

**CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
NEW DELHI**

Petition No. 394/MP/2025

Coram:

Shri Jishnu Barua, Chairperson

Shri Ramesh Babu. V, Member

Shri Harish Dudani, Member

Shri Ravinder Singh Dhillon, Member

Date of Order: 9th April, 2025

In the matter of

Petition under Section 79(1)(k) of the Electricity Act, 2003 read with Regulation 13 of Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Connectivity and General Network Access to the inter-State Transmission System) Regulations, 2022 and Regulation 19(2) & 19(3) of Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Indian Electricity Grid Code) Regulations, 2023 seeking permission for injection of infirm power beyond 31.3.2025 in case of Parbati-II Hydroelectric Project (800MW).

And

In the Matter Of:

NHPC Limited,
NHPC Office Complex,
Sector-33, Faridabad-121003.

...Petitioner

Versus

1. Northern Regional Load Despatch Centre,
(Power System Operation Corporation Limited)
18-A, Shaheed Jeet Singh Sansanwal Marg,
Katwaria Sarai, New Delhi -110016.

2. Northern Regional Power Committee,
18-A, Qutab Institutional Area,
Shaheed Jeet Singh Marg, New Delhi-110030.

3. Power Grid Corporation of India Limited,
“Saudamini”, Plot No.2, Sector-29, Near IFFCO Chowk,
Gurgaon- 122001, Haryana.

4. Parbati Koldam Transmission Company Limited,
5th Floor, JMD Galleria, Sector-48,
Sohna Road, Gurgaon-122018, Haryana.

5. Haryana Power Purchase Centre



Shakti Bhawan, Sector-6,
Panchkula-134109, Haryana.

6. Uttar Pradesh Power Corporation Limited,
Shakti Bhawan, 14-Ashok Marg,
Lucknow-226001, Uttar Pradesh.

7. Chandigarh Power Distribution Limited,
4th Floor, SCO 33 to 35,
Sector-34A, Chandigarh-160022.

8. BSES Rajdhani Power Limited,
BSES Bhawan,
Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019.

9. BSES Yamuna Power Limited,
Shakti Kiran Building,
Karkadooma, Delhi-110072.

10. Tata Power Delhi Distribution Limited,
Grid Sub-station Building,
Hudson Lines, Kingsway Camp,
Delhi-110009.

11. Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board,
Vidyut Bhawan, Kumar House,
Shimla - 171004, Himachal Pradesh.

12. Uttarakhand Power Corporation Limited,
Urja Bhawan,
Kanwali Road,
Dehradun - 248001, Uttarakhand.

13. Jaipur Vidyut Vitaran Nigam Limited,
Vidyut Bhawan,
Janpath, Jyoti Nagar, Jaipur-302005, Rajasthan.

14. Ajmer Vidyut Vitaran Nigam Limited,
Old Power House,
Hatthi Bhatta, Jaipur Road, Ajmer-305001, Rajasthan.

15. Jodhpur Vidyut Vitaran Nigam Limited,
New Power House,
Industrial Area, Jodhpur-342003, Rajasthan.

16. Power Development Department,
New Secretariat,
Jammu (J&K)-180001.

17. West Bengal State Electricity Distribution Company Limited,
Vidyut Bhavan, Sector-II, Block- DJ, Bidhannagar,
Kolkatta, West Bengal -700091.



18. Damodar Valley Corporation,
DVC Towers, VIP Road,
Kolkatta-700054, West Bengal.

19. Chhattisgarh State Power Distribution Co. Limited,
Danganiya P.O. Sunder Nagar,
Raipur-492013.

...Respondents

ORDER

This Petition has been filed by the Petitioner, NHPC Limited (hereinafter referred to as 'the Petitioner'), seeking permission from the Commission for injection of infirm power beyond 31.3.2025 in case of Parbati-II Hydroelectric Project (800MW) in the State of Himachal Pradesh in terms of Regulation 13 of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Connectivity and General Network Access to the inter-State Transmission System) Regulations, 2022 (hereinafter referred to as 'the GNA Regulations') and Regulation 19(2) & 19(3) of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Indian Electricity Grid Code) Regulations, 2023 (hereinafter referred to as 'the Grid Code'). The Petitioner has made the following prayers:

*“(1) Allow extension of time for injection of infirm power from all the **units of Parbati-II HE Project which are not declared under Commercial Operation by 0000 hours of 01.04.2025 beyond 31.03.2025 and upto 30.04.2025 or actual COD of individual units, whichever earlier**, as per provisions of Regulation 13 of Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Connectivity and General Network Access to the inter-State Transmission System) Regulations, 2022 and Regulation 19(2) & 19(3) of Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Indian Electricity Grid Code) Regulations, 2023.*

(2) Pass such further order or orders as may be deemed fit and proper in the facts and circumstances of the case”.

2. The Petitioner has submitted that the Petitioner company is constructing the 800MW (4x200MW) Parbati-II Hydroelectric Project in the State of Himachal Pradesh (hereinafter referred to as 'the Project') so as to harness the hydro potential of the lower reaches of the river Parbati with expected annual generation of 3124.60 MUs.

As per the CCEA sanction accorded by the Ministry of Power, Govt of India on 11th September 2002, the project was supposed to be completed within 7 years from the date of Govt. approval, i.e., by 11th September 2009. However, due to hindrances on account of various reasons such as delayed Forest clearance, natural calamities, strikes, uncertain & unpredictable adverse geological conditions in Himalayan terrain, delay on account of nation-wide lockdown due to the COVID-19 pandemic, etc., the project is now anticipated to be completed in March 2025 with a delay of 186 months as per the revised construction schedule.

3. The Petitioner has submitted that the scheduled COD of the generating station was 11.9.2009. Unit-I and Unit-II of the generating station were first synchronized with the grid on 14.9.2018 and 22.9.2018, respectively, with available water from Jiwa Nallah. However, due to the unavailability of surplus water, unit-I and unit-II could not be declared under commercial operation. Accordingly, with the prior permission of NRLDC, unit-I and unit-II of the generating station were re-synchronised with the grid on 5.7.2019 and 6.7.2019, respectively. The project has been generating infirm power since the synchronization of its units depending upon the availability of water. The Commission, in its order dated 7.2.2025 in Petition No. 112/MP/2025, had allowed the injection of infirm power of all four units of the Project up to 31.3.2025 and with the requisite approvals in place, the Petitioner has completed all pending works, including nallah works, excavation, and concrete lining of the Head Race Tunnel (HRT).

4. The Petitioner has submitted that as on 26.3.2025, it has conducted trial runs for Unit II and Unit III on 23.3.2025 and 25.3.2025, respectively, with Unit I scheduled for 27.3.2025 and Unit IV for 28.3.2025. The Petitioner was making all efforts to complete the testing and commissioning of all four units by 31.3.2025, aiming to

declare COD by 1.4.2025. However, due to certain technical eventuality, the Petitioner may have to carry out its testing and commissioning activities even after 31.3.2025 and therefore, is required to inject infirm power into the grid beyond 31.3.2025.

5. The Petitioner has submitted that presently, testing and commissioning of the project is under way. The Petitioner has already served notice for trial run of units of the project at MCR for 12 hours in compliance with Regulation 21 of Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Indian Electricity Grid Code) Regulations, 2023 as per the following schedule:

| Unit No. | Actual / Proposed date of trial run | Status of trial run |
|----------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Unit2 | 23.03.2025 | Successfully conducted on 23.03.2025 as per provision of IEGC Regulations, 2023. Certification of successful trial run from NRLDC is in process. |
| Unit 3 | 25.03.2025 | Successfully conducted on 25.03.2025 as per provision of IEGC Regulations, 2023. Certification of successful trial run from NRLDC is in process. |
| Unit 1 | 27.03.2025 | |
| Unit4 | 28.03.2025 | |

7. The Petition is admitted by circulation.

8. We have considered the submissions of the Petitioner. Regulation 13 of the GNA Regulations provides as under:

“13. Injection of infirm power and drawal of start- up power: Connectivity grantee shall be eligible to inject infirm power and draw start up power in accordance with the provisions of the Grid Code.”

9. Regulation 19 (2) and 19 (3) of the Grid Code provides as under:

“19. Drawal of start-up power and injection of infirm power

(1) A unit of a generating station including unit of a captive generating plant that has been granted connectivity to the inter-State Transmission System in accordance with GNA Regulations shall be allowed to inter-change power with the grid during the commissioning period, including testing and full load testing before the COD, after obtaining prior permission of the concerned Regional Load Despatch Centre: Provided that the concerned Regional Load Despatch Centre while granting such permission shall keep grid security in view.

(2) The period for which such inter-change shall be allowed shall be as follows:

(a) Drawal of start-up power shall not exceed 15 months prior to the expected date of first synchronization and one year after the date of first synchronization; and

(b) Injection of infirm power shall not exceed one year from the date of first synchronization.

(3) Notwithstanding the provisions of clause (2) of this Regulation, the Commission may allow extension of the period for inter-change of power beyond the stipulated period on an application made by the generating.”

10. The Petitioner has submitted that it has made all efforts to ensure the completion of activities of the units of the generating station within the stipulated time but could not succeed for reasons beyond its control. The Petitioner has reiterated that due to technical eventuality encountered during trial run, it was not able to complete the testing and commissioning activities of all four Units before 31.3.2025. Accordingly, the Petitioner has sought permission to inject infirm power up to 30.4.2025 or actual COD of the individual units, whichever is earlier.

11. We have considered the submissions. In the given facts and circumstances, we are inclined to invoke our power under the provision of Regulation 19 (3) of the Grid Code. In the exercise of the power, we hereby allow the injection of infirm power into the grid for commissioning tests, including full load testing of all four units of the generating station beyond 31.3.2025. The Petitioner is hereby directed to make all possible efforts to commission the project by 30.4.2025 or actual COD of individual units, whichever is earlier. It is, however, clarified that the extension of time granted as above shall not automatically entitle the Petitioner for IEDC/IDC for the delay in

declaration of COD from the scheduled COD, which shall be decided separately in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Tariff Regulations. Let an extract copy of the order be provided to the concerned Regional Load Despatch Centre, which will, while granting such permission keep the grid security in view.

12. In terms of the above, Petition No. 394/MP/2025 is disposed of.

Sd/-
(Ravinder Singh Dhillon)
Member

sd/-
(Ramesh Babu V.)
Member

sd/-
(Harish Dudani)
Member

sd/-
(Jishnu Barua)
Chairperson