

**CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
NEW DELHI**

Petition No. 423/MP/2014

Coram:

Shri Gireesh B. Pradhan, Chairperson

Shri M. Deena Dayalan, Member

Shri A.K Singhal, Member

Shri A.S Bakshi, Member

Date of Hearing: 31.10.2014

Date of Order : 21.11.2014

In the matter of

Petition under clause (7) of Regulation 8 of Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Grant of Connectivity, Long-Term and medium term open access in inter-State transmission and related matters) Regulations, 2009 as amended from time to time seeking permission for allowing injection of infirm power from Units 51, 52 and 53 of DGEN Mega Power Project for testing including full load testing for the period beyond 6 months up to the declaration of commercial operation of the respective units.

And

In the matter of

Torrent Energy Ltd,
Torrent House, Off Ashram Road,
Near Income Tax Circle,
Ahmedabad-380009

....Petitioner

Vs

1. Western Regional Load Despatch Centre
F-3, MIDC Area,
Marol, Andheri (East)
Mumbai-400093

2. Western Regional Power Committee
F-3, MIDC Area,
Marol, Opp, SEEPZ, Central Road
Andheri (East), Mumbai-400093



3. Torrent Power Limited,
Electricity House, Lal Darwaja,
Ahmedabad-380001

4. Torrent Power Limited,
Torrent House, Station Road,
Surat-3895003

5. PTC India Ltd
2nd Floor, NBCC Towers,
Bhikaji Cama Place
New Delhi-110006

....Respondents

Following were present:

Shri A.K. Ghosh, TEL
Shri Vinod Khanna, TEL
Shri S. Negi, TEL

ORDER

This petition has been filed by the petitioner, Torrent Energy Ltd (TEL), seeking permission of the Commission for injection of infirm power into the grid during testing including full load testing beyond the period of 6 months from the date of first synchronization up to declaration of commercial operation of the Units 51, 52 and 53 of DGEN Mega Power Project (1196.85 MW) (3 x 398.95 MW) (hereinafter referred to as 'the project') in terms of Clause 7 of Regulation 8 of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Grant of Connectivity, Long Term Access and Medium Term Open Access in inter-State Transmission and related matters) Regulations, 2009, ('Connectivity Regulations') as amended from time to time.

2. The Commission by its order dated 10.9.2014 in Petition No. 267/MP/2014 had allowed injection of infirm power from the Units of the project for testing including full load testing till 31.10.2014 or up to the declaration of Commercial operation of the respective units, whichever was earlier. The petitioner has submitted that it is not possible to achieve the COD by 31.10.2014 as just prior to start of last mile-stone of Performance Guarantee Test of Unit 53, a technical problem was detected in Low Pressure Steam Emergency Shut-Off Valve of Steam Turbine which needs to be replaced prior to start of performance guarantee test. The petitioner has submitted that COD is expected to be achieved by 30.11.2014.

3. The petitioner has submitted that the various steps to be concluded for start of Performance Guarantee Test of Unit-53 as under:

- (a) Importation of the Valve at site which would take around 3 weeks;
- (b) Fixing of the same by OEM Personnel would take around 1 week;
- (c) On successful fixation of the Valve, the Performance Guarantee Test shall take around 3-4 working days.

4. The petitioner has indicated the tentative schedule of the remaining commissioning activities to be undertaken before declaration of COD as under:

Activities pending to be completed (as on 27.10.2014)	Number of days expected for completion (on and from 27.10.2014)
Placing the Order on OEM, Dispatch & Delivery by OEM, Germany and receipt at the Site	24
Quality Check, replacement and testing	7
Performance Guarantee test	3
Total	34

5. The petitioner has submitted that based on the proposed action plan as above, the additional technical issue of Valve is expected to be resolved by 27.11.2014, after which the Performance Guarantee Test shall continue for 3 to 4 working days.

6. The petitioner has furnished the details of scenario of grid restrictions during the January 2014 to October 2014 as under:

	January 14	February 14	March 14	April 14	May 14	June14	July14	August 14	September 14	October 14	Total
Start Up not allowed	2	27	15	25	6	4	2	4	1	0	88
Restricted to 100-130 MW	2	18	7	11	5	3	2	5	1	0	55
Restricted to 200-250 MW	1	6	3	10	4	4	4	1	3	0	36
Instructed for shutdown	-	5	2	4	2	0	1	2	0	0	16
Total Restricted Event	5	56	27	50	17	11	11	10	5	0	197
Total Restricted Hours	29.5	299.1	153.2	178.5	75.9	21.17	19.4	77	30.1	0	883.9

7. The petitioner has submitted that the commissioning activities of the Project are based on procurement of commissioning fuel (RLNG) at market driven price, which is very costly. Even without any fault of the petitioner, WRLDC compelled it to curtail the testing including full load testing and commissioning activities on daily basis, which result in wastage of costly RLNG. The petitioner has submitted that WRLDC has been cooperating fully and has been allowing injection of infirm power upon request, after taking grid security into consideration. The petitioner has also submitted that since the delay is due to circumstances beyond its control and has a bearing on the capital cost of

the project, the IEDC/IDC shall be attributable to the project capital cost.

8. No reply has been filed by the respondents.

9. During the hearing on 31.10.2014, the representative of the petitioner reiterated the submission made in the petition.

10. We have considered the prayer of the petitioner. The fourth proviso to Regulation 8 (7) of the Connectivity Regulations, as amended from time to time, provides as under:

"Provided that the Commission may in exceptional circumstances, allow extension of the period for inter-change of power beyond the period as prescribed in this clause, on an application made by the generating station at least two months in advance of completion of the prescribed period:

Provided further that the concerned Regional Load Despatch Centre while granting such permission shall keep the grid security in view."

11. The petitioner has submitted that technical problem in Low Pressure Steam Emergency Shut-Off Valve of Steam Turbine shall be resolved by 27.11.2014 and has requested to grant permission for injection of infirm power into the grid upto 30.11.2014 for testing including full load testing.

12. Taking into consideration the technical problems faced by the petitioner in emergency shut-off valve of Steam Turbine which is to be procured from OEM in Germany, the time sought for procurement, replacement and then for performance test appears to be justified. We allow extension of time for injection of infirm power into the



grid for the commissioning tests including full load test of Units up to 30.11.2014 or actual date of commercial operation, whichever is earlier. We expect the petitioner to make all efforts to ensure the commercial operation of Units of the project by this date.

13. The petitioner`s prayer for allowing IEDC/IDC for the period up to COD cannot be considered in this petition, which is filed for extension of time for injection of infirm power. It is however, clarified that the extension of time granted as above shall not automatically entitle the petitioner for IEDC/IDC for the delay in declaration of COD from the scheduled COD and the same shall be considered on merits at the time of determination of tariff of the unit/generating station.

14. The petition is disposed of in terms of the above.

Sd/-
(A.S Bakshi)
Member

sd/-
(A. K. Singhal)
Member

sd/-
(M. Deena Dayalan)
Member

sd/-
(Gireesh B. Pradhan)
Chairperson

