CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION NEW DELHI

Petition No. 14/SM/2023

Coram:
Shri Jishnu Barua, Chairperson
Shri I. S. Jha, Member
Shri Arun Goyal, Member
Shri P.K. Singh, Member

Date of Order: 30.09.2023

In the matter of:

Removal of difficulties (First Order) in giving effect to certain provisions of Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Indian Electricity Grid Code) Regulations, 2023.

ORDER

The CERC (Indian Electricity Grid Code) Regulations, 2023 (hereinafter referred to as "Grid Code") were published on 11.07.2023, in the Gazette of India Extraordinary (Part-III, Section-4, No. 488). The provisions of the Grid Code have been notified to come into effect from 01.10.2023.

2. NHPC Ltd., SJVN Ltd., NTPC Ltd., THDC India Ltd.Grid-India and NERPC vide their letters dated 23.08.2023, 29.08.2023, 08.08.2023, 31.08.2023, 26.09.2023 and 27.09.2023 respectively have submitted that they are facing certain difficulties in the implementation of the Grid Code and require clarification on a few aspects. The difficulties indicated in the implementation of the Grid Code have been sought to be removed through this Order in light of the facts and circumstances of each issue. Each of the issues raised and their treatment is detailed herewith in subsequent paragraphs.

Issue No.1: Scheduling of generating unit from 'D+2' day from declaration of COD

3. NHPC Ltd. has submitted that in the case of hydro plants, any delay in scheduling after the declaration of commercial operation may lead to spillage of water, resulting in national loss. Therefore, must-run power plants (Solar, Wind and Hydro) may be allowed to schedule from 0000 hrs of D+1, if the utilities are capable of scheduling.

4. THDC has submitted that it is imperative to initiate the scheduling of the unit or plant on the following day (D+1) otherwise, the unit/plant will lose its one-day revenue. Also, a one-day postponement in the scheduling process can result in the underutilization of readily available resources for grid generation.

5. Grid-India has submitted that the Regulation is silent on various avenues through which a power plant can schedule its power on D and D+1 days. While it is possible for the generator to sell through the market in D and D+1 days, it would be better if it was able to schedule power from the date of COD itself for dispute-free implementation. Therefore, the generator may communicate the COD declaration 2 days ahead of the date of COD.

6. We have considered the submissions of NHPC, THDC, and Grid-India. Clause 2 of Regulation 27 of the Grid Code provides as under:

(2) Scheduling of the generating station or unit thereof shall start from 0000 hours of D+2 (where D is the Commercial Operation Date of the said generating station or unit thereof).”

7. The above provisions in the Grid Code were incorporated after considering the comments of the POSOCO/Grid-India on the draft Grid code where it was suggested that considering the need for assessment of margins before scheduling and the timelines to be adhered to for unit commitment decisions, scheduling of inter-regional and international transactions, gate closure, and commencement of scheduling after declaration of COD by the Users should be from 0000 hrs of D+3, where D day is the date when COD is declared by the User.

8. We observe that the requirement of Grid India is about prior information before scheduling starts so that necessary steps may be taken by it to

facilitate scheduling. Hence, we are of the considered view that 'D' referred to in Clause 2 of Regulation 27 of the Grid Code shall be construed as the date when a generating station intimates the commercial operation of the generating station or unit thereof, and the scheduling shall start from 0000 hours of D+2 day. For instance, if a generating station wishes to declare its commercial operation at 0000 hrs on 5.11.2023 it must intimate the date of commercial operation at the latest by 3.11.2023 and communicate to RLDC so that scheduling can start at 0000 hrs on 5.11.2023. In this case, 'D' is 3.11.2023, when the generating station issues the letter declaring its COD with effect from 5.11.2023 at 00 hrs.

Issue No.2: Revision of estimated restoration time in case of forced outage

9. NHPC has submitted that, as per proviso to Regulation 49(7), it is understood that a generator may revise its estimated restoration time once a day. In this regard, once a unit trips, the generator first tries to restore its unit within the 7^{th}/ 8^{th} time block. However, if it is felt that the unit cannot be restored within the 7^{th}/8^{th} time block, then the generator revises its DC/ Schedule based on the tentative restoration time to avoid the levy of additional deviation charges. However, sometimes the unit cannot be rectified/ restored as per the estimated stipulated time frame in spite of the best efforts. The estimated time for restoration depends upon the nature of the fault, and the same may only be calculated after an analysis of the fault and the estimated restoration time may vary accordingly. There may be a situation where the generator has revised the restoration time and the machine has been restored before the restoration time. In the case of hydro power stations, this scenario may result in spillage. Therefore, NHPC has proposed not to restrict the revision of the schedule due to a change in estimated restoration time, as the generator is already penalized with heavy DSM charges.

10. THDC has submitted that estimation of restoration of the unit requires root cause analysis of the event, damage assessment, availability and readiness of resources for restoration, inspection & testing activities etc.

Hence, the estimated restoration time may require some revision itself, resulting in a revision to the schedule multiple times owing to an error in the estimation of any of the mentioned variables. Therefore, the declaration of the estimated time of restoration may be withdrawn.

11. We have considered the submissions of NHPC and THDC. Clause 7 of Regulation 49 of the Grid Code provides as under:

"49. PROCEDURE FOR SCHEDULING AND DESPATCH FOR INTER-STATE TRANSACTIONS

(7) Revision of Declared Capacity and schedule shall be allowed on account of forced outage of a unit of a generating station or ESS (as an injecting entity) only in case of bilateral transactions and not in case of collective transaction. Such generating station or ESS (as injecting entity) or the electricity trader or any other agency selling power from the unit of the generating station or ESS shall immediately intimate the outage of the unit along with the requisition for revision of Declared Capacity and schedule and the estimated time of restoration of the unit, to SLDC or RLDC, as the case may be. The schedule of beneficiaries, sellers and buyers of power from this generating unit shall be revised on pro-rata basis for all bilateral transactions. The revised Declared Capacity and schedules shall become effective from the time block and in the manner as specified in clause (4) of this Regulation:

Provided that the generating station or ESS (as injecting entity) or trading licensee or any other agency selling power from a generating station or unit(s) thereof or ESS may revise its estimated restoration time once in a day and the revised schedule shall become effective from the 7th time block or 8th time block as per clause (4) of this Regulation, counting the time block in which the revision is informed by the generator or ESS to be the first one:

Provided further that the SLDC or the RLDC as the case may be, shall inform the revised schedule to the seller and the buyer. The original schedule shall become effective from the estimated time of restoration of the unit."

12. As per the above Clause of the Grid Code, on account of a forced outage of a unit of a generating station, the estimated restoration time is to be informed, which may be revised once a day.

13. We note the difficulty expressed, that a generating station may not be

able to estimate the exact restoration time when the unit goes under a forced outage. Once a unit goes under forced outage, the generating station revises its DC effective from the 7th/8th block, as the case may be. If such a generating station informs it of an estimated restoration time by which it is unable to restore the unit, it needs to revise the DC of the new estimated restoration time and it needs to punch DC for the new time. This is construed as two revisions, which is not permissible under the Grid Code. We clarify that the revision of Declared Capacity from the 7th/8th block, on account of a forced outage, and the declaration of the estimated time of restoration of the unit shall not be counted as a revision.

14. A generating station in such case may revise its DC when it is certain of coming on bar, which will become effective from the 7th/8th block. This shall be counted as a revision of DC which is allowed to be punched only once a day.

For example: If a unit goes under forced outage at 1.54 pm, suppose it has placed a request for revision of DC at 1.56 PM, the revised DC will become effective from time block 3.30-3.45 pm or 3.45 pm-4.00 PM, as the case may be. Suppose such generating stations also informed its estimated restoration time as 8 PM, its DC shall get restored from 8 PM. Suppose the generating station comes to know by 6 PM that it would not be able to restore by 8 PM, it can revise its estimated time of restoration say by 11 PM, it can punch its DC before 9.30 PM so that it becomes effective by 11 PM. This DC punching would be counted as one revision

Issue No. 3: Revision of Declared Capacity

15. NHPC Ltd. has submitted that hydro power stations declare their day ahead schedule based on the previous day's inflow pattern of respective power stations. Whereas, the actual inflow varies depending upon the rain or snow melting the upstream of reservoir and there is always a possibility of an increase or decrease in inflow w.r.t. forecast made by the generator. Intermittent change in inflow may be considered in the Grid Code by allowing revision in the schedule in line with Regulation 49(4)(c) of the Grid Code to safeguard the interest of the generator, as inflow cannot be predicted in advance. Therefore, at least a few revisions (say 3 or 4) of

the schedule for Pondage and RoR with pondage hydro power stations may be allowed due to forecasting errors.

16. NTPC has submitted that many a time due to major equipment outages (i.e. BFP, ID fan, PA Fan, FD Fan etc.) there is a loss of generation of around 40% of unit capacity. The unit continues to remain on bar but with significantly reduced capacity. The Unit capability may get affected due to reasons beyond the control of the generator e.g. break-down of auxiliaries not having redundancies, outage of the auxiliaries due to changes in weather conditions such as excessive rains or outage of scrapper conveyors due to clinkering on account of variations in the coal quality etc. which may require revision of Declared Capacity (DC). These events where outage of an auxiliary equipment reduces unit generation capability, are not being covered in the eligibility criteria for DC revision under Forced Outage conditions.

17. THDC has submitted that Tehri HPP is a multipurpose project which has to meet various operational commitments and social obligations which includes meeting downstream Drinking and Irrigation Requirement, flood mitigation, peaking commitment of Grid etc. Further, Tehri HPP and Koteshwar HEP are operated in an integrated manner, hence revision of the schedule of these plants depends on downstream Drinking and Irrigation water Release, downstream Disaster and Crisis Management requirements to mitigate flood, disaster/crisis-like situations. Integrated operation of Tehri HPP and Koteshwar HEP requires revision in the schedule of any plant due to another in tandem operation. Therefore, at least 05 revisions may be allowed for Tehri HPP and Koteshwar to ensure integrated operation of both plants and meeting downstream requirements.

18. NERPC has submitted that Gas based power stations in the North Eastern Region have unique challenges. These facilities are often located in remote areas and are dependent on isolated gas grids. For instance, the Palatana Power Station, a significant contributor to power generation in the region, relies on a substantial portion of gas production from wells in Tripura. The gas yield from these wells fluctuates in real time,

necessitating adjustments in the generation to maintain a constant and uniform gas pressure and failure to revise schedules in real time can lead to adverse consequences, including operational disruptions and damage to the gas wells. Therefore, the gas-based power stations in NER have requested to consider amendments in IEGC 2023 to accommodate flexibilities, similar to IEGC 2010. Allowing the gas-based power stations to revise their declared capacities in real time would enhance their ability to provide the reliable and efficient power supply.

19. Grid-India has submitted that there have been requests from generators to allow revision of DC in case of partial outage such as tripping of auxiliaries, etc. During stakeholder consultations, it was clearly mentioned that in case of a partial outage, it will not be possible for RLDCs/ NLDC to verify or certify such outages.

20. We have considered the submissions of NHPC, NTPC, NERPC, Grid-India and THDC. The Regulations 49(7) and 49(9) of the Grid Code provide as under:

"7) Revision of Declared Capacity and schedule, shall be allowed on account of forced outage of a unit of a generating station or ESS (as an injecting entity) only in case of bilateral transactions and not in case of collective transaction. Such generating station or ESS (as injecting entity) or the electricity trader or any other agency selling power from the unit of the generating station or ESS shall immediately intimate the outage of the unit along with the requisition for revision of Declared Capacity and schedule and the estimated time of restoration of the unit, to SLDC or RLDC, as the case may be. The schedule of beneficiaries, sellers and buyers of power from this generating unit shall be revised on pro-rata basis for all bilateral transactions. The revised Declared Capacity and schedules shall become effective from the time block and in the manner as specified in clause (4) of this Regulation:

Provided that the generating station or ESS (as injecting entity) or trading licensee or any other agency selling power from a generating station or unit(s) thereof or ESS may revise its estimated restoration time once in a day and the revised schedule shall become effective from the 7th time block or 8th time block as per clause (4) of this Regulation, counting the time block in which the revision is informed by the generator or ESS to be the first one:

……

(9) In case of requirement of revision of Declared Capacity due to forecasting error, a RoR generating station may request for revision of its Declared Capacity and schedule only in case of bilateral transactions and not in case of collective transaction. Such revision shall become effective from the time block and in the manner as specified in subclause (c) of clause (4) of this Regulation."

21. As per the above provisions, the revision of Declared Capacity and schedule is allowed on account of forced outage of a unit of a generating station or ESS (as an injecting entity) (only in case of bilateral transactions) under Regulation 49(7) of the Grid Code.

22. We observe that the generating station should be able to estimate its DC on day ahead basis reasonably. The revision of DC deprives the beneficiaries of the entitled power and may disturb the portfolio management of the beneficiaries. Frequent revisions of DC create uncertainty for the beneficiaries and must be minimised. However, keeping in view of the difficulties expressed by the various types of generating stations and Grid-India, we are of the considered view that generating stations or ESS covered under Regulation 49(7) of the Grid Code shall be allowed 2 (two) revisions of Declared Capacity and schedule in a day due to reasons such as partial outage of the unit or variation of water availability for hydro generating stations or variations in supply of gas for gas generating stations. The revised schedule shall become effective from the 7th time block or 8th time block as per clause (4) of Regulation 49, counting the time block in which the revision is informed by the generator or ESS to be the first one. However, this dispensation is allowed for a period of six months from 1.10.2023. To avoid any misdeclaration of DC by a generating station, we are of the view that the generating station shall keep a digital record of the reason for the revision of DC, which can be independently verified by RLDC or RPC. The reasons for the revision of DC shall be taken up at RPC to minimize such revision. NLDC is advised to submit a report after a period of 3 months reporting the reasons for such revisions to facilitate suitable regulatory directions in this regard.

Issue No.4: Obligation to supply in case of Unit Shut Down

23. NTPC Ltd. has submitted that the Grid Code obligation of supply has been introduced which provides that in case a generating unit receives a schedule less than the technical minimum, the generator can either operate the machine the below technical minimum or may take the machine under shutdown (USD). In case, the generator takes the

machine under shutdown the generating station is required to fulfil the obligation of supply to its beneficiaries. This might lead to extra costs for arranging such power through alternate mechanisms.

24. Grid-India has submitted that if a plant opts to go under shutdown, there is a need for clarification regarding the treatment of DC of that power plant and revision of schedules (both upward and downward) by the beneficiary. If the plant declares availability, the beneficiaries can continue to requisition power even though the unit is under USD.

25. We have considered the submissions of NTPC and Grid-India. Clause (1) and (2) of Regulation 47 of Grid Code provides as under:

"47. UNIT SHUT DOWN (USD)

(1) The generating stations or units thereof, identified by NLDC in co-ordination with RLDCs, as per sub-clause (c) of clause (4) of Regulation 46 of these regulations, but not brought on bar under SCUC, shall have the option to operate at a level below the minimum turn down level or to go under Unit Shut Down (USD).

(2) In case a generating station, or unit thereof, opts to go under unit shut down (USD), the generating company owning such generating station or unit thereof shall fulfil its obligation to supply electricity to its beneficiaries who had made requisition from the said generating station prior to it going under USD, by arranging supply either (a) by entering into a contract(s) covered under the Power Market Regulation; or (b) by arranging supply from any other generating station or unit thereof owned by such generating company subject to honouring of rights of the original beneficiaries of the said generating station or unit thereof from which supply is arranged; or (c) through SCED subject to the stipulation under sub-clause (a)(vi) of clause (2) of Regulation 49 of these regulations, the details of which shall be provided in the Detailed Procedure to be specified by NLDC in this regard."

26. As per the above provision, in case a generating station opts to go under unit shut down, the said generating station shall be under obligation to supply electricity to its beneficiaries which had made requisition from the said generating station prior to it going under USD, by arranging supply from alternate sources.

27. From the submissions of NTPC and Grid-India, it appears there is some confusion with respect to the requirement of obligation to supply in case of Unit Shutdown. In this regard, we clarify that the obligation to supply the electricity from alternate sources shall only be applicable in case the generating station retains its Declared Capacity. Under the 2010

Grid Code, there was a similar provision regarding “Reserve Shutdown” where the generating station was allowed to go under shutdown in case of requisition below the technical minimum, however, its DC was retained and it could bill fixed charges on beneficiaries. This provision has been done away with in Grid Code 2023 where a generating station opting to go under shutdown due to requisitions less than the minimum turndown level, and if it retains its DC, the beneficiary shall be entitled to fill its scheduling request irrespective of whether generating station is under USD or on bar. In such case generating station has the obligation to supply. If the generating station revises its DC if allowed as per Grid Code, the beneficiary cannot request for schedule and hence no obligation to supply is cast on the generating station. Irrespective of this clarification, the generating station shall comply with any requirement or obligation to supply in agreements entered into between the generating station and beneficiary, if any.

Issue No. 5: Revision of schedule of RE Generators under T-GNA

28. Grid-India has submitted that as per clauses 49(8) and 49(9) of the Grid Code, wind/solar (WS) and ROR Generators, respectively are allowed to revise schedules due to forecasting errors for bilateral transactions only and not in case of collective transaction. GNA regulation does not allow revision of T-GNA transactions on the day of operation except in case of transmission constraint. The Grid Code is silent on revision for GNA and T-GNA schedules. Further, there are some ROR plants in tandem where water inflows are dependent on the pondage available and upstream generation respectively. Therefore, to have a harmonized approach, revision of all Wind/ Solar (WS) and ROR Generators due to forecasting error under both GNA & T-GNA except collective transactions may be allowed. For ROR plants with/ without pondage and ROR plants in tandem, the revision of MWh capability shall also be allowed.

29. We have considered submissions of Grid-India. Clause (8) of Regulation 49 of the Grid Code provides as under**:**

“(8) In case of requirement of revision of schedule due to forecasting error, a WS

seller may revise its schedule only in case of bilateral transactions and not in case of collective transaction. Such revision of schedule shall become effective from the time block and in the manner as specified in sub-clause (c) of clause (4) of this Regulation.
(9) In case of requirement of revision of Declared Capacity due to forecasting error, a RoR generating station may request for revision of its Declared Capacity and schedule only in case of bilateral transactions and not in case of collective transaction. Such revision shall become effective from the time block and in the manner as specified in sub- clause (c) of clause (4) of this Regulation."

Further Clause (4) of Regulation 49 of the Grid Code provides as under**:**

(4) Revision of schedules on request of buyers which are GNA grantees:

(a) SLDCs on behalf of intra-state entities, regional entity ESSs as drawee entities, beneficiaries, regional entity buyers or cross-border buying entities may revise their schedules under GNA as per sub-clauses (b) and (c) of this clause in accordance with their respective contracts:

Provided that scheduled transactions under T-GNA once scheduled cannot be revised other than in case of forced outage as per clause (7) of this Regulation.

30. We observe that the WS seller is allowed to revise its schedule in case of bilateral transactions, due to forecasting errors. The same has been provided to take care of the intermittent nature of renewable sources which a generating station may not be able to forecast accurately. The generating stations are required to have GNA for the quantum for which its power is to be scheduled as per the Grid Code. However, there may be conditions where GNA has been granted but has not become effective, due to which power scheduled by such generating station may be under "deemed T-GNA". We observe that there are four cases of scheduling among seller and buyer as follows:

Cases	Generating station under:	Buyer schedules power of generating station under:
1	GNA	GNA
2	Deemed T-GNA	GNA
3	GNA	T-GNA
4	Deemed T-GNA	T-GNA

As per above in Case 1, there is no confusion in the revision of the schedule by generating station. However, for Cases 2,3 and 4, there is a need for clarity on the revision of the schedule by the WS seller or ROR generating station due to forecasting error. We are of the considered view that the generating station which is WS seller or ROR shall be able to revise its schedule which shall be applicable from the 7th/8th time block, as applicable. This is irrespective of whether such a generating station is under GNA or deemed T-GNA. i.e. for cases, 2,3,4 generating station which is the WS seller or ROR shall be able to revise its schedule under Regulation 49(8) and 49(9) of the Grid Code in case of bilateral transactions.

Issue No.6: Trial run of a pumped storage plant

31. THDC Ltd. has submitted that the upstream reservoir of Tehri PSP is Tehri reservoir, and the level of the reservoir varies from EL 740mtr (MDDL) to EL 830.00mtr (FRL), accordingly as per available reservoir head, unit/plant capacity of Tehri PSP will vary, hence, if trial run is conducted in a period of lower reservoir head, "design capabilities up to the rated water" cannot be demonstrated. As the water level requirement in upper and lower reservoirs for demonstrating turbine and pump mode operation of a Pumped storage plant at rated conditions is different, it may be possible that both operations may not be demonstrated at the same time and may require different water conditions of the upper and lower reservoir. Therefore, demonstration of the design capabilities at available water drawing levels may be allowed.

32. We have considered the submissions of THDC. Sub-clause (f) of Clause (3) of Regulation 22 of Grid Code provides as under:

"(f) Successful trial run of a pumped storage plant shall mean one (1) cycle of turbo generator and pumping motor mode as per the design capabilities up to the rated water drawing levels with the requisite metering, telemetry and protection system being in service."

33. As per the above clause of Grid Code, the trial run of a pumped storage plant which shall include one (1) cycle of turbo generator and

pumping motor mode to be demonstrated as per the design capabilities up to the rated water drawing levels.

Further Regulation 22(2) provides as follows:

"(2) Trial Run of Hydro Generating Unit shall be carried out in accordance with the following provisions:

(a) A hydro generating unit shall be in continuous operation at MCR for twelve (12)

hours:

Provided that-

(i) short interruption or load reduction shall be permissible with a corresponding increase in duration of the test;

(ii) interruption or partial loading may be allowed with the condition that the average load during the duration of trial run shall not be less than MCR excluding period of interruption but including the corresponding extended period;

(iii) cumulative interruption of more than four (4) hours shall call for a repeat of trial run;

(iv) if it is not possible to demonstrate the MCR due to insufficient reservoir or pond level or insufficient inflow, COD may be declared, subject to the condition that the same shall be demonstrated immediately when sufficient water is available after COD:

Provided that if such a generating station is not able to demonstrate the MCR when sufficient water is available, the generating company shall de-rate the capacity in terms of sub-clause (b) of this clause, and such de-rating shall be effective from COD.

(b) Where, on the basis of the trial run, a hydro generating unit fails to demonstrate the unit capacity corresponding to MCR, the generating company shall have the option to either de-rate the capacity or go for a repeat trial run. If the generating company decides to de-rate the unit capacity, the de-rated capacity in such cases shall not be more than 90% of the demonstrated capacity to cater for primary response."

As per above, a hydro generating station is allowed to demonstrate MCR when sufficient water is available.

34. Considering the submissions of THDC, we are of the considered view that if it is not possible to demonstrate the one (1) cycle of generator and pumping motor mode at rated water drawing levels due to insufficient reservoir level, COD may be declared after demonstrating the capabilities at available water drawing levels, subject to the condition that design capabilities up to the rated water drawing levels shall be demonstrated

immediately when sufficient reservoir level is available after COD.

However, if such a generating station is not able to demonstrate the generator and pumping motor mode as per the design capabilities, when sufficient water is available, the generating company shall have the option to either de-rate the capacity or go for a repeat trial run. If the generating company decides to de-rate the unit capacity in terms of sub-clause (b) of Clause (2) of Regulation 22 of the Grid Code, such de-rating shall be effective from COD.

Issue No. 7: Consent to a generator for scheduling in the Day Ahead Market:

35. Grid-India has submitted that as per the Grid Code under Regulation 49(1)(l), there is a provision to withhold the consent to the generating stations under section 62 for selling the un-requisitioned power in day ahead market. It is stated that it is contrary to Rule 9 of the LPSC Rules 2022. Necessary clarification is required in this regard.

36. Sub-clause (l) of Clause of Regulation 49 of Grid Code provides as under**:**

"(l) The generating station whose tariff is determined under Section 62 of the Act, may sell its un-requisitioned surplus as available at 9.45 AM in the day ahead market, unless the consent is withheld by the beneficiary or buyer in writing. The sharing of net savings shall be as per provisions of Tariff Regulations and until a provision is made in the Tariff Regulations, in accordance with the detailed procedure to be prepared by NLDC and approved by the Commission."

37. Rule 9 of Electricity (Late Payment Surcharge and Related Matters) Rules 2022 provides as under:

"*Power not requisitioned by a distribution licensee*

1) A distribution licensee shall intimate its schedule for requisitioning power for each day from each generating company with which it has an agreement for purchase of power at last two hours before the end of the time for placing proposals or bids in the day ahead market for that day, failing which generating company may sell the unrequisitioned power in the power exchange."

38. Considering the above-quoted clauses, rules and suggestions of Grid-India, we are of the view that the generating station whose tariff is determined under Section 62 of the Act, may sell its un-requisitioned

surplus as available at 9.45 AM in the day ahead market, without the consent of the beneficiary(ies).

Issue No. 8: Transition from STOA to T-GNA regime

39. Grid-India has submitted that queries have been raised by stakeholders regarding the priority of allotment of transmission corridor of exigency T-GNA transactions which have been created through the conversion of the approved STOA transactions. As per provisions in GNA regulations, the exigency T-GNA transactions have lesser priority than advance T-GNA transactions.

40. We have considered the submissions of Grid-India. Regulation 37.9 (a) of GNA Regulations provides as under:

> *"On the date of coming into effect of these Regulations, Short Term Open Access granted in accordance with the Open Access Regulations shall be treated as T-GNA under Exigency application category, granted for the term of such Short-Term Open Access."*

41. We also observe that after scheduling transactions under GNA, transactions under Advance T-GNA shall be scheduled on 'D-1' day where 'D' is the day of scheduling. The exigency applications shall be scheduled after 1 PM on 'D-1' day. However, we observe that STOA transactions, which have already been approved, have been treated as exigency applications since the access and schedule of approved STOA transactions is similar to exigency transactions. However, since it's a pre-approved transaction, it shall be given priority in the corridor after scheduling GNA transactions by 9 AM on 'D-1' day.

Issue No. 9: Procedure for First Time Energization and Integration of new and modified power system elements

42. Regulation 8 (2) of the Grid Code provides as under:

> *"8. PROCEDURE FOR CONNECTION*
>
> *….*
>
> *(2) NLDC, in coordination with RPCs and RLDCs after due consultation of stakeholders, shall prepare a detailed procedure covering modalities for first time energization and integration of new or modified power system element and submit for*

approval of the Commission. The procedure shall specify requirements for integration with the grid such as protection, telemetry and communication systems; metering; statutory clearances; modelling data requirements for system studies and timeline for submission of data for system study."

43. As per above, NLDC has to prepare a detailed procedure covering modalities for first time energization and integration of new or modified power system elements in coordination with RPCs and RLDCs after due consultation of stakeholders, for approval of the Commission. NLDC has submitted the subject procedure after the due consultation of the stakeholders for approval of the Commission on 28.09.2023. The said procedure will take some time for examination and approval.

44. Keeping in view that the Grid Code is effective from 01.10.2023, we direct that the existing procedure for the "First Time Charging/Energization (FTC) and Integration of New or Modified Power System Element" which is in vogue as on 30.09.2023, shall continue to be in force till the procedure framed under Grid Code is approved by the Commission.

Directions under Power to Remove Difficulty

45. Regulation 58 of the Grid Code vests the Commission with the power to remove difficulty under certain circumstances. Regulation 58 of the Grid Code is extracted below:

"58. POWER TO REMOVE DIFFICULTY

If any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of these regulations, the Commission may, on its own motion or on an application made before it by the nodal agency, by order, make such provisions not inconsistent with the provisions of the Act or provisions of other regulations specified by the Commission, as may appear to be necessary for removing the difficulty in giving effect to the objectives of these regulations."

Further, the Commission has been vested with the power to issue Suo Moto orders and practice directions from time to time, as per the exigencies, with regard to the implementation of these Regulations and matters incidental or ancillary thereto, as the case may be, as provided under regulation 60 of these regulations.

"60. ISSUE OF SUO MOTO ORDERS AND DIRECTIONS

The Commission may from time to time issue suo motu orders and practice directions with regard to implementation of these regulations and matters incidental or ancillary thereto, as the case may be."

46. Considering the difficulties raised by the stakeholders under the Grid Code, in the exercise of our powers under Regulation 58 read with Regulation 60 of the Grid Code, we hereby issue the clarifications and practice directions as discussed above on the issues raised by the stakeholders.

47. Accordingly, Petition 14/SM/2023 is disposed of in terms of the above.

Sd/	**Sd/**	**Sd/**	**Sd/**
(P.K. Singh)	**(Arun Goyal)**	**(I. S. Jha)**	**(Jishnu Barua)**
Member	**Member**	**Member**	**Chairperson**