

Bhavnagar Energy Company Ltd

October 26, 2017

Ratings

Facilities	Amount (Rs. crore)	Rating ¹	Rating Action	
Long-term Bank Facilities	3,302.24	CARE D (Single D)	Reaffirmed	
Total facilities	3,302.24 (Rupees Three Thousand Three Hundred Two Crore and Twenty Four Lakh only)			

Details of facilities in Annexure-1

Detailed Rationale & Key Rating Drivers

The rating assigned to the bank facilities of Bhavnagar Energy Company Limited (BECL) continue to take into account ongoing delays in servicing of debt obligations.

Detailed description of the key rating drivers

Key Rating Weaknesses

On-going delays in debt servicing: After prolonged delay in execution of BECL's lignite based power plant along with cost overrun, Unit-I of the plant achieved commercial operations on May 16, 2016 while Unit-II achieved it on March 27, 2017. However, due to significantly sub-optimal level of plant availability factor alongwith significant project cost overrun, there is drastic under-recovery of fixed charges. This has led to lower than envisaged cash flows resulting in stressed liquidity and delays in debt servicing.

Analytical approach: Standalone

Applicable Criteria

Criteria on assigning Outlook to Credit Ratings

CARE's Policy on Default Recognition

Rating Methodology: Factoring linkages in ratings

CARE's methodology for Infrastructure Sector Ratings

CARE's methodology for Private Power Producers

Financial ratios - Non- Financial Sector

About the Company

BECL is a special purpose vehicle (SPV) promoted by seven Gujarat state Public Sector Units (PSUs), to establish and operate a 500 Megawatt (MW; 2 x 250 MW units) lignite-based pithead power plant at Padva village, near Bhavnagar in Gujarat. BECL has power purchase agreement (PPA) for 25 years with Gujarat Urja Vikas Nigam Ltd. (rated CARE AA-; Stable / CARE A1+) for off-take of power on ex-plant (bus bar) basis.

The project implementation started in February 2010 and COD of the first unit of 250 MW (Unit-I) was originally envisaged in February 2013 (three years from project start date), and COD of second unit of 250 MW (Unit-II) was envisaged in May 2013, at an initial project cost of Rs.3,742 crore (Rs.7.48 crore per mw) and debt equity ratio of 4:1.

However, there has been an aggregate delay of 46 months in the project execution from the original COD of May 2013 to revised project COD of March 27, 2017. While Unit-I of the project (250 MW) achieved COD on May 16, 2016, the Unit-II achieved COD on March 27, 2017.

Further, some of the facilities like lignite and lime handling system, some parts of balance of plant, ash handling system, lime milling and conveying system and sea water and cooling water system are yet to be completed.

As a result the plant has been facing various teething issues in achieving sustained power generation on a commercial basis.

¹Complete definition of the ratings assigned are available at <u>www.careratings.com</u> and other CARE publications

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Press Release



Inordinate delays in project execution has resulted in significant cost over-run, with the revised project cost now being estimated at Rs.5,084 crore. This revised project cost is expected to be funded with term loan of Rs.4,000 crore (Rs.3,572 crore already sanctioned) and the balance by promoter contribution (equity and subordinated debt).

Brief financials of BECL: Not applicable

Status of non-cooperation with previous CRA: Not applicable

Any other information: Not applicable

Rating History for last three years: Please refer Annexure-2

Note on complexity levels of the rated instrument: CARE has classified instruments rated by it on the basis of complexity. This classification is available at www.careratings.com. Investors/market intermediaries/regulators or others are welcome to write to care@careratings.com for any clarifications.

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**For detailed Rationale Report and subscription information, please contact us at www.careratings.com

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In case of partnership/proprietary concerns, the rating /outlook assigned by CARE is based on the capital deployed by the partners/proprietor and the financial strength of the firm at present. The rating/outlook may undergo change in case of withdrawal of capital or the unsecured loans brought in by the partners/proprietor in addition to the financial performance and other relevant factors.

Annexure-1: Details of Instruments/Facilities

Name of the	Date of	Coupon	Maturity	Size of the Issue	Rating assigned along with Rating Outlook
Instrument	Issuance	Rate	Date	(Rs. crore)	
Term Loan-Long Term	-	-	March, 2029	3302.24	CARE D

Annexure-2: Rating History of last three years

Sr.	Name of the	Current Ratings		Rating history				
No.	Instrument/Bank	Туре	Amount	Rating	Date(s) &	Date(s) &	Date(s) &	Date(s) &
	Facilities		Outstanding		Rating(s)	Rating(s)	Rating(s)	Rating(s)
			(Rs. crore)		assigned in	assigned in	assigned in	assigned in
					2017-2018	2016-2017	2015-2016	2014-2015
1.	Term Loan-Long Term	LT	3302.24	CARE D	1)CARE D	1)CARE BB+;	1)CARE BBB+	1)CARE
					(28-Apr-17)	Negative	(29-Mar-16)	BBB+
						(25-Jan-17)		(31-Mar-15)
						2)CARE BBB-		
						(05-Oct-16)		

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