In the matter of
Amendment to Indian Electricity Grid Code.

STATEMENT OF REASONS

The Commission had proposed to amend certain provisions of the Indian Electricity Grid Code (IEGC) for which comments/suggestions/objections were invited through public notice dated 4.7.2008. The amendments proposed were as under:

(i) Amendment of Clause 4.10:

(a) In the second sentence, for the words “to RLDC/SLDC”, the words “by RLDC” were proposed to be substituted.

(b) In the third sentence, for the words “RLDC/SLDC, as the case may be”, the words “appropriate data collection point on CTU’s system” were proposed to be substituted.

(c) In the last sentence, the words “and RLDC/SLDC” were proposed to be omitted.

(ii) Amendment of Clause 6.5:

(a) In sub-clause 6 of Clause 6.5, for the words and figures “by 5 PM”, the words and figures “by 6 PM” were proposed to be substituted.

(b) In the second line of sub-clause 8 of Clause 6.5, the words “bilateral interchanges/” were sought to be omitted.

(c) Sub-Clause 10 of Clause 6.5 were sought to be omitted."
2. Suggestions, etc., have been received from West Bengal State Electricity Transmission Company Ltd. (WBSETCL) and Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board (HPSEB).

3. WBSETCL has suggested that in clause 4.10 the words “RLDC/SLDC” should be substituted by “RLDC including SLDC”. It has been stated that for the agencies connected to both the CTU and the STU, the telemetry data is required by RLDC and SLDC against the CTU and the STU connections.

4. Clause 4.10 of the IEGC provides as under:

“4.10 Data and Communication Facilities

Reliable and efficient speech and data communication systems shall be provided to facilitate necessary communication and data exchange, and supervision/control of the grid by the RLDC, under normal and abnormal conditions. All agencies shall provide Systems to telemeter power system parameter such as flow, voltage and status of switches/transformer taps etc. in line with interface requirements and other guideline made available to RLDC/SLDC. The associated communication system to facilitate data flow up to RLDC/SLDC, as the case may be, shall also be established by the concerned agency as specified by CTU in connection agreement. All agencies in coordination with CTU shall provide the required facilities at their respective ends and RLDC/SLDC as specified in the connection agreement.”

5. It was not intended that the communication linkage up to the RLDC or SLDC was to be provided individually by the agency connected to the inter-State transmission network. However, it was found that some of the State Electricity Regulatory Commissions had adopted the provisions made in the IEGC for their State Grid Codes. This led to unintended interpretation of the provisions, and started causing problems of coordination. Acceptance of the suggestion of WBSETCL will defeat the purpose of the amendment proposed as it will amount to maintaining status quo. An agency is to be connected either to the CTU or the STU and cannot be
simultaneously connected to both. Accordingly, the suggestion received from WBSETCL is not being acted upon.

6. HPSEB has objected to omission of the words “bilateral interchanges” in clause 6.5.8 of the IEGC proposed in the draft amendments. According to HPSEB, it would affect bilateral interchanges adversely, particularly in case an hydro generating stations which are able to actualize the interchanges to a greater extent during evening hours up to 10 PM. HPSEB has pointed out that omission of the words “bilateral transactions” will amount to absence of flexibility to modify schedule which will have adverse impact on grid operation. As regards omission of sub-clause 10 of clause 6.5 of the IEGC, HPSEB has stated that in case hydro generating stations, the discharges for the next day can be got properly estimated only by 7 PM to 7.30 PM.

7. The amendments have been proposed to align the IEGC provisions with the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Open Access in inter-State Transmission) Regulations, 2008. As per these regulations, revision of schedules of transactions booked for day-ahead, whether bilateral or through a power exchange, is not permitted and any deviations are to be settled through UI mechanism. It is expected that a State utility fully assesses its demand-supply situation for the next day before entering into a bilateral contract for sale or purchase of power. Once the contract is entered into and scheduled, the question of revising these within a few hours should not arise. Therefore, we do not subscribe to HPSEB’s view that absence of flexibility to modify schedule will adversely affect the grid operation.
8. For the reasons that the suggestions made by WBSETCL and HPSEB have not been found to be convincing, we direct that draft amendments published to invite suggestions, etc, from the stakeholders be finalized and got published immediately in the official gazette.

Sd/-
(R. KRISHNAMOORTHY)  
MEMBER

Sd/-
(BHANU BHUSHAN)
MEMBER

Sd/-
(DR. PRAMOD DEO)
CHAIRPERSON

New Delhi, dated the 11th September 2008