

BHAKRA BEAS MANAGEMENT BOARD

Issues relating to Draft IEGC-2022

Introduction of BBMB:

- On Reorganisation of the erstwhile state of Punjab on 1st November, 1966, Bhakra Management Board (BMB) was constituted under section 79 of the Punjab Reorganisation Act, 1966. The administration, maintenance and operation of Bhakra Nangal Project were handed over to Bhakra Management Board w.e.f. 1st October 1967.
- The Beas Project Works, on completion, were transferred by Government of India from Beas Construction Board (BCB) to Bhakra Management Board as per the provisions of Section 80 of the Punjab Reorganisation Act, 1966. Pursuant to this Bhakra Management Board was renamed as Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB) w.e.f. 15th May 1976. Since then, the Bhakra Beas Management Board is dedicated to the service of nation and is engaged in regulation of the supply of Water & Power from Bhakra Nangal and Beas Projects to the states of Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Delhi and Chandigarh.

Functions of BBMB:

- Administration, Operation & Maintenance of Bhakra-Nangal Project, Beas Project Unit-I (Beas Satluj Link Project) and Beas Project Unit- II (Pong Dam) in Northern India.
- The regulation of supply of water from Satluj, Ravi and Beas to the States of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan.
- The regulation and supply of power generated from Bhakra-Nangal and Beas Projects with Total Hydro Capacity of 2936.73 MW.

Indian Electricity Grid Code (IEGC)

- Currently IEGC-2010 is enforce with subsequent amendments.
- Central Electricity Regulatory Commission made Draft Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Indian Electricity Grid Code) Regulations, 2022 and sought comment/suggestions/objections in respect of this draft.
- BBMB's comment/suggestions/objections relates to Chapter 1,Para 2, Subpoint 3 of draft IEGC-2022.

Present IEGC's provisions in respect of BBMB

- Existing provision of IEGC-2010 (Section 1.3 of Chapter 1) in respect of scheduling of BBMB power houses is as under:-

“For the purpose of the IEGC, the generating stations of Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB) and Sardar Sarovar Project (SSP) shall be treated as intra-state generating stations, though their transmission systems shall be a part of the ISTS. This is because of the fact that only some of the states of Northern Region/Western Region have a Share in BBMB/SSP, and their generating units have to be scheduled and dispatched in a very special manner (in coordination with the irrigational requirements). The scheduling and despatch of the BBMB/SSP generation shall continue to be the responsibilities of the BBMB/ Narmada Control Authority (NCA), with the provision that it shall be duly coordinated with the respective Regional Load Despatch Centre and the beneficiaries.”

Present IEGC's provisions in respect of BBMB

From the said provision, the operating provisions in respect of BBMB is reproduced below :

“The scheduling of generating units of BBMB was recognized to be done in a special manner with a provision that it shall be duly coordinated with NRLDC & beneficiaries.”

It should also be appreciated that BBMB has been scheduling generation of its power houses after considering irrigation requirement, daily water inflows as well as hydraulic constraints in seamless coordination with NRLDC for more than two decades.

Provisions as per Draft IEGC-2022

In 2019, CERC constituted the expert group to review Indian Electricity grid code and other related issues. The expert group had submitted its report along with draft of IEGC. As per Draft IEGC 2022, the following has been incorporated(at Chapter 1,Para 2, Subpoint 3) in regard to BBMB:-

“The generating stations of the Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB) and Sardar Sarovar Project (SSP) shall be treated as regional entities and their generating units shall be scheduled and despatched in coordination with BBMB or Narmada Control Authority, as the case may be, having due regard to the irrigation requirements of the participating States.”

Shift from IEGC 2010 to IEGC 2022

BBMB projects are source of water supply for drinking as well as irrigation apart from their use for flood control. The water conductor system of BBMB has further downwards connectivity with states water conduct system. The scheduling of BBMB power houses is being done in with clear priority of management of water resources over that of power generation.

Responsibility of scheduling of BBMB power houses shifting from BBMB to NRLDC, as proposed in draft IEGC-2022, is with the assumption that irrigation requirement is single & only constraint for scheduling of generation units of BBMB. However scheduling of BBMB Power Houses is being done keeping in view various limitations of connected civil/hydraulic infrastructures of water conductor systems for eg. limitations on Nangal Dam, inflows pattern of Pandoh dam ,limitations on rate of fall in Balancing Reservoir, discharge from Baggi Control works etc apart from Irrigation demand of partner states.

Effects: BBMB coordinates with Irrigation authorities in real time for management of important water resources. Shifting of provision of scheduling to NRLDC will lead to delayed response to any changes/contingencies in respect of water conductor system of BBMB which may prove to be detrimental. **Further there will be no additional advantage gained by implementation of these change in provisions.**

Shift from IEGC 2010 to IEGC 2022

- Furthermore, BBMB has been constituted as per the provision of Punjab Re-organization Act, 1966 for Administration, operation & maintenance of Bhakra and Beas projects on behalf of its partner states viz states of Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh & UT Chandigarh, as such coordination with BBMB beneficiaries is also required while scheduling and despatch of BBMB generating units.
- Keeping in view the peculiar operation of BBMB, even in IEGC 2010, the scheduling and dispatch of the BBMB generating units was responsibility of BBMB, with a provision that it shall be duly coordinated with respective RLDC & beneficiaries. In proposed IEGC 2022, coordination with beneficiaries for scheduling of BBMB generating units has been done away with.

BBMB's Submission

It is requested that above mentioned concerns may please be considered while finalizing implementation of IEGC-2022 and continue with existing provisions of IEGC in reference to scheduling and despatch of BBMB power houses in proposed IEGC regulation also.



THANKS