CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION NEW DELHI

Petition No. 308/TT/2020

Subject: Petition for truing up of transmission tariff of the 2014-

19 period and determination of transmission tariff of the 2019-24 period for Asset I: 400 kV D/C Platana-Silchar Twin Moose Conductor Transmission line-247.30 km, Asset II: 400 kV D/C Silchar- Byrnihat (one circuit on D/C towers) Twin Moose Conductor Transmission Line- 214.41 km, Asset III: 400 kV D/C Byrnihat- Bongaigaon (one circuit on D/C towers) Twin Moose Conductor Transmission Line- 201 km, Asset IV: 400 kV D/C Silchar-Azara (one circuit on D/C towers) Twin Moose Conductor Transmission Line-256.41 km, and Asset V: 400 kV D/C Azara-Bongaigaon (one circuit on D/C towers) Twin Moose

Conductor Transmission Line-159 km.

Date of Hearing : 28.8.2020

Coram : Shri P.K. Pujari, Chairperson

Shri I.S. Jha, Member Shri Arun Goyal, Member

Petitioner : North East Transmission Company Ltd.

Respondents: Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. & 9 Others

Parties present : Shri M.G. Ramachandran, Sr. Advocate, NETCL

Shri S. Ganguly, NETCL

Record of Proceedings

The matter was heard through video conference.

- 2. Learned senior counsel for the Petitioner submitted that the instant petition is filed for truing up of transmission tariff of the 2014-19 period and determination of transmission tariff for the 2019-24 period in respect of following assets:
 - a. Asset I: 400 kV D/C Platana-Silchar Twin Moose Conductor Transmission line-247.30 km;



- b. Asset II: 400 kV D/C Silchar-Byrnihat (one circuit on D/C towers) Twin Moose Conductor Transmission Line- 214.41 km;
- c. Asset III: 400 kV D/C Byrnihat-Bongaigaon (one circuit on D/C towers) Twin Moose Conductor Transmission Line- 201 km;
- d. Asset IV: 400 kV D/C Silchar-Azara (one circuit on D/C towers) Twin Moose Conductor Transmission Line- 256.41 km; and
- e. Asset V: 400 kV D/C Azara-Bongaigaon (one circuit on D/C towers) Twin Moose Conductor Transmission Line-159 km.
- 3. Learned counsel for the Petitioner submitted that the tariff for the instant assets for the 2014-19 period was allowed by the Commission *vide* order dated 16.8.2016 in Petition No. 213/TT/2015. He submitted that the Revised Cost Estimate (RCE-4) for the transmission project has been approved by the Board of Directors of the Petitioner and the revision is mainly due to additional capital expenditure (ACE) incurred for railway diversion, pile foundation, payment of compensation, construction of site office *cum* stores and expenditure on protection work at 8 locations in 400 kV D/C Palatana-Silchar Line. He also submitted that the reasons for ACE were discussed in TCC and NERPC meetings and in-principle approval for the same has been obtained. He requested to approve tariff along with ACE as prayed in the Petition. He submitted that the Petitioner has refinanced the loan which is beneficial to the consumers and the Petitioner has shared the benefits with the Respondents.
- 4. In response to a query of the Commission regarding time and cost over-run, learned senior counsel for the Petitioner submitted that there is cost over-run in case of instant assets. In response to another observation of the Commission, learned senior counsel submitted that the instant assets have been combined in the 2019-24 tariff period.
- 5. In response to another query of the Commission regarding whether the construction of site office *cum* store complex is covered within the original scope of the transmission project, learned senior counsel for the Petitioner submitted that the construction of site office *cum* store complex is part of the original scope of the Project and approved by Government of India in its DPR.
- 6. The Commission further directed the Respondents to file their reply by 11.9.2020 and the Petitioner to file its rejoinder, if any, by 18.9.2020. The Commission further directed the Parties to adhere to the above-specified timeline and observed that no extension of time shall be granted.
- 7. The matter shall be listed in due course, for which separate notice shall be issued to the parties.

By order of the Commission

Sd/-

(V. Sreenivas)

Deputy Chief (Law)

