Amendment of General Terms and Conditions of Supply - Approval - Issued.

Proceding No.APERC/Secy/96/2014  Dated 31-05-2014

Read the following:


Introduction

The Ministry of Law and Justice, Government of India, issued certain amendments to “The Electricity Act, 2003”. Further, the Commission issued various orders from time to time to meet the system requirements.

1) Pursuant to the above, the Commission hereby approves the following amendments to the General Terms and Conditions of Supply issued vide Proceedings No: Secy/01/2006 Dated: 06-01-2006.

2) The Distribution Licensees shall make available the copies of these GTCS (Amendment), Proceedings at all their offices down to the Section Level for reference by any consumer who desires to refer to the same during working hours.

3) For clause 2.2.37, the following clause shall be substituted, namely:

"2.2.37 "meter" means an equipment used for measuring electrical quantities like energy in kWh, kVArh, Maximum Demand in kW or kVA, reactive energy in kVArh etc., including accessories like Current Transformers (CT) and Potential Transformers (PT) where used in conjunction with such Meter and any enclosure used for housing or fixing such Meter or its accessories and any devices like switches or MCB or fuses used for protection and testing purposes."

4) For clause 2.2.54, the following clause shall be substituted, namely:

"2.2.54 “units” means the kilo Watt hours (kWh) or kilo volt ampere hours (kVArh) or kilo volt ampere reactive hours (kVArh) as applicable and indicated by the energy meter meant for billing."

5) For clause 3.2.1, the following clause shall be substituted, namely:

“3.2.1 Supply to be availed by LT Consumers shall be generally given at the following voltages on the basis of the Contracted Load:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contracted Load</th>
<th>Voltage level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>i) General supply not exceeding 15 kW</td>
<td>Single phase at 240 volts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii) Motive Power installation not</td>
<td>3 phase supply also will be given wherever required subject to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>exceeding 2 HP</td>
<td>minimum connected load of 5 kW for LT category-I (Domestic), for</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>LT category-II and for LT category-VII and subject to feasibility.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3 phase, 415 volts between Phases and 240 volts between Phase</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>and Neutral.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Three Phase, 415 volts between Phases and 240 volts between Phase and Neutral.
6) Clause 3.2.2 Deleted.

7) For clause 3.4.1, the following clause shall be substituted, namely:-
   “3.4.1 Where a consumer has been classified under a particular category and is billed accordingly and it is subsequently found that the classification is not correct (subject to the condition that the consumer does not alter the category/purpose of usage of the premises without prior intimation to the Designated Officer of the Company), the consumer will be informed through a notice, of the proposed reclassification, duly giving him an opportunity to file any objection within a period of 15 days. The Company after due consideration of the consumer’s reply if any, may alter the classification and suitably revise the bills if necessary, even with retrospective effect, the assessment shall be made for the entire period during which such reclassification is needed, however, the period during which such reclassification is needed cannot be ascertained, such period shall be limited to a period of twelve months immediately preceding the date of inspection.”

8) For clause 5.9.4.2, the following clause shall be substituted, namely:-
   “5.9.4.2 Deration of CMD or Termination of Agreement in respect of HT Supply: The consumer may seek reduction of contracted maximum demand or termination of the HT Agreement after the expiry of the minimum period of the Agreement by giving not less than one month notice in writing expressing his intention to do so. However, if for any reason the consumer chooses to derate the CMD or terminate the Agreement, before the expiry of the minimum 2 year period of the Agreement, the CMD will be derated or the Agreement will be terminated with effect from the date of expiry of the initial 2 year period of the Agreement or after expiry of one month notice period whichever is later. The Company can also terminate the HT Agreement, at any time giving one month notice if the consumer violates the terms of the HT Agreement, or the GTCS or the provision of any law touching the Agreement including the Act and rules made thereunder, and AP Electricity Reforms Act, 1998. On termination of the HT Agreement the consumer shall pay all sums due under the Agreement as on the date of its termination.”

9) For Clause 7.5.1.4.4, the following Clause shall be substituted, namely:-
   “7.5.1.4.4 The assessment shall be made for the entire period during which the status of defective meter can be clearly established, however, the period during which such status of defective meter cannot be ascertained, such period shall be limited to a period of twelve months immediately preceding the date of inspection.”

10) For Clause 9.2.4(ii), the following Clause shall be substituted, namely:-
    “9.2.4(ii). That the consumer can file objections, if any against the provisional assessment before the Final Assessing Officer within 10 days from the date of service of the order. The assessing officer shall give an opportunity for hearing, if the consumer desires so. The assessing officer shall pass a final order of assessment within thirty days from the date of service of such order of provisional assessment of the electricity charges payable by such person.”

11) Clause 9.2.5 shall be omitted.
12) **For Clause 9.3.2.8, the following Clause shall be substituted, namely:**

   Annexure XII (V) of Appendix XII of the GTCS may also be used as guidelines for Services under LT IV, LT V, LT VI, LT VII and LT VIII.

   For Metered agricultural consumers wherever applicable, and persons illegally drawing supply from the utility’s supply system and using for agricultural purposes, the units consumed may be assessed in accordance with Annexure XII (VI) (A) of Appendix XII of the GTCS and electricity charges shall be charged at twice the metered tariff of agricultural consumers in accordance with Section 126 (6) of the Act.

13) **For Clause 9.3.2.9, the following Clause shall be substituted, namely:**

   “9.3.2.9. If the assessing officer reaches to the conclusion that unauthorised use of electricity has taken place, the assessment shall be made for the entire period during which such unauthorised use of electricity has taken place and if, however, the period during which such unauthorised use of electricity has taken place cannot be ascertained, such period shall be limited to a period of twelve months immediately preceding the date of inspection in accordance with Section 126 (5) of the Act.”

14) **For Clause 9.3.2.11, the following Clause shall be substituted, namely:**

   “9.3.2.11. In case of unauthorised extension of supply to higher tariff category usage, the electricity charges would be estimated at the tariff rates of the higher category in proportion to its use in that category and charged at 2 times the tariff applicable for the relevant category of services as specified in Section 126 (6) of the Act.”

15) **For Clause 9.5.1, the following Clause shall be substituted, namely:**

   “9.5.1. The consumer may make a representation to the Appellate Authority within 30 days of Final Assessment Order (Section 127 (1) of the Act), provided that the consumer deposits an amount equal to half of the final assessment amount in accordance with Section127 (2) of the Act; provided, however that the consumer shall not be required to deposit any such amount if such consumer has already deposited 50% of the provisionally assessed amount with the Company under clause 9.2.4 hereof.”

16) **In Clause 10.2.3, the words “of loss of revenue” shall be deleted.**

17) **In Clause 10.4, for the words “of loss of revenue”, the words “Penal charges and recovery” shall be substituted;**

18) **For Clause 10.4.1.1, the following Clause shall be substituted, namely:**

   “10.4.1.1. The fine imposed on account of theft of electricity by any consumer shall be calculated as follows, pending adjudication by the appropriate court.

   **First Conviction:**
   The fine imposed shall be 3 times the normal tariff applicable for the corresponding category as per the relevant tariff order of the Commission on the energy and / or demand (Load) assessed in terms of clause 10.3, less the charges paid, if any, for the period of theft of electricity.

   **Second or subsequent conviction:**
   The fine imposed shall be at 6 times the normal tariff applicable for the corresponding category as per the relevant tariff order of the Commission on the energy and / or demand (Load) assessed in terms of clause 10.3, less the charges paid, if any, for the period of theft of electricity.”
19) For Clause 12.1.1, the following Clause shall be substituted, namely:-

“12.1.1 Capacitor Surcharge
Failure to install / maintain capacitors by consumers in accordance with the provisions under clause 5.13.1 will be treated as a violation of the GTCS and attracts levy of capacitor surcharge at the rates specified by the Commission in the tariff orders issued from time to time or otherwise.”

20) For Clause 12.2, the following clause shall be substituted, namely:-

“12.2 Maintenance of power factor at consumer end:
HT consumers, who are provided with metering capable of measuring active and reactive power under the orders of the Commission, shall maintain their power factor preferably in between 0.95 lag and 0.95 lead in the interest of the system security and shall comply with conditions stipulated in the relevant orders issued from time to time.”

21) Under the heading of “Note” in Appendix VIII, for para 1, the following text shall be substituted, namely:-

“1. New connections of LT Category V and under those categories wherever kWh tariff is applicable, shall not be given unless the capacitors of required ratings are installed.”

22) Under the heading of “Note” in Appendix VIII, para 3, shall be omitted.

23) In Annexure XII (VII) (A), the following shall be substituted in the relevant rows, namely:-

a) $D = (2 \times C)$ shall be substituted in 5th row of table (i)

b) $F = (2 \times E)$ shall be substituted in 7th row of table (ii)

c) $C = 2 \times B$ shall be substituted in 4th row of table (iii)

In Annexure XII (VII) (B)

a) In 5th row of table (iii)

$L = 3 \times K$ for first conviction.

$L = 6 \times K$ for second or subsequent conviction, shall be substituted.

This Order is signed by the Andhra Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission on 31st May, 2014

(BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION)

Commission Secretary