

**CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
NEW DELHI**

Petition No. 30/MP/2014

- Subject : Grant of Connectivity as per Regulation 8 (2) and 8 (4) of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Grant of Connectivity, Long-term access and medium term open access in inter-State transmission and related matter) Regulations, 2009 and Regulation 4 (2) and 6 (6) of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Technical Standards for Connectivity to the Grid) Regulations, 2007.
- Date of hearing : 13.5.2014
- Coram : Shri Gireesh B. Pradhan, Chairperson
Shri M. Deena Dayalan, Member
Shri A.K. Singhal, Member
- Petitioner : National Load Dispatch Centre
- Respondent : Delhi Transco Limited and others.
- Parties present : Shri S.K. Soonee, POSOCO
Shri V.K. Agarwal, NLDC
Shri S.S. Barpanda, NLDC
Shri S.R. Narasimhan, NLDC
Shri K.V.S. Baba, NLDC
Shri Manju Gupta, PGCIL
Shri Ashok Pal, PGCIL
Shri R.C. Chakraborty, MPPTCL
Shri Hitesh Tiwari, MPPTCL
Shri R.C. Kaundal, Advocate, HPPTCL
Shri Mohit Kumar Shah, Advocate, Bihar State Power Holding Company

Record of Proceedings

The representative of the petitioner submitted that the system is growing at a very fast pace with network expansion and there has been large increase in inter-regional power flow with introduction of UMPP and synchronisation of all five regions. Due to all these changes, the philosophy of system operation and control has changed drastically. The inertia of system has also increased and maintaining stable system operation has become a big challenge. Oscillations are experienced in a number of cases particularly in the event of weak links. Large contingencies in the system are also

observed. For instance on 12.3.2014, CGPL station tripped leading to a loss of generation of around 3500 MW.

2. The representative of the petitioner submitted that MTOA and STOA are granted only on residual margins and network is not required to be augmented for allowing MTOA and STOA. In this connection, the representative of the petitioner referred to Regulation 9(2) of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Grant of Connectivity, Long-term access and medium term open access in inter-State transmission and related matter) Regulations, 2009 (Connectivity Regulations) and Regulation 3 of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Open Access in inter-State Transmission) Regulations, 2008. The representative of the petitioner submitted that for MTOA and STOA, there is no augmentation of network and new transmission system is planned only for LTA. If a generator is granted Connectivity without any LTA, it would evacuate power through existing system.

3. The representative of the petitioner submitted that it had filed petition no. 225/MP/2012 seeking amendment of the Connectivity Regulation to provide that the entities seeking connectivity may be required to avail LTA for the quantum of injection or overdrawl including the overload capacity and for direction to all generators to apply for LTA for the entire output including overload capability. The representative of the petitioner submitted that the Commission disposed of the petition with the direction to the petitioner to submit a consolidated proposal which was submitted on 19.10.2012. The representative of the petitioner further submitted that CTU in its letter dated 3.1.2011 had commented that "for the new IPP generation including captive power station eligible for getting with ISTS, it should be made mandatory to apply through combined application for Connectivity and LTA". He further submitted that in the first meeting of the Coordination Forum (constituted by Government of India under section 166 (1) of the Electricity Act, 2003, it was observed that "an application for grid connectivity should be for full capacity of the generation plant because inter-connection for part capacity may pose a problem later." He further submitted that as per the data submitted by CTU about the connectivity and LTA application, LTA has been granted for 46,430 MW which show that for 32,124 MW immediate augmentation may not be carried out. The representative of the petitioner submitted that Annexure V of the petition deals with problem related to LTA/Connectivity quantum as it has been clearly indicated therein that out of the 10000 MW of generation which has been granted LTA, the effective LTA is only about 2500 MW leading to transmission constraints.

4. The representative of the petitioner submitted that due to connectivity in the present form the following difficulties are being faced in grid operation:

- (i) Insecure grid operation;
- (ii) Frequent operation of SPS leading to unscheduled disconnection of load and tripping of generator;
- (iii) Certain cases of cascade tripping of lines;

(iv) Frequent instances of congestion;

5. The representative of the petitioner submitted that in a number of cases, interim connectivity has been granted to the entities pending commissioning of the ultimate transmission scheme. Such temporary connectivity and in some cases the final connectivity, has been granted through Loop-In-Loop-Out (LILO) of the main arterial line of the existing network. The petitioner cited the example such as Tiroda generation station in Maharashtra, Kawai generating station in Rajasthan, 132 kV Gangtok-Melli, Sterlite generating station in Chhattisgarh and Chuzachen HPS in Sikkim.

6. The representative of the petitioner submitted that sometimes construction of associated intra-State transmission system (including sub-stations) gets delayed. In order to facilitate evacuation of power, the concerned generators are connected to inter-State transmission system, leading to high loading and insecure operation of the grid. Thus, the new 'connection' affects the grid adversely. A few instances of such connectivity were presented before the Commission.

7. The representative of the petitioner prayed for the following:

(a) Before grant of any connection to the ISTS network, detailed inter-connection studies proving adequacy of transfer capability must be conducted.

(b) STUs should be directed to plan and construct transmission system for intra-state generators and to refrain from leaning on ISTS for evacuation of power from intra-state generators.

(c) Central Transmission Utility (CTU) should be directed to review all connectivity granted to ensure that the CEA Standards are followed and stop granting connectivity through interim LILO arrangement and the connectivity already granted through interim LILO arrangements may be shifted to final arrangements.

8. The representatives of CTU expressed agreement with the case of the petitioner and submitted that CTU was also facing difficulties on this front.

9. After hearing the representative of the petitioner and CTU, the Commission issued following directions:

(a) The petitioner in coordination with CTU shall submit the list of LILOs granted and dates on which these have been granted.

(b) The petitioner shall explain the operational difficulty being faced by it at each such location due to injection of power by the generator without complying with the CEA standards.

(c) Whether the issue regarding operational difficulty was brought before TCC/RPC in respective regions including the remedial measure suggested by POSOCO.

(d) Reasons for allowing injection of power from the generating station which have not complied with CEA Standards and the actions taken against such generating stations.

10. The Commission directed CTU to submit the following information/clarifications on affidavit by 13.6.2014 :

(a) Details of implementation of LILO and start of injection of power.

(b) Whether requisite interconnection studies were made before granting such connectivity and the results were made available to concerned organizations.

(c) Submit one such study of generator, which is connected through LILO.

11. Learned counsel for Bihar State Power Holding Company sought time to file reply to the petition.

12. The Commission directed to admit the petition and issue notice to the respondents. The Commission further directed the petitioner to implead all generators as parties to the petition who are injecting power through LILO and who have not constructed their connectivity lines and file revised memo of parties.

13. The Commission directed the petitioner to serve copy of the petition on the respondents by 10.6.2014, The respondents were directed to file their replies by 25.6.2014 with an advance copy to the petitioner, who may file its rejoinder, if any, on or before 3.7.2014.

14. The petition shall be listed for hearing on 8.7.2014.

By order of the Commission

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