CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION **NEW DELHI**

Petition No. 200/MP/2019

Subject Petition under Section 38(2) of the Electricity Act, 2003 read

with Section 79 (1)(c) and 79(1)(k) of the Act, along with (i) Electricity Regulatory Commission (Grant of Regulatory Approval for execution of Inter-State Transmission Scheme to Central Transmission Utility) Regulations, 2010, (ii) Regulations 111 and 114 of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Conduct of Business) Regulations, 1999 and (iii) Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Sharing of Inter-State Transmission Charges and Losses) Regulations, 2010 for grant of regulatory approval for execution of the Transmission system for 18.5 GW of Solar and Wind Energy Zones in Southern Region.

Date of Hearing: 15.4.2021

Shri P. K. Pujari, Chairperson Coram

> Shri I. S. Jha, Member Shri Arun Goyal, Member Shri P. K. Singh, Member

Petitioner Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL)

Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation Limited Respondents

(TANGEDCO) and 17 Ors.

Parties Present: Shri M. G. Ramachandran, Sr. Advocate, PGCIL

Shri Shubham Arya, Advocate, PGCIL

Ms. Ranjitha Ramachandran, Advocate, PGCIL Shri Shahbaz Khan, Advocate, KPTCL and PCKL Shri B. Vinodh Kanna, Advocate, TANGEDCO Shri Jayanth Muthu Raj, Advocate, TANGEDCO

Shri Anil Meena, PGCIL Ms. Jvoti Prasad, PGCIL

Ms. R. Ramalakshmi, TANGEDCO Dr. R. Kathiravan, TANGEDCO

Record of Proceedings

Case was called out for virtual hearing.

2. At the outset, learned senior counsel for the Petitioner sought liberty to file an additional affidavit to bring on record the subsequent developments in the matter. Learned senior counsel submitted that in respect of three locations, namely, Koppal, Gadag and Karur, Stage II connectivity has been firmed up and the LTA Agreements are about to be signed. Accordingly, transmission scheme in respect of these Renewable Energy Zones ('REZs') can be taken up either in entirety (Koppal) or phase-wise (Gadag and Karur).

- Learned counsel for the Respondent No.4, Karnataka Power Transmission Company Limited ('KPTCL') submitted that as per the affidavit dated 26.8.2020 filed by the Petitioner, no LTA applications were received in respect of the transmission scheme for Koppal and Gadag. However, if there are any further developments, the Respondent may be permitted to respond once the Petitioner files its additional affidavit bringing on record such developments.
- Learned counsel for the Respondent No.1, TANGEDCO submitted that the Respondent is not only objecting to the transmission schemes relating to Karur and Tuticorin REZs as located in the State of Tamil Nadu but also for the other REZs, where there are no LTA applications since as per the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Sharing of Inter-State Transmission Charges and Losses) Regulations, 2020, TANGEDCO will be required to share its costs also on the proportionate basis. It was further submitted that in RPC meetings, the constituents have opposed to the implementation of such schemes without the LTA applications and that as per the Petitioner's own affidavit dated 26.8.2020, there is no land availability in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- 5. In response, the learned senior counsel for the Petitioner submitted that the Petitioner has already clarified that it is taking up the implementation of the transmission scheme only once the Stage II connectivity is granted and LTAs are also granted or in the process of grant and that too in phased manner. The Petitioner is not taking up the transmission scheme relating to REZs where no Stage II connectivity/ LTA applications have been received.
- In respect of the specific query of the Commission regarding availability of 6. land for the above locations, learned senior counsel for the Petitioner submitted that for Koppal and Gadag, availability of land has been confirmed by the relevant State authorities. The land details have been provided by SECI and the same has already been submitted vide affidavit dated 26.8.2020.
- Learned counsel appearing on behalf of Power Company of Karnataka Limited ('PCKL'), sought liberty to file objections in the matter on behalf of all electricity supply companies ('ESCOMs') in Karnataka.
- After hearing the learned senior counsel for the Petitioner and the learned counsels for the Respondents, the Commission directed the Petitioner to file additional affidavit within two weeks. The Petitioner was also directed to clarify the details of the land for the generation project and submit the same along with affidavit. The Respondents were directed to file their respective response thereon within two weeks thereafter.
- The Commission also directed the Petitioner to endeavour to discuss aforesaid developments and implementation of the transmission schemes in phasewise manner with the constituents of the Southern Region in the RPC meeting and to place on records the minutes of such RPC meeting.
- Considering the request of learned counsel for PCKL, the Commission permitted PCKL to file its submission as objector within a week with advance copy to the Petitioner, who may file its response thereon, if any, by within a week thereafter.

The Petition shall be listed for hearing in due course for which separate notice 11. will be issued.

> By order of the Commission Sd/-

> > (T.D. Pant) Joint Chief (Law)