Before the

MAHARASHTRA ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

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Case No. 133 of 2016

Date: 27 April, 2017

CORAM: Shri. Azeez M. Khan, Member Shri. Deepak Lad, Member

Petition of Maharashtra Metro Rail Corporation Ltd. (Formerly known as Nagpur Metro Rail Corporation Ltd.) under Section 62 (1) (a) and 86 (1) (e) of the Electricity Act, 2003 for relaxing the applicability of definition of Eligible Consumer under Regulation 2.1(g) and Regulation 5 of MERC (Net Metering for Roof-top Solar Photo Voltaic Systems) Regulations, 2015.

Maharashtra Metro Rail Corporation Ltd. (MMRCL) ...Petitioner

V/s

Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Co. Ltd. (MSEDCL)

Maharashtra State Electricity Transmission Co.Ltd. (MSETCL)Respondents

Appearance:

For MMRCL : Shri Alok Sahay (Rep.)

: Shri. Narendra Ahir (Rep.): Shri. Anant Sant (Consultant): Shri. Krishnajith M.U.(Consultant)

For MSEDCL : Shri Ashish Singh, (Adv.)

: Shri.P.H. Jambhulkar (Rep.)

For MSETCL : Shri. A.V. Shinde (Rep.)

For Authorized Consumer Representatives : Dr. Ashok Pendse, TBIA

Daily Order

Heard the Representatives/Advocates of the Petitioner, Respondents and Consumer Representative.

1) MMRCL made a presentation and stated that:

- (i) Its name has changed from Nagpur Metro Rail Corporation Ltd. (NMRCL) to Maharashtra Metro Rail Corporation Ltd. (MMRCL).
- (ii) Pursuant to the directions of the Commission vide Daily Order dated 9 February, 2017, a meeting was held with MSEDCL on 22 February, 2017 at which MSEDCL suggested to MMRCL the option of availing Captive Power Plant (CPP) Open Access route. However, CPP Open Access is not feasible as its consumption and generation is unique, i.e behind the consumer meter, and MMRCL is a consumer under the HT-III category which does not have ToD based Tariff. MSEDCL has also not clarified as to how banking settlement will take place.
- (iii) MSEDCL suggested that MMRCL may segregate the load as per the requirement with separate connections and apply for connectivity of solar generation (below 1 MW) under Net Metering Regulations against each connection. However, its solar generation is at various locations within Maha Metro premises and may not match with the consumption in that location. Therefore, separation of load and generation will not be appropriate solution for optimum utilisation of solar power.
- (iv) The solar generation may meet to 65% of the total energy requirement of Maha Metro, and substantial energy switch will take place from fossil fuel to Renewable Energy in urban mass transportation system, which makes it unique and special case for consideration.
- (v) MMRCL has complied with all the requirements under Net Metering Regulations except the eligibility criterion of capacity upto 1 MW. MMRCL proposes amendment to the definition of "Eligible Consumer" in the Net Metering Regulation, 2015 to the extent that capacity limit of 1 MW shall not be applicable to the consumers of HT-III category (Metro, Railways).
- 2) To a query of the Commission as to why the increased capacity limit should not be applicable for all public services, MMRCL stated that the consumption pattern of Railways and Metro are unique and different.
- 3) Advocate of MSEDCL stated that:
 - (i) Intent of MMRCL is purely of commercial in nature. MMRCL has an option of availing captive Open Access and the facility of banking of surplus power injected into the grid at 132 KV single point connectivity from collective Solar Power generation.
 - (ii) Introducing the Roof-top Solar initiative above 1 MW capacity proposed by MMRCL under the Net Metering Regulations as an exception will have financial implications on MSEDCL. Eventually many other may approach the Commission for relaxation of the restriction upto 1 MW.

4) Dr. Ashok Pendse on behalf of Thane Belapur Industries Association (TBIA) stated that MSEDCL is not required to procure Renewable Energy as Renewable Energy Certificate (REC) is available at the Floor price of Rs. 1,000/MWh. MMRCL stated that its total annual Solar generation, if accounted for MSEDCL's RPO fulfillment, would result in total saving of around Rs.7.5 Crore.

The Case is reserved for Order.

Sd/-(Deepak Lad) Member Sd/-(Azeez M. Khan) Member