PETITION NO. 30/MP/2014

Subject: Grant of Connectivity as per Regulation 8 (2) and 8 (4) of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Grant of Connectivity, Long-term Access and Medium Term Open Access in inter-State transmission and related matter) Regulations, 2009 and Regulation 4 (2) and 6 (6) of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Technical Standards for Connectivity to the Grid) Regulations, 2007.

Date of hearing: 23.9.2014

Coram: Shri Gireesh B. Pradhan, Chairperson
Shri M. Deena Dayalan, Member
Shri A.K. Singhal, Member
Shri A.S. Bakshi, Member

Petitioner: National Load Dispatch Centre

Respondent: Delhi Transco Limited and others.

Parties present: Ms. Jayantika Singh, POSOCO
Shri V.K. Agarwal, NLDC
Shri S.S. Barpanda, NLDC
Shri Abilia, NLDC
Shri K.V.S. Baba, NLDC
Shri Ashok Pal, PGCIL
Shri R.C. Chakraborty, MPPTCL
Shri Hitesh Tiwari, MPPTCL
Shri R.C. Kaundal, Advocate, HPPTCL
Shri DP Sharda, HPPTCL
Shri Sachin Rawat, PTCUL
Shri Alok Shankar, Advocate, Essar Power

Record of Proceedings

The representative of the petitioner submitted that the information called for vide ROP dated 13.5.2014 has already been submitted. He further submitted that a number of operational difficulties are been faced by the petitioner due to LILO connectivity as explained in para 10 of the affidavit dated 7.7.2014.
2. Learned counsel of HPPTCL submitted as under:

(a) Before grant of any connectivity to the ISTS network, detailed inter-connection studies proving adequacy of transfer capability must be conducted. However, while undertaking such studies, the respective STUs may also be associated as a part of the study to have a better co-ordination between the CTU and STUs.

(b) Whenever possible, HPPTCL prefers dedicated transmission line to ISTS. However, keeping in view the typical geographical conditions, severe limitations on the transmission corridor, to minimize disturbance to environment/ecology by avoiding huge fruit trees cutting involved and also to preserve the precious flora and fauna, LILO of ISTS becomes a necessity which may not be avoidable. It is precisely for the above reasons that CEA/CTU have planned transmission system for different basins of the state of Himachal Pradesh and planned and opted for LILO of ISTS in few of the cases. These plans have been duly approved by the Standing Committee on Power System planning of the Northern Region.

(c) If the CTU is stopped from granting connectivity through interim LILO, a permanent arrangement may be put in place. However, LILOs already approved by the Standing Committee on Power System Planning of the Northern Region should be allowed.

3. The representative of the CTU submitted that these LILOs were planned as per the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Open Access in inter-State Transmission) Regulations, 2004. In these Regulations, there was no separate concept of connectivity, which was provided along with Long Term Open Access. In some cases, where the generation projects were expected to come up earlier than the planned evacuation system, interim arrangement through LILO of existing line was planned to facilitate connection of generator to the Grid, this was to be followed by dedicated system to the pooling system. In response to the Commission’s query as to the time frame for the interim arrangement the representative of the CTU submitted that in respective items the final arrangement is aligned with the common system time frame.

4. Learned counsel for the Essar Power MP Limited submitted that due to non-completion of 400kV Mahan-Sipat line which is to be constructed by M/s. Essar Power, it is presently been evacuating its power under short term open access through the LILO arrangement. The line is expected to be commissioned by January, 2015.

5. The representative of the CEA submitted that there is lack of commitment on the part of the generating stations and even CTU is unable to complete its system in time.
In such situations, it is difficult to comply with the time line for reasons beyond control. He further submitted that in case the interim arrangement is made, it should be ensured that the associated transmission lines are in place within the time frame.

6. After hearing the learned counsels and representatives of the parties, the Commission directed PGCIL to submit the following information, on affidavit, by 20.12.2014:

(a) Date of start of injection of power through LILO’s for 16 generators for which interim arrangement has been allowed.

(b) Reasons for non-completion of final arrangement, after dispensing with the interim arrangement on LILO.

7. The Commission directed POSOCO to submit on affidavit, by 20.12.2014, stating the reasons for allowing injection of power from the generating stations which have not complied with CEA standards and the action taken against such generating stations.

8. The Commission directed that due date of filing the information should be strictly complied with. The information filed after due date shall not be considered.

9. Subject to above, the Commission reserved order in the petition.

By order of the Commission
SD/-

(T. Rout)
Chief (Law)