

Sub : In the matter of relaxation of minimum contract demand in temporary power connection for the biomass based generation plant of M/s Shalivahana (Biomass) Power Project Limited for getting connected to 132 KV voltage level.

Petition No. 68/2012

ORDER

(Date of hearing 6th October, 2012)

(Date of order 9th October, 2012)

M/s Shalivahana (Biomass) Power Project Ltd., - Petitioner
Post Box No. 1582, 7th Floor, Minerva Complex,
SD Road, Secunderabad – 500003.

V/s

MP Poorv Kshetra Vidyut Vitaran Co. Ltd., - Respondent
Block No.7, Shakti Bhawan, Rampur, Jabalpur.
(East Discom)

Shri Chandrashekar Iyer, Consultant appeared on behalf of the petitioner.

Smt. S.Dixit, EE appeared on behalf of the respondent.

2. The petitioner has filed this petition in the matter of relaxation of minimum contract demand in temporary power connection for the biomass based generation plant for getting connected to 132 KV voltage level.

3. The petitioner has stated that it has a 10 MW biomass based generating station situated at Umaria District, Madhya Pradesh. The petitioner's biomass based generation plant is being connected to the grid at 132 KV voltage level. As per the MP Electricity Supply Code, the minimum contract demand for such consumer cannot be lower than 5 MVA in order to get connected to the grid at 132 KV. This specified minimum contract demand is much higher than the actual requirement of the petitioner which is around 1250 KVA. This mismatch imposes severe financial burden on small renewable energy generators like the petitioner in the present instance. Availing a minimum 5 MVA contract demand at 132 KV level as specified in the Supply Code is financially unviable for the smaller renewable energy generators. The petitioner has

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submitted that the amended Clause 3.4 of the MP Electricity Supply Code, 2004 states that “provided that on account of technical reasons, the deviation in respect of above minimum/maximum contract demand, may be permitted after obtaining specific approval of the Commission.” The petitioner has further submitted that as the capacity of the plant is around 10 MW, it would be mandatory for the petitioner to be connected at 132 KV level in order to export power through open access. Thus, establishing a separate line at a different voltage level will be uneconomical and burdening the generator.

4. The petitioner, in his petition, has prayed as under :

- (a) To provide relaxation of minimum contract demand for the biomass based generating plant of M/s Shalivahana (Biomass) Power Project Ltd. for getting connected to 132 KV voltage level.
- (b) Permit a contracted demand of 1250 KVA for temporary supply to the petitioner’s generating plant under the applicable tariff category for the purpose of undertaking pre-commissioning and testing activities.
- (c) Permit the petitioner to import power through the open access route for a quantum around 1250 KVA if deemed necessary by the petitioner.

5. The case was listed for hearing on 06.10.2012.

6. During the hearing on 06.10.2012, the petitioner reiterated the contents of the petition and submitted that he has received a copy of the reply from the respondent. He further submitted that as the metering equipment with CT ratio of 7.5 / 1 Amp is not easily available, the petitioner shall arrange metering equipment with CT ratio of 10 / 1 Amp which is also suitable with no loss of accuracy. He also submitted that as the requirement is for a short duration of time, 1250 KVA supply at 132 KV be allowed.

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7. During the hearing, representative of the respondent submitted that the power supply for a load of 1250 KVA can be provided to the petitioner at 33 KV either by laying a 33 KV line from 132 KV S/s Umariya for a route length of 5 kms or alternatively 132 KV line being constructed by the petitioner can be charged at 33 KV (subject to concurrence of MPPTCL) for which a 33 KV bay would require to be constructed at 132 KV S/s Umariya at petitioner's cost. The approximate cost of construction of 33 KV bay at EHV S/s would be Rs. 27 lakh. Also, there are certain metering issues in providing very small power of the order of 1250 KVA at 132 KV voltage level including the issue of non-availability of metering CTs suitable for recording of consumption below 5 MVA at 132 KV.

8. On hearing the petitioner and the respondent, the Commission is of the view that in the instant case alternative technical remedy of charging 132 KV line being constructed at 33 KV is available and hence the proviso of Section 3.4 of MP Electricity Supply Code of allowing deviation in maximum / minimum of contract demand at 132 KV is not attracted. The petitioner is directed to avail required temporary supply at 33 KV. The respondent/Transco is directed to assist the petitioner by expediting construction of the bay required for extending supply at 33 KV after due formalities are completed by the petitioner. The tariff to be charged would be as applicable to relevant category of 33 KV.

9. With the above directions, the Petition No. 68 of 2012 stands disposed of.

Ordered accordingly,

Sd/-
(C.S.Sharma)
Member

Sd/-
(Rakesh Sahni)
Chairman