

CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Record of Proceedings

Petition No. 206/2010

Sub: Approval of transmission tariff for 400 kV D/C Kaiga-Sirsi Transmission line in Southern Region for the period from 1.4.2009 to 31.3.2014.

Date of hearing : 25.1.2011

Coram : Shri S.Jayaraman, Member
Shri V.S.Verma, Member
Shri M.Deena Dayalan, Member

Petitioner : Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd., Gurgaon

Respondents : KSEB, TNEB, Govt. of Pondichery, Govt. of Goa, APTRANSCO, APNPDCL, APEPDCL, APSPDCL, APCPDCL, KPTCL, BESCO, GESCOM, HESCO, MESCOM and CESCL

Parties present : Shri Rakesh Prasad, PGCIL
Shri Rajeev Gupta, PGCIL
Shri M.M.Mondal, PGCIL
Shri S. Balaguru, TANGEDCO
Ms. S.Geetha, TANGEDCO

This petition has been filed for approval of transmission tariff in respect of 400 kV D/C Kaiga-Sirsi Transmission line in Southern Region for the period from 1.4.2009 to 31.3.2014 after accounting for the projected additional capital expenditure, based on the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions of Tariff) Regulations, 2009 (hereinafter referred to as the 2009 regulations).

2. The representative of the petitioner submitted that an amount of ₹20.57 lakh has been claimed for projected additional capital expenditure during 2012-13 in respect of tower strengthening due to change in wind zones of the country under Regulation 9 (2) (v) of the 2009 regulations.

3. The representative of the TANGEDCO successor entity of the erstwhile Tamil Nadu Electricity Board submitted that if it is considered

absolutely necessary to introduce hip bracings up to bottom cross arm of all the suspension towers, then the expenditure can be recovered in three annual installments after completion of the strengthening of the towers from the beneficiaries instead of treating it as additional capital expenditure and awarding tariff to be recovered till the useful life of the assets.

4. The Commission observed that in its affidavit dated 29.9.2010, at S.No. 2, the petitioner has submitted that the 400 kV D/C Kaiga Sirsi transmission line was designed as per IS:802-1995 whereas at S. No. 2 of the table of the said affidavit, it has mentioned that "Applicable design practices/period of applicability is IS: 802 Draft case (100% wind in WBC)/1987 TO 1992 along with remarks: There is no failure of 400 kV towers reported till 15.9.2010". The petitioner was asked to clarify the above contradiction and confirm whether the transmission line was designed as IS:802:1995 with 0% wind or 100% wind in the broken wire conditions. In response, the representative of the petitioner submitted that towers were designed with 100% wind. The petitioner was directed to submit the said clarification on affidavit within two weeks.

5. The representative of the TANGEDCO submitted that the petitioner in Petition No. 193/2010 pertaining to Ramagundam Stage-III has stated that "vide minutes of meeting held between the petitioner and SERC on 26.9.2009, it was informed by SERC that Power Grid have only statistical records which is generally inadequate and additional information on the data sampling etc. will be required to access further design inputs for a given specific site condition". The representative of the TNEB submitted that the petitioner should take up tower strengthening only if the site conditions warrant the same supported by the actual data of increase in wind speed. The petitioner was directed to file its response with details, on affidavit latest by 20.2.2011 with an advance copy to the respondents. The respondents may file their rejoinder by 28.2.2011.

6. Subject to above, order in the petition was reserved.

Sd/-
(T.Rout)
Joint Chief (Law)