

**CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
NEW DELHI**

Petition No.172/MP/2017

**Coram:
Shri Gireesh B. Pradhan, Chairperson
Shri A.K.Singhal, Member
Shri A.S. Bakshi, Member
Dr. M. K. Iyer, Member**

Date of Order: 18th of August, 2017

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) Regulations, 2009 for seeking permission to allow interchange of power for testing including full load testing and trial run operation of Unit-II of Kudgi STPP Stage-I (3X800 MW), beyond the period of six months from the date of its first synchronization.

**And
In the matter of**

NTPC Limited,
NTPC Bhawan, Core-7, Scope Complex,
7, Institutional Area, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110 003

...Petitioner

Vs.

1. AP Eastern Power Distribution Company Ltd.
Corporation Office, P& T Colony,
Seethammadhara,
Visakhapatnam-530 013
2. AP Southern Power Distribution Company Ltd.
Corporate Office, Bank Side Srinivasa Kalyana Mandapam,
Tiruchhanur Road, Kesavayana Gunta,
Tirupathi-517 503.
3. Telangana State Northern Power Distribution Company Ltd.
H.No. 205-31/2, Vidyut Bhawan,
Nakkalagutta, Hanamkonda, Warangal-506 001
4. Telangana State Southern Power Distribution Company Ltd.
Mint Compound, Corporate Office,

Hyderabad-500 063.

5. Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation Ltd.
144, Anna Salai, Chennai-600 002

6. Bangalore Electricity Supply Company Ltd.
Krishna Rajendra Circle,
Bangalore-560 001

7. Mangalore Electricity Supply Company Ltd.
MESCOM Bhavana, Corporate Office,
Bejai, Kavour Road,
Mangaluru-575 004, Karnataka.

8. CESC Mysore (Chamundeshwari Electricity Supply Corporation Ltd.)
Corporate Office, No. 29, Vijaynagar,
2nd stage, Hinkal, Mysore-570 017.

9. Gulbarga Electricity Supply Company Ltd.
Main Road, Gulbarga-585 102,
Karnataka.

10. Hubli Electricity Supply Company Ltd.
Corporate Office, P.B.Road, Navanagar,
Hubli-580 025

11. Kerala State Electricity Board Ltd.
Vaidyuthi Bhavanam, Pattom,
Thiruvananthapuram-695 004

12. Southern Regional Load Despatch Centre
29, Race Course Cross Road,
Bangalore-560 009

... Respondents

ORDER

This petition has been filed by the Petitioner, NTPC Ltd. seeking permission of the Commission for interchange of power into the grid during testing including full load testing up to 27.11.2017 or till declaration of commercial operation of Unit-II of Stage-I of 2400 MW (3X800 MW) Kudgi Super Thermal Power Project (the Project) at Bijapur district in the State of Karnataka in terms of 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 (hereinafter referred to as "Connectivity Regulations") as amended from time to time.

2. The petitioner has submitted that Kudgi STPP Stage-I consists of three units of 800 MW each. The Units 1 and 2 were test synchronised on 28.11.2016 and 18.2.2017 respectively. The Commission vide order dated 30.5.2017 in Petition No. 102/MP/2017 had allowed interchange of power for testing including full load testing and trial run operation of Unit-I of the project upto 27.11.2017.

3. The Petitioner has submitted that after the synchronization of Unit-II, the following steps have been taken by the Petitioner for expediting arrangement of power at makeup water pump house for running design make up water pumps.

(a) The requirement for 66 kV tower construction in Right of Use (ROU) corridor for making power input for makeup water pumps has been again taken up in the 14th Cabinet Committee of Infrastructure (CCI) - Project Monitoring Group (PMG) meeting reviewed by Chief Secretary, Govt. of Karnataka on 18.5.2017. In the said meeting, it was pointed out that the resistance by the villagers/land owners for the tower construction is yet to be addressed. The situation has further worsened with the onset of monsoon and start of sowing season.

(b) As a contingency measure, NTPC has approached the Discom, namely Hubli Electricity Supply Company Ltd. (HESCOM) for providing temporary 7.5 MVA power connection at Almatti pump house from its network. The approval was accorded by Power Sanction Committee of Karnataka Power

Transmission Corporation Limited (KPTCL) on 17.6.2017. However, the enablement of this power supply requires augmentation of KPTCL sub-station at Nidugundi by way of establishment of 110/33 KV transformer and 33KV bay. Therefore, the roadmap for enablement of this power supply has been identified. This augmentation work has to be done on deposit work basis for which the estimates are yet to be received from KPTCL.

(c) The Power input arrangement for running design make up water pumps through 66 KV tower construction of NTPC/temporary power connection from HESCOM would take some more time which is essential for sustainable operation of the Unit-II of the project.

4. The Petitioner has submitted that it is seeking extension of time for interchange of infirm power into the grid for *bonafide* reasons for completion of the balance works and not for the purpose of trading in firm power or otherwise to derive any undue advantage out of it.

5. We have considered the submission of the Petitioner. The Fourth Proviso to Regulation 8 (7) of the Connectivity Regulations, as amended from time to time, provides as under:

“Provided that the Commission may in exceptional circumstances, allow extension of the period for inter-change of power beyond the period as prescribed in this clause, on an application made by the generating station at least two months in advance of completion of the prescribed period:

Provided further that the concerned Regional Load Despatch Centre while granting such permission shall keep the grid security in view.”

6. The Petitioner has submitted that it is seeking extension of time for bonafide reasons for completion of balance works. The Petitioner has submitted that since the power input arrangement for running design make up water pump is essential for sustainable operation of unit and establishing the same shall take more time, infirm power from Unit-II of the project needs to be injected into the grid beyond 17.8.2017. Taking into consideration the problems faced by the Petitioner, we allow interchange of infirm power into the grid for commissioning tests including full load test of Unit-II of the project up to 27.11.2017 or actual date of commercial operation, whichever is earlier. It is clarified that the extension of time as allowed in this order shall not automatically entitle the Petitioner for IDC/IEDC for delay in declaration of COD which shall be considered on merit at the time of determination of tariff of the unit/generating station.

7. With the above, the Petition No. 172/MP/2017 is disposed of.

Sd/-
(Dr. M. K Iyer)
Member

sd/-
(A.S. Bakshi)
Member

sd/-
(A.K.Singhal)
Member

sd/-
(Gireesh B. Pradhan)
Chairperson