



**ORDER
OF THE
WEST BENGAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
IN CASE NO. OA-350/20-21**

IN REGARD TO THE APPLICATION SUBMITTED BY THE WEST BENGAL STATE ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION COMPANY LIMITED (WBSETCL) FOR APPROVAL OF INCURRING CAPITAL EXPENDITURE OF AN ESTIMATED COST OF RS. 21236.40 LAKHS FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF FALAKATA 220/132/33 KV GAS INSULATED SUBSTATION AND ASSOCIATED TRANSMISSION SYSTEM IN TERMS OF REGULATION 2.8.2.3 OF THE WEST BENGAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION (TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF TARIFF) REGULATIONS, 2011, AS AMENDED.

PRESENT:

**SRI SUTIRTHA BHATTACHARYA, CHAIRPERSON
SRI DURGADAS GOSWAMI, MEMBER
SRI PULAK KUMAR TEWARI, MEMBER**

DATE: 03.05.2021



Certified true Copy



Approval for incurring capital expenditure by the West Bengal State Electricity Transmission Company Limited for establishment of Falakata 220/132/33 KV GIS and associated transmission system in terms of regulation 2.8.2.3 of the West Bengal Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions of Tariff) Regulations, 2011, as amended.



Facts in brief:

- 1.0 The West Bengal State Electricity Transmission Company Limited (in short 'WBSETCL') has submitted an application vide letter dated 14.12.2020 for approval of incurring capital expenditure of an estimated cost of Rs. 21236.40 Lakh for establishment of 220/132/33 kV Gas Insulated Sub-station at Falakata, District Alipurduar and associated transmission system covered under paragraph 2.0 below in terms of regulation 2.8.2.3 of the West Bengal Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions of Tariff) Regulations, 2011, as amended (in short 'Tariff Regulations'). The application has been registered as Case No. OA-350/20-21.
- 2.0 In their petition WBSETCL submitted DPR for the transmission scheme. Brief description of the scheme is given below:
- 2.1 WBSETCL has proposed for establishment of new 220/132/33 kV substation by construction of 220/132/33 kV Gas Insulated Substation (GIS) at Falakata in the Alipurduar district of West Bengal with 2x160 MVA 220/132 kV Transformer, 2x50 MVA 132/33 kV Transformers, 220 kV GIS module with 4 numbers of 220 kV feeder bays, 132 kV GIS module with 4 numbers of 132 kV feeder bays, 12 numbers of 33 kV feeder bays along with construction of D/c LILO of Alipurduar – Birpara 220 kV D/c line of PGCIL at proposed Falakata 220 kV GIS (Route Length – 7.5 Km D/c and 0.30 Km M/c), 132 kV D/c Transmission Line from nearest point of Coochbehar – Mathabhanga 132 kV D/c line to the proposed Falakata 220 kV GIS to establish D/c connectivity between Falakata 220 kV GIS and Mathabhanga 132 kV GIS (Route Length – 25.50 Km D/c) and 132 kV D/c Transmission line from nearest point of Coochbehar – Dinhata – Mathabhanga 132 kV D/c line to the proposed Falakata 220 kV GIS to establish S/c connectivity of Falakata 220 kV GIS with Coochbehar 132 kV substation and Dinhata 132 kV GIS each (Route Length – 23 Km D/c).
- 2.2 WBSETCL submitted that the establishment of 220/132/33 kV Substation at Falakata with associated transmission system was contemplated for strengthening the 132-kV transmission network and to improve reliability of transmission system of Mathabhanga,





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Coochbehar and Dinhata 132 kV substations in the district of Alipurduar, Coochbehar and adjacent area.

- 2.3 WBSETCL has stated that the present peak demand of Mathabhanga 132 kV GIS is around 54 MVA having single circuit connectivity each with Birpara, Moynaguri, Coochbehar and Dinhata 132 substations. Dinhata 132 kV GIS is having present peak demand of 43 MVA and was commissioned by making LILO of one circuit of Coochbehar – Mathabhanga 132 kV D/c. Further, Coochbehar 132 kV substation is having present peak demand of 125 MVA and have S/c connectivity with Alipurduar. Later, the S/c connectivity will be converted to D/c to mitigate source constraint of Coochbehar 132 kV substation.
- 2.4 WBSETCL has also stated that in five districts of North Bengal, there are only two 220 kV source substations – one in New Jalpaiguri and the other one in Alipurduar and thus the Transmission system is majorly dependent on long 132 kV networks. Further, all these 132 kV substations have source constraint.
- 2.5 Falakata 220 kV substation was planned to mitigate source constraint of Mathabhanga and Dinhata primarily and to provide strong alternative source for Coochbehar. LILO of Power Grid's Alipurduar – Birpara 220 kV D/C line has been considered as 220 kV source of Falakata 220 kV, approvals of which from CTU and Standing Committee of CEA have been obtained.
- 2.6 WBSETCL further stated that existing 132 kV network will be reconfigured with proposed Falakata 220 kV to establish D/C connectivity of Falakata 220 kV GIS with Mathabhanga 132 kV and S/C connectivity of Falakata with Coochbehar 132 kV and Dinhata 132 kV.
- 2.7 WBSETCL submitted that due to long distance from grid substation and lengthy 33 kV lines, areas under 33/11 kV substations of WBSEDCL in the vicinity are facing acute low voltage problem. After establishment of 33 kV source at Falakata 220 kV substation, transmission system will be rejuvenated for providing reliable source to the existing and upcoming 33 kV substations and the system will be capable to mitigate low voltage problem, as well as to cope up future load growth in this vicinity.





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- 2.8 WBSETCL has also submitted that Falakata 220/132/33 kV GIS is proposed to be constructed on 5.00 acres of Government vested land at Jogendrapur for which order for long term settlement has already been received from the Government.
- 2.9 It is stated by WBSETCL that the administrative approval to construct Falakata 220/132/33 kV GIS and associated transmission system has been accorded by the Board of Directors, WBSETCL by circulation on 13.10.2020.
- 2.10 The project cost, as submitted by WBSETCL for the scheme has been tabulated as under:

Sl No.	Description	Amount (in Rs. Lakh)
1	Construction of Falakata 220/132/33 kV GIS with 4 numbers of 220 kV feeder bays, 4 numbers of 132 kV feeder bays, 2x160 MVA 220/132 kV Transformers, 2x50 MVA 132/33 kV Transformers, 12 numbers of 33 kV feeder bays	7657.15
2	D/c LIL of Birpara – Alipurduar 220 kV D/c line of PGCIL at proposed Falakata 220 kV GIS (Route Length – 7.5 Km D/c and 0.30 Km M/c)	2352.07
3	132 kV D/c Transmission Line from nearest point of Coochbehar – Mathabhanga 132 kV D/c line to proposed Falakata 220 kV GIS to establish D/c connectivity between Falakata 220 kV and Mathabhanga 132 kV GIS (Route Length – 25.50 KM D/c)	3129.42
4	132 kV D/c Transmission Line from nearest point of Coochbehar – Dinhata – Mathabhanga 132 kV D/c line to proposed Falakata 220 kV GIS to establish S/c connectivity of Falakata 220 kV GIS with Coochbehar 132 kV Substation and Dinhata 132 kV GIS (Route Length – 23 KM D/c)	3956.87
5	Supervision Charge	2555.66
6	Total Project Cost	19651.17
7	IDC	1585.23
8	Project Cost including IDC	21236.40

- 2.11 It was also submitted that the projects are proposed to be funded through WBSETCL's Internal Resources (IR) and through domestic borrowings. The equity component (30%) is proposed to be met through Internal Resources (IR) and the loan component (70%) through domestic borrowings from any Financial Institute. The target beneficiary of the project is WBSEDCL.





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2.12 WBSETCL has further submitted that the project is in pre-tender engineering stage and the tender will be published shortly. Letter of Award (LOA) for implementation of the scheme will be placed after obtaining approval from the Commission.

3.0 The Commission, after carefully analyzing, admitted the application on 09.02.2021 and directed WBSETCL to publish the gist of their application as approved by the Commission in the newspapers as per requirement of regulation 2.8.2.3 of the Tariff Regulations. WBSETCL accordingly published the gist of the application in (i) The Times of India, (ii) the Anandabazar Patrika, (iii) the Aajkal and (iv) the Bartaman on 16.02.2021 inviting suggestions and objections on their application within 14 days (including the date of publication) of publication of the notice in Newspaper. The gist was also uploaded on the official website of WBSETCL on 15.02.2021. No suggestion and objection was received by the Commission within the stipulated time-period.

Observations of the Commission:

- 4.0 The Commission observes that, in terms of Regulation 2.8.2.3 of Tariff Regulations, prior approval of the Commission for investment in new transmission project is mandatory after 31.12.2007.
- 5.0 The Commission noted that the project submitted in the application have been considered in the perspective plan submitted by WBSETCL along with their Multi Year Tariff Application for the 6th Control Period for the years 2018 - 19 and 2019 - 20 which was approved by the Commission in the Tariff Order for WBSETCL in Case No. TP - 86/19 - 20 dated 16.12.2020 in terms of regulation 2.9.3 of the Tariff Regulations.
- 6.0 The Commission observes that the proposed Falakata 220/132/33 kV GIS will cater the existing and upcoming consumers reliable and quality power in and around Falakata, Birpara, Mathabhanga and Dinhata in the Districts Alipurduar and Coochbehar. As far as the connectivity between Falakata, Birpara, Coochbehar, Mathabhanga and Dinhata is concerned, the Commission observes that this connectivity will enhance transmission





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system reliability of the Districts Alipurduar and Coochbehar and also provide overall redundancy in the system.

Order:

7.0 The Commission after considering all the facts and the project report submitted by WBSETCL approves the investment proposal in terms of regulation 2.8.2.3 of the Tariff Regulations with the details as given below:

Sl No.	Description	Amount (in Rs. Lakh)
1	Construction of Falakata 220/132/33 kV GIS with 4 numbers of 220 kV feeder bays, 4 numbers of 132 kV feeder bays, 2x160 MVA 220/132 kV Transformers, 2x50 MVA 132/33 kV Transformers, 12 numbers of 33 kV feeder bays	7657.15
2	D/c LILO of Birpara – Alipurduar 220 kV D/c line of PGCIL at proposed Falakata 220 kV GIS (Route Length – 7.5 Km D/c and 0.30 Km M/c)	2352.07
3	132 kV D/c Transmission Line from nearest point of Coochbehar – Mathabhanga 132 kV D/c line to proposed Falakata 220 kV GIS to establish D/c connectivity between Falakata 220 kV and Mathabhanga 132 kV GIS (Route Length – 25.50 KM D/c)	3129.42
4	132 kV D/c Transmission Line from nearest point of Coochbehar – Dinhata – Mathabhanga 132 kV D/c line to proposed Falakata 220 kV GIS to establish S/c connectivity of Falakata 220 kV GIS with Coochbehar 132 kV Substation and Dinhata 132 kV GIS (Route Length – 23 KM D/c)	3956.87
5	Supervision Charge	2555.66
6	Total Project Cost	19651.17
7	IDC	1585.23
8	Project Cost including IDC	21236.40

8.0 The Commission also gives the following directions:

- For the purpose of capitalization WBSETCL will have to seek approval of the Commission for the project cost along with actual interest during construction and all actual expenditure incurred or apportioned to the project cost on account of spares, transportation, insurance, tax, establishment charges, tools and plants, audit and accounts, maintenance and losses during construction and consultancy charges and also any actual expenditure met out of contingency. WBSETCL is to provide the cost break-up of each scheme showing the actual vis-à-vis estimation included in the total project cost as above.





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- (ii) WBSETCL shall ensure proper metering arrangement in line with Central Electricity Authority (Installation and Operation of Meters) Regulations, 2006 as amended from time to time and arrangement for real time data display at SLDC control room before energization of the sub-station and associated Transmission Systems.
- (iii) On completion of the project WBSETCL shall submit the COD and a benefit analysis of the project separately before the Commission.
- (iv) Original project cost is required to be approved in terms of Regulation 2.8.5 of the Tariff Regulations. Commission may disallow any excess of project cost on capitalization over approved cost if it finds the justifications furnished are not adequate.
- (v) In case of escalation in project cost in any scheme, WBSETCL shall take due approval from the Commission before capitalization of assets.
- (vi) WBSETCL shall place LOA for implementation of the scheme only after receiving possession of the land and subject to compliance of Model Code of Conduct of current election process.

9.0 The petition is thus disposed of. Let a copy of the order be served upon WBSETCL.

sd/-

(PULAK KUMAR TEWARI)
MEMBER

sd/-

(DURGADAS GOSWAMI)
MEMBER

sd/-

(SUTIRTHA BHATTACHARYA)
CHAIRPERSON

Certified true Copy

DATED: 03.05.2021



M. Guha Roy
(M. Guha Roy)
Secretary