

Republic of the Philippines
ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
San Miguel Avenue, Pasig City



IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF THE ELECTRIC POWER PURCHASE AGREEMENT (EPPA) ENTERED INTO BY AND BETWEEN SOUTH COTABATO I ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INCORPORATED (SOCOTECO I) AND FDC MISAMIS POWER CORPORATION (FDC MISAMIS)

ERC CASE NO. 2015-119 RC

SOUTH COTABATO I ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INCORPORATED (SOCOTECO I) AND FDC MISAMIS POWER CORPORATION (FDC MISAMIS),

Applicants.

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DOCKETED

Date: APR 23 2015

By:

ORDER

On June 24, 2015, South Cotabato I Electric Cooperative, Incorporated (SOCOTECO I) and FDC Misamis Power Corporation (FDC MISAMIS) filed an application for approval of their Electric Power Purchase Agreement (EPPA).

In the said application, SOCOTECO I and FDC MISAMIS alleged, among others, that:

The Nature of the Application

1. The instant application is submitted to the Commission for its due consideration and approval of the EPPA executed by and between SOCOTECO I and FDC MISAMIS;

The Applicants

2. SOCOTECO I was created pursuant to the provisions of the National Electrification Administration Act (R.A. 6038), as amended by Presidential Decree No. 269. Pursuant to this decree, it was incorporated and registered on August 31, 1971 with principal office at Koronadal City, South Cotabato. It serves the power requirements of the City of Koronadal and the Municipalities of Banga, Norallah, Surallah, Tampakan and Tantangan, all in the Province of South Cotabato;
3. FDC MISAMIS is a corporation duly organized and existing under the Philippine Laws, with principal office address at 23rd Floor, PBCOM Tower, 6795 Ayala Avenue corner V.A. Rufino St., Makati City. It was formerly known and registered under the names Green Renewable Power Holdings, Incorporated and Strong Field Energy Corporation. It is a wholly-owned subsidiary of FDC Utilities, Incorporated;

Compliance with Pre-filing Requirements

4. In compliance with Rule 6 of the ERC Rules and in support of the instant application for approval of the EPPA, copies of the instant application (including Annexes) were furnished to the respective legislative bodies of the City of Koronadal, and the Province of South Cotabato, where SOCOTECO I principally operates;
5. Likewise, a copy of the instant application (including Annexes) was furnished to the Legislative Body of the City of Makati where FDC MISAMIS principally operates;
6. The entire application, excluding the Annexes, was published in a newspaper of general circulation within the franchise area or area where SOCOTECO I and FDC MISAMIS principally operate;

SOCOTECO I Power Situation

7. Since 2010, the Mindanao Grid has been experiencing a significant shortfall in power supply causing widespread power interruption. The existing capacity in the Island is composed of more than fifty percent (50%) hydroelectric power plant which is dependent on the availability of water and affected by weather conditions. Based on the 2012-2030 Supply – Demand Outlook issued by the Department of Energy (DOE), a total of 1,600 MW additional capacities are needed during the planning period to meet the electricity demand and the required reserve margin of the grid;

8. SOCOTECO I is requiring an annual energy of 208,796 MWh and an annual demand of 37.75 MW for 2015. Its power supply is currently sourced from the Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corporation (PSALM) Therma Marine, Incorporated (TMI) and Mapalad Power Corporation (MPC). For 2014, it has existing power supply agreements for a total of 145,237 MWh contract energy. Its average demand of 20.65 MW with PSALM/National Power Corporation (NPC) will expire in December 2016. With the privatization of the PSALM/NPC generation plants and coupled with the insufficiency of supply in Mindanao, it has become increasingly difficult for PSALM to sustain the demands of its Mindanao customers. As it is, PSALM can no longer supply the electric power requirements of its existing customers including SOCOTECO I. PSALM confirmed that it has insufficient capacity to supply the additional power requirements of Mindanao distribution utilities beyond the contracted energy and equivalent demand in its existing Contracts for the Supply of Electric Energy (CSEEs);

9. Based on its actual and forecasted load data, SOCOTECO I's demand requirements for years 2010 to 2040 are increasing. In order for SOCOTECO I to comply with its obligations to its member-consumers [Sec. 1, Department of Energy (DOE) Department Circular No. 2003-12-011]¹ and ensuring that its requirements are fully covered by supply contracts (Sec. 4.3, DOE Department Circular No. 2010-03-0003)², it should secure a power supply agreement of about 37.75 MW;
10. Based on its actual and forecasted load data, SOCOTECO I's demand requirement is expected to grow every year, from 37.75 MW in 2015 to 73 MW in 2040;
11. Given its demand growth and in order to obtain a secure and adequate supply of electricity for its member-consumers during this time, SOCOTECO I sought out other generation companies and sources of electricity in the Mindanao Grid and solicited offers and/or expressions of interest from these power suppliers to supply its growing power requirements;
12. Among the offers that SOCOTECO I considered was from FDC MISAMIS which made an offer to supply its power requirements. FDC MISAMIS is committed to construct a 405 MW Coal-Fired Power Plant in the PHIVIDEC Industrial Estate in Misamis Oriental. The power plant is scheduled to be commissioned in 2016;
13. SOCOTECO I thoroughly evaluated all the offers/expressions of interest it received and determined that FDC MISAMIS's offer is the most advantageous to its member-consumers;

¹ All distribution utilities must henceforth take cognizance and assume full responsibility to forecast, assure and contract for the supply of electric power in their respective areas to meet their obligations as distribution utility (Sec. 1, DOE Department Circular No. 2003-12-011)

² Ensure that the power requirements within their franchise areas are adequately covered by supply contracts or spot purchases from the WESM at all times

14. SOCOTECO I has forecasted and simulated the effect of the inclusion of the power supplied by FDC MISAMIS on its generation costs upon the commercial operation of the power plant, taking into consideration the reduced supply from PSALM and the expected commercial operation of FDC MISAMIS, to wit:

Rate Impact Analysis

| Particulars | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 |
|---|---------|--------|--------|
| | PhP/kWh | | |
| Total Average Generation Rate <i>with</i> FDC MISAMIS | 6.6221 | 6.2522 | 6.3842 |
| Average Generation Rate <i>without</i> FDC MISAMIS | 6.0279 | 5.2480 | 5.2581 |
| Increase/(Decrease) in Generation Rate <i>with</i> FDC MISAMIS | 0.5942 | 1.0042 | 1.1261 |

The EPPA

15. After extensive negotiations with FDC MISAMIS, SOCOTECO I signed on February 20, 2013, an EPPA with FDC MISAMIS for a contracted demand of 10 MW for twenty-five (25) years;

Executive Summary

16. The EPPA governs the relationship between Supplier and Customer for the sale of electric power. The electric power supply will be drawn from the 3 x 135 MW CFB Coal-fired power plant to be constructed, owned and operated by FDC MISAMIS. During plant outage, replacement power will be sourced from other facilities of the FDC MISAMIS, or of any third party, including the Wholesale Electricity Spot Market (WESM) or its equivalent. The commencement of the obligation of FDC MISAMIS to deliver of electric power to its customers is subject to the satisfaction of conditions precedent, including the declaration of the commercial operation of the power plant. Generation Charges for pre-commercial operation and during commercial operation are computed separately. The EPPA is subject to customer's security deposit, assignment, termination and buy-out;

Salient Features

17. The EPPA contains the following salient terms and conditions:

- a. Commercial Operation Date. The target Commercial Operation Date is thirty-six (36) calendar months after all the requirements (Conditions Precedent to Commercial Operation Date) have been met;
- b. Term. The Term of the EPPA shall be twenty (20) years from the Commercial Operation Date, unless extended: (a) by the grant of grace period; (b) due to Force Majeure; or (c) by mutual written agreement by the Parties;
- c. Service Specification. They agreed to the following service specifications:

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Contracted Demand | 10,000 kW |
| Contracted Energy | 87,600,000 kWh |
| Customer Load Factor | 100% |
| Customer's Minimum Demand | At least 40% of Customer's Contracted Demand |
| Delivery Point | Plant Gate – FDC MISAMIS's Power Plant |
| Voltage at the Plant Gate | 138 kV |

- d. Increase in Contracted Energy, Monthly Nominated Energy or Contracted Demand. Customer may request an increase to the Contracted Energy, monthly nominated energy or Contracted Demand of a particular Billing Period by delivery of written notice at least sixty (60) days before the date on which such adjustment is proposed to take effect, setting out the reasons therefor;
- e. Premium Charge for Excess Consumption. For consumption higher than the Contracted Energy and/or monthly nominated energy, Customer shall pay the Generation Charge applicable plus a Premium Charge of ten percent (10%);

- f. Replacement Power In Excess of Outage Allowance. The Supplier shall exert best efforts to procure Replacement Power beyond the Outage Allowance. Notwithstanding any provision in this Agreement to the contrary, the Supplier has the right to source Replacement Power for the Customer from other current or future facilities of the Supplier or of any third party, including the WESM or its equivalent, at the sole election of the Supplier;
- g. Generation Charge. SOCOTECO I shall pay the generation charge consisting of variable and fixed charges, subject to adjustments. The generation charges for pre-commercial operation and during commercial operation are computed based on the Base Energy Rate (BER) computation as follows:

$$\text{BER} = (\text{FC}_{\text{base}} + \text{VC}_{\text{base}}) / \text{Energy}$$

$$\text{FC}_{\text{base}} = (\text{CRF}_{\text{base}}^{\text{kW}} + \text{PHP O\&M}_{\text{base}}^{\text{kW}} + \text{US O\&M}_{\text{base}}^{\text{kW}}) * \text{CD}$$

Where:

$$\text{CRF}_{\text{base}}^{\text{kW}} = \text{PhP}1,924.48/\text{kW}$$

$$\text{PHP O\&M}_{\text{base}}^{\text{kW}} = \text{PhP}474.75/\text{kW}$$

$$\text{US O\&M}_{\text{base}}^{\text{kW}} = \text{PhP}30.64/\text{kW}$$

$$\text{VC}_{\text{base}} = [\text{DCP}_{\text{base}}] * [\text{Forex}_{\text{base}}] * [\text{MCR}] * [\text{Energy}] / \text{Conversion Factor}$$

Where:

$$\text{DCP}_{\text{base}} = \text{US\$}72/\text{MT}$$

$$\text{Forex}_{\text{base}} = \text{PhP}41.12/\text{US\$}$$

$$\text{MCR} = 0.70\text{kg}/\text{kWh}$$

$$\text{Conversion Factor} = 1,000 \text{ kg}/\text{MT}$$

- h. Customer Failure to Off-take Power. If the Customer off-takes power less than the Contracted Energy and/or Contracted Demand, the Customer shall still pay the full Generation Charge for the Contracted Energy and/or Contracted Demand, and all applicable fees, charges and costs;
- i. Transmission Fees, Ancillary Services Charges, Line Rental Charges, and WESM Costs. The Customer shall pay for Transmission Fees, Ancillary Services Charges, Line Rental Charges, and WESM Costs. All other transmission charges and market related fees/charges that are not part of the generation charge shall be for the account of Customer;
- j. Security Deposit. The Security Deposit shall be in an amount equivalent to one hundred percent (100%) of the projected highest monthly Power Bill for the first Contract Year of the Agreement;
- k. Assignment. In all cases of valid assignment, the assignee shall assume all the rights and obligations of the assignor under this Agreement; and
- l. Adjustments Due to Force Majeure. The Supplier shall have seventy-two (72) hours to restore interrupted supply counted from the time a Force Majeure Event prevented it from supplying electric power to the Customer. The Customer shall not be entitled to interruption adjustment during such period. On the other hand, the Customer shall have seventy-two (72) hours to resume taking electric power counted from the time a Force Majeure Event prevented it from fully taking its Contracted Energy;

Other Related Documents

18. In further support of the instant application, they submit to the Commission, the following documents:

| Annex | Nature of Documents |
|--------------|--|
| A | EPPA between SOCOTECO I and FDC MISAMIS dated February 20, 2013 |
| B | SOCOTECO I Certificate of Franchise |
| C | SOCOTECO I Certificate of Registration |
| D | SOCOTECO I Articles of Incorporation |
| E | FDC MISAMIS Certificate of Registration |
| E-1 | Green Renewable Power Holdings, Incorporated's Certificate of Incorporation |
| E-2 | Strong Field Energy Corporation's Certificate of Filing of Amended Articles of Incorporation |
| F | FDC MISAMIS General Information Sheet (GIS) |
| G | FDC MISAMIS latest Audited Financial Statements (AFS) |
| H | Affidavit of Service of Application (including annexes) to the Legislative Body of the City of Koronadal, South Cotabato |
| H-1 | Affidavit of Service of Application (including annexes) to the Legislative Body of the Province of South Cotabato |
| I | Affidavit of Service of Application (including annexes) to the Legislative Body of the City of Makati |
| J | Copy of the Affidavit of Publication |
| J-1 | Copies of newspaper publications of general circulation within the franchise area or area where SOCOTECO I and FDC MISAMIS principally operate |
| K | PSALM certification of insufficient capacity to supply Mindanao Distribution Utilities |
| L | SOCOTECO I Actual and Forecasted Load Data |
| M | SOCOTECO I Procurement Process (in a sealed envelope) |
| N | SOCOTECO I Rate Impact Analysis |
| O | SOCOTECO I Board Resolution No. 106, Series of 2012 |
| O-1 | SOCOTECO I Board Resolution No. 67, Series of 2013 |

| | |
|---|---|
| P | Sources of Funds/Financial Plans; Debt/Equity Ratio; Project Cost; and Computation of Return on Investment/Weighted Average Cost of Capital (WACC) (in a sealed envelope) |
| Q | FDC MISAMIS Board of Investments (BOI) Certificate of Registration |
| R | FDC MISAMIS Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC) |
| S | FDC MISAMIS Fuel Procurement Process (in a sealed envelope) |
| T | Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP) Certification – Indicative Key Terms and Conditions (in a sealed envelope) |

19. Pursuant to ERC Resolution No. 9, Series of 2010, FDC MISAMIS shall file the necessary application for a COC no later than (3) months prior to the commercial operations date of the 3 X 135 MW CFB coal-fired power plant;

Allegations in Support of the Motion for Confidential Treatment of Information

20. The Commission may, upon request of a party and determining that the disclosure of information requested to be treated as confidential information is justified, treat certain information submitted to it as confidential.³ SOCOTECO I and FDC MISAMIS are bound by confidentiality agreement prohibiting the disclosure of any business, technical, marketing, operational, organizational, financial or other information and trade secrets and other confidential documents, papers and information.⁴ Accordingly, they request before the Commission that Annexes "M", "P", "S", and "T" not be disclosed and be treated as confidential in accordance with Rule 4 of the ERC Rules. These Annexes contain confidential information critical to the business operation of FDC MISAMIS including trade secrets and business calculations, assumptions and projections; and

³ Rule 4 - Confidential Information, ERC Rules

⁴ Article 14 of the EPPA

Prayer

21. Thus, they pray that the Commission:
 - a. Approve their duly negotiated EPPA;
 - b. Issue an Order: i) treating Annexes "M", "P", "S" and "T", and the information contained therein as confidential; ii) directing their non-disclosure pursuant to Rule 4 of ERC Rules; and iii) prescribing the guidelines for the protection thereof; and
 - c. After trial on the merits, issue a permanent approval of their EPPA which would authorize SOCOTECO I to charge and collect the fees under the same as well as pass on the full amount to its member-consumers.

Finding the said application to be sufficient in form and substance with the required fees having been paid, the same is hereby set for jurisdictional hearing, expository presentation, pre-trial conference and evidentiary hearing on **August 18, 2015 (Tuesday) at ten o'clock in the morning (10:00 A.M.) at SOCOTECO I's Principal Office, City of Koronadal, South Cotabato.**

SOCOTECO I and FDC MISAMIS are hereby directed to cause the publication of the attached Notice of Public Hearing, at their own expense, twice (2x) for two (2) successive weeks in two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines, with the date of the last publication to be made not later than ten (10) days before the date of the scheduled initial hearing. They are also directed to inform the customers within SOCOTECO I's franchise area, by any other means available and appropriate, of the filing of the instant application, their reasons therefor, and of the scheduled hearing thereon.

Let copies of the application, this Order, and the attached Notice of Public Hearing be furnished the Office of the Solicitor General (OSG), the Commission on Audit (COA) and the Committees on Energy of both Houses of Congress. They are hereby requested, if they so desire, to send their duly authorized representatives at the scheduled hearing.

Likewise, let copies of this Order and the attached Notice of Public Hearing be furnished the Offices of the Mayors of the City and Municipalities within SOCOTECO I's franchise area and the Provincial Governor of South Cotabato for the appropriate posting thereof on their respective bulletin boards.

SOCOTECO I and FDC MISAMIS are hereby directed to furnish all those making requests therefor with copies of the application and its attachments, subject to reimbursement of reasonable photocopying costs.

On the date of the initial hearing, SOCOTECO I and FDC MISAMIS must submit to the Commission their written Compliance with the jurisdictional requirements attaching therewith, methodically arranged and duly marked, the evidences of the actual posting and publication of the Notice of Public Hearing consisting of certifications issued to that effect, signed by the afore-mentioned Mayors and Governor or their duly authorized representatives, bearing the seals of their offices, and the affidavits of the Editors or Business Managers of the newspapers where said Notice of Public Hearing were published together with the complete issues of the said newspapers, and such other proofs of compliance with the requirements of the Commission.

SOCOTECO I and FDC MISAMIS and all interested parties are directed to submit, at least five (5) days before the date of initial hearing and pre-trial conference, their respective Pre-Trial Briefs containing, among others:

- (a) A summary of admitted facts and proposed stipulation of facts;
- (b) The issues to be tried or resolved;
- (c) The documents or exhibits to be presented, stating the purposes thereof and proposed markings therefore; and
- (d) The number and names of the witnesses, with their written testimonies in an individual affidavit form, to be attached to the Pre-Trial Brief.

Failure of SOCOTECO I and FDC MISAMIS to submit the required Pre-Trial Brief and Judicial Affidavits of their witnesses within the prescribed period shall be a ground for cancellation of the scheduled hearing, and the resetting of which shall be six (6) months from said date of cancellation.

As part of the pre-trial conference, SOCOTECO I and FDC MISAMIS must also be prepared to make an expository presentation of their application, aided by whatever communication medium that they may deem appropriate for the purpose, in order to put in plain words and explain, for the benefit of the member-consumers and other concerned parties, what the application is all about and the reasons and justifications being cited in support thereof.

SO ORDERED.

Pasig City, July 20, 2015.

FOR AND BY AUTHORITY
OF THE COMMISSION:



ALFREDO J. NON

Officer-In-Charge and Commissioner

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Copy Furnished:

1. **Atty. Eleuterio F. Diao, IV**
Counsel for SOCOTECO I
1906 Bontong Camaman-an, Cagayn de Oro City
2. **Quiason Makalintal Barot Torres Ibarra and Sison**
Counsel for FDC MISAMIS
21st Floor, Robinsons-Equitable Tower, 4 ADB Avenue
corner Poveda St., Ortigas Center, Pasig City
3. **South Cotabato I Electric Cooperative, Incorporated
(SOCOTECO I)**
City of Koronadal, South Cotabato
4. **FDC Misamis Power Corporation (FDC MISAMIS)**
23rd Floor, PBCom Tower, 6795 Ayala Avenue
corner V.A. Rufino St., Makati City
5. **Office of the Solicitor General (OSG)**
134 Amorsolo Street, Legaspi Village, City of Makati 1229
6. **Commission on Audit (COA)**
Commonwealth Avenue, Quezon City 1121
7. **Senate Committee on Energy**
GSIS Building, Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City 1300
8. **House of Representatives Committee on Energy**
Batasan Hills, Quezon City 1126
9. **Office of the City Mayor**
City of Koronadal, South Cotabato
10. **Office of the Municipal Mayor**
Banga, South Cotabato
11. **Office of the Municipal Mayor**
Norallah, South Cotabato

12. **Office of the Municipal Mayor**
Surallah, South Cotabato
13. **Office of the Municipal Mayor**
Tampakan, South Cotabato
14. **Office of the Municipal Mayor**
Tantangan, South Cotabato
15. **Office of the Governor**
Province of South Cotabato
16. **Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI)**
3rd Floor, Chamber and Industry Plaza (CIP),
1030 Campus Avenue corner Park Avenue,
McKinley Town Center, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City