CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION NEW DELHI Petition No. 221/MP/2012

Subject : Petition for providing adequate load shedding through automatic under frequency and df/dt relays in the State Systems of Northern Region and keeping them functional in terms of Regulations 5.2 (n) of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Indian Electricity Grid Code) (First Amendment), Regulations, 2012 (Grid Code) for ensuring security of the Northern Regional grid as well as the interconnected Indian grid.

Date of hearing : 20.12.2012

- Coram : Dr. Pramod Deo, Chairperson Shri S.Jayaraman, Member Shri V.S.Verma, Member Shri M.Deena Dayalan, Member
- Petitioner : Northern Regional Load Despatch Centre, New Delhi
- : Punjab State Transmission Corporation Ltd., Patiala Respondents Haryana Vidyut Prasaran Nigam Limited, Panchkula Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Prasaran Nigam Ltd, Jaipur Delhi Transco Limited, Delhi Uttar Pradesh Power Transmission Corporation Ltd., Lucknow Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board, Shimla Power Transmission Corporation of Uttarakhand Ltd., Dehradun Power development Department, Jammu and Kashmir Electricity Department, Union Territory of Chandigarh, Chandigarh State Load Despatch Centre, Ablowal (Patiala), Punjab State Load Despatch Centre, Panchkula, Haryana State Load Despatch Centre, Heeprapur, Rajashthan State Load Despatch Centre, Delhi State Load Despatch Centre, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh State Load Despatch Centre, Rishikeksh, Uttarakhand State Load Despatch Centre, Totu (Shimla), Himalchal Pradesh State Load Despatch Centre, Gladini, Jammu and Kashmir
- Parties present : Shri V.V. Sharma, NRLDC Shri Rajiv Porwal, NRLDC Miss Joyti Prasad, NRLDC Shri Darshan Singh, SLDC/DTL Shri B.L Gujar, DTL Shri M.K.Tomar, RRVPNL

Record of Proceedings

The representative of the petitioner explained that the present petition has been filed to bring to the notice of the Commission the inadequate relief received from the system defense mechanisms such as the Under Frequency Relay (UFR) and df/dt due to noncompliance of the provisions of the Grid Code by the constituents of the Northern Region. He submitted that the Enguiry Committee constituted after the grid disturbance on 30th and 31st July 2012 in its report dated 16.8.2012 has observed that there was inadequate response from these relays during the grid disturbance. He further submitted that the audit carried out by POWERGRID post the grid disturbance has also clearly shown that there was very little response from these relays. The representative of the petitioner further submitted that apart from clear provisions in the Grid Code, the Commission has been stressing the need for adequate relief from these relays from time to time in its orders in various petitions, latest being the order in Petition No. 125/MP/2012. He stressed that the matter is very important as it relates to the system security. He informed that the replies have been received from four States, namely, Delhi, Haryana, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. Delhi in its response has submitted about replacement of the all UFR, df/dt relays with numerical relays for better time response etc. Rajasthan in its response has informed less relief during 30 and 31st July 2012 disturbance. UP in its reply has informed about responsibility of SEB/STU/distribution licensees for UFR, df/dt relays as per the Grid Code and accordingly, SLDC has already informed the STU to take necessary action. The representative of the petitioner requested the Commission for initiating appropriate action against the defaulting STUs/SLDCs in the matter.

2. In response to Commission's query regarding the responsibility of SLDC on the matter, the representative of the petitioner submitted that both STU as well as SLDC have been made respondents in the petition and at the regional level, the STUs and SLDCs represent the State control area as a whole. Any violations or non adherence of responsibility by various intra-state utilities within a State should be taken up at appropriate level such as State Commission in line with State grid codes.

3. The commission took a very serious view of the non submission of responses by some of the constituents of the Northern Region. The Commission observed that grid security is a very serious issue and all those responsible for non-compliance of the provisions of the Grid Code shall be held accountable. The Commission further observed that despite clear and repeated directions, the responses from the UFR and df/dt relays have been extremely poor as is evident from the report of the enquiry committee and well the audit by POWERGRID. The Commission directed the staff to process the cases for issue of show cause notices to the constituents who have not responded to the notice in the petition. The commission also directed the petitioner to submit its responses to the replies received in a week's time including the extent of compliance of the provisions of the Grid Code by each of the constituents.

4. The matter shall be listed for further hearing on 15.1.2013.

By order of the Commission

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