

Sub: In the matter of petition for clarification regarding standby power to HT consumer in accordance with the provisions of the Electricity Act, 2003 and the applicable regulations

ORDER

(Date of hearing: 29th October,2013)

(Date of order: 12th November,2013)

M/s Hindalco Industries Ltd., - Petitioner
Mahan Project, Tehsil- Bargawan,
Distt. Singrauli (M.P.)

M.P. Poorv Kshetra Vidyut Vitaran Co. Ltd., Jabalpur - Respondent No. 1

MP Power Management Co. Ltd., Jabalpur - Respondent No. 2

Shri Aashish Bernard, Advocate and Shri Anjani Kumar, AGM of the company appeared on behalf of the petitioner.

Shri M.K.Jaitwal, SE for the respondent no.1 and Smt. S.Dixit, DGM(Comm,) for the respondent no. 2 appeared on behalf of the respondent.

2. The petitioner, M/s Hindalco Industries Ltd. has filed this petition for clarification regarding standby power to HT consumer in accordance with the provisions of the Electricity Act, 2003 and the applicable regulations.

3. **Facts of the case :**

(a) M/s Hindalco Industries Pvt. Ltd. is an HT consumer availing permanent power supply for a contract demand of 50 MVA at 220 kV for its Aluminium project under the HT agreement dated 23.02.2010 commencing from 28.12.2012. The petitioner had also installed a captive power plant with an installed capacity of 900 MW (6 X 150 MW) which is synchronized with the grid.

(b) The petitioner had also been sanctioned an HT connection for a contract demand of 4.5 MVA at 33 kV for its water intake plant. This supply was connected on 25.04.2013. Subsequently, contract demand was reduced to 2.25 MVA under the supplementary HT agreement dated 31.08.2013.

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- (c) The petitioner has submitted an application for 10 MVA standby supply at 33 kV in the same premises where connection at 220 kV already exists. The standby supply was requisitioned by tapping the same 33 kV feeder which is at present supplying power to the water intake plant.
- (d) The petitioner has also submitted that 33 kV standby power shall be availed only on occurrence of emergency in the event of total failure of CPP power as well as 220 kV supply of the licensee and under no circumstances shall both the supplies i.e. 33 kV and 220 kV be availed simultaneously.
- (e) The petitioner has submitted that the Aluminium manufacturing process requires uninterrupted and continuous supply of power and any interruption will lead to loss to the extent of minimum Rs. 400 Crores in a year. The respondent no.1 sought clarification in the matter of sanction of standby power to an HT consumer from a different source at different voltage level in the premises where consumer already has a regular connection for industrial purpose along with a captive power plant. The Commission advised the respondent no.1 to file a petition before the Commission. Hence, this petition.
- (f) In its petition, the petitioner has prayed the Commission to clarify that the respondent no.1 can sanction standby power to HT consumer having captive power plant and a regular contract demand for industrial purpose from a different source of power supply at different voltage level in the same premises and to issue directions to the respondent no.1 to treat 33 kV power supply as a contingency back up power to prevent any eventuality of blackout.

4. The matter was heard on 29.10.2013. Respondents made written submissions. During the hearing on 29.10.2013, the petitioner reiterated the contents of the petition

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and submitted that the 33 kV standby power shall be used in the last resort as the Aluminium plant cannot be shut down or remain without power for a longer period as the same would cause grave and irreparable damage to the plant and also result in huge financial losses. The respondent in its written submissions submitted that in view of the provisions of Regulation 4.1 (b), 4.2 and 4.3 (B) of MPERC (Power purchase and other matters with respect to conventional fuel based captive power plant) (Revision-I) Regulations, 2009 and clause 4.13 & 5.2 of M.P. Electricity Supply Code, 2013, there are difficulties in accepting the request of the petitioner to provide two supplies at different voltage levels from different sources of supply in the same premises. The respondent no. 2 submitted that the request of the petitioner may be considered if the Commission considers relaxation of clause 5.2 of the M.P. Electricity Supply Code, 2013 subject to conditions.

5. During the hearing on 29.10.2013, the Commission asked the petitioner how the proposed standby arrangement can guarantee continuous supply and prevent blackout. The respondent submitted that the extra connection can ensure extra safety. The petitioner requested relaxation in the provisions of the aforesaid Regulations/Code.

6. During the hearing on 29.10.2013, the Commission had directed the petitioner to submit details as to how an additional point of supply could prevent a blackout situation. The petitioner submitted the details on 11.11.2013. In its submission, the petitioner has submitted the following:

- (i) 33 kV Bargawan S/s is connected with 132 kV Morwa S/s with 33 kV Double Circuit lines and it is also connected with 132 kV Deosar S/s with 33 kV Single Circuit line. The 132 kV Bargawan S/s and 132 kV Deosar S/s are having the capacity of 40 MW each and full load are 30 MW at Morwa S/s and 20 MW at Deosar respectively. Power availability at 33 kV Bargawan S/s is 30 MVA when

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this Bargawan S/s is connected with 132 kV Morwa and 132 kV Deosar S/s.

- (ii) 132 kV Morwa is connected with 132 kV Single Circuit line from Amarkantak S/s and 132 kV Single Circuit NTPC line from NTPC Vindhanagar Power Station. 132 kV Deosar is connected with 220/132 kV Sidhi S/s.

Based on the above facts, there is redundancy of power availability at each level downstream from 132 kV S/s and power availability at 33 kV Bargawan S/s is always there all the time. Thus, Single standby source of 10 MVA power can suffice the requirement for black start of single unit of 150 MW so that the power can be resumed within 30 minutes. With the restoration of power supply, other units also can be started in short duration and shall feed power to smelter units to bring back the smelter pots with minimum damage. Hence, this emergency supply is very critical for restoring the plant from blackout.

The 33 kV standby power shall be availed only on the occurrence of emergency in the event of total failure of CPP power as well as 220 kV supply of MPPKVCL and under no circumstances both the supplies i.e. 33kV and 220 kV shall be availed simultaneously.

7. Having heard both parties and considering their written submissions, the Commission has noted that the respondent no.1 had found the request of the petitioner to be genuine. By letter dated 06.06.2013, the petitioner had also asserted that the load of 4.5 MW at water intake system shall be disconnected during drawl of 10 MVA standby power. With this stipulation and looking to the nature of the industry and invoking clause 11.14 of the M.P. Electricity Supply Code, 2013, the Commission grants permission to the petitioner to avail 10 MVA standby supply at 33 kV in the

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same premises where connection at 220 kV already exists and directs the petitioner to make changeover arrangements in such manner that paralleling of two supplies does not take place. Such arrangement needs to be approved by respondent no. 1 before it is operationalised.

Ordered accordingly.

(Alok Gupta)
Member

(A.B.Bajpai)
Member

(Rakesh Sahni)
Chairman