Petition No. 69/TT/2020

Subject : Petition for determination of transmission tariff from COD to 31.3.2019 for two nos. of transmission assets under "Sub-station Works Associated with Strengthening of Transmission System beyond Vemagiri" in Southern Region.

Date of Hearing : 13.7.2020

Coram : Shri. I.S. Jha, Member
         Shri Arun Goyal, Member

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

Respondents : Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation Ltd. & Ors.

Parties Present : Shri Vallinayagam, Advocate, TANGEDCO
                 Shri S.S. Raju, PGCIL
                 Shri Zafrul Hasan, PGCIL
                 Shri A.K Verma PGCIL
                 Shri V.P Rastogi PGCIL
                 Shri B.Dash, 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 for the 2014-19 tariff period in respect of the following assets under "Sub-station Works Associated with Strengthening of Transmission System beyond Vemagiri" in Southern Region:

   a. Asset-1: 2 nos 400 kV line bays and 2 nos. 50 MVAR Switchable Line Reactors each at Cuddapah GIS and Madhugiri ends for terminating Cuddapah–Madhugiri 400 kV (quad) D/C line; and

   b. Asset-2: 2 nos 765 kV line bays and 1 no. 240 MVAR Switchable Line Reactor on each circuit of Vemagiri II-Chilakaluripeta 765 kV D/C line at Vemagiri-II Pooling Station (2 nos. 240 MVAR Switchable Line Reactors).

3. The representative of the Petitioner submitted that the associated transmission lines are being executed through TBCB route by Powergrid Southern Interconnector Transmission System Limited (PSITSL) and the instant bay extension works are being implemented by the Petitioner. He further submitted that Asset-1 was put into
commercial operation on 28.2.2019 matching with the associated transmission line executed under TBCB route and Asset-2 was put into commercial operation on 15.2.2019 before the TBCB line. He submitted that it was agreed in the 2nd SRSCT meeting held on 10.6.2019, the 2X240 MVAR Switchable Line Reactors of Vemagiri-Chilakaluripeta 765 kV D/C Transmission Line would be used as Bus Reactors at Vemagiri GIS to control voltage. Further, the over voltage problem at Vemagiri was also discussed in the 36th SRPC meeting held on 10.5.2019, wherein SRPC approved the declaration of COD of the referred bays along with reactors due to utilization of Line Reactors as Bus Reactors at Vemagiri subject to approval of Standing Committee.

4. The representative of the Petitioner further submitted that the estimated completion capital cost of the assets is within the apportioned approved capital cost. He submitted that there is reduction in cost approximately of Rs.1677 lakh and Rs.1621 lakh in case of Assets-I and II respectively, which is mainly due to decrease in IDC and IEDC cost because of early execution of the assets. He submitted that the Initial Spares are within the norms specified in the 2014 Tariff Regulations. He submitted that no reply to the petition has been received and prayed that the tariff as claimed in the petition may be granted.

5. Learned counsel for TANGEDCO sought two weeks’ time to file reply to the petition.

6. The Commission directed the Petitioner to submit the following information on an affidavit with advance copy to the Respondents by 17.8.2020:
   a) Year-wise details of discharge amount of Initial Spares for both the assets.
   b) Date of loan drawl / loan allocation in respect of foreign loan i.e. “SUMITOMO MITSUI JPY” for Asset-1.
   c) Revised Form-7 for both the assets clearly mentioning the clauses of Regulation under which the add cap is claimed.
   d) Form-15 submitted in respect of Assets-1 and 2 is same. Form-15 in respect of Asset-2 is required.
   e) Current Status of TBCB line and in case it has been executed, the relevant documents as per the 2014 Tariff Regulations.
   f) Details of year-wise discharge of the Initial Spares.

7. The Commission directed the Respondents to file their reply by 17.8.2020 with advance copy to the Petitioner and the Petitioner to file rejoinder, if any, by 25.8.2020. The Commission also directed the parties to comply with the specified timelines for filing of information, reply and rejoinder and further observed that no extension of time shall be granted.

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

By order of the Commission

sd/-

(V. Sreenivas)
Dy. Chief (Law)