

Reliance Power awarded Sasan mega power project

The 4,000 megawatt (MW) Sasan Ultra Mega Power Project (UMPP) in Madhya Pradesh, that will supply power to seven states including Delhi, was formally handed over to Anil Dhirubhai Ambani-owned Reliance Power Limited (RPL) Tuesday by Power Minister Sushilkumar Shinde at a function here.

The projected outlay for it is Rs.200 billion. The project is expected to be completed in the 11th Five-Year Plan period and supply power to seven states across western and northern India, including 1,500 MW to Madhya Pradesh, 600 MW to Punjab, 500 MW to Uttar Pradesh and 450 MW each to Delhi and Haryana.

RPL, in a revised bid for the pithead-coal project, had promised to supply power at Rs.1.196 per unit, matching the original bid of Lanco-Globeleq consortium, which was disqualified by an Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM).

RPL won the rights to build the country's largest domestic coal-based power project at a single location through a process of international competitive bidding.

RPL also signed power purchase agreements (PPAs) with 14 procurers from the seven states that would take power from the project. It also signed the escrow account and hypothecation agreements.

In the last five years, RPL has commissioned 268 MW. By bagging the Sasan project, it now faces the task of adding 4,000 MW in about the same period (69 months). To meet this target, Sasan Power Ltd (SPL) and RPL will be merged in two weeks.

The group's Reliance Energy distributes more than 21 billion units of electricity to over 25 million consumers in Mumbai, New Delhi, Orissa and Goa, and generates 941 MW from units in Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Karnataka and Goa.

It is currently pursuing several gas, coal, wind and hydro-based electricity generation projects in Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh and Uttaranchal with aggregate capacity of over 12,500 MW.

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