

**CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION  
NEW DELHI**

**Petition No. 11/MP/2014**

**Coram:**

**Shri Gireesh B. Pradhan, Chairperson**

**Shri V.S.Verma, Member**

**Shri M. Deena Dayalan, Member**

**Shri A.K.Singhal, Member**

**Date of Hearing: 6.2.2014**

**Date of Order : 13.2.2014**

**In the matter of**

Petition under Regulation 8 of Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Grant of Connectivity, Long-term Access and Medium-term Open Access in Inter-State transmission and related matters) and Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Unscheduled interchanges and related matters) Regulations, 2009 for permission to allow injection of infirm power for testing including full load testing upto commercial declaration of Unit-I2 of Vindhyachal STPP (500 MW) Stage IV, in compliance with the directions of the Hon'ble Commission's order dated 15.10.2013 in Petition No. 178/MP/2013.

**And In the matter of**

NTPC Ltd  
NTPC Bhawan,  
Core-7, SCOPE Complex,  
7, Institutional Area, Lodhi Road,  
New Delhi-110003

**...Petitioner**

Vs

1. Madhya Pradesh Power Management Company Limited,  
Shakti Bhavan, Vidyut Nagar,  
Jabalpur-482 008

2. Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Company Ltd,  
'Prakashgad', Bandra (East),  
Mumbai-400 051

3. Gujarat Urja Vikas Nigam Limited,  
Vidyut Bhavan, Race Course,  
Vadodara-390 007

4. Chhattisgarh State Power Distribution Company Ltd,  
Dhagania, Raipur-492 013

5. Electricity Department,  
Government of Goa,  
Vidyut Bhavan, 3 rd Floor,  
Panaji, Goa

6. Electricity Department,  
Administration of Daman & Diu,  
Daman-396 210

7. Electricity Department,  
Administration of Dadra and Nagar Haveli,  
Silvassa via VAPI

...Respondents

**Parties present:**

**For Petitioner:**

Shri A.K.Choudhary, NTPC Ltd.  
Shri A.S. Pandey, NTPC Ltd.  
Shri Sachin Jain, NTPC Ltd  
Shri Ajay Dua, NTPC

**For Respondents:**

None

**ORDER**

This petition has been filed by the petitioner, NTPC Ltd praying for the following specific relief(s):

- (a) *Allow the petitioner for injection of infirm power from Unit-12 of Vindhyachal STPP (500 MW) Stage IV for testing including full load testing for the period from 15.2.2014 upto the declaration of commercial operation of Unit-12;*
- (b) *Pass any other order as it may deem fit in the fact and circumstances mentioned herein above."*

**Background**

2. Vindhyachal Super Thermal Power Station ('the project') of the petitioner is located in Singrauli District in the State of Madhya Pradesh and is being implemented in five stages, with Stage-I consisting of six units of 210 MW each, Stage-II consisting of two units of 500 MW each, Stage-III consisting of two units of 500 MW each and Stage-IV consisting of two units of 500 MW and Stage-V consisting of 500 MW. The first unit of Stage-IV has been declared under commercial operation on 1.3.2013. The second unit of Stage-IV of the project has been test synchronized on 22.3.2013 and the work required for declaration of commercial operation is being undertaken.

3. Petition No. 178/MP/2013 was filed by the petitioner 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 and Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Unscheduled interchange charges and related matters) Regulations, 2012 praying for extension of time for testing and full load testing and consequent injection of infirm power by Vindhyachal STPP, Stage-IV, Unit-12 (500 MW), six months beyond initial synchronization (beyond 21.9.2013) upto COD of Unit-12. In the said petition, the petitioner while praying for extension of time for testing and full load testing and consequent injection of infirm power had submitted that the commercial operation of the Unit-II was not possible within the stipulated period of 6 months from the date of initial synchronization, since certain works like laying of ash pipe lines and charging of ash dyke, Cooling tower & Augmentation of Railway siding system got delayed for reasons beyond reasonable control of the petitioner.

4. Considering the submissions of the petitioner, the Commission by its order dated 15.10.2013 disposed of the petition at the admission stage with the following observations.

*" 7. Since certain critical systems of the unit-2 of Stage-IV are not ready, no useful purpose would be served by granting extension of time to the petitioner for injection of infirm power for testing including full loading testing of Unit-2 of Stage-IV of the project beyond six months from initial synchronization. Accordingly, the petitioner is granted to liberty to approach the Commission for seeking permission to inject infirm power before one month of completion of critical systems. The petitioner shall not inject infirm power into the grid without permission of the Commission. The petitioner is directed to furnish the details of all testing and commissioning activities to be undertaken with clear schedule upto COD of the generating station with the petition to be filed for injection of infirm power in near future."*

5. In compliance with the above order, this petition has been filed by the petitioner vide affidavit dated 15.1.2014 with the prayers as mentioned in para 1 above. The petitioner while pointing out that it has made all out efforts for completion of critical systems has submitted that in regard to ash evacuation of VSTPP Stage IV, one ash disposal pipe line connecting the third series ash pump of Stage-IV has been made ready and second ash disposal pipe connecting fourth series shall be made ready shortly. As regards the cooling tower CT-11B/12B, the petitioner has submitted that all works have been completed and the same is ready for operation

in all respect, however readiness of first segment of CT-12A is being expedited. In regard to augmentation of Railway siding system for fuel supply, the petitioner has submitted that in the execution of pre and post tippler yard railway siding being executed by M/s RITES, track laying up to wagon tippler has been completed, only 800 mtrs. length on post tippler is pending and readiness of the same is expected by 15.2.2014. In regard to Ash Dyke for Stage-IV, the petitioner has submitted that 250 mtrs embankment is balance in ash dyke V4A due to problems in evacuation of persons staying in the area despite taking the matter with the various levels in the State Government, however readiness of ash dyke is expected by March'2014. The petitioner has further submitted that the critical systems shall be in place before injection of infirm power.

6. In addition, the petitioner has submitted that after the completion of pending works as mentioned above, the petitioner shall be required to inject infirm power in the grid for undertaking commissioning activities for further stabilization of the Unit, thereby preparing the unit for declaration of commercial operation and for sustained full load operation thereafter. The petitioner has also furnished the schedule for commissioning, testing and trial operation up to the COD of Unit-12 as under:

Sl. No.	Activity	Anticipated Activity Start Date	Anticipated Activity completion date	Testing and Commissioning Activities
1	Boiler light up	27.1.2014	14.2.2014	Safety valve Floating and Steam Dumping
2	On bar commissioning with injection of infirm power in to the grid	15.2.2014	30.3.2014	Stabilization of Coal Milling system one by one A to K.
				Charging and stabilization of regenerative (HP & LP) heaters and tuning of drip controls.
				Putting of various control loops in Auto mode one by one up to coordinated master control.
				Testing of Run Back systems
				Stabilization of Coal bunkering system for running the system continuously on full load
				Stabilization of Ash evacuation system (Bottom ash and Fly ash)
				Attending the teething problems in systems which may come during commission activities
Commencement of full load operation as a part of trial operation				
3	Start of commercial operation of the unit	<b>31.3.2014</b>		

7. During the hearing, the representative of the petitioner pointed out that pursuant to the Commission's order dated 15.10.2013 in Petition No. 178/MP/2013 all pending critical works is to be completed by 15.2.2014. The petitioner has also submitted that light-up of boiler was expected on 15.2.2014 and thereafter, on bar testing of different systems such as coal feeding system for full load, ash evacuation system, proven of coal mills for full load, teething problems, if any etc., the declaration of commercial operation of Unit-12 is expected by 31.3.2014. In view of this, the representative of the petitioner prayed that the infirm power injection from the project may be allowed up to 31.3.2014. None present on behalf of the respondents.

8. As per the schedule for commissioning, testing and trial operation up to the COD of Unit-12 furnished by the petitioner in the table under para 6 above, it is evident that the date of injection of infirm power in the grid is 15.2.2014 and the machine is expected to be declared for commercial operation by 31.3.2014. Taking into consideration the submissions of the petitioner and the documents available on record, we allow the extension of time for injection of infirm power into the grid for the purpose of commissioning tests including full load test of Unit-12 from 15.2.2014 up to 31.3.2014 subject to the condition that no IDC/IEDC shall be allowed for the extended period. Consequently, the accounting of the sale of infirm power after 15.2.2014 till 31.3.2014 of Unit-12 of the project is allowed in terms of Regulation 11 of the 2009 Tariff Regulations. We expect the petitioner to take all efforts to ensure the commercial operation of Unit-I of the project by this date. A copy of the order shall be sent to WRLDC for accounting and releasing payment to the petitioner for injection of power under UI from Unit-12 of this project in accordance with the UI rate as specified under clause 2(f) of the schedule to the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Unscheduled interchange charges and related matters) Regulations, 2012.

9. Having allowed the prayer of the petitioner, we direct the petitioner to file on affidavit, confirming that the essential systems viz laying of ash pipe lines, charging of ash dyke, Cooling tower, Augmentation of Railway siding system, Fire Fighting System, Communication system,

Emergency Black Start facility (DG generator set) are ready/ complete. This information shall be filed by the petitioner within 7 days from the date of receipt of this order.

10. We also direct the petitioner to ensure RGMO operation of the said Unit during testing, prior to the declaration of commercial operation.

11. Petition No. 11/MP/2014 is accordingly disposed of at the admission stage.

*Sd/-*  
**[A.K.Singhal]**  
Member

*Sd/-*  
**[M. Deena Dayalan]**  
Member

*Sd/-*  
**[V.S. Verma]**  
Member

*Sd/-*  
**[Gireesh B.Pradhan]**  
Chairperson