Petition No. 374/MP/2014

Subject: Petition under Section 94 (f) of the Electricity Act, 2003 seeking extension of time in implementing the Commission’s order dated 20.2.2014 in Petition No. 146/MP/2013 and I.A. 36/2013 of SRLDC for providing protection systems having reliability, selectivity, speed and sensitivity and keeping them functional in terms of Regulation 5.2 (i) of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Indian Electricity Grid Code) (First Amendment), Regulations, 2012 read along with Regulation 3 (e) of Central Electricity Authority (Grid Standards) Regulations, 2010 and following best practices of O&M of transmission elements for ensuring security of the Southern Regional grid as well as the interconnected Indian Grid.

Date of hearing: 15.1.2015

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

Petitioner: Tamil Nadu Transmission Corporation Limited (TANTRANSCO)

Respondent: Southern Regional Load Despatch Centre (SRLDC)

Parties present: Shri S. Vallinayagam, Advocate, TANTRANSCO
Shri J. Rexline Terese, TANTRANSCO
Ms. Jayantika Singh, SRPC and SRLDC

Record of Proceedings

Learned counsel for the Tamil Nadu Transmission Corporation Limited (TANTRANSCO) submitted that the present petition has been filed seeking extension for time for completion of the following activities:

(a) Phase-I activities of providing numerical relays for feeder protection up to 31.3.2015;

(b) Auto Transformer protection for completion of other Phase–I activities such as provision of line VT, 5 core CT, Time synchronizing with GPS,
Disturbance Recorder and Event Logger and Phase-II activities up to 30.6.2016; and

(c) Renovation and Modernization of 230 kV Singarapet sub-station, 230 kV Singaperumalkoil sub-station and 230 kV sub-station Tondiarpet up to 30.6.2017.

2. Learned counsel for the petitioner submitted that for Phase-I, equipments have already been procured and are under implementation. Phase-I activities are likely to be completed by March, 2015.

3. Learned counsel for the petitioner further submitted that due to financial and time constraints, the petitioner could not implement the recommendation of protection audit. He further submitted that there are 6 to 7 230 kV sub-stations which are very old and require additional land and entire civil work has to be done for installation of new equipments.

4. The representative of SRPC and SRLDC submitted as under:

(a) The Commission vide order dated 20.2.2014 in Petition No. 146/MP/2013 directed constituents of Southern Region to implement recommendations of Protection Audit in two phases which were required to be completed by 1.5.2014 and 1.9.2014 respectively.

(b) KSEB had also filed Petition No. 86/MP/2014 for extension of time for completion of Phase-I and Phase-II activities. The Commission after hearing the KSEB, granted time by 31.12.2014 for completion of Phase-I activities and directed KSEB that time extension for Phase-II works would be considered on the basis of comments of SRLDC and SRPC. The Commission had also directed SRLDC and SRPC to file combined constituent-wise status report which has been submitted by SRPC and SRLDC to the Commission.

(c) SRLDC and SRPC had convened a meeting of all the constituents of Southern Region wherein detailed input has been given to each constituent regarding improvement for the State system. SRPC and SRLDC have also made efforts on their own part to call individual constituents and take a feedback on the status. Beyond this, SRLDC is operating the grid in extremely vulnerable condition and aggrieved by the status at Tamil Nadu, it has filed petition on LVRT before the Commission.

(d) Although Phase-I activities were required to be completed by 1.5.2014, the petitioner has sought extension of time till 31.3.2015 for completion of part of phase-I activities and for rest activities, it has sought time till 30.6.2016.

5. After hearing the petitioner and the respondent, the Commission expressed serious displeasure on the condition of protection system in the State of Tamil Nadu and
stressed that lack of fund must not be linked with implementation of protection system. The Commission directed the petitioner to submit all the procurement orders and submit the status report in this regard.

6. The Commission also directed the other constituents of the Southern Region to submit the status of implementation of protection system in their respective States.

7. The above information shall be filed by Tamil Nadu and other constituents of Southern Region by 31.3.2015. The Commission would take a view on the further listing of the petition thereafter.

By order of the Commission

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