Petition No.248/TT/2019

Subject: Petition for approval of transmission tariff from COD to 31.3.2019 for transmission for one no. of asset covered under “Sub-station Works Associated with Additional Inter-regional AC Link for Import of Power into Southern Region i.e. Warora-Warangal and Chilakaluripeta-Hyderabad-Kurnool 765 kV Link”.

Date of Hearing: 29.6.2020

Coram:
- Shri P.K. Pujari, Chairperson
- Shri. I.S. Jha, Member
- Shri Arun Goyal, Member

Petitioner:
- Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. (PGCIL)

Respondents:
- Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Ltd. (KPTCL)

Parties Present:
- Shri S.Vallinayagam, Advocate, TANGEDCO
- Ms. Poonam Verma, Advocate, WKTCL
- Ms. Aprajita Upadhyay, Advocate, WKTCL.
- Shri A.K Verma, PGCIL
- Shri S.S. Raju, PGCIL
- Shri Zafrul Hasan, PGCIL
- Shri B.Dash, PGCIL
- Shri V.P Rastogi, PGCIL
- Dr. R. Kathiravan, TANGEDCO

Record of Proceedings

The matter was heard through video conference.

2. The representative of the Petitioner submitted that the instant petition is filed for determination of transmission tariff from COD to 31.3.2019 in respect of 2 nos. of 240 MVAR, 765 kV Switchable Line Reactors (6x80 MVAR, 765 kV, 1-Ph Shunt Reactor), along with Reactor Bays and 2 Nos. 765 kV line bays excluding PLCC, telecom equipment and line terminal equipment such as LA, CVT and Wave Trap" at 765/400 kV Kurnool Sub-station under “Sub-station Works Associated with Additional Inter-regional AC Link for Import of Power into Southern Region i.e. Warora-Warangal and Chilakaluripeta-Hyderabad-Kurnool 765 kV Link”. He submitted that the bays are part of the Project under Sub-station Works associated with additional Inter-regional AC Link for Import of Power into Southern Region i.e. Warora-Warangal and Chilakaluripeta-Hyderabad-Kurnool 765kV Link. He
submitted that the Petitioner was entrusted with the execution of line bays at Warangal, Hyderabad and Kurnool Sub-stations, while the transmission lines are being executed under TBCB route by Essel Infra through Warora Kurnool Transmission Company Ltd. (WKTCL). He further submitted that as per the Investment Approval dated 10.3.2017, the scheduled date of commercial operation of the instant asset was 9.11.2019 against which the asset was actually put into commercial operation on 11.3.2019. The instant assets were put into commercial operation before the scheduled date of commercial to control the voltage fluctuation at Kurnool Sub-station. He submitted that the early COD of the instant assets was discussed in the 35th SRPC meeting held on 2.2.2019. He submitted that there is no cost-over-run in the instant case and the early COD of the instant assets resulted in reduction of IDC and IDEC.

3. Learned counsel for TANGEDCO submitted that the line bays and reactors are under the scope of the Petitioner. He submitted that the Hyderabad-Kurnool 765 kV D/C line, being executed by WKTCL has not yet been completed. Therefore, in the absence of the line, there was no requirement of bays and reactors as these assets cannot be put into beneficial use. Therefore, the beneficiaries including TANGEDCO should not be burdened with the transmission charges till the COD of the transmission line is declared. As WKTCL transmission line is delayed, it is liable to bear the transmission charges for the period of delay. He further submitted that early COD of the instant assets and many other issues were discussed in the 35th SRPC meeting held on 2.2.2019 and there was no clear approval for early COD of the instant assets.

4. In response, the representative of the Petitioner clarified that that bays at Warangal, Hyderabad and Kurnool Sub-stations and line reactors are in the scope of the Petitioner, while the transmission line was to be executed by WKTCL. He submitted that usually the Petitioner uses the switchable line reactor as bus reactor to control the voltage. He submitted that in the 35th SRPC meeting it was discussed that as no transmission line is there, the Petitioner wanted to use the switchable line reactor as bus reactor to control the voltage issues at the existing Kurnool Sub-station.

5. Learned counsel of WKTCL, Respondent No. 18 submitted that Hyderabad-Kurnool 765 kV D/C TBCB line is being implemented by WKTCL and there is time over-run due to force majeure events and certain issues with TANGEDCO. She submitted that as the instant assets are used to control the voltage fluctuation in Kurnool Sub-station, WKTCL should not be held liable for the transmission charges from the COD of the instant assets as claimed by the Petitioner. She further submitted that WKTCL has filed Petition No. 334/MP/2020 seeking extension of the scheduled date of commercial operation on account of force majeure events and the same is pending adjudication. She further submitted that till disposal of Petition No. 334/MP/2020, no liability of transmission charges should be imposed on WKTCL. She further submitted that their reply was ready and requested the Commission to allow them to file the same.

6. RoP in Petition No.248/TT/2019
The Commission directed the Petitioner to submit the following information on affidavit with an advance copy to the Respondents by 16.7.2020:

(a) SCM/RPC approval for 2 Nos. 765 kV line bays excluding PLCC, telecom equipment and line terminal equipment such as LA, CVT and Wave Trap.

(b) The reasons for excluding the PLCC, telecom equipment and line terminal equipment such as LA, CVT and Wave Trap.

7. The Commission directed WKTCL to file its reply by 6.7.2020 and the Petitioner to file rejoinder, if any, by 14.7.2020. The Commission also directed the parties to comply with the directions within the specified timeline and further observed that no extension of time shall be granted.

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

By order of the Commission

Sd/
(V. Sreenivas)
Dy. Chief (Law)