CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION NEW DELHI

Review Petition No. 43/RP/2017 in Petition No. 67/TT/2015

Coram:

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

Date of order: 12th of July, 2018

In the matter of

Review Petition No. 43/RP/2017 seeking review of order dated 31.8.2017 in Petition No. 67/TT/2015.

And In the matter of

Power Grid Corporation of India Limited SAUDAMINI, Plot No. 2, Sector-29 Gurgaon-122001 Haryana

... Review Petitioner

Vs.

- Assam Electricity Grid Corporation Limited (Formerly Assam State Electricity Board) Bijulee Bhawan, Paltan Bazar Guwahati-781001 Assam
- Meghalaya Energy Corporation Limited (Formerly Meghalaya State Electricity Board) Short Round Road, "Lumjingshai" Shillong-793001 Meghalaya
- Government of Arunachal Pradesh Vidyut Bhawan, Itanagar-791111 Arunachal Pradesh



- Power & Electricity Department Government of Mizoram Aizwal, Mizoram
- 5) Manipur State Electricity Distribution Company Limited (Formerly Electricity Department, Govt. of Manipur) Electricity Complex, Patta No. 1293 Under 87 (2) Khwal Bazar, Keishampat District-Imphal West, Manipur-795001
- 6) Department of Power Government of Nagaland Kohima, Nagaland
- 7) Tripura State Electricity Corporation Limited Bidyut Bhawan, North Banamalipur Agartala, Tripura (W)-700001, Tripura
- 8) Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board Vidyut Bhawan, Shimla-171004 (HP)
- 9) Punjab State Power Corporation Limited Thermal Shed T-1A, Patiala
- 10) Haryana Power Purchase Centre 2nd Floor, Shakti Bhawan, Sector-6 Panchkula (Haryana)-134109
- 11)Power Development Department Janipura Grid Station Jammu (Tawi)-180007
- 12)Uttar Pradesh Power Corporation Limited 10th Floor, Shakti Bhawan Extn., 14, Ashok Marg, Lucknow-226001
- 13)Delhi Transco Limited Shakti Sadan, Kotla Road (Near ITO) New Delhi
- 14) Chandigarh Administration Sector-9, Chandigarh
- 15) Uttarakhand Power Corporation Limited Urja Bhawan, Kasnwali Road, Dehradun

- 16) Rajasthan Power Procurement Centre Vidyut Bhawan, Janpath, Jaipur
- 17)Ajmer Vidyut Vitran Nigam Limited 400 kV GSS Building Ajmer Road, Heerapura, Jaipur
- 18) Jodhpur Vidyut Vitran Nigam Limited 400kV GSS Building Ajmer Road, Heerapura, Jaipur
- 19) Jaipur Vidyut Vitran Nigam Limited 400 kV GSS Building Ajmer Road, Heerapura, Jaipur
- 20)North Central Railway Allahabad
- 21)BSES Yamuna Power Limited Shakti Kiran Building, Karkardooma Delhi-110092
- 22)BSES Rajdhani Power Limited BSES Bhawan, Nehru Place New Delhi
- 23) Tata Power Delhi Distribution Limited 33 kV Substation Building, Hudson Lane Kingsway Camp, North Delhi-110009
- 24)New Delhi Municipal Council Palika Kendra, Sansad Marg New Delhi-110001
- 25)Madhya Pradesh Power Management Company Limited Shakti Bhawan, Rampur Jabalpur-482008
- 26)Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Company Limited Prakashgad, 4th Floor Andheri (East), Mumbai-400052
- 27)Gujarat Urja Vikas Nigam Limited Sardar Patel Vidyut Bhawan Race Course Road, Vadodara-390007

28) Electricity Department Government of Goa, Vidyut Bhawan Panaji, Near Mandvi Hotel Goa-403001

29) Electricity Department Administration of Daman & Diu Daman-396210

30)Electricity Department
Administration of Dadra Nagar Haveli
U.T. Silvassa-396210

31)Chhattisgarh State Electricity Board P.O. Sunder Nagar, Dangania, Raipur Chhattisgarh-492013

32)Madhya Pradesh Audyogik Kendra Vikas Nigam (Indore) Limited 3/54, Press Complex, Agra-Bombay Road Indore-452008

33)Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited (KPTCL), Kaveri Bhavan Bangalore-560009

34)Transmission Corporation of Andhra Pradesh Limited (APTRANSCO), Vidyut Soudha Hyderabad-500082

35)Kerala State Electricity Board (KSEB) Vaidyuthi Bhavanam, Pattom Thiruvananthapuram-695004

36)Tamil Nadu Electricity Board (TNEB) NPKRR Maaligai, 800, Anna Salai Chennai-600002

37) Electricity Department Government of Pondicherry Pondicheery-605001

38)Eastern Power Distribution Company of Andhra Pradesh Limited (APEPDCL) P&T Colony, Seethmmadhara Vishakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh

39)Southern Power Distribution Company of Andhra Pradesh Limited (APSPDCL)
Srinivasasa Kalyana Mandapam Backside
Tiruchanoor Road, Kesavayana Gunta
Tirupati-517501,Chittoor District, Andhra Pradesh

40)Central Power Distribution Company of Andhra Pradesh Limited (APCPDCL) Corporate Office, Mint Compound Hyderabad-500063, Andhra Pradesh

41)Northern Power Distribution Company of Andhra Pradesh Limited (APNPDCL)
Opposite NIT Petrol Pump
Chaitanyapuri, Kazipet
Warangal-506004, Andhra Pradesh

42)Bangalore Electricity Supply Company Limited (BESCOM) Corporate Office, K.R. Circle Bangalore-506001, Karnataka

43)Gulbarga Electricity Supply Company Limited (GESCOM) Station Main Road Gulbarga, Karnataka

44) Hubli Electricity Supply Company Limited (HESCOM) Navanagar, PB Road, Hubli, Karnataka

45)Mescom Corporate Office Paradigm Plaza, AB Shetty Circle Mangalore-575001, Karnataka

46)Chamundeswari Electricity Supply Corporation Limited (CESC) # 927, L J Avenue, Ground Floor New Kantharaj Urs Road Saraswatipuram, Mysore-570009 Karnataka

47)Telangana state PC Committee Co-ordination Committee TSPCC, TSTransco, R. No. 547/A Block Somajiguda, Khairathabad, Hyderabad-500082 Andhra Pradesh

48) Andhra Pradesh Power Co-ordination Committee Room No. 547, 5th Floor, Block-A Vidyut Soudha, Somajiguda, Khairathabad Hyderabad-500082, Andhra Pradesh

- 49)Bihar State Electricity Board Vidyut Bhawan, Bailey Road Patna-800001
- 50)West Bengal State Electricity Distribution Company Limited Bidyut Bhawan, Bidhan Nagar Block DJ, Sector-II, Salt Lake City Kolkata-700091
- 51)Grid Corporation of Orissa Limited Shahid Nagar Bhubaneswar-751007
- 52)Damodar Valley Corporation DVC Tower, Maniktala Civil Centre, VIP Road Kolkata-700054
- 53)Power Department Govt. of Sikkim, Gangtok-737101
- 54) Jharkhand State Electricity Board In front of Main Secretariat Doranda, Ranchi-834002
- 55)North Bihar Power Distribution Company Limited Vidyut Bhawan, Bailey Road Patna, Bihar-800001
- 56)South Bihar Power Distribution Company Limited Vidyut Bhawan, Bailey Road Patna, Bihar-800001
- 57)Tata Steel Limited Generation Office (W-175), Jamshedpur
- 58) Maithan Power Limited MA-5, Gogna Colony Maithan Dam Post Office District Dhanbad-828207, Jharkhand
- 59)IND Barath Energy (Utkal) Limited Plot No. 30-A, Road No. 1 Film Nagar, Jubliee Hills Hyderabad-500033, Andhra Pradesh

- 60) AD Hydro Power Limited Bhilwara Towers, A-12, Sector-1 Noida-201301, Uttar Pradesh
- 61)Lanco Budhil Power Private Limited Plot No. 397, Udyog Vihar, Phase-III Gurgaon, Haryana
- 62)Himachal Sorang Power Private Limited D-7, Sector-1, Lane-1, 2nd Floor New Shimla, Shimla-171009, Himachal Pradesh
- 63)MB Power (Madhya Pradesh) Limited (MBPMPL) 239, Okhla Industrial area, Phase-III New Delhi-110020
- 64)Himachal Baspa Power Company Limited (HBPCL) Karcham Wangtoo HEP, Sholtu Colony PO: Tapri, District Kinnaur-172104 Himachal Pradesh
- 65) Jindal Power Limited 6th Floor, MTNL Building 8, Bhikaji Cama Place, New Delhi-110066
- 66)KSK Mahanadi Power Company Limited 8-2-293/82/A/431/A, Road No. 22, Jubilee Hills Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh-500033
- 67)PTC India Limited 2nd Floor, NBCC Tower, 15, Bhikaji Cama Place New Delhi-110066
- 68)IL&FS Tamil Nadu Power Company Limited C. Pudhupettai Post, Parangipettai (Via) Chidambaram (TK), Cuddallore-608502, Tamil Nadu
- 69)Adani Power Limited 10B, Sambhav Press Building Judges Bunglow Road, Badakdev Ahmedabad-380015
- 70)Torrent Power Limited
 Naranpura Zonal Office
 Sola Road, Ahmedabad-380013

- 71)Heavy Water Board Vikram Sarabhai Bhavan 5th Floor, Anushaktinagar Mumbai-400094
- 72)ACB India Limited 7th Floor, Corporate Tower Ambience Mall, NH-8 Gurgaon-122001, Haryana
- 73)Emco Energy Limited Plot No.-F-5, Road No.-28 Wagle Industrial Area, Thane Mumbai-400604
- 74) Spectrum Coal and Power Limited 7th Floor, Corporate Tower Ambience Mall, NH-8, Gurgaon-122001 Haryana
- 75)BARC TRP, Post-Ghivali, District-Palghar Barc Plant Site, District-Palghar-401505 Maharashtra
- 76)Bharat Aluminium Company Limited Captive Power Plant, Balconagar Korba-495684
- 77) Dhariwal Infrastructure Limited C-6, Tadali Growth Centre, M.I.D.C.T District Chandrapur Maharashtra-442406
- 78)DB Power Limited
 Opposite Dena Bank, C-31, G-Block
 3rd Floor, Naman Corporate Link
 Bandra-Kurla Complex, Bandra (East)
 Mumbai-400 051
 Maharashtra
- 79)Neepco 15, NBCC Tower, Bhikaji Cama Place New Delhi

80)NHPC Limited NHPC Office Complex, Sector-33 Faridabad

81)NTPC Limited Core-7, Scope Complex New Delhi

...Respondents

For Review Petitioner: Shri S.B. Upadhayay, Sr. Advocate, PGCIL

Ms. Swapna Seshadri, Advocate, PGCIL

Ms. Rhea Luthra, Advocate, PGCIL

Ms. Parichita Chowdhury, Advocate, PGCIL

Shri Rakesh Prasad, PGCIL Shri V.C. Sekhar, PGCIL Ms. Manju Gupta, PGCIL Shri R.P.Padhi, PGCIL

For Respondent: Shri R.K. Mehta, Advocate, GRIDCO

Ms. Himanshi Andley, Advocate, GRIDCO Shri Varun Shankar, Advocate, TPDL

Shri Abhishek Upadhayay, Advocate, TPDDL

Shri R.B. Sharma, Advocate, BYPL, BRPL and BHSP (H) CL Shri Mohit Mudgal, Advocate, BYPL, BRPL and BHSP (H) CL

ORDER

The Review Petitioner filed Petition No.67/TT/2015 for determination of annual transmission charges in respect of the following transmission assets under the provisions of Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions of Tariff) Regulations, 2014 (hereinafter referred to as "2014 Tariff Regulations"):

- (a) Asset-I (HVDC Portion) ± 800 kV HVDC Biswanath Chariyali-Agra Pole-I (1500 MW HVDC Terminals at Biswanath Chariyali and Agra each along with the ± 800 kV Hexa Lapwing Transmission Line) (CoD 1.11.2015);
- (b) Asset-II (1.a): AC Portion LILO of 400 kV D/C Ranganadi- Balipara-I T/L at Biswanath Chariyali PS alongwith associated bays at Biswanath Chariyali (CoD 28.10.2015);

- (c) Asset-II (1.b): AC Portion LILO of 400 kV D/C Ranganadi-Balipara-II T/L at Biswanath Chariyali PS alongwith associated bays at Biswanath Chariyali (CoD 27.10.2015);
- (d) Asset-II (2): AC Portion 132 kV D/C Biswanath Chariyali (PG)-Biswanath Chariyali (AEGCL)
 T/L alongwith associated bays at Biswanath Chariyali (AEGCL) and Biswanath Chariyali
 Pooling Station (PGCIL)(CoD 1.10.2015);
- (e) Asset-II (3): AC Portion 200 MVA, 400/132/33 kV ICT-I at Biswanath Chariyali PS (CoD 19.12.2015).
- 2. The Commission in the order dated 8.1.2016 proclaimed these transmission assets as assets of strategic and national importance and issued certain directions for funding of the projects by seeking grants from Power System Development Fund (PSDF). Relevant paragraphs of the said order are extracted as under:
 - "28. Since the transmission assets are of strategic and national importance whose benefits shall be derived by the entire country, we are of the view that the charges for the HVDC assets covered in the present petition should be shared by all the regions of the Country.
 - 29. The Commission is conscious of the fact that the capital investments in the assets of the subject transmission systems are huge and the entire assets may not be utilised to their intended level on account of the delay in commissioning of planned hydro potential in NER. The Commission feels that there is a strong necessity to share the burden of capital cost of transmission scheme by way of assistance from the Power System Development Fund (PSDF) by way of one time grant. Accordingly, we direct the petitioner to take up the matter with the Monitoring Committee of the PSDF for assistance in the form of one time grant from the PSDF and with Ministry of Power for grant to reduce the burden of transmission charges on the DICs. We also request Ministry of Power, Government of India to arrange for funds from the PSDF as well as Government grant, considering the subject transmission systems as assets of strategic and national importance, keeping in view the utility of these assets in the long term perspective to the economy of the country."

- 3. Annual Fixed Charges of the above assets under Regulation 7(7) of the 2014 Tariff Regulations for inclusion in the PoC computation were allowed vide order dated 8.1.2016. The Commission decided to hear the DICs of all regions and accordingly, directed the petitioner to implead the DICs of all regions as respondents in the petition and also directed the DICs to submit their views and participate in the hearing of the petition. The Petitioner impleaded all the DICs as respondents and some of the DICs filed their replies and made submissions during the hearing. The Commission after considering the written and oral submissions of the DICs decided vide its order dated 31.8.2017 that the subject transmission assets be considered as assets of strategic and national importance and all DICs should bear the transmission charges in the short run for long term benefits. Though the Commission recognized the capital cost incurred by the Review Petitioner, determination of final annual transmission charges was deferred till receipt of grant/ assistance from the Power Sector Development Fund (PSDF) and the National Clean Energy Fund (NCEF). Resultantly, the Review Petitioner was allowed to charge the annual fixed charges as determined by the Commission vide order dated 8.1.2016 as revised vide order dated 3.3.2016 till determination of final annual transmission charges.
- 4. The Review Petitioner has filed the present review petition seeking the review of the impugned order dated 31.8.2017 with the following prayer:

"Allow the petition for review and determine the tariff based on the approved capital cost and allow its recovery without linking with the receipt of the grant amount or alternatively fix a provisional tariff of at least 90% of the Annual Fixed Charges claimed in the petition subject to detailed adjustment with interest till the determination of the final tariff for the transmission assets."

- 5. The Review Petitioner has submitted that it has been billing the DICs as per the provisional tariff order dated 8.1.2016 and recovering only 62% of the transmission charges claimed as provisional tariff subject to the final tariff to be determined by the Commission. However, the Commission has continued the tariff at the same rate by way of the impugned order. The Review Petitioner has submitted that there is an error apparent on the face of record in the order dated 31.8.2017 since the procedure as per the provisions of the Tariff Regulations, 2014 and Section 62 of the Electricity Act, 2003 has not been followed.
- 6. The Review Petitioner submitted that as per the directions of the Commission in order dated 8.1.2016, the Review Petitioner made concerted efforts for obtaining the grant from PSDF and NCEF for the transmission assets. Ministry of Power, Government of India (MoP) sanctioned grant of Rs.2889 crore only from PSDF vide letter dated 10.3.2017. MoP directed the Review Petitioner to pursue the application for balance portion of Rs. 2889 crore from NCEF and in case the proposal is not considered by NCEF, to approach PSDF for that purpose. Though the Review Petitioner submitted its revised application seeking the balance grant of Rs.2889 crore from NCEF, MoP vide its letter dated 26.9.2017 conveyed that the NCEF itself had been abolished upon implementation of GST with effect from 1.7.2017. The Review Petitioner again approached NLDC, the nodal agency for processing the applications for sanction of funds from PSDF, for grant of balance amount of Rs. 2889 crore from PSDF vide its letter dated 27.9.2017. The Review Petitioner has filed an affidavit dated 28.6.2018 enclosing a letter dated 22.6.2018 in which it has been stated that "after review of the funds available under PSDF, projected inflow and requirement of the funds for other schemes, the request of PGCIL for balance funds of Rs.2889 crore from PSDF has not

been considered by Monitoring Committee." The Review Petitioner has submitted that even the sanctioned amount from PSDF has not been released so far.

- 7. The Review Petitioner has submitted that out of the tariff claim of approximately Rs. 2375 crore for the period from COD of the assets upto September, 2017, the Commission has allowed to recover only approx. Rs.1474 crore which is about 62% of the amount claimed. The Review Petitioner has submitted that the Review Petitioner has been servicing the loan (80%) and has invested its equity (20%) to the extent of 100% of the capital cost but has been allowed to recover only 62% of the same due to refusal of the Commission to fix the final tariff for the transmission assets. The Review Petitioner has submitted that apart from the already unrecovered amount of approx. Rs.901 crore till date, there would be an under-recovery of tariff to the tune of more than Rs.40 crore every month till the time of final tariff is granted by the Commission.
- 8. In reply to the Review Petition, MPPMCL has submitted that the cost allowed in the impugned order to be recovered has been arrived at after taking into consideration all the facts and as such there is no error apparent on record. BRPL has submitted that a review is by no means an appeal in disguise whereby an erroneous decision is reheard and corrected, but lies only for correction of patent error. GRIDCO has submitted that like all other HVDC lines, the cost of the instant assets should also be borne by the original beneficiaries for whom the transmission assets were conceived and executed and therefore, there is no justification for GRIDCO which is not a user of the instant assets to share the transmission charges of these assets.

- 9. The Review Petition was heard on 3.7.2018. The learned senior counsel for the Review Petitioner submitted that the Commission allowed only 62% of the annual transmission charges claimed and directed the Review Petitioner to meet the balance amount from PSDF/NCEF. Though Rs.2889 crore has been sanctioned from PSDF, the amount has not yet been released. In the circumstances, the Review Petitioner cannot meet its debt service obligations. The Review Petitioner has approached the Commission for revision of the annual fixed charges granted to the Review Petitioner vide order dated 8.1.2016 and allow annual fixed charges based on the approved capital cost without linking with the receipt of the grant amount or alternatively fix a provisional tariff of at least 90% of the annual fixed charges claimed in the petition subject to adjustment with interest after determination of the final tariff of the transmission assets.
- 10. Leaned counsel for the BRPL, BYPL & BHSP(H)CL submitted that since tariff has not been determined in the impugned order dated 31.8.2017, the question of review qua determination of tariff does not arise and therefore, the review petition is not maintainable. Learned counsel for GRIDCO submitted that GRIDCO has preferred Appeal No. 349 of 2017 before the Hon'ble Appellate Tribunal for Electricity against the order dated 31.8.2017 and therefore, outcome of the appeal be awaited before taking any decision with regard to determination of tariff and its recovery from all the DICs. Learned counsel for TPDDL submitted that the review petition be rejected as there is no error apparent on the face of the record in the impugned order dated 31.8.2017.

Analysis and Decision

- 11. The Review Petitioner has approached the Commission by way of the present Review Petition for grant of annual fixed charges based on the admitted capital cost or alternatively for revision of the interim tariff granted to it from 62% to 90% of the annual fixed charges. The trigger point for approaching the Commission for review of the annual fixed charges is that the Review Petitioner has not yet been released grant for PSDF and its request for grant from NCEF has been rejected. Non-release of funds from PSDF or rejection of the Review Petitioner's application for grant from NCEF does not render the directions of the Commission to seek grants from PSDF/NCEF to reduce the burden of transmission charges on the DICs wrong or infructuous nor the order dated 31.8.2017 suffers from error apparent in the face of the record on that account. The Review Petitioner is under an obligation in terms of our order dated 8.1.2016 and 31.8.2017 to pursue with MoP for grant to part finance the project as the same has been recognised as assets of strategic and national importance both by this Commission and MoP. Therefore, we reject the review petition as there is no error apparent in the order dated 31.8.2017.
- 12. It is, however, observed that in para 50 of the order dated 31.8.2017, the Commission has directed the following:-
 - "51. The capital cost as determined above shall be reduced by the grants from PSDF and NECF as and when the same is revived.
 - 52. The other components of tariff and the final tariff will be determined after receipt of grant/ assistance under PSDF and NCEF. The petitioner would continue to recover the AFC granted vide order dated 8.1.2016 as per the provisions of Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Sharing of Inter-State Transmission Charges and Losses) Regulations, 2010, as amended from time to time. The petitioner is directed to file a fresh petition after receipt of grant/assistance from the Government of India. As the petitioner has already issued public notice in the newspapers as provided in the

Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Procedure for making of application for determination of tariff, publication of the application and other related matters) Regulations, 2004 in case of the instant assets, we are of the view that there is no need to issue any fresh notice at the time of filing of fresh petition. The petitioner is also exempted from payment of filing fee."

- 13. In terms of the above directions, the Review Petitioner was granted liberty to approach the Commission through a fresh petition after receipt of grant/assistance from PSDF and NCEF. In terms of the said liberty, the Petitioner may approach the Commission with a fresh petition for final determination of tariff of these assets alongwith the status of the grants received for consideration of the claims of the Commission in accordance with the 2014 Tariff Regulations.
- 14. Review Petition No.43/RP/2017 in Petition No.67/TT/2015 is disposed of in terms of the above.

sd/- sd/- sd/- sd/- (Dr. M. K. Iyer) (A. S. Bakshi) (A.K. Singhal) (P.K. Pujari) Member Member Chairperson