

EASTERN REGIONAL POWER COMMITTEE

14 GOLF CLUB ROAD, TOLLYGUNGE, KOLKATA-700 033

Phone: 033-24235199/24235005 # Fax : 033-24171358/24221802 # Web : www.eastrpc.org

No. ERPC/COM-I/GEN/2009/3777-3802

Dated : 01 .07.2009

To : As per list

Sub : Minutes of 10th Commercial Sub- Committee meeting of
ERPC held on 25.06.2009 at ERPC, Kolkata

Sir,

Enclosed please find minutes of the 10th Commercial Sub-
Committee meeting of ERPC held on 25.06.2009 at ERPC, Kolkata.
Observations / Amendments, if any, may please be furnished to ERPC
for further necessary action.

Enclosure : as above

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-

**(R.K.GROVER)
MEMBER SECRETARY**

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- 26) MEMBER SECRETARY, SRPC, 29, RACE COURSE ROAD, BANGALORE – 560 009 (FAX : 080 22259343 / 23119451).
- 27) MEMBER SECRETARY, WRPC, MIDC AREA, ANDHERI (EAST), MUMBAI – 400 093 (FAX : 022 2837 0193 / 28389192 / 28250004).

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MINUTES OF THE 10TH COMMERCIAL SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING OF ERPC HELD ON 25.06.2009 (THURSDAY) AT 1100 HRS. AT ERPC, KOLKATA

The list of participants is enclosed in **Annexure-‘A’**.

Shri R.K. Grover, Member Secretary, ERPC welcomed the participants in the 10th Commercial Sub-Committee meeting of ERPC. He informed that a number of issues has been listed for deliberation in the meeting. He requested Shri J. Bandyopadhyay, Superintending Engineer (Comml), ERPC to take up the agenda items for discussions.

ITEM NO. 1 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 9TH COMMERCIAL SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 23.03.2009.

The minutes of the 9th Commercial Committee meeting were issued vide letter no. ERPC/COM-I/GEN/2009/7880-7905 dated 25.03.2009. No comment from any constituent on the minutes of above meeting has been received.

Members may please confirm the minutes of the meeting as circulated.

Deliberations in the meeting

POWERGRID representative informed that in the minutes of the 9th Commercial Sub-Committee meeting of ERPC held on 23.03.2009 at ERPC, Kolkata it has been mentioned in Item No. 8(B) that “528 nos. ABT meters have been procured by POWERGRID”. It was submitted by POWERGRID that the number should be read as ‘526’ instead of 528.

After deliberations, the correction proposed by POWERGRID was accepted in the meeting. Since there was no further amendment to the minutes of the 9th Commercial Sub-Committee meeting of ERPC, the above minutes were confirmed with the amendment as above.

ITEM NO. 2 A) PAYMENT OF UI -- PRESENT STATUS

Summary of UI Receipt/Payment status for bills up to 12.06.2009 as received from ERLDC is indicated at Annexure –I.

As per Hon’ble CERC order dated 4th June, 2008 against petition no. 54/2008 (suo-motto) and further order dated 15.03.09, BSEB has cleared principal outstanding dues for the year 2008-09. However, interest amount of Rs.159.51941 lakhs due to delayed payment of UI charges for the year

2008-09 is yet to be paid by BSEB. Further, the current principal outstanding (2009-10) UI dues of BSEB as on 12.06.2009 is Rs.2049.66332 lakhs considering bill up to 24.05.09. In addition to this BSEB is required to pay an interest amount of Rs.10.49950 lakhs for the year 2009-10 due to delayed payment of UI charge calculated as on 31.05.09. Thus the total payable amount by BSEB is Rs.2219.68223 lakhs.

It may please be noted that during deliberations at CERC on clarification on issues on UI regulations, it emerged that any payment made by a utility is to be adjusted, as a first charge, against the interest followed by adjustment against principle amount. In this respect correspondence was made by GM, ERLDC with Member (Transmission), BSEB.

BSEB may confirm the programme for payment of outstanding UI dues for (2009-10) as well as interest amount for the year 2008-09 & 2009-10.

Members may please note and discuss.

Deliberations in the meeting

Members noted the present status of UI. On query from Superintending Engineer (Comml), ERPC, BSEB representative present in the meeting informed that they would furnish time-frame for liquidation of the outstanding UI amount.

It was proposed by ERLDC that since an amount of Rs.159.51941 lakhs is outstanding as interest amount due to delayed payment of UI charges for the year 2008-09 against BSEB, any amount paid as UI to the ER UI pool by BSEB or any amount to be paid to BSEB from UI pool, should be adjusted against this interest amount on priority basis. This would help ERLDC to completely settle UI account with respect to BSEB for 2008-09.

BSEB representative present in the meeting agreed to furnish their consent in writing.

B) REACTIVE ENERGY CHARGES -- PRESENT STATUS

The updated position of Receipt/Payment in the ER Reactive Pool for bills upto 31.05.2009 as received from ERLDC is indicated at Annexure – II.

Members may please note.

Deliberations in the meeting

Members noted.

**C) 'IRE POOL' ACCOUNT OF ER WITH OTHER REGIONS --
PRESENT STATUS**

As received from ERLDC, settlement of IRE account with SR has taken place till 52nd Week of 2008-09 i.e. upto 29.03.09 and an amount of Rs.32974.96506 lakhs has been disbursed to POWERGRID for giving transmission benefits to ER beneficiaries. Enclosed statement at Annexure-III shows the details of IRE disbursements and the transmission benefit given to ER beneficiaries as settled as per ER and SR IRE account.

The net IRE amount to be received from NR towards ER-NR exchange upto 26.08.06 has duly been reconciled and is Rs.11354.53007 lakhs. NR has cleared all the outstanding IRE amount of Rs.11354.53007 lakhs, which has already been disbursed to POWERGRID for giving transmission benefits to ER beneficiaries in proportion to the weighted average share for the corresponding years. A statement of transmission benefit to be allowed to ER beneficiaries against payment of Rs.11354.53007 lakhs is shown at Annexure-III.

This is for the information of members.

Deliberations in the meeting

Members present in the meeting expressed satisfaction over settlement of IRE account with NR upto 26.08.2006. Members also noted the settlement of IRE account with SR upto 29.03.2009.

It was brought to the attention of the members present by Member Secretary, ERPC that an amount of Rs.443.28 lakhs has been disbursed to POWERGRID for giving transmission credits to the ER beneficiaries. This has provided a considerable relief to the ER beneficiaries. It was clarified by POWERGRID that the amount disbursed to ER POWERGRID is almost equivalent to seven months' Annual Transmission Charges of ER POWERGRID.

**D) POOL BALANCE DUE TO CAPPING OF UI RATE FOR
NTPC STATION AT ER**

As received from ERLDC, ER UI pool has accrued a total pool balance of Rs.12018.24822 lakhs due to capping of UI of thermal ISGSs for the year 2008-09. This amount of Rs.12018.24822 lakhs is presently available in the ER UI pool account as pool balance due to capping.

This is for the information of members.

Deliberations in the meeting

Members noted.

E) RECONCILIATION OF UI POOL ACCOUNT

It has been informed by ERLDC that the statement of reconciliation of UI Account for the financial year 2007-2008 sent to all constituents on 02.04.2009 for checking at their end and confirmation. DVC, GRIDCO, WBSETCL and NTPC have sent their confirmation. The above confirmation is yet to be received from BSEB, JSEB, Sikkim and NHPC.

The statement of reconciliation of UI Account for the financial year 2008-2009 had also been sent to all constituents on 06.05.2009 for checking at their end and confirmation. Reminder for the same was also sent on 03.06.2009. No confirmation has yet been received from the constituents except WBSETCL.

Members may confirm the same at the earliest.

Deliberations in the meeting

It was decided that if no information is received from remaining constituents within 7 days from 25.06.2009 by ERLDC, it would be presumed that the concerned constituents have no objection to the statement of reconciliation of UI account for the financial year 2007-08 and 2008-09 as issued by ERLDC. The same would be accordingly finalized by ERLDC.

ITEM NO. 3 A) MODIFIED METHODOLOGY OF UI ACCOUNTING

CERC vide Notification dated 30.03.2009 has issued CERC (Unscheduled Interchange Charges and related matters) Regulations, 2009. The regulations has come into force with effect from 01.04.2009. Clause 7 of the above regulation deals with the limits on UI volume and consequences of crossing the limits which are as follows :

- 1) The overdrawal of electricity from the schedule by any beneficiary or a buyer during a time-block shall not exceed 12% of its scheduled drawal or 150 MW (whichever is lower) when frequency is below 49.5 Hz, and 3% on a daily aggregate basis.
- 2) The under-injection of electricity from the schedule by a generating station or by a seller during a time-block shall not exceed 12% of the scheduled injection of such generating station or seller when frequency is below 49.5 Hz, and 3% on daily aggregate basis.
- 3) In addition to UI rate corresponding to frequency of 49.2 Hz as stipulated under regulation 5, an Additional Unscheduled Interchange Charge at the rate equivalent to 40% of the UI rate corresponding to frequency of 49.2 Hz shall be applicable for overdrawal or under-injection of electricity for each time-block when grid frequency is below 49.2 Hz.

Provided that for under-injection of electricity during the time-block when grid frequency is below 49.2 Hz for the generating stations using coal or lignite or gas supplied under Administered Price Mechanism (APM) as the fuel, Additional Unscheduled Interchange Charge shall be equivalent to 40% of the UI Cap rate.

Note: The Additional Unscheduled Interchange Charge shall be reviewed by the Commission on six-monthly basis or earlier, and revise, if necessary through separate orders.

- 4) Payment of Unscheduled Interchange Charges under regulation 5 and the Additional Unscheduled Interchange Charge under Regulation 7(3) above, shall be without prejudice to any action that may be considered appropriate under Section 142 and Section 149 of the Act for contravention of the overdrawal and under-generation limit specified in these regulations, for a time block when frequency is below 49.5 Hz.
- 5) The Commission may from time to time, if considered necessary, prescribe the Additional Unscheduled Interchange Charge for overdrawal or under-injection of electricity during the time-block when grid frequency is below 49.5 Hz and upto 49.2 Hz.
- 6) Any overdrawal and under-injection of electricity shall be computed in accordance with the methodology used for preparation of 'Regional Energy Accounts'.

Provided that the Regional Load Despatch Centre shall prepare and publish on its website the records, on monthly basis, of the UI Accounts specifying the quantum of overdrawal/under-generation and corresponding amount of UI paid/received for each beneficiary or buyer and generating station or seller for the time-blocks when grid frequency was below 49.2 Hz and between 49.5-49.2 Hz separately.

This is for the information of members.

Deliberations in the meeting

Members noted.

B) REVISION OF SCHEDULE BY ERPC FOR UI ADJUSTMENT ON ACCOUNT OF CHPC, KHPC AND THPA OF BHUTAN.

As power stations of Bhutan do not come under the purview of ABT mechanism, therefore, in the past while preparing the weekly UI Account, ERPC had to adjust the UI amount generated from these power stations in terms of Rupees. CERC Notification dated 30.03.2009 has imposed limits on UI volume and has prescribed the consequences of crossing limits at

different frequency stages. To assess the actual schedule of the beneficiaries of power stations of Bhutan, viz. Chhukha, Kiruchu and Tala, now post-facto adjustment has to be made for this UI energy in the schedule of these beneficiaries. Therefore, revised schedule has been prepared for UI calculation after adjustment of UI energy (MWH) of the power stations of Bhutan. The revised schedule is uploaded by ERPC in the ERPC website along with the UI Account.

This is for the information of members.

Deliberations in the meeting

Superintending Engineer (Comml), ERPC explained the rationale of changing the final schedule issued by ERLDC to reflect the fact that CHPC, KHPC and THPA do not come under the purview of regulation as well as to comply with the CERC notification dated 30.03.2009 concerning modified methodology of UI accounting. He also informed that the revised schedules are updated in ERPC website www.eastrpc.org in PDF format. He suggested that any constituent requiring the revised schedule in Excel format also, may contact ERPC for necessary action at ERPC end.

C) ADDITIONAL UI CHARGE ON ACCOUNT OF INTER-REGIONAL POWER EXCHANGE

ERPC has been issuing the weekly UI account in accordance with the Clause 7(3) of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Unscheduled Interchange Charges and related matters) Regulations 2009, effective from 01.04.2009. In the UI account, ERPC has been reflecting the additional Unscheduled Interchange Charge at the rate equivalent to 40% of the UI rate corresponding to the frequency of 49.2 Hz for overdrawal / under-inject power including inter-regional transactions when the frequency is below 49.2 Hz.

The purpose of imposing 40% additional Unscheduled Interchange Charges below 49.2 Hz was to discourage and dissuade overdrawal and maintain grid stability. It was, in fact, continuation of UI only but more stringent at 49.2 Hz & below.

In consonance with this spirit, ERPC has been levying 40% additional Unscheduled Interchange Charges on its own constituents as well as other inter-regional beneficiaries like NR, WR, etc. for overdrawal / under injection below 49.2 Hz. However, same is not being followed in other regions for inter-regional transfers and they have requested ERPC to discontinue this additional Unscheduled Interchange Charges for inter-regional transfers.

It has been stipulated in the Clause 11 of the CERC Regulation that the amount available after final settlement of the claims of Unscheduled

Interchange Charges of the generating stations and the beneficiaries shall be utilized with the prior approval of the Commission for either or both of the following activities :

- a) servicing of investments of transmission scheme of strategic importance ;
- b) providing ancillary services.

If the other regions overdraw power below 49.2 Hz and retain additional Unscheduled Interchange Charges instead of transferring to the Eastern Region UI Pool account, ER would be double sufferer by -

- (i) losing benefit of its own power;
- (ii) non-availability of extra amount for undertaking strengthening of inter-State transmission network of strategic importance in the Eastern Region.

It is understood that NR & WR are charging 40% additional Unscheduled Interchange Charges from their own defaulting constituents. However, they are unwilling to pay the same to exporting agency, i.e. ER. ERPC failed to understand this dichotomy. The very argument that additional Unscheduled Interchange Charges is not payable in case of inter-regional transactions defeats the very spirit and purpose of this notification.

ERPC vide letter no. ERPC/COM-II/UI Corr/2009/3501-11 dated 17.06.09 has already been taken up the issue with CERC for clarification.

This is for the information of members.

Deliberations in the meeting

Superintending Engineer (Comml), ERPC explained in details the rationale of imposing 40% Additional Unscheduled Interchange Charges below 49.2 Hz for inter-regional transactions also. He also brought the attention of the members to the letter written by WRPC. He further informed that ERPC is expecting clarification from CERC in this matter.

POWERGRID representative present in the meeting endorsed the action taken by ERPC and emphasised that the Additional Unscheduled Interchange Charges should also be applicable for inter-regional transactions in accordance with the CERC notification dated 30.03.2009. There was no objection from any quarter against imposing 40% of Additional Unscheduled Interchange Charges below 49.2 Hz for inter-regional transactions by ERPC.

D) MAINTENANCE OF ACCOUNT FOR UI CHARGE, ADDITIONAL UI CHARGE, POOL BALANCE DUE TO CAPPING OF NTPC STATIONS AND INTEREST ON UI DUE TO DELAYED PAYMENT

As per Clause 9 “Unscheduled Interchange Charges Accounting” of the CERC (Unscheduled Interchange Charges and related matters) Regulations 2009, all payments on account of Unscheduled Interchange charges including the Additional Unscheduled Interchange Charges levied under these regulations and interest received on late payment thereof shall be credited to a **Fund called the “Unscheduled Interchange Pool Account Fund”**, which shall be maintained and operated in accordance with provisions of the Grid Code.

CERC vide its order no. L-7/25(5)/N/2003 dated 14.01.2008 capped the UI rate for coal, lignite and APM gas fired generating stations to 406 paise/kWh., which was further revised as 408 paise/kWh vide new regulation dated 30.03.09.

It has been informed by ERLDC that the total pool balance accumulated on account of capping is Rs.12018.24822 lakhs for 2008-09. ERLDC proposed that as the amount so getting accumulated due to capping of UI rate for ISGS thermal stations and additional UI charge applicable for over drawal / under-generation at a frequency below 49.2 Hz, therefore, ERLDC may have a separate Bank Account for amount getting accumulated due to additional UI charges applicable for over drawal / under-generation at a frequency below 49.2 Hz and capping of UI rate for ISGS thermal stations.

ERLDC may further elaborate and enlighten the methodology being followed at present and to be followed in future to maintain the account(s).

Deliberations in the meeting

During the deliberation, it was informed by ERLDC that in all other regions separate account have already been opened for proper segregation of UI charges, pool balance, etc.

In this connection, Superintending Engineer (Comml), ERPC drew the attention of the members to the Clause 9 of the CERC (Unscheduled Interchange Charges and related matters) Regulations 2009 wherein it has been clearly mentioned that all payment on account of Unscheduled Interchange Charges including Additional Unscheduled Interchange Charges levied under this regulation and interest received on late payment shall be credited to a fund called “Unscheduled Interchange Pool Account Fund”. He requested ERLDC to examine whether its proposal of opening separate account would be in agreement of Clause 9 of the above regulations.

After detailed deliberations, members present in the meeting authorized ERLDC to take appropriate action keeping in view the procedure being followed in other RLDCs and the provisions of CERC regulations.

ITEM NO. 4 INFIRM GENERATION FROM UNIT # 7 OF KhSTPS STAGE-II VIS-À-VIS DRAWAL OF POWER BY NTPC.

As per the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms & Conditions of Tariff) Regulations 2009, supply of infirm power shall be accounted as Unscheduled Interchange and paid for from the regional or state UI pool account at the applicable frequency linked UI rate. Any revenue earned by the generating company from the sale of infirm power after accounting for the fuel expenses shall be applied for the reduction in capital cost.

In this connection, U # 7 of KhSTPS Stage-II synchronized on 30.03.2009. It is seen that except on very few occasions, KhSTPS U # 7 has been drawing power from the grid. In the weekly UI Account prepared by ERPC, the same has been treated as UI power to KhSTPS U # 7 for settlement of bill arising out of this supply.

Commercial Sub-Committee members may please opine / decide about the treatment to be given to the power absorbed by U # 7 of KhSTPS prior to the commercial operation.

Deliberations in the meeting

It was informed by Superintending Engineer (Comml), ERPC that U#7 of KhSTPS Stage-II synchronized on 31.03.2009. Thereafter, on many of the days, instead of injecting infirm power into the grid, KhSTPS U#7 have been drawing power from the grid. In the UI account prepared by ERPC, absorption of power by U#7 of KhSTPS has been treated as UI drawal and accordingly settled. However, there is no such provision in CERC regulations regarding treatment to be given to the power consumed by ISGS unit after synchronization and before commercial declaration. He requested the members to approve the above treatment as a special case.

After detailed deliberations, members present in the meeting approved the treatment given to the power absorbed by U#7 of KhSTPS from 31.03.2009 by ERPC in the weekly UI account.

ITEM NO. 5 SETTLEMENT OF DISCREPANCY IN JOINT METER READINGS BETWEEN THPA AND PTC FOR TALA ENERGY RECEIPTS AT BINAGURI AND ASSOCIATED REVISION OF REGIONAL ENERGY ACCOUNTING (REA) FOR SOME OF THE MONTHS BETWEEN OCTOBER'06 AND MARCH'08 – REVIEW OF PROGRESS

In accordance with the decision of 10th ERPC meeting held on 11.04.2009 at Port Blair, Andaman, ERPC has already issued the revised REA

indicating therein the amount of additional booking in MWH to each beneficiaries of Tala for the period from December'06 to March'08 (excepting December'07 and February'08).

In this connection, it is mentioned that the following decisions taken at THPA office at Gedu, Bhutan on 11.12.2008 were scheduled to be implemented by March'09 :

- A) All the Main and Check meters at both the ends of 400 kV Tala – Binaguri Lines I to IV should be Special Energy Meters (SEM) of same make, same type and same accuracy class.
- B) Similarly, it should be ensured by the respective parties that the required meters (SEM) connected to and from Malbase Sub-station of Bhutan are of similar make, type and accuracy class as above.

PTC, THPA and POWERGRID may please indicate the latest status.

Deliberations in the meeting

It was informed by THPA representative that orders have already been placed on M/s L&T for supply of 8 nos. of SEM meters to be installed at Binaguri (4 nos.), Tala (3 nos.) and Malbase (1 no.). He informed that the installation works are expected to be completed in all respects by the end of July 2009.

ITEM NO. 6 DEEMED GENERATION OF TEESTA STAGE-V

Teesta Stage-V Power Station had to be completely shutdown for 44 days in 2008-09 due to high siltation. In addition to the loss of generation suffered by NHPC, the Eastern Regional constituents also suffered due to non-availability of cheap hydro power from Teesta Stage-V Hydro Power Station. In the 7th meeting of ERPC held at Ranchi on 26.07.2008, in the course of discussions on deemed generation of Rangit HPS, it was decided that “Member Secretary, ERPC would convene a meeting at Teesta Stage-V in which, besides ERPC, ERLDC & NHPC, experts from all beneficiary constituents would also participate and to take stock of the situation and submit a report to Chairperson, ERPC. In future, while deciding the claim of deemed generation etc of Teesta Stage-V, if any, the findings and recommendations would also be considered”.

Accordingly, ERPC Secretariat held a meeting on 29th August 2008 at Teesta Stage-V, Baltur East Sikkim in which besides the representatives of NHPC, representatives from GRIDCO, OHPC, WBSEDCL, Government of Sikkim, ERLDC and ERPC were present. The members also made an on-the-spot visit of the dam site of Teesta Stage-V.

In the meeting at Teesta Stage-V, Shri D. Chattopadhyay, Chief Engineer (I/C), Teesta (Stage-V) PS gave a detailed presentation covering every aspect related to the problem. He also gave a video presentation which

captured aerial view of the upstream Teesta River to pin point the problem areas. After the detailed presentation, the following points emerged :-

- 1.a) On 17th May 2008, it was observed that silt content surpassed 11995 PPM and powerhouse was shutdown on 17th May 2008 for 3 days upto 19th May 2008 when the silt content came down to around 5000 PPM.
 - b) Again, on 4th June 2008, the silt content rose to beyond 9000 PPM & powerhouse was shutdown on 4th June 2008 and power generation resumed on 5th June 2008.
 - c) On 10th June 2008, the PPM was observed to be above 10000 and powerhouse has shutdown for 12 hours.
 - d) On 12th June 2008, the PPM content was observed to be above 18000 PPM and powerhouse was shutdown. The PPM rose to above 100000 and remained continuously high leading to prolonged shutdown upto 23rd July 2008. The reservoir was flushed during this period and then filed up. The generation was resumed on 25th July 2008.
 - e) NHPC tried to locate source of silt. Landslides were reported in a tributary called Tolunmchu. Aerial surveys were carried out to assess the extent of damage.
2. The siltation problem faced in the year 2008 was unprecedented as was evident from the following table presented during deliberation by NHPC :

Period (Year/ Month)	Unit	April (Max/Min)		May		June		July (Max/Min)	
		Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
Year-2000	PPM	329	72	1767	267	2214	419	2405	1292
Year-2001	PPM	543	154	3520	536	5778	1751	1918	1615
Year-2002	PPM	3369	389	1228	1226	4053	1298	4130	3258
Year-2003	PPM	1373	1301	1338	1251	3092	1275	10338	2565
Year-2004	PPM	853	834	1463	804	3100	1280	2900	2575
Year-2005	PPM	4756	108	2048	80	1747	169	2983	260
Year-2006	PPM	260	110	1021	270	1367	570	1309	669
Year-2007	PPM	172	147	479	170	3306	320	2258	907
Year-2008	PPM	9398	133	21580	780	100050	2070	33391	2125

It was stressed by NHPC during presentation that the siltation problem was unique and NHPC had no clue before hand for such a natural calamity and its origin.

It emerged from the presentation that on the upstream side there are a number of major tributaries of river Teesta. One of such tributaries is Tolungchu. There was heavy landslide and

consequent siltation on both sides of Tolungchu as was captured pictorially during aerials survey.

It was clarified by Shri P. Wangchen, Secretary (Power), Government of Sikkim that the area adjoining the tributary Tolungchu is quite inaccessible. There was no road to approach the tributary. In fact, he informed that because of inaccessibility of the entire upstream course of Teesta, it was not possible to immediately find out the source of siltation. He thanked NHPC for making sincere efforts in locating the source of siltation problem. He assured that Government of Sikkim in co-ordination with NHPC would take necessary action to reduce the siltation problem in future.

3. The origin of the siltation problem lies in Tolungchu tributary on both sides of which are having dense reserved forest. Therefore, the involvement of Government of Sikkim particularly the Deptt. of Environment & Forest is required.

After a thorough deliberation, the followings were decided unanimously :

- a) As per the data furnished by NHPC, the siltation problem faced by Teesta (Stage-V) in 2008 was un-expected and was beyond the control of NHPC.
- b) Teesta (Stage-V) PS remained under shutdown as the siltation level reached much higher than the permissible limit of 5000 PPM. In fact, the highest PPM recorded was of the order of 1,00,000.
- c) On suggestion of Member Secretary, ERPC, NHPC agreed to undertake the catchment area treatment. Shri P. Wangchen, Secretary (Power), Government of Sikkim agreed to extend necessary assistance to NHPC to undertake the work.
- d) NHPC will be monitoring the catchment area through remote sensing studies in future.

In the Commercial Sub-Committee held on 11.11.2008 and in the TCC meeting of ERPC held on 21.11.2008, members noted the reporting of visit by ERPC team to NHPC Teesta Stage-V.

Subsequently, ERPC has received a letter no. NH/COMM/F/2009/422-24 dated 06.05.2009 from NHPC in which they have indicated that as the deemed generation is permissible only up to the level of design energy during a year, the maximum permissible deemed generation is 685.95 MU after accounting for the actual generation of the power station, whereas the deemed generation as per calculation is worked out 534.78 MU (as given in the Annexure-IV). Invoking the Clause 41 of CERC Regulation dated

26.03.2004, NHPC has submitted that the present case fulfills all the following criteria for qualifying the deemed generation :

- a) Energy generated should be less than the Design Energy during the year.
- b) Loss of generation should be beyond the control of the generator.
- c) There should be spillage of water.

In view of above, NHPC requested that the deemed generation of 534.78 MU for Teesta Stage-V Power Station for the year 2008-09 may please be certified.

Members may please discuss and decide.

Deliberations in the meeting

Chief (Finance), NHPC described in details the reasons for shut down of Teesta Stage-V Power Station for 44 days in 2008-09 due to high siltation. He highlighted the decisions taken in the meeting on 29.08.2008 at Teesta Stage-V during the visit of ERPC team. He informed that, in accordance with the Clause 41 of CERC Regulations dated 26.03.2004, deemed generation to the extent of 534.78 MU is payable by the beneficiaries of Teesta Stage-V. He requested the beneficiaries of Teesta present in the meeting to accord approval for the payment of the above deemed generation.

Beneficiary constituents of Teesta Stage-V present in the meeting requested NHPC to indicate the actual financial implications involved in admitting the above deemed generation. NHPC representative informed that since the present tariff of Teesta Stage-V is provisional and the proposal for finalization of tariff is pending before CERC, the exact financial implications would be known after the tariff is finalized. The beneficiary constituents of Teesta Stage-V requested NHPC to submit afresh the proposal of deemed generation of Teesta Stage-V, indicating therein the financial implication for each beneficiary, once the tariff of Teesta Stage-V is approved by CERC.

ITEM NO. 7 LESS REGISTRATION OF METER DATA FOR THE TIE FLOW THROUGH 132 KV MAITHON (DVC)-JAMTARA (JSEB) LINE FOR THE PERIOD FROM 23.09.07 TO 03.12.07

DVC has reported that there was less registration of meter data for 132 kV Maithon HPS (DVC)-Jamtara (JSEB) tie flow from 23rd September 2007 to 3rd December 2007. As both the SEM & TVM at Maithan end was recording less reading (as per DVC), therefore DVC requested JSEB to send the daily line flow data from Jamtara S/S of JSEB. But after receiving the data from JSEB, DVC has mentioned that the daily line flow data received from JSEB for the period September'07 and October'07 were very much incomplete and incorrect. Therefore, they

have requested to revise the UI account for the said period with average monthly MWH data jointly signed by representatives of DVC and JSEB.

In the last Commercial Sub-Committee meeting, Member Secretary, ERPC suggested that both DVC and JSEB should discuss among themselves and try to resolve the issue.

DVC and JSEB may intimate the latest status.

Deliberations in the meeting

Member Secretary, ERPC requested DVC and JSEB to settle the issue bilaterally among themselves.

ITEM NO. 8 SHARING OF TRANSMISSION CHARGES OF ISTS FOR INTER-REGIONAL LINE(S)

In accordance with the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms & Conditions of Tariff) Regulations 2009, ERPC has issued REA for the months of April & May 2009. In this connection, ERPC has received a letter from POWERGRID vide No. E/PT/CL/14/176 dated 11.05.2009, in which at points no. 4 & 5, it has been informed that “At page-10 of REA, sharing of Regional Transmission System and Inter-Regional Transmission System have been shown as recoverable from Regional constituents as well as constituents of other Regions, which is not correct as per CERC Regulation-2009” & “Sharing of Regional System are to be done by all constituents including constituents of other Regions but the sharing of Transmission charges for Inter-Regional System (ER-NER links) are to be done by constituents of both the Regions in 50:50 basis. Since Annual Fixed Charges for ER-NER links considered only 50% of the total charges, it is to be shared only by six constituents of Eastern Region only.”

POWERGRID has requested ERPC to revise the REA accordingly. In this connection, attention of the members of the Commercial Sub-Committee is drawn to the Clause 33 (3)(ii) of CERC which is reproduced below :-

Quote

The amounts payable for the month for inter-regional links between Northern and Western regions, between Western and Southern regions, and between Eastern and North-Eastern regions shall be borne by the linked regions in 50 : 50 ratio, and shared by the beneficiaries in the concerned region in proportion to the sum of their respective entitlements (in MW) in the inter-State generating stations in their own region, but excluding any generating capacity for which charges of associated transmission system are not being fully pooled.

Unquote

ERPC is of the opinion that any utility having share in the ISGS of Eastern Region is a beneficiary of the Eastern Region and accordingly each beneficiary of ER has to share the 50% of the monthly transmission

charges of the inter-regional links in proportion of the sum of respective entitlement in MW in the inter-State generating stations in the Eastern Region. The share of transmission charges for the inter-regional lines should not be restricted to the beneficiary located in the Eastern Region only.

Members may please discuss and decide.

Deliberations in the meeting

POWERGRID representative present in the meeting explained in details the rationale of apportioning the transmission charges with respect to the inter-regional transmission line between ER and NER among the ER beneficiaries. This was accepted by others. It was also decided that REA for the months of April'09 and May'09 would be accordingly revised.

ITEM NO. 9 DEMARCATION OF PEAK HOURS IN EASTERN REGION AND RELATED ISSUES LIKE :

A) PEAK HOURS SCHEDULING OF THERMAL POWER PLANTS (ISGS) UNDER COAL SHORTAGE CONDITION

As per Clause 21 (4) of CERC Tariff Regulation 2009

Quote

In case of fuel shortage in a thermal generating station, the generating company may propose to deliver a higher MW during peak-load hours by saving fuel during off-peak hours. The concerned Load Despatch Centre may then specify a pragmatic day-ahead schedule for the generating station to optimally utilize its MW and energy capability, in consultation with the beneficiaries. DCi in such an event shall be taken to be equal to the maximum peak-hour ex-power plant MW schedule specified by the concerned Load Despatch Centre for that day.

Unquote

The issue regarding certifying fuel shortage, methodology of preparation of schedule during peak hours, duration of peak hours, etc were deliberated in details in the 9th Commercial Sub-Committee meeting held on 23.03.2009 and in the 9th TCC meeting held on 10.04.2009. As per the decisions in the above meetings, the issues were referred to CERC, who subsequently convened a meeting on 23.04.2009 of all RPCs and RLDCs at CERC office, New Delhi. It was indicated in the meeting by CERC that the pertinent issues need to be addressed at each RPC level separately. Accordingly, in the 38th OCC meeting held on 15.05.2009, it has been decided that for the purpose of scheduling under fuel shortage condition, peak hours for the month of June 2009 would be considered from 1830 hrs to 2130 hrs.

Members may please note and deliberate.

Deliberations in the meeting

It was explained by Superintending Engineer (Comml), ERPC that the average of implemented schedule during the peak hours from 1830 hrs to 2130 hrs would be taken as DCi for the ISGS power stations under coal shortage condition. NTPC's request regarding limiting the duration to one hour during peak hours was not accepted in the meeting.

B) DETERMINATION OF DCi FOR HYDRO POWER STATION

As per CERC Tariff Regulation 2009 Clause 22 (3), Plant Availability Factor Achieved during the Month in Percentage (PAFM) shall be computed based on Declared Capacity (in ex-bus MW) for the day which the stations can deliver at least 3 hours as certified by Nodal Despatch Centre after the day is over.

It is again mentioned that in the meeting held at CERC, New Delhi on 23.04.2009, CERC indicated that the related issue may be decided at ERPC level. Accordingly, it is suggested that the DCi for the purpose of computation of plant availability factor during a month would be computed based on the average DCi for the time block from 1830 hrs to 2130 hrs.

Members may deliberate and decide.

Deliberations in the meeting

It was decided that DCi for the purpose of computation of plant availability factor during a month would be based on the average DCi for the time block from 1830 hrs to 2130 hrs.

However, in view of extra-ordinary conditions prevailing on 25.05.2009 and 26.05.2009, the DCi for Rangit and Teesta Stage-V would be taken as the maximum availability during other 3 hours of the day as a special case.

ITEM NO.10 REQUIREMENT OF SEMs UPTO 2012 (11TH PLAN PERIOD) -- ERLDC

A list of SEMs (Annexure-V) required for new elements coming within 11th Plan period has been prepared by ERLDC and the same was circulated to all constituents during the OCC meeting held on 17.05.2009 at Kolkata. No comments have been received from the constituents. ERLDC has proposed that POWERGRID should initiate the procurement process.

FUTURE REQUIREMENT OF SPECIAL TYPE ENERGY METERS AND DCDs -- POWERGRID

The requirement of frequency based ABT Special type meters under XI Plan (upto 2012) has been discussed in 37th OCC meeting of ERPC

wherein it was decided that ERLDC shall forward requirement of SEM to POWERGRID. After getting the requirement of SEM from ERLDC, POWERGRID shall take action for procurement of the meters. ERLDC have forwarded the requirement of meters under XI Plan (up to 2012). The requirement of meters as per ERLDC are 550 nos and considering 10% spare meters the total requirement of meters will be 605 nos. Also based on location of meters to be installed total number of DCD / Lap top requirement will be 100 nos. Based on previous Purchase order the ex-work price of 01 no. meter is Rs.27,000/- and cost of DCD is Rs.45,000/-, the total cost estimate for procurement of meters and DCD / Laptop will be 2.04 crores.

POWERGRID drew the attention of ERPC and the constituent members towards approval of the proposal.

Members may deliberate.

Deliberations in the meeting

In the meeting, after taking into account the requirement of SEMs for the upcoming projects in Sikkim, it was decided that 650 nos (subject to actual) SEMs and 100 nos. DCD (not Laptop) would be procured by POWERGRID at an estimated cost of Rs.3.5 crores [at the estimated rate of Rs.27,000/- for 1 no. SEM and Rs.45,000/- for 1 no. DCD]. The total cost would be apportioned among the beneficiary constituents of Eastern Region in proportion to the share allocation for the month in which the proposal is approved in the ERPC meeting. Against the POWERGRID's proposal of levying 15% as overhead charges, it was decided, on request from the beneficiaries, that the charges shall be limited to 10%.

It was further decided that ERLDC would circulate the revised list indicating therein the constituentwise requirement of SEMs and DCDs.

ITEM NO.11 POLARITY OF THE METERS AT THE FOLLOWING LINES ARE REVERSED AND THESE ARE TO BE RECTIFIED -- ERLDC

1. 400 KV Malbase-Binaguri at Malbase end;
2. 132/66 KV ICT-1 & 2 at Gangtok (66 KV side)
3. Purnea-Purnea Line 1 at Purnea (BSEB) end;
4. Maithon-Jamtara at Jamtara (BSEB) end.

Members may please note.

Deliberations in the meeting

Members noted.

ITEM NO.12 REPLACEMENT OF BALANCE OLD SEMs WITH NEW SEMs -- ERLDC

It was decided that all the old meters (SML make) are to be replaced by L&T make meters. Most of the meters have already been replaced.

However, the following meters are required to be replaced. Tentative date for replacement of the meters may be intimated by POWERGRID.

1. Rammam-Rangit at Rammam (WBSEB) end
2. TTPS-TSTPP at TTPS (GRIDCO) end
3. 400/220 KV ICT-1 & 2 at Pusauli (PG)
4. Pusauli-Ara Line 1 & 2 at Pusauli (PG)
5. Pusauli East Bus-1 & 2 at Pusauli (PG)
6. 400/220 KV ICT-1 & 2 at Jamshedpur (PG)
7. 132 KV Chandil-Maniqui at Maniqui (DVC) end

Members may please note and discuss.

Deliberations in the meeting

Members noted.

ITEM NO.13 INSTALLATION OF NEW METER -- ERLDC

66 KV Rangit-Melli line has been made LILO at Sakbari. So new tie line is Rangit-Sakbari (Sikkim). Meter is to be installed at Sakbari. This is extremely urgent.

Members may please note and discuss.

Deliberations in the meeting

During the deliberations, it emerged that Sikkim has put a 'T' connection in the 66 KV Rangit-Meli line at Sakbari (not made LILO at Sakbari). POWERGRID representative informed in the meeting that the above connection had been made by Sikkim without any consultation with POWERGRID. Members present in the meeting requested ERPC to take up with Sikkim for refraining from such unilateral action in future.

Member Secretary, ERPC in his concluding remarks, observed that since the 'T' connection has already been done by Sikkim, there is no alternative but to measure the flow through different paths using the meters. For this, the new meters are required to be installed.

ITEM NO.14 NON-RECEIPT OF METER READINGS -- TREATMENT OF LOSS -- ERLDC

For computation of drawal for the constituents, usually respective end meter readings are utilized. At times, it is observed that meter reading in one end of the line is not available when drawal is computed by considering the meter reading of the other end. Thus, the utilities end drawal wherefrom the meter readings have not been received, increases by the loss component of that line. It is proposed that under such circumstances, RLDC may consider the notional loss for that period for arriving out at the drawal wherefrom the meter reading is not received.

Recently, power flow in the following lines have been calculated considering only one end of meter readings as the other end readings were not available.

1. 220 KV Bidhannagar-Waria-1
2. 220 KV Bidhannagar-Waria-2
3. Patratu-Patratu
4. Parulia-Bidhannagar
5. Sultanganj-Deoghar
6. Llmattia-Sabour
7. Barhi-Biharshariff

Members may please deliberate.

Deliberations in the meeting

Member noted the proposal of ERLDC.

ITEM NO.15 REQUEST FOR CURTAILMENT OF EXPORT OF POWER DUE TO DECLARATION OF GRID DISTURBANCE IN WEST BENGAL – WBSETCL

WBSETCL vide their Memo No. SLDC/How/92C/2009-10/1013 dated 18.06.2009 has informed that due to severe storm and rain on 25.05.2009 and 26.05.2009, the power system in West Bengal got totally disrupted. In consequence, numerous EHT lines as well as LT lines were under breakdown. To save the system and to tackle severe load crash many generators were taken out of bus. After prudent exercise on this issue, SLDC has declared it as grid disturbance. The period and zone of grid disturbance is mentioned below. During the span of grid disturbance state ABT will remain suspended and within the state the schedule of each constituent will be their actual drawal/injection as applicable (Ref. WBERC State Grid Code, Chapter 5, Clause 5.3, Sub-clause xvii).

Time of Grid Disturbance: From 14.00 hrs (Time Block 57) of 25.05.09
To 15.45 hrs (Time Block 63) of 26.05.09

Zone of Grid Disturbance : West Bengal State EHT Power System.

It has been noted that within the time span of Grid Disturbance, M/s CESC Ltd and TATA POWER was exporting through IEX. TATA POWER could not export power from block no. 73 to 88 on 25.05.09 and block no. 57 to 63 on 26.05.09 due to non-availability of generation. CESC also could not export power from block no. 05 to 28 on 26.05.09 as the state Grid virtually failed at that time and CESC lost connectivity with the rest of the Grid. Therefore, WESETCL requested to take necessary steps to cancel the above mentioned exports during the time span as indicated against each of them. For any export beyond the time span of Grid disturbance there is no problem as the concerned entities can continue

their export and the billing can be settled through UI. Hence, WBSETCL requested to cancel the said exports and revise the final schedules as well as UI bills for those days.

Members may please deliberate.

Deliberations in the meeting

In the absence of representative from WBSETCL, the issue could not be discussed in the meeting.

ITEM NO.16 ANY OTHER POINT WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR

A) Additional Agenda Points submitted by POWERGRID.

1) Augmentation of Transformation capacity of 220 / 132 KV Sub-station at

I) Birpara S/S in ER-II

Presently, the transformation capacity of 220/132 KV Birpara S/S is 150 MVA (1 x 50 MVA & 1 x 100 MVA). From the load pattern of both ICTs, it has been observed that the power flow through both the transformers exceeds more than 90-100 MW during peak hours and it is clear that with the same transformation capacity of 150 MVA available at Birpara, and considering the rate of rise of demand per year (more than 20%), the full load of WBSETCL can not be met in near future. Further, due to non-availability of alternate source at Birpara, WBSETCL has to resort load shedding in case of outage of any one of ICT. As such the augmentation of transformation capacity at Birpara S/S is required immediately to have sufficient margin to take care of load growth in future.

II) Siliguri S/S in ER-II

Presently, only one no. 220 /132 KV 100 MVA ICT is available at Siliguri S/S. It has been observed that during lean period of Hydro generation, i.e. whenever Rangit HEP is out of service, the power flow through the transformer exceeds more than 80 MW during peak hours and it is clear that with the same transformation capacity of 100 MVA available at Siliguri and with the growing load pattern, it will be difficult to cater the load through this transformer. As such the augmentation of transformation capacity at Siliguri S/S is required immediately to have sufficient margin to take care of load growth in future.

The matter was discussed in 37th OCC meeting of ERPC wherein in principle approval for installation of 160 MVA ICT at both the places have been agreed by WBSETCL representative. The

approximate cost for procurement, installation and commissioning of 160 MVA ICTs along with associated bays at both the places will be Rs.20 crores.

POWERGRID drew the attention of ERPC and WBSETCL towards approval of the above proposals.

Deliberations in the meeting

Members noted the above proposals.

2) Options for provision of additional bay/breaker facility against 400 KV Malda-Farakka Feeder-I at Malda S/S.

400 KV Malda-Farakka Ckt-I bay is running on single breaker (ABB SF6 Circuit Breaker diverted from Durgapur) without any provision to transfer the bay to TBC which has been constructed in the year 2002. At that time due to space constraints transfer bay was not constructed. The power flow through this line has increased up to SIL level during winter season. This makes this feeder a critical one from system stability point of view. Outage of the only Available CB for 400 KV Farakka-Malda-I on account of maintenance, break down will put considerable Operational problem & may lead to jeopardize the grid.

Looking in to the criticality of the matter, an expert committee has visited site and explore various option to provide transfer facility through TBC or additional/redundant breaker facility. The committee after comprehensive study of the Physical layout and other consideration has submitted their report wherein they have recommended for providing additional bay by relocation of some of the existing equipment/structures.

The matter was discussed in 39th OCC meeting of ERPC wherein in principle approval for installation of additional bay/breaker facility against 400 KV Malda-Farakka Feeder-I at Malda S/S have been agreed by ER constituents. The approximate cost for commissioning of one no bay at Malda S/S will be 02 crores.

POWERGRID drew the attention of ERPC and constituent members towards approval of the above proposal.

Deliberations in the meeting

Members noted and agreed

B) Additional Agenda Points submitted by GRIDCO

- 1) Uploading of all annexure, attached to the agenda/minutes of the meetings of different forums of ERPC, into the website of ERPC.**

Deliberations in the meeting

ERPC informed that efforts would be made to upload of Annexures along with agenda of the meetings into the website of ERPC. Members were further requested to ensure submission of soft copy along with the hard copy while furnishing the agenda items including Annexures for discussion in the meeting.

- 2) Revision of power purchase agreement (Amendment No. 2) between PTC and GRIDCO for sale of Chukha power**

Deliberations in the meeting

It was informed by PTC that the issue raised by GRIDCO has already been resolved between PTC and GRIDCO recently.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

List of Participants in the 10th Commercial Sub-Committee meeting of ERPC held on 25.06.2009 at ERPC, Kolkata.

ERPC

1. Shri R.K. Grover, MS – in Chair
2. Shri J. Bandyopadhyay, SE
3. Shri S.K. Ghosh, EE
4. Shri A. Roy, EE
5. Shri S.K. Deb, EE
6. Shri S.M. Jha, EE
7. Shri G. Ghosh, EE
8. Shri S.P. Datta, DGM (NVVN)
9. Shri Subhra Paul, AEE

NERPC

1. Shri B. Sarkhel, SE (O)

BSEB

1. Shri S.K. Sengupta, EEE / L.O. Kolkata

JSEB

1. Shri Sudhanshu Kumar, ESE

DVC

1. Shri P.K. Chaudhuri, CE (Comml)
2. Shri S. Ghosal, SE (Comml)

WBSEDCL

1. Shri M.S. Pal, Addl. CE (Comml) & I/C-PTR

NHPC

1. Shri A.K. Chaudhary, CE (Comml)
2. Shri D. Chakraborty, Chief (Finance)

NTPC

1. Shri K.K. Sinha, DGM Comml)
2. Shri Shyam Kumar, DGM (Comml), CC
3. Shri P.K. Ghoshal, Sr. Manager (Comml)

PTC

1. Shri H. Saran, VP

THPA

1. Shri T. Periyannan, EE/OI

GRIDCO

1. Shri U.K. Sahoo, Manager
2. Shri S.K. Mohanty, Manager
3. Shri M. Dhar, Asstt. Manager
4. Shri N. Khan, L.O.

POWERGRID

1. Shri Jai Pal Singh, GM (O&M), ER-II
2. Shri S. Prasad, AGM (Comml)
3. Shri S.K. Singh, Chief Manager (OS)

ERLDC

1. Dr. L. Hari, GM
2. Shri D.K. Shrivastava, DGM
3. Shri P. Mukhopadhyay, DGM
4. Shri G. Chakraborty, Chief Manager
5. Shri A.N. Pal, Dy. Manager