

**CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
NEW DELHI**

Petition No. 51/MP/2018

**Coram:
Shri P.K.Pujari, Chairperson
Shri A.K.Singhal, Member
Shri A.S. Bakshi, Member
Dr. M. K. Iyer, Member**

Date of Order: 23rd of February, 2018

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-III of Kudgi STPP Stage-I (3X800 MW), beyond the period of six months from the date of its first synchronization, i.e., beyond 21.2.2018.

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:

1. Shri Rohit Chabra, NTPC Ltd.
2. Ms. Patanjali Dixit, NTPC Ltd.

ORDER

This petition has been filed by the Petitioner, NTPC Ltd. seeking permission of the Commission for injection of infirm power into the grid up to 21.8.2018 or till declaration of commercial operation of Unit-III 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. Units I and II were declared on commercial operation on 31.7.2017 and 31.12.2017 respectively. Unit-III of Kudgi STPP was first synchronized on 22.8.2017.

3. The Petitioner has submitted that after the synchronization of Unit-III, the completion works/activities got severely affected due to the following reasons:

(a) The Railway siding of Kudgi is presently connected only from one side i.e. from Southern side to South Western line against the design connection bulb on both sides (Southern and Northern). With the one side connectivity of the siding, a maximum of 6-7 rakes/day can be reached, with which the coal requirement of only two units operation can be facilitated. To enable the rake movement up to the level of 9-11 rakes/day which is required to run the three units on sustainable basis after the commercial operation, completion of northern side bulb of railway siding is essential.

(b) The works of Northern side railway siding bulb are constrained by the delays in land acquisition. Land acquisition at Kudgi is carried through Karnataka Industrial Area Development Board (KIADB), a Govt. of Karnataka Undertaking Enterprise, which looks after industrial area development in the State of Karnataka.

(c) The land acquisition requirement for the railway siding (both sides) was made by NTPC on 8.12.2012. However, KIADB has still not completed the malkie payment disbursement for the above land and has not yet provided the possession letter to NTPC. Though the works on the Northern siding bulb have started, presently the same are on a standstill due to resistance from villagers.

(d) Subsequent to the availability of encumbrance free land (anticipated in Feb'18), the construction of one Road Over Bridge (ROB) and one Road Under Bridge (RUB) on the Northern side railway siding line has also to be taken up. Therefore, the readiness of Northern side railway siding will be done earliest by August, 2018.

(e) Besides the availability of Railway siding land, the physical possession of land for Water Reservoir for Lagoon-2 is also delayed due to resistance from villagers and pending malkie payments from KIADB. The part possession of the land has been completed in first week of January, 2018 after continued persuasion with State Govt. and works have been restarted. The reservoir of Lagoon-1 is presently under operation which can suffice for only two units sustainable operation.

(f) For continuous running of three units during summer months wherein the water drawal has been restricted by certain agreement conditions, the water storage capacity wouldn't be sufficient enough without Lagoon-2. The construction of Lagoon-2 will take at least seven months for completion.

4. The Petitioner has submitted that it is seeking extension of time for injection of infirm power into the grid till 21.8.2018 for *bonafide* reasons for completion of the balance works and not for the purpose of trading infirm power or otherwise to derive any undue advantage out of it.

5. During the course of the hearing, the representative of the Petitioner reiterated the submissions made in the Petition and requested to allow the Petitioner for injection of infirm power into the grid for commissioning tests including full load test of Unit-III beyond 21.2.2018 upto 21.8.2018.

6. 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.”

7. 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 readiness of Northern side Railway siding and water reservoir for Lagoon-2 are essential for sustainable operation of unit. The works on the Northern siding bulb have started. However, the same are on a standstill due to resistance from villagers. The Petitioner has submitted that readiness of Northern Side Railway Siding will be

done by August, 2018. Considering these facts, the Petitioner has requested for permission to inject infirm power till 21.8.2018. 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-III upto 31.5.2018 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.

8. With the above, the Petition No. 51/MP/2018 is disposed of.

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

sd/-
(A.S. Bakshi)
Member

sd/-
(A.K.Singhal)
Member

sd/-
(P.K. Pujari)
Chairperson