

**CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
NEW DELHI**

Petition No. 673/TT/2020

Subject : Petition for determination of transmission tariff from COD to 31.3.2024 in respect of two assets under “Transmission System associated with Tehri Pump Storage Plant (PSP)”.

Date of Hearing : 29.10.2021

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 : Uttar Pradesh Power Corporation Ltd.& 16 Others

Parties present : Shri Tabrez Malawat, Advocate, THDC
Ms. Ankita Bafna, Advocate, THDC
Shri S. S. Raju, PGCIL
Shri D.K. Biswal, PGCIL
Shri Ved Prakash Rastogi, PGCIL
Shri A.K. Verma, PGCIL
Shri Mukesh Kumar, THDC
Shri Rajesh Sharma, THDC
Shri L.P. Joshi, THDC
Shri S.S. Panwar, THDC
Shri Manish Garg, UPPCL

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 in respect of the following assets under “Transmission System associated with Tehri Pump Storage Plant (PSP)”:

Asset-1: Combined Asset consisting of (1) Charging of Tehri Pooling-Meerut line Ckt-I at 765 kV along with associated bays at Koteshwar (Tehri Pooling



Station) end and 240 MVAR switchable line reactor and associated bays at Meerut end (2) 765/400 kV 800 MVA ICT- II alongwith associated bays at Koteshwar (Tehri Pooling Station) (3) 765/400 kV 800 MVA ICT- III alongwith associated bays at Koteshwar (Tehri Pooling Station) (4) 765/400 kV 800 MVA ICT- IV alongwith associated bays at Koteshwar (Tehri Pooling Station).

Asset-2: Charging of Tehri Pooling-Meerut line Ckt-II at 765 kV level along with associated bays at Koteshwar (Tehri Pooling Station) end and 240 MVAR switchable line reactor and associated bays at Meerut end;

Asset-3: 765/400 kV 1500 MVA ICT alongwith associated bays at Meerut Sub-station;

Asset-4: 765 kV 240 MVAR Bus Reactor along with associated bays at Koteshwar (Tehri Pooling Station);

Asset-5: 765/400 kV 800 MVA ICT- I alongwith associated bays at Koteshwar (Tehri Pooling Station); and

Asset-6: Modification of series capacitor at Meerut Sub-station for operation at 765 kV level.

b. Assets-1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 were put under commercial operation on 17.4.2020, 30.6.2020, 30.6.2020, 22.10.2020 and 17.1.2021 respectively. Asset-6 is anticipated to be put under commercial operation on 31.10.2021.

c. Investment Approval for the project was accorded by the Board of Directors of the Petitioner vide memorandum dated 2.2.2015.

d. All the assets covered in the present petition were planned for evacuation of power from Tehri HEP and Koteshwar HEP. The project was discussed in the 18th SCM of Northern Region; and 27th and 32nd meeting of Standing Committee of Transmission System Planning of Northern Region held on 30.5.2009 and 31.8.2013 respectively. It was further discussed and agreed in the 13th and 29th meeting of NRPC held on 27.6.2009 and 13.9.2013 respectively. Further, in the 39th SCM of Northern Region held on 29.5.2017 and 30.5.2017, it was decided that 765 kV Tehri-Meerut line be de-linked from the generation project. In the NRPCTP meetings held on 24.1.2020 and 1.9.2020, the matter relating to de-linking of assets was discussed wherein it was decided that only 3 assets were to be linked to the Tehri-HEP and other assets were to be developed as System Strengthening Scheme.

e. The Petitioner signed an Implementation Agreement with Tehri-PSP that SCOD of the unit of Tehri PSP and ATS would be considered as 3.11.2017. However, the generation project has still not been commissioned and as per the recent JCC meetings, the same is likely to be commissioned during July 2023 to December 2023.



- f. The assets linked with generation are (i) 400 kV S/C Tehri (generation)-Tehri PS (Koteshwar) line alongwith associated bays, (ii) 4th ICT of 800 MVA at Tehri PS (Koteshwar) Sub-station and (iii) 3rd ICT of 1500 MVA at Meerut Sub-station. The assets linked with system strengthening are (i) 3 nos. 800 MVA ICT at PS (Koteshwar) Sub-station, (ii) Charging of Tehri PS- Meerut line at 765 kV alongwith upgradation of series capacitors, and (iii) 240 MVAR line reactors at Meerut end and 240 MVAR bus reactor at Tehri PS (Koteshwar) Sub-station.
- g. COD, RLDC, CEA and CMD certificates of all the assets have been given along with the reply to the Technical Validation letter.
- h. There is time over-run of 896 days to 1458 days in case of the instant assets. Detailed reasons for time over-run have been given in the petition and in the reply of Technical Validation letter.
- i. Actual Initial Spares marginally exceed the norms.
- j. Revised Auditor's certificates, revised tariff forms for all the assets along with IDC statement and RCE apportionment have also been submitted.
- k. Overall cost is within the RCE cost. Main reasons for cost variation from FR cost are on account of price escalation and FERV.
- l. ACE details along with liability flow statement have been submitted vide affidavit dated 27.10.2021.
- m. Rejoinder to the reply filed by THDC has been filed vide affidavit dated 28.10.2021.
- n. One week time may be granted to file rejoinder to the reply filed by UPPCL vide affidavit dated 23.10.2021.
3. The representative of UPPCL made the following submissions:
- a. Details of cost as mentioned in the original petition and in the additional affidavit filed by the Petitioner on 27.10.2021 do not match.
- b. Details of applicability of RCE is not clear.
- c. IDC should not be allowed for the duration between SCOD and COD. The assets would have been commissioned before SCOD if the commissioning of generating station was not delayed. Therefore, liability of IDC for delayed period should be fixed on the generator and not on the beneficiaries.
- d. The generator cannot be absolved of its responsibility to bear the transmission charges from SCOD to actual COD just by de-linking some of assets and transferring them to System Strengthening Scheme.
- e. In view of the additional information filed by the Petitioner vide affidavit dated 27.10.2021, UPPCL may be given an opportunity to file another detailed reply.



4. In response to a query of the Commission, the representative of the Petitioner submitted that decision to transfer certain assets of the project to System Strengthening Scheme was taken during 39th SCM held on 29.5.2017 and 30.5.2017 and in the meeting dated 28.7.2020.
5. Learned counsel for THDC referred to his reply and made the following submissions:
- a. In 2009, it was decided that the instant assets shall be linked with 3 hydro generating stations including Tehri-PSP. Subsequently, from 2011/2012 onwards, there were issues of oscillation on account of which it was decided that system strengthening is required and existing 400 kV needed to be upgraded to 765 kV.
 - b. NRPC minutes clearly show that only the 4th ICT is required to be matched with the commissioning of the generating unit and other ICTs were anyway part of the System Strengthening Scheme.
6. In response, the Petitioner agreed that Tehri PSP was not linked with the scheduling of the transmission assets and the Petitioner did not wait for the commissioning of the generating asset. Therefore, the delay is solely on part of the Petitioner and not due to the generator.
7. The Commission directed UPPCL to file its additional reply on revised computation/ tariff forms by 24.11.2021 with advance copy to the Petitioner and the Petitioner to file its rejoinder, if any, by 3.12.2021. The Commission observed that due date of filing the reply and rejoinder should be strictly adhered to and no extension of time shall be granted.
8. After hearing the parties, the Commission reserved order in the matter.

By order of the Commission

sd/-
(V. Sreenivas)
Deputy Chief (Law)

