

Eastern Regional Power Committee, Kolkata

Minutes of Special Meeting on “Restoration of important transmission lines under long outage in ER” held at Powergrid ER-I Office, Patna on 24th January 2020 (Friday) at 11:00 hrs

List of participants is enclosed at **Annexure-A**.

Member Secretary, ERPC chaired the meeting. He welcomed all the participants from Powergrid, ENICL, DMTCL, BSPTCL and ERLDC in the meeting. He informed that 400 kV Kishenganj-Patna D/C line, 400 kV Purnea-Biharshariff D/c lines and 400 kV Barh-Motihari D/C and 400 kV Barh-Gorahkpur D/C lines were out of service due to tower collapse. The issue had been discussed in different fora of ERPC. In 164th OCC Meeting held at ERPC, Kolkata on 23.12.2019, it was decided that a separate meeting with the concerned utilities would be conducted at Patna, Bihar in January 2020 to review the restoration status of important transmission lines under long outage in ER.

This meeting is convened as per the 164th OCC Meeting decision.

The following deliberations were held in the meeting:

A. 400 kV Purnea-Biharshariff D/c lines:

1. Member Secretary, ERPC informed that ENICL had completed the restoration work of 400 kV Purnea-Biharshariff D/c line and successfully charged the line on 29th December 2019. He advised ENICL to give a brief presentation on restoration of 400 kV Purnea-Biharshariff D/c line.
2. ENICL gave a presentation on restoration of 400 kV Purnea-Biharshariff D/c line. ENICL explained that due change in the river course of Ganga, Tower 47/0 got collapsed on 10.08.2018. Thereafter, foundations of tower 46/9 and 46/8 also got effected due to the change of river course and heavy water flow. They had to reroute the line by means of additional towers (three towers with pile foundations and five towers with open cast foundations). During the restoration work of the tower 47/0A, crane mounted barge collapsed due to heavy wind storm cyclone on 13.06.2019 which resulted in stoppage of restoration work. To bypass the tower 47/0, they had designed a new ultra-low sulphur conductor (ACCC Ganga conductor) and installed for crossing Ganga river between loc no AP46/9A and AP47/1. Double Circuit –Quad conductor configuration is used as permanent solution for crossing the river span of 1099m without intermediate tower 47/0A. The line successfully charged on 29th December 2019.
3. ENICL added that despite of conditions which are unfavourable due to sever ROW, flood like situation, safety constraint for working on river Ganga, they had completed the restoration work by using the special conductor. ENICL requested to consider the outage period as deemed available.

B. 400 kV Barh-Motihari D/C and 400 kV Motihari -Gorahkpur D/C lines

1. DMTCL gave a presentation on restoration of 400 kV Barh-Motihari D/C and 400 kV Motihari - Gorahkpur D/C lines. DMTCL explained that 400 KV Gorahkpur –Motihari(DMTCL) –D/C line were out since 13/08/2019 on tower collapse at LOC 27/0 and 400 KV Barh–Motihari(DMTCL) –D/C were out since 04/09/2019 on tower collapse at LOC 26/0. DMTCL explained that they are constructing ten pile foundations and two open cast foundations to restore the lines. 400kV Motihari-Gorahkpur D/C line would be restored by **30th April 2020** and 400kV Motihari - Barh D/C line would be restored by **25th May 2020**.
2. Bihar informed that, due to outage of these 400 kV Transmission Lines since Sep’2019, Bihar has to face a deficit of 320 MW, which was met through alternative sources with a load restriction of approximately 125-160 MW. In the present scenario, due to lower demand in Bihar, BSPTCL is able to

meet the demand through alternate sources. Bihar requested DMTCL to complete the restoration work before summer to avoid load shedding.

3. DMTCL informed that one circuit of 400kV Barh-Motihari D/C line would be restored by 29th February 2020 using ERS.
4. It was opined in the meeting that the load at Motihari could be met with the 400kV Barh-Motihari S/C line.
5. Powergrid informed that, direct connectivity of 400 kV Barh- Gorahkpur D/C line would be completed by 24.01.2020.
6. It was decided that the direct connectivity of 400 kV Barh- Gorahkpur D/C line will be removed on 29th February 2020 to restore one circuit of 400kV Barh-Motihari D/C line on ERS. Other lines (one circuit of 400kV Barh-Motihari and 400 kV Motihari -Gorahkpur D/C lines) will be under outage till permanent restoration.
7. Member Secretary, ERPC advised DMTCL to restore the lines as per the given schedule.

C. 400 kV Kishenganj-Patna D/C line

1. Powergrid informed that 400 kV Kishenganj-Patna D/C line had been restored using ERS on 22nd January 2020.
2. Powergrid explained in details the efforts made by them in normalising the lines
3. Powergrid added that permanent restoration work is under progress in war footing basis and it is expected to be restored by April 2020.
4. Member Secretary, ERPC advised Powergrid to restore the lines as per the given schedule.
5. Member Secretary, ERPC advised Powergrid to present the activities undertaken towards restoration work w.r.t time to ERPC Secretariat.

Members present in the meeting appreciated the since efforts made by the ENICL, PGCIL and DMTCL towards normalising the lines. However, the members advised the above transmission licensee to note the followings:

- i) The deemed availability as to be granted by Member Secretary, ERPC in the above cases due to force majeure conditions shall not be the basis of claim in future for events like these.
- ii) Henceforth, it would be the responsibility of transmission licensee to make detailed survey of the towers in the flood prone areas and take proactive action to avoid reoccurrence of similar outage(s) in future.
- iii) The decision making process for reacting to the emergent situations like these needs to be streamlined and simpler.

Meeting ended with vote of thanks to the chair.

ERPC meeting for Review of Long Outages of TLs of ER-I

Venue: POWERGRID, ERTS-I, RHQ, Patna

Date: 24.01.2020

Participants:

Sl. No.	Name of Participant	Designation	Organization	Contact No.	Email Id	Signature
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