CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION NEW DELHI

Petition No. 19/TT/2014

Subject : Petition for truing-up of annual transmission charges for the

period FY 2009-13 and Revised Estimates of FY 2013-14 for (i) 400 kV D/C Siliguri-Purnea transmission line, (ii) 400 kV D/C Purnea-Muzaffarpur transmission line, and (iii) 220 kV D/C Muzaffarpur (PGCIL)-Muzaffarpur (BSEB) transmission line in Eastern Region, associated with Tala Hydro Electric Project, East-North Inter-Connector and Northern Region

Transmission System of Powerlinks Transmission Ltd.

Date of Hearing : 20.8.2015

Coram : Shri Gireesh B. Pradhan, Chairman

Shri A.K. Singhal, Member Shri A.S. Bakshi, Member Dr. M.K. Iyer, Member

Petitioner : Powerlinks Transmission Ltd.

Respondents : Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. and 7 others

Parties present : Shri Amit Kapur, Advocate, PKTCL

Shri Vishal Anand, Advocate, PKTCL

Shri Gajendra Bhardwaj, PKTCL

Ms. Nita Jha, PKTCL Shri Jayant Tiku, PKTCL

Shri Janmali Manikala, PKTCL Shri Lokendra Singh, PKTCL

Shri R.B. Sharma, Advocate, Gridco and BRPL

Record of Proceedings

Learned counsel for the petitioner made submission in the form of slides and submitted as under:-

(a) Transmission licence was granted to Powerlinks Transmission Ltd. on 13.11.2003 to transmit electricity and for that purpose to construct, maintain and operate the inter-state transmission system associated with Tala Hydro Electric Project East-North Inter Connector and Northern Region Transmission System. PGCIL is the off-taker of entire transmission capacity;

- (b) The instant petition has been filed for approval of revised capital cost as on date of commercial operation and of additional capital expenditure incurred during 2009-13 and revised estimates for FY 2013-14 in respect of (i) 400 kV D/C Siliguri-Purnea transmission line, (ii) 400 kV D/C Purnea-Muzaffarpur transmission line, and (iii) 220 kV D/C Muzaffarpur (PGCIL)-Muzaffarpur (BSEB) transmission line;
- (c) The Commission, vide order dated 30.4.2008 in Petition No. 148/2007, approved capital cost as on the date of commercial operation and determined transmission tariff for the period 2006-09. Subsequently, vide order dated 30.7.2009 in Petition No. 65/2009, additional capital expenditure for the FYs 2007-08 and 2008-09 were approved by the Commission. The Commission in its order dated 17.3.2011 in Petition No. 288/2009 approved additional capital expenditure incurred in the period 2009-14;
- (d) The petitioner is claiming additional capital expenditure of `82.70 lakh towards consultancy fees paid to PGCIL as per the agreement signed between the petitioner and PGCIL, and capitalized before 31.3.2009 under IEDC with approval of the Commission;
- (e) License fee paid from the date of license (13.11.2003) till 31.3.2007 has been capitalized. Refund of excess license fees paid during FY 2008 and FY 2009 has been claimed;
- (f) Additional capital expenditure on account of replacement of tower which had collapsed in Siliguri and Muzaffarpur in severe cyclones has been claimed under Regulation 9 (2) (v) of the 2009 Tariff Regulations, as amended;
- (g) Additional capital expenditure on procurement of 160 kN insulators to replace all insulators on the Siliguri-Purnea line between tower location Nos. 100 to 300, to improve reliability of transmission system and avoid forced outages, has been claimed under Regulation 9 (2) (v) of the 2009 Tariff Regulations, as amended;
- (h) Additional capital expenditure on purchase of several special tools, namely Punctured Insulator detectors (PIDs) and thermal Imaging cameras, which are essential for efficient and reliable operation of the transmission lines, have been claimed under Regulation 9 (2) (v) of the 2009 Tariff Regulations, as amended;

- (i) The incentive based on the actual availability during the period 2009-13 and estimated availability during FY 2013-14 on annual fixed charges (including majoration charges), duly certified by member-secretary, NRPC, may be allowed;
- (j) The Commission, vide order dated 1.7.2004, in Petition No. 51/2004, has allowed the transmission majoration factor for the petitioner. The petitioner has included the transmission majoration factor in the proposed trued-up annual transmission charges for 2009-14;
- 2. None appeared for the respondents.
- 3. The Commission directed the petitioner to give detailed justification by 11.9.2015 for claiming TMF for the capitalization of assets commissioned on or after 1.4.2004. The Commission also directed respondents to file reply to this petition by 11.9.2015 and the petitioner to file its rejoinder, if any, by 23.9.2015.
- 5. The Commission also directed the petitioner to file the information within the specified date and observed that information received after the due date shall not be considered while passing the final order in the petition.
- 6. Subject to the above, order in the petition was reserved.

By order of the Commission

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