

ODISHA ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
PLOT NO. 4, CHUNUKOLI, SAILESHREE VIHAR,
CHANDRASEKHARPUR,
BHUBANESWAR-751021

Present: Shri S. C. Mahapatra, Chairperson
Shri G. Mohapatra, Member
Shri S. K. Ray Mohapatra, Member

Case No. 76/2023

M/s.Hindalco Industries Ltd.	Petitioner
Vrs.		
OPTCL & Others	Respondents

In the matter of: **Application under Section 86 (k) of the Electricity Act, 2003 read with Regulation 78 & 201 of the OERC Distribution (Conditions of Supply) Code, 2019 seeking permission to avail voltage levels 220 kV from Budhipadar Grid for a temporary period of 12 months after switch over power supply to 400 kV from Lapanga Grid connection simultaneously for operating Aditya Aluminium plant at Lapanga, Sambalpur.**

For Petitioner: Shri Suresh Chandra Das, Vice president & Shri Kamadev Raulo, AVP of M/s. Hindalco Industries Ltd.

For Respondents: Shri Subhashis Samantaray, DGM(Elect.), RT&C, OPTCL
Ms. Susmita Mohanty, DGM(Elect.), GRIDCO Ltd. and Shri K.C. Nanda, GM (RA & Strategy), TPWODL.

ORDER

Date of Hearing: 29.08.2023

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The petition has been filed by the Petitioner-M/s. Hindalco Industries Ltd. under Section 86 (k) of the Electricity Act, 2003 read with Regulation 78 & 201 of the OERC Distribution (Conditions of Supply) Code, 2019 seeking permission to avail power at 220 kV level from Budhipadar Grid for a temporary period of 12 months for operating Aditya Aluminum Plant at Lapanga, Sambalpur till the new 400 KV system connected to Lapanga Grid is fully stabilized.

2. Shri Suresh Chandra Das, Vice President, representing the Petitioner's Company, has submitted that M/s. Hindalco Industries is manufacturing Aluminum and related products. In order to cater its power requirements in the process of manufacturing of aluminum, it has set up Captive Power Plant (CPP) with capacity of 900 MW in Aditya Aluminum,

Lapanga. The Petitioner-company is a power intensive industry and requires continuous and uninterrupted power supply for operation of its Smelter plants in Sambalpur district.

3. He stated that presently the Aditya Aluminum plant is connected with 220 kV connectivity from Budhipadar grid substation. It is an old substation, which was designed with maximum Short Circuit Current of 40 kA. Now the SC current level reached 80% capacity of Aditya connectivity with Budhipadar grid S/s and no further addition of generator is possible at Budhipadar grid Substation. Therefore, for 2nd phase expansion of Aditya Aluminum, 400 kV migration is required and the same line will be completed in March, 2024. Now, the construction of new 400 kV system is under progress which is to be connected to the nearby Lapanga Grid Substation of OPTCL. The Petitioner intends to retain the existing 220 kV connectivity along with new 400 kV connectivity transmission lines for a temporary period as after energization of the first circuit at 400 kV level, some stabilization period is required for energizing and ensuring the performance of new equipment in the circuit. During the period of switching over till stabilization of the power supply, non-availability of alternative power from the grid and any untoward defect in 400 kV circuit, will force the Smelter plant of the Petitioner to shut down. Therefore, power supply from both 220 kV and 400 kV sources is required to overcome the difficult situations, if any, during change-over/stabilization. In the process of shifting over to 400 kV system, the 220 kV system shall remain as emergency standby till 400 kV system stabilizes. Therefore, the Petitioner has filed the present petition seeking an order permitting the petitioner to retain and continue to use 220 kV transmission line along with 440 kV transmission line from Lapanga Grid in the interest of his business.
4. The Representative of OPTCL submitted that they have no objection to the prayer made by M/s. Hindalco Ltd. in its petition. However, the period of one year as sought by M/s. Hindalco Ltd. for stabilization of 400 kV system appears to be too high. Earlier in some other cases only two to three months has been allowed for such stabilization. Further, the Hindalco Ltd. should ensure single voltage connectivity at any point of time. The Representative of GRIDCO Ltd. stated that they have no views in this matter.
5. The Representative of TPWODL submitted that they have no objection to the present application of the Petitioner. However, M/s. Hindalco Ltd. should not draw power simultaneously from both the systems and they have to pay the demand charges for both the connectivity.
6. The matter is taken up for hearing through hybrid arrangement (virtual/physical). Heard the parties at length. We observe that the construction work of 400 kV line and installation of associated equipment has not been completed by the Petitioner-M/s. Hindalco Industries Ltd. As per the Petitioner, it is expected to be completed by March,

2024. We also observe that one year time as sought for by the Petitioner for stabilization of 400 kV system is too long and it is pre-mature to allow dual connectivity for one year time frame for stabilization of said 400 kV system of the Petitioner. Therefore, we are not inclined to entertain the present application now. However, the Petitioner is at liberty to approach the Commission for the above purpose after completion of the construction of said 400 kV line along with necessary equipment and testing of the same. Accordingly, we dismiss the present application of the Petitioner-M/s. Hindalco Industries Ltd.

7. With the above observations, the case is disposed of.

Sd/-

(S.K. Ray Mohapatra)
Member

Sd/-

(G. Mohapatra)
Member

Sd/-

(S.C. Mahapatra)
Chairperson