KERALA STATE ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Present: Shri. R. Preman Dinaraj, Chairman Adv. A.J. Wilson, Member(law)

OA.No.50/2020

In the matter of : Petition on the Truing up of accounts for the year

2019-20 filed by M/s Cochin Port Trust (CoPT)

Applicant (s) : M/s Cochin Port Trust (CoPT),

Willingdon Island, Cochin

Applicant (s) represented by:

1. Sri. V.Thuraipandian, Chief Mech.Engr,CoPT

2. Smt.Rajashree K Dabke, Sr.Dy CAO, CoPT

3. Smt Latha Menon.G SE(E), CoPT

4. Smt. Surya.G, Sr.AO, CoPT

Daily Order dated 26-02-2021

Conducted hearing on the petition for the Truing up of accounts for the year 2019-20 filed by M/s Cochin Port Trust (CoPT) at the Conference Hall of Cochin Port Trust on 08-02-2021 at 11.00 A.M. Sri V.Thuraipandian, Chief Mech. Engr, CoPT, Smt.Rajashree K Dabke, Sr.Dy CAO, CoPT, Smt Latha Menon.G, Superintending Engineer Electrical, CoPT, Smt. Surya.G, Sr.AO, CoPT and other officers represented the petitioner. Smt.Rajashree K Dabke briefed the details of the petition and responded to the queries of the Commission. The main points submitted in the petition are briefed below.

- Revenue from sale of power is Rs.3342.39 Lakhs for the energy sale of 367.34 Lakhs units and the Non-Tariff Income is claimed as Rs.48.92 Lakhs.
- The number of Consumers has decreased from 1264 No's in the previous year to 1224 No's in the current year. The major decrease was in the LT category. However, as the HT category has consumed more units the total number of units sold has increased from 347.24 lakh units to 367.34 lakh units.
- The total energy purchased from KSEB for the year was 374.37 lakh units as against 354.29 lakh units in the immediate previous year and 384.61 lakh units as per approved ARR.
- Power purchase cost for the year is Rs.2582.07 lakhs for purchase of 374.37
- lakhs units. The distribution loss for the year 2018-19 is 1.88% which is lower than the distribution loss of 1.99% in the previous year and higher than 1.85% approved in ARR for the year.
- Employee cost and R&M expenses claimed is higher than the approved level

- Rs.420.19 Lakhs claimed as Interest and finance charges on loans of Govt of India.
- Rs.71.60 Lakhs is claimed as return on net fixed assets @3%.
- The licensee has presented the 2019-20 accounts with a revenue deficit of Rs.843.13 lakhs as against a revenue surplus of Rs.1218.19 lakhs as per approved ARR.

KSEB Ltd had vide their letter No. KSEB/TRAC/CPT/R3/1342 dated 10-02-2021 filed their counter statement/comments. The major points raised by KSEB Ltd are the following:

- i. The licensee's distribution expenses other than power purchase cost is exorbitantly high compared to the approved level in the ARR.
- ii. The power generated through internal generation is not considered for calculation of gross units.
- iii. The O&M expenses claimed in the truing up is 100% more than the approved cost. O&M expenses being controllable to be limited to the approved level.
- iv. The per unit realization is not seen increased compared to the previous year despite their being an upward revision in tariff.
- v. Working capital interest need not be allowed since there is accumulated revenue surplus.
- vi. The claim made by the licensee under power purchase tally with the accounts of KSEB Ltd.

Representatives from various organisations were present at the meeting. Shri. Deeraj Ambati AM(LPG), IOCL ,Shri Nagaraja Pillai , CE ,Taj Malabar, Shri Nitesh kumar, Ultra tech cement, and Shyam sunder Penna cement were a few of them.

Shri. Deeraj Ambati AM(LPG), IOCL (Indian Oil Corporation Limited) raised apprehension about awailing power to their new project at Willingdon Island, Cochin for which CoPT is unable to supply since the system needs upgradation. CoPT informed that if the cost is remitted upfront they will be able to give supply.

The Commission directed the licensee to take up the following matters.

- i. To conduct an energy audit by a reputed agency
- ii. To identify the faulty transformers.
- iii. To file a fresh petition for finalizing the employee requirements wherein the details of number of employees including maintenance staff required, their designation, qualification and experience as required in the CEA norms, along with the scales

of pay to be furnished.

The Commission also directed the licensee to furnish the following details, so as to substantiate the claims made in the petition by 12-03-2021.

- 1. To furnish Government Orders for all the Government of India loans now being repaid by COPT.
- 2. The details of apportionment of the GOI loan between electricity assets and other assets.
- 3. The agenda note and approval of the CoPT Board for repayment of the GOI loan.
- 4. Details of year of availment of the loans, repayment period, rate of interest for each loan.
- 5. The split-up year wise for the years 2017-18,2018-19 &2019-20 of the pay revision arrears paid by CoPT.
- 6. Documents to substantiate funding of terminal benefits by CoPT

Hearing concluded. Reserved for orders.

Sd/Adv.A.J.Wilson Sd/Preman Dinaraj

Member (Law) Chairman

Approved for issue

Sd/-Secretary(i/c)