Long Term PPA between MSEDCL and Lanco (Teesta VI hydro project)

Comments/Suggestions

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Demand Forecast and Capacity Addition

- Despite growing power shortages, MSEDCL has failed to
 - Submit scientific demand forecast despite MERC directives and repeated requests by us
 - Do an integrated capacity addition plan for meeting the demand
- There is no doubt that peaking power is required to meet the growing peaking demand

PPA between MSEDCL and Lanco Energy

- Salient Features
 - Power generated at Lanco's Teesta VI hydro project
 - Teesta VI 500 MW run-of-river project in Sikkim
 - Long term PPA of 25 years
 - MSEDCL to purchase 2121 MU for first 15 years and 2049
 MU for next 10 years
 - Estimated generation tariff of 2.32 Rs/kWh
- è The proposal lacks clarity and has severe data gaps

Concerns regarding proposal ...1

- No technical validation session by MERC
- Inconsistency in MSEDCL's approach
 - Routes available for power purchase
 - Tariff based Competitive Bidding
 - PPA route capital cost and other technical details have to be approved by MERC
 - Unfortunately present proposal falls under neither of the two routes

Concerns regarding proposal ...2

- Insufficient data
 - Key technical details of the project are left blank!
 - Most crucial inputs for determining the capital cost
 - Have a significant bearing on tariff and viability of project
 - No basis provided for the capital cost
 - Claimed cost of Rs 2997 Cr or 6 Cr/MW
 - No break up of the cost provided into various components
 - No details on generation pattern and seasonal variation in power output from the project

Seasonal variation in generation ..1

- Significant variation in water flow in Teesta river
 - Key determinant of power generation
 - Design discharge for rated capacity generation = 531 m3/sec
 - Average lean season flow = 82.5 m3/sec
 - Minimum flow requirement in the river = 10%
 - Average discharge available for power generation in lean season = 74.25 m3/sec

Seasonal variation in generation ..2

- Average Lean Season generation
 - Average discharge available for power generation in lean season = 74.25 m3/sec
 - è Average availability of 14% or 70 MW in lean season
 - Lean season for a NE Himalayan glacial river like Teesta is November to April
 - Each Entry Description in Each Entry September
 Each Entry Description in Each Entry Description
 September
 September
 - è Teesta VI power would not be available during peak demand season in Maharashtra (Dec-Jan and Apr-May)

Seasonal variation in generation ..3

- CEA's Preliminary observations on Teesta VI
 - Plant will generate at full capacity only during three monsoon months
 - Power generation from Teesta VI is fully dependent on outflows of Teesta V
- è Teesta VI should not be qualified as a peaking plant

Generation Tariff

...1

- Fixed tariff of Rs 2.32/kWh
 - Never mentioned clearly in the PPA
 - Schedule D of PPA uses "sales to MSEDCL of 2121 MU/year..." as an assumption for estimating the tariff!
 - No clarity about the generation tariff in case of lower generation from Teesta VI

Generation Tariff

...2

- Higher D:E ratio
 - D:E ratio envisaged by Lanco for project financing is 80:20
 - D:E ratio used for tariff calculation is 70:30 resulting in higher tariff
 - Benefit of higher D:E ratio should be passed on to consumers
- Landed cost of power
 - ER CTU Charges not included by MSEDCL
 - STU charges need be added for landed cost at MSEDCL boundary
 - è An obligation for 25 years of non-peaking power primarily available in monsoon at a landed cost of well above 3 Rs/u

Prayers

- 1. Direct MSEDCL to submit the DPR of Teesta VI
- 2. Direct MSEDCL to submit detailed break-up of the capital cost and scrutinize thoroughly
- 3. NOT to approve the PPA without getting details of the generation and capital cost
- 4. NOT qualify Teesta VI as a peaking plant
- Ascertain that tariff should not increase despite lower energy generation
- Pass on the benefits of higher debt component to consumers