

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

Present: Shri K.C. Badu, Member
Shri B.K. Misra, Member

Case No.01/2011

M/s Sterlite Energy Ltd, Petitioner
Vrs.
OPTCL & Ors. Respondents

In the matter of: Application u/s 1.8 of the Orissa Grid Code (OGC) Regulations, 2006 for exemption from the provision of speech and data communication to SLDC before synchronization of the 2nd unit of the IPP.

For the Petitioner: Shri R. P. Mahapatra, authorized representative of M/s Sterlite Energy Ltd.

For the Respondents: Shri A. C. Patra, DGM (Telecom), OPTCL & Shri Santosh Kumar Das, SDLC.

Date of Hearing: 07.01.2011.

Date of Order: 13.01.2011

ORDER

The petitioner has filed the petition under Regulation 1.8 of the Orissa Grid Code (OGC) Regulations, 2006 impleading OPTCL and SLDC as Respondent No. 1 & 2 respectively for exemption from the provision of Speech and Data communication from the IPP of M/s Sterlite Energy Ltd. to SLDC before synchronization of the 2nd unit of the IPP. He has prayed that, he may be allowed time upto 31.03.2011 to establish Speech and Data Communication from its IPP to Budhipadar Grid Sub-Station for onward transmission to SLDC. Notice had been issued to the respondents to file their respective reply and appear on 07.01.2011 on the question of admission and hearing. Accordingly the respondents have filed their respective replies.

2. Shri R. P. Mahapatra, the authorized representative on behalf of M/s Sterlite Energy Ltd.(SEL) submitted that the SEL is presently connected at 220 KV to the State Grid (i.e., Budhipadar) via the 220KV Vendanta Aluminium Ltd. (VAL) 220KV Bus. The 1st unit of SEL (i.e., Unit No. 2 of 600MW capacity) has got synchronized with the State Transmission System on 10th August, 2010. The unit got commercialized and injecting

power on a sustainable basis from 1st November, 2010. The 1st unit was given permission for connectivity by OPTCL with SEL undertaking, to commission the Speech and Data Communication System within a period of 2 months with the understanding that, even if SLDC is unable to monitor the real time injection figure of M/s SEL-IPP, the real time data of combined injection of M/s SEL and M/s VAL to the State Grid is anyway available at Budhipadar Grid S/s which is further transmitted to SLDC through OPTCL SCADA system. State need power from M/s SEL-IPP to meet its demand. He further submitted that although SEL has placed purchase order with M/s ABB for equipment, and bulk of the material have been received with anticipated commissioning of Speech and Data Communication during Feb, 2011 but considering unforeseen constraint and scheduling of shut-down (for installation of outdoor communication equipment like wave trap coupling link to be established at SEL and VAL end etc.) exemption under Regulation 1.8 of the Grid Code may be allowed, the payer of the petitioner may also be allowed up to 31st March, 2011.

3. OPTCL in its affidavit filed before the Commission has stated that since M/s SEL is hopeful to commission the Speech and Data Communication System during Feb, 2011, and has prayed for extension of time till 31.03.2011, the Commission may consider the request of M/s SEL after taking the view of the SLDC.
4. SLDC, while filing its reply has submitted that M/s SEL is injecting power to the tune of 400-450 MW. Such quantum of power is quite substantial and need to be monitored. Although the display is available along with VAL injection, the quantum of power injected by SEL is not being distinguished. This may lead to confusion to the system operator while issuing instruction for backing down when such situation arises. Even it is not known whether VAL is injecting or not as per its own schedule. Hence, submitted that the prayer of the petitioner may not be considered.
5. On the basis of the submission made by the SLDC's that it is unable to distinguish on real time basis between the VAL CPP's injection from SEL-IPP's generation, as the combined power flow together to the Budhipadar Grid S/s, the Commission asked OPTCL as to how the 1st unit of SEL (i.e, unit-2) was allowed to be connected/synchronized/commercialized. Further, will the synchronization of 2nd unit of M/s SEL-IPP whether there will be any improved injection to Orissa Grid in the absence of any additional transmission evacuation facility? OPTCL answered in negative.
6. Based on the above submission, the Commission enquired about the coordination activity of OPTCL with SEL for installation of outdoor equipments and shutdown on account thereof so that establishment of Communication line will not be delayed any further. It

was also further enquired as to how the meter dump readings and commercial energy accounting are being done to distinguish SEL generation from VAL import/export to the GRID and consequent billing by WESCO and /or Open Access arrangement if any. Commission opined that distinguishing the M/s SEL-IPP generation and export of M/s VAL-CGP surplus to the grid on real time basis is very much required due to differentiation rates between IPP and CGP power.

7. Mr. R. P. Mohapatra, Authorized representative of SEL submitted that, the available export /import meter reading at VAL reflects the energy consumption of M/s VAL from DISCOM and / or injection of VAL-CGP to the State Grid. So the monthly energy accounting for M/s SEL-IPP sale to the State is not a major problem. Real time data separation of M/s SEL-IPP injection and M/s VAL-CGP injection, however, is not possible at the moment, till RTU and PLCC communication line are established between M/s SEL-IPP and Budhipadar Grid S/s. Mr. Mohapatra requested for better co-ordination and prompt clearance of shutdown required by M/s OPTCL on receipt of request of the petitioner, so that SLDC will be able to get the required data by Feb, 2011 itself.
8. The Commission heard the parties at length. Prima-facie the Commission is satisfied that the petitioner has taken all possible efforts to put the Speech and Data Communication System between M/s SEL-IPP with SLDC-Bhubaneswar. As the total output of M/s SEL-IPP is limited to about 400MW only due to the present transmission constraint; the testing and synchronization of 2nd unit of IPP will have no impact in form of additional power to the State Grid. The 2nd unit may at best, act like a stand-by unit to the 1st unit at the time of exigency, because at a time the two units cannot inject power because of limited transmission capacity.
9. The case is admitted. We allow the prayer of the petitioner. The petitioner is hereby allowed time till 31.03.2011 to establish Speech & Data Communication from its IPP to the Budhipadar Grid S/s for onwards transmission to SLDC failing which penalty shall be imposed against the petitioner based on statutory provision.
10. Accordingly, the case is disposed off.

Sd/-
(B.K. Misra)
Member

Sd/-
(K. C. Badu)
Member