

CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
New Delhi

I.A No. 4/IA/2022
in Petition No. 92/MP/2021

- Subject** : Petition by Essar Power Transmission Company Ltd. under Section 79(1)(c) and (d) of the Electricity Act, 2003 in terms of the direction issued pursuant to the 2nd Meeting of Validation Committee for the Application Period from 1.7.2020 to 30.9.2020 for implementation of Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Sharing of Inter-State Transmission Charges and Losses) Regulations, 2010 alongwith Interlocutory Application for interim relief for payment of provisional tariff for the Stage-1 assets from the PoC pool from July, 2020 with interest.
- Petitioner** : Essar Power Transmission Company Ltd (EPTCL)
- Respondents** : Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL) and Ors.
- Date of Hearing** : 29.3.2022
- Coram** : Shri P.K Pujari, Chairperson
Shri I. S. Jha, Member
Shri Arun Goyal, Member
Shri P. K. Singh, Member
- Parties Present** : Shri Alok Shankar, Advocate, EPTCL
Ms. Suparna Srivastava, Advocate, CTUIL
Shri Tushar Mathur, Advocate, CTUIL
Ms. Soumya Singh, Advocate, CTUIL
Shri Sachin Sharma, Advocate, CTUIL
Shri Manoj Dubey, Advocate, MPPMCL
Shri Partha Sarathi Das, CTUIL
Shri Pratyush Singh, CTUIL
Shri Swapnil Verma, CTUIL
Shri Siddharth Sharma, CTUIL
Shri Ranjeet Singh Rajput, CTUIL
Shri Kavya Bhardwaj, CTUIL
Shri Aditya Das Pradesh, WRLDC/POSOCO
Shri Alok Kumar Mishra, WRLDC/POSOCO
Shri Anindya Khare, MPPMCL



Record of Proceeding

Case was called out for virtual hearing

2. The learned counsel for the Petitioner submitted that the instant Interlocutory Application No.4/IA/2020 (IA) has been filed inter-alia seeking to hold that LILO of 400 kV S/C Vindhyachal-Korba Transmission Line ("LILO") at Mahan is a permanent element of ISTS network and tariff in full is recoverable from pool and to take on record the report submitted by CTUIL and WRPC. He submitted that PGCIL had filed Petition No. 132/MP/2018 seeking continuation of the LILO of 400 kV D/C Vindhyachal-Korba Transmission Line at Mahan TPS till finalization of suitable alternatives that may be identified through system studies to address the high short circuit levels. The learned counsel for the Petitioner submitted that the Commission vide order dated 21.1.2020 had observed in light of submissions of Petitioner and MPPMCL that even though LILO was considered to be a temporary element at inception, however subsequent system studies suggest that the LILO may be continued as a permanent element in order to enhance the grid stability. Further, it was also observed that as per the current system studies done by the Petitioner, continuance of LILO may lead to increase in short circuit level at Vindhayachal and that the CTU has stated that this issue needs to be studied in detail. Accordingly, the Commission had directed the CTUIL to conduct the system studies regarding the continuation or otherwise of the LILO. The learned counsel for the Petitioner submitted that pursuant to the direction of the Commission, CTUIL conducted the study regarding the increase in fault level at Vindhayachal owing to the LILO and the said study was also deliberated in WRPC and CEA. The learned counsel for the Petitioner further submitted that the CTUIL has submitted the "Study Report on LILO of Vindhayachal-Korba 400 kV Line at Mahan TPS" to the Commission vide affidavit dated 20.4.2021. Referring to the report dated 20.04.2021, the learned counsel for the Petitioner submitted that the LILO may be connected in contingent conditions under which the breaker at Vindhayachal end may be closed.

3. The Commission asked the Petitioner to refer to the report filed by CTU vide Affidavit dated 19.01.2022 based on WRPC recommendations, instead of referring to the old report of April, 2021. The Commission specifically asked the Petitioner to show the paragraph in the report submitted by CTU vide Affidavit dated 19.1.2022 where usage of LILO as contingency arrangement as indicated by the Petitioner has been recommended by the CTU.

4. Despite repeated directions to indicate the paragraph in the report of the CTU submitted by CTU vide Affidavit dated 19.1.2022 where continuation of LILO under contingency has been suggested, the Petitioner failed to show the same. Instead, the Petitioner submitted that the transmission license granted by the Commission vide order dated 10.4.2008 includes the LILO and accordingly prayed that the tariff for LILO may be allowed to be recovered from PoC mechanism.

5. The Commission directed CTUIL to make its submissions. Learned counsel appearing on behalf of CTUIL submitted that WRPC in its report dated 9.11.2021

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recommended Case-2 i.e LILO of Vindhyachal-Korba 400 kV Line should be bypassed. She submitted that a meeting was held on 23.12.2021, where WRPC, CEA, CTUIL were present, to review the modalities of implementation of the proposal recommended by WRPC in its report dated 9.11.2021 requested EPMP to inform the feasibility of implementation of LILO of Vindhyachal-Korba 400 kV line bypassed at Mahan TPS by keeping the breaker open at Essar Mahan. She submitted that after deliberations, it was decided by all the stakeholders including Petitioner that the LILO should be bypassed at Mahan TPS vide looping arrangement through jumpers at suitable location prior to the last D/C Tower. The line side isolators would be kept in open condition while Circuit Breakers at Mahan TPS end should be kept closed.

6. The learned counsel of CTUIL requested Commission to allow the technical representative from CTU to respond to the technical points raised by the Commission, which was allowed by the Commission. The technical representative appearing on behalf CTUIL submitted that the LILO normally is not required. However, LILO can be retained as contingency arrangement. He submitted that LILO can be kept in bypass and can be taken readily into service if required, in case both circuits of Essar-Bilaspur line go under outage.

7. The Commission observed that these submissions of CTUIL are contrary to what has been suggested by CTUIL itself in the report submitted by it vide Affidavit dated 19.1.2022. The Commission observed that as per the said report submitted vide Affidavit dated 19.1.2022, under contingency condition only SPS has been suggested and not such connection of LILO as stated by the technical representative of CTU.

8. The Commission observed that as per the report submitted by CTUIL vide Affidavit dated 19.1.2022, continuation of LILO is not required, and rather, continuation of LILO has adverse effect at Vindhyachal. The Commission observed that as per the report, even when Essar-Bilaspur line is available with connection of LILO, situation becomes unmanageable at Vindhyachal, it is not understood on what basis CTU is making the submissions that it shall be manageable when Essar-Bilaspur line is not available. The Commission asked the technical representative of CTU to show where in the report submitted by CTUIL vide Affidavit dated 19.1.2022 such arrangement of connection of LILO under Essar-Bilaspur line outage has been suggested. The technical representative of CTUIL failed to show the same.

9. The Commission further observed that CTUIL should confine its submissions to the report it has submitted to the Commission after detailed deliberations and due consultations with all the relevant stakeholders including the Petitioner and not the view points and interpretations of an individual.

10. CTU representative requested the Commission to grant time to further explain the Case-2. However, the Commission observed that such afterthoughts after a gap of three (3) months cannot be allowed. Having discussed with the stakeholders and deliberated the report in WRPC and CEA and only thereafter submitting to the



Commission, CTUIL cannot now bring a new view point to the issue. The Commission observed that it will consider the recommendations made in the report submitted by CTUIL vide Affidavit dated 19.1.2022, which have been prepared with the participation of CTUIL, CEA, POSOCO and WRPC.

11. After hearing the parties, the Commission reserved the order on the IA No. 4/IA/2022.

12. The Petition No. 92/MP/2021 shall be listed for hearing in due course for which a separate notice will be issued.

By order of the Commission

sd/-
(V. Sreenivas)
Joint Chief (Law)

