

**CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
NEW DELHI**

Petition No. 95/MP/2015

Coram:

Shri Gireesh B. Pradhan, Chairperson

Shri A.K Singhal, Member

Shri A.S.Bakshi, Member

Date of Hearing: 09.4.2015

Date of Order : 27.4.2015

In the matter of

Petition under Regulation 111 read with Regulation 116 of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Conduct of Business) Regulations, 1999 seeking extension of time for implementing the Commission`s order dated 19.12.2013 in Petition No. 146/MP/2013.

And

In the matter of

Transmission Corporation of A.P. Limited
Vidyut Soudh, Khairatabad,
Hyderabad-82

..... **Petitioner**

Vs.

1. Southern Regional Load Despatch Centre
29, Race Course Cross Road,
Bangalore-110 016.

2. Southern Regional Power Committee
29, Race Course Cross Road,
Bangalore-110 016

....**Respondents**

Following were present:

Shri S.Sreeeuvaslu, APTRANSCO
Shri S.Chandra Mouli, APTRANSCO
Ms. Anusha Das J, SRPC
Shri V.Suresh, SRLDC



Ms. Jayantika Singh, SRLDC

ORDER

The petitioner, Transmission Corporation of A.P. Limited (APTRANSCO) has filed the present petition for seeking extension of time for complying with the Commission`s direction dated 12.12.2013 in Petition No. 146/MP/2013. The petitioner has made the following prayers:

“Considering the above submissions made by APTRANSCO and the difficulties faced by APTRANSCO, regarding timely implementation of the Hon`ble CERC order dated 19.12.2013, in the matter of completion of Phase-I and Phase-II works of protection audit, it is prayed before the Hon`ble Commission that time extension may kindly be granted for Phase I and II works till 30.9.2015 and 31.12.2015 respectively.”

Background of the case

2. As per the recommendations of Enquiry Committee report, a third party protection audit in Southern Region was carried out and all constituents of Southern Region (SR) agreed in-principle for implementation of the recommendations of the Committee. Since a number of recommended items were not implemented by the constituents, Southern Regional Load Despatch filed Petition No. 146/MP/2013 seeking directions to the constituents of SR to ensure timely implementation of recommendations of Protection Audit. The Commission, after hearing all the constituents of SR and SRLDC, by order dated 19.12.2013 issued the following directions:

“27. We agree to the petitioner's contention that the linking implementation of protection audit/PCC recommendations with funding modality has resulted into implementing schedule becoming uncertain which is undesirable as the matter



involves grid security. The petitioner has proposed to segregate the works of implementation in two Phases, namely Phase-I requiring immediate attention and Phase-II requiring timely implementation. Phase-I involves minor works such as revision of settings, replacement of numerical relays, implementation of bus-bar protection in critical 220 kV sub-stations etc. and Phase-II involves activities such as replacement of old breakers etc. which may require some time. Accordingly, we direct the respondents to implement the works as mentioned in Phase-I and Phase-II by 1.5.2014 and 1.9.2014 respectively. SRPC is directed to coordinate the protection setting issue and submit a report regarding implementation of Phase-I activities by 1.6.2014. SRPC is further directed to submit bimonthly status report for works mentioned in Phase-II to the Commission.

.....

29. The petitioner has submitted that number of respondents are not complying with the provisions of Regulation 5.2 (r) of the Grid Code and the directions of the Commission. We administer a strong warning to the respondents to take all possible measures permissible under the Act and the Grid Code to provide data /information to RLDC and RPC for maintaining reliability and security of the grid. We also make it clear that failure in this regard will amount to non-compliance of the directions of this Commission and render the constituent liable for proceedings under Section 142 of the Electricity Act, 2003 and other relevant provisions. We also direct the petitioner and SRPC to coordinate and monitor the progress and compliance of Commission's directions and ensure compliance of Regulations 5.2 (r) of the Grid Code and report instances of non-compliance to the Commission.”

Submission of the petitioner

3. The petitioner has submitted as under:
 - (a) APTRANSCO has accorded approval to carry out works of protection audit remarks in 7 nos of 400 kV and 11 nos of 220 kV sub-stations covered in Phase-I and Phase-II works of protection audit.
 - (b) Phase-I and Phase-II protection audit remarks which are possible to be attended at the field level have been complied with and reported to SRPC regularly on bi-monthly basis.



(c) APTRANSCO could not implement the recommendations of the protection audit committee with regard to Phase-I and Phase-II within stipulated time due to the following reasons:

(i) After reorganisation of Andhra Pradesh, there was re-allocation of employees and the entire official work was dislocated while handing over the files from AP to Telangana; and

(ii) Notification of elections schedule for Andhra Pradesh Assembly and Lok Sabha led to slowdown in the process of procurement of materials required for implementation of remarks of the protection audit committee.

4. The petitioner has submitted that procurement processes such as tendering, bid evaluation and supplies, etc., are in progress for the materials required for implementation of the remarks of protection audit for Phase-I and Phase-II. The petitioner expects to complete the process of placement of orders and delivery of equipment by 30.9.2015 and the commissioning of expects by 31.12.2015 after taking into account the difficulties in availing shutdowns and other logistical constraints.

5. The matter was heard after notice to the respondents. During the course of hearing, the representative of the petitioner reiterated the submission made in the petition. The representative of SRLDC submitted as under:

(a) The implementation of recommendations of protection audit is pending for more than two years due to lack of seriousness on the part of constituents of



SR. Despite their assurances on affidavits, significant slippages in the implementation have taken place.

(b) Considering the activities undertaken by the constituents of SR, it is possible to complete the works on the Phase-I and Phase- II activities by December 2015.

(c) There is a need for verification of implementation status of present protection audit and also for periodic protection audit on regular intervals say, once in two years through peer audit or through third party audit to ensure secured grid operation.

(d) The Commission may consider issuing directions to the constituents of SR for implementation of all recommendations of the protection audit in a time bound manner.

6. The representative of the Southern Regional Power Committee made similar submissions and submitted that it would be possible for the petitioner to complete the activities by December 2015.

Analysis and decision

7. We have considered the submissions of the petitioner, SRLDC and SRPC. We have perused the averments of the parties in the petition. It is not in dispute that the petitioner has initiated action to implement the remarks of protection audit. However, the petitioner has sought extension of time on account of certain difficulties. During



the course of hearing, the representatives of SRPC and SRLDC submitted that considering the stages of implementation, time till 31.12.2015 is considered sufficient to complete the works on Phase-I and Phase-II of remarks of protection audit.

8. Noting the submissions of the petitioner, SRPC and SRLDC and activities initiated by the petitioner for procurement of materials required for implementation of the remarks of protecting audit, we allow time to the petitioner till 31.12.2015 for completion of our directions in order dated 19.12.2013 in Petition No. 146/MP/2013.

9. SRPC is directed to monitor the status of completion of works relating to protection audit remarks in respect of 7 nos 400 kV sub-stations and 11 nos 220 kV sub-stations of APTRANSCO, protection audit remarks in Protection Coordination Sub-Committee (PSSC) meetings and coordinate the periodic protection audit to be carried out in Southern Region after deliberation in SRPC and submit bi-monthly report to the Commission.

10. The petition No. 95/MP/2015 is disposed of in terms of the above.

sd/-
(A.S.Bakshi)
Member

sd/-
(A. K. Singhal)
Member

sd/-
(Gireesh B. Pradhan)
Chairperson

