

Gist of the discussion of the Joint meeting of Northern Region and Western region constituents taken by Chairperson , CEA on 4/12/2007 at New Delhi

Chairperson CEA welcomed the participants to the meeting. He mentioned that Chairman, Western Regional Power Committee (WRPC) had requested to convene a meeting of WRPC and NRPC constituents to discuss the issues related to grid discipline as the frequency of the combined grid remained below 49.0 Hz for 7.2 % of the time during October-07 and 15% of the time during November-07. During October-07, the excursion of frequency below 48.8 Hz was about 240 times and in November 07 about 600 times. The overdrawal by the constituents of Northern Region was about 948MU during October-07 and about 242 MU during Nov,07 (upto 18th Nov.07). The drawl by Western region constituents was more or less as per their schedule. He further said that the required load relief is not being obtained from the under frequency relays.

He said that both the Northern as well as Western Region were getting the benefit of the integrated operation of the grid. The foggy weather is likely to settle down in Northern region in the next fortnight and the demand in the constituent states would further go up. There may be tripping of lines due to foggy conditions and if corrective measures were not taken, frequency profile would deteriorate further and might lead to grid disturbance. CERC was already considering the proposal of RLDCs to increase the UI rate further. He also added that more than 500 MW gas based generation capacity was remaining unutilized. The captive generation capacity also remain unutilized due to denial of open access by some of the states. He requested the constituents for full utilization of the gas based stations. The rate of energy at RLNG is much lower compared to liquid and generation at RLNG should be maximized by NTPC. States have already given take or pay commitment to NTPC and NTPC should arrange RLNG.

Chairman, CSEB and WRPC in his opening remarks mentioned that before synchronization of Northern Region with Central grid, the frequency profile of the Western region was generally good, but after synchronization, the frequency profile has deteriorated. The constituents of Northern region were generally overdrawing and some constituents of Western region were also over drawing but not to the extent of Northern region.

He also said that in a meeting taken by Secretary (P), MOP in 20-10-06 it was decided that the states would not overdraw below 49.2 Hz and they would initiate corrective measures to bring back the frequency to 49.5 Hz. NTPC should arrange RLNG to operate their gas plants and if any state does not requisition liquid fuel generation and overdraw then the liquid fuel capacity should be scheduled to that state by RLDC.

Chairman, HVPNL and NRPC in his opening remarks mentioned that he agreed with the concern of WRPC and all constituents must show restraint and observe discipline. The apprehension of distorted operation of combined grid were misplaced

as in summer frequency profile generally remained good and both the regions were benefited by integrated operation. NR faces problems in winter months due to increased demand and low hydro generation. The proposal to increase UI rate would not work as established from the past experience and only the rate of traded power would go up. The RLDC should be authorized to book the unrequisioned liquid and RLNG power to the overdrawing states. He informed that Yamunanagar TPS (300 MW) has been synchronized to the grid and additional power would be available to Haryana from 15th December, 2007. Failure of UFRs not giving desired relief should be looked into by the concerned states. He requested the states to grant non-discriminatory open access for captive generation.

Chairperson, CEA enquired from NTPC about the arrangement made by NTPC for procurement of RLNG. NTPC said that they are trying to procure RLNG from GAIL, IOCL, Petronet and BPCL but response was not good from them. GAIL was not providing open access for the gas procured from other sources like SHELL. Chairperson, CEA asked NTPC to send a fax to CEA intimating the problems of procurement of RLNG from Indian Companies and getting open access from GAIL so that Ministry of Power may be requested to take up the matter with Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.

Executive Director, NRLDC gave a presentation on the drawal pattern of NR and WR constituents. It was mentioned by him that UP, Haryana, J&K & Rajasthan in NR, MP in WR and Bihar in ER were generally overdrawing. Currently, the main reasons for overdrawal by NR constituents were less generation from their hydro plants and unutilized generation capacity of gas based stations due to high cost. He further said that booking of un-requisitioned liquid capacity to the overdrawing states by NRLDC may pose problem in payment. Therefore, the states should give schedule for liquid fuel generation to NRLDC.

MD, PITCUL mentioned that overdrawal and underdrawal should be seen in the whole year. Uttarkhand is underdrawing during summer and giving support to the grid. Only in winter they need more power due to low hydro generation. Chairperson, CEA said that the states which are selling power during summer months should be prepared to buy during winter or they should go for banking arrangement.

CE, HPSEB said that they tried banking during summer but states were not forthcoming to enter into banking arrangement as they found it more profitable to overdraw and pay UI as frequency profile was good. CE, HPSEB also said that CSEB had denied open access for getting power from captive power plants from Chattisgarh.

CE, UPPCL said that they had curtailed overdrawal now and have reduced power supply to rural areas from 14 hours to 9 hours and Tehsil Headquarters from 15 hours to 9 hours w.e.f. 16-11-07. UP has also signed PPA with sugar factories for getting 500 MW from their cogeneration plants. Power from the plants is likely to be available from 15th December-07 round the clock. Power availability in UP has also

improved after synchronization of Anpara unit 4 (500 MW) on 28-11-07 after shut down for about two months. Vishnu Prayag power station will also start generation of about 100-150 MW shortly. UPPCL also mentioned about underdrawal by some of the states and desired that allocation of central power to such states should be reduced.

CE, RRVPNL mentioned that supply to agriculture has been reduced by half an hour in Rajasthan. They are going to procure about 130 MW / day through open access. Rajasthan also mentioned that Dholpur (110 MW) ST is also likely to be commissioned in Dec,07 and Giral Thermal Power Station (100 MW) will be stabilizing in Dec.07.

CE, PSEB said that they have signed PPA for 100 LU per day although the actual availability is about 30 to 40 MU per day and they are scheduling liquid fuel also. He informed that Guru Har Govind TPS-II (250 MW) would be synchronized in Dec-07 and would be put in commercial operation in Feb,08. He said that KPTCL is not allowing open access to them to procure power from the captive power plants in Karnataka.

GM, WRLDC informed that there is generally not much of overdrawal by the constituents of Western Region. However, there is some overdrawal currently by Madhya Pradesh to meet their requirements of Rabi crop. ED, NRLDC informed that the unrequisitioned capacity is 230 MW on an average in NR which may go upto 400 MW maximum. The total unrequisitioned capacity of combined NR and WR may be taken around 800 MW.

After further deliberations on improving the availability of power and maintaining grid discipline, the following decisions were taken:

i) In view of the precarious power supply position, it was decided that the States resorting to large over draws may schedule power from NTPC's unutilized gas based power generating capacity of about 800 MW using liquid fuel and as a contingency measure the following states will schedule unutilized capacity at NTPC's gas based stations in Northern and Western Regions on liquid fuel as given below:-

Sl. No.	State	Capacity
1.	Uttar Pradesh	200 MW
2.	Rajasthan	150 MW
3.	Haryana	100 MW
4.	Punjab	100 MW
5.	Jammu & Kashmir	100 MW
6.	Uttarakhand	50 MW
7.	Madhya Pradesh	100 MW
Total		800 MW

NRLDC/WRLDC were authorized to schedule the un-requisitioned capacity at NTPC's gas based stations on liquid fuel in the above ratio till further review. The NTPC's gas based stations would operate on liquid fuel till such time RLNG is procured by NTPC.

ii) All the under frequency relays (UFRs) should be put in service and states should ensure that desired load relief is obtained. NRPC and WRPC shall inspect the settings of the UFRs in their respective regions.

iii) NTPC was advised to pursue immediate procurement of RLNG with the gas companies to utilize fully the gas based generating capacity. NTPC shall send a fax to CEA intimating the problems of procurement of RLNG from Indian companies and getting open access from GAIL so that Ministry of Power may be requested to take up the matter with Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas.

iv) Chairman, CSEB agreed to look into the matter of providing open access to captive plants in the state for supply of power to NR states.