



KERALA STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LIMITED

(Incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956)

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Abstract

Pambar Hydro Electric Scheme (40 MW)- Environmental Impact Assessment Study - Release of stage payment- Sanctioned - Orders issued.

CORPORATE OFFICE (SBU-G/C)

B.O(FTD) No.828/2019 (GPC4(C)/PAMBAR/23/2008) Thiruvananthapuram, Dated 08.11.2019

- Read :
1. BO (FB) No 1475/2009(GPC4(C)/Pambar/23/2008)dated. 04-06-2009.
 2. G.O(MS)No.2/2010/PD dated. 11-01-2010.
 3. BO(FM)No769/2010 (GPC4(C)/ Pambar/ 23/2008) dated 23-03-2010.
 - 4.B.O(FTD)No.1737/2017 (GPC4(C)/PAMBAR/23/2008) dated 07.07.2017.
 5. Note No.CE(C-I&CC)/TA/GEN/2019 dated 14.10.2019 of the Chief Engineer (Civil- Investigation & Construction Central).
 6. Note No (GPC4(C)/PAMBAR/23/2008) dated 29.10.2019 of the Director (Generation - Civil) (Agenda - 02 /11/19)

ORDER

The proposed Pambar HE Scheme (2x20 MW) is located in the Devikulam Taluk of Idukki District. The scheme envisages utilisation of water from 183 sq.km of catchment area of the Pambar river by constructing a weir 600 m downstream of Kovilkadavu bridge. KSEBL as well as Government of Kerala as per orders read as 1st and 2nd above have accorded administrative sanction for the implementation of the scheme at an estimated cost of ₹ 22,540 lakh including IDC at 2008 price level. Environmental clearance (stage - I) was accorded by the MoE&F, GoI, as per letter No. J-12011/48/2009- IA.I dated 23.2.2010. Based on the Stage I clearance, the Environmental Impact Assessment study of the scheme was entrusted with M/s Agricultural Finance Corporation Ltd at a cost of ₹67.56 lakh as per B.O read as 3rd paper above. Draft EIA report was already submitted by the consultant in 2015. Based on the draft EIA report, Environmental Public Hearing has to be conducted through State Pollution Control Board as per the EIA Notification, 2006. The report of Public Hearing including suggestions on the Public Hearing incorporating the comments of the KSEBL has to be appended as addendum to the draft EIA report and transmitted to MoEF&CC for according final environmental clearance. As per the Terms of Reference (ToR) for undertaking the EIA study of the proposed project, MoEF&CC under item "(c) - Hydrology of the Basin" it was categorically stated therein that KSEBL shall submit: (i)Water availability for the project and the aquatic fauna; (ii)Submit a detailed report on the hydrology in the final EIA ; (iii) In order to maintain the aquatic ecology of the river in the downstream stretch, a separate study should be conducted by an independent reputed agency. The EIA consultant , while firming up the hydrology data of the project as per the river gauge discharges of Kovilkadavu Gauging Station,had reported that,discrepancies has been observed while analysis of the past and present gauge readings . The EIA consultant has requested KSEBL to substantiate the same for arriving at a conclusion including the finalization of EIA report.

Accordingly, KSEBL as per B.O read as 4th above has accorded sanction to entrust the task of Evaluation of Discharge data of Pambar basin at Kovilkadavu, Idukki for firming up the hydrology data of the proposed Pambar HEP to M/s Centre for Water Resources Development and Management (CWRDM), Kozhikode at their quoted rate of ₹ 6 Lakh (Rupees Six Lakh) plus applicable Service Tax. The Executive Engineer, Investigation Division, Munnar had executed the agreement with CWRDM and released the advance payment for the study entrusted with them. During the course of site inspection as part of commencement of study CWRDM had requested that the weir at Kovilkadavu needs to be renovated for a realistic assessment of the Hydrology Data. Eventhough the estimate was prepared and requisite sanction accorded by the Chief Engineer and tenders were floated during February 2019, for the renovation work of the weir, the repair work could not be commenced till date due to lack of participation of contractors willing to execute the work.

The Chief Engineer (Civil- Investigation & Construction Central) as per note read as 5th above has reported that the payment schedule for the EIA study entrusted with M/s Agricultural Finance Corporation Ltd is as detailed below. In compliance of the terms & conditions stipulated in the work order, Stage 1 payment (20% of contract amount) was already released. The EIA consultant is persistently requesting for release of 2nd & 3rd stages payment due to them as per the terms & conditions of the work order & agreement. The 2nd & 3rd stages of payment due to the consultant can be released only on acceptance of the Draft EIA report. The draft EIA report could only be accepted once the hydrology data is firmed up since the capacity, downstream releases (minimum ecological flow etc.) depends on a realistic assessment of hydrological data. The assessment of hydrology of the basin now entrusted with CWRDM would only commence after the repair work of the weir and sixteen months is needed for CWRDM to submit their findings. The EIA consultant M/s Agricultural Finance Corporation (AFC) as per their letter dated 18.04.2019 has further requested to release the 2nd & 3rd stages payment due to them.

No	Deliverables	Payment Schedule
1.	On signing of agreement, approval of TOR by MOE&F and on acceptance of Initial Environmental Examination(IEE) report	20%
2.	On submission of application for forest clearance (within 8 months of signing of agreement)	20%
3.	On acceptance of draft EIA (14 months from date of signing of agreement)	30%
4.	On acceptance of EIA report , completion of Environmental Public Hearing, submission of addendum to EIA report , requisite application for obtaining environmental clearance / forest clearance (Within 17 months of signing of agreement)	20%
5.	On receipt of environmental clearance or Completion of two Environmental Appraisal committee meetings whichever is earlier	10%

The Chief Engineer has also reported that expenses has already been incurred by the consultant towards undertaking the EIA study leading to the submission of the draft EIA report and adequate data needed by KSEBL for submission of forest proforma has been incorporated in the present draft EIA report available at the disposal of KSEBL. As KSEBL is competent to address issues related to forest proforma and as the proposal is an Inter State Project approved in principle by the Cauvery Water Dispute Tribunal (CWDT), the Chief

consultant has recommended certain options for the release of 2nd and 3rd stage payment of contract amount payable as per the work order entered with the EIA consultant M/s Agricultural Finance Corporation (AFC) in anticipation of the hydrology study of the scheme entrusted with CWRDM .

Having considered the matter, as per note read as 6th paper above, the Full Time Directors of KSEBL, in the meeting held on 02.11.2019, Resolved to accord sanction for releasing an ad hoc payment of 75% of 2nd stage payment (75% of 20% of contract amount payable) since the delay is not attributable to M/s Agricultural Finance Corporation (AFC).

Further resolved that the Director(Generation – Civil) shall take urgent steps to complete the works on the weir at Kovilkadavu to enable CWRDM to complete the hydrology study and soon after the completion of work of weir, CWRDM shall take steps to complete the study as per agreed period.

Orders are issued accordingly.

BY ORDER OF THE FULL TIME DIRECTORS

Sd/-

LEKHA. G

COMPANY SECRETARY IN CHARGE

To:

The Chief Engineer (Civil Investigation & Construction Central), Vidyuthi Bhavanam, Tvp

Copy to:-

The Chief Internal Auditor/ Financial Adviser

The Chief Engineer (IT)

The RCAO/The RAO

The TA to Chairman & MD/Director (GC & HRM)/ Director (D&IT)

Director (T&S.O) / Director (CP, GE, SCM & S)

The PA to Director (Finance) / Company Secretary

The Legal Liaison Officer, KSE Board Ltd, Kochi

Library/ FC Supt/ Stock File

Forwarded/By Order



Assistant Executive Engineer