

**CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
NEW DELHI**

Petition No. 170/TT/2019

- Subject** : Petition for determination of transmission tariff from COD to 31.3.2019 for Asset-1: 192.509 km of OPGW Links (Central Sector) and Asset-2: 242.484 km of OPGW Links (State Sector) under the project- "Fibre Optic Communication system in lieu of existing Unified Load Despatch and Communication (ULDC) Microwave links in North Eastern region."
- Date of Hearing** : 19.8.2020
- Coram** : Shri P. K. Pujari, Chairperson
Shri I.S Jha., Member
Shri Arun Goyal, Member
- Petitioner** : Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. (PGCIL)
- Respondents** : Assam Electricity Grid Corporation Limited & Ors.
- Parties present** : Shri S.S Raju, PGCIL
Shri A.K Verma, PGCIL
Shri V.P Rastogi, PGCIL
Shri B.D Das, PGCIL

Record of Proceedings

The representative of the Petitioner submitted that the instant petition is filed for determination of tariff from COD to 31.3.2019 of Asset-1: 192.509 km of OPGW Links (Central Sector) and Asset-2: 242.484 km of OPGW Links (State Sector) under the project- "Fibre Optic Communication system in lieu of existing Unified Load Despatch and Communication (ULDC) Microwave links in North Eastern region." (project). He submitted that Asset-1 is under Central Sector and Asset-2 under State Sector, which is primarily meant for the State of Assam. He submitted that four other links covered in the instant project have already been executed on 1.4.2013 and 1.2.2014 and are covered in Petition Nos. 17/TT/2014 and 540/TT/2014 respectively.

2. The representative of the Petitioner submitted that subject assets were scheduled to be put into commercial operation within 30 months from the date of investment approval i.e. by August, 2013 against which Assets-1 and 2 were put into commercial operation on 1.4.2018 and 31.12.2018 respectively. There is time over-run of 55 months and 64 months in case of Assets-1 and 2 respectively. He submitted that the time over-run was mainly due to landslides, bandhs, strikes, floods, storms/ rains, ROW problems, shutdown delays etc. during 2012 to 2018 in



the State of Assam. He requested to condone the time over-run in case of the instant assets as reasons of delay were beyond the control of the Petitioner. He submitted that the estimated completion cost is more than the FR approved apportioned cost. He further submitted that RCE is under consideration and the same is likely to take one month for approval. He also submitted that in case the RCE is not approved within one month, then the same may be allowed to be submitted at the time of true-up of tariff of the assets for the 2014-19 period. He submitted that reasons for cost variation have been submitted and is mainly due to increase in equipment cost and increase in IDC and IEDC. The initial spares claimed are within the limits specified in the 2014 Tariff Regulations. He requested to grant tariff in accordance with Regulation 7(7) of the 2014 Tariff Regulations for inclusion in the computation of POC charges.

3. No reply has been filed by the Respondents.

4. The representative of the Petitioner submitted that the remaining asset (one link) of the instant project is yet to be executed and petition for the same shall be filed subsequently. In response to a query of the Commission, the representative of the Petitioner submitted that though the instant links are laid on the existing transmission towers, the access to the existing towers, heavy rainfall, floods, insurgency, etc. led to the time over-run in case of instant assets. The representative of the Petitioner further submitted that the tariff of Asset-1 under the Central Sector will be included in the POC charges and tariff of Asset-2 under the State Sector will be borne by Assam.

5. After hearing the Petitioner, the Commission reserved the order in the matter.

By order of the Commission

sd/-
(V. Sreenivas)
Dy. Chief (Law)

