CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION NEW DELHI

Petition No. 52/MP/2014

Subject : Petition under section 79 (1) (f) of the Electricity Act, 2003 read with Regulation 8(7) of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Grant of Connectivity, Long-Term Access and Medium Term Open Access in inter-State transmission and related matters) Regulations, 2009.

Date of hearing : 13.3.2014

Coram : Shri Gireesh B. Pradhan, Chairperson Shri M. Deena Dayalan, Member Shri A.K. Singhal, Member

- Petitioner : Vandana Vidyut Limited, Chhattisgarh
- Respondent : Power System Operation Corporation Limited, Bangalore.
- Parties present : Shri Rajiv Yadav, Advocate, VVL Shri R.V.Mathe, VVL

Record of Proceedings

Learned counsel for the petitioner submitted that present petition has been filed seeking permission to extend the time for testing and allow injection of infirm power into the grid by six months with effect from 3.3.2014 under Clause (7) of Regulation 8 of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Grant of connectivity, Long-term Access and Medium-term Open access in inter-state transmission and related matters) Regulations, 2009.

2. Learned counsel for the petitioner further submitted as under:

(a) The petitioner has set up 540 MW thermal power generating station (the project) at Korba district in the State of Chhattisgarh consisting of two units of 135 MW each and one unit of 270 MW. The first unit of 135 MW of the project was synchronized on 4.9.2013. However, due to technical problem, commercial operation of unit-I could not be achieved.

(b) The petitioner entered into a contract with M/s Cethar Limited for procurement and erection of Boiler, Turbine and Generator (BTG). Owing to certain technical factors, it did not attain optimum performance for declaration of COD on account of diverse factors including coal burner not being adequately stabilized and faults in AVR at an operational level of 50 MW, resulting in tripping

of the plant on 31.12.2013. The plant was re-started on 21.1.2014. Subsequently, on 22.1.2014 the plant was again shut down due to leakage in boiler tube.

(c) After examining the performance of the plant, M/s Cethar Limited undertook various measures, such as CFD modeling, installation of diverter and certain modifications of the burner design. Even after such interventions, the Maximum Continuous Rating (MCR) could not be achieved.

(d) Every efforts are being made with M/s Cethar Limited to achieve the desired level of performance for declaration of COD and the same are being constantly monitored by the Central Electricity Authority. On 7.1.2014, a joint meeting was convened by Chairperson, CEA with the representative of the petitioner and Cethar Limited to discuss the issues relating to delay in commissioning of the plant.

(e) CEA vide its letter dated 8.1.2014 directed M/s Cethar Limited to resolve all problems being faced so that unit may achieve full load and get stabilized by the end of January, 2014.

(f) Since M/s Cethar Limited could not resolve the problems as per target fixed by CEA, the petitioner by its letter dated 7.2.2014 informed CEA regarding omission of M/s Cethar Limited. CEA by letter dated 20.2.2014 further directed to M/s Cethar Limited to take steps for commissioning of the power plant without further delay.

(g) The respondent vide its letter dated 26.2.2014 informed that since its first unit was synchronized with the grid on 4.9.2013 and six month period will be completed on 3.4.2014, an order from CERC allowing the extension of time for injection of infirm power into the grid till declaration of COD is required to be submitted.

3. After hearing learned counsel for the petitioner, the Commission allowed the extension of time for injection of infirm power into the grid for the purpose of commissioning tests including full load test of unit-I up to 11.4.2014 subject to the condition that the petitioner shall file details of activities to be undertaken up to COD of the unit and duration of each activity along with PERT/Bar chart by 21.3.2014.

4. Subject to above, the Commission reserved the order in the petition.

By order of the Commission

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