
Indian Court Allows Ansaldo Venture to Bid for NTPC Contract

By P.S. Patnaik and Kartikay Mehrotra - Mar 2, 2011 1:20 PM GMT+0530

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A court in India directed the federal government and state-owned NTPC Ltd., the nation's biggest electricity generator, to allow Ansaldo Caldaie Boilers India Pvt. to bid for the supply of equipment for plants.

NTPC rejected Ansaldo Caldaie's bid because it wasn't a qualified manufacturer. Ansaldo Caldaie, a venture between Gammon India Ltd., a construction company, and Italy's Ansaldo Caldaie SpA, contested the decision.

NTPC will allow the petitioner, in accordance with the terms of the bid documents, to proceed to the next stage of price bids and participate in the technical discussions, judges Sanjay Kishan Kaul and Rajiv Shakdhar ruled in the Delhi High Court yesterday.

The company may appeal to the Supreme Court, NTPC Chairman Arup Roy Choudhury said by telephone yesterday.

The utility sought bids for equipment valued at 110 billion rupees (\$2.4 billion) for the expansion of its power plants, said Prashant Kumar, Ansaldo's lawyer.

NTPC is ordering 11 units of steam generators of 660 megawatts each for projects at Mouda, Solapur, Nabinagar, Meja and Raghunathpur.

To contact the reporters on this story: P.S. Patnaik in New Delhi at ppatnaik2@bloomberg.net; Kartikay Mehrotra in New Delhi at kmehrotra2@bloomberg.net.

To contact the editors responsible for this story: Stephen Foxwell at sfoxwell@bloomberg.net.