OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Sub: Approval of the Government on the recommendations of Group of Ministers (GoM) constituted to examine the specific recommendations of High Level Empowered Committee (HLEC) constituted to address the issues of Stressed Thermal Power Projects.

The undersigned is directed to refer to para no. 2.1(b) of OM no. L-2/2018-IPC(Part-4) dated 08.03.2019 of this Ministry (copy enclosed) on the ‘Approval of the Government on the recommendations of Group of Ministers (GoM) constituted to examine the specific recommendations of High Level Empowered Committee (HLEC) constituted to address the issues of Stressed Thermal Power Projects’ which is as follows:

“2.1(b): A generator which terminates PPA in case of default in payment by the DISCOM, may be allowed to use existing linkage coal for sale of power through short-term PPAs using DEEP portal or power exchange for a period of maximum 2 years or until they find another buyer of power under long/medium term PPA whichever is earlier. Adequate safeguards to be put in place.”

2. Based on the deliberations held in the meeting chaired by Secretary (Power) on 28.08.2019 with Ministry of Coal, Railway Board, Central Electricity Authority, Coal India Limited and NTPC, it has been decided that the following “Adequate Safeguards” shall be taken by all the concerned:

i. The reason for cancellation of the Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) shall be “default in payment” by the DISCOM as per the provisions of the PPA.

ii. A generator which terminates PPA in case of default in payment by the DISCOM, shall not be allowed to sale power bilaterally but only through DEEP portal or power exchange at market determined price for a period of maximum two years.

iii. The existing Letter of Assurance (LOA)/ Fuel supply Agreement (FSA) conditions shall continue for further period of maximum 2 years. If required, necessary modifications shall be made in the existing LOA/FSA.

iv. Linkage after the period of maximum 2 years shall be cancelled in case generator is not able to secure a long/medium term PPA during that period.
v. In case of Long term PPA such provision shall not be applicable during the terminal 2 years of PPA.

3. This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

Encl: as stated

(S. Majumdar)
Under Secretary to the Govt. of India
Tel: 2335 6938

To,
1. Secretary, Ministry of Coal
2. Chairperson, Central Electricity Authority
3. Chairman, Railway Board
4. CMD, NTPC
5. Chairman, DVC
6. CMD, PFC
7. CMD, REC
8. CMD, PGCIL
9. CMD, CIL
10. Director General, APP

Copy to: Additional Chief Secretaries/Principal Secretary/Secretary (Energy) of State Govt.
(As per list)

Copy to: Technical Director NIC for posting on website of MoP
List of Additional Chief Secretary (Energy)/ Principal Secretary (Energy)/ Secretary (Energy) of all States/ UTs

1. Shri Ajay Jain, Principal Secretary (Power), Room No. 147, Ground floor, 2nd -Block, A.P. Secretariat, Velagapudi, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh-522503

2. Shri P. Ravi Kumar, Addl. Chief Secretary(Energy) Government of Karnataka, Vikasa Soudha, Bangalore-560001

3. Md Nasimuddin, Pr. Secretary(Energy), Government of Tamil Nadu, Fort St. George, Sctt., Chennai-600009

4. Shri. Ajay Mishra, Special Chief Secretary (Energy), R. No. 433, D-Block, 3rdFLOOR, Telangana Secretariat, Hyderabad-500022

5. Shri Neeraj Verma, Principal Secretary (Power) Government of Assam, Assam Sachivalaya, Block-C, 3rd Floor, Dispur-781006

6. Sh. Pratayya Amrit, Pr. Secretary(Energy), Government of Bihar, 8, Darogaroy Path, Patna-800001

7. Shri Sunil Kumar Gupta, Principal Secretary, D/o Power & NCES, Government of West Bengal, Bidyut Unnayan Bhawan, 5th Floor, 3/C LA Block-III, Saltlake City, Kolkata-700098.

8. Sh. Alok Kumar, Principal Secretary (Power), Government of Uttar Pradesh, Babu Bhawan, R. No. 104, Lucknow-226001

9. Sh. Arvind Singh, Principal Secretary (Energy), Government of Maharashtra, Mantralaya, Madam Cama Road, Hutatma Rajguru Square, Mumbai-400032

10. Shri Gaurav Dwivedi, Secretary (Energy), Govt. of Chhattisgarh, Energy Department, R.No.S-2/10, Mahanadi Bhawan, Mantralaya, Naya Raipur, Chhattisgarh

11. Sh. Pankaj Joshi, Principal Secretary (Energy), Energy Deptt, Block-5, 5thFloor, Government of Gujarat, Sachivalaya, Gandhinagar-382010

12. Smt Vandana Dadel, Secretary(Energy) Government of Jharkhand, MDI Campus, Project Bhawan, Dhruva, Ranchi-834004

13. Sh. I.C.P. Keshari, Additional Chief Secretary (Energy), Government of Madhya Pradesh, Mantralaya, Room No. 312, Bhopal-462004

14. Sh. Hemant Sharma, Commissioner -cum- Secretary (Energy), Department of Energy Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar-751001

15. Shri Naresh Pal Gangwar, Pr. Secretary (Energy), Government of Rajasthan, R.No.104, VidyutBhawan, Janpath, Jaipur-302005.

16. Shri Kaling Tayeng, Commissioner cunm Secretary (Power), Government of Arunachal Pradesh, Civil Secretariat, Block-2, 3rd Floor, Room No. 316, Itanagar-791111.

18. Sh. T.C. Gupta, Additional Chief Secretary(Power), Government of Haryana, Power Department, 37, 7th Floor, Sector-1, Chandigarh-160001

19. Sh. Tarun Sridhar, Add. Chief Secretary(Power), Government of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-171002


21. Sh. R. R. Rashmi, Ch. Secretary (Power), Deptt. of Power, Government of Manipur, Manipur Secretariat,Imphal-795001

22. Sh. M. S. Rao, Pr. Secretary (Energy), Govt. of Meghalaya, Shillong (Mehalaya)

23. Shri H. Lal Engmawia, Secretary, Power & Electricity Deptt., Government of Mizoram, Mizoram Sectt., Axxexe-II, Treasury Square, Aizwal-796001


25. Sh. A. Venu Prasad, Pr. Chief Secretary (Power), Government of Punjab, Punjab Mini Sectt., R.No.523, Sector-9,Chandigarh

26. Sh. N.T.Bhutia, Secretary (Power), Government of Sikkim, Power Department, Kazi Road, Gangtok-737101

27. Shri Lalit Kumar Gupta, Principal Secretary(Power), Government of Tripura, New Sectt. Complex, Power Department, Agartala-799006


29. Sh. Dheeraj Gupta, Principal Secretary (Power), Government of Jammu & Kashmir, Civil Secretariat, Jammu/Srinagar.

30. Shri Sanjeev Khirwar, Secretary (Power), Andaman & Nicobar Admn, Port Blair-744101

31. Shri Anurag Aggarwal, Secretary (Home cum Fin), UT of Chandigarh, 4th floor, UT Secretariat, Sector-9, Chandigarh-160009

32. Sh. S. S. Yadav, Secretary(Power) & Development Commissioner, UTs of Dadra, Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu, Sectt., Silvassa-396230.

33. Smt. Varsha Joshi, Secretary (Power), Government of NCT of Delhi, I. P. Estate, Room no 803 , B wing , Power Dept., New Delhi-110002

34. Shri Vivek Pandey, Secretary(Energy) & Adviser to the Administrator, Union Territory of Lakshadweep, Lakshadweep

35. Dr. S. Sundaravadivelu, IAS, Secretary (Power), Chief Secretariat, Government of Puducherry, Goubert Avenue, Puducherry-605001
OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Sub: Approval of the Government on the recommendations of Group of Ministers (GoM) constituted to examine the specific recommendations of High Level Empowered Committee (HLEC) constituted to address the issues of Stressed Thermal Power Projects.

In reference to communication received from Cabinet Secretariat vide D.O. No. CCEA/07/2019(ix) dated 07.03.2019, the undersigned is directed to inform that Government has approved the following:

2. Amendments to be made in the SHAFTI Policy issued vide MoC letter no. 23011/15/2016-CPD/CLD dated 22.05.2017:

2.1 The following clause is to be added after clause B(vii) of SHAFTI policy:

"B(viii): Notwithstanding anything in the foregoing paras, it is further provided as follows:

a) All such power plants including private generators which do not have PPAs, shall be allowed Coal linkage under B(iii) and B(iv) of Shakti Policy for a period of minimum 3 months up to a maximum of 1 year, provided further that the power generated through that linkage is sold in Day Ahead Market (DAM) through power exchanges or in short term through a transparent bidding process through Discovery of Efficient Energy Price (DEEP) portal. A methodology in this regard shall be formulated by Ministry of Power in consultation with Ministry of Coal.

b) A generator which terminates PPA in case of default in payment by the DISCOM, may be allowed to use existing linkage coal for sale of power through short-term PPAs using DEEP portal or power exchange for a period of maximum 2 years or until they find another buyer of power under long/medium term PPA whichever is earlier. Adequate safeguards to be put in place.

c) The provision of para B(v) of Shakti Policy above shall also be applicable in cases where the nodal agency designated by Ministry of Power aggregates/ procures the power requirement for a group of states even without requisition from such states.

d) Central and State generating companies can act as an aggregator of power of such stressed power assets and procure it through transparent bidding process and offer that power to the DISCOM against their existing PPAs to such DISCOMS, till such time their own plants get commissioned. It is proposed that Central and State generating companies may be allowed to use the existing unutilized Bridge Linkages for such
stressed power assets provided they meet other parameters of tolling guidelines including competitive bidding.

e) In all cases where provisions of B(viii)(a)(b)(c) and (d) above are utilized, net surplus after meeting operating expenses generated in this manner shall be entirely used for servicing debt in the first place. MoP will work out in consultation with DFS – a mechanism to ensure this.”

2.2 Following is to be added at the end of first para of B(ii) of Shakti Policy, after the words “with PPAs”:

(i) The power plants which were having valid already concluded Long Term PPA, based on domestic coal on or before 17.05.2017 and who could not participate in the linkage auctions under SHAKTI B(ii) due to any reason, may be allowed to participate in the B(ii) auctions of SHAKTI scheme.

(ii) Bidders who have already participated in SHAKTI B(ii) auctions and could not secure linkage for the full ACQ, may obtain the linkage for the balance quantity also by participating in future auctions at a later stage under B(ii) after benchmarking discount.

2.3 Following is to be added at the end of para B(iii) of Shakti Policy, after the words “auction process”: “Such auctions/ bids shall be held at regular intervals”.

3. Other Approvals:

3.1 Approval with regard to increase in quantity of coal for e-Auction for power sector: Ministry of Coal may earmark more coal for power sector under special forward e-auction by reducing the equivalent quantity from the spot e auction. The Coal India Ltd. may earmark at least 50 percent of the total coal meant for e-auction (including spot auction and special forward e-auction) for power. The increase in supply of coal for forward e-auction will be in addition to regular requirement of linkage coal for the power sector and the requirements of other sectors.

3.2 Approval with regard to non-lapsing of short supplies of coal: If the power plant fulfills its obligations limited to making advance payments as due to coal companies, payments to Indian Railways as due and making arrangements for unloading of the rakes at its plants, then, any short supply for that month of coal, either on account of short supply of coal in the coal company or on account of unavailability of rakes, may not lapse and be carried over (without current limitations of 5% or same quarter) to the subsequent months upto a maximum period of 3 months. In this regard, a suitable methodology shall be evolved for implementation.

3.3 Approval with regard to ACQ based on efficiency: ACQ per MW entitlements for all thermal power plants, irrespective of their age or technical parameters, shall be calculated based on Normative Station Heat Rate with upper ceiling of 2600 kcal/kwh.

3.4 Approval with regard to mandatory payment of Late Payment Surcharge (LPS): Ministry of Power may engage with the Regulators to ensure that LPS is paid in case of delay in payment by DISCOMs as per the provisions of PPA. Appropriate Regulatory Commissions may ensure compliance.
3.5 Approval with regard to cancellation of PPA/FSA/Transmission connectivity/EC/FC/Water etc.: DISCOMS, CIL, PGCIL, Ministry of Environment and Forests, and appropriate Governments may be advised not to cancel PPA, FSA, transmission connectivity, EC/FC, and all other approvals including water, even if the project is referred to NCLT or is acquired by another entity subject to the provisions of the contracted PPA and/or applicable rules. All clearances may be linked to the plant and not to the promoter.

3.6 Approval with regard to cancellation of PPA for non-compliance of COD: If there is any delay in the commissioning of a project for reasons not attributable to the generator, the DISCOMs may be advised not to cancel those PPAs. The PPA may be kept on hold for a certain period, so as to enable removal of impediments in the execution of the project. In the meantime, power can be procured through the mechanism suggested in previous proposals.

4. It is requested to take necessary action to implement the above decisions of the Government. Action taken may be intimated to this Ministry.

Yours faithfully,

(S. Majumdar)
Under Secretary to the Govt. of India
Tel: 2335 6938

To,

1. Secretary, Ministry of Coal
2. Secretary, Dept. of Financial services, Ministry of Finance
3. Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Climate Change
4. Secretary, Ministry of Corporate Affairs
5. Chairperson, Central Electricity Authority
6. Chairman, Railway Board
7. Secretary, Central Electricity Regulatory Commission
8. CE, R&R (Ministry of Power)
9. CMD, NTPC
10. Chairman, DVC
11. CMD, PFC
12. CMD, REC
13. CMD, PGCIL
14. CMD, CIL

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