Oral Hearing Before the Honourable Central Electricity Regulatory Commission on 'Draft Regulations on Terms and Conditions of Tariff for the period 2009-14'

3rd and 4th November 2008 New Delhi

Submission on behalf of all the RLDCs and NLDC

by

Corporate System Operation Department, POWERGRID

Expectations from the Tariff Regulations

- Ensuring reliability of the bulk electric power system
- Achieving economy and efficiency
- Ease of understanding and implementation

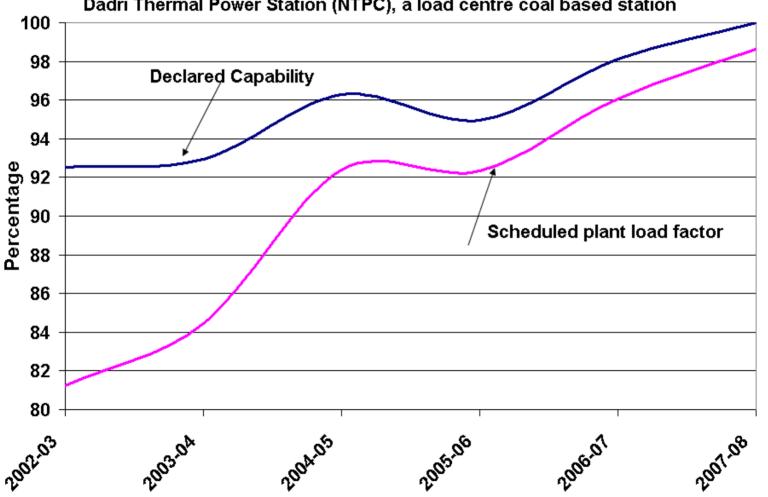
Avoiding Market Distortion.

Incentive based on availability

- Difficulty on account of
 - Energy shortages expected during 2009-14
 - Fuel crisis
 - Fuel supply risk
 - Value of Availability
 - Incentive amount would depend on plant vintage

Load centre based coal fired stations are scheduled fully due to Energy shortage, interconnection of grids, commercial mechanism and interstate open access

Availability versus scheduled plant load factor of Dadri Thermal Power Station (NTPC), a load centre coal based station

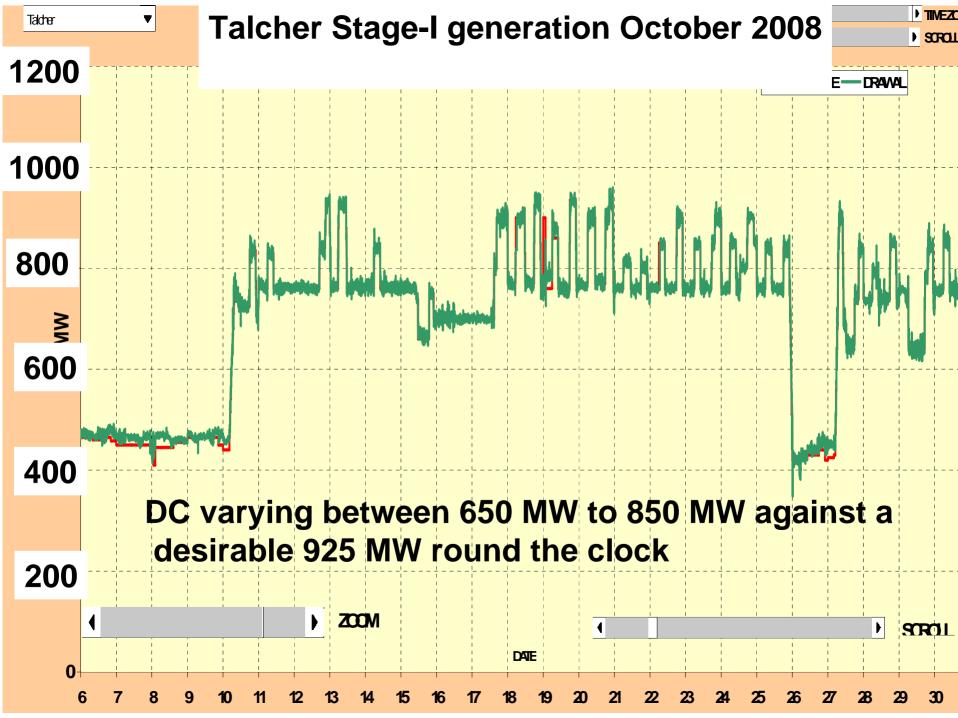


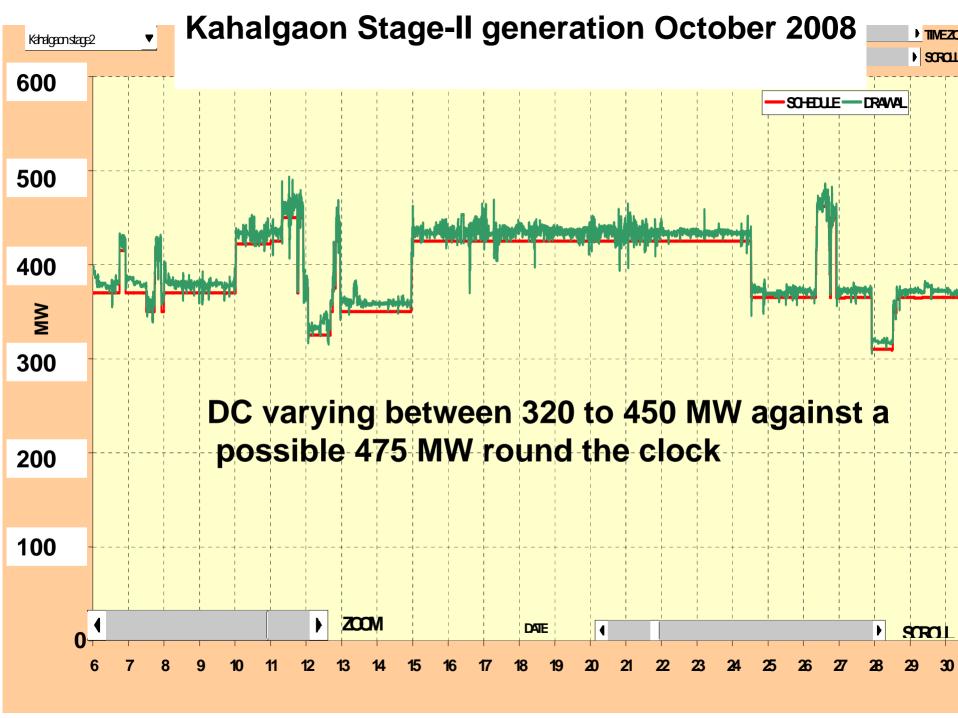
Coal shortage

- Fifty (50) stations having less than seven days coal stock as on 30th Sep 2008
- Reasons varied
 - Inadequate linkage
 - Receipts only 50-80% of the linkage
 - Law and order problems
 - Management problems



- Higher generation and inadequate linkage
- Coal shortage a serious concern for even pit head plants





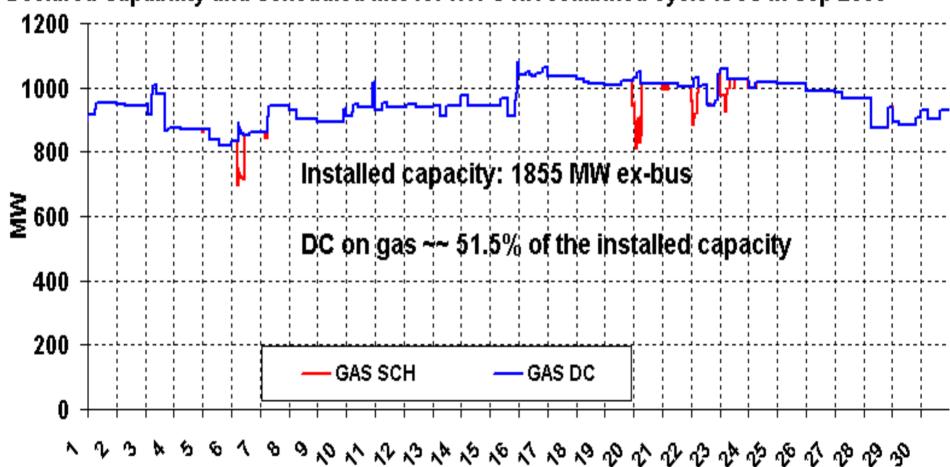
Suggestion on Coal

 Availability should be based on round-theclock and not 8-hour availability

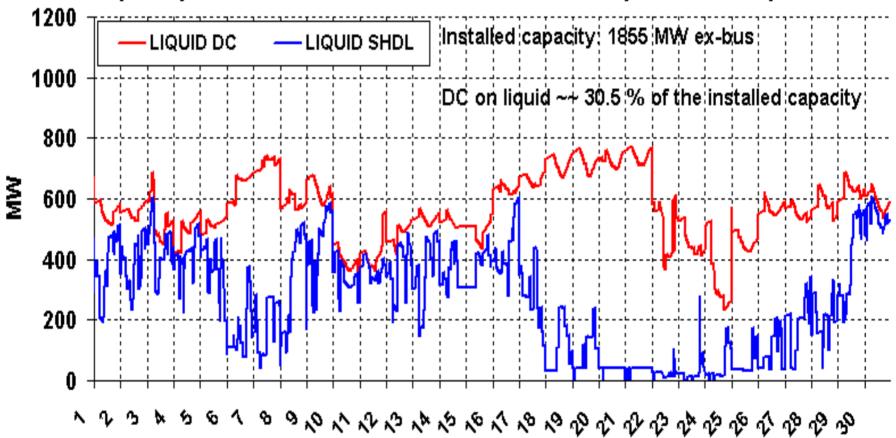
 Incentive should continue to be based on scheduled plant load factor

 The incentive amount might be substantially raised from the present 25 paise/kWh in a graded fashion to recognize the extra efforts

Declared Capability and Scheduled MW for NTPC NR combined cycle ISGS in Sep 2008



Declared Capability and Scheduled MW for NTPC NR combined cycle ISGS in Sep 2008



Only 46% of the declared capability on liquid fuel was scheduled despite frequency below 49.5 Hz for 62% of the time

- Natural gas under Administered Pricing Mechanism (APM).....only 55% requirement being met in NR
- Liquid fuel only a standby arrangement
- Day ahead availability
- 85-90% availability achieved by these plants basically on account of low liquid schedule
- Sustained availability on liquid fuel not possible in view of limited storage

- Draft Regulations provide for availability based on peak hour schedule
- If UI ceiling rate << liquid fuel rate, monthly average of peak hour schedule would be of the order of 50%.
- Availability based on peak hour schedule would be of the order of 70% only in NR.
- Target availability of 85% not achievable

Suggestion on Gas/Liquid

- Continue with round-the-clock day ahead availability & incentive based on scheduled plf
- To facilitate scheduling of liquid fuel in a shortage situation
 - Define Value of Lost Load (VOLL)
 - Review UI ceiling rates periodically
 - Limit over-drawal below 49.5 Hz through a combination of commercial mechanism and penal measures

Fixed charge payment and reliability support

- Generators are expected to provide reliability support in the form of
 - Primary response, short-term overload, peaking, ramping up/down
 - Reactive power generation/absorption, synchronous condenser operation
 - Facilitation of implementation of System Protection Scheme
 - Black start
- Payment of a part of the Annual Fixed Charges (AFC) could be linked to the availability of reliability support from the generator. Such a provision would induce generators to respond to grid reliability requirements and thus facilitate enforcement of IEGC provisions.

Fixed charge payment and reliability support

Normative secondary fuel oil consumption included as fixed cost

 Need for generators to take secondary oil support in a load crash situation

Suggestion on Reliability

- Set aside a certain portion of fixed charges to be paid only if
 - Participation of generator in black start exercises
 - Provide reactive power support within equipment ratings
 - Operate synchronous condenser facility, whenever required as per Grid Connectivity Standards
 - Primary response and ramping up/down whenever required

Comments: Date of Commercial Operation

- Definitions: (14) date of commercial operation or COD
 - COD only from 00:00 hours of the day might be explicitly stated in the Regulations
 - For advancing the date of commissioning of transmission system, advise of CEA/RPCs/RLDCs should be duly considered
 - Clarification on COD, if bay equipment and line ownership is different

Comments: Recovery of Fixed Charges

Chapter 4 (21) Recovery of fixed charge

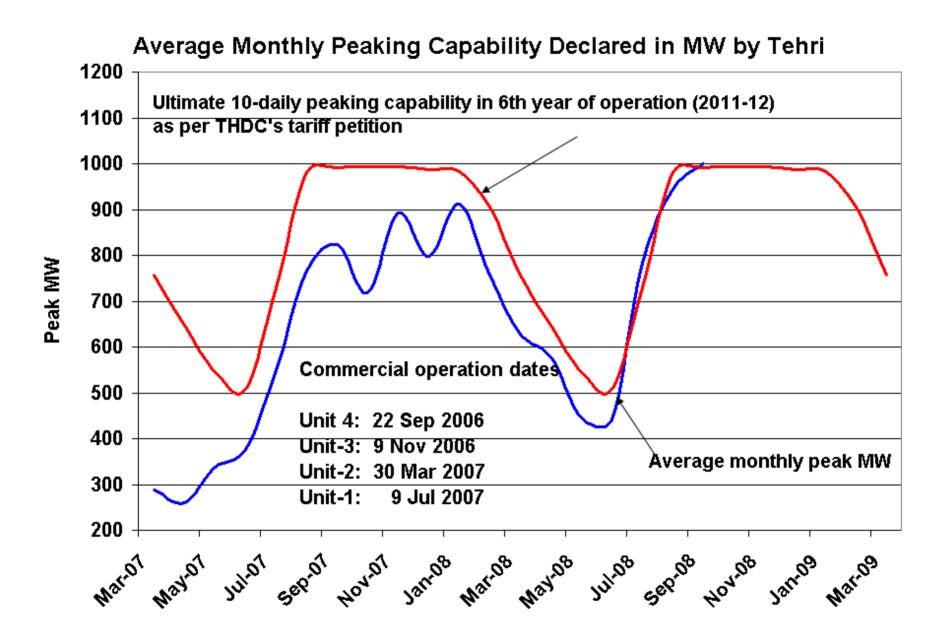
- Seasonal target availability decided by stakeholders in a decentralized fashion
- Would encourage better planning of maintenance schedules and better reliability of the power system

Hydro tariff comments

- Approach in Draft regulations AFC centric
- Different behaviour of plants in real time depending on their vintage whereas grid operation demands a similar response from all hydro plants of the same type irrespective of the vintage. (frequency linked despatch guidelines).

Hydro tariff comments

- Draft notification on Availability Based Tariff (ABT) issued in May 1999, the weightage assigned to different factors were as under:
 - Run-of-the river hydro stations: 100% weightage to energy
 - Pondage based stations: 50% weightage to peaking and rest to energy.
 - Storage based hydro: 100% weightage to peaking.



Suggestions on Hydro

- For run-off-the river, recover entirely in terms of energy charges.
- For storage and ROR with pondage, have 50% recovered through Capacity charge and seasonal availability targets based on hydrology
- Low value of energy charge (in paise/kWh) during high hydro and high value during lean season.
- Over-recovery or under-recovery could be split 50:50 between the generator and beneficiaries
- Would ensure proper despatch signal as well as uniform cash flow

Suggestions on Hydro (contd...)

- Present arrangement of 3rd day adjustment of extra/less energy generated with respect to forecast values is beneficial in terms of:
 - Better flexing of generation by plants
 - Less number of revisions in schedule
 - Takes care of 12% free power to home state
- Revisions being accepted by RLDCs once a day for ± 15% variation in inflows wrt initial forecast
- Need to incorporate these in the new Regulations

Transmission Tariff Regulations

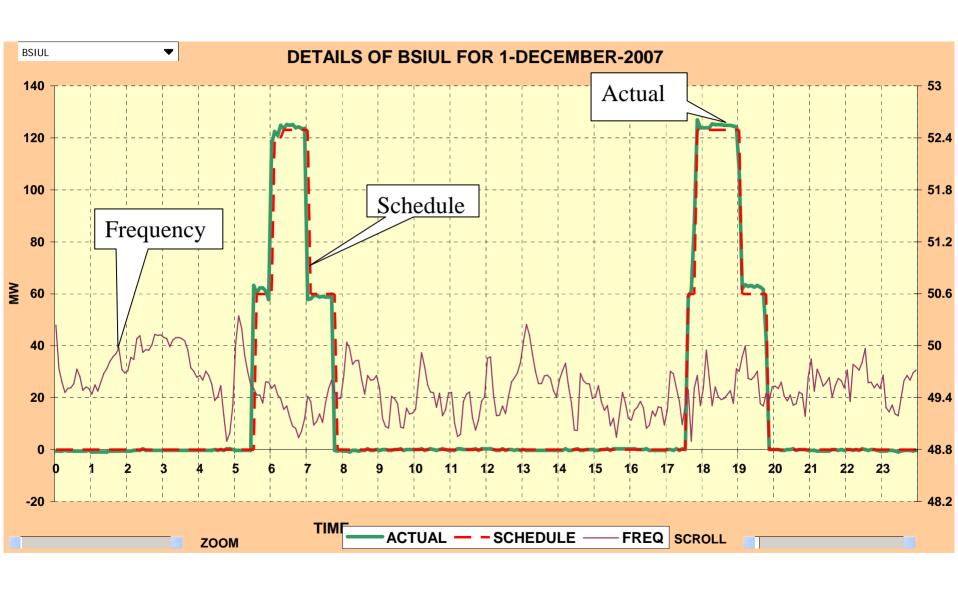
- In Regulation 33 regarding sharing of transmission charges, provisions may be made for any changes in the formula for sharing of transmission charges depending on distance and direction sensitivity as per section 5.3.5 of the National Electricity Policy.
- Transmission charges be worked out separately for ICTs, bus reactors, SVCs and AC lines similar to that being worked out for HVDC system and paid separately based on the availability.
- Like SVCs, Fixed Series Capacitors (FSCs) and Thyristor Controlled Series Capacitors (TCSC) might be considered as a separate asset pool.
- Availability calculations in a multiple transmission licensee scenario

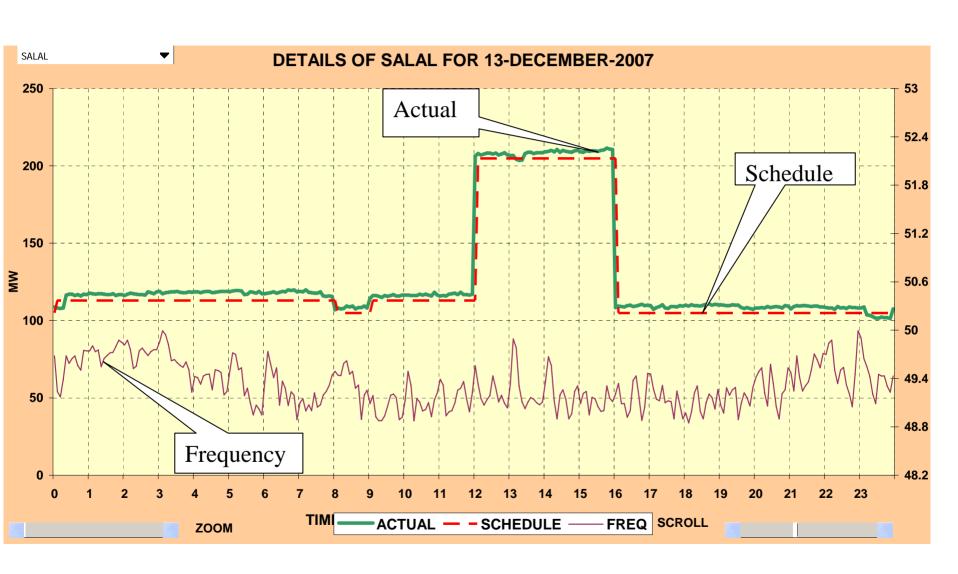
Suggestions on Reliability

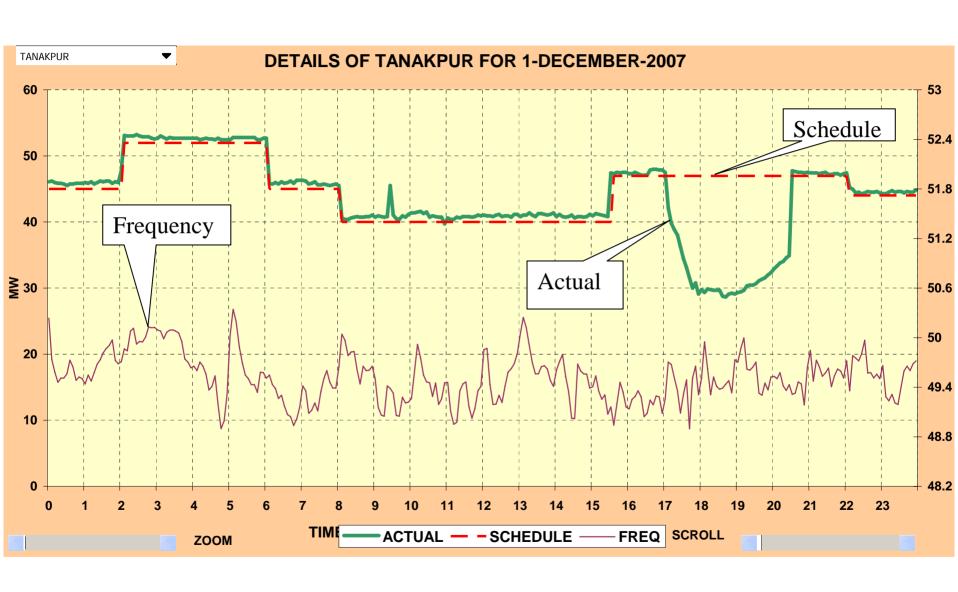
- The following factors affect the reliability of the power system:
 - More than a certain number of trippings per year.
 - Faults causing more than one element tripping due to undesirable operation of the protective systems.
 - Multiple tripping of lines and/or generating units leading to loss of generation and/or load.
- Each factor adequately captured in the fixed charge recovery by Generating Companies and inter state transmission licensees. (including those through competitive bidding)

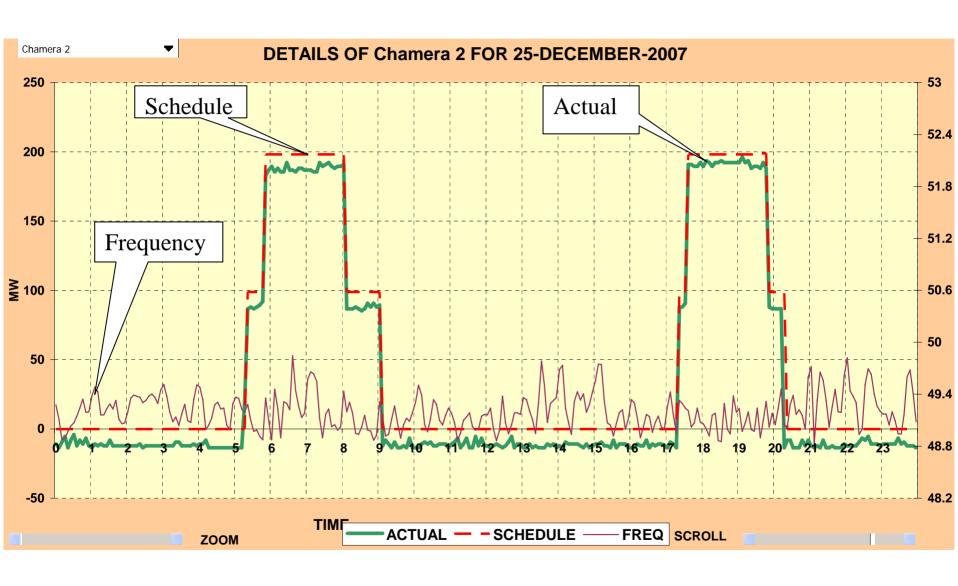
Thank you

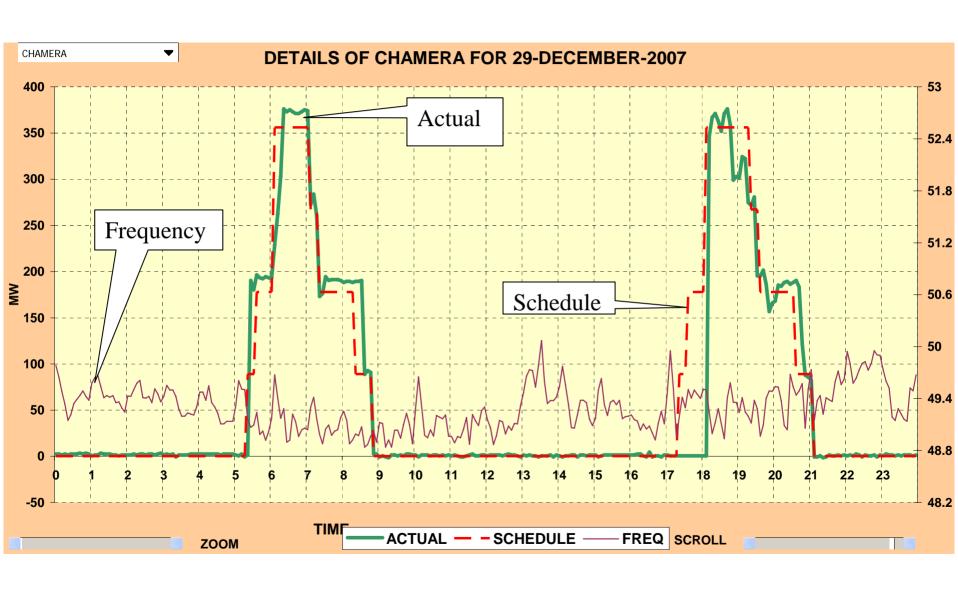
Hydro Plants Operation before 07th January 2008

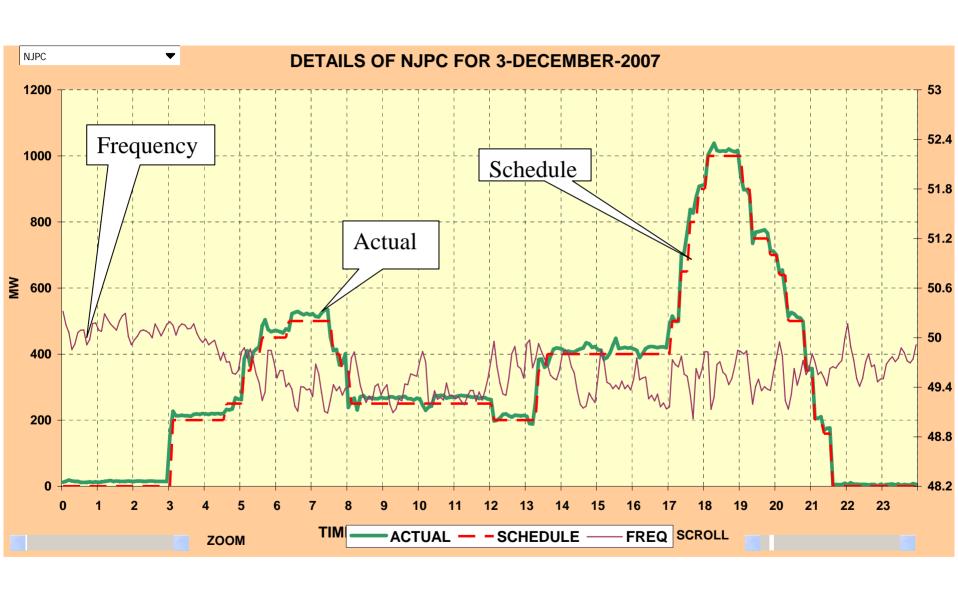






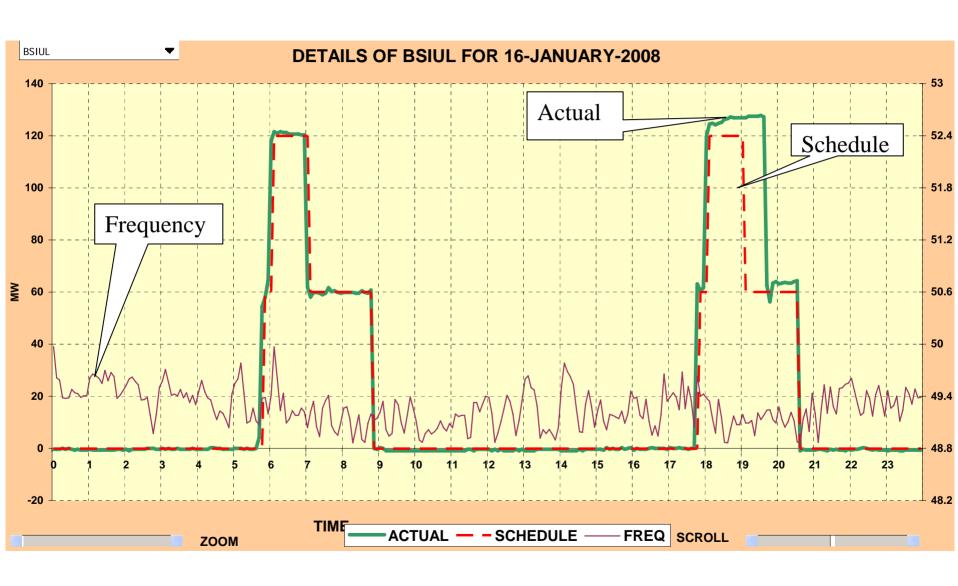


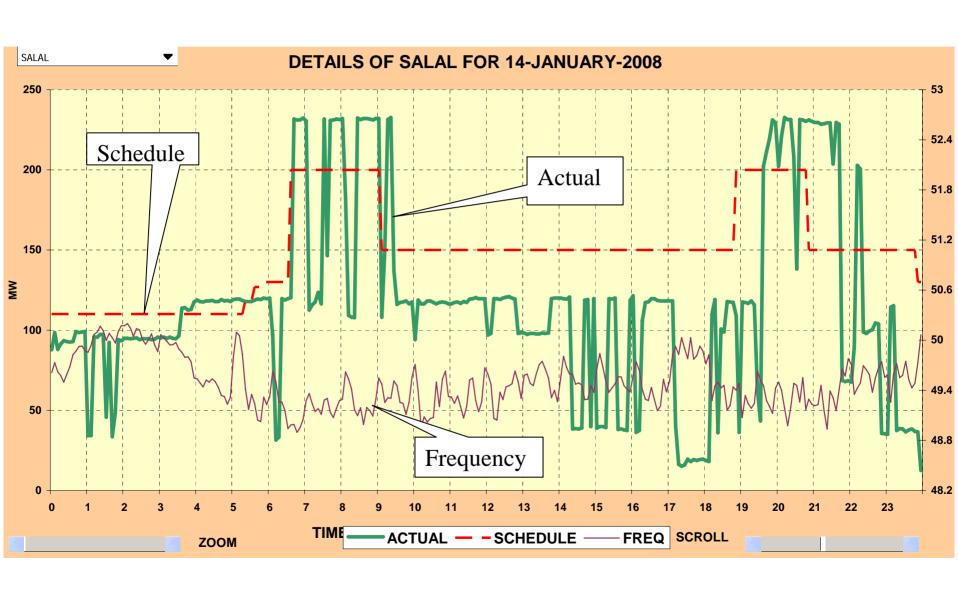


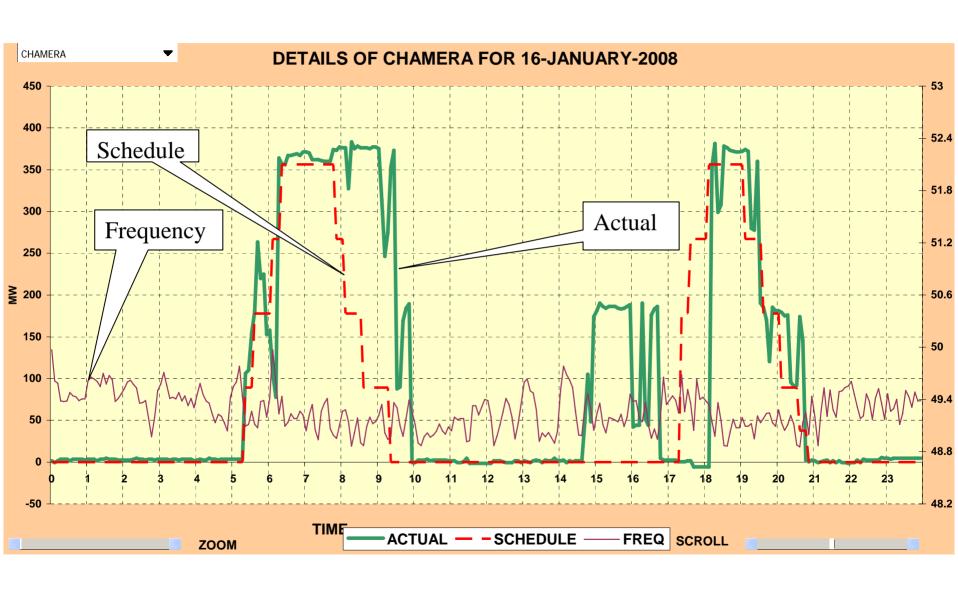


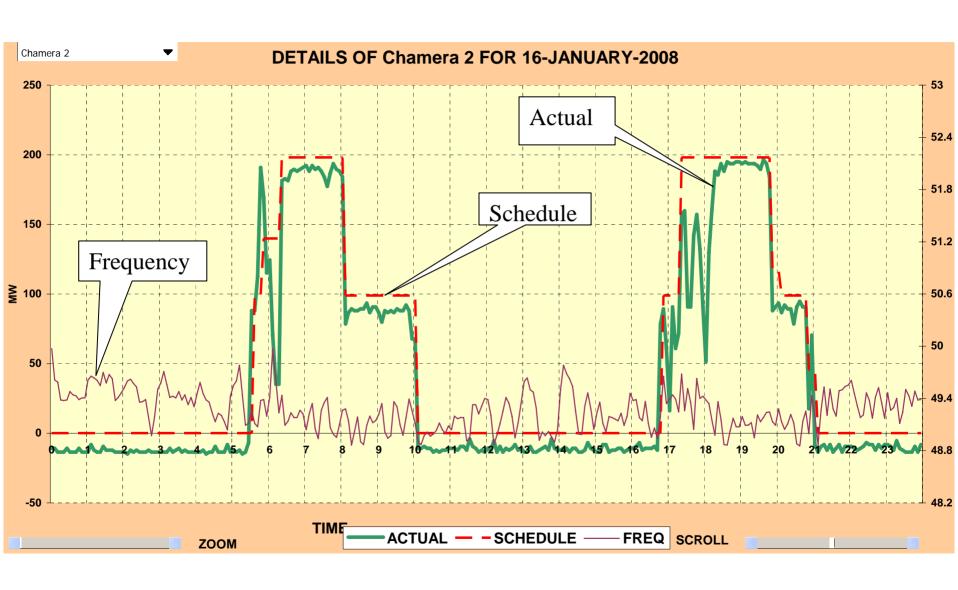
Hydro Plants Operation After 07th January 2008

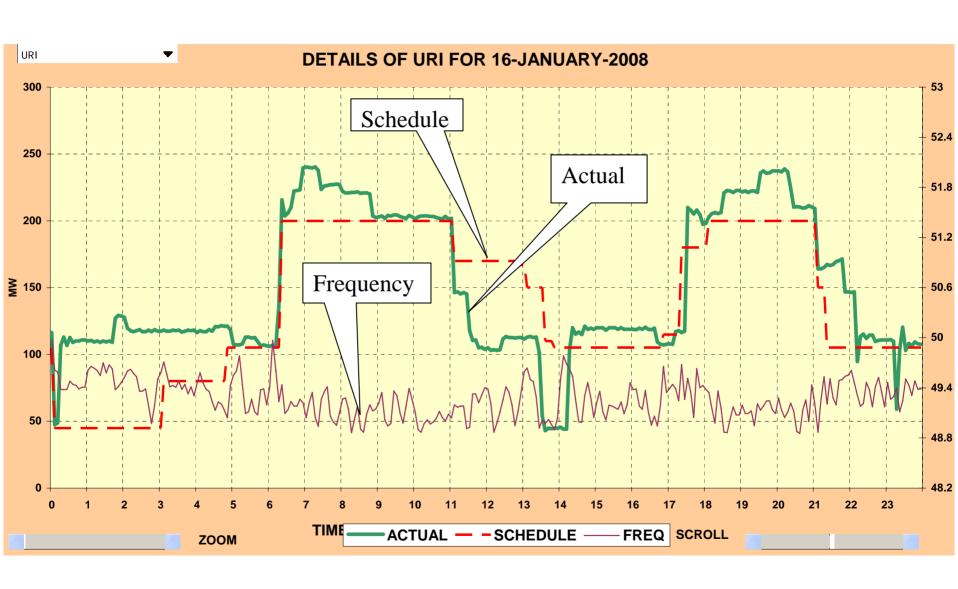
(plants operator following frequency signal more vividly)

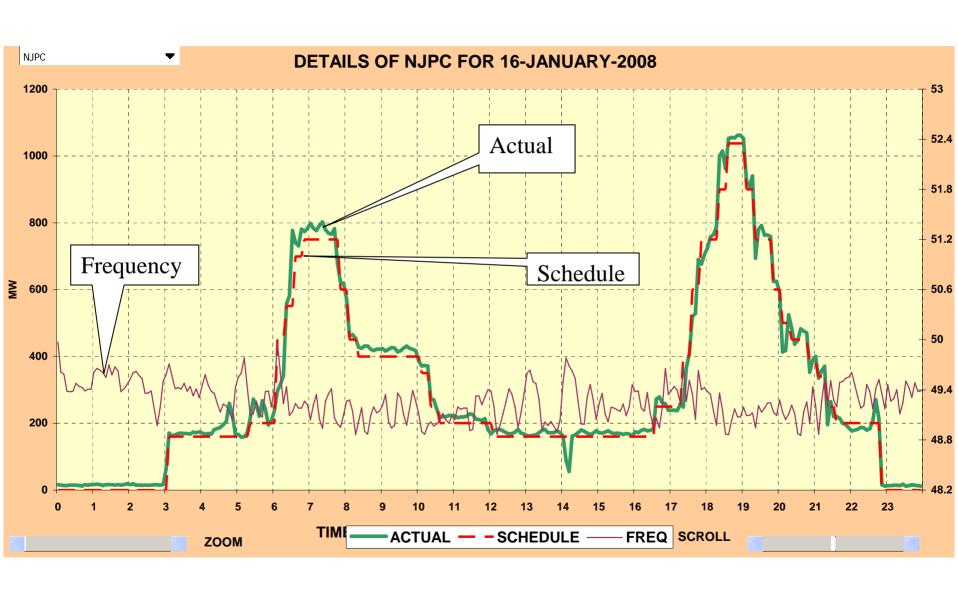


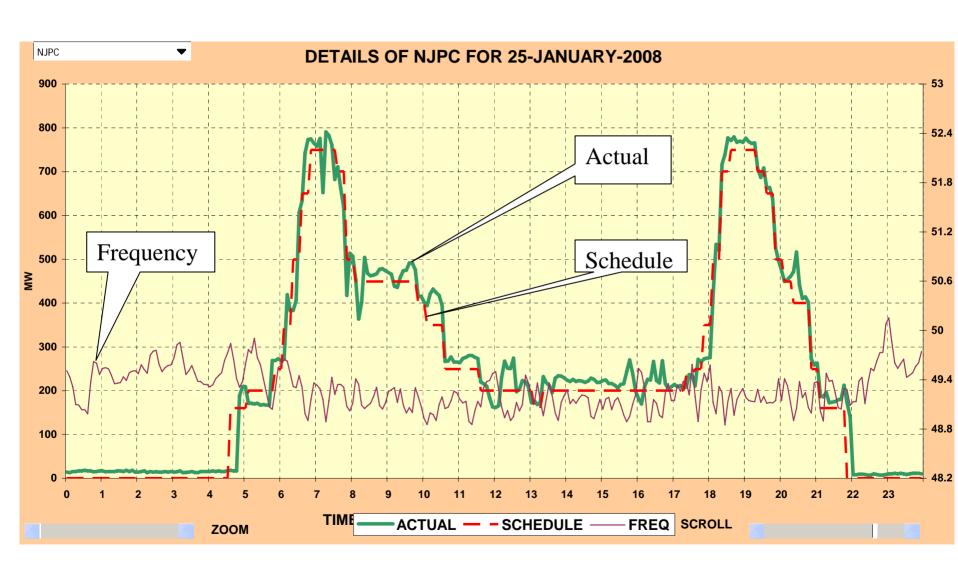


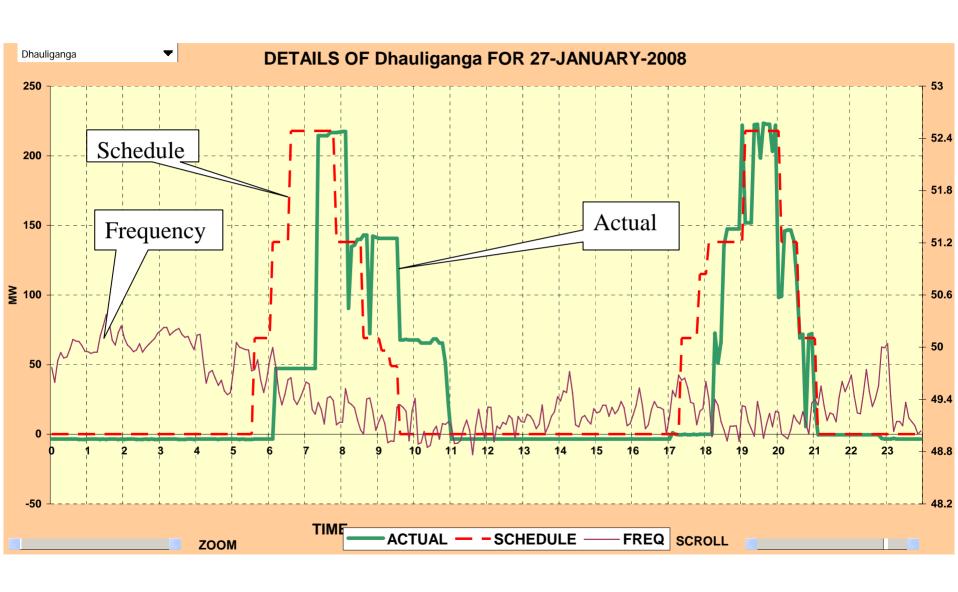


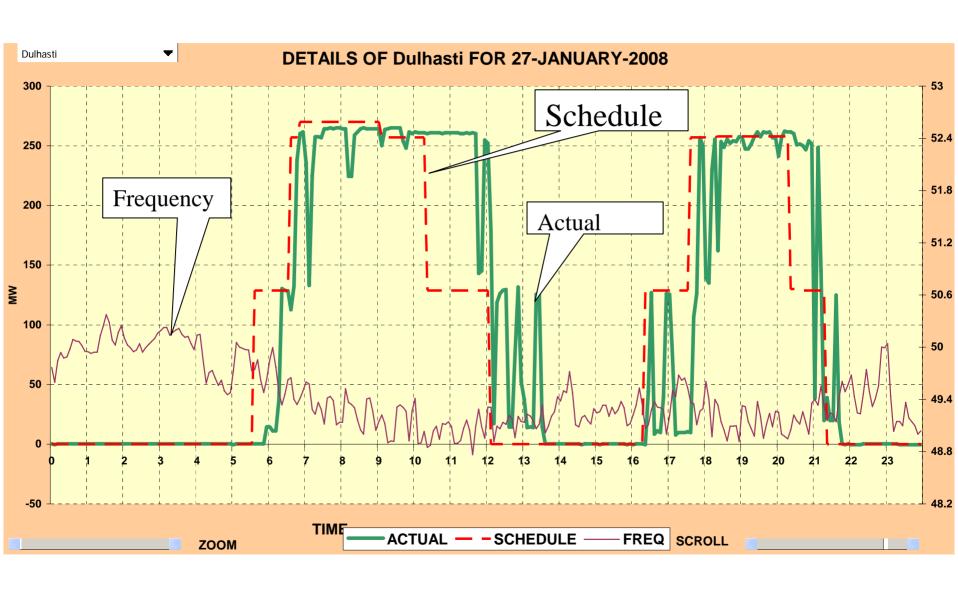












Incentive & vintage of plant

Two plants of different vintage attaining 90% availability

- Singrauli (2000 MW)
 - AFC for 2008-09: Rs. 350.68 crores
 - Incentive=(5/85)*350.68=Rs. 20.63 crores
 - Additional MW: 100 MW
 - Incentive: Rs. 20.63 lakhs/MW
- Rihand Stage-I (1000 MW)
 - AFC for 2008-09: Rs. 341.62 crores
 - Incentive=(5/85)*341.62=Rs. 20.095 crores
 - Additional MW: 50 MW
 - Incentive: Rs. 40.19 lakhs/MW ←
- Incentive per extra MW getting doubled merely because of plant vintage

Existing scheduled plf based incentive

- Singrauli 2007-08
 - Scheduled plf 91.90%
 - Incentive received @25 paise/kWh for 192.84MU = Rs. 48.21 crores
 - Incentive @ 90% scheduled plf= Rs. 47.21 crores

 The draft regulations would give different incentive rates for plants based on vintage as well as substantial reduction of incentive amount in many cases

Power Supply Position 2008-09 (APRIL'08-SEPT.' 08)

Region	Energy(MU)	Deficit%	Pea	k	Deficit%
	Requirement		Demand(MW)		
			•		
Northern	112,256	-9.2		34,036	-13.3
Western	121,322	-15.6		37,171	-25.7
Southern	101,753	-7		27,576	-9.2
Eastern	41,664	-5.2		12,210	-6.3
North East	4,940	-15)	1,744	-23
All India	381,935	-10.3	<i>[</i>	109,962	-15.4

Energy shortage remains a concern

2007-08--→

	Region	Energy(MU)	Deficit%	Peak	, L	Deficit%
		Requirement	X	Demand(MW)		
	Northern	217,589	-10.4		32,462	-9.1
•	Western	247,156	-15.8		38,277	-23.2
	Southern	187,736	-3.2		26,777	-9
	Eastern	75,772	-5		11,940	-10.4
	North East	8,799	-12.3		1,742	-22.7
	All India	737,052	-9.8		108,866	-16.6

Source: CEA

Effect of capacity charges

of Rs. 18000/MW/day

wef 1st January 2007 on

peaking capability of Tehri