Central Electricity Regulatory Commission New Delhi

Petition No. 17/TT/2022

Subject: Petition for determination of transmission tariff for 2019-24

period for two number of assets under "Line Bays associated with Northern Region System Strengthening Scheme-XXXVI".

Date of Hearing : 9.1.2023

Coram : Shri I. S. Jha, Member

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

Petitioner: Power Grid Corporation of India Limited

Respondents: Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Prasaran Nigam Limited (RRVPNL)

and 18 others

Parties Present : Shri Buddy Ranganadhan, Advocate, PTCUL

Shri Abhishek Kumar, Advocate, PTCUL Shri Karan Arora, Advocate, PTCUL Shri Venkatesh, Advocate, NRSS XXXVI

Shri Anant Singh Ubeja, Advocate, NRSS XXXVI Shri Mohit Mansharamani, Advocate, NRSS XXXVI

Ms. Ambika Gupta, Advocate, NRSS XXXVI

Shri S.S Raju, PGCIL Shri D.K. Biswal, PGCIL Shri Ved Rastogi, PGCIL Shri Zafrul Hassan, PGCIL Shri Vipin Joseph, PGCIL

Record of Proceedings

The matter was called out for virtual hearing.

- 2. The Commission vide Record of Proceedings dated 27.10.2022, directed the Petitioner to file a fresh petition in respect of Asset-I and tariff only in respect of Asset-II will be considered in the present petition.
- 3. The representative of the Petitioner made the following submissions and chronogical dates of events:
 - a) PTCUL in the 35th Standing Committee Meeting (SCM) for Power System Planning in Northern Region held on 3.11.2014 requested for one number of additional Bay of 220 kV to be constructed at 400 kV Puhana (Roorkee) for ISTS.



- b) In the 36th ECM held on 26.7.2016, additional Bay at Roorkee (Puhana) Substation i.e. 5th Bay was decided to be implemented under Regulated Tariff Mechanism (RTM) and the same was agreed in 38th NRPC and 34th TCC meeting on 24/25.10.2016.
- c) In the 37th ECM, MoP vide letter dated 28.10.2016 approved the scheme to be implemented under compressed time schedule through RTM by the Petitioner. PTCUL in its letter dated 26.11.2016, provided details of utilization of Bays at Roorkee (Puhana) Sub-station and also sought one more additional Bay i.e. 6th Bay to be discussed in the next SCM.
- d) With regard to existing available Bay i.e. 3rd and 4th Bays to be used for termination of LILO of Roorkee-Nara 220 kV S/C line and additional two Bays i.e. 5th Bay covered in the present petition and 6th Bay covered under NRSS-XL (not part of the present petition) to be used for termination of 220 kV D/C Roorkee-Piran Kaliyar line.
- e) In the 39th SCM, PTCUL stated that earlier they planned Roorkee -Piran Kaliyar 220 kV line (S/C on D/C). Since PTCUL now proposed to string second circuit and therefore they requested for 6th Bay at Roorkee (Powergrid).
- f) Approval for energization of 5th Bay at 220 kV at Powergrid end, i.e. Asset-II in the present petition, was given by CEA on 18.10.2018. Accordingly, 220 kV Bay at Roorkee was idle charged on 27.10.2018.
- g) In the 2nd NRSCT, PTCUL informed that Roorkee-Piran Kaliyar line to be completed by March, 2019 and revised the utilization of Bays i.e. 3rd and 4th Bays to be used for termination of 220 kV D/C Roorkee-Piran Kaliyar line and remaining two Bays i.e. 5th Bay and 6th Bay covered under NRSS-XL for termination of LILO of Roorkee-Nara 220 kV S/C line. PTCUL vide mail dated 28.11.2018 informed that 220 kV D/C Roorkee -Piran Kaliyar line is to be executed in June, 2019.
- h) COD of the 5th Bay 220 kV at Powergrid end is claimed under Regulation 5 (2) of the 2019 Tariff Regulations. Approval of the 5th Bay was given by CEA on 18.10.2018 and 220 kV Bay at Roorkee was idle charged on 27.10.2018. However, COD of the 5th Bay is proposed as 28.9.2019 considering the maximum time of 30 months as provided in the Investment Approval as downstream asset was not connected.
- i) The downstream connectivity is under the scope of PTCUL for all the available Bays at Powergrid end and it was proposed by PTCUL to use existing available Bays for termination of 220 kV D/C Roorkee- Piran Kaliyar line and use remaining two Bays i.e. 5th Bay and 6th Bay covered under NRSS-XL for termination of LILO of Roorkee-Nara 220 kV S/C line.

- j) With reference to the directions given by the Commission vide RoP dated 27.10.2022, the Petitioner has placed on record 'Chronology of Events' with reference to Asset-II vide affidavit dated 11.11.2022.
- k) The Petitioner has filed rejoinder affidavit dated 4.1.2023, to the additional reply of PTCUL filed vide affidavit dated 14.12.2022.
- 4. Learned counsel for PTCUL has made the following submissions:
 - For invocation of Regulation 5(2) of the 2019 Tariff Regulations, basic requirement is an agreed implementation schedule. There is no agreed implementation schedule in respect of 5th and 6th Bays. There was no communication to PTCUL from the side of the Petitioner with regard to the execution dates of these Bays.
 - b) Bay 1 and Bay 2 were utilised at Roorkee Sub-station. Bay 3 and Bay 4 were originally meant for Roorkee-Nara line. Bay 5 and Bay 6 were proposed for Puhana-Piran Kaliyar line. Puhana-Piran Kaliyar line was ready in 2018. However, Bay 5 and Bay 6 were not made ready by the Petitioner. Since Bay 3 and Bay 4 were ready and already included as part of PoC, PTCUL used Bay 3 and Bay 4 to terminate Puhana-Piran Kaliyar line with the consent of Petitioner and also incurred additional cost for the same.
 - c) There was no communication from the side of Petitioner informing PTCUL with regard to actual execution dates of Bay 5 and Bay 6 or that the Petitioner at any time enquired about the execution status of Roorkee-Nara line from PTCUL. Therefore, Regulation 5(2) of 2019 Tariff Regulation is not complied with.
 - d) The detailed chronology of events has already been submitted vide affidavits dated 30.8.2022 and 14.12.2022.
- In response, the representative of the Petitioner with regard to the submission of PTCUL for Bays work relating to termination of 220 kV D/C Roorkee-Piran Kalyar line added that Bay 5 of 220 kV Bay at Powergrid end was idle charged on 27.10.2018, which much before the execution of 220 kV D/C Roorkee -Piran Kaliyar line.
- 6. With regard to submissions of PTCUL that the Petitioner should have implemented 5th and 6th Bays in matching time frame of construction of 220 kV D/C Roorkee -Piran Kalyar line, he submitted that PTCUL vide its letter dated 26.11.2016, requested the Petitioner to put agenda for 1(one) number of additional Bay (6th Bay) in next SCM of Northern Region. Subsequent to the request received from PTCUL, 6th Bay was agreed in 39th SCM and 40th NRPC meetings held on 29-30.5.2017 and 28.10.2017 respectively. He further submitted that this scheme was notified to be implemented through TBCB vide MoP Gazette Notification dated 4.5.2018. Later, the same was approved to be implemented under RTM by the Petitioner in the 2nd Meeting of Empowered Committee of transmission held on 6.8.2018. He also submitted that final Investment Approval for 6th Bay was approved by Board of the Petitioner

on 16.2.2019 with SCOD as 15.12.2020. Accordingly, 6th Bay was approved at much later stage.

- 7. In response to a guery of the Commission, learned counsel for PTCUL agreed that all the six number of Bays were executed at the request of PTCUL, and that PTCUL requested for 6th Bay on 26.11.2016.
- After hearing the parties, the Commission directed the Petitioner to submit additional information and documentary proof of information given to PTCUL with regard to actual execution of Bay 5 and Bay 6 with advance copy of the same to PTCUL by 3.2.2023 and PTCUL may file reply to the same, if need be, by 10.3.2023. The Commission further directed PTCUL to submit its utilization plan with reference of Bay 5 and Bay 6 with advance copy of the same to the Petitioner by 10.3.2023.
- 9. Subject to the above, the Commission reserved the order in the matter.

By order of the Commission

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