

**CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
NEW DELHI**

Petition No. 448/RC/2014

Coram:

**Shri Gireesh B. Pradhan, Chairperson
Shri M. Deena Dayalan, Member
Shri A.K. Singhal, Member
Shri A.S. Bakshi, Member**

Date of Hearing: 09.12.2014

Date of Order : 17.12.2014

In the matter of

Regulatory Compliance Application for seeking extension of time for compliance of the order dated 21.2.2014 passed in the application no. 220/MP/2012.

And

In the matter of

Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited
Vidut Bhawan, Jyoti Nagar,
Janpath, Jaipur- 302005.

....Petitioner

Vs

1. Power Grid Corporation of India Limited
B-6, Qutub Institutional Area,
Katwaria Sarai, New Delhi- 110016.

2. Northern Regional Power Committee
Central Electricity Authority, 18-A, Qutab Institutional Area,
Shaheed Jeet Singh Marg,
Katwaria Sarai, New Delhi- 110016.

....Respondents

Following were present:

Shri Ramnesh Jerath, Advocate, RRVUNL
Shri Purushottam Dhariwal, RRVUNL

ORDER

This Regulatory Compliance application has been filed by the Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited (RRVUNL) for seeking extension of time for



complying the Commission's direction dated 21.2.2014 in Petition No. 220/MP/2013. The petitioner has made the following prayers;

“(a) Extend the time frame for completion of the resolution of the deficiencies pointed out by the Protection Audit Committee under Category-B for Kota STPS up to 15.3.2015 or such other extended timeline as the Hon`ble Commission may deem fit; and

(b) Pass any or such further order or orders as this Hon`ble Commission may deem just and proper in the facts and circumstances of this case.”

2. Consequent to grid disturbance on 30.7.2012 and 31.7.2012 a meeting was convened by Minister of Power, Govt. of India with Chief Ministers/ Power Ministers of different States of the Northern Region. In the said meeting, various resolutions were adopted to ensure smooth and reliable grid operation including an independent third party audit of the protection systems. Ministry of Power vide its Memorandum No. 17.1.2012-OM dated 7.8.2012 directed that “independent third party audit of protection scheme shall be carried out within one month and the Regional Power Committee shall monitor the same. PGCIL would fund and carry out the audit in first instance”.

3. The protection audit was carried out by Central Power Research Institute (CPRI) in respect of 23 sub-stations in phase-I and 17 sub-stations in phase-II and audit is in progress in 40 sub-stations in phase-III and phase-IV. The protection audit basically covered the performance and availability of Instrument Transformers, Protection systems, DC system and various auxiliaries, under frequency and df/dt relays and Special Protection Schemes at various sub-stations.

4. Power Grid Corporation of India Limited had filed Petition No. 220/MP/2012 for seeking necessary directions to Regional Power Committees (RPCs) for (i) ensuring the rectification of deficiencies observed during the protection audit; (ii) implementation of all the protection and control system in line with the notification dated 20th August, 2010; (iii) and monitoring of healthiness of the protection system and control system for improvement of stability and reliability of the grid by respective constituents; and (iv) review of various settings of protection systems in view of changes / modification in the system for stable and reliable operation of integrated grid.

5. The Commission, after hearing all the parties, by order dated 21.2.2014 issued the following directions:

“27. Since the protection system is a vital requirement for the safe and secure operation of the grid, we have decided that in order to implement the recommendations of the Protection Audit, a compliance mechanism with definite time line needs to be put in place as under:

(a) Each STU and CTU shall submit its action plan against each deficiency within one month from issue of this order clearly stating the deficiencies which can be corrected without any procurement (Category-A) and deficiencies involving procurement of equipment (Category-B). However, action plan for deficiencies dealt in Petition No. 146/MP/2013 shall be submitted therein;

(b) The remaining deficiencies, if any, in Category-A shall be rectified by the concerned STU and CTU within 2 months of issue of the order and compliance report in this regard shall be submitted to respective RPC.

(c) As protection is a matter of critical importance, a time period of one year, as informed by various agencies in RPC for rectifying the deficiencies, which involve procurement, cannot be allowed. All deficiencies of Category-B shall be rectified within 6 months of issue of the order. In this regard, reasons of non-availability of fund or delay in procurement process shall not be accepted. The procurement and implementation is to be completed by each STU using their own fund which can be reimbursed through a common request of funding through PSDF forwarded through RPCs as per procedure recently approved by Government of India.

(d) Each SLDC shall be responsible to monitor the action taken by STU. If any deficiency in the STU system in regard to the Category-A deficiencies is not corrected after 3 months of issue of this order, the concerned SLDC may approach the respective State Commission for appropriate action against defaulting State entity in accordance with State Grid Code. The Office-in-Charge of the concerned SLDC shall be responsible for monitoring and ensuring compliance of the action plan and filing of the petition as directed herein.

(e) RPCs at the end of each quarter shall prepare a report on the protection deficiencies and their rectification which shall be sent to this Commission with a copy to CTU not later than 45 days of expiry of the quarter. The report shall inter-alia identify deviations from time lines as well as the State sub-stations which have interface with ISTS system. CTU shall take necessary action and issue a show cause notice for disconnection to sub-station of STU for not complying with the Standards for Protection and Control as per Central Electricity Authority (Technical Standards for Construction of Electric Plants and Electric Lines) Regulations, 2010 and Central Electricity Authority (Grid Standards) Regulations, 2010.

28. Accordingly, we direct CTU, STUs and Generating Companies /Stations of all the regions to ensure rectification of defects in the protection system as pointed out in the protection audit within the time frame specified in paragraph 27 herein and submit the latest status of corrective actions to Member Secretary of the respective Regional Power Committee within one month of issue of this order. All RPCs are directed to furnish consolidated report with their observations/recommendations to the Commission within 2 months of issue of this order. Thereafter, CTU and SLDCs shall submit quarterly report to the respective RPC latest by 15th day of the first month of next quarter and RPCs shall submit the report to the Commission latest by 15th day of the second month of next quarter.”

6. The petitioner has submitted that the Protection Audit Committee inspected the Kota STPS of the petitioner and observed the following deficiencies:

(a) Replacement of balance static protection relays in line with Gazette Notification of GOI to be ensured for 220 kV Gulabpura, Beawar, Sanganer, Heerapura and Sakatpura-I,II,III and IV Feeders;

(b) Main-I and Main-II distance protections Schemes for 220 kV Morak and PGCIL-I,II Feeders need to be of different make/characteristics.



2015.

8. The petitioner has submitted that the Commission had allowed six months time from the issue of order for completion of the rectification of deficiencies. In the 31st meeting of NRPC and 28th meeting of TCC held on 23.7.2014, it was clarified that for any deviation in time line set by the Commission for rectification of deficiencies, the utilities should approach CERC. Accordingly, the petitioner has approached the Commission for extension of time till 31.3.2015.

9. During the course of hearing, learned counsel for the petitioner submitted that substantial activities have been completed and for the remaining activities, work orders have been placed. He further submitted that the petitioner is committed to rectify all deficiencies by 31.3.2015 and requested for extension of time till then.

10. We have considered the submission of the learned counsel for the petitioner and perused the averments in the petition. It is noted from Annexure A-3 of the petition that the petitioner has indicated against Item No. 6 'pertains to RVPN'. In respect of other items, the petitioner has either completed the works or has placed orders for the works in respect of the deficiencies except two, namely, Availability of Main-II Distance Protection for 220 kV Sakatpura-I and II Feeders and Disturbance Recorder for 220 kV Sakatpura III and IV Feeders for which the procurement is under process. The petitioner has indicated 31.3.2015 as the completion date for rectifications of deficiencies.

11. Noting the commitment of the learned counsel for the petitioner and the advanced stage of procurement and rectification action, we allow time till



31.3.2015 for completion of the rectification of deficiencies. It is clarified that no further extension of the time shall be granted and the petitioner shall ensure completion of the work by 31.3.2015.

12. As regards Item No. 6 which pertains to “PLCC with protection coupler for 220 kV Gulabpura, Beawar and Morak Feeders”, we direct NRPC to ensure that the task is completed by RVPN latest by 31.3.2015, if not already completed.

13. The Petition No. 448/RC/2014 is disposed of in terms of the above.

Sd/-	sd/-	sd/-	sd/-
(A.S. Bakshi)	(A.K.Singhal)	(M. Deena Dayalan)	(Gireesh B. Pradhan)
Member	Member	Member	Chairperson

