CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
NEW DELHI

Petition No.MP/91/2014
With I.A.No. 20/2014

Subject : Petition under Section 79 of the Electricity Act, 2003 read with clause 5.2 of the operating code under the Indian Electricity Grid Code and Regulations 12 and 13 of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Unscheduled Interchange Charges and related matters) Regulations, 2009; Regulations 7(1) and (2), 12, 13 of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Deviation Settlement Mechanism And Related Matters) Regulations, 2014 and Regulations 111, 114 and 115 of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Conduct Of Business) Regulations, 1999.

Date of hearing : 22.7.2014

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

Petitioner : Southern India Mills’ Association, Tamil Nadu

Respondents : 1. Power System Operation Corporation Limited, New Delhi
              2. Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, Gurgaon
              3. State Load Dispatch Centre, Tamil Nadu
              4. Southern Regional Load Dispatch Centre, Bangalore
              5. Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corp. Ltd., Chennai
              6. Tamil Nadu Spinning Mills Association, Tamil Nadu
              7. Indian Wind Power Association, Tamil Nadu

Parties present : Shri M.G.Ramachandran, Advocate for the petitioner
                 Ms. Anushree Bardhan, Advocate for the petitioner
                 Shri A. Ponnambalan, Southern India Mill’s Association
                 Shri S. Vallinayagam, Advocate, TANGEDCO
                 Shri V. Suresh, SRLDC
                 Ms. Jayantika Singh, POSOCO
                 Ms. Jyoti Prasad, POSOCO
                 Ms. Abilla Zaidi, POSOCO
                 Shri S.S. Barpanda
Record of Proceedings

Learned counsel for the petitioner submitted as under:

(a) The present petition has been filed for relaxation of the frequency band from 49.9 Hz – 50.05 Hz to 49.7 Hz - 50.3 Hz and for grant of exemption to wind and solar projects from the application of deviation limit of 150 MW or 12% of the schedule whichever is lower, as provided in the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Deviation Settlement Mechanism and related matters) Regulations, 2014 (Deviation Settlement Regulations).

(b) Since the wind and solar energy is unpredictable, these projects enjoy the MUST RUN status under Regulation 5.2 (u) of Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Indian Electricity Grid Code) Regulations, 2010 (Grid Code).

(c) The Regional and State Load Dispatch Centres should allow injection of power from wind and solar power projects and they should not restrict the same on the grounds of variation in the grid frequency or the schedule.

(d) The grant of exemption to wind and solar projects would not affect the grid stability.

2. Learned counsel for SLDC, Tamil Nadu Transmission Corporation Limited submitted that since the wind energy is available in a erratic manner, the MUST RUN status is subject to Regulation 5.2 (u) of Grid Code. The petitioner is backing down wind energy generation when it is harmful to system security and the same is being implemented by the distribution companies. He further submitted that there is a huge commercial impact on distribution companies as wind generation gets paid at preferential rate and at that time due to high system frequency, UI rate is low.

3. The representative of SRLDC submitted that wind generators are neither forecasting nor scheduling despite being mandated to do so in Grid Code since last 4 years. He further submitted that Data Acquisition Systems are also not in place at wind generators/ SLDC level and there is no visibility of real time wind energy generation. Moreover, wind energy generators have not provided low voltage ride through (LVRT) scheme. The representative of SRLDC submitted that the prayers of petitioner amounts to operation of 7200 MW installed capacity of wind generation as infirm power injection into grid without any control mechanism. He submitted that instead of attending to the shortfalls in the system, the petitioner`s request for relaxation of Deviation Settlement Regulations is not appropriate.

4. After hearing the learned counsels for the parties and representative of SRLDC, the Commission directed SLDC, Tamil Nadu Transmission Corporation Limited to submit data on affidavit by 14.8.2014 as to how many times SLDC asked for backing down of wind energy and conventional energy.
5. The Commission further directed for constitution of a Committee headed by the Chief (Engineering) of the Commission with representatives from the RE Wing to compile all data relating to the wind generation after consultation with the petitioner and respondents, look into the reasons for backing down of wind generation in the State of Tamil Nadu and submit a report by 29.9.2014. The petitioner and the respondents are directed to make available the required data to the Committee and provide necessary assistance as may be required by the Committee. The Commission directed that the due dates for filing the data should be strictly complied with.

6. The Commission directed that the decision to list the matter for further hearing would be taken after considering the report of the Committee.

By order of the Commission

Sd/-
(T. Rout)
Chief (Law)