

**CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
NEW DELHI**

Petition No.260/MP/2017

Coram:

Shri A.K.Singhal, Member

Shri A.S. Bakshi, Member

Dr. M. K. Iyer, Member

Date of Hearing: 22.12.2017

Date of Order : 29.12.2017

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 injection of infirm power with grid for Unit-II of Kudgi STPP Stage-I (3X800 MW), beyond 27.11.2017.

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**

The following were present:

Shri Ajay Dua, NTPC Ltd.
Shri Patanjali Dixit, NTPC Ltd.
Shri Rohit Chabra, NTPC Ltd.

ORDER

This petition has been filed by the Petitioner, NTPC Ltd. seeking permission of the Commission for injection of infirm power with grid upto 28.2.2018 or till declaration of commercial operation of Unit-II of Stage-I of 2400 MW (3X800 MW) Kudgi Super Thermal Power Project (hereinafter referred to as '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 the '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 first unit of the project was declared COD on 31.7.2017. Unit-II was first synchronized on 18.2.2017. The Commission vide order dated 18.8.2017 in Petition No. 172/MP/2017 had allowed injection of infirm power for testing including full load testing and trial run operation of Unit-II of the project up to 27.11.2017. The Petitioner vide its affidavit dated 22.12.2017 has submitted that the remaining erection and commissioning of balance works/systems pertaining to Unit-II were taken up to ensure sustainable and reliable operation of the grid. The Petitioner has further submitted as under:

(a) The Permanent Makeup Water system for drawl of water from Almatti reservoir is essential for sustainable operation of the Unit. The Make Up water system of Kudgi-I has 4 pumps of each 3110 cu. mtr/hr capacity and with a power rating of 1450 KW. The Power input to the pump house is envisaged through a 66 KV transmission line from Kudgi generating station. The transmission line work could not be taken up due to the resistance by the Villagers/ land owners of the transmission line corridor in spite of having received the Right of Way (ROW)/ Right of Use (ROU) from the Govt. of Karnataka for the corridor.

(b) In view of continued resistance of villagers for 66 kV system conceived for the project, the augmentation of power supply for Makeup water pumping system from HESCOM/KPTCL as an alternate arrangement was pursued. The approval for providing power connection was accorded by the Power Sanction Committee of Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Ltd (KPTCL) on 17.6.2017. With the available margin in the KPTCL's sub-station, presently it is possible to run only one pump. For running two units on sustainable basis, minimum two pump operations are essential for which sub-station capacity augmentation (from 10 MVA to 20 MVA) is under process and above augmentation is expected to take some time to complete.

3. The Petitioner has submitted that it is seeking extension of time for injection of infirm power into the grid till 28.2.2017 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.

4. The Petition was listed for hearing after notice to the respondents. None was present on behalf of the respondents despite notice. No reply has been filed by the respondents. During the hearing, the representative of the Petitioner reiterated the submissions made in the Petition.

5. We have considered the submissions 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 the permanent makeup water from Almatti reservoir system for drawal of water is essential for sustainable operation of unit. The power input to the pump house was envisaged through 66 kV transmission line from Kudgi generating station which could not be taken up due to resistance by the villagers/land owners. As an alternative arrangement, the Petitioner has tied up with KPTCL for providing power supply for makeup water pumping station. However, with the available margin, it is possible to run only one pump which is insufficient to run two units on sustainable basis. KPTCL is carrying out capacity augmentation for 10 MVA to 20 MVA which will take some time. Considering these facts, the Petitioner has requested for permission to inject infirm power till 28.2.2018. Taking into consideration the difficulties faced by the Petitioner, we allow injection of infirm power into the grid for commissioning tests including full load test of Unit-II upto 28.2.2018 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. 260/MP/2017 is disposed of.

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

sd/-
(A.S. Bakshi)
Member

sd/-
(A.K.Singhal)
Member