

**CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION  
NEW DELHI**

**Petition No. 600/MP/2020**

**Coram:  
Shri P.K.Pujari, Chairperson  
Shri I.S.Jha, Member  
Shri Arun Goyal, Member**

**Date of Order: 12<sup>th</sup> August, 2020**

**In the matter of**

Seeking Commission`s permission to allow interchange of power for testing including full load testing of trial run operation of Unit-II of Nabinagar STPS Stage-I (3X660 MW), beyond the period of six months from the date of its first synchronization, i.e. beyond 11.8.2020.

**And  
In the matter of**

Nabinagar Power Generating Company Limited  
NTPC Bhawan, Core-7, Scope Complex,  
7 Institutional Area, Lodhi Road,  
New Delhi-110 003

**...Petitioner**

**Vs.**

1. Power System Operation Corporation Limited  
B-9, Qutab Institutional Area, Katwaria Sarai,  
New Delhi-110 016

2. Eastern Southern Regional Power Committee  
14, Golf Club Road,  
Tollygunge, Kolkata, West Bengal-700 033

3. Eastern Regional Power Committee  
14, Golf Club Road,  
Tollygunge, Kolkata, West Bengal-700 033

1. Southern Regional Power Committee  
29, Race Course Cross Road,  
Bangalore- 560 009.

**...Respondents**

**ORDER**

This Petition has been filed by the Petitioner, Nabinagar Power Generating Company Limited, seeking permission of the Commission for interchange of power including drawl of start-up power into the grid upto 11.2.2021 or till declaration of

commercial operation of Unit-II of 1980 MW (3X660 MW) Thermal Power Plant (hereinafter referred to as 'generating station') at New Nabinagar district in the State of Bihar in terms of clause (7) of 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 (hereinafter referred to as 'Connectivity Regulations').

2. The Petitioner has submitted that the generating station consists of three units (3x660 MW). Unit-II of the generating station was first synchronized with the grid on 12.2.2020. However, unit-II could not be declared under commercial operation due to the following reasons:

(a) Delay due to Covid-19 pandemic: As a measure to prevent the spread of Covid-19 pandemic in the country, Government of India put the entire country under lock-down from 25.3.2020 to 31.5.2020 which affected all balance work of erection, commissioning and supplies of the generating station. During the said period, the workers/ labours left the site and there was complete demobilization of workers/ labours bringing the erection activities to the standstill.

(b) Subsequently, Government of India has declared unlocking the country in phased manner w.e.f. 1.6.2020. Normalization of erection activity of the unit is still not fully achieved due to fear of spread of the pandemic despite adequate care and safety measures. Therefore, normal work progress required to meet the full-fledged construction and commissioning activities are yet to be undertaken.

(c) Subsequently, Government of Bihar announced the lockdown in the State from 16.7.2020 to 31.7.2020 which again retarded the pace of erection and commissioning work which was slowly picking up. Due to lockdown, manpower/ labours and supplies are getting affected despite all efforts made for work to progress.

3. The Petitioner has submitted that due to reasons beyond its control, it could not declare commercial operation of the generating station. The Petitioner has requested to grant permission for injection of infirm power into the grid for testing

including full load testing and trial run operation of Unit-II of the generating station beyond 11.8.2020 upto 11.2.2021 or the date of its commercial operation, whichever is earlier.

4. The Petition is admitted by circulation.

5. We have considered the submissions of the Petitioner. The fourth and fifth provisos to Regulation 8(7) of the Connectivity Regulations 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.”*

6. The Petitioner has submitted that it is seeking extension of time for *bona-fide* reasons for completion of balance works and not for the purpose of trading in infirm power or otherwise derive any undue advantage. The Petitioner has submitted that due to Covid-19 pandemic, it was not able to complete testing including full load testing within the prescribed period from the date of first synchronization of unit-II of the generating station. The Petitioner has submitted that time is required beyond 11.8.2020 to complete the balance work and to carry out the operation of testing and commissioning including injection of infirm power into the grid. Considering these facts, the Petitioner has requested for permission to inject infirm power till 11.2.2021 or actual date of commercial operation of unit-II of the generating station, whichever is earlier.

7. Taking into consideration the difficulties expressed by the Petitioner as mentioned in Paragraph 2 above and in terms of the proviso to Regulation 8(7) of the Connectivity Regulations as quoted in paragraph 5 above, we allow injection of

infirm power into the grid for commissioning tests including full load test of unit-II upto 11.2.2021 or actual date of commercial operation, whichever is earlier. We expect the Petitioner to make all efforts to ensure the commercial operation of the unit by this date. It is, however, clarified that extension of time granted as above shall not automatically entitle the Petitioner for IEDC/IDC for the delay in declaration of COD from the scheduled COD which will be decided in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Tariff Regulations.

8. With the above, the Petition No. 600/MP/2020 is disposed of.

**Sd/-  
(Arun Goyal)  
Member**

**sd/-  
(I.S.Jha)  
Member**

**sd/-  
(P.K. Pujari)  
Chairperson**