kumar

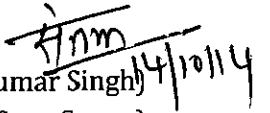
**Subject:** TRAI Consultation Paper No. 12/2014 on 'Delivering Broadband Quickly: What do we need to do?'

Dear Sir,

This is in reference to TRAI Consultation Paper No. 12/2014 on 'Delivering Broadband Quickly: What do we need to do?'. Power Grid Corporation of India is pleased to submit its comments on the same. (Enclosed as **Annex**)

Thanking you,

Yours truly,

  
(Sanjay Kumar Singh) 14/10/14  
CM (Telecom - Core Group)

Encl: As Above.

---

# POWERGRID'S RESPONSE ON TRAI'S CONSULTATION PAPER ON DELIVERING BROADBAND QUICKLY: WHAT DO WE NEED TO DO?

---

POWERGRID compliments the initiative take by TRAI in the form of this consultation paper to take views of industry on various issues related to the broadband penetration in the country. The consultation paper has well documented all the questions that are in front of government, regulator, industry players and consumers and is in continuation to the thought process of NTP 2012 which has emphasized on 'Broadband for all'.

Further, Government has shared its vision for Digital India Program and envisages that all government services would be delivered electronically by 2018. In this light, the recommendations following this consultation process would be very important that would shape the future broadband landscape of the country.

## POWERGRID'S COMMENTS ON THE SPECIFIC QUESTIONS OF THE CONSULTATION PAPER

---

---

### QUESTION NO. 1

---

**What immediate measures are required to promote wireline technologies in access networks? What is the cost per line for various wireline technologies and how can this cost be minimized? Please reply separately for each technology.**

AND

### QUESTION NO. 11

---

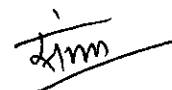
**What are the major issues in obtaining right of way for laying optical fibre? What are the applicable charges/ constraints imposed by various bodies who grant permission of right of way? In your opinion what is the feasible solution?**

### POWERGRID'S RESPONSE:

---

High Right of way (RoW) charges is one of the major impediments in the development of access networks. Various municipal corporations across cities/states have different mechanisms for charging of RoW fee. There is no centralized coordinating authority to frame rules or govern various municipal corporation and government bodies. TSP has to seek approvals from multiple authorities viz. Electricity, Gas, Sewerage, Traffic Police, Fire etc. and the process is very long. To take care of this issue of RoW a few measures are suggested below:

- A single window process for applying and seeking RoW permissions
- An online portal for applying RoW will fasten the process and bring transparency.
- Stipulated time frame for obtaining the RoW clearance.



- RoW charges need to be streamlined considering the cost of restoration or road or damaged facilities and the charging mechanism should be specified depending on city types (Metro, Class – A, Class – B etc.) and other geographies.
- Building developers (Commercial, Residential, industrial etc.) could be obligated to provide trenches or ducts or right to lay fiber at pre-specified rates.
- Proactive intimation and sharing of plans of road expansion, digging between various agencies (e.g. municipal, public works department, gas utility, power utility etc.) on a online portal could help in minimizing the access fibre cuts.
- Making local, state and central government agencies sensitive to the optical fibre access network and its requirement.
- Overhead Aerial fibre deployment could be formalized with appropriate rules in place.

#### **QUESTION NO. 4**

---

**The pricing of Domestic Leased Circuits (DLC) have been reviewed in July 2014. Apart from pricing, are there any other issues which can improve availability of DLC?**

#### **POWERGRID'S RESPONSE:**

---

As mentioned in Q1 reply above, high Right of Way (RoW) charges and time taken in getting RoW permission from local authorities, a state etc. is a big issue that TSPs face. The framing of rules for RoW could incentivize Telecom Service Provider for rollout of fibre network to new and unconnected areas.

#### **QUESTION NO. 5**

---

**What are the specific reasons that ISPs are proactively not connecting with NIXI? What measures are required so that all ISPs are connected to the NIXI?**

#### **POWERGRID'S RESPONSE:**

---

NIXI should broaden its scope and allow peering of content providers (e.g. Google, Youtube, Facebook, E-commerce sites such as Flipkart, Amazon, Snapdeal, Zomato, etc.) along with ISPs to encourage smaller ISPs peer with NIXI and are able directly transfer data to these content hosts.

#### **QUESTION NO. 7**

---

**Are PSUs ideal choices for implementing the National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) project?**

#### **POWERGRID'S RESPONSE:**

---

NOFN project has been assigned to the three PSUs by DoT/BBNL. POWERGRID is one of the executing PSU for the project and the PSUs are working in the framework decided by the owner of the project.

POWERGRID is a 'Navratna' listed PSU and has a proven track record in delivering the projects. POWERGRID has been consistently rated in highest bracket ("Excellent") of MoU rating as per benchmark parameters stipulated by Department of Public Enterprise (DPE) for various CPSU's. Moreover, POWERGRID as central transmission utility (CTU) has made capital investment of Rs 55,000 crore in XI plan( 2007 – 2012) and Rs 42,700 crore in first two years of XII Plan.

