

**CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
NEW DELHI**

Petition No.76/MP/2017

Coram:

Shri Gireesh B. Pradhan, Chairperson

Shri A.K. Singhal, Member

Shri A.S. Bakshi, Member

Dr. M.K. Iyer, Member

Date of Order : 1st May, 2017

In the matter of

Petition under Section 79 (1) (k) of the Electricity Act, 2003 read with Regulation 8 (7) 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 seeking permission for extension of the period for injection of infirm power and drawal of start-up power for commissioning and testing including full load testing of First Unit (Unit 2) (300 MW) of (4x300 MW) Binjkot TPP of SKS Power Generation (Chhattisgarh) Limited, beyond six months from 31.1.2017 to 31.7.2017.

And

In the matter of

SKS Power Generation (Chhattisgarh) Limited.
501B, Elegant Business Park,
Andheri-Kurla Road, JB Nagar,
Andheri (East), Mumbai-400 059

...Petitioner

Vs

Power System Operation Corporation Limited
WRLDC, F-3, MIDC Area,
Marol, Andheri (East), Mumbai-400 093

.....Respondent

Following were present:

Ms Divya Chaturvedi, Advocate, SKS
Shri Prabal Mehrotra, Advocate, SKS
Shri S.Sud, Advocate, SKS

ORDER

This petition has been filed by the Petitioner, SKS Power Generation (Chhattisgarh) Limited, under 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 as amended from time to time (Connectivity Regulations) with the following prayers:

"(a) Condone the delay in filing the instant petition

(b) Allow the petitioner extension of time for interchange of power i.e. drawal of start-up power from the grid for synchronization and injection of infirm power for testing including full load trial operation by the Binjkote TPP upto 31.7.2017 which essentially is summarized as below.

(i) Synchronization and COD of first unit (unit #2) by 31.7.2017.

(ii) Grant drawal of start-up power and injection of infirm power from first unit (unit#2) till 30.4.2017 or achievement of COD, whichever is earlier .

(c) Pass any such other order (s) as this Hon`ble Commission may deem fit and proper under the facts and circumstances of the present case and in the interest of justice."

2. The Petitioner is setting up a 1200 MW (4X300 MW) thermal power project ("the project") at Villages Binjkote and Darramura of Kharsia Tehsil, Raigarh district in the State of Chhattisgarh.

3. The Commission by its order dated 2.2.2017 in Petition No. 8/MP/2017 had allowed drawal of start-up power and injection of infirm power from first unit (unit 2) of the project for testing including full load testing till 30.4.2017 or up to the declaration of commercial

operation of the unit 2, whichever is earlier. The Petitioner has submitted that COD of first unit (unit 2) could not be achieved due to the following reasons:

(a) The project has undergone time over-run due to delay in statutory approvals, particularly Consent to Operate (“**CTO**”) and Factory Licence. South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL), vide its letter dated 19.8.2016 granted approval for 2 lakh tonnes of commissioning coal. However, the release of commissioning coal is contingent upon CTO and Factory Licence. Therefore, the petitioner could not off-take commissioning coal from SECL, which in turn has delayed the commissioning activities. However, the Factory licence was granted to the Petitioner on 31.3.2017.

(b) The project has undergone time over-run owing to the breakdown of the first unit from 6.2.2017 to 3.4.2017. TG#73 was oil synchronized on 26.1.2017. However, post the said date, the unit was under shutdown and TG#73 was on barring. Subsequently, TG#73 duplex filter got choked, and the cleaning of the duplex filter was taken up. However, the isolation of filters could not be done due to the passing of filter 3-way valves. Moreover, on 8.2.2017, TG#73 barring was stopped and filter 3-way valve was attended to, and TG#73 rotor lift was checked and found that at pedestal No. 6, lift was nearing zero. All six bearings of TG#73 were removed one after other as per OEM recommendations and checked. Therefore, due to the repair needed in TG#73, the first unit was shut down for a period of two months which resulted in time over-run for the project.

4. The petitioner has submitted the revised commissioning schedule for declaration of the COD of first unit (unit 2) as under:

MILESTONE	Planned	Actual	Status/Remarks
Chimney readiness	15.6.2016	15.6.2016	Commissioned
DCS charging	31.3.2016	18.2.2016	Commissioned
Production of qualified water from DM plant	10.8.2016	20.8.2016	Commissioned
Non-Drainable Hydro	18.6.2016	18.6.2016	Commissioned
Boiler light-up	9.7.2016	9.7.2016	Commissioned
Boiler chemical clean completion	10.8.2016	22.8.2016	Commissioned
Turbine on barring gear	20.8.2016	10.10.2016	Commissioned
Steam blowing completion	5.9.2016	7.12.2016	1. APH High vibration 2. Delay in getting Chinese expert's Visa 3. Wrong supply of EOT Valve and delay in delivery of replacement.
Ash Handling System Commissioning	22.10.2016	20.12.2016	Commissioned
Coal System Commissioning	20.10.2016	26.12.2016	Commissioned
Synchronization	30.2.2017	30.6.2017	Due to breakdown of the first unit from 6.2.2017 to 3.4.2017
COD	30.4.2017	31.7.2017	Due to delay in Synchronisation and delay in getting statutory approvals which in-turn caused delay in getting commissioning coal

5. The Petitioner has submitted that the second unit (unit-1) has achieved significant progress and is scheduled for COD on or before 31.7.2017. Currently, the boiler chemical cleaning is going on for unit-1, and pre-boiler chemical cleaning has been planned from 20.4.2017 to 25.4.2017. The steam blowing has been planned from 25.4.2017 to

20.5.2017, subsequent to which, TG on barring has been scheduled for 15.6.2017. Lastly, oil synchronization is slated for 20.6.2017 and COD on or before 31.7.2017.

6. The Petitioner has submitted that it has taken all efforts to ensure completion of the project within time granted by the Commission and *bona fidely* believes that it would be able to complete all necessary works and achieve commercial operation of first unit (unit-2) by 31.7.2017.

7. The Petitioner has submitted that it is seeking extension of time for drawal of start-up power and injection of infirm power into the grid for commissioning tests including full load test of first unit (unit 2) and second unit (unit 1) of the project for *bonafide* reasons and not to take undue advantage of the same.

8. During the course of hearing, learned counsel for the Petitioner reiterated the submissions made in the petition and requested to grant permission for drawal of start-up power and extend the time for injection of infirm power into the grid for testing including full load testing from first unit (unit 2) of the project upto 31.7.2017 or the date of commercial operation of unit, whichever is earlier.

9. We have considered the submissions of the learned counsel 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."

10. The Petitioner has submitted that it is seeking extension of the time for *bona-fide* reasons for completion of the balance works. The Petitioner has submitted that due to delay in the grant of CTO and Factory licence, COD of first unit (unit 2) could not be achieved. We are of the view that non-availability of start-up power would hamper the progress of commissioning work which would jeopardize the commissioning activities and result in further delay in declaring COD of units. Accordingly, we allow extension of time for injection of infirm power into the grid and drawal of start-up power for the commissioning tests including full load test of first unit (unit 2) up to 31.7.2017 or actual date of commercial operation, whichever is earlier. We expect the Petitioner to make all efforts to ensure the commercial operation of the project by the said dates.

11. The approval of extension of time for drawal of startup power from the grid and injection of infirm power shall not be taken as a ground for allowing time over-run and cost over-run of the project.

12. With the above, the Petition No. 76/MP/2017 is disposed of.

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

sd/-
(A.S. Bakshi)
Member

sd/-
(A. K. Singhal)
Member

sd/-
(Gireesh B. Pradhan)
Chairperson