CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION NEW DELHI

Petition No. 29/MP/2015

Subject : Petition under Section 38 (2) of the Electricity Act, 2003 read with

Section 79 (1) (c) and (k) of the Act, along with (i) Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Grant of Regulatory approval for execution of inter-State transmission scheme to Central Transmission Utility) Regulations, 2010; (ii) Regulation 111 and 114 of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission Conduct of Business Regulations, 1999; (iii) Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Sharing of inter-State Transmission charges and losses) Regulations, 2010; and Grant of Regulatory Approval for execution of the transmission system for Ultra Mega Solar Power Park (UMSPP) having capacity of 1000 MW in Anantpur district,

Andhra Pradesh.

Date of hearing: 24.3.2015

Coram : Shri Gireesh B. Pradhan, Chairperson

Shri A.K. Singhal, Member Shri A.S. Bakshi, Member

Petitioner : Power Grid Corporation of India Limited

Respondents : Andhra Pradesh Solar Corporation Private Limited and others

Parties present: Ms. Suparna Srivastava, Advocate, PGCIL

Shri Y.K. Sehgal, PGCIL Ms. Jyoti Prasad, PGCIL

Shri Kashish Bhambhan, PGCIL Shri Aryaman Saxena, PGCIL

Shri A.M. Pavgi, PGCIL Shri Pardeep Jindal, CEA Shri Ranjeet Singh, CEA Shri S.K.Sharma, NTPC

Record of Proceedings

Learned counsel for CTU submitted that in the 38th meeting of the Standing Committee on Power System Planning of Southern Region held on 7.3.2015, the issue of implementation of the transmission line for connecting the Solar Power Parks to the ISTS was discussed and it was agreed that the proposal was technically in order and could be firmed up subject to resolving the regulatory issues. Regarding the regulatory aspects of the proposed solar parks at NP Kunta, it was decided that CTU would get

clarification on (i) eligibility for LTA and Connectivity (ii) issue of multiple injection (iii) whether the proposed 400/220 kV sub-station would be under the scope of Solar Park developer or in STU/CTU (iv) whether LTA should be applied by actual generation developers who may sign PPA with the distribution companies of AP or the APSCPL.

- 2. The Commission observed that for the purpose of regulatory approval, it is necessary that there should be LTA agreement by either a generator or a trading licensee with CTU. In response to the query of the Commission regarding the agency that would enter into LTA Agreement for the project, the representative of CTU submitted that NTPC was advised to apply for connectivity which NTPC declined. After discussion with the distribution companies of Andhra Pradesh, it was decided that AP Solar Corporation Pvt. Ltd. (APSCPL) as the developer of the Solar Power Project would apply for connectivity and LTA and accordingly APSCPL applied for connectivity and LTA indicating the connectivity schedule for Phase-I, II and III by December, 2015, September, 2016 and December, 2016 respectively. Accordingly, CTU is required to develop the transmission scheme for different phases in compressed time schedules.
- 3. The representative of NTPC submitted that NTPC has signed MOU with Government of Andhra Pradesh on 16.9.2014 to develop 1000 MW Solar Power project and entire power from the project is envisaged to be supplied to AP Discoms. The representative of NTPC further submitted that the PPA is under discussion with AP Discoms where it has been envisaged that the power from the Solar Power Project shall be delivered ex-bus at 33 kV voltage level for which arrangement for power evacuation shall be made by AP Disoms. Therefore, it is not possible for NTPC to apply for connectivity or LTA to CTU.
- 4. The Commission observed that APSCPL is neither a generator nor a trader and as such it cannot apply for LTA. The Commission observed that being a Government of India initiative of national importance for promotion of renewable energy, development of Solar Power Park should be facilitated. Accordingly, the Commission directed the Chief (Engineering) of the Commission to convene a meeting on 27.3.2015 at 1430 hrs with the representatives of CTU, NTPC, APSCPL, MNRE and CEA to suggest measures/solution to facilitate regulatory approval for transmission system associated with the NP Kunta, Solar Park. The Commission also requested Shri. Ramachandran, Advocate and Ms. Suparna Srivastava, Advocate to participate in the said meeting to assist in sorting out the legal issues.
- 5. The Commission directed the CTU to file the following clarification on affidavit by 6.4.2014:
 - (a) It is noted that Connectivity/LTA has been sought from December 2015, September, 2016 and December 2016 in phases. However, as per DPR submitted by CTU, schedule for STATCOM to be installed at NP Kunta substation is 20 to 24 months after execution of the technically and commercially clear contract. The time mismatch may be clarified.

- (b) MNRE letter dated 12.12.2014 requires that if the State Government is willing to buy over 50% of the power generated in the solar park, STU shall set up the substation and develop the necessary infrastructure for transmission of power from sub-station to load centres. CTU may clarify whether the said condition has been taken into account while making the proposal for regulatory approval.
- 6. The Commission directed NTPC to clarify by 6.4.2015 whether the solar park plant is envisaged with LVRT.

By order of the Commission

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