

**CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
New Delhi**

Petition No. 133/TT/2023

- Subject** : Petition for determination of transmission tariff for the 2019-24 tariff period for Asset-I: "02 nos. 400 KV GIS Line Bays at 765/400 kV Varanasi Sub-station" covered under "Construction of 2 nos. of 400 kV Hybrid/GIS Line bays at Varanasi (PG) Sub-station" in the Northern Region.
- Date of Hearing** : 27.9.2023
- Coram** : Shri Jishnu Barua, Chairperson
Shri Arun Goyal, Member
Shri P.K. Singh, Member
- Petitioner** : Power Grid Corporation of India Limited
- Respondents** : Ajmer Vidyut Vitran Nigam Limited and 15 others
- Parties Present** : Ms. Supriya Singh, PGCIL
Shri Bipin Bihari Rath, PGCIL
Shri Vivek Singh, PGCIL
Shri Amit Yadav, PGCIL

Record of Proceedings

The representative of the Petitioner made the following submissions:

- a. The instant petition is filed for the determination of transmission tariff for the 2019-24 tariff period for 02 nos. 400 kV GIS Line Bays at 765/400 kV Varanasi Sub-station" covered under "Construction of 2 nos. of 400 kV Hybrid/GIS Line bays at Varanasi (PG) Sub-station" in the Northern Region. The Investment Approval (IA) of the project was accorded by the Competent Authority of the Petitioner's Company vide letter dated 31.3.2020.
- b. The COD for the transmission asset has been claimed as 25.11.2021 under Regulation 5(2) of the 2019 Tariff Regulations as the associated downstream transmission line under the scope of UPPTCL was not ready.
- c. As per Energization Certificate dated 26.10.2020 issued by CEA, the project was ready for charging, however, due to the non-availability of associated downstream network i.e. 400 kV D/C Jaunpur (UPPTCL)-Varanasi (PG) Transmission Line of UPPTCL, the asset was charged at no load on 23.11.2021. RLDC Certificate for No-Load charging as on 23.11.2021 has been submitted. Further, the details of intimation notices sent to UPPTCL regarding the readiness of 400 kV Line Bays at Varanasi (POWERGRID) Sub-station for facilitating connectivity to the downstream



network of UPPTCL viz. 400 kV Varanasi-Jaunpur Transmission Line have been submitted along with the instant petition. The inter-connected Jaunpur Sub-station was charged and synchronized on 18.11.2022 and was actually put into commercial operation in February, 2023.

- d. There is no cost over-run in the instant asset. The time over-run of 298 days was due to the prevailing COVID-19 pandemic. The Initial Spares claimed are within the norms under the 2019 Tariff Regulations.
- e. The information sought in the technical validation letter was filed vide affidavit dated 20.9.2023.

2. In response, to a query of the Commission, the representative of the Petitioner submitted that UPPTCL has been impleaded as a party. However, UPPTCL has not filed a reply in the matter. The Commission observed that it would like to hear UPPTCL, especially on the Petitioner's plea for approval of the COD of the transmission asset under Regulation 5(2) of the 2019 Tariff Regulations.

3. The Commission directed Respondents, including UPPTCL, to file their replies by 15.10.2023 with an advance copy to the Petitioner, who may file its rejoinder, if any, by 25.10.2023. The Commission also observed that the due date of filing the reply and rejoinder should be strictly adhered to, and no extension of time will be granted.

4. The matter shall be listed for hearing on 27.10.2023.

By order of the Commission

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

