

Before the
MAHARASHTRA ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
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Case No. 41 of 2017

Date: 7 November, 2017

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

Petition of Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Co. Ltd. seeking revision in Wind Zone class allotted by MEDA in respect of Wind Power Projects with consistently higher actual generation in last 3 years.

Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Company Ltd. (MSEDCL)Petitioner

V/s

Maharashtra Energy Development Agency (MEDA) Respondent

Appearance

For MSEDCL : Ms. Deepa Chavan, (Adv.)

: Mr. Sanjay Rajput (Rep.)

For MEDA : Mr. Manoj Pise (Rep.)

For Authorized Consumer Representative : Dr. Ashok Pendse (TBIA)

Daily Order

Heard the Advocate of MSEDCL, Representative of MEDA and Authorized Consumer Representative.

1. Advocate of MSEDCL stated that the Wind Zone classification for the Wind projects is entirely done by MEDA on the basis of wind density data, but now it is necessary to consider other factors such as technological advancement, large rotor diameter, hub height, etc which governs higher CUF. Wind Generators who are achieving higher CUF in particular Wind Zones are enjoying the higher tariff of that lower CUF Zone as per the present zoning concept. The tariff should be based on zone classification based on actual generation and CUF submitted by Generators at the end of the financial year, for which MSEDCL had earlier submitted data of 42 such Generators out of 328.
2. The Commission again observed that MSEDCL had not addressed its basic questions regarding the Wind Zone classification process, nor has it indicated how the process is unscientific. The Commission asked MSEDCL for any criteria /principles/ manner which it feels necessary for Wind Zone classification of Wind Generators, apart from

stating that the actual CUF achieved by a Generator should be the basis of tariff, which implies that zoning be done away with entirely. The Commission observed that, without understanding the basic norms for Wind Zone classification, and its purpose, MSEDCL cannot make arguments for revision of the present procedure.

3. The Commission further asked MSEDCL that what would the intervals at which to re-assess the present zoning, and whether any scientific study has already been done for better results which may be considered for revision of the Wind Zone classification. MSEDCL did not respond.
4. The Commission observed that MSEDCL is seeking revision of Wind Zone classification of Wind Generators in Zone-1 as the actual CUF of some Generators is higher than the allotted CUF, and the tariff incentivise them to upgrade the technology, efficiency of machines, etc. At the same time, in its submissions the RPO and other matters, it has been claiming that Wind Generators have been achieving lower CUF. In its submission dated 1 November, 2017, it has also stated that Wind Generators who achieve lower CUF are inefficient and hence should not get the higher tariff of that zone. These are contradictory stands.
5. In response to a query of the Commission the representative of MEDA stated that, as per the statistical data of past three years, the average generation of Wind Generators is almost constant, i.e. 1.5 MUs to 2 MUs, in spite of changing weather conditions. Also, no major change is observed in the weather pattern since year 2012-13 in which the Wind Zone classification was carried out. Moreover, the average PLF remained about 16% over the years. Hence, as of now re-assessment and revision of Wind Zone classification is not considered.
6. Dr Ashok Pendse, on behalf of Thane Belapur Industries Association (TBIA), an Authorised Consumer Representative, reiterated his earlier submission and stated that MSEDCL is seeking revision of Wind Zone classification of a few Wind Generators from Zone -1 but silent on compensating other Generators in a higher CUF Zones who have achieved lower CUF. The opinion of NIWE on the time interval to be considered for revision of Wind zone may be taken into consideration.

Case is reserved for Order.

Sd/-
(Deepak Lad)
Member

Sd/-
(Azeez M. Khan)
Member