



TELANGANA STATE ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
5th Floor, Singareni Bhavan, Red Hills, Hyderabad-500 004

O. P. No. 80 of 2015

Dated: 29.07.2017

Present

Sri. Ismail Ali Khan, Chairman
Sri. H. Srinivasulu, Member

Between

M/s. Singareni Collieries Company Limited
#11-4-660, Singareni Bhavan, Red Hills,
Hyderabad – 500004.

.... Petitioner

AND

Northern Power Distribution Company of Telangana State Limited
H.No. 2-5-31/2, Corporate Office,
Vidyut Bhavan, Nakkalgutta, Warangal – 506001

.... Respondent

This petition coming up for hearing on 07.06.2017 in the presence of Sri. G. Raghu Chandra Rao, Asst. General Manager (E & M) for the petitioner and Sri. Y. Rama Rao, Counsel for Respondent along with Sri. B. Vijaya Bhaskar, Advocate for the respondent and having stood over for consideration to this day, the Commission passed the following:

ORDER

By order dated 19.03.2015 the Commission had granted temporary exemption to the applicant till application for exemption is finally heard and disposed of by the Commission. The period fixed for such temporary exemption was upto 30.09.2015. The relevant portion of the order is extracted below for better understanding.

“8. Considering the submissions and discussion stated above, the Commission is of the preliminary view that the present application of the

petitioner is liable to be rejected as it would not satisfy the conditions mentioned in Electricity Act, 2003, however, as the parties have not advanced submissions straightaway, the Commission has left this question open and would hear the parties in detail at later date. In the meanwhile the parties are directed to identify as to the services which are beyond mining operation and located within the colony consumption area, including the feasibility of laying lines by the licensee. They are also required to suggest before 24th of this month the modalities of billing consumers who are outside the mining activity and would fall within the colony consumption.

9. Pending disposal of the main case, the Commission is of the preliminary view that interest of justice would be served as well as public interest would not be jeopardized if present exemption is continued for the further period of six months. Accordingly, the exemption from license granted to the petitioner as stated above, is extended for a further period of six months from 01.04.2015 upto 30.09.2015 in public interest.”

2. By further order dated 11.01.2016, we had directed the parties on the following three aspects;

- “ I. 80% of the service connections located outside the mining area and not in the lands of Singareni.
- II. Service connections located inside the singareni colony area where it extended power supply to outsiders (other than its employees), but they being essential in running the business of singareni or for welfare of its employees.
- III. Services located inside the colony and power supply given to private persons, not connected with the operation of mining by the petitioner.

and concluded as follows.

“Considering the above request made by the respondent and time sought by the respondent to take over the services and in order to continue the supply to the existing above services so as to avoid inconvenience to the existing consumers, the Commission hereby grants the exemption from having supply license in favour of the petitioner upto 31.05.2016. Further, the petitioner and the respondent should place before the Commission, the latest developments

in the month of April, so that the Commission can take further decision in the matter including on the issue of any leftover service.”

3. We had, by letter dated 01.09.2016, required the petitioner and licensee to inform the Commission as follows.

“The above said directions were given to both the applicant and the licensee by the said order. Even though nearly 8 months have elapsed from the date of the order and the time period has also lapsed by 4 months, no report has been received from either of you till date on the action taken or proposed to be taken by either of you. In the absence of the same the Commission will be constrained to proceed with the exemption application and decide whether to grant or refuse exemption to the applicant.”

4. In response to the said letter, the licensee had replied by its letter dated 17.10.2016 as follows.

“In the reference (1) cited above, based on the request of time sought by the TSNPDCL to take over the services given by the M/s. Singareni Collieries Company Ltd., the Hon’ble Commission has granted exemption from having supply license up to 31.05.2016 to M/s. Singareni Collieries Company Ltd., and further sought to submit the latest development.

In this connection, a joint review meeting was held on 04.10.2016 with the officials of M/s. Singareni Collieries Company Ltd., and officials of TSNPDCL held at Corporate Office Conference Hall, Vidyuth Bhavan, Hanamkonda.

The TSNPDCL officials conveyed that M/s. SCCL has not disconnected their supply in Mandamarry area to the private consumers to enable them to approach TSNPDCL for registration of A-Forms. In response to the above, the SCCL officials expressed that the power supply could not be disconnected due to certain internal issues.

The works to provide the supply in Bellampally area are completed to the tune of 50%. It is informed to the M/s. SCCL officials to disconnect the supply to the private consumers so that the consumers will approach TSNPDCL for extension of power supply from TSNPDCL network.

In Ramagundam and Kothagudem areas the works for providing infrastructure to release services is under way.

In the reference (3) cited, the SCCL intimated the number of private services to be taken over in all the above 4 places i.e., (Mandamarry, Bellampally, Yellandu and Ramagundam) and SCCL will disconnect the supply to private consumers by 31.12.2016.”

5. Since the matter did not reach a conclusion, we have scheduled a hearing on the above said date. The representative of the petitioner and the counsel for the respondent submitted arguments in the matter. The gist of the argument is as follows.

“The representative of the petitioner stated that as per the directions of the Commission, the power supply connections with reference to individuals and entities located in the areas controlled by the company and falling in mining area, which are not related to the company’s activities are transferred to TSNPDCL. In all 4895 connections have been identified for transfer of which 2035 connections have already been transferred to TSNPDCL. As regards other connections the work is in progress and the TSNPDCL has to take necessary steps in the matter.

The counsel for the respondent while not denying the fact, however, requests that another six months extension is required for them to complete exercise of taking over all the power supply connections from the petitioner, which belong to the rank out sidars to the company. He stated that due to ensuing rainy season certain electrical works in respect of plant and machinery like poles and transformers etc. may get delayed, therefore, the licensee requires more time.”

6. We found from the argument that both the parties are not eager to settle the issue as directed by us in our earlier orders. However, we also are reminded of the fact that both the parties are public sector undertakings and are discharging public utility functions and therefore, the work required to be carried out is moving at snail pace. Therefore, the Commission while hastening to state that it is not here to extend the time for completing the work, time and again as a last resort extends the time till 31.10.2017 and expects the parties to complete the exercise as directed by us in order dated 19.03.2015 and 11.01.2016 without fail and completely in all respects.

7. The Commission in the meanwhile also requires the parties and accordingly directs them to file the status report by 16.08.2017 for the works pending and done

upto that period. Office is directed to schedule the hearing after the receipt of report by both the parties.

This order is corrected and signed on this 29th day of July, 2017.

Sd/-
(H SRINIVASULU)
MEMBER

Sd/-
(ISMAIL ALI KHAN)
CHAIRMAN

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