CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION New Delhi

Petition No. 45/TT/2022

Subject : Approval under Regulation 86 of Central Electricity Regulatory

Commission (Conduct of Business) Regulations,1999 and Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions of Tariff) Regulations, 2019 for determination of Transmission Tariff from COD to 31.3.2024 for Transmission Assets under Project – "POWERGRID works associated with

North Eastern Region Strengthening Scheme-VI".

Date of Hearing : 26.7.2022

Coram : Shri I. S. Jha, Member

Shri Arun Goyal, Member Shri P. K. Singh, Member

Petitioner : Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. (PGCIL)

Respondents: Assam Electricity Grid Corporation Limited and 7 others

Parties Present: : Shri S.S. Raju, PGCIL

Shri D.K. Biswal, PGCIL Shri Ved Rastogi, PGCIL Shri A.K. Verma, PGCIL

Record of Proceedings

Case was called out for virtual hearing.

- 2. The representative of the Petitioner made following submissions:
 - a. The instant petition is filed for determination of transmission tariff of seven transmission assets under Project-"POWERGRID works associated with North Eastern Region Strengthening Scheme-VI" in the North Eastern region put into commercial operation in the 2019-24 tariff block.
 - b. Asset-2 to Asset-6 were been put into commercial operation and tariff is claimed on the basis of the actual COD. The approval of COD of Asset-1 and Asset-7 is sought under Regulation 5(2) of 2019 Tariff Regulations because of the non-readiness of the TBCB lines.
 - c. The Investment Approval (IA) for the transmission project was accorded by Board of Directors of the Petitioner's Company vide the Memorandum No. C/CP/PA1819-02-0C-IA003 dated 25.5.2018. The scope of the scheme was discussed and agreed in the 5th meeting of Standing Committee on Power System Planning in North Eastern Region held on 8.8.2015 and in the 15th NERPC meeting held on 25.8.2015. The Petitioner has submitted the Minutes of Meetings of the Standing committee and RPC.



- d. As per the IA, the transmission assets were scheduled to be put into commercial operation by July 2020. As per the Ministry of Power's letter dated 27.7.2020, all the inter-State Transmission projects under construction as on 25.3.2020 shall get an extension of five months in respect of SCOD. Accordingly, the Petitioner is eligible for extension of 5 months and therefore, the revised SCOD is 31.12.2020.
- e. The asset-wise details of COD and time over-run of the transmission assets is as follows:

S. No.	Scheduled COD	COD	Time over-run (in days)
Asset-1		1.8.2020	Nil
		(Proposed)	
Asset-2		22.8.2020	Nil
Asset-3		1.1.2021	Nil
Asset-4		14.2.2021	45
Asset-5	31.12.2020	17.3.2021	76
Asset-6		11.5.2021	131
Asset-7		23.5.2021	143
		(proposed)	

- f. The time over-run is due to (a) delay in transportation of reactors, (b) damage to ICT bushings, (c) poor soil condition in sub-station, (d) excessive rainfall and floods in North Eastern Region during monsoon of 2020 and (e) delay in manufacturing of various items due to lock down of COVID-19.
- g. The Petitioner requested the Commission to condone the time over-run for Assets 4,5,6 and 7, and also approve the COD of Asset-1 and Asset-7 under Regulation 5(2) of 2019 Tariff Regulations.
- h. The Petitioner has served a copy of the Petition on all the Respondents however no response has been received from any of the Respondents.
- 3. In response to a query of the Commission regarding the status of Imphal-New Kohima transmission line, the representative of the Petitioner submitted that the same has been put into commercial operation subsequently on 13.10.2020 and the bays are now being utilised. In response to a query regarding the status of New Kohima-New Mariani transmission line, he submitted that the transmission line is being implemented by AEGCL and it has not achieved DOCO. He further submitted that several letters were issued in this regard to AEGCL but has not received any response from AEGCL.
- 4. The Commission directed the Petitioner to submit the minutes of meetings of NERPC regarding the approval of the New Kohima-New Mariani transmission line, plan for utilising the bays at New Mariani Sub-station.
- 5. The Commission observed that it would like to have the views of AEGCL especially on the Petitioner's plea for approval of the COD of Asset-1 and Asset-7 under Regulation 5(2) of the 2019 Tariff Regulations and the status of the associated downstream assets under its scope. The Commission directed the Respondents, including AEGCL, to file their reply by 16.8.2022 on affidavit, with a copy to the Petitioner, who may file rejoinder, if any by 23.8.2022.

The Commission further observed that if no reply and rejoinder is received within the specified time, the matter will be decided on the basis of the information already on record and no extension of time shall be granted.

Subject to above, the Commission reserved the order in the matter. 6.

By order of the Commission

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