

**CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
NEW DELHI**

Petition No. 649/TT/2020

Subject : Petition for determination of transmission tariff of 2019-24 period for two assets associated with “Northern Region System Strengthening Scheme-XXXVIII” in Northern Region.

Date of Hearing : 26.10.2021

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

Petitioner : Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd.

Respondents : Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Prasaran Nigam Ltd.
& 17 Others

Parties present : Shri Ved Prakesh Rustogi, PGCIL
Shri A.K. Verma, PGCIL
Shri Deep Rao Palepu, Advocate, GPTL
Ms. Harneet Kaur, Advocate, GPTL
Ms. Parichita Chowdhury, Advocate, GPTL
Shri S. S. Raju, PGCIL
Shri D.K. Biswal, PGCIL
Shri Ved Prakash Rastogi, PGCIL
Shri A.K. Verma, PGCIL
Shri TAN Reddy, GPTL
Shri Gaurav Kumar, GPTL
Shri Manish Garg, GPTL

Record of Proceedings

Case was called out for virtual hearing.

2. The representative of the Petitioner made the following submissions:
 - a. The instant petition has been filed for determination of transmission tariff of 2019-24 period for the following assets associated with “Northern Region System Strengthening Scheme-XXXVIII” in Northern Region:

Asset I - 1X1500 MVA 765/400 kV ICT-II alongwith associated bays and 2 Nos. 400 kV Line Bays for termination of 400 kV D/C Aligarh-Pritala TBCB Line at Aligarh 765 kV Switching Sub-station; and



Asset II - 1X1500 MVA 765/400 kV ICT-I at Aligarh 765 kV Switching Substation under ICTs and Bays

- b. The associated 400 kV D/C Aligarh-Pritala transmission line is within the scope of Gurgaon Palwal Power Transmission Limited (GPTL), a subsidiary of M/s Sterlite. GPTL has been impleaded as Respondent in the present petition.
- c. Investment Approval for NRSSS-XXXVIII was accorded by the Board of Directors vide letter dated 29.3.2017. The project was further discussed and agreed in the 35th SCM of Power System Planning in Northern Region held on 3.11.2014, 34th meeting of Empowered Committee held on 13.4.2015 and 36th NRPC meeting held on 24.12.2015.
- d. The scheduled date of commercial operation of the instant assets was 28.6.2019 against which the Petitioner has claimed approval of date of commercial operation of Asset-I and Asset-II on 1.11.2019 and 12.12.2019 respectively under Regulation 5(2) of the 2019 Tariff Regulations as they could not be put into commercial operation as the downstream network at 400 kV D/C Aligarh-Pritala TBCB line has not yet been commissioned and there is no power flow.
- e. RLDC certificate, CEA certificate and CMD certificate have been submitted for claiming COD of the instant assets.
- f. Detailed justifications for time over-run of the transmission assets has been submitted and it is due to non-availability of timely shut-down clearance from OCC.
- g. Estimated completion cost for both the assets is within the apportioned approved cost.
- h. Additional Capital Expenditure (ACE) has been claimed under Regulation 24(1)(a) and Regulation 24(1)(b) of the 2019 Tariff Regulations which is within the cut-off date. Reply to Technical Validation letter has been given vide affidavit dated 15.9.2021.
- j. Initial Spares as claimed are within the norms.
- k. No reply has been received from any of the Respondents.
3. The representative of UPPCL prayed for seven days' time to file reply in the matter and made the following submissions:
- a. The Petitioner has sought relaxation in declaration of commercial operation of the assets from SCOD to proposed COD on account of delay in shut-down clearances, whereas, the shut-down clearances were sought for the first time after SCOD.
- b. The Petitioner has submitted that its request for shut-down clearance was rejected. However, the request was rejected in OCC Meeting No. 161 while the record of OCC Meeting No. 162 shows that request was kept pending and not rejected.



- c. In view of the reasons given by the Petitioner for shut-down clearance, no case is made out for relaxation in declaring the date of commercial operation of the assets.
- d. The Auditor's Certificate does not reflect the amount of undischarged liabilities forming part of capital cost. Therefore, the Petitioner may specify the exact amount of undischarged liabilities.
4. Learned counsel for GPTL prayed for 15 days' time to file reply in the matter and made the following submissions:
- a. The scope of work of GPTL was ready and deemed to be commissioned on 6.8.2019. However, the bays to which the TBCB line was inter-connected could be made ready only on 30.10.2019.
- b. The TBCB line and the instant transmission assets could not be put to regular service on account of non-readiness of 220 kV network at Prithala Sub-station which were under the scope of HVPNL.
- c. GPTL could not file its reply to the petition as it had no knowledge of the same as it was not made a party to the proceedings or served copy of the petition. Hence, GPTL could not file its reply in the matter. The entity mentioned in the memo of parties is NRSS-XXXVIII Sterlite Power.
5. In response to the submissions made by UPPCL, the representative of the Petitioner submitted that the Petitioner was only delayed by a few days from SCOD due to non availability of shut-down clearance. The delay has been justified in detail in the documents attached alongwith the present petition including mails from NRPC. Further, details of undischarged liabilities have already been provided in the instant petition.
6. After hearing the parties, the Commission directed the Petitioner to implead HVPNL as Respondent, file revised Memo of Parties and serve copy of the petition on it by 15.11.2021.
7. The Commission directed the Respondents, including HVPNL, UPPCL and GPTL to file their reply by 3.12.2021 with advance copy of the same to the Petitioner and the Petitioner to file rejoinder, if any, by 15.12.2021. The Commission further directed the parties to adhere to the specified timeline and observed that no extension of time shall be granted.
8. The matter shall be re-listed for hearing for which a separate notice shall be issued to the parties.

By order of the Commission

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(V. Sreenivas)
Deputy Chief (Law)

