ORISSA ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION BIDYUT NIYAMAK BHAWAN UNIT-VIII, BHUBANESWAR – 751 012

Present: Shri B.K. Das, Chairperson Shri S.K. Jena, Member

Dated the 1st March, 2008

Case No.3 of 2008

M/s. Hindalco Industries Ltd., Hirakud, Dist. Sambalpur (Orissa)

Petitioner

- Vrs. -

Orissa Power Transmission Corporation Ltd. (OPTCL) ... Bhubaneswar

Respondent

For the petitioner

Mr. Rabindra Mishra, Joint President,

HINDALCO

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For the respondent

Mr. J.P. Das, Sr. GM (R&T), OPTCL & Mr. M.C. Muduli, AE(Telecom), OPTCL

ORDER

M/s Hindalco Industries Ltd., the petitioner in this case is operating a 100,000 TPA Smelter Plant at Hirakud. It has a 267.5 MW (100+100+67.5) CGP to meet partial requirement of its smelter plant. The balance power is availed from WESCO at 132 kV system from Burla Power House. At times, the petitioner exports its surplus power to the state grid at the agreed rate. The petitioner is going to expand its smelter capacity to 146,000 TPA for which it has completed construction of an additional 100 MW unit. Thus, the total CGP capacity shall be 367.5 MW after commissioning of the 4th unit. Presently, the communication arrangement has been made by the petitioner for the 267.5 MW capacity through PLCC with RTU communication from its plant to Burla Power House. The Burla Power House is connected to Budhipadar through OPTCL, the respondent's communication system. Hence, the existing communication from the petitioner's plant to SLDC has been operating without any trouble. The petitioner has

completed the required system study and electrical inspection etc. for commissioning of its 4th unit. The petitioner has prayed that it may be allowed to synchronize its 4th unit with the respondent's system under Reg.1.8 of the OGC Regulations, 2006 and it shall make communication facility for all its units with Burla Power House within 8 to 10 months (with upgraded version of PLCC along with RTU), since the procurement action is taking time. The petitioner submitted that he has contacted Sri Biplab Mazumdar, the head of ABB at Bangalore to supply the necessary equipments early so that he can complete the formalities within 8 to 10 months.

- 2. M/s OPTCL, the respondent has submitted that as per Reg.4.11 & 4.13(1)(d) of the OGC Regulations, 2006, the petitioner is required to provide RTU and other communication facilities upto SLDC at least before date of commercial operation of the generating station. Besides, the petitioner has agreed in the minutes of the meeting dt.30.01.2008 that it shall establish digital PLCC equipment within 4 to 6 months time. Hence, the respondent prayed that the 4th unit of the petitioner should only be permitted to be commissioned after the communication system upto SLDC is made fool-proof.
- 3. The Commission observed that the petitioner has already been connected to the respondent's system along with suitable communication facility since 1993 with a CPP of capacity 67.5 MW and later upgraded to a capacity of 267.5 MW since 2007. Besides, the respondent has not suggested to the petitioner to upgrade its communication facility immediately after the OGC Regulation came into force. Hence, in the interest of the state, where addition of one 100 MW unit shall boost the power situation of the state, the Commission is inclined to accord its permission for synchronization of the 4th unit of the petitioner with the respondent's system. However, the petitioner is directed to complete the formalities of upgradation of the communication facility within 6 months in line with the provisions of Orissa Grid Code and other allied Regulations.

(S.K. Jena) Member (B.K. Das) Chairperson