CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION NEW DELHI

Petition No. 303/MP/2015

Subject : Petition for relinquishment of the Long Term Open Access under the Bulk Power Transmission Agreement dated 5.1.2011 under Regulation 18 read with Regulation 32 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.

Date of hearing : 19.1.2016

- Coram : Shri Gireesh B. Pradhan, Chairperson Shri A.K. Singhal, Member Shri A.S. Bakshi, Member Dr. M.K. Iyer, Member
- Petitioner : M/s Vedanta Limited
- Respondents : Power Grid Corporation of India Limited and another
- Parties present : Shri Matrugupta Mishra, Advocate for petitioner Shri Tushar Nagar, Advocate for petitioner Shri S. Wadehra, Vedantra Ltd. Ms. Jyoti Prasad, PGCIL Shri Swapnil Verma, PGCIL

Record of Proceedings

Learned counsel for the petitioner submitted that the present petition has been filed for relinquishment of the Long Term Open Access under Bulk Power Transmission Agreement dated 5.1.2011under Regulation 18 read with Regulation 32 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 (Connectivity Regulations). Learned counsel for the petitioner further submitted as under:

(a) The petitioner has set up a 2400 MW (4x600 MW) coal based thermal power plant (generating station) at Brundamal, Jharsuguda, Odisha. Unit-II of the generating station was commissioned on 10.11.2010 and is connected with State grid. Units, I, III and IV of the generating station were

commissioned on 30.3.2011, 19.8.2011 and 26.4.2012 respectively and are connected with CTU grid.

(b) The petitioner made an application to CTU for grant of LTA for evacuation of power from the generating station to the utilities of Northern Region, Western Region and Easter Region. Accordingly, on 5.7.2010 BPTA was entered into with CTU for evacuation of 400 MW power on long term basis.

(c) Subsequently, the petitioner made another application for grant of LTA for 1000 MW. On 3.1.2011, CTU granted LTA of 1000 MW (400 MW to WR, 400 MW to NR and the balance 200 MW was proposed to be evacuated to the utilities of ER). Accordingly, on 5.1.2011, the petitioner entered into BPTA with CTU.

(d) Pursuant to the execution of the BPTA and the grant of LTA, the petitioner had no opportunity to enter into long term PPAs as there were hardly any long term bids were invited for by the utilities. Accordingly, the petitioner vide its letter dated 5.9.2013 requested PGCIL to relinquish 1000 MW and return the Bank Guarantee.

(e) In the 1st standing Committee meeting held on 2.5.2014 the issue was discussed. In the said meeting, it was deliberated that certain interim arrangements have been made for evacuation of power from the generating station and for Phase-II, it was observed that LILO of one circuit of Rourkela-Raigarh 400 kV D/C (2nd line) at the project site has been made by PGCIL. In the above meeting, it was advised to approach the Commission for relinquishment of 1000 MW and for return the Bank Guarantee.

2. The representative of PGCIL requested for time to file reply to the petition.

3. After hearing the learned counsel for the petitioner and the representative of PGCIL, the Commission admitted the petition and directed to issue notice to the respondents.

4. The Commission directed the petitioner to serve copy of the petition on the respondents, by 22.1.2016. The respondents were directed to file their replies, on affidavit, by 12.2.2016 with an advance copy to the petitioner, who may file its rejoinder, if any, on or before 26.2.2016. The Commission directed that due date of filing the replies and rejoinders should be strictly complied with. No extension shall be granted on that account.

5. The petition shall be listed for hearing on 8.3.2016.

By order of the Commission

Sd/-(T. Rout) Chief (Law)