CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION **NEW DELHI**

Petition No. 426/TT/2014

Coram:

Shri A.S. Bakshi, Member Dr. M.K. Iyer, Member

Date of Hearing: 03.02.2016 Date of Order : 26.02.2016

In the matter of:

Truing up of transmission tariff for 2009-14 tariff period under Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions of Tariff) Regulations, 2009 and determination of transmission tariff for 2014-19 tariff period under Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions of Tariff) Regulations, 2014 for assets under Vindhyachal Stage-II Transmission System in Western Region under Regulation 86 of Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Conduct of Business) Regulations, 1999.

And in the matter of:

Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. 'SAUDAMINI', Plot No-2, Sector-29, Gurgaon -122 001 (Haryana).

.....Petitioner

Versus

- 1. Madhya Pradesh Power Management Company Ltd. Shakti Bhawan, Rampur, Jabalpur-482008
- 2. Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Co. Ltd. Prakashgad, 4th Floor, Andheri(East), Mumbai-400052
- 3. Gujarat Urja Vikas Nigam Ltd. Sardar Patel Vidyut Bhawan, Race Course Road Vadodara-390007

- Electricity Department Govt. Of GOA, Vidyut Bhawan, Panaji- 403001
- 5. Electricity Department Administration of Daman & Diu, Daman- 396210
- Electricity Department
 Administration of Dadar Nagar Haveli,
 U.T., Silvassa- 396230
- Chhattisgarh State Electricity Board P.O Sunder Nagar, Dangania, Raipur Chhatisgaarh-492013
- Madhya Pradesh Audyogik Kendra Vikas Nigam (Indore) Ltd. 3/54, Press Complex, Agra-Bombay road Indore-452008..........Respondents

The following were present:-

For Petitioner: Shri Shashi Bhushan, PGCIL Mohd. Mohsin, PGCIL Shri A.M. Pavgi, PGCIL Shri M. M. Mondal, PGCIL Shri Rakesh Prasad, PGCIL

For Respondent: None

<u>ORDER</u>

The present petition has been filed by Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. ("the petitioner"), for truing up of capital expenditure under Regulation 6 of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions of Tariff) Regulations, 2009 (hereinafter referred to as "the 2009 Tariff Regulations") based on actual capital expenditure for the period from 1.4.2009 to 31.3.2014 and for determination of tariff under Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms

and Conditions of Tariff) Regulations, 2014 (hereinafter referred to as "the 2014 Tariff Regulations") for the period from 1.4.2014 to 31.3.2019 for assets under Vindhyachal Stage-II Transmission System in Western Region.

- 2. The respondents are distribution and transmission licensees who are procuring transmission service from the petitioner, mainly beneficiaries of the Western Region.
- 3. The petitioner has served the petition to the respondents and notice of this application has been published in the newspaper in accordance with Section 64 of the Electricity Act, 2003 ("the Act"). No comments have been received from the public in response to the notices published by the petitioner under Section 64 of the Act. The hearing in this matter was held on 3.2.2016. None of the respondents have filed their reply. The petitioner has submitted additional information vide affidavit dated 12.2.2016.
- 4. Having heard the representatives of the petitioner and perused the material on record, we proceed to dispose of the petition.
- 5. The brief facts of the case are as follows:-
 - (a) Investment approval was accorded by Ministry of Power vide its letter dated 6.10.1995 at a total capital investment of ₹65771 lakh, including IDC of ₹11029 lakh.The petitioner has built the transmission asset in the Western Region. The date of commercial operation of the transmission system has been taken as on 1.4.2000.

- (b) The tariff from 1.4.2004 to 31.3.2009was allowed vide order dated 14.2.2006 in Petition No. 73/2004 in accordance with CERC (Terms and Conditions of Tariff) Regulations, 2004. Further, the said order was amended vide order dated 29.4.2008 on account of change in admitted capital cost.
- (c) The tariff for the 2009-14 period was allowed vide order dated 5.5.2011in Petition No. 191/2010 in accordance with the 2009 Tariff Regulations. The tariff allowed for the tariff period 2009-14 is as under:-

Particulars	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Depreciation	3240.11	3240.11	3250.63	820.80	830.59
Interest on Loan	1818.81	1578.78	1347.76	1212.19	1155.64
Return on equity	892.65	892.65	903.10	924.38	935.22
Interest on Working Capital	189.86	188.62	188.23	139.41	143.09
O & M Expenses	1315.67	1390.95	1470.65	1554.74	1643.39
Total	7457.09	7291.10	7160.36	4651.51	4707.93

- (d) The Commission, vide order dated 5.5.2011 in Petition No. 191/2010, has determined the tariff for the tariff period 2009-14 based on admitted capital cost of ₹62343.23 lakh as on 31.3.2009.
- (e) The MAT rate applicable as on 2008-09 was considered to arrive at rate of return on equity for the tariff period 2009-14, which is required to be adjusted as per the actual MAT rate applicable for the respective year at the time of truing up of tariff for 2009-14 tariff period.
- (f) The instant petition was filed on 28.10.2014.



TRUING UP OF ANNUAL FIXED CHARGES FOR TARIFF PERIOD 2009-14

- 6. Clause (3) of the Regulation 6 of the 2009 Tariff Regulations provides as under:-
 - "(3) The generating company or the transmission licensee, as the case may be, shall submit for the purpose of truing up, details of capital expenditure and additional capital expenditure incurred for the period from 1.4.2009 to 31.3.2014, duly audited and certified by the auditors".
- 7. The petitioner has submitted the information as required under the 2009 Tariff Regulations for truing up of annual fixed charges for 2009-14 tariff period. The trued up tariff for 2009-14 tariff period has been worked out in the subsequent paragraphs.

Capital Cost

- 8. The petitioner has claimed admitted capital cost of ₹62343.23 lakh as on 31.3.2009 for the purpose of tariff.
- 9. Last proviso to Clause (2) of Regulation 7 of the 2009 Tariff Regulations provides that:-

"Provided also that in case of the existing projects, the capital cost admitted bythe Commission prior to 1.4.2009 duly trued up by excluding undischargedliability, if any, as on 1.4.2009 and the additional capital expenditure projected tobe incurred for the respective year of the tariff period 2009-14, as may beadmitted by the Commission, shall form the basis for determination of tariff."

10. The capital cost admitted as on 31.3.2009 vide order dated 5.5.2011 in Petition No. 191/2010 has been considered as the opening capital cost as on 1.4.2009 for determination of tariff in accordance with Regulation 7 of the 2009

Tariff Regulations. The admitted capital cost of ₹62343.23 lakh as on 31.3.2009 has been considered to work out the trued up tariff for the tariff period 2009-14.

Additional Capital Expenditure

- 11. The petitioner has claimed additional capitalization under Regulation 9(2) of the 2009 Tariff Regulations.
- 12. Clause (2) of Regulation 9 of the 2009 Tariff Regulations provides that:-

"9. Additional Capitalisation.

- (2) The capital expenditure incurred on the following counts after the cut-off date may, in its discretion, be admitted by the Commission, subject to prudence check:
 - (i) Liabilities to meet award of arbitration or for compliance of the order or decree of a court:
 - (ii) Change in law;

- (v) In case of transmission system any additional expenditure on items such as relays, control and instrumentation, computer system, power line carrier communication, DC batteries, replacement of switchyard equipment due to increase of fault level, emergency restoration system, insulators cleaning infrastructure, replacement of damaged equipment not covered by insurance and any other expenditure which has become necessary for successful and efficient operation of transmission system: "
- 13. The petitioner has claimed additional capitalization of ₹28.32 lakh and ₹30.38 lakh for 2010-11 and 2012-13 respectively towards entry tax and tower strengthening. In addition to the above, tower strengthening work has also been proposed during 2014-15 and 2015-16. In response to Commission's query regarding the copy of supporting documents for payment made towards entry tax, the petitioner vide affidavit dated 12.2.2016 submitted the copy of challan of SBI for payment made towards entry tax during 2010-11. Further, the petitioner

submitted that entry tax was deposited as per demand raised by the Government of Madhya Pradesh for a number of projects including the instant asset. Further, during the hearing the Commission sought the reasons for decrease in additional capitalization. The petitioner has submitted that additional capitalization for tower strengthening for Vindhyachal-Satna and Satna-Bina portion was approved by the Commission on the recommendation of CEA. The CEA report had stated that tower strengthening was required only in case of failure in Satna-Bina portion. The petitioner further submitted that after assessment of Satna-Bina portion, it was observed that there was no failure on the same and therefore no tower strengthening was done in Satna-Bina portion and the same was restricted to Vindhyachal-Satna portion. Further, on reassessment, it was observed that the requirement for tower strengthening reduced from 400 MT to 225 MT, due to which the additional capitalization towards tower strengthening has reduced.

14. The total capital cost of ₹62401.93 lakh including actual additional capitalisation claimed by the petitioner is well within the overall approved cost of ₹65771 lakh. Hence, considering the submissions made by the petitioner, we have allowed additional capitalization under Regulation 9(2)(i) and 9(2)(v) of the 2009 Tariff Regulations and accordingly capital cost for the purpose of tariff has been worked out as under:-dn in the table below:-

(₹ in lakh)

Cost as pe	Cost as per Investment Approval is ₹65771 lakh								
	Admitted	Addition	nal capita	alisation	1		Total	Total	
Particulars	capital cost as on 1.4.2009	2009- 10	2010- 11	2011 -12	2012- 13	2013- 14	additional capitalisa tion	capital cost as on 31.3.2014	
Approved in order dated 5.5.2011	62343.23	0.00	0.00	398. 53	413.29	0.00	811.82	63155.05	
Approved in this order	62343.23	0.00	28.32	0.00	30.38	0.00	58.70	62401.93	

Debt: Equity

15. Clause 2 of Regulation 12 of the 2009 Tariff Regulations provides that:-

"In case of the generating station and the transmission system declared under commercial operation prior to 1.4.2009, debt-equity ratio allowed by the Commission for determination of tariff for the period ending 31.3.2009 shall be considered."

16. The petitioner has claimed trued up Annual Fixed Charge based on debtdequity ratio of 91.81:8.19as on 31.3.2009,admitted by the Commission in its order dated 5.5.2011 in Petition No. 191/2010, as opening debt:equity ratio as on 1.4.2009. The transmission assets covered in the instant petition are existing assets, as the COD is prior to 1.4.2009. The admitteddebt:equity ratio of 91.81:8.19as on 31.3.2009 has been considered as opening debt:equity ratio as on 1.4.2009 for the purpose of truing up of the approved tariff of tariff period 2009-14, as given under:-

(₹ in lakh)

Funding	Amount	(%)
Debt	57236.85	91.81
Equity	5106.38	8.19
Total	62343.23	100.00

17. With respect to additional capitalization, the petitioner has claimed the debt:equity ratio of 70:30 for 2009-14 tariff period. The petitioner was directed to confirm that the actual equity infused for additional capitalization during the 2009-14 tariff period was not less than 30%. The petitioner has submitted that the actual equity infused for the additional capitalization during the tariff period 2009-14 is more than 30% of the capital cost. Further, as per Regulation 12(1) of Tariff Regulations'2009 equity deployed more than 30% shall be treated as deemed loan. Accordingly, equity has been claimed by the petitioner up to 30% of additional capitalization of the respective year as normative equity. The overall debt equity ratio as on 31.3.2014 for the instant transmission set including additional capitalization is as under:-

(₹ in lakh)

Funding	Amount	(%)
Debt	57277.94	91.79
Equity	5123.99	8.21
Total	62401.93	100.00

Interest on Loan ("IOL")

18. Regulation 16 of the 2009 Tariff Regulations provides the methodology for working out weighted average rate of interest on loan. The Commission in its earlier order dated 29.1.2015 in Petition No. 165/TT/2013 has held that:-

"...in case of floating rate of interest, any change in the rates of interest during the tariff period will be considered at the time of true up".

19. The petitioner has submitted the weighted average rate of interest on loan based on its actual loan portfolio and rate of interest. We have considered the submissions of the petitioner and accordingly calculated the IOL based on actual

interest rate submitted by the petitioner, in accordance with Regulation 16 of the 2009 Tariff Regulations. The details of weighted average rate of interest are placed at **Annexure-I** and the IOL has been worked out and allowed as follows:-

(₹ in lakh)

Particulars	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Approved vide order dated 5.5.2011	1818.81	1578.78	1347.76	1212.19	1155.64
As claimed by petitioner	1656.60	1258.20	1067.79	994.08	1015.82
Allowed after true up	1656.59	1258.20	1067.78	994.10	1015.82

20. The reduction in IOL is on account of reduced actual additional capitalization and lower weighted average rate of interest.

Return on Equity ("ROE")

- 21. Clause (3), (4) and (5) of Regulation 15 of the 2009 Tariff Regulations provide that:-
 - "(3) The rate of return on equity shall be computed by grossing up the baserate with the Minimum Alternate/Corporate Income Tax Rate for the year2008-09, as per the Income Tax Act, 1961, as applicable to the concernedgenerating company or the transmission licensee, as the case may be.
 - (4) Rate of return on equity shall be rounded off to three decimal points andbe computed as per the formula given below:

Rate of pre-tax return on equity = Base rate / (1-t)

Where "t" is the applicable tax rate in accordance with clause (3) of thisregulation.

(5) The generating company or the transmission licensee, as the case maybe, shall recover the shortfall or refund the excess Annual Fixed Charge onaccount of Return on Equity due to change in applicable MinimumAlternate/Corporate Income Tax Rate as per the Income Tax Act, 1961 (asamended from time to time) of the respective financial year directly withoutmaking any application before the Commission:

Provided further that Annual Fixed Charge with respect to the tax rateapplicable to the generating company or the transmission licensee, as the casemay be, in line with the provisions of the relevant Finance Acts of the respectiveyear during the tariff period shall be trued up in accordance with Regulation 6 ofthese regulations."

22. The petitioner has submitted that MAT rate of 11.330% applicable for 2008-09 was considered in the order dated 5.5.2011. However, for truing up purpose, the computation of RoE for the tariff period 2009-14 has been done on the basis of actual MAT rate applicable during 2009-14. The petitioner has submitted the variation in the MAT rate during 2009-14 as per the Finance Act of the relevant year for the purpose of grossing up of ROE, as below:-

Particulars	MAT Rate (t) %	Grossed up ROE (Base rate/(1-t)) %
2009-10	16.995	18.674
2010-11	19.931	19.358
2011-12	20.008	19.377
2012-13	20.008	19.377
2013-14	20.961	19.610

23. Accordingly, the ROE as trued up is as shown in the table below:-

(₹ in lakh)

					(
Particulars	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Approved vide order dated 5.5.2011	892.65	892.65	903.10	924.38	935.22
As claimed by petitioner	953.56	989.31	991.11	991.99	1004.81
Allowed after true up	953.57	989.32	991.11	991.99	1004.81

24. The variation in return on equity is due to increase in the applicable MAT rate for the purpose of grossing up of base rate of return on equity.

Depreciation

25. Clause (42) of Regulation 3 of the 2009 Tariff Regulations defines useful life as follows:-



"useful life' in relation to a unit of a generating station and transmission system from the COD shall mean the following, namely:-

(c) AC and DC sub-station (d) Hydro generating station (e) Transmission line

35 years"

25 years

35 years

26. Clause (4) of Regulation 17 of the 2009 Tariff Regulations provides as follows:-

"17. Depreciation:

(4) Depreciation shall be calculated annually based on Straight Line Method and at rates specified in Appendix-III to these regulations for the assets of the generating station and transmission system:

Provided that, the remaining depreciable value as on 31st March of the yearclosing after a period of 12 years from date of commercial operation shall bespread over the balance useful life of the assets."

- 27. The Commission, in its order dated 5.5.2011, has worked out the depreciation in accordance with Regulation 17 of the 2009 Tariff Regulations.
- 28. The weighted average useful life of the transmission asset has been considered as per Regulation 3 (42) and 17 (4) of the 2009 Tariff Regulations. For the purpose of calculation, the weighted average useful life of the asset as on COD has been considered as 32 years. The depreciation for the tariff period 2009-14 has been worked out in accordance with Regulation 17 of the 2009 Tariff Regulations based on admitted capital expenditure as under.

Particulars	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Approved vide order dated 5.5.2011	3240.11	3240.11	3250.63	820.80	830.59
As claimed by petitioner	3240.11	3240.86	3241.61	795.93	796.65
Allowed after true up	3240.11	3240.86	3241.61	795.94	796.66

Operation & Maintenance Expenses ("O&M Expenses")

29. The petitioner has computed O&M expenses for the assets mentioned in the petition and in accordance with the O&M norms for lines and bays specified in Regulation 19(g) of the 2009 Tariff Regulations. The O&M Expenses claimed by the petitioner for tariff period 2009-14 is same as that approved in the tariff order dated5.5.2011in Petition No. 191/2010. Accordingly, the O&M Expenses claimed by the petitioner, allowed and trued up are the same, and they are as follows:-

(₹ in lakh)

Particulars	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Approved vide order dated 5.5.2011	1315.67	1390.95	1470.65	1554.74	1643.39
As claimed by petitioner	1315.67	1390.95	1470.65	1554.74	1643.39
Allowed after true up	1315.67	1390.95	1470.65	1554.74	1643.39

Interest on working capital("IWC")

- 30. Sub-clause (c) of clause (1) of Regulation 18 of the 2009 Tariff Regulations provides the components of the working capital for the transmission system and clause (3) of Regulation 18 of the 2009 Tariff Regulations provides for the rate of interest of working capital.
- 31. The petitioner has submitted that the rate of interest on working capital has been considered as 12.25% as per clause (3) of Regulation 18 of the 2009 Tariff Regulations and the components of working capital are also considered in accordance with Sub-clause (c) of clause (1) of Regulation 18 of the 2009 Tariff Regulations.

32. The Commission, vide order dated 5.5.2011 in Petition No. 191/2010, hasapproved rate of interest on working capital as 12.25% as applicable for 2008-09. In accordance with clause (3) of Regulation 18 of the 2009 Tariff Regulations, as amended, rate of interest on working capital shall be on normative basis and in case of transmission assets declared under commercial operation prior to 1.4.2009, shall be equal to short-term Prime Lending Rate as applicable as on 1.4.2009. State Bank of India short-term Prime Lending Rateon 1.4.2009 was 12.25%. Therefore, interest rate of 12.25% has been considered to work out the interest on working capital in the instant case.

33. The IWC trued up is as under:-

(₹ in lakh)

Particulars	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Maintenance Spares	197.35	208.64	220.60	233.21	246.51
O & M expenses	109.64	115.91	122.55	129.56	136.95
Receivables	1225.61	1177.22	1159.20	745.42	766.93
Total	1532.60	1501.77	1502.35	1108.19	1150.39
Rate of Interest (%)	12.25	12.25	12.25	12.25	12.25
Interest	187.74	183.97	184.04	135.75	140.92

(₹ in lakh)

Particulars	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Approved vide order dated 5.5.2011	189.86	188.62	188.23	139.41	143.09
As claimed by petitioner	187.74	183.97	184.04	135.75	140.92
Allowed after true up	187.74	183.97	184.04	135.75	140.92

34. The variation in IWC is on account of variation in receivables due to variation in additional capitalisation and variation in ROE on account of applicable MAT rate during 2009-14 tariff period.

ANNUAL FIXED CHARGES FOR 2009-14 TARIFF PERIOD

35. The detailed computation of the various components of the trued up annual fixed charges after the detailed scrutiny for the transmission asset for the tariff period 2009-14 isallowed as below:-

				(< 111 14	
Particulars	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Gross Block					
Gross Opening Block	62343.23	62343.23	62371.55	62371.55	62401.93
Additional Capitalisation	0.00	28.32	0.00	30.38	0.00
Gross Closing Block	62343.23	62371.55	62371.55	62401.93	62401.93
Average Gross Block	62343.23	62357.39	62371.55	62386.74	62401.93
Depreciation					
Rate of Depreciation (%)	5.197	5.197	5.197	1.276	1.277
Depreciable Value	55593.31	55606.05	55618.79	55632.46	55646.14
Elapsed Life (Beginning of year)	9	10	11	12	13
Weighted Balance Useful life	23	22	21	20	19
Remaining Depreciable Value	25602.18	22374.81	19146.70	15918.76	15136.49
Depreciation	3240.11	3240.86	3241.61	795.94	796.66
Interest on Loan					
Gross Normative Loan	57236.85	57236.85	57256.67	57256.67	57277.94
Cumulative Repayment upto	29991.13	33231.24	36472.10	39713.70	40509.64
Previous Year					
Net Loan-Opening	27245.72	24005.61	20784.58	17542.97	16768.30
Additional Capitalisation	0.00	19.82	0.00	21.27	0.00
Repayment during the year	3240.11	3240.86	3241.61	795.94	796.66
Net Loan-Closing	24005.61	20784.58	17542.97	16768.30	15971.64
Average Loan	25625.66	22395.09	19163.77	17155.63	16369.97
Weighted Average Rate of Interest	6.4646	5.6182	5.5718	5.7946	6.2054
on Loan					
Interest	1656.59	1258.20	1067.78	994.10	1015.82
B					
Return on Equity					
Opening Equity	5106.38	5106.38	5114.88	5114.88	5123.99
Additional Capitalisation	0.00	8.50	0.00	9.11	0.00
Closing Equity	5106.38	5114.88	5114.88	5123.99	5123.99
Average Equity	5106.38	5110.63	5114.88	5119.43	5123.99
Return on Equity (Base Rate) (%)	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50
Tax rate for the year (%)	16.995	19.931	20.008	20.008	20.961

Particulars	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Rate of Return on Equity (%)	18.674	19.358	19.377	19.377	19.610
Return on Equity (Pre Tax)	953.57	989.32	991.11	991.99	1004.81
Interest on Working Capital					
Maintenance Spares	197.35	208.64	220.60	233.21	246.51
O & M expenses	109.64	115.91	122.55	129.56	136.95
Receivables	1225.61	1177.22	1159.20	745.42	766.93
Total	1532.60	1501.77	1502.35	1108.19	1150.39
Interest	187.74	183.97	184.04	135.75	140.92
Annual Transmission Charges					
Depreciation	3240.11	3240.86	3241.61	795.94	796.66
Interest on Loan	1656.59	1258.20	1067.78	994.10	1015.82
Return on Equity	953.57	989.32	991.11	991.99	1004.81
Interest on Working Capital	187.74	183.97	184.04	135.75	140.92
O & M Expenses	1315.67	1390.95	1470.65	1554.74	1643.39
Total	7353.68	7063.29	6955.18	4472.52	4601.60

DETERMINATION OF ANNUAL TRANSMISSION CHARGES FOR 2014-19

36. The petitioner has claimed the transmission charges as under:-

(₹ in lakh)

Particulars	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Depreciation	798.79	803.70	806.53	806.51	806.53
Interest on Loan	1009.46	1189.27	1127.66	1063.14	998.62
Return on equity	1007.33	1012.79	1015.73	1015.73	1015.73
Interest on Working Capital	147.91	155.07	156.63	158.08	159.64
O & M Expenses	1504.24	1554.57	1606.08	1659.34	1714.39
Total	4467.73	4715.40	4712.63	4702.80	4694.91

37. The details submitted by the petitioner in support of its claim for interest on working capital are given hereunder:-

Particulars	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Maintenance Spares	225.64	233.19	240.91	248.90	257.16
O & M expenses	125.35	129.55	133.84	138.28	142.87
Receivables	744.62	785.90	785.44	783.80	782.49
Total	1095.61	1148.64	1160.19	1170.98	1182.52



Particulars	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Rate of Interest (%)	13.50	13.50	13.50	13.50	13.50
Interest	147.91	155.07	156.63	158.08	159.64

Capital Cost

- 38. Clause (1) & (3) of Regulation 9 of the 2014 Tariff Regulations specify as follows:-
 - "(1) The Capital cost as determined by the Commission after prudence check in accordance with this regulation shall form the basis of determination of tariff for existing and new projects."
 - "(3) The Capital cost of an existing project shall include the following:
 - (a) the capital cost admitted by the Commission prior to 1.4.2014 duly trued up by excluding liability, if any, as on 1.4.2014;
 - (b) additional capitalization and de-capitalization for the respective year of tariff as determined in accordance with Regulation 14; and
 - (c) expenditure on account of renovation and modernisation as admitted by this Commission in accordance with Regulation 15."
- 39. The petitioner has claimed capital expenditure of ₹62401.93lakh as on 31.3.2014. The trued up capital cost of ₹62401.93 lakh as on 31.3.2014 is considered to workout tariff for tariff period 2014-19.

Additional Capital Expenditure

- 40. Clause 3(ix) of Regulation 14 of the 2014 Tariff Regulations provides as follows:-
 - "(3) The capital expenditure, in respect of existing generating station or thetransmission system including communication system, incurred or projected to be incurred on the following counts after the cut-off date, may be admitted by the Commission, subject to prudence check:
 - (ix) In case of transmission system, any additional expenditure on items such as relays, control and instrumentation, computer system, power line carrier communication, DC batteries, replacement due to obsolesce of



technology, replacement of switchyard equipment due to increase of fault level, tower strengthening, communication equipment, emergency restoration system, insulators cleaning infrastructure, replacement of porcelain insulator with polymer insulators, replacement of damaged equipment not covered by insurance and any other expenditure which has become necessary for successful and efficient operation of transmission system; and"

- 41. The petitioner has claimed additional capitalization of ₹85.52 lakh and ₹100.00 lakh during 2014-15 and 2015-16 towards tower strengthening under Clause 3(ix) of Regulation 14 of the 2014 Tariff Regulations.
- 42. As the total capital cost of ₹62587.45 lakh including additional capital expenditure during 2014-19 period is well within the approved apportioned cost of ₹65771 lakh, we have considered the petitioner's submission and have considered additional capitalisation of ₹85.52 lakh and ₹100.00 lakh during2014-15 and 2015-16 in accordance with Clause 3(ix) of Regulation 14 of the 2014 Tariff Regulations.

(₹ in lakh)

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Particular	Capital	Projecte	Projected additional Capital Expenditure (2014-19)					Capital Cost
s	cost as on							as on
	31.3.2014	14-15	15-16	16-17	17-18	18-19	Total	31.3.2019
Asset	62401.93	85.52	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	185.52	62587.45

Debt:Equity Ratio

- 43. Clause 3 of Regulation 19 of the 2014 Tariff Regulations specifies as under:-
 - "(3) In case of the generating station and the transmission system declared under commercial operation prior to 1.4.2014, debt-equity ratio allowed by the Commission for determination of tariff for the period ending 31.3.2014 shall be considered."

44. The admitted debt:equity ratio of 91.79:8.21 after true-up for the tariff period ending 31.3.2014 has been considered as opening debt:equity ratio as on 1.4.2014. The details of the debt: equity as on 1.4.2014 considered for the purpose of tariff for the 2014-19 tariff period is as follows:-

Particulars	Amount (in ₹ lakh)	(%)
Debt	57277.94	91.79
Equity	5123.99	8.21
Total	62401.93	100.00

45. Further, normativedebt:equity ratioof 70:30 has been proposed for additional capitalization for the tariff period 2014-19. The details of the debt:equity as on 31.3.2019 including additional capitalization is as follows:-

			(₹ in lakh)
Particulars	Amount		(%)
Debt		57407.80	91.72
Equity		5179.65	8.28
Total		62587.45	100.00

Interest on Loan ("IOL")

- 46. Clause (5) & (6) of Regulation 26 of the 2014 Tariff Regulations are reproduced as under:-
 - "(5) The rate of interest shall be the weighted average rate of interest calculated on the basis of the actual loan portfolio after providing appropriate accounting adjustment for interest capitalized:

Provided that if there is no actual loan for a particular year but normative loan is still outstanding, the last available weighted average rate of interest shall be considered:

Provided further that if the generating station or the transmission system, as the case may be, does not have actual loan, then the weighted average rate of interest of the generating company or the transmission licensee as a whole shall be considered.

- (6) The interest on loan shall be calculated on the normative average loan of the year by applying the weighted average rate of interest."
- 47. It was observed that actual loan has been completely repaid during 2014-15, hence no actual loan but normative loan is still outstanding. We have considered the weighted average rate of IOL on the basis of rate prevailing as on 1.4.2014 for 2014-15. Further for 2015-19 we have considered the last available weighted average rate of interest as per first proviso to clause (5) of Regulation 26 of the 2014 Tariff Regulations. The details of weighted average rate of interest are placed at Annexure-II and the IOL has been worked out and allowed as follows:-

(₹ in lakh)

Particulars	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Gross loan opening	57277.94	57337.80	57407.80	57407.80	57407.80
Cumulative Repayment upto previous year	41306.30	42105.10	42908.80	43715.32	44521.84
Net Loan-Opening	15971.64	15232.70	14499.00	13692.48	12885.96
Additions during the year	59.86	70.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Repayment during the year	798.80	803.71	806.52	806.52	806.52
Net Loan-Closing	15232.70	14499.00	13692.48	12885.96	12079.44
Average Loan	15602.17	14865.85	14095.74	13289.22	12482.70
Rate of Interest (%)	6.4699	6.4699	6.4699	6.4699	6.4699
Interest	1009.45	961.81	911.98	859.80	807.62

Return on Equity("ROE")

- 48. Clause (1)& (2) of Regulation 24 and Clause (2) of Regulation 25 of the 2014 Tariff Regulations specify as under:-
 - "24. Return on Equity: (1) Return on equity shall be computed inrupee terms, on the equity base determined in accordance with regulation 19.

(2) Return on equity shall be computed at the base rate of 15.50% for thermal generating stations, transmission system including communication system"

"25. Tax on Return on Equity:

(2) Rate of return on equity shall be rounded off to three decimal places and shall be computed as per the formula given below:

Rate of pre-tax return on equity = Base rate / (1-t)

Where "t" is the effective tax rate in accordance with Clause (1) of this regulation and shall be calculated at the beginning of every financial year based on the estimated profit and tax to be paid estimated in line with the provisions of the relevant Finance Act applicable for that financial year to the company on pro-rata basis by excluding the income of non-generation or non-transmission business, as the case may be, and the corresponding tax thereon. In case of generating company or transmission licensee paying Minimum Alternate Tax (MAT), "t" shall be considered as MAT rate including surcharge and cess."

- 49. The petitioner has computed ROE at the rate of 19.610% after grossing up the ROE with MAT rate as per the above Regulation. The petitioner has further submitted that the grossed up ROE is subject to truing up based on the actual tax paid along with any additional tax or interest, duly adjusted for any refund of tax including the interest received from IT authorities, pertaining to the tariff period 2014-19 on actual gross income of any financial year. Any under-recovery or over-recovery of grossed up ROE after truing up shall be recovered or refunded to the beneficiaries on year to year basis.
- 50. The petitioner has further submitted that adjustment due to any additional tax demand including interest duly adjusted for any refund of the tax including interest received from IT authorities shall be recoverable/adjustableafter completion of income tax assessment of the financial year.

51. We have considered the submissions made by the petitioner.Regulation 24 read with Regulation 25 of the 2014 Tariff Regulations provides for grossing up of return on equity with the effective tax rate for the purpose of return on equity. It further provides that in case the generating company or transmission licensee is paying Minimum Alternative Tax (MAT), the MAT rate including surcharge and cess will be considered for the grossing up of return on equity. The petitioner has submitted that MAT rate is applicable to the petitioner's company. Accordingly, the MAT rate applicable during 2013-14 has been considered for the purpose of return on equity, which shall be trued up with actual tax rate in accordance with Regulation 25 (3) of the 2014 Tariff Regulations. Accordingly, the ROE determined by the Commission is given below:-

(₹ in lakh)

Particulars	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Opening Equity	5123.99	5149.65	5179.65	5179.65	5179.65
Additional Capitalisation	25.66	30.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Closing Equity	5149.65	5179.65	5179.65	5179.65	5179.65
Average Equity	5136.82	5164.65	5179.65	5179.65	5179.65
Return on Equity (Base Rate) (%)	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50
MAT rate for the year (%)	20.961	20.961	20.961	20.961	20.961
Rate of Return on Equity (Pre Tax) (%)	19.610	19.610	19.610	19.610	19.610
Return on Equity (Pre Tax)	1007.33	1012.79	1015.73	1015.73	1015.73

Depreciation

52. Clause (2), (5) and (6) of Regulation 27 of the 2014 Tariff Regulations provide as follows:-

"27. Depreciation:

(2) The value base for the purpose of depreciation shall be the capital cost of the asset admitted by the Commission. In case of multiple units of a generating



station or multiple elements of transmission system, weighted average life for the generating station of the transmission system shall be applied. Depreciation shall be chargeable from the first year of commercial operation. In case of commercial operation of the asset for part of the year, depreciation shall be charged on pro rata basis"

"(5) Depreciation shall be calculated annually based on Straight Line Method and at rates specified in Appendix-II to these regulations for the assets of the generating station and transmission system:

Provided that the remaining depreciable value as on 31st March of the year closing after a period of 12 years from the effective date of commercial operation of the station shall be spread over the balance useful life of the assets.

- (6) In case of the existing projects, the balance depreciable value as on 1.4.2014 shall be worked out by deducting the cumulative depreciation as admitted by the Commission upto 31.3.2014 from the gross depreciable value of the assets."
- 53. The petitioner has computed depreciation considering capital expenditure of ₹62401.93lakh as on 31.3.2014 for the tariff period 2014-19.
- 54. We have considered the submission made by the petitioner with reference to depreciation. Depreciation is allowed as provided under Regulation 27 of the 2014 Tariff Regulations. The details of the depreciation allowed isgiven hereunder:-

Particulars	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Opening Gross block	62401.93	62487.45	62587.45	62587.45	62587.45
Additional Capitalisation	85.52	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Gross block at the end of the year	62487.45	62587.45	62587.45	62587.45	62587.45
Average gross block	62444.69	62537.45	62587.45	62587.45	62587.45
Freehold Land	572.89	572.89	572.89	572.89	572.89
Rate of Depreciation (%)	1.279	1.285	1.289	1.289	1.289
Depreciable Value	55684.62	55768.10	55813.10	55813.10	55813.10
Elapsed Life of the assets at beginning of the year	14	15	16	17	18
Weighted Balance Useful life of the assets	18	17	16	15	14

Particulars	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Remaining Depreciable Value	14378.32	13663.01	12904.30	12097.78	11291.26
Depreciation	798.80	803.71	806.52	806.52	806.52

Operation & Maintenance Expenses ("O&M Expenses")

55. The petitioner has computed normative O&M Expenses as per sub-clause (a) of clause (3) of Regulation 29 of the 2014 Tariff Regulations. Accordingly, the petitioner's entitlement to O&M expenses havebeen worked out as given hereunder:-

Particulars	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
O&M Expense for line					
Norm (₹ lakh/km)					
Double Circuit (Twin and Triple Conductor)	0.707	0.731	0.755	0.780	0.806
Single Circuit (Twin and Triple Conductor)	0.404	0.418	0.432	0.446	0.461
Asset (km)					
400 kV D/C Vindhyachal Satna ckt-I and II	267	267	267	267	267
400 kV D/C Satna-Bina ckt-I and II	276	276	276	276	276
400 kV S/C Korba Raipur ckt-II	199	199	199	199	199
400 kV D/C LILO of Korba Bhilai III at Raipur	0	0	9	9	9
400 kV D/C LILO of ckt- II of D/C Bhilai Candrapur line at Raipur	12	12	12	12	12
Total O&M Expense (line) (₹lakh)	479.144	495.466	511.788	528.674	546.323
O&M Expense for Bay					
Norm (₹lakh/Bay)					
220 kV	60.30	62.30	64.37	66.51	68.71
Bays					
220 kV	17	17	17	17	17

Particulars	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Total O&M expense (Bay) (₹lakh)	1025.10	1059.10	1094.29	1130.67	1168.07
Total O&M expense (Line and bays) (₹ lakh)	1504.24	1554.57	1606.08	1659.34	1714.39

- 56. The petitioner has submitted that norms for O&M Expenses for the tariff period 2014-19 have been arrived on the basis of normalized actual O&M Expenses during the period 2008-13. The petitioner has further submitted that the wage revision of the employees of the petitioner Company is due during 2014-19 and actual impact of wage hike, which will be effective at a future date, has not been factored in fixation of the normative O&M rate specified for the tariff period 2014-19. The petitioner has prayed to be allowed to approach the Commission for suitable revision in the norms of O&M Expenses for claiming the impact of such increase.
- 57. The O&M Expenses have been worked out as per the norms of O&M Expenses specified in the 2014 Tariff Regulations. As regards impact of wage revision, we would like to clarify that any application filed by the petitioner in this regard will be dealt with in accordance with the appropriate provisions of the 2014 Tariff Regulations.
- 58. The details of O&M Expenses allowed are given hereunder:-

Particulars	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
O&M Expenses Allowed	1504.24	1554.57	1606.08	1659.34	1714.39

Interest on Working Capital ("IWC")

59. Clause 1 (c) of Regulation 28 and Clause 5 of Regulation 3 of the 2014

Tariff Regulations specify as follows:

"28. Interest on Working Capital

- (c)(i) Receivables equivalent to two months of fixed cost;
- (ii) Maintenance spares @ 15% of operation and maintenance expenses specified in regulation 29; and
- (iii) Operation and maintenance expenses for one month"
- "(5)Bank Rate' means the base rate of interest as specified by the State Bank of India from time to time or any replacement thereof for the time being in effect plus 350 basis points;"
- 60. The petitioner has submitted that it has computed Interest on working capital for the tariff period 2014-19 considering the SBI Base Rate as on 1.4.2014plus 350 basis points. The rate of interest on working capital considered is 13.50%.
- 61. The interest on working capital is worked out in accordance with Regulation 28 of the 2014 Tariff Regulations. The rate of interest on working capital considered is 13.50% (SBI Base Rate of 10% plus 350 basis points). The interest on working capital as determined by the Commission is shown in the table below:-

Particulars	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Maintenance Spares	225.64	233.18	240.91	248.90	257.16
O & M expenses	125.35	129.55	133.84	138.28	142.87
Receivables	744.62	747.12	748.66	749.13	749.92
Total	1095.61	1109.85	1123.41	1136.31	1149.94
Rate of Interest (%)	13.50	13.50	13.50	13.50	13.50
Interest	147.91	149.83	151.66	153.40	155.24



Annual Transmission Charges

The detailed computation of the various components of the annual fixed 62. charges for the transmission asset for the tariff period 2014-19is summarised below:-

Particulars	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Gross Block					
Opening Gross Block	62401.93	62487.45	62587.45	62587.45	62587.45
Additional Capitalisation	85.52	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Closing Gross Block	62487.45	62587.45	62587.45	62587.45	62587.45
Average Gross Block	62444.69	62537.45	62587.45	62587.45	62587.45
Depreciation					
Rate of Depreciation (%)	1.279	1.285	1.289	1.289	1.289
Depreciable Value	55684.62	55768.10	55813.10	55813.10	55813.10
Elapsed Life (Beginning of the year)	14	15	16	17	18
Weighted Balance Useful life of the assets	18	17	16	15	14
Remaining Depreciable Value	14378.32	13663.01	12904.30	12097.78	11291.26
Depreciation	798.80	803.71	806.52	806.52	806.52
Interest on Loan					
Gross Normative Loan	57277.94	57337.80	57407.80	57407.80	57407.80
Cumulative Repayment upto Previous Year	41306.30	42105.10	42908.80	43715.32	44521.84
Net Loan-Opening	15971.64	15232.70	14499.00	13692.48	12885.96
Additions	59.86	70.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Repayment during the year	798.80	803.71	806.52	806.52	806.52
Net Loan-Closing	15232.70	14499.00	13692.48	12885.96	12079.44
Average Loan	15602.17	14865.85	14095.74	13289.22	12482.70
Weighted Average Rate of Interest on Loan	6.4699	6.4699	6.4699	6.4699	6.4699
Interest	1009.45	961.81	911.98	859.80	807.62
Return on Equity					
Opening Equity	5123.99	5149.65	5179.65	5179.65	5179.65

Particulars	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Additions	25.66	30.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Closing Equity	5149.65	5179.65	5179.65	5179.65	5179.65
Average Equity	5136.82	5164.65	5179.65	5179.65	5179.65
Return on Equity (Base Rate) (%)	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50
MAT Rate for the year 2013-14 (%)	20.961	20.961	20.961	20.961	20.961
Rate of Return on Equity (Pre Tax) (%)	19.610	19.610	19.610	19.610	19.610
Return on Equity (Pre Tax)	1007.33	1012.79	1015.73	1015.73	1015.73
Interest on Working Capital					
Maintenance Spares	225.64	233.18	240.91	248.90	257.16
O & M expenses	125.35	129.55	133.84	138.28	142.87
Receivables	744.62	747.12	748.66	749.13	749.92
Total	1095.61	1109.85	1123.41	1136.31	1149.94
Interest	147.91	149.83	151.66	153.40	155.24
Annual Transmission Charges					
Depreciation	798.80	803.71	806.52	806.52	806.52
Interest on Loan	1009.45	961.81	911.98	859.80	807.62
Return on Equity	1007.33	1012.79	1015.73	1015.73	1015.73
Interest on Working Capital	147.91	149.83	151.66	153.40	155.24
O & M Expenses	1504.24	1554.57	1606.08	1659.34	1714.39
Total	4467.72	4482.70	4491.97	4494.80	4499.50

Filing Fee and Publication Expenses

63. The petitioner has sought reimbursement of fee paid by it for filing the petition and publication expenses, in terms of Regulation 52 of the 2014 Tariff Regulations. The petitioner shall be entitled for reimbursement of the filing fees and publication expenses in connection with the present petition, directly from the beneficiaries on pro-rata basis in accordance with clause (1) of Regulation 52 of the 2014 Tariff Regulations.



Licence Fee and RLDC Fees and Charges

64. The petitioner has requested to allow the petitioner to bill and recover License fee and RLDC fees and charges, separately from the respondents. The petitioner shall be entitled for reimbursement of licence fee and RLDC fees and charges in accordance with Clause (2)(b) and (2)(a),respectively,of Regulation 52 of the 2014 Tariff Regulations.

Service Tax

65. The petitioner has sought to recover Service Tax on Transmission Charges separately from the Respondents, if at any time service tax on transmission is withdrawn from negative list in future. We are of the view that the petitioner's prayer is premature.

Deferred Tax Liability

66. The petitioner has sought recovery of deferred tax liability before 1.4.2009 from the beneficiaries or long term consumers/ DICs as and when materialized under Regulation 49 of the 2014 Tariff Regulations. The deferred tax liability shall be dealt as per Regulation 49 of the 2014 Tariff Regulations, as amended. Accordingly, the petitioner is entitled to recover the deferred tax liability upto 31.3.2009 whenever the same materializes, directly from the beneficiaries or long term transmission customers /DICs.

Sharing of Transmission Charges

- 67. The billing, collection and disbursement of the transmission charges approved shall be governed by the provisions of Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Sharing of Inter-State Transmission Charges and Losses) Regulations, 2010, as amended from time to time, as provided in Regulation 43 of the 2014 Tariff Regulations.
- 68. This Order disposes of Petition No. 426/TT/2014.

Sd/-(Dr. M. K. Iyer) Member

Sd/-(A.S. Bakshi) Member

ANNEXURE-I

DETAILS OF LOAN BASED ON ACTUAL LOAN PORTFOLIO 2009-14

(₹ in lakh)

Particulars	Interest Rate (%)	Loan deployed as on COD	Additions during the tariff period	Total
BOND VI-DOCO	13.13%	1079.00	0.00	1079.00
BOND VII-DOCO	13.64%	2660.00	0.00	2660.00
BOND XI-Option-II-DOCO	9.20%	2159.00	0.00	2159.00
BOND XIII-Option-II-DOCO	7.85%	2062.00	0.00	2062.00
CORPORATION BANK-DOCO-	10.60%	1330.00	0.00	1330.00
PUNJAB NATIONAL BANK-I-DOCO-	8.95%	2660.00	0.00	2660.00
ADB-I-DOCO-44.31	6.20%	44860.32	0.00	44860.32
Total		56810.32	0.00	56810.32

CALCULATION OF WEIGHTED AVERAGE RATE OF INTEREST ON LOAN FOR TARIFF PERIOD 2009-14

Particulars	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Gross Opening Loan	56810.32	56810.32	56810.32	56810.32	56810.32
Cumulative Repayments of Loans upto Previous Year	29646.08	33395.79	37477.92	41926.40	46670.85
Net Loans Opening	27164.24	23414.53	19332.40	14883.92	10139.47
Add: Drawal(s) during the year	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Less: Repayment(s) of Loan during the year	3749.71	4082.13	4448.48	4744.45	4857.49
Net Closing Loan	23414.53	19332.40	14883.92	10139.47	5281.98
Average Net Loan	25289.39	21373.47	17108.16	12511.70	7710.73
Rate of Interest on Loan (%)	6.4646%	5.6182%	5.5718%	5.7946%	6.2054%
Interest on Loan	1634.85	1200.80	953.24	725.00	478.48

ANNEXURE-II

DETAILS OF LOAN BASED ON ACTUAL LOAN PORTFOLIO 2014-19

Particulars	Interest Rate (%)	Loan deployed as on COD	Additions during the tariff period	Total
BOND VI-DOCO	13.13%	1079.00	0.00	1079.00
BOND VII-DOCO	13.64%	2660.00	0.00	2660.00
BOND XI-Option-II-DOCO	9.20%	2159.00	0.00	2159.00
BOND XIII-Option-II-DOCO	7.85%	2062.00	0.00	2062.00
CORPORATION BANK- DOCO-	13.00%	1330.00	0.00	1330.00
PUNJAB NATIONAL BANK-I- DOCO-	11.66%	2660.00	0.00	2660.00
ADB-I-DOCO-44.31	6.47%	44860.32	0.00	44860.32
Total		56810.32	0.00	56810.32

CALCULATION OF WEIGHTED AVERAGE RATE OF INTEREST ON LOAN FOR TARIFF PERIOD 2014-19

Particulars	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Gross Opening Loan	56810.32	56810.32	56810.32	56810.32	56810.32
Cummulative Repayment of loan upto previous year	51528.34	56810.31	56810.31	56810.31	56810.31
Net Loan Opening	5281.98	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Additions during the year	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Repayment during the year	5281.97	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Net Loan Closing	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Average Loan	2641.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Rate of Interest	6.4699%	6.4699%	6.4699%	6.4699%	6.4699%
Interest	170.87	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00